

Moderators: Big Hall, Bob Dennis

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jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 24, 2007 10:35

Lets talk about Mt. Vernon in the 40s and 50s or further back. Does anyone remember the old swimming place on old Rt. 15 East or the Mt. Vernon Kings ball park and the race track off of Rt. 15 East?

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



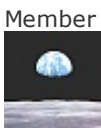
Posted January 24, 2007 11:19

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I remember the race track east of town, but that's about it of the list you presented.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Former MTV Resident



Posted January 24, 2007 12:58

[Hide Post](#)

My grandfather played for the Kings back in the day. Wasn't that park located where East Side Lumber currently is?

Posts: **63** | Location: **Someplace Warm** | Registered: **January 17, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 25, 2007 12:07

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Wasn't that park located where East Side Lumber currently is?

I believe it was. I used to go when I was a kid and they had the "Knothole Gang" for kids. They had a little card and a badge we wore.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 25, 2007 13:07

[Hide Post](#)

Yes, I remember the old stock car/midget race track. It was located just off about 1/4 mile north of Route 15 East and Tolle Road intersection. The owner of Eastside Lumber, Bill Edminson, had a large part of the ownership in it. Ivan Dodson, Woods Boys from Wayne City, Burrel Moore were some of my favorite drivers in the stock car class. Lots more but their names escape me.

I never attended the games much at the baseball park located where the Eastside Lumber yard is now but do remember it quite well. I'm pretty sure that Bill Edminson was a major owner in it also. In fact some of the structure of the present lumber yard warehouse were part of the grandstand for the ball park.

As to the old swimming hole, I was there many many times on those hot summer days years ago. I lived in East town then and it was real handy for me to go. Back when I used to go most boys called it "Seven Mile". Boys were mostly there but from time to time a girl with lots of nerve would show up and swim. Mamie Rector was one that I remember would be there once in awhile. The creek banks were wore down as smooth as marble and the water muddy . You can still see where the swimming hole was by looking south from the first highway bridge past the old TSC location. The swimming hole was just north of the railroad trestle and where new route 15 in now located.

Also I remember the Sunday crap game just past and on the north side of the first railroad trestle past the stove foundry. Just before you got to the old swimming hole.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

Former MTV Resident
Member



Posted January 25, 2007 13:37

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

The creek banks were wore down as smooth as marble and the water muddy . You can still see where the swimming hole was by looking south from the first highway bridge past the old TSC location.

Tyrone: Is this Casey Creek? I spent most of my chlidhood on (and in) that creek.

Posts: **63** | Location: **Someplace Warm** | Registered: **January 17, 2007**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 25, 2007 16:18

[Hide Post](#)

No old buddy, it's called Seven Mile Creek that finally ends up in Casey Creek that runs south of MtV. I did a lot of exploring myself along Casey Creek in about 1943. It was called s--t ditch by most of people that lived in the area.

A lot of raw sewage, car shop waste and worse of all the creosote from the tie plant was dumped it that creek back then. My brother and I used to wade in the creek and when we got out we would have a creosote ring around both legs.

The city dump was along the creek bank just south of town and every year or so it would flood from the overflow of the creek and a lot of garbage was simply floated on down the creek. Trash and garbage was burned year round on certain days in the dump ground back then and the smell sometimes would gag a skunk.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [tyrone](#), January 25, 2007 16:34

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

<ctcfl>

Posted January 25, 2007 16:51

I love hearing about the "way things were" Does anyone know if any kind of local book or booklet exists of MT.V. history? My family is from there and I lived there many years myself,I'm planning on a metal detecting trip up there and would love to learn some more great history. My memory only goes back to the mid/late 60's....Thanks!

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 25, 2007 18:35

[Hide Post](#)

Mid sixties ! Hell that was in modern times to me ! I carried papers around town back about 1945 and remember several things about many parts of the "old time" city. I might be able to cast some light on something of interest to you. Just ask.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

<ctcfl>

Posted January 25, 2007 19:18

quote:

Originally posted by tyrone:

Mid sixties ! Hell that was in modern times to me ! I carried papers around town back about 1945 and remember several things about many parts of the "old time" city. I might be able to cast some light on something of interest to you. Just ask.

Know anything about Divide seems like I remember someone talking about showing movies outside on the wall...Burrel Moore that you mentioned earlier, Did he have a place near field school?

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 26, 2007 08:04

[Hide Post](#)

A man named Ross Wimberly ran a grocery store at Divide and outdoor "free" shows were popular back then and I'm sure that movies were probably shown there. The parking lot was on the west side of the building and would afforded an ideal place to place the movie screen on the side of the building. I never attended a movie there but did go often to the free show at the country store located south of Papertown owned by B.F. McConnehay, I also went to the store at Harmony to the show several times over the years. The show areas were wide open with sometimes a few crude wooden benches but mostly people sat in or on their cars or on the ground. Later I remember at Harmony the man that put the movie on finally enclosed the movie area with old blankets and quilts hanging on a wire and charged 10 cents to get into the bench seating area. Some of the more inventive boys would get on the roof of the store to watch the movie.

I'm not sure about the Burrel Moore I was referring to being from up in that area. He was a great guy and in later years owned a tavern in West City called "Tom Cat". Love of the bottle finally caught up with him and he passed away sometime in the late 60's or early 70's.

I finally did remember one other race driver that raced in the stock car class, Joe Komuca. He was not very good but never failed to put on a show for everyone. They gave a "upside down" trophy to the first car to flip over that night and I think he won about every one of them.

Interesting note about Divide: A ridge runs through that area that is a watershed between the Ohio river and the Mississippi river. All rainfall east of Divide goes to the Ohio and all rain west of Divide goes to the Mississippi river. Hence the name Divide, Illinois. I can remember an old brick building there that was mostly still standing that had been a bank and the old vault was still be seen among some of the rubble. The railroad was built west of there and a community was started called Kell and that was the beginning of the end for Divide.

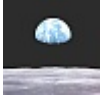
Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

**Former MTV
Resident**

Posted January 26, 2007 09:12

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Member



Great stuff Tyrone! Love hearing all about those things. My grandfather worked in the car shops and was full of great stories as well, but he died before I was old enough to appreciate them.

One question for you, I had heard there used to be a round house in Bluford for the railroad, and at one time, Bluford was booming little village. Any truth to that you know of?

Posts: **63** | Location: **Someplace Warm** | Registered: **January 17, 2007**

RaneyOnline

Old Pro



Posted January 26, 2007 09:51

[Hide Post](#)

Centalia has a large steam engine located in one of it's parks. Perhaps Mt.Vernon should have a memorial to the car shops. I think the car shops had alot to do with the growth of Mt.Vernon. There is alot of unused land between the grocery store and the new post office. Who owns this shopping center?

Posts: **1004** | Location: **Pennsylvania** | Registered: **May 11, 2006**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted January 26, 2007 09:52

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

it's called Seven Mile Creek that finally ends up in Casey Creek that runs south of MtV. I did a lot of exploring myself along Casey Creek in about 1943.

It sounds like we're about the same era. The swimming place I was talking about was at a house on a hill on the North side of old 15. I believe the people who lived there was named Crow. It was a regular swimming pool and had a big concrete ball that was hollow with a couple of cutouts for windows and a doorway so you could picnic inside it. The ball was still there a few years ago but not sure any more. I believe it was past Eastside Lumber a ways. I think I have a picture of it that my sister took as she's 16 years older than I am.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted January 26, 2007 09:55

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

One question for you, I had heard there used to be a round house in Bluford for the railroad, and at one time, Bluford was booming little village. Any truth to that you know of?

I don't remember a roundhouse, do you Tyrone? I believe the partial brick building was an ice house for the railroad. The lake there was built by the railroad and later leased out to the sportsmans club there. I was a member for severel years and it used to be a good place to picnic, fish and duck hunt. It allowed electric motors and was a nice family outing place.

Tyrone, do you remember the old Chataqua grounds? And the little fairs where the old Ill. Power building is now? I saw "Lash" LaRue there one time.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Moderators: Big Hall, Bob Dennis

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jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 26, 2007 10:01

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The Plaza and Granada theaters used to have cowboy stars in person at times. I can remember Tex Ritter, who I later got to know, and Smiley Burnett, to name a couple. Smiley sat down in a chair in center stage and was beginning his act when someone started throwing pennies at him.

He was very polite and said that he's sure that it is young kids who's throwing the pennies as the older kids would know better and that to do that is a huge insult to any performer. He was very polite about it and the throwing stopped. He went on to do his act of singing and telling jokes. Before his performance there was a western movie with him in it and after his act was over and we were all leaving the theater there was a trailer about the size of a 12' U-Hal and you could have your picture taken outside the trailer with Smiley and they'd develop it inside the trailer. I think it was a dollar, not much now but a lot now, for a kid anyway. I got my picture taken with him with his arm around my sholder but never had the dollar to buy it.

Ah, what fun!

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 26, 2007 10:08

[Hide Post](#)

🤔 During the '50s the downtown businesses used to give away tickets. You didn't have to buy anything, just go into the stores and ask for them. If you bought something they'd usually give you a couple but if you didn't buy you only got one. Anyway, they gave these tickets away for at least a couple of months and at a determined date there would be a drawing at the Granada Theater and the winner would receive a brand new car.

One year I had, what to me was a whole lot, of tickets and was sure that I was going to win that car. I asked my friends, relatives and anyone else for their tickets.

Came the night for the drawing and I couldn't get into the Granada as it was "sold out" so I went to the Stadium.

At the appointed time the drew the lucky ticket. I was watching my watch all through the movie. They turned on the lights at the Stadium and everyone knew they were going to announce the winner. It wasn't me! Man, was I disappointed as I was sure that I was going to win that car.

A lot of people probably thought that they were going to win too but Mt. Vernon being a small town, it wasn't long before everyone knew who had won the automobile and it was the talk of the town for a couple of days.

Now, things like that are just another good memory!

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

wclark

Posted January 26, 2007 10:47

[Hide Post](#)

Great story. Thanks for sharing that. 😊

Old Pro



Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Jim in PA

Free Time



Posted January 26, 2007 11:32

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Tyrone, just a bit of coincidence: Last September, I flew out to Los Angeles for an insurance/investment seminar my company was hosting, and had not seen L.A. since after the Great Bug out of '75. I ran into a fellow at the conference who said he thought he knew where my accent was from... Turns out this fellow now a bank executive in Los Angeles, was born and raised in beautiful downtown Kell. We had some memories very similar to these posts. How we do get around. And, from my own dusty vault, how well does anyone remember the smell when you entered the old F.W. Woolworth store between Jackson's and the Mammoth? I can still remember the sweet combination of chocolate candy(always at the center of the store) and, the natural smell of the freshly cleaned hardwood floors. Another quarter-pound of chocolate stars, please! Man, what fifteen cents could get you in 1955....I remember how grown up I felt when I took my paper route money and bought my first pair of Florsheim wing-tips at Walker's! Those things were about ten pounds apiece! Great for building up your legs for baseball, though. Sweet.

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

tyrone

Free Time



Posted January 26, 2007 11:48

[Hide Post](#)

Yes, I do remember the swimming east of town on old Rt.15 It was closed when I was a young and I never got to swim there. The name was Goin's run by the Goins family. Yes the hollow concrete sphere is about the only thing that is left. If you look you can see where the old pool used to be by the concrete that is still there. I always heard that a young man, whose dad was a local school teacher, was killed in a diving accident and that was a factor in them closing.

Yes, there was a railroad round house at Bluford and was razed in the late 70's or early 80'. I have a piece of rail I use as a drag from it. Yes also to the ice house that was there. Ice was made there and as the produce trains were put on the siding they were iced down for their trip, probably north to the Chicago market. There was also a big brick hotel located in Bluford mostly for the railroad crews but rooms were available for travelers as well.

I don't remember the Chataqua grounds were but I sure remember Lash LaRue and his sidekick Fuzzy Knight. And another western movie star that also used a bullwhip as his sidearm, Whip Wilson.

I spent all available money I could get my hand on to get into the Plaza on a Saturday afternoon for the western adventure films. The Granada never went in for the western matinees as much as the old Plaza did, I think us kids were too hard on the hardware for them. Mr. Marvel was the manager of the Granada for years and didn't let a lot of rough stuff to go on there. I also remember the old Royal that burned down back in the late 40's, I think. The building was remodeled and that was the birth of the Stadium. A contest was held to name the new movie house and I entered my choice, Marvel. I thought I was a shoo-in because back then I thought that Mr. Marvel was the owner of all the movie places in MtV.

Remember the midnight movies on Halloween at the Granada ! What a deal that was. Finally got so bad it was dangerous to attend because of all the rowdy boys really showed their asses.

Movies were on the way out and television finished them off in the 50's.

Now, the local drive-in movies are another story for later.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 26, 2007 12:01

[Hide Post](#)

If you can obtain a copy of a book written by Earl Purdue titled "Horse Creek and the Great Depression" or an earlier one by him titled "Early Days On Horse Creek" they are both a refreshing and rewarding look back to the people that had a big hand in settling their part of this county. A very good account of Kell, Foxville, Cartter, Tichelgrass, Slapout and other small settlements in this area.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

knightprowlr
Free Time



Posted January 26, 2007 17:46

[Hide Post](#)

Since were looking back, can anyone on here tell what all the old concrete structures just west of the primary center were for. At one time there were 3 or 4 structures, now only 1 remains standing. I use to play on and around them as a child but never did know what they were really used for.

Posts: **204** | Location: **In my chair** | Registered: **January 09, 2006**

xminer
Old Pro

Posted January 26, 2007 19:42

[Hide Post](#)

I know that that area was the location of the ole "CCC" camp. I don't know the years but I think it was in the late 30's or early 40's. The concrete structures that you questioned may have been for fresh water or to use to treat waste. I definately know that there was "hemp" growing there in the 70's and this turned into marijuana by some of the more enterprising people of the time.

Posts: **1830** | Location: **mt. vernon** | Registered: **January 06, 2006**

knightprowlr
Free Time



Posted January 27, 2007 00:30

[Hide Post](#)

Thanks xminer, i may have found some of that "hemp" you mentioned around 1975. We wore the ground out in that area back then.

Now let's try another place from the past.

Estes grocery, around the vicinity of kmart. Anyone remember that place?

Posts: **204** | Location: **In my chair** | Registered: **January 09, 2006**

ibjohn
Free Time



Posted January 27, 2007 01:23

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I have really enjoyed reading this thread...

I don't remember Estes grocery...but I remember when Home Beverage was on the corner of 12th and Casey. The lot is still empty. And how about Bracy's at the corner of 15th & Bway?

Tyrone...thanks for the tip on Mr. Purdue's books!!!

Posts: **331** | Location: **Mt. Vernon, IL.** | Registered: **March 14, 2006**

xminer
Old Pro

Posted January 27, 2007 08:50

[Hide Post](#)

The Burrell Moore that has been mentioned with the race track posts was a brother-in-law of Don Lampp. They both married two Kohut sisters from Ina, Burrell was married to

Bonnie and Don was married to Rosa Lee. Burrell and Don both raced for years. I remember Dick Komuca racing here, in Benton and at Centralia. Every time he and the Pryor boys, Harrell Dean and Johnny, would get together on or off the track you could bet that there would be a fight. I also fondly remember the tractor pulls at the old fairgrounds in South town. Henry Piper, who went on to national honors, pulled there along with Johnny Friar from Ina. This was before the sleds that they use today and a bunch of us would stand beside the track and as the sled would go by we would jump on until the tractor couldn't pull any more.

Posts: **1830** | Location: **mt. vernon** | Registered: **January 06, 2006**

Carly
Member

Posted January 27, 2007 10:34

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quote:

Originally posted by RaneyOnline:
Centalia has a large steam engine located in one of it's parks. Perhaps Mt.Vernon should have a memorial to the car shops. I think the car shops had alot to do with the growth of Mt.Vernon. There is alot of unused land between the grocery store and the new post office. Who owns this shopping center?

What were these car shops?

Posts: **90** | Location: **Mt.Vernon** | Registered: **January 21, 2007**

<ctcfl>

Posted January 27, 2007 10:37

Anyone know anything about a large house on 16th st, Ray Edmison lived there in the 60's. If I remember correct the house was very old even back then and was a fixer upper...This was just up the road from white st. by the Hospital.

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 27, 2007 11:52

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The concrete foundations across from the rec club is where the old army camp was. My sister met her future husband because he was stationed there. It had the barracks, mess hall and the whole 9 yards. There was a fence around it all and a guard house where you had to check in and out if you were allowed in the camp. I used to go visit my brother-in-law when he was stationed there as an MP. I don't know of anyone who has any pictures of the old camp but when they shut it down they just took their equipment, etc. and walked out leaving the gates open. The barracks was empty and had a concrete floor and we used to skate inside of it. Was a great place to play. Then they built the Starland Drive In theater between where K-Mart and the Rec club is now. It was a really nice place but the other theater owner got mad and put it out of business. That used to happen a lot here. Some towns are still small burgs because of such jealousy.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 27, 2007 11:55

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

And how about Bracy's at the corner of 15th & Bway?

Geez! I used to work there when I was a kid. Bill Maze was the manager and my uncle Hershel Terry was the chief meat cutter until he went to work as a meat inspector for the state.

I used to stock shelves, carry groceries to the cars and clean up. I made the mistake of asking Bill what the qualifications of driving a stock car was and he told me that my mind wasn't on my job and fired me. I never did really feel the same about him after that although I suppose he was a good guy. He was right as I didn't want to be a "stock boy" all of my life but I thought that he was a little drastic over my asking a question not related to a can of peas or beans. Ha!

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

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[Rate It!](#)[Login/Join](#)**jlmer**
Old Pro

Posted January 27, 2007 12:02

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quote:


I don't remember the Chataqua grounds were but I sure remember Lash LaRue and his sidekick Fuzzy Knight. And another western movie star that also used a bullwhip as his sidearm, Whip Wilson.

I grew up across the street from them although they quit having anything there by then. You mentioned the Halloween movies at the Granada, they also used to have a Halloween parade in downtown just before the movies. There were usually 3 movies of the horror type. I only got to go one time. My school friends were all going and I asked my dad if I could and he said no. He told me I could go to the movie before the spookie ones if I'd promise to come right home. Bad Mistake! I went to the early movie and on the way out I saw all of my friends going in to the others. I slipped in with them and stayed for all 3 movies. Now, to get home, I was walking, I had to pass Oakwood cemetary. It was a blur as I passed it. I was running full speed and when I got home my dad was waiting for me. Back then you could use means to convince a kid that you meant what you said and I got a good spanking. I don't think it warped me nor did it hurt for any legnth of time but it did teach me that he meant no when he said it. Was it worth it? Probably, as it was the only time I got to do that. Would I do it again if I was back in that time? Probably, knowing that I shouldn't. Those were great times and the Mt. Vernon Drive-In started having all night movies later on and I used to get to go to them with my dads car.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006****jlmer**
Old Pro

Posted January 27, 2007 12:08

[Hide Post](#)

 Then there was Johnny Mack Brown, who used to work at a moble home sales in Marion. Bob Steele, who never really made it big as a leading man, Red Ryder, my brother-in-laws cousin was Fred Harmon, the writer of Red Ryder with "Wild" Bill Elliott. The Durango Kid, who is still on the Western Channel, Jimmie Wakely, Rex Allen and his horse Koko, Eddie Dean but he wasn't very good lookiing, Eddie Arnold made a few movies, I wasn't a great fan of Roy Rogers as he spent too much time with Dale Evans instead of chasing the bad guys. I enjoyed Gene Autry, Joel McCray was always a favorite of mine, Zorro, Jimmie Wakely, Tex Ritter, Faron Young played Daniel Boone in a movie one time but he was so short that they had to hire kids to play the indians and it was just too unbelievable and he wasn't that good of an actor so he only had bit parts in B county music movies, same with Ferlin Huskey. Marty Robbins made a couple of movies but he started every line with "ya know".

What's some of the other oldies? I can't seem to get the brain in gear this morning.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 27, 2007 12:11

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quote:

Does anyone know if any kind of local book or booklet exists of MT.V. history? My family is from there and I lived there many years

You might contact Tom Pucket as he has a couple of books out about Mt. Vernons history with a lot of pictures. He's in the phone book and loves to talk about the old days. A super nice guy!

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Citizen C
Old Pro

Posted January 27, 2007 12:16

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The Jefferson County Chamber of Commerce had some for sale. Their number is (618) 242-5725 email chambermarketing@mvn.net

Posts: **1345** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **March 24, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 27, 2007 12:17

[Hide Post](#)

Home Beverage was owned by a friend of mine. I thought that a flower shop is in there or some business. I didn't know it was empty again. There was a grocery store on the corner of Casey and 12th. owned by a man named Hodges who had a daughter named Kay which I went to school with. Two groceries were on 17th st. by the Field school. One North and one South. Had a bad day at Field one time when the cops shot a bunch of dogs across the street simply because they were loose. We used to pet them during our lunch hour and was in class right after lunch when we heard shooting and we all went to the windows and saw what was happening. A lot of sick and crying kids that day. Was pretty tacky for them to do it while school was in session and a bunch of 1-6 graders able to see what was happening. I can't remember anyone ever being bit around there.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Former MTV Resident
Member



Posted January 27, 2007 18:01

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jlmer/tyrone

Did you guys ever hang out at Mugs Drive In? My mom was a car-hop there back in 55-56.

Posts: **63** | Location: **Someplace Warm** | Registered: **January 17, 2007**

RaneyOnline
Old Pro



Posted January 28, 2007 07:57

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The Car Shops were located at Plaza Shopping Center...that's why you can see so many railroad tracks under the parking lot.

I remember going to Mt.Vernon Drive-In Theater to see Close Encounters. I also remember that they began showing adult movies just before they went out of business.

Where was the Plaza Theater located?

Does anyone have pics or a story to share about the Emerson Hotel?

Does anyone know why the block South of the Courthouse was known as Columbia Square?

Posts: **1005** | Location: **Pennsylvania** | Registered: **May 11, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 28, 2007 13:25

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I was one who would make the "loop" (from Taco Villa on South Tenth St to the Mug on Salem Road) about 20 times a night on the week-ends. I can't remember any of the car hops. The Taco Villa car hops were on roller skates when they worked.

I worked at the car shops for a very short time back in winter of, I think 1953, and some of the rails used can still be seen in the Park Plaza parking lot. The car shops covered an area between the L & N railroad tracks on the north to about Lamar Ave. on the south and between tenth street on the west and Southern Railroad tracks on the east.

Yes the Mt Vernon Drive-In movie did start showing rather racey movies but not anything as rough as you will see on television now.

The old Plaza was located on East side of 9th Street across from the Court House the second business location north of the corner of Ninth and Broadway with Walkers Mens Store being on the corner. I think it now is a vacant store front. The Plaza had a balcony that probably would seat 40 or 50 and at times was one hell of a place to spend a Saturday afternoon. I remember going to the movie double feature western on Saturday at 1:30pm and not leaving the building until the doors were locked about 10 or 10:30 that night. I and my buddies would watch the same movies several times and also I would sometimes fall asleep for an hour or two. Finally the manager caught on and they would turn up the lights and shoo everyone out after each complete feature was shown. I also remember back when they did not sell any kind of soft drinks in the theater's and when they started selling Cokes (about 1945) they were in a glass 7oz bottle and you had to drink them in the lobby out of the bottle. After a short time of doing that the girl at the counter (Nadine Hayes) would pour your Coke in a paper cup and you could take it to your seat with you. At first Coke was your only choice but later on they had more of a selection. The wax paper Dixie cups that were used made a real noisemaker when empty and placed upside down and smashed with a quick hard stomp of your foot. It sounded like a shotgun going off and if the manager (Junior Siegworth) caught you were out of the movie immediately. A girl named Mary Lou Williams worked in the ticket booth and was a real looking girl. The air-conditioning was by evaporation and a large amount of moving air was needed to cool such a large space. Sometimes an empty popcorn container would actually blow up the aisle. When you opened the outer doors to enter the theater you could feel a big rush of air leaving the pressurized building.

There are several publications about the Emerson Hotel to be had and should be rather easy to find.

I am completely at a loss about Columbia Square. That must have been before my time.

Hope this helped answering the questions.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

Standing by
Educated

Posted January 28, 2007 14:13

[Hide Post](#)

I'm lead to believe Mt. Vernon experienced some race riots. Myself, I'm 40 and have never been involved in such, so don't carry contempt like some folk in the generation before mine. Bluford sometimes sees marketing as racist, for example a sociology textbook used at the community college depicted 4 or 5 WTHS Alumni (very strong resemblances) as white supremist. Were there many race riots?

Posts: **617** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **May 10, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 28, 2007 14:48

[Hide Post](#)

No StrangleBy you can't stir up any sh*t on that subject because I have been around this old town a long time and there has never seen any kind of a riot about anything.

Bluford. Il. never had enough people in it to have a riot. And if they did who would show up ? The farmers and who else.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

RaneyOnline
Old Pro



Posted January 28, 2007 16:35

[Hide Post](#)

I read that a trolleyline ran down 9th Street.

It would be awsome to see 9th Street closed to vehicular traffic and pedestrians and trolleys using the roadway.

The trolleys could pick you up at a parking lot next to the L&N Tracks and take you up the "Ninth Street Promenade" and stopping at what ever store you'd like.

I'd chose to shop downtown anyday enstead of a Mall if Mt.Vernon had service like that! I bet tourist would agree with me on that as well. Storefronts would fill up quickly.

Posts: **1005** | Location: **Pennsylvania** | Registered: **May 11, 2006**

Carly
Member

Posted January 28, 2007 21:45

[Hide Post](#)

Would someone please tell me what the car shops were?

Posts: **90** | Location: **Mt.Vernon** | Registered: **January 21, 2007**

RaneyOnline
Old Pro



Posted January 29, 2007 00:33

[Hide Post](#)

A very large factory that made railroad cars.

Posts: **1005** | Location: **Pennsylvania** | Registered: **May 11, 2006**

Standing by
Educated

Posted January 29, 2007 00:36

[Hide Post](#)

Your kinda grumpy, Tyrone. Good, glad to hear that. Markham City was named after a Chicago train depot manager / owner, yet there is some controversy on whether that is true.

Posts: **617** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **May 10, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted January 29, 2007 07:53

[Hide Post](#)

Walker's on 9th closed in the early/mid 60's and my father moved his jewelry store there. He ran that business until he passed and I sold the building last summer. Hated to close the store, but my life had taken a different direction and neither my brother nor I was interested in running the business.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

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Moderators: Big Hall, Bob Dennis

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tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 29, 2007 08:44

[Hide Post](#)

wclark I hate to disagree with you of all people as you should know better than me but I sure your father opened his jewelery store in the old D H Wise Mens Ware store located at 100 South Ninth not in the old J V Walkers Clothing located a block south at 120 South Ninth.

I was a regular coustomer of your pop's store for many years. I have never know a better gentleman than him to do business with. His passing was Mt Vernon's loss.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 29, 2007 09:31

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Posted January 27, 2007 18:01 [Hide Post](#)

Did you guys ever hang out at Mugs Drive In? My mom was a car-hop there back in 55-

I think every kid in town hung out at the Mug. I probably know your mom as most of the carhops were in school. I remember one night that some of us guys were out drinking and I was a little under the influence and a gagster as well. They had one of those horses there that you put a quarter in the slot and mount up and it would buck, was a fun ride for little kids. Anyway, I ended up on that horse for a couple of rides. It garnered quite a crowd. Anytime you wanted to find someone you headed for the Mug. If they were out of the house they would eventually end up there. Was a great place and for all of the kids that hung out there it was a pretty peaceful place. A lot of adults would stop in for the rootbeer,hamburger and fries.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 29, 2007 09:36

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I also remember that they began showing adult movies just before they went out of business.

That was because the original owners sold out to Mike Mooney. Mike and his wife started the adult movies.

Where was the Plaza Theater located?

The Plaza was located approximately where the music store is on the East side of the square. I spent a lot of time there and remember when it burned down. Was a sad day in Mt. Vernon.

Does anyone have pics or a story to share about the Emerson Hotel?

A good friend of mine used to play the organ in the lounge. I spent the night there sleeping off a bad night with a bottle when I was a stupid kid.

Does anyone know why the block South of the Courthouse was known as Columbia Square?

That's a new one on me, I hadn't heard of it before.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 29, 2007 09:43

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

The Taco Villa car hops were on roller skates when they worked.

I remember that one. My wife's dad loved to eat there when he'd come to visit us. Do you remember the "Toot & Tell 'Em" that was next to where Geo's is on 24th & Bwdy? That was owned by Jim McGlaulin(?).

My dad worked at the car shops, he was a carman. I'd wager you knew him. It sounds like you're some older than I am as I was in highschool when the shops shut down, I believe. We moved out of state for a couple of years to another carshop town. Remember a fellow named "catfish" and Bob Haney?

I have some stories about the car shops as I'm sure you have as well.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 29, 2007 09:46

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I'm lead to believe Mt. Vernon experienced some race riots.

Back in the mid 70s there was a few days of racial problems at the highschool. I was with the sheriffs dept. then and we spent a day there keeping them apart but no riots really. Just the name calling and milling around. There was bias in Mt. Vernon in the 50s as there were in all towns but there was also toleration and a lot of mixed race friendships since everyone worked together.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 29, 2007 09:52

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

It would be awsome to see 9th Street closed to vehicular traffic and pedestrians and troleys using the roadway

Going back in time to the mid or late 40s. At 24th and Broadway there was a one room filling station. Next to it, West, was a couple of vacant lots. Whoever owned these lots bought six, I believe, old street cars from some place out of St. Louis and had them converted into living quarters. My sister, her husband and daughter lived in one of them. I have a picture of it. Was a little neighborhood with-in itself. Tyrone, what was the name of the drive-in restaurant at 24th and Perkins, where the car wash is now?

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted January 29, 2007 09:53

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by tyrone:

wclark I hate to disagree with you of all people as you should know better than me but I sure your father opened his jewelery store in the old D H Wise Mens Ware store located at 100 South Ninth not in the old J V Walkers Clothing located a block south at 120 South Ninth.

I was a regular coustomer of your pop's store for many years. I have never know a better gentleman than him to do business with. His passing was Mt Vernon's loss.

Every now and then, my brain takes a little time off, but the rest of me doesn't. You are, of course, 100% correct. We were in the old D H Wise building.

I agree with you thoughts on my father. He is the only person I have NEVER heard anyone say anything negative about. Sure do miss him.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 29, 2007 09:54

[Hide Post](#)

I'm wondering if any of you guys would be interested in setting up a date, morning preferrably, at maybe the "Hitchin' Post" and having breakfast or coffee and talking about Old Mt. Vernon.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Bogeyman47
Basic training

Posted January 29, 2007 09:58

[Hide Post](#)

The drive in at 24th and Broadway was called Merle and Jean's. I am not so sure about the spelling, but I am sure of the name. Ted Shafer had a grocery store that was caddy corner from there and Buck Yeager had a gas station just east of there. I spent lots of time in that area. I grew up in that part of town.

Posts: **35** | Location: **Kentucky** | Registered: **February 03, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 29, 2007 10:25

[Hide Post](#)

Bogey, you're right on the nose about Merle & Jean's Drive-In at 24 and Perkins. Their last name was Jennings. I almost positive that it was the first drive-in in town. Could be wrong but I'm thinking that when they first opened you had to go to a window to place or pick up your order, no car hops at first. Merle later operated a barber shop across from

Hoarce Mann School and it had a very small walk-up food stand next to it that was also ran by him and Jean.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 29, 2007 10:35

[Hide Post](#)

jlmer would you friend that played the organ at the Emmerson Hotel happen to have been Gale Jines ?

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 29, 2007 10:41

[Hide Post](#)

jlmer I was also acquainted with a Haney family that lived on Opdyke Ave. Doyle, Bob and a sister Shirley. It may be the same one or maybe related in some way.

I worked in the lumber yard at the car shops unloading and storing lumber in giant kilns. Wage scale was \$1.33 per hour and it was a union shop.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted January 29, 2007 10:46

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by tyrone:

I worked in the lumber yard at the car shops unloading and storing lumber in giant kilns. Wage scale was \$1.33 per hour and it was a union shop.

To show you how little things change in Southern Illinois, I went to work @ Dowzer Electric in 1968 for \$1.97 per hour - also a union shop.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 29, 2007 10:56

[Hide Post](#)

I fell in love with a girl on Opdyke Ave once. Her name was Billie Sue. Wonder what ever happened to her? She was a cute little thing back about 1952.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

<ctcfl>

Posted January 29, 2007 11:09

quote:

Originally posted by tyrone:

I fell in love with a girl on Opdyke Ave once. Her name was Billie Sue. Wonder what ever happened to her? She was a cute little thing back about 1952.

Just to poke at Tyrone a little, My "GREAT" grandmother lived on Opdyke ave., I wonder.....

Moderators: Big Hall, Bob Dennis

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<ctcfl>

Posted January 29, 2007 11:12

Also on the other side of my family, My great grandfather had a store Hopkins Market on Castleton. I remember going with him to deliver groceries...ya don't see that anymore.

wclark
Old Pro



Posted January 29, 2007 11:26

[Hide Post](#)

There used to be little markets all over town. I lived in the 700 block of S 21st and there was a small grocery right next door. 😊 Owner's name was Gus. I think his last name was Libengood or something that sounded like that.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

knightprowlr
Free Time



Posted January 29, 2007 13:04

[Hide Post](#)

Anyone remember estes grocery on broadway between 33 and 34th street north side of the road?

Posts: **204** | Location: **In my chair** | Registered: **January 09, 2006**

L2429
Member

Posted January 29, 2007 14:11

[Hide Post](#)

Wow..this has been a fascinating thread. I am in the process of posting a ton of historic photos on L2429's website. There are several from the square fire in th 50's, also the Emerson Hotel fire. I have several of these and will try to get them all up. Also, our historian is nearly done writing the complete history of the fire department, which will be up shortly.

To see the photos:

1. Go to our website <http://.iafflocal2429.org/>

2. Click on the photo gallery (2 from the right on the top menu bar)

3. Change the category to Historic, and enjoy! If anyone has information on a picture that I don't, use the Contact Us form to let me know so I can add it!

Don't forget to check back soon for the complete history in the "History" page under the "About Us" heading.

Posts: **77** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **January 18, 2007**

jlmer

Posted January 29, 2007 14:13

[Hide Post](#)

Old Pro



quote:

A man named Ross Wimberly ran a grocery store at Divide and outdoor "free" shows

Joe Biagi, who had a tv repair shop on the corner of 20th and Collage used to set up a projector at the pavilion at the city park and show B&W movies every Fridar or Saturday night. I don't know how long this went on but people would bring their lawn chairs and watch the movie. Because of the concession stand at the park no one could sell popcorn or anything but it was available at the concession stand as well as the sno-balls, etc.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 29, 2007 14:15

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Also on the other side of my family, My great grandfather had a store Hopkins Market on Castleton

My uncle used to live at 301 Castleton and when I'd go to visit him I'd spend time dreaming about the candy in Hopkins. The people who lived next door, her name was Ethel, used to camp with my wife and I at Bluford Lake in later years. That same uncle had a restaurant where the Hitchin' Post is now. It was a nice buffet and was pretty fancy then. He owned it till the day he died.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 29, 2007 14:28

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I am in the process of posting a ton of historic photos

I don't have that many but I would be interested in paying for some copies of some of what you might have and will supply copies of what I have. I left a message for you on the website.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Jim in PA
Free Time



Posted January 29, 2007 15:08

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone remember the evening that Starr Brothers' Bottling Plant burned? I was at my cousin's house on North 12th, across from the lower entrance to the Good Sam, and I was at the south window, looked over the treeline to the south, toward Broadway, and the entire sky was turning red, not orange, but it got to solid red in a few seconds. Several of us ran up the slope of 12th. and were windied when we got to the police line. EVery fire piece in Mt. Vernon then(maybe five at the most) was there.I do not believe there was a snorkel until Belleville's got there, and there were TV trucks from St. Louis there before it was over. That would make a great set of pix for the Firefighters' website, eh, L2429?

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

Jim in PA

Posted January 29, 2007 15:11

[Hide Post](#)

Free Time



By the way, WClark, do you remember the old sweethearts' necklaces called "Half Hearts"? I bought the one and only one I ever bought from your Dad, way back in 1962...sweet all around.

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted January 29, 2007 15:15

[Hide Post](#)

Jim, when I closed the store, I found some of those. Have no idea why we still had them around.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Jim in PA
Free Time



Posted January 29, 2007 15:32

[Hide Post](#)

I remember that we had to place an order for them, as no retailer could keep 'em in stock, they were so much in demand. Really takes me back. I think I have to make a call to Los Angeles here. Nice to know your Dad still hung onto some. Romance isn't dead...It has been sick lately, but it ain't dead, Bill.

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

Former MTV
Resident
Member



Posted January 29, 2007 16:35

[Hide Post](#)

OK guys, here is one for ya...

My mom gre up in "East Town." Her dad (my grandpa) told me a long time ago that the name East Town was really in reference to East Mt Vernon, as in, what is now called East Town was really its own city called East Mt Vernon. From what he said, East Mt Vernon was established back in the early 1900's as a result of the city of Mt Vernon prohibiting alcohol. East Mt Vernon had all the bars and liquor. Was he pulling my leg???

Posts: **63** | Location: **Someplace Warm** | Registered: **January 17, 2007**

L2429
Member

Posted January 29, 2007 18:13

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Jim in PA:

Does anyone remember the evening that Starr Brothers' Bottling Plant burned? I was at my cousin's house on North 12th, across from the lower entrance to the Good Sam, and I was at the south window, looked over the treeline to the south, toward Broadway, and the entire sky was turning red, not orange, but it got to solid red in a few seconds. Several of us ran up the slope of 12th. and were windied when we got to the police line. EVery fire piece in Mt. Vernon then(maybe five at the most) was there.I do not believe there was a snorkel until Belleville's got there, and there were TV trucks from St. Louis there before it was over. That would make a great set of pix for the Firefighters' website, eh, L2429?

I would LOVE to have a picture of that one. I need to dig through some more I recently got. I haven't scanned them yet though.

As I said before, its I'm working on getting more up there. I've got a ton more pictures of the history. Thanks for the good comments! Be sure to sign the guestbook.

Posts: **77** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **January 18, 2007**

Standing by
Educated

Posted January 29, 2007 20:37

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Former MTV Resident:

OK guys, here is one for ya...

My mom gre up in "East Town." Her dad (my grandpa) told me a long time ago that the name East Town was really in reference to East Mt Vernon, as in,

what is now called East Town was really its own city called East Mt Vernon.

From what he said, East Mt Vernon was established back in the early 1900's as a result of the city of Mt Vernon prohibiting alcohol. East Mt Vernon had all the bars and liquor.

Was he pulling my leg???

A book titled ' Ghost Towns of Southern Illinois ' which was authored by Glenn J. Sneed and copyrighted in 1977, yet that has no ISBN on it discusses East Mt. Vernon as 1 of about 70 past towns in Jefferson County. It's true, a main factor in there being a Mt. Vernon and an East Mt. Vernon sometime between 1832 and 1877 was alcohol related. They petitioned to become a village and 1 of the 300 needed signatures was a woman's, so they did not get such status.

Shields was another Ghost Town in Jefferson County and sold rabbits to new york, packed in barrels.

Posts: **617** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **May 10, 2006**

RaneyOnline
Old Pro

Posted January 29, 2007 21:29

[Hide Post](#)



I saw a picture once of a building just North of the gold bank building downtown. It was a great looking building but was torn down to ad drive-thru banking. Too bad it wasn't saved.

What other buildings do you miss?

Posts: **1005** | Location: **Pennsylvania** | Registered: **May 11, 2006**

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<ctcfl>

Posted January 29, 2007 21:59

quote:

Originally posted by RaneyOnline:
I saw a picture once of a building just North of the gold bank building downtown. It was a great looking building but was torn down to ad drive-thru banking. Too bad it wasn't saved.
What other buildings do you miss?

Seems like a drug store used to be there, I remember the old turn the pages jukebox at your booth.

knightprowlr
Free Time



Posted January 30, 2007 00:42

[Hide Post](#)

I'm not sure but i think the drug store was named Raxall or Rexall Drug store.Maybe, maybe not.

Posts: **204** | Location: **In my chair** | Registered: **January 09, 2006**

Bogeyman47
Basic training

Posted January 30, 2007 07:55

[Hide Post](#)

There was Blades Walgreen and then there was another drug store next to it. I am not sure of the name of that one. Carl Blades and his wife owned the drug store. They had 2 daughters and 1 son. I remember that they had a very good cherry Coke in there. 😊

Posts: **35** | Location: **Kentucky** | Registered: **February 03, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted January 30, 2007 08:03

[Hide Post](#)

OK, it's been a while, but in the early/mid 50's, there was Benoist Hardware, The Gift Chest, Blades Walgreen, and, I believe, First National Bank on the west side of the square. There may have been another business between The Gift Chest and the hardware store, but there is a bit of fuzziness in my memory. The building that was torn down was First National Bank. This was after the bank was "rebuilt" on the opposite (southern) corner.

Don't hold me to this. Mistakes come more frequently with age. 🍷

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 30, 2007 08:59

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

There may have been another business between The Gift Chest and the hardware store,

There was another drug store by the old 1st National Bank which was run by Sappers. They had a son named Doug and a younger boy, can't think of his name. Sears was N. of the Rogers building on N. 10th St. and I used to go in and lust after the old Allstate motor scooters they sold. This was in the 50s. Does anyone remember the popcorn stand setting in Bwdy. at 10th St.? It had a lane where traffic could pull between the stand and the sidewalk to get their popcorn, etc. You could smell it all over town while shopping. There used to be paperboys selling the Post-Dispatch and Globe Democrat on most of the street corners on Sunday mornings. Once in awhile dad and I would go to the donut shop and get a dozen doughnuts and then pick up a paper from the newsboy in front of the Appellete Court building.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 30, 2007 09:07

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Rexall Drug store

And Porter & Bonds, on the SW corner of 10th and Bwdy. where the appliance store is now. Summers Variety Store, not too long past, was were the empty lot is now on S. 9th st. He had almost every type of novelty that you could want but was kinda grouchy to kids. Manions appliance was across the street from him, on the alley, then S. was Western Auto and the unemployment office was in there too. The phone company used to be upstairs over one of those businesses. I had a girlfriend who was an operator. The older woman, with a brand new car and money...I thought I was in high cotton with her. Bracy's had a store on the corner of 9th & Jordon, where the pool hall is/was. The Mt. Vernon Lumber Co. was in the next block S. next to Virginias. There was also a drug store on the corner of 9th and Bwdy. across from Wises where we would eat a sandwich at noon when I was in highschool. Wises and The Mammoth were the only two places you could get Boy Scout uniforms. The Mammoth also carried the little plastics strips we'd buy to make bracelets, etc. out of plus the scout manuals and other scout accessories. Wises never got into it as much as the Mammoth for some reason. Remember the Sub, in the basement of the old Rogers building? And the VFW was below where Alberts was on the corner of 10th and Main. And the list goes on...

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted January 30, 2007 09:35

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:
There was another drug store by the old 1st National Bank which was run by Sappers. They had a son named Doug and a younger boy, can't think of his name.

That would have been Dale. He was in my HS class. Now deceased.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 30, 2007 09:38

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

evening that Starr Brothers' Bottling Plant burned

I went to school with Mike and Rusty Starr. Mike was my age, Rusty was a year or so older.

On Saturday mornings, sometimes, I would walk to Starr Bros. and Mike (his dad was part owner) and I would play in the freezers. We could have all of the ice cream bars, etc. that we could eat. I'd load up on drumsticks and by the time I'd get home I'd be half sick.

On their dixiecup lids were pics of movie stars. You could save 10 of the lids and trade them in at their office for 8X10 photos of different stars. Some were B&W and some were color. I had a lot of them of Roy Rogers, Hopalong Cassidy, Bogart and Lizabeth Scott but my dad tossed them when I got out of school. I've lost track of Mike but they lived in a house directly behind the Casey Jr. High, now called the "middle school" on 19th. St.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 30, 2007 09:41

[Hide Post](#)

I own a 1929/30 Mt.Vernon City Directory and would look up any information that you might think was of interest to you.

It's like a door to the distant past to me. I wasn't born until 1934 but it a wealth of information about the earlier years of our town.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 30, 2007 09:44

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

last name was Jennings.

Merle and his wife are still around. I see them at times eating dinner at the Hitchin' Post. Yes, It was 24th and Perkins, not Bwdy. Broadway was the Toot and Tell 'Em! Then they opened the old locker storage place next door, cable company moved in that building later on.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 30, 2007 09:47

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

would you friend that played the organ at the Emmerson Hotel happen to have been Gale Jines ?

Gail and I were great friends but it was "Tiny" Wemette who played at the Emmerson then. I named my daughter Lynne after Tiny. He died in the '70s and lived in Salem. In fact, he's buried in Salem

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 30, 2007 09:51

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I went to work @ Dowzer Electric in 1968 for \$1.97 per hour - also a union shop.

That's the same Bob Haney, a little guy who had sort of a lisp. I worked at Dowzer in '65. Worked with Byford Crawford, Dewey/Harry Karsh, a fellow called "Tootie", Don Gray, Herb Ayres, can't come up with many more names off hand.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 30, 2007 09:54

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Buck Yeager had a gas station just east

There was also a drug store on the S. side of Perkins, run by Hicks. I can't think of his first name but he had a son named Freddie and another boy but I don't recall his name or age.

Can't remember just where that drug store was but I was in it several times. It might have been closer to the park than Buck's station.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 30, 2007 10:01

[Hide Post](#)

My dads sister and her husband ran a little neighborhood grocery on Bell, I think. It was Karsh's Grocery. The place is still standing but has been remodded and the store building looks like it might be a bedroom now. The store is the only recognizable part of it since the house has been redone.

Remember Hunts on 9th by the old Register News? Then N. of that was a car lot and then on North was a little resteraunt but I can't think of the name of it. They had the little table jukebox heads and for awhile had the music piped outside but I think people started complaining about that.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

<ctcfl>

Posted January 30, 2007 10:22

Does anyone have any more information on the Chataqua location, maybe a timeline,events etc.?



[Hey Martha...](#)

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wclark
Old Pro



Posted January 30, 2007 10:45

[Hide Post](#)

Immediately north of the Granada was where my father opened his first store. He had managed The Gift Chest prior. That was 1957. North of him was a ladies clothing store. Then, Wielts Plumbing. Wielts may be the oldest continuous business in downtown MtV. Register News, Hunts (great place to eat). Seems to me that a Vet had his shop/office north of hunts, but, again, the fuzzy attacks.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 30, 2007 12:18

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by wclark:

OK, it's been a while, but in the early/mid 50's, there was Benoist Hardware, The Gift Chest, Blades Walgreen, and, I believe, First National Bank on the west side of the square. There may have been another business between The Gift Chest and the hardware store, but there is a bit of fuzziness in my memory. The building that was torn down was First National Bank. This was after the bank was "rebuilt" on the opposite (southern) corner.

Don't hold me to this. Mistakes come more frequently with age. 🍷

One other business on the west side, I pretty sure it was between Benoist Hardware and the drugstore was Cook's Paint Store managed by a man named Connoway a son of Omar Connoway that ran the old Spot Tavern next to the cafe owned by Emmet Ellis in the 200 block of So 10th. Dr Schmitt, a dentist had his office above the paint store along with others including "Old" Doc Thompson and "Old" Dr Hamilton.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 30, 2007 12:25

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

My dads sister and her husband ran a little neighborhood grocery on Bell, I think. It was Karsh's Grocery. The place is still standing but has been remodled and the store building looks like it might be a bedroom now. The store is the only recognizable part of it since the house has been redone. Remember Hunts on 9th by the old Register News? Then N. of that was a car

lot and then on North was a little resteraunt but I can't think of the name of it. They had the little table jukebox heads and for awhile had the music piped outside but I think people started complaining about that.

The amall cafe was the "Cottage Inn"

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 30, 2007 13:53

[Hide Post](#)

No table service at the Cottage Inn only a horse shoe counter that would seat maybe 15 or so.

BTW There are listed in the 29/30 directory 41 restaurants in the city limits and 34 service stations and a whopping 65 grocery stores.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 30, 2007 14:44

[Hide Post](#)

I want everyone that has posted on this thread to know how much you all have brought back a flood of old memories and how much I appreciate it. You guy's are the greatest !

I once heard that: One of the sorrows of life was not finding someone to share your memories with.

Thank you for sharing a few of mine.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted January 30, 2007 14:53

[Hide Post](#)

tyrone, it's been a great trip. It doesn't have to end now. You're a treasure to the group here. 😊 Thanks for sharing your memories. Certainly brought back some to me. 😊

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Sassafras
Regular



Posted January 30, 2007 17:11

[Hide Post](#)

Did you ever have the pleasure of eating a "greaseburger," as my grandson would call it, from DeMent's, or the "broasted chicken" from Virginia's, or a piece of pie from Mom's Cafe?

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted January 30, 2007 19:48

[Hide Post](#)

I don't believe I missed a one of those. 🏀 And I'm a better person for having had them. 😊

One of the best places in town to eat was Ellis's Cafe. Basketball team ate all their meals there "back in the day".

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

xlawman

Posted January 30, 2007 21:39

[Hide Post](#)

Free Time



I'd like to know more about Mt.Vernon in the 19th century. Being an old cowboy-western buff, I'd like to know what Mt.Vernon was like between the years 1850-1899. If anyone has any photos please post them as well.

Posts: **232** | Location: **Mount Vernon** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

Sassafras

Regular



Posted January 30, 2007 22:02

[Hide Post](#)

Remember when Dollens' Shoe Store sold "Red Goose Shoes" and they had an x-ray type machine that you could stick your feet in to see if your shoes fit correctly?

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

wclark

Old Pro



Posted January 31, 2007 07:42

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Sassafras:

Remember when Dollens' Shoe Store sold "Red Goose Shoes" and they had an x-ray type machine that you could stick your feet in to see if your shoes fit correctly?

I sure do. Don Musgrove(sp) was the manager.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

tyrone

Free Time



Posted January 31, 2007 09:15

[Hide Post](#)

The Mammoth Dept Store on the square also had one of the florascopes that you could look at bones inside your foot not unlike a x-ray. I think now that such a machine is outlawed from use.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [tyrone](#), January 31, 2007 09:44

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone

Free Time



Posted January 31, 2007 09:33

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by wclark:

I don't believe I missed a one of those. 🍷 And I'm a better person for having had them. 😊

One of the best places in town to eat was Ellis's Cafe. Basketball team ate all their meals there "back in the day".

Speaking of Ellis's Cafe, do you recall the big elaborate neon sign on the roof showing Wimpy (the cartoon caricature) eating hamburgers out of a giant pile of them. As he eat the pile grew smaller and smaller. It was the only place that was still opened after closing time of the taverns. Quite a sight with only about 20 counter stool and 50 drunks trying to get something to eat. You had to try and pick a person that was about done eating and then go stand behind them to be ready to grab their seat before someone else did.

When the person seated sometimes ordered that extra cup of coffee, you could hear a muffled "Oh Sh*t !" by the person waiting behind them.

BTW I think Emmitt Ellis bought the cafe from a man named Cliff Cherry. My oldest son worked for the Ellis's as a dishwasher when he was in high school.

Best biscuits and gravy, except Emmitt was to stingy with the gravy. He had his wife , Marge, trained the same way. Henry Billingsley was a fry cook there for years and then was replaced by ET Carrol. ET was the best short order fry cook in this part of the country ! A sight to behold was him at the grille with 20 breakfast orders to make and they never used any kind of written slips but just called out the orders to him. ET and I were fishing buddies.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted January 31, 2007 09:35

[Hide Post](#)

How could you not remember that sign. 🤔 Thanks for reminding me of it. 😊

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

rickhicks
Educated



Posted January 31, 2007 10:44

[Hide Post](#)

I liked Emmitt Ellis' pancakes the best. Only ones I ever ate that were better than my mom's hotcakes. Dad would take me there on our way to open up the service station in the early mornings.

Btw, about that neon sign, Wimpy was my hero as a kid as I couldn't get enough hamburgers to eat!! I definitely remember it.

wclark, I think I have asked you this before, I believe your father had a Harley in the 60's correct?

I got my first haircut by Oscar Stockton, who with his brother, had a barber shop on the north side of Hunt's. But I believe there was a vet's office between it and Hunt's? Easton's was on the NE corner on the block but not sure when it opened there?

The original(?) city jail was across the street on 9th behind the Masonic lodge I am told.

I remember Bracy's at 15th and B'way had green glass/tile panels on the lower facade/face of the store. They seemed to always get vandalized. I raced slot cars there a time or two after the grocery store closed.

I vaguely remember the racetrack on the corner of Fairfield road and Tolle road as I was only 3-4 years old then. Seems the bleachers were on the north side of the track looking back towards Fairfiled road? I was only there once or twice.

What was the name of the restaurant(in the 60's) where El Amigos is now? It was a greasy spoon for sure. They had good burgers there though. But Dement's always had the BEST burgers!

My uncle, Herb Bennett, ran a crane at the old car shops for years until it closed. He went to work for Libby's after that.

My oldest brother met his wife at Taco Villa. She was a cook not a carhop though.

To all those contributing to this thread...yes, it is a wonderful thing to read. It really takes me back. A sincere thanks for joining in. Keep posting!

Moderators: Big Hall, Bob Dennis

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wclark
Old Pro



Posted January 31, 2007 10:59

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quote:

Originally posted by rickhicks:
wclark, I think I have asked you this before, I believe your father had a Harley in the 60's correct?

No, dad never had a Harley. He and Bob Kolmer were great buddies and Bob owned the Suzuki shop in town. Dad rode Suzukis and Kawasakis, 'cause Bob sold them.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Sassafras
Regular



Posted January 31, 2007 12:39

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Mt. Vernon was a great place to grow up in the 50's and 60's. I remember trying to imagine living anyplace else and I couldn't. The years have taken me taken me a lot of places I would have never dreamed I would live, but sometimes I just like to close my eyes and try to remember every detail of that idylic world where I grew up.

Even back then, we called it "Mousetown" and couldn't wait to leave, but hind-sight is 20/20 and I would love to go back there for just one day. There were lots of good people who cared about each other, you could leave your doors unlocked, and even though, at the time, we thought we were bored, there really was plenty to do. Think about it... basket ball games and movie dates where we went all dressed up like we were going to church on Sunday morning, the Sub, the Mug(My grandson asked me the other day if I had ever been cruising.), dances in the summer on the bank parking lot, swimming at the city park or rec club, roller skating in the park, and much, much more. Shoot... we could play outside all day long til the street lights came on and beyond and our parents didn't worry about someone getting us. Those were the days!

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

mvn_citizen
Free Time

Posted January 31, 2007 14:29

[Hide Post](#)

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Mt_Vernon_IL

Don't know if anyone has seen that link or contributed to it, but it is interesting. I love Wikipedia!

Posts: **413** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **April 08, 2006**

Jim in PA
Free Time



Posted January 31, 2007 16:19

[Hide Post](#)

Tyrone, thanx for mentioning the Cottage Inn. That's where my Dad(anold Horse Creeker) met my Mom, who lived at Ninth and Taylor, across the street from the much admired, now deceased Ambassador Jeane (Jordan) Kirkpatrick, when they were both going to Lincoln, Casey, and MTVHS. I can barely remember being brought into the Cottage Inn a few times as a little guy, to grab a burger with my Dad. I used to pick up my Nana's groceries from Chris Johnson's store, where the florist's shop is now. There used to be a Studebaker and Hudson dealer on the northeast corner of 9th. and Harrison,I would love to walk by and "smell the new car smell". I remember going to see a horror movie at the Granada one summer evening in 57 or so, I think it was "Rodan", the Japanese film. I was soooo scared, I called my grandmother at her house at the end of Ninth and Taylor, and before she could come downstairs and turn on the light outside, so she said, I was pounding up the steps..... Those old brick sidewalks make a fast track.

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 31, 2007 18:22

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Jim in PA:

Tyrone, thanx for mentioning the Cottage Inn. That's where my Dad(anold Horse Creeker) met my Mom, who lived at Ninth and Taylor, across the street from the much admired, now deceased Ambassador Jeane (Jordan) Kirkpatrick, when they were both going to Lincoln, Casey, and MTVHS. I can barely remember being brought into the Cottage Inn a few times as a little guy, to grab a burger with my Dad. I used to pick up my Nana's groceries from Chris Johnson's store, where the florist's shop is now. There used to be a Studebaker and Hudson dealer on the northeast corner of 9th. and Harrison,I would love to walk by and "smell the new car smell". I remember going to see a horror movie at the Granada one summer evening in 57 or so, I think it was "Rodan", the Japanese film. I was soooo scared, I called my grandmother at her house at the end of Ninth and Taylor, and before she could come downstairs and turn on the light outside, so she said, I was pounding up the steps..... Those old brick sidewalks make a fast track.

Yeah JiminPa I remember the Studebaker dealer next to the Cottage Inn very well. It was owned and operated by Chris Johnson whose father, Clayton, was sheriff at one time in the early 40's But right on the NE corner of 9th and Harrison was a very small two pump service station and later it was a cab stand right after world war 2.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted January 31, 2007 19:19

[Hide Post](#)

Anyone here an old Register News paper boy? I first carried papers there in about 1944 and 45. I think it was route 6. It included Centralia road, Oakland Ave, N 12th Isabella and out Richview Road past the orphanage. Later I changed routes and carried the downtown area and south tenth down to Bell St. and then east to the the highway to Opdyke/Belle Rive. This included the car shop office (later to become the Jefferson Memorial Hospital)and the old J P Divine office building across the street. This was back when we folded the papers in a square shape instead of rolling them up. I think I had 185 people on one of my routes. The down side of a paper route with the RN was that the paper boy had to do all the collecting and then pay his "paper bill" to the newspaper first and what ever was left was his to keep. Only trouble with this set up was that not all people were good about paying and a lot of your own money was always on the "books"

and sometimes never collected. It made a hell of a dent in your wages ! If you carried for the RN you never made good wages but once in awhile they would take a bunch of the paperboys to a ballgame in St. Louis. I never got to go because my mom said it was to dangerous. I think the RN was 25 cents a week back then and we collected every week. We had little two ringed books about 4x6 with tear out weekly tickets on a monthly page. If you were lucky you might finally wind up with 2 or 3 dollars a week, sometimes less, sometimes as high as maybe 6 dollars but that didn't happen very often. I used my older brothers bike and he charged me 50 cents a week to use it.

I also once carried the Globe-Democrat for Mr. Pat Wright when he had the agency. It was located behind the Mammoth Dept Store on the alley. The building was part of the building the housed the Mammoth and was only about 8 feet wide. Pat lived at the Schorle Apartments located on the east side of 9th St just down the street from the agency. He had a son named Bill who was a little older than me. Pat taught me a lot on how to do a good job and to be honest with people. He was a great influence on me and I remeber to this day some of the advice he freely gave me.

When I worked at The Globe-Democrat Mr Wright paid \$5.50 a week and he did the collecting. First place I would head for after Mr Wright paid me was Jones's Drug Store just across the street on the SE corner of Ninth and Broadway for a "Bonnie Buttered Beef" sandwich and a fountain Coke for 40 cents.

I apologize for the long post, but boys, I couldn't help it the memories just kept coming.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 31, 2007 22:30

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Does anyone have any more information on the Chataqua location,

The Chataqua was in the neighborhood of 25th and Casey on the N.E. part. It may have been moved later on but was a large place with a stage and seating I believe.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 31, 2007 22:35

[Hide Post](#)

Before Dements, there was an ice cream parlor on Jordan on the corner of the alley which seperates the city parking lot and an empty lot now, I believe it's empty. My dad was the pastor at the First Free Will Baptist church which was on the SW corner of 11th and Jordan and between Sunday school and church some of us kids would walk to Allens and buy an ice cream cone. It was homemade ice cream and really good. It was an old house with a brown brick tar paper on it and I believe Allens lived in the back. Dement bought it later on and then moved it to the building on Jordan between 10th and 11th st. on Jordan.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 31, 2007 22:38

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

broasted chicken" from Virginia's

My dad's girl friend lived above Virginia's until she died some years ago. Nancy Galler died just a couple of months ago and she was the one who ran Virginia's. She was a daughter and they had great food. Then there was the Bar-B-Q-Haven which had great food and used to have yearly reunions but I believe everyone has either died or moved.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 31, 2007 22:41

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

What was the name of the restaurant(in the 60's) where El Amigos is now? It was a greasy spoon for sure.

That was the Glass House. It was built after the McGlaughins tore down their Toot & Tell 'Em. Was a pretty busy place.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 31, 2007 22:50

[Hide Post](#)

It's too bad we had to lose the big Pepsi sign that was on top of the Alberts building on 10th and Main.

Does anyone remember when the bus station was on N. 10th st. next to Holman Motors? It was also a little cafe and on Sat. mornings WMIX would do a live feed there and they'd give away free coffee and doughnuts. They'd interview people and talke about the Friday night basketball games with the Rams.

I went a couple of times but being a kid and being alone they wouldn't give me any doughnuts and I was too young for coffee. It had a counter like a huge L and then some small tables which would seat 4. Was a clean little place but because they wouldn't let me have free doughnuts I never liked it much.

Speaking of Holman Motors, about a week before Christmas Santa would come and would wave and wish everyone a "Merry Christmas" from Holmans roof. There would be huge crowds there and they would have a line of tables set up and everyone would get a free bag of treats. There were 100s of people showing up for that.


Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 31, 2007 22:55

[Hide Post](#)

 Remember the old WG car lot? It was on S. 10th st. just south of the railroad tracks and across from what was Tri City Grocery. WG had light strings all over the lot and it looked like a carnival at night all lit up. I got to see it from the air one night and it was awsome. Then on 34th and Bwdy. there was Little Star grocery and later Big Johns. The old A&P store was where the VFW is now and I used to love to go with mom and smell the coffe beans. They had bins of beans that the women would put into the grinders with a scoop, grind the beans and then the gound beans would fall through a big spout into a sack you'd hold under it.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 31, 2007 23:00

[Hide Post](#)

If you guys think I'm posting too much just say so. You won't hurt my feelings. When I was a kid the highlight of the summer was the road grader. I'd wake up to the sound of the grader digging up the street and would rush out of bed, get dressed and watch this amazing huge machine destroy the street and then somehow put it back

together again. Then after he was done the oil truck would come and put layers of oil on the graded street. The men would put boards or newspapers across the street so they could walk across the street as they had to park on the side street.

Another highlight of each day was when the iceman would come. We'd put the card up to tell him how much ice we wanted and then he'd stop in front and chip off the ice. We kids would grab the chips like they were gold and if we were lucky there'd be a couple of big chips that would last for about 5 minutes.

The coal truck was another fun thing to watch but he only came during the winter and I could watch him from the window. We never had a furnace with an auger, we had to stoke the furnace by hand and keep it banked for the night.

What days those were.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted January 31, 2007 23:07

[Hide Post](#)

Tyrone-out Salem Rd. where Old Union Rd meets Rt. 37N by the Hitchin' Post there's a building that's now a garage or something like that. On the side of the building you can make out what looks like an old Pontiac emblem as being a used car lot. Can you remember anything about it?

There's Larry's car lot, the old house that was a Rebens, I believe, and then the lot of the RVs. This building is on the back of that lot.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

<ctcfl>

Posted January 31, 2007 23:53

I havn't been to MtV in a while, is WMIX still in the same building out by the mall? The building they have their office in used to be my grandparents house. And I remember WMIX was across from the Granada years ago.

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Moderators: Big Hall, Bob Dennis

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wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 01, 2007 07:21

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The bus station on N 10th was one of the highlights of my younger life. Every Saturday night my dad would take me there and we would wait for the St. Louis bus to come in. He would get the St. Louis papers and I got a candy bar. Life was so simple then.

WG Motors was where my dad always traded cars - every two years. There was a farmer - Foster MacDonald - who traded cars every two years and dad ALWAYS got first dibs on the car he traded in. Used to get a bunch of fine Mercurys that way. Foster never put too many miles on them.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 01, 2007 07:23

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by ctcfl:
I havn't been to MtV in a while,is WMIX still in the same building out by the mall? The building they have their office in used to be my grandparents house. And I remember WMIX was across from the Granada years ago.

Yes, it's still there. It used to be part of the Security Bank building. Seems to me that Illinois Power had the rest of the block north.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**


tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 01, 2007 07:52

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:
 Remember the old WG car lot? It was on S. 10th st. just south of the railroad tracks and across from what was Tri City Grocery. WG had light strings all over the lot and it looked like a carnival at night all lit up. I got to see it from the air one night and it was awesome.
Then on 34th and Bwdy. there was Little Star grocery and later Big Johns. The old A&P store was where the VFW is now and I used to love to go with mom and smell the coffe beans. They had bins of beans that the women

would put into the grinders with a scoop, grind the beans and then the gound beans would fall through a big spout into a sack you'd hold under it.

I pretty sure that building was an addition to the old skating rink that was around the corner and in back of a service station that was on the corner. An old cafe used to sit on that site next to the service station on Tenth St. it was called "The Shankland Cafe" back in the 40's. It was torn down when the showroom part of the a auto dealership was built. The building was first occupied by the Chevrolet dealer named Scheer Chevrolet. Their car lot was located north of the building where the carpet warehouse is now. Mossy McDonald ran the little station back in the early 50's. I think it was a Texico station back then.

I can't recall the street that joins tenth at that corner but across that street from the old skating rink was a bowling alley that was upstairs in an old business building. I can't remember what business were located on the ground floors. As I remember it I think that little street dead ended after only a block or so.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 01, 2007 07:56

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by wclark:

quote:

Originally posted by ctcfl:

I havn't been to MtV in a while, is WMIX still in the same building out by the mall? The building they have their office in used to be my grandparents house. And I remember WMIX was across from the Granada years ago.

Yes, it's still there. It used to be part of the Security Bank building. Seems to me that Illinois Power had the rest of the block north.

I'm almost sure that lot was the Security Bank parking lot and was controlled by a guard in a small shack. He would give you a voucher to get validated when you parked there and went to the bank.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 01, 2007 08:06

[Hide Post](#)

Seems like there was the alley that's still there, the bank, entrance to WMIX (upstairs), the Illinois Power office and then the parking lot. It was "guarded". 😊

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

tyrone

Posted February 01, 2007 08:14

[Hide Post](#)

Free Time



In going back through the foggy long ago memories of late I have stumbled on some that might ring a bell with you guys.

This one I will post first in order not to hog the thread too much :

When me and mom would come in from the country to do some shopping at Woolworth's, that was on the south side of the square, to get some sewing needles or some other small much needed item, the practice back then was someone would hop out of the car and run in and get what was needed while the driver circled the block. Parking was at a premium around the square on any Saturday. If mom had to circle more that three times I would catch the devil for not being fast enough. We did a lot of our buying there at Woolworth's although another store next door call Moriss Five and Dime had about the same items.

I'll post more as they come to me. Thanks for prodding my memory, it needs the exercise. I hate to admit this but a few times my old eyes seem to fill and I have to hold back a tear or two.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 01, 2007 09:11

[Hide Post](#)

Woolworth's was about the greatest store a young boy could ever find. They had just about everything imaginable. Toys, bulk candy, needles and thread for mom, etc. And really great wooden floors. Just a super store.

The Mammoth was also really neat. Multiple floors, pneumatic tubes that ran the money up to the cashiers and returned with your change. Scouting stuff back in the southwest corner, clothes for all ages. What a great place. Even when it move out to the mall it kept its "style".

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 01, 2007 09:15

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Mossy McDonald ran the little station back in the early 50's. I think it was a Texico station back then.

Mossey lived across the street from my wife and I on Casey for awhile. We moved and he stayed.

There was a skating rink in the block that Lampley Electronics was in right off of 10th St. and it had a glass floor. Was fancy but we all chose the one at the park.

My uncle, which had the El Toro Resteraunt had a place on S. 10th St. just up from Krebs Drug Store, where Flota's Antique shop is now. My mom used to bake pies for him. In the 40s, early I think, there was a guard shack by the tracks just before IGA now and my grand dad was the guard there. He'd stop cars when a train was coming. I believe there was a mine entrance there, I can't remember him working for the railroad but somehow that isn't adding up. I got to visit him a couple of times when he was at the guard shack but I was pretty young.

Washington school was in the old YMCA building when I was in school. I don't believe it stayed a school too long as it was pretty well mistreated with windows busted and walls with holes in them. That's quite a story but not for here.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 01, 2007 09:24

[Hide Post](#)

I'm almost sure that lot was the Security Bank parking lot and was controlled be a gaurd in a small shack.[/quote]

Yep! I'd couldn't remember that until I started this post. I was thinking of the one across from Bank of IL./Integra where the guy would check you out.

When I was in high school I was in a 4 piece Dixieland band with 3 other classmates and we had a job of playing at the Granada one day between features, the cartoon and previews. Before it all started we met at WMIX in the studio and they let us practice. The DJ put us on the air and liked to scared us to death. We got through our performance and thought we were really hot stuff. We played the VFW when it was below Alberts. We then got a drummer who was a lot older than us and a barber. He got drunk one night, fell off of his drum stool and into his drums. What a racket that made. We never used him anymore nor did we play any place which served alcohol. Was fun though.

The Rex was a nice place to eat. It was expensive but very clean and good food. My friend Tiny played the piano there for quite awhile.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 01, 2007 09:35

[Hide Post](#)

There was some earlier talk about The Glass House. I remember it as being a pretty nice place to eat - not a greasy spoon.

Remember a place called The Three Mile House? It was (imagine) three miles west of town on the south side of the road. One of the first places in "Mt. Vernon" that had pizza. Also had some of the best fried chicken you ever put your teeth to. The white block building is still there, but it has been empty for a long time and is about to fall in. Just a tad east of the Big Muddy.

I guess eating out was more of a treat then than it is now. Always seemed like a really special deal.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted February 01, 2007 15:26

[Hide Post](#)

Thanks for all the posts. Brings back so many memories. I used to walk from junior high to the Glass House for lunch.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

Jim in PA
Free Time



Posted February 01, 2007 17:03

[Hide Post](#)

Hey, jlmer, you just keep on remembering! How about this: Does anyone remember when there were actual ICE deliveries to residences? When I was too young for school, I was at my Grandmother's while my mom worked at the phone co, when it was across from the Stadium. Every other day, John McNutt, an old man whom I was told fought in the Spanish American War, would drive a team of two sorrel horses pulling a wagon lined with tin. In the wagon would be huge slabs of ice and he'd pull up to the steps and ask me to ask "Miz Hoit" how much ice for the next two days. She had a fridge, but kept a cold cellar with fresh fruits, jellies, milk from the farm in Bluford, and we'd love "ice day" as we could give the two horses carrots or apples. Last time I saw Mr. McNutt, I was nine or ten and he was all crippled up, could hardly walk, but one day, downtown, I met him on the sidewalk in front of Woolworth's and bless his heart, he remembered me. Another era for sure, and I have something nice to hang onto. Another thing: Anyone remember the Mt. Vernon Skeet Shooting Club with their range out on the Ols Centralia Road? An

ancestor of mine was one of the two who initially cleared the road, originally known as the Vandalia or Capital Road, as the state capital then was Vandalia(I believe 1821 or so)... I remember the clay pigeons out there by the zillions and my dad teaching me how to shoot his Browning Sweet Sixteen. I think that was 1957 and 58...

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

<BlfrdRaider>

Posted February 01, 2007 22:30

quote:

Originally posted by tyrone:

If you can obtain a copy of a book written by Earl Purdue titled "Horse Creek and the Great Depression" or an earlier one by him titled "Early Days On Horse Creek" they are both a refreshing and rewarding look back to the people that had a big hand in settling their part of this county. A very good account og Kell, Foxville, Cartter, Tickelgrass, Slapout and other small settlements in this area.

New to the forum, any leads on obtaining a copy of Horse Creek and the Great Depression

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 02, 2007 07:37

[Hide Post](#)

You might take a shot at this.

http://cgi.ebay.com/LOT-OF-2-EARL-PURDUE-HORSE-CREEK-BOOKS-HARDBACK-SIGND_W0QQitemZ110082827861QQcmdZViewItem

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 02, 2007 07:52

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by BlfrdRaider:

quote:

Originally posted by tyrone:

If you can obtain a copy of a book written by Earl Purdue titled "Horse Creek and the Great Depression" or an earlier one by him titled "Early Days On Horse Creek" they are both a refreshing and rewarding look back to the people that had a big hand in settling their part of this county. A very good account og Kell, Foxville, Cartter, Tickelgrass, Slapout and other small settlements in this area.

New to the forum, any leads on obtaining a copy of Horse Creek and the Great Depression

On my borrowed copy flier page is:

Additional Copies May Be Ordered From
Earl Purdue

Kell, Illinois

As the book was written in 1983 this might not be of any help to you. The book was printed in Centralia, Illinois by A-Line Printing Company

I checked in the phone book and found a Dick Purdue that I am almost positive is the author's son that is mentioned in his book. It's a Kell, Il. number 822-6448 Another Purdue in that area is a Rodney Purdue, maybe a grandson, at 822-6730.

Hope this will help. The book is written in a language easily understood by us old Horsecreeker's.

I was born further south on Horse Creek than the area mentioned in the book. Things were different in my area because it seems to me people had less money and lived harder further south on the creek than Mr Purdue discribes around the Kell area where he grew up.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

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<BlfrdRaider>

Posted February 02, 2007 10:40

thanks tyrone for your quick reply

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 02, 2007 10:57

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Also had some of the best fried chicken you ever put your teeth to. The white block building is still there, but it has been empty for a long time and is about to fall in. Just a tad east of the Big Muddy.

That was later known as the Blue Moon, turned into an antique place which was owned by the County Comor, John Richardson. Yep, it still stands but not in good shape after all of these years.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 02, 2007 11:04

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I was at my Grandmother's while my mom worked at the phone co, when it was across from the Stadium.

Ask you mom if she knew a Marilyn Henry who worked at the phone company in the 50s. If so you might ask her if she has any idea of where she might be. I dated her although she was a few years older than I. I was 18 and she was 23, drove a new Mercury and would buy a 6-pack and we'd go to the Jaycee lake and park with a fellow named Jack Thorpe and his girl friend Helen Yearwood. Jacks family moved to Florida and he was killed at a young age in an auto wreck. I have no idea what happened to Helen. She was a cute and nice girl.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 02, 2007 11:14

[Hide Post](#)

I was in the marching band when I was in highschool and we used to have a parade or two each year that we'd march and play in. Being of a lazy nature, I used to not be too thrilled at the one that started at the library and ended up at the city park. That was one hike that was miserable, especially wearing those wool uniforms and carrying and

blowing on an instrument for that long.

Our band director was Charles Greg and was a super person. At the city park waiting for us was usually a carnival. We'd pile our instruments up once we got there and enjoy the rides. No-one ever bothered anything back then so the instruments were safe. The wool uniforms were so hot that by my living close to the park I could walk home, drop off my trumpet and change clothes unless there were some benefits to wearing them at the carnival, like free rides or girls. We had an active band all through highschool playing the ballgames and concerts. Only 1 year out of 4 did we get a second place, the others were always firsts and first superiors. Fred Baked and Ron Decon were the first and second trumpets and Fred went on to play with some name bands. He died either last year or year before. A nice guy to a freshman.

Does anyone remember Ronnie Price? A great jazz trumpet who played at the dance hall in the park and was just pretty well talented in anything he took on. His sister married Don Doris who lived/lives in Woodlawn. Would like to know about Ronnie too as he taught me some licks on the trumpet. Another swell guy.

It didn't seem that there was all of the jealousy back then as there is now either.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 02, 2007 11:22

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

Also had some of the best fried chicken you ever put your teeth to. The white block building is still there, but it has been empty for a long time and is about to fall in. Just a tad east of the Big Muddy.

That was later known as the Blue Moon, turned into an antique place which was owned by the County Cornor, John Richardson. Yep, it still stands but not in good shape after all of these years.

I'm thinking that the name was "Blue Mill" when Richardson ran it as an antique store. It started out as a BarBQue place and they cooked their meat on a large steel outdoor wood fired cooker. A first in this area except for Speedy Sprinkle who had been this kind of outdoor cooking for years down on south tenth street right south of Perkins. I have eaten many a side of ribs prepared by Speedy. He cooked them in an old homemade cooker made from some old scrap steel and it was in his front yard. Later he servrd a chosen few in the front room of his house. I wonder what our health inspector would think about inspecting his eating establishment.

It was a small wooden dilapidated service station/grocery store in the late 40's when a good friend of mine, Max Bullock, was hit by a car when he was crossing the highway. It was known as the "Three Mile House" for a number of years.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

Jim in PA
Free Time



Posted February 02, 2007 13:35

[Hide Post](#)

Jlmer: I'll ask her about Marilyn Henry, some of my Mom's memories are crystal clear from 50 yrs ago and not too hot from our last phone chat! I guess we'll all be there soon enough. Another memory: I recall the Little League Ball Fields on N. 20th Street being MUCH larger when I was running out there chasing ground balls. Why does everything

shrink(except, perhaps my mirror's version?) when we go back to visit? Stewart Webb was our manager back then and my daughter just came up with an old team photo. Sheesh! Blaine Sampson(from our '66 reunions), Craig Fisher, now a senior astronaut medical examiner at NASA, Terry Gruthius(I remember from carrying the Register-News for two summers), and some faces I am ashamed to say I cannot place. Right field was a mile out in the day! Hey...Are there still ANY sections of brick-paved streets in the King City? Broadway used to be solid brick, and it had those horribly dim little corrugated lamps on hte poles out west. If there is any brick left, the City ought to preserve a stretch like at Indy...

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 03, 2007 10:41

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Terry Gruthius

Terry was a cousin of mine. I don't remember the little league field as our neighborhood boys used to play ball on the corner of 27th & Bwdy. where they built Warco. The corner lot was huge and had a lot of trees but had a large clearing where we had room to play ball. Clint Fleener, I was engaged to his daughter later, owned the big two story house that was by this field until he died. He also owned the Top Of The Town. Coach Chagnon lived on the SE corner of Casey and 27th st. and we'd play Indian ball in his front yard with his youngest son, Andy. I grew up down the street on Casey from it all and still own the house. On towards the park was Keeles grocery (mkt) and then where Odles Insurance is there was another grocery store. There was another one where the gun shop is on 24th. between Casey and College. I don't remember the name of it but at one time it was Pages. The other guy who owned it was a super guy. He kept his soda bottles stacked by his back door in the alley and I'd walk up the alley, grab about 6 or 7 bottles, walk around to the front door and sell them back to him for 2 cents a bottle. That was enough to get me into the show and some candy as the Plaza was only 9 cents to get in. I'd stop at Murpheys and get the candy. I'm sure the fellow at the store caught onto what I was doing but he never said a word about it. When bubble gum was so hard to get as soon as he'd get some in the word was out. I'd go get some, my mom would go get some and my grandmother would go get some. I'd send anybody who'd go to get some bubble gum with the Tubby cartoons in it. He'd run out pretty quickly but I'd bite it in two and sometimes cut it in 4ths so it'd last awhile. It cost 2 cents for one piece. I can remember it being a penny at one time but when it got so hard to get it went up. It was because sugar was rationed that it was so scarace.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 03, 2007 10:45

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Are there still ANY sections of brick-paved streets in the King City? Broadway used to be solid brick,

Not anymore! There's so much traffic on Broadway that it would beat any brick to pieces. They kept a section in front of the cemetary, Oakwood, for awhile but it's been paved over now. Speaking of Oakwood, the N. side of it was empty of graves for years and we'd play football there until they started filling it up with graves. I used to go to the old L & N and fish after school but always made it a point to be out of there before dark as I had to come through the cemetary. Couldn't ride the bike as the roads were old

cinder roads and I'd usually turn over since I was carrying my fishing tackle, etc. so I walked it after getting tired of skinned knees.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 03, 2007 10:48

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I'm thinking that the name was "Blue Mill" when Richardson ran it as an antique store.

You're right, it was Blue Mill. Don't know where I came up with Blue Moon unless I was thinking of the old song. In later years I had the job of taking pictures of bodies for John when he became comor. Not what you'd call a "good" job but I had a darkroom and could get him his pics in usually about an hour.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 06, 2007 09:02

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone remember the old "shelter" at the city park. It was on the North side and was wood up to about 3 feet and then had screen around the top part with wooden shutters to enclose it in cool or rainy weather. It could be reserved for reunions, etc. and the vets used to have all of their reunions there. Too bad it had to go as the only really shelter now is the Roland Lewis building and it's so high no one can afford to use what our tax money built.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 06, 2007 10:13

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I can remember two events that happened here in Mt. Vernon pretty vividly though being fairly young. One was the fire that burned the East side of the square and the other was the day WWII ended.

I was meeting Roger Marvel in our back alley to trade comic books when all of a sudden the car shops whistle started blowing and all of the sirens were going off and everyone was honking their horns who were driving Broadway and people started coming out of their houses shouting.

Roger and I had just met in the alley when all of this started and before we could say much more than "Hi" my mom came running out of the house telling me to come on, the war had ended.

I stacked my comic books in a pile at the edge of the alley and headed for mom and the car.

She drove to the car shops to pick up my dad and then we went downtown where people were going crazy in a good kind of way. They were shaking hands with everyone, hugging and some were jumping up and down. There was such a mob of people in the street that traffic was pretty well at a stand still but no-one cared.

After awhile everyone started going home, us included. This meant that all of my uncles (4) would soon be coming home. One had been in a POW camp as he was captured in the Battle of The Bulge, but that's another story.

When we got back to our house I went back to the alley and all of my comic books were right where I left them. That's just the sort of town that Mt. Vernon used to be.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer

Posted February 06, 2007 10:23

[Hide Post](#)

Old Pro



When the East side of the square caught fire it must have been on a Saturday as my dad was at home instead of at the car shops. WMIX announced it as a special bulletin and mom and dad loaded me up in the car and we drove downtown to watch. I don't think they thought that it was as bad as it really was until we got there. I don't remember where we parked but there was already a crowd there, standing on the East Court House lawn. 9th. Street was full of hoses and firetrucks and the men were battling as hard as they could but the building seemed to engulf pretty fast. The Brokerage was flaming and the big windows would sound like cannon fire when they burst and the mannequens would fly out of the window along with some items of clothing. The Plaza was the one that upset me. That was my Saturday hangout and I knew that my westerns were over unless they rebuilt it. That never happened, that was the end of the Plaza. Men and women were crying because it was such a devastating blow to our city. Women were losing some of their favorite shopping places and the men were just upset to see their town in flames. Unfortunately there wasn't much saved from that fire and for some reason I don't seem to remember the rebuilding process that went on. That was another time that the towns people pulled together for a common cause. Pulling together, Mt. Vernon downtown was raised from the ashes and again boomed until the shopping centers came into being.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

RaneyOnline

Old Pro



Posted February 06, 2007 10:51

[Hide Post](#)

If Broadway were converted to allow East and West traffic...and Main Street were narrowed to include more sidewalk space...do you think shops would reopen along Main Street? Angled parking like 9th Street could be used to open up more parking and landscaping could make Main Street more inviting. It would look like the square did in it's glory days.

Posts: **1005** | Location: **Pennsylvania** | Registered: **May 11, 2006**

wclark

Old Pro



Posted February 06, 2007 11:29

[Hide Post](#)

I don't remember the web site for the fire department, but there are some pretty nice pictures of the fire. Go to history section or the picture section of the site.

Time passes.....

OK, here ya go.

<http://.iafflocal2429.org/index.cfm?dsp=gallery&script=detail§ion=1&pagenum=127>

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [wclark](#), February 06, 2007 11:50

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

tyrone

Free Time



Posted February 06, 2007 12:47

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quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

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standing on the East Court House lawn. 9th. Street was full of hoses and firetrucks and the men were battling as hard as they could but the building seemed to engulf pretty fast. The Brokerage was flaming and the big windows would sound like cannon fire when they burst and the mannequens would fly out of the window along with some items of clothing. The Plaza was the one that upset me. That was my Saturday hangout and I knew that my westerns were over unless they rebuilt it. That never happened, that was the end of the Plaza. Men and women were crying because it was such a devastating blow to our city. Women were losing some of their favorite shopping places and the men were just upset to see their town in flames. Unfortunately there wasn't much saved from that fire and for some reason I don't seem to remember the rebuilding process that went on. That was another time that the towns people pulled together for a common cause. Pulling together, Mt. Vernon downtown was raised from the ashes and again boomed until the shopping centers came into being.

jlmerIf you will fine tune your memory you will remember that the Plaza was not actually burned down but I would probably assume that the smoke damage and the insurance policy got it closed. You may also remember that the business just to the north of the Plaza (Wooden Indian run by Sam Zemliak)did not go up in flames either. The old Indian out front was to reappear in the 1000 block Broadway. Wonder what ever happened to him, the indian I mean. Later after the Wooden Indian Tobacco Shop closed a tavern was opened in that building called"Someplace Else" run by a young man who's last name was Tony. I think that Roger Marvel later bought in and was a partner.

I think you are correct on the fire being on a week-end because I was there leaning against the Court House until the heat drove everyone farther back. I would probably not been uptown at that hour, as I lived out near Hoit's Addition then, unless I was headed to a movie at the time. You and I could have been there standing side by side watching the big fire and all the excitment.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

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tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 06, 2007 13:00

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quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

Does anyone remember the old "shelter" at the city park. It was on the North side and was wood up to about 3 feet and then had screen around the top part with wooden shutters to enclose it in cool or rainy weather.

It could be reserved for reunions, etc. and the vets used to have all of their reunions there. Too bad it had to go as the only really shelter now is the Roland Lewis building and it's so high no one can afford to use what our tax money built.

You bet ya, I remember the old shelter on the north side of the city park. Also remember the City Park Cop, Mr Luther Winkler. I think was his name. He was a real old crank to us young boys He would patrol the park on foot watching for any hanky-panky going on. I believe he was once a city policeman. Me and Don Lowery out run him on foot on night after we were a little roudy at the old dance pavillion. He scared the crap out of me because he carried an old 38 about like Barney Fife. In fact he looked a lot like ole Barn'

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 06, 2007 13:15

[Hide Post](#)

The fire you've been talking about was Sunday, December 17, 1950. The link I put in an earlier post doesn't seem to work. 🙄

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 06, 2007 13:53

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I would like to thank the Register News for providing this forum so that some of us old timers have a chance to share some of our memories on this thread. Just to do so has brought many hours of enjoyment to me. These shared memories with others have a refreshing way of awaking my memory about an event or place I thought was gone forever.

I know that the airport, the jail, taxes, upcoming elections and ego's are necessary main topics on the Register News forum but it's nice to know that the Old Mt. Vernon thread doesn't seem to have all those bickering and position jockeying subjects. Just some older Mousetown people comparing our memories. How refreshing

this can be if you just let it.

Someone suggested earlier that maybe we should all meet somewhere and get acquainted. To me I like it pretty much like it is now with us all sharing things without any petty reasons not to. You must remember that some might have certain preconceived judgments about some of the people that post on the thread if we knew their true identity. Let's keep personality's out of the thread and just share our memories anonymously

Thanks again Register News and also thanks to all the people that take time and post their memories for me to read. I love every one that I read !

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 06, 2007 14:00

[Hide Post](#)

I'll second that. 😊

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted February 06, 2007 14:56

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

I was at my Grandmother's while my mom worked at the phone co, when it was across from the Stadium.

Ask you mom if she knew a Marilyn Henry who worked at the phone company in the 50s. If so you might ask her if she has any idea of where she might be. I dated her although she was a few years older than I. I was 18 and she was 23, drove a new Mercury and would buy a 6-pack and we'd go to the Jaycee lake and park with a fellow named Jack Thorpe and his girl friend Helen Yearwood. Jacks family moved to Florida and he was killed at a young age in an auto wreck. I have no idea what happened to Helen. She was a cute and nice girl.

Was that Tom's sister?

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

<ctcfl>

Posted February 06, 2007 15:37

Those of us in the "slightly" younger generation appreciate hearing these old stories,I hope this thread continues....Some of your memories can become ours as well!

Black Pearl
2



Posted February 07, 2007 01:55

[Hide Post](#)

Yea, it's great to view the posts of guys beyond their years of having to pay alimony and child support, wishing 'what they had and were thankful for' to the following generations.

Tell us what you didn't like, regardless of the genuine love I'm lacking in here.

Posts: **1828** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **May 23, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 07, 2007 07:58

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Black Pearl 2:

Yea, it's great to view the posts of guys beyond their years of having to pay alimony and child support, wishing 'what they had and were thankful for' to the following generations.

Tell us what you didn't like, regardless of the genuine love I'm lacking in here.

BlackPearl Old age isn't something you choose it's something that will come to all sooner or later. Even you will someday want to share your old memories with someone. All old memories were and are not always filled with "genuine love" and were sometimes tough times to live through. We on this thread choose to recall and share the memories that matter to us. If you can't see the enjoyment or "genuine love" that we are sharing with one another you have missed the whole point of the topic "Old Mt Vernon". Go elsewhere with your opinions and see if you can find the "genuine love" that you seek. We will let you and others like you tell everyone what you "don't like". We, as the older generation, remember the enjoyment and companionship with our friends and the happenings of our younger days. Will you someday be able to do the same ?

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted February 07, 2007 13:51

[Hide Post](#)

This has been over a hour of enjoyable reading. I lived in Mt. Vernon from 1951 through 1957. My folks bought a National Home in County Heights subdivision[the old army camp]. They bought the model home and and my brother and I had our own bedroom. It was wonderful. Mom and dad were so proud and the yard become my brother and mine summer job. No power mowers, just the old push type and everything had to be trimmed by hand. The Starlite drive-in was about a block away and we would go and sit on a big dirt pile at night and watch the movies. Mom would pop up a big bag of popcorn and maybe we would even have a Coke to take too. I went to West Salem school. It started out as a 2 room school and later a new one was built. Lots of room and hot lunch was all government surplus. I still remember the big slices of bread with honey and peanut butter. Mr and Mrs Sledge ran to the whole school and he wasn't afraid to dust your pants with that big belt of his. I got it more than once. I carried the Chicago Daily News, a man named Jenkins was the boss, and also the RN. I went to the movies almost every Saturday at both theaters. We would go to the movie, then to the Ben Franklin, the old Dobbs on south 10th and generally would wind up at the park riding the big swing. Most all my clothes came from the Illinois Brokeage or Carp's. For something extra special Mom would take us to the Mammoth. I remember a man, I think over near the high school, that sold hamburgers for a dime out of a back window of his house. My mom was church secretary at Logan Street Baptist for about 5 years. Dad worked at Max Davis Printing until it closed. We then moved to Centralia. I have nothing but good things to say of MV back then. Someone mentioned Stewart Webb, I went to school with him from grades 1 through 6. David Thomas was also a classmate.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

Black Pearl
2

Posted February 08, 2007 00:05

[Hide Post](#)

Old Pro



Tyrone - I'd join the posee, yet I'm hiding from your 5th wife's step-daughter right now because she's talking committment with her husband, I hear, and I'll just keep to my mentally inbalanced and faithful self dispite having to grow old, lonely, and having to vote no on a new high school.

Posts: **1828** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **May 23, 2006**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted February 08, 2007 08:50

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Was that Tom's sister?

I don't think so. She lived on about 5th and Harrison I believe and had a brother named Gary.
I didn't know much about her family as she was 23 and I was 18 so we never went too public.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted February 08, 2007 08:53

[Hide Post](#)

[QUOTE]Originally posted by Black Pearl 2:
and having to vote no on a new high school]

You vote however you want, sonny, this isn't a political forum and isn't going to become one. Now, if you want to tell us about your memories about the "Good Ole Days" in Mt. Vernon then jump right in but don't try to ruin it for the rest of us with politics or rhetoric.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted February 08, 2007 09:02

[Hide Post](#)

Since the Statue of Limitations has run out I'll confess to a little thing that me and a couple of other buddies used to do once in awhile. This happened at the old swimming pool. As you remember, there were boat rides by the pool and there were electric lines strung around the pool between the pool and the lake extending on around to the boat dock and then through the rest of the park.

There was a huge tree between the pool and lake but was closer to the pool than the lake.

Every once in awhile we'd unscrew the light bulb by the tree and then go to the boat dock for about 10 minutes to see if the watchman or anyone noticed the light being out. If not, we'd go one at a time and climb the tree getting on a limb that pretty well over hung the pool dressing room for the gals. Now, these dressing rooms never had any type of roof at all and the showers were in plain sight. There were a few private stalls with plastic shower curtains on the doors but most of the gals would just grab a spot on the bench, peel off their suits, shower, get dressed and be on their way. From this experience I knew what a lot of my class mates looked like in the shower and it help us pick dates for the drive in. We never got caught and none of us ever told any other guys what we were doing and a camera would have been a blessing or good for a few years, one or the other. Ha!

Now the lights are gone, the tree is gone and the pool is gone. I've never been to the little "pee" pool that's there now but I noticed there's no trees around it.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer

Posted February 08, 2007 09:12

[Hide Post](#)

Old Pro



quote:

I think over near the high school, that sold hamburgers for a dime out of a back window of his house.

This was most likely "Butch's", Butch Dillingham. He built a little building in front of his house and I worked there during the lunch hour at high school. The hamburgers were a dime, sundaes were 15 cents and a soda was a nickel. He had some really great food. Butch has been dead for a few years and his wife died a couple of years ago. I remember one noon while I was working we both started down the same aisle. It wasn't big enough for both of us but he was rushing around, like always, bumped into me and lost his balance and his hand went on the grill burning him. He gave me a good cussin' and told me not to come back tomorrow. His kids worked there too and his daughter Shirley winked at me and shook her head and told me to come back anyway. I did and nothing was said. From what I understand, Harry lives around here or in Centralia. Shirley was a doll but I lost track of her. Butch was rough on the outside but loved kids. He had about 7 of them.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted February 08, 2007 19:30

[Hide Post](#)

What year was that? I ate there almost every day in the early 60's. I knew Tom and Patty.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

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bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted February 08, 2007 19:37

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Does anyone remember the pool hall across from Stan the tire man

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted February 08, 2007 19:44

[Hide Post](#)

Thats who i was thinking about. Father was Bus, always at the Moose. Someone told me Gary won the lottery. There also was Jaunita and Tom.

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

Was that Tom's sister?

I don't think so. She lived on about 5th and Harrison I believe and had a brother named Gary. I didn't know much about her family as she was 23 and I was 18 so we never went too public.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted February 09, 2007 11:06

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Does anyone remember the pool hall across from Stan the tire man

Yep! I had my dads car one night and went into the alley. It went N. and then had an L turn to the West and I got his car wedged on the building and put a scratch on the door from the front to the back. It was a clean pool hall and well lit. There was one on S. 10th, I think where the parking lot is on 10th & Jordan.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

tyrone

Posted February 09, 2007 12:26

[Hide Post](#)

Free Time



quote:

Originally posted by bill_is_back:
Does anyone remember the pool hall across from Stan the tire man

I don't remember a pool hall across from Stan The Tire Man (Mt. Vernon Tire Service) but do recall one across from the old Stumpp Building in the 1000 block of Broadway. When I used to loaf there a little it was called "Broadway Billiard Parlor" and a guy named "Buck" racked balls there.

Starr Bros. was across on the corner of 12th and Broadway from Stan's.

The old American Laundry was where Stan' is now located on Broadway.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 09, 2007 12:40

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quote:

Originally posted by bill_is_back:
Thats who i was thinking about. Father was Bus, always at the Moose.
Someone told me Gary won the lottery. There also was Jaunita and Tom.

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

Was that Tom's sister?

I don't think so. She lived on about 5th and Harrison I believe and had a brother named Gary.
I didn't know much about her family as she was 23 and I was 18 so we never went too public.

I once lived up the street on Harrison and I remember that a Henry family lived on the NW corner of 7th and Harrison, that would be 700 Harrison. A large two story house. I think they had a daughter named Marylin and a son named Charles (Tuffy) Henry. I was thinking that Mr. Henry was called "Buck" but I could be wrong. I think his wife was called "Pack".

I remember this Marylin very well as she was a real pretty girl. This would been about 1960 or so.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted February 10, 2007 11:20

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone remember John Twinkletoes or Gordon the Weatherman. My Dad used to give Gordon rides when he saw him walking. After that, anytime he saw our car he would automatically get in.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 12, 2007 10:10

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I once lived up the street on Harrison and I remember that a Henry family lived on the NW corner of 7th and Harrison

That's the one! I went to her house but never inside. She always picked me up in her car and would never come inside my house. The last time I saw her was in '61 cruising around the square. I only got to say hi and bye.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 12, 2007 10:13

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Gordon the Weatherman

I remember Gordon. He was quite a character. He used to walk Casey about 3-4 times a week and I'd always ask him for a weather forecast. He's been dead some years now. Then there was the lady who rode her bike all over town delivering telegrams for Western Union. Mt. Vernon had some characters back then.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 12, 2007 10:20

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Charles (Tuffy) Henry

Gee! I never connected the names. Of course with the age difference we weren't seen around together. She'd always pick me up and we'd get a six pack and head for JC Lake. She worked days during the week. At nights we'd go to the lake and listen to Ernie and Randy's record mart out of Nashville, TN. I'm sure you remember them. I've spent many a night listening to them play the best in R&Bs. Fats Domino was just coming into popularity as was Elvis and Little Richard. My dad would wonder how I could listen to such stuff and then he'd turn on the Grand Ole Opry with Eddie Arnold and Little Jimmie Dickens. Ha! In those days WMIX was a pretty good station. They had good DJs and a lot of personality plus you could call in and visit with them and request a song. Every morning I'd wake up to the sound of "Wake up, wake up you sleepy head, get up get out of bed". That was my cue to get up and start getting ready for school.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 16, 2007 09:31

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It seems like all of a sudden everyone has lost interest in this forum. Too bad. there's a lot of questions still about old Mt. Vernon and a lot of memories to relive.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted February 16, 2007 20:08

[Hide Post](#)

So many memories, i looked forward to reading this section every day. I remember in my high school days all the trips to Ashley and DuBois. The Blue Moon was a busy place back then.

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

It seems like all of a sudden everyone has lost interest in this forum. Too bad. there's a lot of questions still about old Mt. Vernon and a lot of memories to relive.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

b00ts

Free Time

Posted February 16, 2007 21:31

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone remember the fruit stands on south 10th street? Remember getting a watermelon in the summertime and having the owner of the stand plug it? Yum...those were the days!

Posts: **236** | Location: . | Registered: **January 25, 2007**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted February 16, 2007 22:34

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Does anyone remember the fruit stands on south 10th street

That was Flota's. He went to the same church as I and Billy King used to work there. I always looked forward to mom and dad taking me there to get our watermelon and I always got to eat the plug. That was a big deal back then. I can still smell that fruit.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted February 16, 2007 22:41

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I remember in my high school days all the trips to Ashley and DuBois.

I really don't remember too much about the Blue Moon but when I was in high school we used to go to Wamac as the taverns there would serve anyone who could reach over the bar.

There was a place in Scheller that was in the middle of a woods and anyone could get served there too. I remember that the toilets had a sign on each door "Sitters" on one and "Pointers" on the other. I thought that was really funny when I first saw them. I was around 16 then.

I'm still trying to find out the name of the car lot that's on the corner of Highland and Salem Road. The building is still there and has the Pontic emblem on it and a "R" on it towards the front. It sits back off Salem Road so I guess it would be on Highland. The old tan colored house there by the corner lot used to be a Rebans I believe. I know we used to get hamburgers 10 for a \$1 there.

The Colonels used to be on Perkins when it first came into town, then moved to 27th &

Broadway until it built the place where it is now.
My band played the old Gables right before it was closed up. A fellow named Blevin ran it then but it never had much business and was in pretty bad condition.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

<samtonight>

Posted February 16, 2007 22:46

I'm still trying to find out the name of the car lot that's on the corner of Highland and Salem Road. The building is still there and has the Pontic emblem on it and a "R" on it towards the front.

I may not be right, but Dad always said Bubby or Bubba Rhodes was the car dealer there. Not sure of the exact spelling of first or last name.

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jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 16, 2007 22:48

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There was a laundrymat on 16th & Bwdy. Then Kerr McGee across the tracks North. On towards town was a cream colored, long building with different offices in them. I don't think they lasted very long but I'm thinking it was called the Monroe Building. Right behind it was the Bar-BQ-Haven. It was wedged in between this row of offices and Kerr McGee, across from the Apellette Court. Had some of the best food in town. I ran the Kerr McGee after John Stevenson quit but can't remember the peoples name who ran the Haven. Used to eat there a lot too.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

b00ts
Free Time

Posted February 16, 2007 23:24

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quote:

Does anyone remember the fruit stands on south 10th street

That was Flota's. He went to the same church as I and Billy King used to work there. I always looked forward to mom and dad taking me there to get our watermelon and I always got to eat the plug. That was a big deal back then. I can still smell that fruit.

Wasn't Flota's Market located at the corner of 10th and Perkins? It seems like there were several more fruit markets south of Flota's.

Bar-B-Que Haven was a great place to eat! I remember it fondly.

Posts: **236** | Location: . | Registered: **January 25, 2007**

<samtonight>

Posted February 17, 2007 05:30

Beasleys market was just south of the now Pattys Marathon on S. 10th. And, yes Flotas had a market around Perkins and they bought fresh vegetables from my grandparents for resale.

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 17, 2007 11:23

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

I really don't remember too much about the Blue Moon but when I was in

high school we used to go to Wamac as the taverns there would serve anyone who could reach over the bar.

In Wamac there was a tavern by the name of Peno's. Had a great drink called the Strip and go Naked. After a couple of them you would do about anything - including the stripping and going naked. 😊🍷

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

kb9vve
Member



Posted February 17, 2007 13:05

[Hide Post](#)

How about "the wall" on Daniels hill on Salem road? Did any of you ever spray paint on that??

Posts: **47** | Location: **Salem** | Registered: **August 01, 2006**

RaneyOnline
Old Pro



Posted February 17, 2007 14:11

[Hide Post](#)

I wasn't alive in the 50's-60's but I do remember in the 80's going to the Roller Rink on Route 15 East (near Flota Ice) and how the smell would stick to your cloths and hair. The next day everyone would know you went skating because they could smell the roller rink on you. 😊

Posts: **1005** | Location: **Pennsylvania** | Registered: **May 11, 2006**

b00ts
Free Time

Posted February 17, 2007 14:21

[Hide Post](#)

Why does the skating rink on Route 15 stink? It has its own distinct odor. You are right, the odor hangs on the clothes and hair. 🤔

Posts: **236** | Location: **.** | Registered: **January 25, 2007**

RaneyOnline
Old Pro



Posted February 17, 2007 14:27

[Hide Post](#)

I never thought of it as a "bad" smell but it was like a mold smell I guess. Sometimes the plastic bags at grocery stores have an odor that remind me of the skating rink. Is the old rink on Route 15 still open?

Posts: **1005** | Location: **Pennsylvania** | Registered: **May 11, 2006**

b00ts
Free Time

Posted February 17, 2007 14:36

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quote:

Is the old rink on Route 15 still open?

Good question. The new skating rink, Sensation Station, tried to put the Roll-A-Rama out of business. Instead, the new rink went out of business. As far as I know, the Roll-A-Rama is still open.

I guess that smell is a musty smell. I kind of figured it was stinky feet! 😊

Posts: **236** | Location: . | Registered: **January 25, 2007**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 17, 2007 17:49

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Samtonight wrote:

"I'm still trying to find out the name of the car lot that's on the corner of Highland and Salem Road. The building is still there and has the Pontic emblem on it and a "R" on it towards the front. It sits back off Salem Road so I guess it would be on Highland."

The Car lot was Meyer Motor Co when I remember it back in the 50's and Walter (Bubby) Rhodes was the manager and I think he finally bought the lot from Meyer. Bubby had sold cars and trucks for Jefferson Motor's (on Jordon Ave) and finally moved to Farmer City, IL. and became a car dealer there. He was one hell of a car salesman, selling my dad several cars and trucks over the years.

The hamburger joint I remember out Salem Road was "Jo Burger" at Salem Road and Oakland Ave. .15 cent burgers ! The building they were in was for a very short time prior to the Cafe was the Studebaker Auto Dealer owner was Clayton Johnson. He had a daughter named Judy and was a shy and retiring young lady that worked at the Security Bank in the 80's. She never married ! Her grandpa once was sheriff of Jefferson County. The Studebaker garage was moved to North 9th next to where the Cottage Inn was. The Johnson's ran a grocery store on North 9th where Al Easton later had his flower shop and is now a parking lot.

Does anyone remember the old North Shell at Salem Rd and Oakland ? There was a small Shell station on the NW corner and behind it was the North Shell Cafe owned by a man named Doc Moore. Great food and good service. I know this for a fact as my mother waited tables and helped do some of the cooking there back in the early 50's. She got paid \$15 a week(6 day week) plus tips. I would sometimes help count her tips on Sunday morning and sometimes she would as much a 8 or 9 dollars a week in tips. Not all memories are as good as others for me.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

EastTex
Member

Posted February 17, 2007 19:47

[Hide Post](#)

I have enjoyed reading everyone's posts on this thread, which have brought back a flood of memories. Things I hadn't thought of for years but still remember once my memory was jogged.

jlmer, I was particularly intrigued by your statement that you were once engaged to Clint Fleener's daughter. Sandy and I were best friends in our Junior year of high school. I lived just down the road from her. I lost track of her in 1960-61 when I moved away and never heard of her again until her untimely death a couple years later.

In the late 1950's my dad owned and operated a grocery store on So. 10th called Star Market, and in the years right after WWII he had a grocery store on So. 17th street catty-cornered from Field School and sold hot dogs and lunch items to the Jr. High kids. Anyone remember those two stores? Dad later went to work for the post office and carried the mail for twenty years before retiring.

Posts: **44** | Location: **East Texas** | Registered: **June 30, 2006**

beanne
Regular

Posted February 17, 2007 19:52

[Hide Post](#)

The bar b que haven was the very best place in town to eat. Good food, lots of it and a good price. It was owned by a relative of ours. Mr.and Mrs. Gilbert Sherman

Posts: **148** | Location: **at home** | Registered: **January 24, 2006**

cinnamonswirls
Stranger

Posted February 18, 2007 12:54

[Hide Post](#)

When I was going up my sister and I walked to school everyday. My Mom would give us money for breakfast and lunch. We would stop at lindell's cafe for breakfast and i would have hostess cupcake and a soda. cupcake was 10 cents and the soda was 5 cents. I went to franklin School and at lunch time I would go to burger barn and have a cheese burger and chips and small soda for 40 cents then stop at the dairy queen for a dime ice cream. After school we would stop by prince's market for penny candy. I know the henry's well and janetta henry died a few years ago from Cancer.Thanks for the memories.

Posts: **1** | Location: **illinois** | Registered: **February 18, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 18, 2007 15:23

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

on So. 17th street catty-cornered from Field School and sold hot dogs and lunch items to the Jr. High kids.

Do I ever remember that grocery. Every so often he would get in the was guns with some sort of cola in them. I was in 6th grade and finally talked mom into letting me have a penny so I could get one. I was on my noon break and ran to the store and bought one. Drink the cola out of it and put the whole thing in my mouth chewing it up as it made a wad of chewable wax. I was just getting to the good part when I ran in the school door and ran smack dab into Mr. McDonald, Denver McDonald, the principal. He asked me a question and my mouth was so full I couldn't talk so I had to spit it out and answer him. What a disappointment as I never got to enjoy my "gun". Used to go to that store every day during the school week. There was another store down 17th from that one but it wasn't as popular with the school kids. I guess it was too far S. from the school, like 2 blocks.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 18, 2007 15:31

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I was particularly intrigued by your statement that you were once engaged to Clint Fleener's daughter. Sandy and I were best friends in our Junior year of high school

I met Sandy in Nov. of '61 and we usually were with "Tiny" Lynn Wemette and his girlfriend, Bee or Bea. She was living with her Aunt Jewel and Penny Pennington on Salem Road. Someone mentioned Walter Rhodes in an earlier post and Sandy Aunt Jewel lived next door to Walters wife or widow, not sure if he had died or they were divorced. Sandy had a heart of gold but she just wouldn't/couldn't seem to be true so after awhile of finding her out with other guys I called our engagement off. Her flitting around is what eventually led to her death. I had been to her house after we broke up but we never dated again. She had a daughter, Debbie who was led to believe that her grandmother, Dorothy, was her mother but Dorothy was Clint's, Sandy's dad, wife. I don't know if she ever found out the truth or not, I always felt she should have been told. Sandy is buried in Oakwood, no stone but a marker. A sad story and ending. I always had a soft spot for her but was very glad that I had sense enough to break it off in time.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Moderators: Big Hall, Bob Dennis

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jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 18, 2007 15:37

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quote:

Mr.and Mrs. Gilbert Sherman

quote:

Reply

I couldn't think of his name to save my life!
 He was once in construction and built the office building that lined Bwdy. in front of the Haven. In fact, he built the house that I'm living in now for Earl Jamison.
 I loved the fried chicken and mashed potatoes and gravy. It was all home cooking and great food. The used to have reunions with their customers but I think they've quit as I haven't seen anything in the paper about them for several years now.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 18, 2007 15:41

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Wasn't Flota's Market located at the corner of 10th and Perkins

It was a house with the fruit in front just off the corner of 10th & Perkins. The house was about where the Lays building is now or maybe a tad to the North of it.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 18, 2007 15:44

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Beasleys market was just south of the now Pattys Marathon on S. 10th.

If I'm not mistaken, Beasley's was later sold and called Skelton's Mkt. and ran by "Big" Jim Skelton who died a few years back. His sister married Benny Jackson, who died last year, and was a great magician.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jImer
Old Pro



Posted February 18, 2007 15:50

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Roller Rink on Route 15 East (near Flota Ice)

Help Tyrone! There was a skating rink on Old 15 E and was around where the old Tractor Supply building was I believe. It never had the business that Earl had at the City Park but was a decent skating rink.

Meyers Motor I can barely remember and I kept calling the burger place by the wrong name and it never quite sounded right but as soon as I read Jo Burger the bells and whistles went off. That old "house" building is in bad shape and owned by Larry Johnson or Larrys Used Cars. I'd be curious as to what's still inside of it. I'm surprised the city hasn't made them fix it or tear it down.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jImer
Old Pro



Posted February 18, 2007 16:04

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I used to have the radio on every morning while getting ready for school and they would play the tip hits of Johnny Ray and Cry, Glenn Miller and his Orchestra, all of the old greats. Then around 10am there was a program that played what was then called "Hillbilly" music. The DJ was so good that he'd convince you that he and some others were just sitting around an old pot belly stove and these artists were just dropping by and singing their songs. I can remember a few times I wanted to go to the studio and see Gene Autry or Eddie Arnold while there were there singing "Back In The Saddle" or "Cattle Call". It just seemed so down home and uncommercialized back then that you identified with the DJ. Now, it's hard to listen to the "music", let alone the jibberish that's being spewed now.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

EastTex
Member

Posted February 18, 2007 20:10

[Hide Post](#)

Here's a list of a few more things I dredged up from my memory which I have not seen mentioned on here before:

Remember King's Bakery on So. 10th? They had the best meringue-filled creme horns. Those things were delicious and so huge you could almost make a meal off them and only cost a dime. My siblings and I always had a cake from King's Bakery on our birthday, with our name spelled out across the top and spun sugar roses for decoration. The one having the birthday got to eat the sugar roses!

Remember that the City Park had a small zoo at one time? I remember there were monkeys, bears, and lions, but don't remember much of anything else about it. The old jail was there too, across from where the skating rink was situated.

I remember that the Mt. Vernon Drive-In had family night on Tuesdays and admission was just \$1.00 per carload. I remember seeing "High Noon" and "African Queen" there with my folks. I'm sure there were others, but those two stick in my mind.

Does anyone remember Howard's Drive-In out near the Mug? I had my first job there as a carhop, making 50 cents an hour, plus tips. My most vivid memory of working there involved a Texan and his wife who pulled up one evening in a green Cadillac and ordered two ice cream cones and inquired how far it was to Cairo. (Route 37 was the main road through town then, and Howard's was located right on Rt. 37.) When I delivered their cones to them, the man reached in his pocket and handed me all his change as a tip. I don't remember how big the tip was, but I remember there was a half-dollar in there and some quarters. Really impressed me. Mary Prince and her husband were the owner's of Howard's and Mary invented the best recipe for chili dogs I have ever tasted anywhere, but (as far as I know) she never revealed her recipe.

jlmer, to put your mind at rest about Sandra's daughter, I talked to her on the phone a couple years ago and she indicated that she had known about the circumstances of her parentage and her mom's death for several years and seemed to be at peace with it.

Posts: **44** | Location: **East Texas** | Registered: **June 30, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 19, 2007 07:50

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by kb9vve:
How about "the wall" on Daniels hill on Salem road? Did any of you ever spray paint on that??

Why no, I never did. 😊

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

BlueBelly
Educated

Posted February 19, 2007 08:05

[Hide Post](#)

Never painted on the wall. When I was 10 years old or so My neighbors son and some friends got caught spray painting the wall. They had to walk around town and ask the paint stores to donate fresh paint and then go paint the wall themselves.



Must have been a good deterrent for me! 😊

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 19, 2007 08:31

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

Roller Rink on Route 15 East (near Flota Ice)

Help Tyrone! There was a skating rink on Old 15 E and was around where the old Tractor Supply building was I believe. It never had the business that Earl had at the City Park but was a decent skating rink. Meyers Motor I can barely remember and I kept calling the burger place by the wrong name and it never quite sounded right but as soon as I read Jo Burger the bells and whistles went off. That old "house" building is in bad shape and owned by Larry Johnson or Larrys Used Cars. I'd be curious as to what's still inside of it. I'm surprised the city hasn't made them fix it or tear it down.

The skating you mentioned east of town was just south of the old highway 15 and you turned right on the curve just before you get to the old Sharps Grocery (back then it was Hand's Market). A big concrete block building that is now occupied by a small engine

repair/lawn mower dealer. I think that east-west street there is called County Farm Road and used to have an old steel overhead bridge across the creek right at the skating rink. At one time just across the street south was a night club called "The Frolic". Carl Richey ran a welding shop in a big tin building just across the road east of the skating rink.

On our old Fairfield Road around the next curve was the Maid-Rite Cafe. It would have been next door west to what is now a radio/television supply company. The building was a pre-fab military surplus building made of plywood and had flat steel bracing. I think the old concrete pad is still there where the building used to be. It was a sit down eating place, not a drive-in, that had a full menu and the first place I ever saw them sell the sandwich known as the "Maid-Rite".

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

Science
Free Time

Posted February 19, 2007 08:35

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone remember an ice cream place in the mall that was called "Dipper Dan's?"

Posts: **447** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

BlueBelly
Educated

Posted February 19, 2007 08:48

[Hide Post](#)



Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 19, 2007 08:55

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone remember "Gish's Fish Market" down on south tenth almost next to Beechie Brumbaugh variety/hardware store? Mr Gish even drove around town selling river fish out of the back of an old pick-up that had an old deep freeze full of ice to keep the fish from spoiling.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 19, 2007 08:58

[Hide Post](#)

BlueBell, Why that big ass picture??????? With my slow phone hook-up it takes forever to load!

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

BlueBelly
Educated

Posted February 19, 2007 09:31

[Hide Post](#)

Sorry.Upgrade your stuff.
Land lines.....antique classification yet for them?
I have no land line at all,haven't for 3 years at least.All wireless,no cable,no dish.Pretty cool,eh?Fast too.
\$45.00 a month.No land line fee,only internet service charge.No router rental fee per month,no games,no promotinal cr*p,same fee every month.No junk mail,no bills in the snail mail.No kiddin'.
Many people I know pay for a landline (\$35.00)router (\$7.00)DSL through the landline company((\$40.00)and a couple of cell phones for \$75.00 a month.Nuts to that.It could cut in on my drinkin'money!
Plus \$130.00 for dish or cable.That a lot of cabbage to lay out for something I don't want or need,to impress people I don't like anyway!
I never have been one to make keeping up with the Jones's a priority in my adventures.
☺

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 19, 2007 10:25

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

jlmer, to put your mind at rest about Sandra's daughter, I talked to her on the phone a couple years ago and she indicated that she had known about the circumstances of her parentage and her mom's death for several years and seemed to be at peace with it.

The last time I saw Debbie she was the spitting image of her mother. I used to see her with Dorothy around town and Dorothy would visit me occasionally with Debbie. I saw Jewel some before her and Penny moved and then they just dropped out of sight. They did tell me that I was always welcome at their home..Never did I ever dislike Sandy, just realized that she wasn't a one man woman and couldn't handle it. She was a lot of fun and we had a blast with Tiny and Bea. Sandy was going to the community college here when I met her and then Rend Lake for a year or two I believe.
I believe Kings was where dad would get the doughnuts when we'd go after a Sunday paper.
I barely remember Howard's but spent most of my time at the mug. My wife was a car hop but not in Mt. Vernon. Ya gotta watch thowe Texans. Ha!
Any idea of where Debbie might be?

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

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Moderators: Big Hall, Bob Dennis

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tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 19, 2007 10:29

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quote:

Originally posted by BlueBelly:
 Sorry.Upgrade your stuff.
 Land lines.....antique classification yet for them?
 I have no land line at all,haven't for 3 years at least.All wireless,no cable,no dish.Pretty cool,eh?Fast too.
 \$45.00 a month.No land line fee,only internet service charge.No router rental fee per month,no games,no promotinal cr*p,same fee every month.No junk mail,no bills in the snail mail.No kiddin'.
 Many people I know pay for a landline (\$35.00)router (\$7.00)DSL through the landline company((\$40.00)and a couple of cell phones for \$75.00 a month.Nuts to that.It could cut in on my drinkin'money!
 Plus \$130.00 for dish or cable.That a lot of cabbage to lay out for something I don't want or need,to impress people I don't like anyway!
 I never have been one to make keeping up with the Jones's a priority in my adventures. 😊

HOT DAMN MAN !!! YOU SOLD ME !!!WHERE DO I SIGN UP !!!!!

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 19, 2007 10:30

[Hide Post](#)

Remember the old Starland Drive-In theater? You can still see the humps where it was and there was a clump of brush where the concession stand was. It was close enough to where I lived that we could walk to it and lay in the bushes and watch the movies. We used to do that at the Mt. Vernon Drive-In too but it was further to go. It had a nice grassy area behind it that's still there. We'd crawl in and turn up all of the speakers around us so that we could hear and then lay in the grass and watch the movies. Went to the one at Salem once in '76 or so but it just wasn't the same.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 19, 2007 10:37

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Remember that the City Park had a small zoo at one time?

Oh, it was a huge zoo at the time. All sorts of animals.
The jail is at the place on N. 27th St along with a lot of past historic items of Mt. Vernon. If you ever get back here it would be worth your time to visit it. They have ice cream socials, etc. there at times and is really nice.
Anyone remember the name of the skating rink just off of S. 10th with the glass floor? It was too slick for dancing and wasn't really too busy but was fun to visit every once in awhile.
Dobbs was on the corner of 10th and ? at the street where the gates of the car shops were. When we'd go to pick up dad I'd go in Dobbs and look around at all of their old army radios, etc.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 19, 2007 10:46

[Hide Post](#)

[QUOTE]Originally posted by jlmer:
Remember the old Starland Drive-In theater? [QUOTE]

It was Starlight, wasn't it? Memories fade.... 😊

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 19, 2007 10:50

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by wclark:
[QUOTE]Originally posted by jlmer:
Remember the old Starland Drive-In theater? [QUOTE]

It was Starlight, wasn't it? Memories fade.... 😊

Nope it was Starland.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 19, 2007 10:53

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

Remember that the City Park had a small zoo at one time?

Oh, it was a huge zoo at the time. All sorts of animals.
The jail is at the place on N. 27th St along with a lot of past historic items of Mt. Vernon. If you ever get back here it would be worth your time to visit it. They have ice cream socials, etc. there at times and is really nice.
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It was too slick for dancing and wasn't really too busy but was fun to visit every once in awhile.
Dobbs was on the corner of 10th and ? at the street where the gates of the

car shops were. When we'd go to pick up dad I'd go in Dobbs and look around at all of their old army radios, etc.

I think that street was Vaught where the skating Rink was. Dobb's was on the corner of tenth and Lamar. Wasn't the smell in Dobb's one that you never forget ?

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

EastTex
Member

Posted February 19, 2007 11:39

[Hide Post](#)

Ilmer, I found Debbie's e-mail address at Classmates.com. That is a good source to look up old high school friends. I e-mailed her and asked her to phone me if she was interested in talking to one of her mother's old friends, which she did and we had a good, long conversation. I think she is living in Georgia now.

I do get back to MV every few years or so and I have visited the old pioneer village out Richview Rd. A very nice exhibit there. I especially enjoyed the Mammoth Dept. Store's display of memorabilia from the 40's and 50's. At the time I was there a couple years ago they were working on an exhibit featuring VERNOIS yearbooks from every year and were planning on selling off whatever extra issues they had of any one year. Sure would like to get my hands on yearbooks for 1958-1960 as mine got lost in the shuffle somewhere with all the moving around I've done.

Posts: **44** | Location: **East Texas** | Registered: **June 30, 2006**

GoGrannyGoGo
Member

Posted February 19, 2007 14:04

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OH MY GOODNESS, I have SO enjoyed this thread. I'm fast approaching 60 and have lived in "Mousetown" most of my life. So much on here has been a delightful trip down memory lane. I actually figured out who a few of you are. I graduated from MVTHS in 1966.

Just a couple of quick thoughts. I've seen confusion before abt the race tracks east of town. There were 2 of them. The first I remember, early 50's, was located between Tolle Rd and old Rt 15. That was when I was real little and my dad used to race there. I have pictures of him with his car. The other was further out new Rt 15. I think that was late 50's early 60's.

I only saw one reference to the Sub. Man some of my best, and worse, memories from high school revolved around that place. I remember waiting, hoping and praying, each year that I'd "make it" into the SubDebs. But it never happened.

I have been into my families genealogy for years. Jefferson Co has a GREAT website. I've posted quite a few of my old pictures on there. There are two that might be of interest to some of you. The first is of my great grandfather who was supposed to be the first fire chief in Mt Vernon. The other is a picture taken in 1926 of the Mt Vernon Coal mine. The rest are old family pictures. Heck, I might be related to some of you ol' ones on here.

Posts: **74** | Location: **Mt Vernon** | Registered: **January 15, 2006**

GoGrannyGoGo
Member

Posted February 19, 2007 14:06

[Hide Post](#)

Sorry I meant to post a link to that site. There's tons of other photos on there with many of the places you all have been talking abt. Just go down to photos.

<http://.rootsweb.com/~iljeffer/>

Posts: **74** | Location: **Mt Vernon** | Registered: **January 15, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 19, 2007 14:22

[Hide Post](#)

Granny, I'll bet we know each other. I, too, was in the class of '66. I remember a bunch of good times at The Sub. 😊

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

GoGrannyGoGo
Member

Posted February 19, 2007 14:39

[Hide Post](#)

I remember you, but you may not remember me. You're one of the ones I figured out. My maiden name was Ulrich.

Posts: **74** | Location: **Mt Vernon** | Registered: **January 15, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 19, 2007 14:58

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Sharon?

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

GoGrannyGoGo
Member

Posted February 19, 2007 15:38

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Yes, Bill. LOL! Are you still in Mousetown? OOOOOPS, just saw the Decatur. How are you doing?

Posts: **74** | Location: **Mt Vernon** | Registered: **January 15, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 19, 2007 16:36

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Well, I was doing well until I got my feelings hurt. 😞 Of course I remember you. 🙏 Most of my memory is shot, but I remember the special people.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

xminer
Old Pro

Posted February 19, 2007 19:33

[Hide Post](#)

Granny, I remember a long, long, time back when a "goblin" beat on the window of my Mustang and I jumped over you to get to the passenger door to get away from him. God, how time flies!!

Posts: **1830** | Location: **mt. vernon** | Registered: **January 06, 2006**

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GoGrannyGoGo
Member

Posted February 19, 2007 23:17

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OMG!!!!!!!!!!!!!! I just fell out of my chair. How are you, you old dog! And it wasn't a goblin, it was an alien!!!!

Posts: **74** | Location: **Mt Vernon** | Registered: **January 15, 2006**

<samtonight>

Posted February 20, 2007 01:01

Sharon, you would not remember me if I told you my name.

Bill and I met at our class reunion last year. Enjoyed it tremendously.

We lost another one just recently. Guess time waits for no man or woman. ☹

GoGrannyGoGo
Member

Posted February 20, 2007 01:27

[Hide Post](#)

I have trouble remembering what I had for lunch. LOL! Who did we lose?

Posts: **74** | Location: **Mt Vernon** | Registered: **January 15, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 20, 2007 07:54

[Hide Post](#)

sam, I'm with Granny. I must have missed the passing. Who'd we lose? How's things in AZ?

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

xminer
Old Pro

Posted February 20, 2007 07:55

[Hide Post](#)

I be fine. I have breakfast with "Coonrod" a couple of times a week. We're still clicking along.

Posts: **1830** | Location: **mt. vernon** | Registered: **January 06, 2006**

<samtonight>

Posted February 20, 2007 08:48

Cynthia Ramsey and things are fine here. Still need to get hold of Ted Quinn over in Scottsdale. Sheesh... no matter where you go there never seems to be enuff time. ☹

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 20, 2007 09:16

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quote:

It was Starlight, wasn't it? Memories fade....

Now ya got me wondering....Ha! Ha! Will ask a friend of mine who used to work there. We were just talking about it last night too.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

<samtonight>

Posted February 20, 2007 09:18

I always remember it as the Starlight Drive In. Tho time has not been kind to my memory... 🤔 so I might be wrong.

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 20, 2007 09:18

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quote:

\$45.00 a month.No land line fee,only internet service charge.No router rental fee per month,no games,no promotinal cr*p,same fee every month.No junk mail,no bills in the snail mail

Enjoy it while you can 'cause once you're on Social Security and your taxes keep going up and your insurance coverage goes down you'll be glad to be able to connect with anything.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

GoGrannyGoGo
Member

Posted February 20, 2007 09:20

[Hide Post](#)

Yes, I saw in the paper where Cynthia died.

Back on the topic. Am I the only one who thinks that Mt Vernon is one of the fastest towns around to tear down old houses and buildings? I spend a lot of time in many other towns in this area and I see all these beautiful old homes and buildings and yet here it seems everytime I drive thru town I see another vacant lot where a great old house was sitting a few days earlier. What's with that?????

And it isn't like they put up new structures. Many of these lots stay vacant for years. There was an absolutely beautiful house at 18th and BWay across from the Junior high that was torn down years ago and only recently did they put a small building on the lot. As a kid I remember scores of old two story well built old houses that are just gone now.

I heard last weekend that the owner of Ford Sq is buying the building Bully's (the bar) is in and the old L&N restaurant building and is gonna tear them down to create a parking lot for St Mary's church. My first job was at the L&N. It just breaks my heart.

Posts: **74** | Location: **Mt Vernon** | Registered: **January 15, 2006**

jlmer

Posted February 20, 2007 09:21

[Hide Post](#)

Old Pro



quote:

for 1958-1960 as mine got lost in the shuffle somewhere with all the moving around I've done.

I've been trying to get a '58 for several years now as it has a pic of a girl I was crazy about in High school. If you talk to Debbie again ask her if she'd like to talk with me and we'll figure out a way to get my number to her or hers to me. I probably know you.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 20, 2007 09:27

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

The other was further out new Rt 15. I think that was late 50's early 60's.

Can you post the Jefferson County website address?
The only race track I remember was off old 15 E. and further East than the Mt. Vernon Kings ball park. It was a dirt track and would race stock cars and midgets. The Kings had a club called the Knot Hole Gang and had a card and a button we'd carry/wear to the games.

You're just a youngen still so enjoy it. I'm class of '57

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

GoGrannyGoGo
Member

Posted February 20, 2007 09:33

[Hide Post](#)

The info on the racetracks was from my memory, not the website, but here's the link again.

<http://.rootsweb.com/~iljeffer/>

The second track was out further east than the airport on new 15.

Posts: **74** | Location: **Mt Vernon** | Registered: **January 15, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 20, 2007 09:33

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quote:

My first job was at the L&N. It just breaks my heart.

There was a gal named Marilyn Martin who worked there. Her brother died some years back and his name was Carl Martin and worked for the city. Any time you'd see Carl at "work" he'd be leaning on a shovel just whistling away.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 20, 2007 09:38

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone remember when they used to have Boy Scout Day here? I was a scout and one Saturday a year we would be able to take over the town. We had a scout mayor, judge, Chief of Police and Fire Chief. The rest of us would be either policemen or firemen.

I always opted for being a policeman as we'd get to arrest people, adults and kids, for spitting on the sidewalk, jay walking or whatever else we could think of. They'd go before our scout judge and be fined a dime of fifteen cents or spend 15 minutes or so in jail.

About 2pm things would wind down and we'd get to go to the movies free. Being a Sat. there was always a "cowboy" show on at the Plaza so most of us would go there to watch our fellow lawmen chase the outlaws.

What a swell time that was. Murphy's and Woolworths always had their big double doors open and we'd go in and buy candy or popcorn and everyone was really friendly toward us as the money went towards the Boy Scouts.

People would purposely not plug the parking meters so we could give them a ticket. Now we'd probably get slugged if we did that.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

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wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 20, 2007 10:18

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quote:

Originally posted by samtonight:
Cynthia Ramsey 😞

I hate to hear that about Cynthia. She fought some battles that most of us will never have. I would imagine that she lost the big one due to the one she fought all her life. She used to come into the store from time to time and really never changed from the first time I met her.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

BlueBelly
Educated

Posted February 20, 2007 10:23

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quote:

Originally posted by GoGrannyGoGo:
The info on the racetracks was from my memory, not the website, but here's the link again.

<http://.rootsweb.com/~iljeffer/>

The second track was out further east than the airport on new 15.

<http://jeffersoncounty.12.forumer.com/viewforum.php?f=1>

<http://.attuforum.com/index.php?mforum=urbos>

More places of entertainment.

<http://.ibjohn.com/phorum/viewforum.php?f=26>

<http://jeffersoncounty.12.forumer.com/index.php>

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

<ctcfl>

Posted February 20, 2007 10:41

Miss Granny, Thank you for the Jeff. Co. link you posted! I was on it for hours last night! I found a link about old school houses and their locations, that is a metal detecting dream...I may find some of the things some of you lost as kids out there, if I do I would be happy to post some pics of my finds. By the way you said class of '66, you went to school with my aunts and uncles...

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 20, 2007 10:42

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by ctcfl:

By the way you said class of '66, you went to school with my aunts and uncles...

Damned young whipper-snappers! 🍷 🍷

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

<ctcfl>

Posted February 20, 2007 10:54

This forum is one of the few places I'm still considered a young-un! I love it! (But I still have alot of "Arctic Blonde" hair for a young-un) 😊

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 21, 2007 09:24

[Hide Post](#)

Was reading the Post this morning and saw a pic of a Standard Oil sign. One of the old ones and it reminded me of some of the signs that used to be here. One was the "Top Of The Town" neon that had the crown and flashing lights. Another was the big Pepsi sign that was on top of the building where Alberts was. You could see it for a long ways S. of Mt. Vernon.

I used to enjoy going to the "filling" station at night with dad as they pumps had the "crown" lights on top and the other displays were all lit up. The Dixie Creme doughnut sign in scrip was nice.

There used to be a doughnut shop on Bwdy around 15th St. in the alley between Casey and Bwdy, East of the L&N tracks was a newspaper place. I delivered morning papers out of it but can't remember the paper or the places name. I know I'd have to get up around 5am, go to the place and pick up the papers, fold them and then get them delivered by around 6:30am. I never liked getting up early and that job never made me like it any better but it was so quite and no traffic in the neighborhoods at all.

I figured out that I could make as much in a couple of days mowing lawns as I could in 6 days delivering papers.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 21, 2007 09:29

[Hide Post](#)

There was two grocery stores on S. 27th St that we used to pass going to the park. One was Keeles which is where the bookstore was, just before Cherry St. and Luety and his wife lived on Cherry, around the corner from the store. The other was down 27th toward the park where Odles Insurance is now. I can't remember the name of it.

Bill and Betty King opened a store where Keeles was and had a pickle barrell that had great dills in it.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Carly
Member

Posted February 21, 2007 23:03

[Hide Post](#)

Posted February 20, 2007 09:38 [Hide Post](#)

"Does anyone remember when they used to have Boy Scout Day"

How about Girl Scout day, although I don't remember having a name for it. All the girl scouts and brownies would make Christmas stockings and fill them with goodies. Then we'd gather at the high school auditorium and donate the stockings for underprivileged children. It was done with much pagentry and was very special. And does anyone remember the wonderful ham sandwiches they made at the Griggs Market in the downtown area? No one has ever made a ham sandwich taste that good. I wish I knew what their secret was.

Posts: **90** | Location: **Mt.Vernon** | Registered: **January 21, 2007**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted February 22, 2007 07:29

[Hide Post](#)

I think their secret was that the ham was cut right off the pig's a\$\$, not that prepackaged crap we get today. Grigg's made the finest deli sandwiches in MtV. There's no doubting that! 😊

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 22, 2007 10:00

[Hide Post](#)

There was a little ice cream/sandwich place on the N. side of the square. I remember going in and seeing all of the wrought iron tables and chairs. Can't remember the name of it though.

Then the shoe store about two doors W. off 10th and Bwdy. 1007 Bwdy or something like that. I can still remember the smell of the leather when we'd go in to that place. That was before air conditioning so the stores usually smelled like what ever they sold. Then the FireStone store on the corner about where Renshaws Law offices are and there was a liquor store next to it that had a wooden Indian outside on the sidewalk.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 22, 2007 10:03

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

No one has ever made a ham sandwich taste that good. I wish I knew what their secret

They sold some of the best meat in Mt. Vernon along with Harry's Mkt on S. 10th by Pettit's Magnavox.

You had to watch Griggs meat dept. though as they'd advertise a sale and then put the regular price on the package.

Bill and I got to be friends when he'd come in a resteraunt that I managed. He was alone and lonesome in his last years. Loved Banana shakes!

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer

Posted February 23, 2007 09:00

[Hide Post](#)

Old Pro



Anyone remember the big halloween parades we used to have downtown in the early 50s?
 The square would be packed and they'd block off Main St. between 9th and 10th. and give away prizes for the best costumes. Then around 9pm or so the 3 midnight movies at the Granada would start. Was a fun time then as it was around Christmas when everyone would be downtown shopping and the buses full of passengers going home and coming downtown.
 The popcorn from the stand on 10th & Bwdy would be furnishing the downtown area with the smell of fresh popcorn and Woolworths and Murphys would have the scent of the candies and Christmas decorations coming from their stores.
 People would be laughing, congregating and visiting. Everyone was friends then and everyone knew about everyone else.
 Times were simple and times were good.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

wclark

Old Pro



Posted February 23, 2007 09:42

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

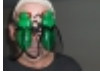
Originally posted by jlmer:
 Times were simple and times were good.

Yes they were. 😞 Too bad that things have to progress to where they are today.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Bugman

Old Pro



Posted February 23, 2007 17:19

[Hide Post](#)

Did anyone else sell Kiwanis salted in the shell peanuts? I used to sell them every year in early 60's. That was a good way in pickup some extra cash. Seems like I picked them up just west of Simmons Western Auto on Broadway.

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

Bugman

Old Pro



Posted February 24, 2007 10:10

[Hide Post](#)

The old race track east of town was owned by Lawrence Tolley. He also owned a Gulf station on the corner of 11th and Broadway, where Integra bank is now. I remember my brother and I walking around it and thinking it was a mile long (it was a 1/4 mi. LOL). Things seemed so much bigger back then. t.

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

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tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 24, 2007 11:49

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Does anyone remember the old ice dispenser way down on south tenth to the street that was the Fairground entrance. It was a large ice storage building where you could get a very big bag of ice, I think about 50 or 60 pounds, and it was coin operated. Some bad boys would crawl up into the guts of the machine through a small wooden door where the ice came from and could get two or three bags by dragging them to the opening. Of course the next customer to buy ice only got a blank spot where the ice had been taken. They also had a ice dock that was open in daylight hours where you could buy crushed or block ice. Early in the hot summer mornings the lot would be packed with people getting ice for their ice can that were used by construction workers and farmers.

Across the street south on the SE corner was Dare Motor Co. who was the Dodge-Plymouth-Chrysler dealer. The owner was "Shorty" Dare. This building was later the Dobbs Surplus store until it moved to it's last and final location on Benton Road.

Right next door north of the ice machine was a small grocery store called "The Fair Store". Some people would shop there before they went to the County Fair to get bologna and bread to make their own sandwiches later while attending an all day adventure at the biggest county fair in the area. I was a country boy back then and bologna was a rare treat for me. My mom would always make pork chop, sausage, bacon and cured ham to eat on a big piece of ho-made bread to take to the fair. Like a lot of country boys back then I thought bologna was better than any meat I ever tasted. I also don't think my mom and dad called it bologna but we eat a lunch meat called minced ham, it had a lot higher fat content than bologna and was a little cheaper. I think it came in a elongated metal can. Later on it would be known as pressed ham.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

b00ts
Free Time

Posted February 24, 2007 13:16

[Hide Post](#)

Tyrone-I remember the ice house on South 10th Street and the Fair Store next door. What I remember most about buying ice there was the brown paper bags and how the ice felt so cool on a hot summer day through those bags. The Taco Villa was across from Dobbs on 10th Street. The car hops wore roller skates.

Posts: **236** | Location: . | Registered: **January 25, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 24, 2007 16:13

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I thought bologna was better than any meat I ever tasted. I also don't think my mom and dad called it bologna

I'd forgotten all about the old Ice house. We used to call bologna "dog", have no idea where that name came from though. Still like it with a slice of cheese and some jelly.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 24, 2007 16:18

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There was a used car lot on Waltonville Rd. close to where Mac Schurtz has his lot but on the other side of the road and not quite as far West. My girl friend, Sandy, and I tried out a '57 Pontiac from there and we were taking it to my house to let my dad see it. I left it running while I went in to get mom and dad and when we got back out the car was blowing steam from the radiator like a train blowing smoke. I told dad that it was minor but he told me to get it out of the drive way and back to the lot before it died and wouldn't start. He suspected head gaskets but Sandy and I sure thought that car was "cool"!

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 24, 2007 17:55

[Hide Post](#)

I pretty sure that was called Moore Motors and they sold cars that were pretty well used.

Seems like the owner was Marvin or Melvin Moore.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

zeke price
Newcomer

Posted February 25, 2007 15:54

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

I was in the marching band when I was in highschool and we used to have a parade or two each year that we'd march and play in. Being of a lazy nature, I used to not be too thrilled at the one that started at the library and ended up at the city park. That was one hike that was miserable, especially wearing those wool uniforms and carrying and blowing on an instrument for that long.

Our band director was Charles Greg and was a super person. At the city park waiting for us was usually a carnival. We'd pile our instruments up once we got there and enjoy the rides. No-one ever bothered anything back then so the instruments were safe. The wool uniforms were so hot that by my living close to the park I could walk home, drop off my trumpet and change clothes unless there were some benefits to wearing them at the carnival, like free rides or girls. We had an active band all through highschool playing the ballgames and concerts. Only 1 year out of 4 did we get a second place, the others were always firsts and first superiors. Fred Baked and Ron Decon were the first and second trumpets and Fred went on to play with some name bands. He died either last year or year before. A nice guy to a freshman. Does anyone remember Ronnie Price? A great jazz trumpet who played at the dance hall in the park and was just pretty well talented in anything he took on. His sister married Don Doris who lived/lives in Woodlawn. Would like to know about Ronnie too as he taught me some licks on the trumpet. Another swell guy.

It didn't seem that there was all of the jealousy back then as there is now either.

Posts: **5** | Location: **florida** | Registered: **February 25, 2007**

quote:

Originally posted by zeke price:

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

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Posts: **5** | Location: **florida** | Registered: **February 25, 2007**

Just ran across this blog site ! It blows my mind to refresh my memory of all the wonderful things we had in Old Mt.vernon. I am still playing the Trumpet and live 6 months in N. Ill.& 6 months in St.Pete.FI. The band you remember was the "Hop Cats", with Phil Buford (Drums) Gordie Fore (Piano) Roger Edminson (Clarinet) Kenny Johnson (Trombone) & "Bones" Gatewood (Bass) My e-mail is: (ronnie-p@sbcglobal.net)

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[/QUOTE][[/QUOTE]

Posts: **5** | Location: **florida** | Registered: **February 25, 2007**

Jim in PA
Free Time



Posted February 25, 2007 21:53

[Hide Post](#)

Goin' back to 62-65 or so, does anyone remember the parking lot dances at the lot of Security Bank, next to Harrison (at 9th Street)? Duke Plater and his group were often there, I think they were called the Coconut Rovers... They had light sweat shirts with a logo and a short zipper at the neck. Looked to those guys as the style setters with... guess what? ...white levis.....wish I could still fit into 'em.

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 26, 2007 08:58

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

pretty sure that was called Moore Motors and they sold cars that were pretty well used

Was that the same Moore that was on E. Bwdy for several years? My wife bought a couple of cars from him and they were good cars. He just died about 3-4 years ago I believe.

I know I really liked the radio in that Pontiac. Ha!

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 26, 2007 09:12

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

The band you remember was the "Hop Cats", with Phil Buford (Drums) Gordie Fore (Piano) Roger Edminson (Clarinet) Kenny Johnson (Trombone) & "Bones" Gatewood (Bass)

Now that you listed them I can remember. Ha! I was in the Varsity Band with "Bones". I was a Freshie and he a Senior so I lost track of him after school. I may have been in band with him a couple of years thinking on it. He was the head Majorette, leading the band in the marches at the ball games. Was a super guy, as was Ron Deason. It's great hearing from you, I've sent you an email. Do you ever get to Mt. Vernon?

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 26, 2007 09:22

[Hide Post](#)

At the skating rink at the park they'd give you a ticket when you paid your admission. Around 9pm on Friday night they'd draw for a \$10 door prize so everyone collected as many tickets as they could during the week. I had one ticket and a friend of mine had about 25 so I knew he was going to win that night and I never won anything anyway. That night was my night, I won the \$10 and that was more money than I'd had at any one time for a long time. After the excitement of winning calmed down some Zeke's mom was at the outside rail watching us skate so I gave it to her to hold for me. I think she was as excited about me winning as I was. She held it for me until they were ready to leave so I got it back and worried about losing it the rest of the night, but I kept it to spend.

She was a nice lady and a lot of fun to be around.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

zeke price
Newcomer

Posted February 26, 2007 11:44

[Hide Post](#)

Yes, I do still visit in Mt.Vernon. My mom broke her hip about a month ago, and is recovering in Countryside Manor out by the airport. Remember "Teen-Town" down by the Stadium theater ? the "Sub" & (mr's Moffit I think) ?
How about looking at the sidewalk windows of City Hall at the prisoners in the Jail ?
Does the name "Buck" the State Policeman who lived by Casey Jr. High recall the fear of him we had as teenage drivers who would "Drag Race" all over town. I think Vernon Pigg was the Chief of Police. And if you could scrape up the \$ 45 cents you could could get a huge wonderful Pork Tenderloin sandwich at the L & N cafe !

Posts: **5** | Location: **florida** | Registered: **February 25, 2007**

bill_is_back
Old Pro

Posted February 26, 2007 19:20

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quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

There was a used car lot on Waltonville Rd. close to where Mac Schurtz has his lot but on the other side of the road and not quite as far West. My girl friend, Sandy, and I tried out a '57 Pontiac from there and we were taking it to my house to let my dad see it. I left it running while I went in to get mom and dad and when we got back out the car was blowing steam from the radiator like a train blowing smoke. I told dad that it was minor but he told me to get it out of the drive way and back to the lot before it died and wouldn't start. He suspected head gaskets but Sandy and I sure thought that car was "cool"!

Is this the same place where the Casey Jones Dodge dealership used to be?

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

BlueBelly
Educated

Posted February 27, 2007 01:43

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[QUOTE]Originally posted by tyrone:

Does anyone remember the old ice dispenser way down on south tenth to the street that was the Fairground entrance. It was a large ice storage building where you could get a very big bag of ice, I think about 50 or 60 pounds, and it was coin operated. Some bad boys would crawl up into the guts of the machine through a small wooden door where the ice came from and could get two or three bags by dragging them to the opening. Of course the next customer to buy ice only got a blank spot where the ice had been taken. They also had a ice dock that was open in daylight hours where you could buy crushed or block ice. Early in the hot summer mornings the lot would be packed with people getting ice for their ice can that were used by construction workers and farmers.

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Right next door north of the ice machine was a small grocery store called "The Fair Store". Some people would shop there before they went to the County Fair to get bologna and bread to make their own sandwiches later while attending an all day adventure at the biggest county fair in the area. I was a country boy back then and bologna was a rare treat for me. My mom would always make pork chop, sausage, bacon and cured ham to eat on a big piece of ho-made bread to take to the fair. Like a lot of country boys back then I thought bologna was better than any meat I ever tasted. I also don't think my mom and dad called it bologna but we eat a lunch meat called minced ham, it had a lot higher fat content than bologna and was a little cheaper. I think it came in a elongated metal can. Later on it would be known as pressed ham. [/QUOTE]

yessir,Pop would stop every time on the way to Miller Lake or some other "fishing" adventure .

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

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jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 27, 2007 09:04

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quote:

Is this the same place where the Casey Jones Dodge dealership used to be?

That's the place. I remember when Casey was there and a fellow broke in one night. He moved a rolling tool box up to the window that he had broken to get in and when he started through the window the toolbox rolled back and they found him the next morning dead. When the box rolled back he fell and cut his throat on the window and bled to death.

Casey's dad used to own the Southside Glass which was next to where the cafe was across the street from Dobbs. I rented it from him for a while and had a gas and tackle place. It was the first place from where I 57 ended at Bonnie.

Casey later married Earl Jamison's widow, Athea, and they moved to the Jamison place on 32nd St. After Casey died she moved to Fl. and now she's gone too.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 27, 2007 09:08

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Countryside Manor out by the airport.

That's where my mother-in-law was about 5 years ago.

Vernon Pigg was my uncle and Buck Lyons moved to Orange, behind me and I mowed his lawn for him when he got sick. He was quite the state trooper character but once you got to know him he was pretty mellow out of uniform. They used to send him into the taverns after anyone who had a warrant against them as he didn't take any guff.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 27, 2007 09:13

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I remember one Christmas season mom, dad and I were downtown amongst the crowd of Christmas shoppers. The smell of the candy and popcorn flowing through out the downtown area.

After putting what packages we had in the car we walked to the Armory as the car shops were sponsoring a band and big dance. The place was packed and of course, back then everyone knew everyone. My dad being a preacher, he and mom never did any dancing and me, being a runt, couldn't see over the people to see the band. I do

remember that it was country and it was loud. It could have been Lucky LeRoy as he was popular then. Whatta guy LeRoy was.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Sassafras
Regular



Posted February 27, 2007 09:33

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Whatta guy LeRoy was.

H

"HELLO ALL YOU SUGAR BUGGERS OUT THERE!!!!!!"

Leroy was a very colorful character in his younger years, but later in life was a well respected miniser, pastoring, I believe Campground Baptist Church.

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted February 27, 2007 11:18

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Sassafras:

quote:

Whatta guy LeRoy was.

H

"HELLO ALL YOU SUGAR BUGGERS OUT THERE!!!!!!"

Leroy was a very colorful character in his younger years, but later in life was a well respected miniser, pastoring, I believe Campground Baptist Church.

Yeah, I guess colorful might be the word for Lucky Leroy. I remember back about 1953 Lucky was in jail at the County Court House and the sheriff, Roy Taylor, would let him out of jail every Sunday morning to go and sing church songs over WMIX. He and a guy they called "Rotten Egg Wilson" would get together in the parking lot at the city park some nights and just play and sing their hearts out, and all for free. He recorded at least one record that I use to hear. It was called "Peace In The Valley" and it got a lot of play in this area. He later had a television show on, I think channel 3.

I'll bet he made a great preacher because he had a great gift of gab and he had been down that old crooked road of life and had sampled a lot of the pleasures along the way.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

Lvrofwv
Stranger

Posted February 27, 2007 15:58

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

Roller Rink on Route 15 East (near Flota Ice)

Help Tyrone! There was a skating rink on Old 15 E and was around where the old Tractor Supply building was I believe. It never had the business that Earl had at the City Park but was a decent skating rink. Meyers Motor I can barely remember and I kept calling the burger place by the wrong name and it never quite sounded right but as soon as I read Jo Burger the bells and whistles went off. That old "house" building is in bad shape and owned by Larry Johnson or Larrys Used Cars. I'd be curious as to what's still inside of it. I'm surprised the city hasn't made them fix it or tear it down.

Posts: **2** | Location: **west Virginia** | Registered: **February 27, 2007**

Lvrofwv
Stranger

Posted February 27, 2007 16:03

[Hide Post](#)

I grew up in Mt Vernon from 67 to 83 This is very interesting learning the history of my hometown I can't beleive Larry's used car building is still there, Whem I was a little girl My dad Kenny "Bud" Bowdler worked for him I remember hanging out there some.

Posts: **2** | Location: **west Virginia** | Registered: **February 27, 2007**

Bugman
Old Pro



Posted February 27, 2007 17:25

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone remember when the Maid-rite was out on old Fairfield road? It was somewhere around where East Side is no.

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

EastTex
Member

Posted February 27, 2007 19:49

[Hide Post](#)

Yes, I remember the Maid Rite Cafe. In fact, my family lived right across the road from it at one time, at 732 Fairfield Rd. I was about 10 years old at the time, but I can still remember that at times when the wind was just right we would get a whiff of the burgers cooking on the grill and it would always make us hungry. Burgers were only 15 cents back then!

Lucky Leroy at one time lived in the Jenkins apartment complex at 12th & Perkins which my parents managed for the Fuqua family in 1951 - 1952. We had a yellow canary for a pet but it would never sing until Lucky Leroy came on the radio and he would then sing his little heart out, spread his wings, jump around his cage. So Mom named him Lucky. We later learned "he" was a "she" when Lucky laid an egg. ha ha

Posts: **44** | Location: **East Texas** | Registered: **June 30, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 27, 2007 22:31

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

respected miniser, pastoring, I believe Campground Baptist

My dad was the pastor of the 1st Free Will Baptist Church at 11th & Jordan and LeRoy was in jail for stealing a car. Since my dad was friends with Roy Taylor and there was a revival going on, Roy would bring LeRoy to the church and let him sing and then when church was over Roy would take him back to the jail. I had a weeks revival at the City Park around '78 and '79 and would have a different

evangelist each night and I had LeRoy one night and he was really good. He lived down the block from me on 27th and Cherry. His widow still lives there and LeRoy Jr. visits her fairly often. In fact, they live next door to where "Zeke" Price lived, there could be a house between them but I don't think so. Will have to look when I leave the house tomorrow.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 27, 2007 22:40

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

"Bud" Bowdler worked for him I remember hanging out there some

Was he a sandy haired guy? If so I bought a couple of cars from him. Mt. Vernon Net has moved in the building on the East side of Salem Rd. where Larry was. He's now across from the old Beasley Motel.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [jlmer](#), February 27, 2007 22:57

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 27, 2007 22:45

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

He later had a television show on, I think channel 3.

"Lucky" indeed had the TV program on channel 3. I believe it was in '52 and '53. His theme song was Jambalya. I believe he was right before "The Profits Quartet" with Bob Shaw, Bob Jones, Ernie Johnson and Frank Braden. They also did secular music and opened for some pretty big names in music back then. Shaw and I were good friends and Jones and I go to the same church and see each other regularly. Frank and Bob Shaw are both gone but Jones and Johnson are still singing occasionally in churches.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 27, 2007 22:49

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

"HELLO ALL YOU SUGAR BUGGERS OUT THERE!!!!!!"

Don't forget, "If the creeks don't rise". as he used to close with that line. Roy Rogers would close with "If the good Lord's willin' and the creeks don't rise". Don't know which came first. LeRoy did a show in '62 at the highschool auditorium with country singer Billy Phillips one night. Billy drove up from Nashville pulling a trailer loaded with equipment and some records but there were probably less than 50 people there. We went to the Bar-BQ-Haven after their program and ate breakfast and Billy headed back to Nashville. It was a tough life back then and being a "star" wasn't what it looked like to the concert goers. You'd either rent a trailer or buy one and carry the equipment in it, get to where you were going after driving no telling how many miles, set up the equipment then try to rest before show time, do your show, undo the equipment, load it in the trailer, eat if you made enough money and then head for the next place. The bigger the star the more the

driving. Very few had buses as they came later with the "new" crop of entertainers. Station wagons were popular if you could afford one.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

BlueJean
Member



Posted February 28, 2007 00:21

[Hide Post](#)

Hey fellows I have enjoyed reading your memories so very much. I grew up in Mt. Vernon and left in 1952. You have told some stories about people I have never heard before. Keep it up. Also, if you have pictures, please put them on the Jefferson CO Website. It is one of the best websites I have ever seen and has help in my research of family.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted February 28, 2007 09:52

[Hide Post](#)

"Zeke" mentioned the old jail in the basement of the City Hall building. The guys in the jail could see people walking by as the windows were at ground level and they'd see someone walk by and try to talk to them at times.

I was a boy scout and the meetings were at the Christian church on Harrison and N. 10th. St.

and one evening, still daylight, I was walking to a scout meeting and passing the jail some guy yelled at me. He was drunk and asked me to get him out of jail. I asked him what he was in for and he said he didn't know. I told him I was going to my scout meeting but would stop by on the way back and see why he was locked up. After the meeting I ran to the jail window and looked in. The guy was curled up on the floor sound asleep!

We later had our meetings at the Presbyterian church on W. Bwdy. next to Oakwood. Can't remember the name of the scout master but age got that memory.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

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Moderators: Big Hall, Bob Dennis

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Old Pro

Posted February 28, 2007 09:58

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone remember that at the County Fair, between the races, there would be a guy come out to the race track and push a huge ball of some sort all the way around the track? Don't really know why it was such a hit as all he did was roll it around the track but I always looked forward to that every fair day. Something so simple in such simple times!

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006****BlueBelly**
Educated

Posted February 28, 2007 10:05

[Hide Post](#)

Hey all,I own this tractor and know this is off topic,but maybe you all can help with more information about it. Like approximate year of manufacture.I am pretty sure it is from Western Auto Stores.(if they didn't have it,you didn't need it! 😊)
I am having a bit of trouble finding info on the web.And the collective memories here from the era of Mt.Vernon life appears to me a wealth of info 😊!
Thanks in advance for any info you may have ,or links to a web address that might be helpful.

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007****Jim in PA**
Free Time

Posted February 28, 2007 17:24

[Hide Post](#)

Jlmer: Thanks for the mention of Ernest Jihkson in the "Lucky Leroy" posting. Mr. Johnson was my principal at Bethel School back in the 1954-1961 era. He always had a wonderful singing voice and always impressed me and my parents as a true gentleman. I am surprised he is still alive, let alone singing, but glad to hear it. His gifts are still needed and I guess God figures on giving him some more time. Our benefit...

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006****jlmer**
Old Pro

Posted February 28, 2007 22:27

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Jlmer: Thanks for the mention of Ernest Jihkson

Ernie and I are friends. I was a good friend of Bob Shaw and am good friends of Bob Jones, in fact I call him pop. I've known Ernie for years and he's still the same as he was years ago. Friendly and deep voiced. He seems more relaxed now than he was. He lives in the fruit bowl here and I see him and his wife eating dinner at the Hitchin' Post once in awhile. I don't know if you were familiar with the Prophets that Ernie sang with, Frank

Braden of Benton died of a heart attack about 7 years ago and Bob Shaw died about 3-4 years ago. Bob Jones and Ernie sing once in awhile. They just sang at Bluford two weeks ago on a Sunday night with Bob Jones 3 sons. They're still good!

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Jim in PA
Free Time



Posted March 01, 2007 13:14

[Hide Post](#)

Yes, I sure remember the Prophets! There was a set of their sheet music my mother had for years and I'll check with her to see if she has it in her piano stool. It's probably not been opened for twenty-five yrs or so. Boy, I remember Mr. Johnson singing at school like it was yesterday!!! Thanks for the mention and the memory...

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

kb9vve
Member



Posted March 01, 2007 16:21

[Hide Post](#)

Well this is "old".. but not as old some of the other stuff you all is talking about.. I miss eating at Rusty's.. at the corner of 12th and Broadway.. Mmmmm good greasy food !!!!

Posts: **47** | Location: **Salem** | Registered: **August 01, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted March 01, 2007 21:15

[Hide Post](#)

How about the "Roly Poly Cafe" on Perkins between 10th and 12th street? It was next west of Roy's Tavern. They were both across the street from the old Mt. Vernon Sale Barn. What a smell on a hot summer day! The cattle and hog auction was held once a week and you could hardly get down Perkins for all the trucks parked there. I still find it hard to beleive that such a business as a hog, sheep, goats and cattle auction was held there on Perkins, but I was there for years. A very big wooden barn that had lots of holding pens for all the stock that was to be sold that day.

Roy's Tavern (owner Roy Estes) was always packed on sale day and it was actually the front room of the house that is now a rummage sale business and Roly Poly's became Hunt Lumber Co. and was finally torn down a few years ago. A trailer lot and laundry, Barger's I think, was built on the spot where the old sale barn was.

Roly Poly had hamburgers 10 for a buck and I used to get 10 for me and family and head to the drive-in movie out on Waltonville Raod every Saturday night.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted March 01, 2007 22:10

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by tyrone:

How about the "Roly Poly Cafe" on Perkins between 10th and 12th street? It was next west of Roy's Tavern. They were both across the street from the old Mt. Vernon Sale Barn. What a smell on a hot summer day! The cattle and hog auction was held once a week and you could hardly get down Perkins for all the trucks parked there. I still find it hard to beleive that such a business as a hog, sheep, goats and cattle auction was held there on Perkins, but I was there for years. A very big wooden barn that had lots of holding pens for all the stock that was to be sold that day.

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where the old sale barn was.

Roly Poly had hamburgers 10 for a buck and I used to get 10 for me and family and head to the drive-in movie out on Waltonville Raod every Saturday night.

Benny Arnold owned the trailer park and barn building for some time.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted March 01, 2007 23:25

[Hide Post](#)

Frank Braden taught me when I went to West Salem School. Great teacher and singer. My folks would take my brother and I to what they used to call the "All Night Sings" that were at most of the high schools around on Saturday nights. Quartets from all over the US would show up. The whole family could get in for about \$2-\$3 dollars for great southern gospel music. This was before we had a TV at home. I remember the Blackwood Brothers and later on the became the backup singers for Elvis.

I also went to school with Lucky Leroy's sister-her name was Judy. She was probably my first girlfriend. Well, as much as a first grader can have for a girlfriend. That was back in his wild days. He was a nice guy but he was alot older than Judy.

We had moved away from MTV about 4 months before the tornado went through in 1957. Dad had just sold one of the 2 houses he had out in Country Heights and one of them was completely wiped out. It was the one he had sold. He took me down with him to see what the damage was done to the one he still had and it didn't look like there had even been a storm on the piece of property. As a 6th grader I didn't realized what a tornado could do. It was amazing and yet it scared the heck out of me. There was one house that there was nothing left but a coffee table with a bowl that had a floating flower in it and it wasn't moved a inch but everything around it was gone.

Does anyone remember Firebaugh's grocery store west of town? I went to school with Rita.

Boy, this has been such a interesting thread and has brought back many memories and I hope that it will continue.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 02, 2007 09:35

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Frank Braden taught me when I went to West Salem School. Great teacher and singer.

Frank was quite a character. He had trouble remembering the words to songs and he'd be playing and singing with the others and he'd forget his words and would go "hum-a-hum-a-dee-dee-dum". It was quite funny to everyone who knew what he was doing. Bob Shaw forgot the words to an old gospel song while singing a funeral one time. He made up the verse as he went along and after the funeral some lady told him she'd never heard that verse before but it was the best one of the song and asked him to write it down. Well, Bob didn't have a clue of what he'd said so the "beautiful" verse was forever gone. I have some pics of them when they had their tv show on Channel 3.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 02, 2007 09:42

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

How about the "Roly Poly Cafe" on Perkins between 10th and 12th street?

I don't remember that or the sale barn. What were the approximate years of them? The tin domed building of 10th and Veterans Dr. was first owned by my uncle Bob Smith. He and his sons had a garage in it for years. Uncle Bob had lung problems and he had to move to Arizona so the hut was sold to Sol Greenberg and moved to the corner where Razzles is now. After Sol died his wife sold it and it was moved back across the street to where it originally was except it was closer to the street, where the new building sets now.

I've spent many an hour in that garage on a Sat. morning watching them work on cars. They lived across the street and up a couple of blocks. The house was owned in later years by Lee Dobbs and used for storage. Not sure if it's still standing now. They started their garage behind the house in a two car garage.

The boys were Ralph, Floyd, Diamond and Dick Smith. Ralph was part owner of Clark & Smith that was on W. Bwdy.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 02, 2007 09:45

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I miss eating at Rusty's.. at the corner of 12th and Broadway..

Rusty's was a good place to eat and when he "smoked" that was really good. The old Blue Goose was a pretty good place to eat in the earlier years but is now pretty well serves Greek food. My aunt worked at the Blue Goose for years. I believe there was a Blue Goose Tavern next to the cafe.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

EastTex
Member

Posted March 02, 2007 12:00

[Hide Post](#)

I remember Roly Poly's very well. In 1951 - 53 my family lived on the corner of 12th & Perkins in a big gray house and my parents managed the Jenkins Apartments behind it (a 2-story white building). In the summers my sis and bro and I each had 5 cents a day to spend for a treat and we usually bought ice cream cones from Roly Poly. His 5-cent cones seemed huge to us little kids and we felt we were getting a lot of value for our nickels. There was local bus service back then too. The bus stopped right in front of our house. I don't remember what the fare was, but I remember my Mom putting me on the bus several times to ride downtown to the dentist's office located in the Rogers Building. Can't imagine a mother letting an eight-year-old or nine-year-old doing that by themselves this day and age. Too many weirdos lurking around.

Posts: **44** | Location: **East Texas** | Registered: **June 30, 2006**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 03, 2007 22:07

[Hide Post](#)

Can anyone tell me what is left of the original "square". The last time I was in Mt.V. I noted the new Register News building which is too modern looking for Mt.V. I ate at the restaurant that is in the old RN building. I've read where the Granada has been updated but am curious what is left of "old" square. I worked at the IL Brokerage all through high

school (1946-1950) and after so have fond memories of the area. My friends and I were privileged to research in the basement of the court house for family records. It pains me to see all that history just sitting down there dusty and gradually going to waste. There are records of court happenings, murders, etc. Too bad a group of volunteers cannot copy those for the history of the town. The Mt. Vernon library has a fine research area. Much family information was found there and duly copied. Again fellows I have read with interest your memories of long ago.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Sassafras
Regular



Posted March 05, 2007 11:59

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

The tin domed building of 10th and Veterans Dr. was first owned by my uncle Bob Smith. He and his sons had a garage in it for years.

I remember that building... Wasn't there a sign painted on it that said, "There's no place just like this place anywhere near this place." 😊

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

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wclark
Old Pro



Posted March 05, 2007 12:24

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I think the east side of the square is the only one you would really recognize. The north side is about 1/2 of what it was with a bank taking the other half. West side is pretty well all bank building and outside tellers. South side has the RN building. Most, but not all, of the retail has left the area.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 05, 2007 13:44

[Hide Post](#)

Is the new post office building on the site of the old car shops? What ever happened to the "old" post office building that was on Main Street? Who owns the old shoe factory building? Some years ago I passed and saw broken windows, etc. It appeared to be some sort of storage facility.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted March 05, 2007 14:10

[Hide Post](#)

The new Post Office is on the site of the old "mall". I believe the Sears store that was there. The Old Old post office is now a parking lot. The New Old post office is still there, I believe. I don't think anything productive has happened with the shoe factory since it closed.

Can anyone provide some info on the shoe factory?

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

knightprowlr
Free Time



Posted March 05, 2007 15:01

[Hide Post](#)

I think the old shoe factory has a business called Opportunities For Access.They manufacture structures for the handicapped such as wheel chair ramps and things like that.I don't think they use the whole building,some of it is used for storage by someone else i believe.

Posts: **204** | Location: **In my chair** | Registered: **January 09, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 05, 2007 16:40

[Hide Post](#)

The new post office is in the old Montgomery Ward building at the old shopping center. The old post office at 12th & Main is not a parking lot. I used to love to see the all marble interior of it and it was much better than these new "shoeboxes" although I will say the new one is a lot better than the one on Bwdy.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 05, 2007 16:54

[Hide Post](#)

So, if the old, old PO is not a parking lot, what is in it now? It did have lovely marble floors I believe.

When I was a kid growing up, Mt.V. had all types of plants, the shoe factory, the knitting mill, the car shops, etc. Then, they all went away. Some tell me that when industry comes to Jefferson CO and gets established, and when employees wants unions, they too pack up and go away. Jefferson CO has an abundance of labor, affordable homes (compared to CA), plenty of water, etc. (of course we won't discuss power bills) so why isn't the beautiful little city humming? Mt. V. had fine schools when I was there - we loved our high school and Casey Jr. High. Our sports teams were some of the best in the State of IL. Our city park was great. I can remember the Fourth of July parades, the fireworks at the park. Of course in those days we had little entertainment except the movies and the skating rinks but people visited in homes, had great picnics.

Also, when I was growing up, for some reason the area was called Little Egypt - why was that?

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Dick T
Basic training



Posted March 06, 2007 05:51

[Hide Post](#)

Then they built the Starland Drive In theater between where K-Mart and the Rec club is now. It was a really nice place but the other theater owner got mad and put it out of business.

Maybe true if you mean the Downtown theater owners.

Not true if you meant the owner of the Mt. Vernon Drive In on the Waltonville Road. Both places were owned by Frank Glenn from Tamarora. I worked both places from about 1948 until 1956. Before the Mt. vernon DI stayed open all year, I cleaned the ramps and was indoor janitor for \$5.00 a week (7 days).

Later I managed the Starland Concession Stand and finally, with the help of my parents when the Mt. Vernon DI started to stay open, managed both while getting my BS at SIU. Drove home EVERY weekend for four years.

I never knew that the old midget track has stock car races. The hot shot midget driver in the 40's was Dick Word from Texas. I also remember an old driver called Vito Calea who was so beat up that he had trouble walking. A few Indy drivers were on that circuit where they could race 7 days a week if they went to every track. Tony Bettenhausen for sure came to MtV.

When did the stock cars start?

Dick

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [Dick T](#), March 06, 2007 06:12

Posts: **19** | Location: **Mount Vernon, IL** | Registered: **March 06, 2007**

Dick T
Basic training



Posted March 06, 2007 06:51

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by BlueJean:

So, if the old, old PO is not a parking lot, what is in it now? It did have lovely marble floors I believe.

Also, when I was growing up, for some reason the area was called Little Egypt - why was that?

It is a parking garage!!! The intermedite post office is still being used for distribution at 13th and Broadway.

Little Egypt?? Maybe because of all the Egyptian city names in Southern IL???

Dick

Posts: **19** | Location: **Mount Vernon, IL** | Registered: **March 06, 2007**

RaneyOnline
Old Pro



Posted March 06, 2007 06:55

[Hide Post](#)

The Post Office on Broadway is still used by the postal service to sort mail and the new one in Park Plaza Shopping Center has the mailboxes and service window.

Posts: **1005** | Location: **Pennsylvania** | Registered: **May 11, 2006**

Dick T
Basic training



Posted March 06, 2007 06:55

[Hide Post](#)

We used to call bologna "dog", have no idea where that name came from though. Still like it with a slice of cheese and some jelly.[/QUOTE]

Maybe because of it's source? LOL

Posts: **19** | Location: **Mount Vernon, IL** | Registered: **March 06, 2007**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted March 06, 2007 07:35

[Hide Post](#)

Oh well, parking lot, parking garage, doesn't matter. The old building is gone and I've got the clock that was in it. 🕒

This may help on the Little Egypt question:

[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Little_Egypt_\(region\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Little_Egypt_(region))

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 06, 2007 10:24

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

so why isn't the beautiful little city humming? Mt. V. had fine schools when I was there - we loved our high school and Casey Jr. High. Our sports teams were some of the best in the State of IL. Our city park was great. I can remember the Fourth of July parades, the fireworks at the park. Of course in those days we had little entertainment except the movies and the skating rinks but people visited in homes, had great picnics.

Everything has gotten out of hand. It's too expensive to live in Mt. Vernon. We have water that isn't fit for anything but washing cars AND they figure that all water used goes through the sewer so that's high. Taxes of all kinds are high here.

I have no idea what's happened to our sports teams here. They haven't had a championship in a lot of years!

The people living around the lake at the park started complaining about the fireworks landing on their roofs and in their yard so the city moved them to the airport. More room,

venders, music and they are really nice now. They make a show of them instead of a display!

Sadly to say, people are too rush, rush now to visit much. We used to sit in our back yard and the neighbors would come over and visit until 9-10pm each evening. If they weren't in our yard we were in theirs. Unfortunately, TV came along and now too many people don't even know their neighbors names. I have found that if you go to Wal Mart or the shopping center and grab a bench it won't be long until someone sits by you and the conversation is going.

Krogers is good for that as they have a table with 4 chairs and free coffee towards the rear center. Now, we just need to add doughnuts and I'm good for the morning. Ha!

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted March 06, 2007 10:40

[Hide Post](#)

jlmer, it's not just MtV that is that way. All of the US is in a hurry. Don't know where it's going, but everyone is in a hurry. 😞

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

GoGrannyGoGo
Member

Posted March 06, 2007 10:53

[Hide Post](#)

The 'newest' post office, at least the part where you go in, is not in the Montgomery Ward bldg. The space they have has had several businesses over the yrs. One was The Hamper, a guy's clothing store that had jeans and such owned by Keith Camarato. That was around 1978 or so. I know cause I worked there. There was also a Hallmark card store in the space next door. They took what was 2 spaces and took out the wall.

Posts: **74** | Location: **Mt Vernon** | Registered: **January 15, 2006**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 06, 2007 11:47

[Hide Post](#)

Re the drivein movies. I sold tickets at the Waltonville Rd movie one summer once or twice a week. I remember Frank, the owner. He drove a car that had bullet holes in one side. I never asked but someone told me it was a hold up attempt. He would come by and pick up the money from our booths about twice a night so people knew he was carrying cash. Also, sometimes a couple would come in appearing to be alone in a car. After they parked, they would open the trunk and some of their friends would climb out where they had been hiding. The employees who patrolled the area would often see many X-rated things going on in the cars.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

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BlueBelly
Educated



Posted March 07, 2007 00:25

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quote:

The employees who patrolled the area would often see many X-rated things going on in the cars.

I am busted!

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

RaneyOnline
Old Pro



Posted March 07, 2007 06:27

[Hide Post](#)

I was at the Mt.Vernon Drive In once to see "Close Encounters of a Third Kind" The town I live in now has a Drive In that I've worked at for over ten years now...I love it!

I read that a new Drive In opened in Salem, IL so I hope all of you will visit that one. There is also a Drive In in Belleville, IL.

Posts: **1005** | Location: **Pennsylvania** | Registered: **May 11, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted March 07, 2007 07:50

[Hide Post](#)

"Back in the day", I took many a date to the drive-ins in MtV. Saw the beginning and end of most movies, but seldom saw the middle parts.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 07, 2007 08:46

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I read that a new Drive In opened in Salem, IL

That was back in the '70s unless one opened with-in the past year..It closed about 3 years ago and everything has been sold. The one in Herin has been closed and liquidated as well. They just can't compete anymore.

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 07, 2007 08:48

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I took many a date to the drive-ins in MtV. Saw the beginning and end of most movies, but seldom saw the middle parts

I think that goes for most of us. It was a lot of fun back then. I had a PA in my car and would play some weird sounds when I wasn't with a date. It was amazing to see who emerged from the cars with the windows all steamed up. The conversion vans came out about 20 years too late!

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 07, 2007 08:54

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

is not in the Montgomery Ward bldg.

Ok, lets see, Montgomery Ward was on the corner where the P.O. is now and it was off set or jutting out from the other row of buildings. Singer Sewing Machine was in that row before the Wards place. There was a entry door on the part that jutted out so that you could walk in front of this row of stores and straight into Wards. There was also a door on the S. side and the loading dock was in the rear, N. side. Where the doors are to the new P.O. was windows.
-----|
----- That isn't a very good drawing of it but that's the best I can do. The top dots are the row of stores, the | is the jut and the other --- are where the windows were.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 07, 2007 09:01

[Hide Post](#)

this brings back memories of the old Montgomery Wards on the corner of 10th & Bwdy. It had the little cove where the doors were where people would stop and visit to get out of the heat. Then the huge ground floor and all of the merchandise. The stairs on the left as you went in would take you upstairs where the appliances were and then the steps down to the other room where all of the furniture items were. Steffy's kept it pretty well the same layout except they were about all furniture. Sears was on N. 10th. with their Allstate scooters in their display windows. When they moved to E. Bwdy they too had an upstairs but they were never as personable as Wards, or so it seemed. Benoist Bros. was on the corner of 10th & Bwdy and that was a big hardware store. My uncle ran the fountain bar in Walgreens so I'd drop in to get a free soda from him. I still think the old downtown was a lot better looking than it is now. It was certainly a lot busier. I thought it funny that some of the downtown stores moved a branch to the shopping center or West of town and then wondered why everyone shopped the West side instead of downtown.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer

Posted March 07, 2007 09:11

[Hide Post](#)

Old Pro



quote:

Then they built the Starland Drive In theater between where K-Mart and the Rec club is now.

The humps of the Starland is still there and a little clump of trees is where the concession stand was. Brings back memories every time I pass it.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

wclark

Old Pro



Posted March 07, 2007 09:38

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

Then they built the Starland Drive In theater between where K-Mart and the Rec club is now.

The humps of the Starland is still there and a little clump of trees is where the concession stand was. Brings back memories every time I pass it.

I belonged to the Rec Club as a kid and each summer a bunch of us would climb to the top of the drive-in screen and toss stuff off of it. Stupid? Yes. 🤪 Fun? Hell yes!!! 😊

This message has been edited. Last edited by: wclark, March 07, 2007 09:54

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

kb9vve

Member



Posted March 07, 2007 11:37

[Hide Post](#)

I live a mile from the drive in in Salem.. and in the OPEN season they are always jammed packed with people and they are very affordable too...

Posts: **47** | Location: **Salem** | Registered: **August 01, 2006**

A_Nonny_Mouse

Member

Posted March 07, 2007 15:00

[Hide Post](#)

from jlmer:

quote:

I have no idea what's happened to our sports teams here. They haven't had a championship in a lot of years!

What sports have you been watching? The 2005 football team went 11-1, won the South 7 Conference Title and made it to the Elite 8 of the State Play-offs. The football team has made the play-offs 4 of the last 6 years. The Rams cross country teams, both boys & girls won the South 7 Conference Championship in 2005 and the Girl's won it again in 2006 and finished in the top 10 at State. The Rams had the

2006 100 Meter State Freestyle swimming champion. The Varsity baseball team won the South 7 Title in 2005. Both track teams had several individual South 7 and Regional Champions. I could probably go on, but I think I have made my point. There is nothing wrong with our athletic teams. Unless, of course, you are like our neighbors in Centralia who only care about boy's basketball and gauge an entire athletic program on the success of 1 of the 19 varsity sports offered at MVHS. 😞

Posts: **97** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **January 24, 2007**

RaneyOnline

Old Pro



Posted March 08, 2007 07:06

[Hide Post](#)

It's closed for the season but Mac's Drive-In (<http://xxx.macsdive-in.com>) opened in 2003 by Mark McSparin just South of Salem off Route 37. 🇺🇸

The Drive-In in Herrin (The Egyption) claimed to have one of the largest movie screens but it was torn down to make room for expansion of the Williamson County Airport. 😞

Posts: **1005** | Location: **Pennsylvania** | Registered: **May 11, 2006**

BlueJean

Member



Posted March 09, 2007 02:03

[Hide Post](#)

Do any of you remember the German POW camp west of town (now within the city limits)? Mother never locked the doors at night until then. She feared some German POW would escape and come in our front door. Of course, the back door remained unlocked. Go figure. We lived on College in the west park of town and several times we heard gunfire about daybreak. Dad would learn later and tell us that some POW tried to scape. We had a lot of American soldiers in town then and you could drift off to sleep hearing the music from the dance hall at the city park.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

xminer

Old Pro

Posted March 09, 2007 07:41

[Hide Post](#)

Bluejean,would that have been where the old CCC camp was located? The "cement pond" is still there, just west of the new Primary Center.

Posts: **1830** | Location: **mt. vernon** | Registered: **January 06, 2006**

Bugman

Old Pro



Posted March 09, 2007 09:57

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone remember when the UFO chased the guy and his girlfriend from the Drive In all they way to Fairfield. Or when Harry Bishop was chased by one on Old Centraila Rd.? <http://nicap.org/waves/1963fullrep.htm>
<http://xxx.ufocasebook.com/waynecity1963.html>
Boy could GoGranyGoGo and I tell you some stories about this. George and Mary too!! I guess that the statute of limitation is over by now.LOL

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

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Moderators: Big Hall, Bob Dennis

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BlueJean
Member



Posted March 09, 2007 11:57

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The best I recall, the German POW camp had been a chicken farm. The town has changed so much I can't remember exactly but it was off Broadway somewhere near the old West Salem Methodist Church (I think). It was close enough to town that we could hear the gun shots. The city limits now has pushed way out, amazes me every time I visit.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 09, 2007 12:41

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

so much I can't remember exactly but it was off Broadway somewhere near the old West Salem Methodist Church (I think). I

It was East of where the Starland Drive In was. Some of the foundations are still there but surrounded by houses. It wasn't a POW camp but an MP training camp. My sister met her future husband there as he was stationed at the camp. The barrack and some other buildings stood empty for a long time but are all down now. Very little left of it.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 09, 2007 12:44

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

We lived on College in the west park of town and several times we heard gunfire about daybreak

I'm wondering if we didn't grow up together as I grew up on Casey around 25th St. and had friends on College around 24th and between 24th and 27th. street. Jimmy Berry, Donnie Williams, Carl Martin, my cousin, Joe Shields, Bernadene & Betty Burns, Lee Sickafus and Dennis Shirley.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer

Posted March 09, 2007 12:49

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Old Pro



you are like our neighbors in Centralia who only care about boy's basketball and gauge an entire athletic program on the success of 1 of the 19 varsity sports offered at MVHS.

Unfortunately, you're right! I only follow the basketball as that was the biggie when I was in school. My grandson is a freshman and has made the baseball team as a pitcher and possibly a position player so I'll be following the baseball team now too. Don't be too harsh as most people only follow and talk about the sports they like. I'm a huge sports fan of what I like.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 09, 2007 13:54

[Hide Post](#)

Yes, it was a German POW camp as we would see the German POW's sometimes at the railroad station, under guard, unloading trains during the war. The US soldiers were MP's guarding the POW's. My father had a trucking business so he would be there hauling things from the station also and some of the POW's would bum smokes from he and his brother. One of our neighbor girls married one of the US soldiers. Maybe later they moved the POW's elsewhere in the US. I remember last year seeing a program on TV about the various POW camps in the US, a big one in TX. Yes, the Berry family lived across the street from us on College. A couple of the other names you mentioned seemed familiar but can't put a face to the names. It's been a long, long time.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted March 09, 2007 18:05

[Hide Post](#)

The subdivision where the old barracks stood is known as Country Heights. My family was the first to have a house there. Dad bought the model home and we moved in. I am going to say that was in 1952-53, don't hold be to that. I was about 7 or 8 years old then and am now 62. There was still one big barracks left up to the north or the back end of the houses. In back of it was a fairly good sized pond that the owners dumped the chicken crap in. I caught some monster carp out of that pond. One summer somebody bought the barracks and the land and filled in the pond. Almost everybody had a foundation in their backyard from the small buildings that were dotted around. Dad made a big bar-b-q pit out of ours at one end and a big sandpile for us kids at the other. My brother and I made a high jump pit and broad jump pit out of our end. Actually it become many things as the years went on. All the houses there were National Homes-prefab jobs. They all came with asphalt tile over the concrete slab. The tile marred real easy and all of kids would have to take their shoes off before we went into anyones house. If our folks wanted to know where we were at all they had to do was walk down the street and look for the shoes lined up next to the front door of the house we were playing at.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 09, 2007 21:19

[Hide Post](#)

OK,that was very informative but still cannot place the area. What is the cross street off Broadway, or the highway, where the camp stood?

When I was small (5-6 years old) around 1937 I think there was a big junk yard out there called Borlands or something like that. A neighbor, Mrs. Kent, asked my mother if I could go out there with she and her little boy to an all day quilting bee. There was a nice big house with lots of trees and the ladies quilted outside. We kids ran around ducking under the quilting frames a lot of time. There were tables of good food at noon and the ladies talked as fast as their fingers flew over the quilts in the frames. They didn't seem to mind if we kids made noise or ran around their quilting frames. It was such a pleasant day I have remebered it fondly all my life.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

johnj229

Old Pro



Posted March 10, 2007 08:41

[Hide Post](#)

Borlands was farther west. I think it was around 42nd street and the camp was around the 32nd or 37th street area. It is north of K-mart. Infact we lived in one of Borland's rental houses, second one north of the junk yard on the west side of the road, before we moved into Country Heights. Things have changed so much out that way and I don't get down much there anymore.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

BlueJean

Member



Posted March 10, 2007 20:35

[Hide Post](#)

Can anyone tell me what has become of the old knitting mill? I worked a short time in the office there. It was a terrible place, so hot in the summer in the office and even worse in the plant. Our boss, a smart alec from NY used to say when it got to be 115 degrees we could go home. Somehow it seemed to stick on 114 degrees and we never got sent home because of the heat. Those poor ladies in the mill with the machines running were even hotter. I can remember going home at noon, eating and changing clothes to go back to that miserable job. This was about 1951-52. I passed the building once when I was in Mt.V. for a visit and it appeared empty. Does anyone know when it closed?

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Jim in PA

Free Time



Posted March 11, 2007 15:49

[Hide Post](#)

If that was the building on the west side of the rr tracks from Jax Coal Co., on Perkins, I believe the mill closed about 1958 or 59, and the bldg was a storage facility from then on. When my Dad was operating mgr for the Montgomery Ward store after it moved from the Square to Park Plaza, he leased the bldg to store bikes, refrigerators, and even boats and outboards in the top floor. I remember taking the old(1954) International stake body out there to manhandle something large to drive as far as Carbondale or Centralia to deliver. By the time I had found the item(s) in that sweatbox, lugged it or them onto the truck, I was ready to drop for want of a salt tablet. So, I usually stopped at the Mug on northern trips to take a root beer to go, or the Maid Rite on southbound deliveries. I always got back to the store after closing about five pounds lighter. That bldg reminded me of the tin box the Japanese put Alec Guinness' character in in the Bridge on the River Kwai.....

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

BlueJean

Member



Posted March 11, 2007 18:11

[Hide Post](#)

Interesting story and reminds me the reason I don't like to visit IL in the summer. No, the knitting mill I'm speaking of is near the tracks (L&N I think) on about 13th St. I can't remember the cross street. They made women's hosiery there It was interesting to stand and watch the machines make the hose. I left town in 1952 and it was still open then. I know the old building you spoke of I think. When my grandfather died in 1928 my grandmother being left with 3 small children worked in that building to make a living. I don't know what was made there - never thought to ask her. I always thought that one was called the garnet factory.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Sassafras

Regular



Posted March 11, 2007 19:18

[Hide Post](#)

The Knitting Mill was near 12th and Casey, just south of the tracks on the east side of the street. The building on Perkins was the shoe factory. I think the Knitting mill closed soon after you left. I would guess before 1955. I remember going there with my mother

to buy some socks when I was really small. It may have been selling off stock and closing at that time.

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

BlueBelly
Educated

Posted March 11, 2007 19:50

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quote:

Originally posted by Sassafras:

The Knitting Mill was near 12th and Casey, just south of the tracks on the east side of the street. The building on Perkins was the shoe factory. I think the Knitting mill closed soon after you left. I would guess before 1955. I remember going there with my mother to buy some socks when I was really small. It may have been selling off stock and closing at that time.

In between the shoe factory, Florshiem's, and Jax, later Anchor Coal was a building also sassyfraas.

In the late sixties early seventies I heard it called the Garmwnt Factory, but it was usually quiet around the building most the time. (Jim is telling the truth for sure as I recall trucks in and out when we rode bikes around in the summer).

There was some kind of sewing operation around back under the building that was going on too. We as kids would ask and get permission to take the remnants they threw out as long as we didn't get rowdy and rude. Remnants were of fake leather and plastics that had peace signs on them and trendy hippie type patterns of the early seventies.

We made all kinds of pouches and covers and cases for odd things boys thought they needed to have but could not afford out of the dept. store sporting goods department. My mother even used some to re-do lawn chairs with instead of the weave stuff you buy at the store. She also made carry all bags for camping gear, sleeping bags and stuff that was out in the garage most of the year.

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 11, 2007 20:20

[Hide Post](#)

Hey fellows, just found a picture of the knitting mill on the Mt Vernon Genweb. It must be a very old picture however as there is nothing around it. This Genwebsite is a great tool for we who do family research in IL and live thousands of miles away. The lady who updates it does a wonderful job. I also have one of Thomas A. Puckett's books on Mt. Vernon. I learned he had produced three (at least) - wish I had all of them. The one I have is Mt. Vernon A Pictorial History and have some wonderful very old pictures of Mt Vernon.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Sassafras
Regular



Posted March 11, 2007 23:17

[Hide Post](#)

BlueBelly... There was a garment factory in that general area, but it was south of Perkins. I looked on Mapquest because I haven't been in that area in years. I think it was around 16th and Bell. On the arial view it looks like there may still be a large building there. I could be mistaken, about the exact location, but it was south of Perkins and west of 12th street. I, too was in there about that time to buy remnants or clothing or something. It was a large, rectangular, one story building with large windows down both long sides.

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**



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BlueJean
Member



Posted March 12, 2007 00:38

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Whatever happened to the old TB Hospital that was out behind Good Sam Hospital? My mother used to volunteer there years ago. Also, I remember another hospital built down below the old car shops property. I don't think it stayed open too long. I was happy to read that Mt.V. is getting it's own cancer treatment center. Now patients won't have to run over to St. Louis for special treatment.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Voter
Newcomer

Posted March 12, 2007 02:05

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quote:

Originally posted by BlueJean:

Whatever happened to the old TB Hospital that was out behind Good Sam Hospital? My mother used to volunteer there years ago. Also, I remember another hospital built down below the old car shops property. I don't think it stayed open too long. I was happy to read that Mt.V. is getting it's own cancer treatment center. Now patients won't have to run over to St. Louis for special treatment.

No, now we will run over to St.Louis for good doctors.

Posts: **7** | Location: **illinois** | Registered: **January 15, 2007**

RaneyOnline
Old Pro



Posted March 12, 2007 06:57

[Hide Post](#)

I remember going to Jefferson Memorial before they closed down for a school physical. It looked scary to me then. I thought it looked like the hospital from "One Flew Over The Cooko's Nest" and I expected Nurse Rachet to come lock me up.

Posts: **1005** | Location: **Pennsylvania** | Registered: **May 11, 2006**

BlueBelly
Educated

Posted March 12, 2007 09:26

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by RaneyOnline:

I remember going to Jefferson Memorial before they closed down for a school physical. It looked scary to me then. I thought it looked like the hospital from "One Flew Over The Cooko's Nest" and I expected Nurse Rachet to come lock me up.

☺ We still expect her to come and lock you up ☹☺

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 12, 2007 12:22

[Hide Post](#)

Yes, that's the name, Jefferson Memorial. I remember visiting someone who was a patient there and I felt it was very depressing. Didn't a bunch of Mt.V. doctor's open it? Re the new cancer treatment center in Mt.V. which is founded by Dr. Oza. He was my father's doctor for about 7 years and he received good care from him. He was one doctor that when I called about my father's treatment, he would always call me back. He kept my father alive after other doctor's gave him only a short time to live. Most of the other doctors in Mt.V. seemed pretty worthless to me. Some kept my parents waiting in the waiting room for hours and then whipped out the perscription pad and wrote one for ANOTHER expensive batch of medicine without the proper tests to see if it was really needed. If people are not able to commute to St. Louis for treatments from doctors the picking is pretty slim in Mt.V. according to what I saw in the 80's & 90's. It made me more grateful for my HMO here in CA.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

A_Nonny_Mouse
Member

Posted March 12, 2007 14:05

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quote:

Originally posted by BlueJean:

Whatever happened to the old TB Hospital that was out behind Good Sam Hospital? My mother used to volunteer there years ago. Also, I remember another hospital built down below the old car shops property. I don't think it stayed open too long. I was happy to read that Mt.V. is getting it's own cancer treatment center. Now patients won't have to run over to St. Louis for special treatment.

The old TB San is now part of Good Samaritan. There are offices educational programs and a fitness center housed there now.

Posts: **97** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **January 24, 2007**

Jim in PA
Free Time



Posted March 12, 2007 14:58

[Hide Post](#)

Ain't nothing quite like the HMO's started back in the day by Kaiser Permanente, eh??/ The Jefferson Memorial Hospital was built as the offices for the Mt. Vernon Pressed Car Company back in early 1942, I think. When the war stopped, the company sold the office spaces to a corooration headed up by the elder Dr. Anson Modert, father of Dr. Jean and grandfather of the newest crop of Drs. Modert. The corporation ran the hospital until about 1958 or so, never quite competing successfully with good Sisters up on 12 th Street, when their operation made the big move from the old frame hosp(where I was hatched) into the "new " bldg in 1956 or so. I do not think that there has been any long term tenant in the Jefferson Memorial bldg since the mid-50s. I drove by there after Labor Day, slowed down, got a look inside, and my heart sank.

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

jImer

Posted March 12, 2007 15:27

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Old Pro



I do not think that there has been any long term tenant in the Jefferson Memorial bldg since the mid-50s

I owned property in that area in '75 and Jefferson Memorial sent a couple of guys, Allen Dulaney and Bob Shaw, to see me about selling the property to the hospital as they were wanting to expand. I was about a block and a half from the hospital then and they had some pretty big plans but I never heard anymore from them.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted March 12, 2007 15:30

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Yes, it was a German POW camp as we would see the German POW's sometimes at the railroad station, under guard, unloading trains during the war

I used to think it was a POW camp but could never find anything to back that idea up. My brother-in-law was an MP there and I believe what you saw loading/unloading was Americans who were in the brig for AWOL and other misdemeanors.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted March 12, 2007 15:35

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

the camp was around the 32nd or 37th street area. It is north of K-mart.

The camp was across the street from where the old Starlite Drive-in Theater was and covered about a block or so N. and S. and there was a street running North and South that dead ended at the main gate. It could have been 32nd street but I'm not sure of that. The camp shut down pretty well over night. They closed they cancelled all passes, closed the gate, loaded up and headed for Chicago for disbursement. A lot of broken hearted young ladies were left behind then.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

RaneyOnline

Old Pro



Posted March 12, 2007 19:39

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There was a guy in Mt.Vernon who had the Wheels Thru Time Museum or something? The museum was located on Veteran's Memorial Drive. He wanted to buy the Jefferson Memorial building for his museum but it needed so much work. He then decided to build a new building out on the interstate behind Denny's. He finally closed down and left in a huff complaining that the tourist bureau did nothing to promote him. I believe he is now located in North Carolina or Virginia.



Posts: **1005** | Location: **Pennsylvania** | Registered: **May 11, 2006**

knightprowlr

Free Time



Posted March 12, 2007 20:57

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

the camp was around the 32nd or 37th street area. It is north of K-mart.

The camp was across the street from where the old Starlite Drive-in Theater was and covered about a block or so N. and S. and there was a street running North and South that dead ended at the main gate. It could have been 32nd street but I'm not sure of that. The camp shut down pretty well over night. They closed they cancelled all passes, closed the gate, loaded up and headed for Chicago for disbursement. A lot of broken hearted young ladies were left behind then.

I grew up in that area in the 70's. To the best of my knowledge Spruce Drive dead ended at a concrete slab that as kids we referred to as the "chicken coup". I don't think at the time any of us really knew what that slab used to be but we played many games of basketball there over the years. That may have been part of the camp. It was pretty obvious to us back then that it had been there for years. The slabs extended to the east from that point about 200 or 300 feet as I recall.

Posts: **204** | Location: **In my chair** | Registered: **January 09, 2006**

kb9vve
Member



Posted March 12, 2007 21:00

[Hide Post](#)

I guess the guy that owned the Wheels thru time museum was not a member of the "Good ole boy's club".. But I been to that museum a few times he had a lot of sweet rides..

Posts: **47** | Location: **Salem** | Registered: **August 01, 2006**

knightprowlr
Free Time



Posted March 12, 2007 21:29

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Jim in PA:

Ain't nothing quite like the HMO's started back in the day by Kaiser Permanente, eh??/ The Jefferson Memorial Hospital was built as the offices for the Mt. Vernon Pressed Car Company back in early 1942, I think. When the war stopped, the company sold the office spaces to a corporation headed up by the elder Dr. Anson Modert, father of Dr. Jean and grandfather of the newest crop of Drs. Modert. The corporation ran the hospital until about 1958 or so, never quite competing successfully with good Sisters up on 12 th Street, when their operation made the big move from the old frame hosp(where I was hatched) into the "new " bldg in 1956 or so. I do not think that there has been any long term tenant in the Jefferson Memorial bldg since the mid-50s. I drove by there after Labor Day, slowed down, got a look inside, and my heart sank.

I worked at the old memorial hospital for Nilson Braddock at the pharmacy in 1977-78. Back then the first floor was a busy place. Doctor "Jean" as so many referred to was

still running a clinic back then.As for the upper floors, i remember them being pretty much empty around that time.

Posts: **204** | Location: **In my chair** | Registered: **January 09, 2006**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 13, 2007 00:15

[Hide Post](#)

While doing family research at the Mt.V. library a few years ago with some new found distant, distant cousins, I asked about the old Poor Farm. The current airport is built over the old cemetery there. Some of the graves were moved, ditto some stones, the other stones put in a truck and dumped in pieces somewhere. Evidently the runway was put over some of the grave sites. We were told the piece of property was sold for very little to the airport. Does anyone have more information on this. I have no idea when the Poor Farm was phased out. I guess it served its purpose when State aid came into being. The library has a book, found in an out building, which listed names, etc. This is a piece of history that few in Mt.V. talked about.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

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jImer Old Pro



Posted March 13, 2007 09:45

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quote:

He finally closed down and left in a huff complaining that the tourist bureau did nothing to promote him

That would be Dales Harley. He was right, he couldn't get any help promoting his place and now it's a huge success since he moved out of Mt. Vernon. I understand that people come from all over the US. He had Motorcycles from all eras and it was free. He was treated like "You pay you stay". I had about the same thing with the Chamber Of Commerce when I first opened my business here and I refused to be blackmailed into joining.

Posts: 6351 | Location: Mt. Vernon | Registered: March 18, 2006

jImer Old Pro



Posted March 13, 2007 09:47

Hide Post

quote:

I asked about the old Poor Farm. The current airport is built over the old cemetary there. Some of the graves were moved

I knew there was a "poor farm" here but never knew where it was. I thought that by law ALL graves had to be moved before any kind of construction could take place, even back then. I don't remember just when the airport was built but must have been in the 40s.

Posts: 6351 | Location: Mt. Vernon | Registered: March 18, 2006

BlueJean Member



Posted March 13, 2007 16:58

Hide Post

quote:

I knew there was a "poor farm" here but never knew where it was. I thought that by law ALL graves had to be moved before any kind of construction could take place, even back then. I don't remember just when the airport was built but must have been in the 40s.

I'm not sure if the current airport is the same as the first airport MT.V. had. Maybe some of you who lived east of town could verify that. I only flew out of Mt.V. once and it was in a "puddle jumper" plane that had me scared spitless until we reached St. Louis. That was in the 80's. I think it was Ozark Airlines at that time. Looking into the ****pit you could see through the control board to sky!

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 13, 2007 17:01

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I think it was Ozark Airlines at that time. Looking into the ****pit you could see through the control board to sky!

Wow, guess the censor thought I was using a nasty work in my previous message. Well, I think you all can figure out I was trying to say. I'll now say "control" pannel in the pilot's area.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted March 13, 2007 17:27

[Hide Post](#)

Cockpit isn't such a bad word. You can say cock if you know how to handle it. No pun intended. 🤖

Now don't ask how that's done. If I tell you, I'd have to kill you. 🤖

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted March 13, 2007 17:51

[Hide Post](#)

Some poor Farm Info

It does seem to give some credibility to the graves being there.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted March 13, 2007 18:18

[Hide Post](#)

Some more nostalgia:

Old news

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 13, 2007 19:53

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Some more nostalgia

Thank you, thank you! You have given me some more websites to explore. I was especially thrilled to see the one about the Rev. War as I am a member of the DAR and always exploring ways to find some more of my ancestors who fought in that war.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted March 14, 2007 14:27

[Hide Post](#)

The old TB hospital was aquired by Good Sam. when Sister Joann was running the hospital. The state was looking to open some kind of a minimum security detention center there. Sister Joann and the board was against it. She attended the meeting and ask if the place was for sale and how much. The state shot her a figure and within 2 days Good Sam. had bought it.

Another story about the good Sister. She would attend different meetings all over the US and fly to them. She had a secretary that owned a Corvette and when she went on one of her trips she would have this gal drive her to and from St. Louis. She loved riding in that Corvette.

She was a dedicated person who loved that hospital and the people she came in contact with be it staff, patients or visitors. The day she died she was waiting in the cafeteria line just like everyone else when she collasped.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 14, 2007 14:53

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

She was a dedicated person who loved that hospital and the people she came in contact with be it staff, patients or visitors. The day she died she was waiting in the cafeteria line just like everyone else when she collasped.

My father got to know Sister well while he was in the hospital one time and another through business. Believe it or not, she even brought him a cold beer one day from her own stash when she asked him what would taste good to him. She must have been an amazing person from stories I have heard. Mt. V. was blessed to have her.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 17, 2007 18:25

[Hide Post](#)

[/QUOTE]

War as I am a member of the DAR and always exploring ways to find some more of my ancestors who fought in that war.[/QUOTE]

There's supposed to be a lot of Civil War graves at Old Union Cemetary here in Mt. Vernon. I've never really been deep into it but I do know there's some old stones that can be seen from the road. Vandals turned a bunch of them over but I believe they've reset most of them.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 17, 2007 18:28

[Hide Post](#)

A note of sad news today, Garold Smith, was killed going to his mothers funeral. In the '50s & '60s Garolds parents owned and operated Smith's Aquarium on N. 37 for several years. We used to go out there and look at all of the different fish they had in stock. Garold worked there as a kid and was well liked by everyone.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 17, 2007 23:30

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

There's supposed to be a lot of Civil War graves at Old Union Cemetary here in Mt. Vernon. I've never really been deep into it but I do know there's some old stones that can be seen from the road. Vandals turned a bunch of them over but I believe they've reset most of them.

Yes, a new found distant, distant cousin found some of my family graves there, broken stones but you could still read the names and part of the dates. In all the years I lived in Mt.V., I had not known of Old Union. Perhaps as a child I attended a funeral there but I could not remember. I read how vandals damaged a lot of stones/markers at one of a Waltonville cemetary and also at West Salem. How people get a kick out of that, it amazes me.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 19, 2007 17:09

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QUOTE]

I read how vandals damaged a lot of stones/markers at one of a Waltonville cemetary and also at West Salem. How people get a kick out of that, it amazes me.[/QUOTE]
They're sick, very sick! My parents and grandparents are buried at West Salem. There's also a Williams cemetary that has some old graves but not too many as it's a small cemetary.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

MTV_Shorty
Member

Posted March 21, 2007 08:06

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by johnj229:

Frank Braden taught me when I went to West Salem School. Great teacher and singer. My folks would take my brother and I to what they used to call the "All Night Sings" that were at most of the high schools around on Saturday nights. Quartets from all over the US would show up. The whole family could get in for about \$2-\$3 dollars for great southern gospel music. This was before we had a TV at home. I remember the Blackwood Brothers and later on the became the backup singers for Elvis.

I also went to school with Lucky Leroy's sister-her name was Judy. She was probably my first girlfriend. Well, as much as a first grader can have for a girlfriend. That was back in his wild days. He was a nice guy but he was alot older than Judy.

We had moved away from MTV about 4 months before the tornado went through in 1957. Dad had just sold one of the 2 houses he had out in Country Heights and one of them was completely wiped out. It was the one he had sold. He took me down with him to see what the damage was done to the one he still had and it didn't look like there had even been a storm on the piece of property. As a 6th grader I didn't realized what a tornado could do. It was amazing and yet it scared the heck out of me. There was one house that there was nothing left but a coffee table with a bowl that had a floating flower in it and it wasn't moved a inch but everything around it was gone.

Does anyone remember Firebaugh's grocery store west of town? I went to school with Rita.

Boy, this has been such a interesting thread and has brought back many memories and I hope that it will continue.

My grandparents lived in Country Heights when the tornado went through. My grandmother told me about it many times. She said they found a fully decorated Christmas tree in their back yard.

Posts: **60** | Location: **St. Louis** | Registered: **March 21, 2007**

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xminer
Old Pro



Posted March 21, 2007 08:11

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What was the name of the "motel" on north Salem Road just north of Homestead Drive on the east side of the road? Was it Jiggs and Maggies? I went by there yesterday and the new road has taken quite a bit of it.

Posts: **1830** | Location: **mt. vernon** | Registered: **January 06, 2006**

MTV_Shorty
Member



Posted March 21, 2007 08:17

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by xminer:

What was the name of the "motel" on north Salem Road just north of Homestead Drive on the east side of the road? Was it Jiggs and Maggies? I went by there yesterday and the new road has taken quite a bit of it.

I don't know but I wanted to ask about the Linn Motel. Does anyone know who owned it? I am doing my family history research, I think my grandfather told me years ago that it wasn't his family who owned it. I know there were at least 2 different sets of Linn/Lynn's in MTV.

Posts: **60** | Location: **St. Louis** | Registered: **March 21, 2007**

PrayerMan
Basic training



Posted March 21, 2007 12:02

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by RaneyOnline:

Centalia has a large steam engine located in one of it's parks. Perhaps Mt.Vernon should have a memorial to the car shops. I think the car shops had alot to do with the growth of Mt.Vernon. There is alot of unused land between the grocery store and the new post office. Who owns this shopping center?

My grandfather ran a salvage yard on the south side of town (McDermott's) The city now owns the land and it sits unused other than a place to dump used culverts and such. It would be a great place to build a memorial to the car shops as I'm sure they got a lot of parts from him.

Posts: **19** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted March 21, 2007 16:12

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Yep, no doubt about that **PrayerMan**, If it hadn't been for your grandpa Jim and Sol Greenberg, I would have had a hard time keeping my old rattle traps going. 😊

Xminer, Jigg's and Maggie's was west of town on Rt. 15, in the area where Walmart is now.

I think the place you're thinking of may have been named Linn's Motor Lodge (or Court) and it had cabins for rent. Someone can correct me if they know better.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: Pogo, March 21, 2007 21:08

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

xminer
Old Pro

Posted March 21, 2007 17:32

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That is probably right. If I remember correctly Jiggs and Maggie's was just east of the Blue Mill. The Lynn (Linn?) Motel was the one that I was thinking of on North Rt. 37. There is a post on this thread about, Lynn's, where this motel was located. I remember that Dad's Cabins was located south of town at the intersection of Bethel Road and Rt. 37.

Posts: **1830** | Location: **mt. vernon** | Registered: **January 06, 2006**

thelovelychristine
Basic training

Posted March 21, 2007 18:13

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can anyone tell me where Max's in southtown was located?

Posts: **32** | Location: **mt vernon** | Registered: **February 12, 2007**

thelovelychristine
Basic training

Posted March 21, 2007 18:27

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quote:

Originally posted by MTV_Shorty:

quote:

Originally posted by xminer:

What was the name of the "motel" on north Salem Road just north of Homestead Drive on the east side of the road? Was it Jiggs and Maggies? I went by there yesterday and the new road has taken quite a bit of it.

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Posts: **32** | Location: **mt vernon** | Registered: **February 12, 2007**

thelovelychristine
Basic training

Posted March 21, 2007 18:32

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by thelovelychristine:

quote:

Originally posted by MTV_Shorty:

quote:

Originally posted by xminer:
What was the name of the "motel" on north Salem Road just north of Homestead Drive on the east side of the road? Was it Jiggs and Maggies? I went by there yesterday and the new road has taken quite a bit of it.

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that motel, really a series of cabin/rooms is of course no longer in use, but what is left is still there. Mark Linn is the owner, his Mom passed this last year

Posts: **32** | Location: **mt vernon** | Registered: **February 12, 2007**

b00ts
Free Time



Posted March 21, 2007 18:58

[Hide Post](#)

Quote from thelovelychristine:
can anyone tell me where Max's in southtown was located?

Max's was located on the northwest corner of 19th and Perkins. It was right across Perkins from Horace Mann School.

Posts: **236** | Location: . | Registered: **January 25, 2007**

MTV_Shorty
Member



Posted March 21, 2007 20:47

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[/QUOTE]

I don't know but I wanted to ask about the Linn Motel. Does anyone know who owned it? I am doing my family history research, I think my grandfather told me years ago that it wasn't his family who owned it. I know there were at least 2 different sets of Linn/Lynn's in MTV. [/QUOTE] [/QUOTE]

that motel, really a series of cabin/rooms is of course no longer in use, but what is left is still there. Mark Linn is the owner, his Mom passed this last year [/QUOTE]

I just found her obituary today. Mark Linn's father would have been my grandfather's first cousin. Mark's grandfather and my great-grandfather were brothers. I am researching the family, my grandfather's mother died when he was 5 days old and her sister raised him. His father died when he was 10 years old. When I started this, all I had was the great-grandfather's obituary.

Posts: **60** | Location: **St. Louis** | Registered: **March 21, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted March 21, 2007 21:06

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MV_shorty, I guess I'd better go back and correct my spelling from Lynn to Linn.

I just recalled that a few months ago there was a picture in the Register News of that place that was taken in the 40's I believe. It may have been supplied by the present owner to whom you are related.

I also recall an incident that happened there in the 60's where a young man was burned to death while washing some equipment with gasoline. It happened in the building that faced the road and was used for a garage/workshop. It was reported that the fumes from the gas were ignited by a water heater and the poor guy was burned alive.

The register news will have all that so if you get back this way you can search the microfiche at the library for it. If someone from the Register reads this maybe they can access it faster.

HTH

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

MTV_Shorty
Member

Posted March 21, 2007 21:46

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quote:

Originally posted by Pogo:

MV_shorty, I guess I'd better go back and correct my spelling from Lynn to Linn.

I just recalled that a few months ago there was a picture in the Register News of that place that was taken in the 40's I believe. It may have been supplied by the present owner to whom you are related.

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The register news will have all that so if you get back this way you can search the microfiche at the library for it. If someone from the Register reads this maybe they can access it faster.

HTH

Thanks for the info. That was always a landmark for me as a child when we would come to MTV, I was always tickled by the "Linn" part since it was my last name. I didn't know it was family. We spelled it "Lynn". I was told that my great grandmother thought the "y" was prettier than the "i". In my searches I've found that of the 8 children of my gg-grandparents, some used the original "i" and some used the "y". It makes it difficult for sure!

Posts: **60** | Location: **St. Louis** | Registered: **March 21, 2007**

Bugman
Old Pro



Posted March 21, 2007 21:59

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I guess no one remembers when the UFO chased the guy and his girlfriend from the Drive In all they way to Fairfield. Or when Harry Bishop was chased by one on Old Centralia

Rd.?
<http://nicap.org/waves/1963fullrep.htm>
<http://xxx.ufocasebook.com/waynecity1963.html%5B/quote%5D>

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

MTV_Shorty
Member

Posted March 21, 2007 22:29

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quote:

Originally posted by Bugman:

I guess no one remembers when the UFO chased the guy and his girlfriend from the Drive In all they way to Fairfield. Or when Harry Bishop was chased by one on Old Centralia Rd.?

<http://nicap.org/waves/1963fullrep.htm>

<http://xxx.ufocasebook.com/waynecity1963.html>

[/QUOTE]

No, but I remember the "pumphouse monster".

Posts: **60** | Location: **St. Louis** | Registered: **March 21, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted March 21, 2007 22:35

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Bugman, That one link is flawed. I think I can make it work, try [this](#)

I remember these stories but I missed the big tornado since I was in Uncle Sam's Army at the time.

This thread has a wealth of historical information. If we keep it going long enough talk will get around and it'll take on a life of its own. Maybe it'll get big enough to become a book. 😊

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

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Jim in PA
Free Time



Posted March 21, 2007 22:36

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Prayer Man: I may have gone to Bethel School with your father or your uncle (or both) Joe McDermott and I were in the Bethel graduating class of 1962, and Jimmy McDermott was a couple of yrs ahead of us. Never encountered anyone who knew more about cars even long before we could legally drive 'em. That place was always turnin' and burnin' keeping cars and trucks on the road... Good to hear from you.

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

Bugman
Old Pro



Posted March 21, 2007 23:15

[Hide Post](#)

Try this one too
<http://xxx.nicap.org/mvreg1.htm>

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

Bugman
Old Pro



Posted March 21, 2007 23:19

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Boy could GoGranyGoGo and I tell you some stories about this. George and Mary too!! I guess that the statute of limitation is over by now.LOL

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 22, 2007 10:29

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The motel North of town was Lynn Harmon's or Harmon Lynn's, motel I've heard it both ways. He had a service station there also and wasn't too easy to get along with. His son, Doug, works at Grahams service station across from Hucks on Oakland and Salem Rd.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 22, 2007 12:54

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

This thread has a wealth of historical information. If we keep it going long enough talk will get around and it'll take on a life of its own

If someone in town would go down in the courthouse and copy some of the stories from the handwritten books there we could make a book of Mt.Vernon history. I was amazed to read the trials, etc. while researching family history. As I've said before, it is so sad to see that history sitting there. If nothing else it should be donated to the library or put on microfilm.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

MTV_Shorty
Member

Posted March 22, 2007 13:35

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quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

The motel North of town was Lynn Harmon's or Harmon Lynn's, motel I've heard it both ways. He had a service station there also and wasn't too easy to get along with. His son, Doug, works at Grahams service station across from Hucks on Oakland and Salem Rd.

Thanks for the information. I tried to call Mark Linn last evening but the number was disconnected. I can't find a listing for Doug so maybe I'll stop by Graham's sometime while I'm in town.

Posts: **60** | Location: **St. Louis** | Registered: **March 21, 2007**

MTV_Shorty
Member

Posted March 22, 2007 14:45

[Hide Post](#)

Wasn't there a Roth or Ross' dairy in town? Back in the early 60's? My mom worked there and I remember going in to visit her and drinking chocolate milk.

Posts: **60** | Location: **St. Louis** | Registered: **March 21, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted March 22, 2007 15:09

[Hide Post](#)

The Roth Dairy was at 820 Harrison. Their slogan was, "Roth, The Better Milk." That no doubt alluded to the fact that they sold pastuerized milk while other dairies sold it raw.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [Pogo](#), March 22, 2007 15:19

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted March 22, 2007 18:51

[Hide Post](#)

Max Stull i think. We used to make noise with our straws trying to get that last bit of coke out of the glass. Max would get mad and tell us not to suck the bottom of the glass out.

quote:

Originally posted by b00ts:

Quote from thelovelychristine:

can anyone tell me where Max's in southtown was located?

Max's was located on the northwest corner of 19th and Perkins. It was right across Perkins from Horace Mann School.

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted March 22, 2007 20:17

[Hide Post](#)

Were they related to any Marlow's or am i thinking of someone else?

quote:

Originally posted by MTV_Shorty:

I don't know but I wanted to ask about the Linn Motel. Does anyone know who owned it? I am doing my family history research, I think my grandfather told me years ago that it wasn't his family who owned it. I know there were at least 2 different sets of Linn/Lynn's in MTV.[/QUOTE][[/QUOTE]

that motel, really a series of cabin/rooms is of course no longer in use, but what is left is still there. Mark Linn is the owne, his Mom passed this last year[/QUOTE]

I just found her obituary today. Mark Linn's father would have been my grandfather's first cousin. Mark's grandfather and my great-grandfather were brothers. I am researching the family, my grandfather's mother died when he was 5 days old and her sister raised him. His father died when he was 10 years old. When I started this, all I had was the great-grandfather's obituary.[/QUOTE]

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

MTV_Shorty
Member

Posted March 23, 2007 13:42

[Hide Post](#)

I don't know if they were related to any Marlow's. Do you know how they would be if so? What I have is William & Christena (Schramm)Linn had 8 children. My great-grandfather was the youngest. In 1900 they lived in Dodds township and Harmon Linn's father and my g-grandfather were the only one's at home then. I have found information on all but one of the 8 and have found living descendants from most of those. I have talked to Harmon's sister's son but he does not know much about his mother's family. He lives down south. William & Christena are buried in Arnold cemetery.

quote:

Originally posted by bill_is_back:

Were they related to any Marlow's or am i thinking of someone else?

quote:

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His father died when he was 10 years old. When I started this, all I had was the great-grandfather's obituary. [/QUOTE] [/QUOTE]

Posts: **60** | Location: **St. Louis** | Registered: **March 21, 2007**

bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted March 23, 2007 17:53

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by MTV_Shorty:

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quote:

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Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted March 23, 2007 17:55

[Hide Post](#)

I remember Philip Marlow working on oil well bits in that area. I thought it was was his grandparents.

quote:

Originally posted by bill_is_back:

quote:

Originally posted by MTV_Shorty:

I don't know if they were related to any Marlow's. Do you know how they would be if so? What I have is William & Christena (Schramm)Linn had 8 children. My great-grandfather was the youngest. In 1900 they lived in Dodds township and Harmon Linn's father and my g-grandfather were the only one's at home then. I have found information on all but one of the 8 and have found living descendants from most of those. I have talked to Harmon's sister's son but he does not know much about his mother's family. He lives down south. William & Christena are buried in Arnold cemetery.

quote:

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quote:

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Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 24, 2007 11:34

[Hide Post](#)

[QUOTE]Originally posted by MTV_Shorty:
Wasn't there a Roth or Ross' dairy in town? QUOTE]

I went to school with Bill Roth who lived on Casey between 22nd and 24th St. who was related. I think his dad was part owner of the dairy.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 24, 2007 11:38

[Hide Post](#)

How many remember Fenton's music store? It was on around 5th St. at his house with an enlarged porch for quite awhile, then moved to W. Bwdy around 14th. St. and finally to

S. 10th St. where it remained until he closed it and moved out of state. Red was a good man and he and his brother Roland were quite good musicians. Gail Jines worked for him for a long time and then Tiny Wemette worked for him on 10th St. until Red closed it.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

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BlueJean
Member



Posted March 24, 2007 13:11

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Posted March 24, 2007 11:38 [Hide Post](#)

How many remember Fenton's music store? It was on around 5th

He had a brother Eddie that could really play the piano too. They were neighbors of ours and we kids would sometimes be treated with a private concert by Eddie. He had a lovely wife and a great family of sweet girls.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

A_Nonny_Mouse
Member

Posted March 24, 2007 14:40

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

How many remember Fenton's music store? It was on around 5th St. at his house with an enlarged porch for quite awhile, then moved to W. Bwdy around 14th. St. and finally to S. 10th St. where it remained until he closed it and moved out of state. Red was a good man and he and his brother Roland were quite good musicians. Gail Jines worked for him for a long time and then Tiny Wemette worked for him on 10th St. until Red closed it.

Ah yes, Fenton's Music Store. I believe now deceased Beatle George Harrison purchased a guitar there whe he was staying with his sister in Benton way back in the 60's

Posts: **97** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **January 24, 2007**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted March 24, 2007 17:30

[Hide Post](#)

Gail Jines what a nice man. He sang with the First Day Singers for years, also ran "The Bride Shop" on Broadway and later on So 9th. I think he played out at the Lawrence during dinner hour for awhile. Such a gentle and kind man.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted March 24, 2007 19:40

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone remember the fresh baked bread above the fire dept. We used to wait until it was finished and buy it around midnight for 20 cents a loaf.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

Bugman

Old Pro



Posted March 25, 2007 11:05

[Hide Post](#)

Harrison did buy a guitar from Fentons. This is a very good site about it.

xxx.rickresource.com/rp/youwontseeme.html

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted March 26, 2007 09:39

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Harrison did buy a guitar from Fentons. This is a very good site about it.

I didn't know this and I knew Red for years and years. He loved to talk about the "good ole days" but he was also a very humble man. I never knew Roland as he'd left town I guess but Red was a jewel.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

johnj229

Old Pro



Posted March 26, 2007 12:20

[Hide Post](#)

Here is the story about George Harrison buying the guitar at Fenton's.
<http://tinyurl.com/2rccpm>

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

Bugman

Old Pro



Posted March 26, 2007 12:25

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

johnj229

Same thing I sent in

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

A_Nonny_Mouse

Member

Posted March 26, 2007 12:26

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by johnj229:
Here is the story about George Harrison buying the guitar at Fenton's.
<http://tinyurl.com/2rccpm>

Good Stuff. 😊 I remember when St. Louis radio station KXOK would do phone interviews with George Harrison's sister in Benton. What ever happened to KXOK? I grew up listening to that station & on-air personalities like Johnny rabbit.

Posts: **97** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **January 24, 2007**

Sassafras
Regular



Posted March 26, 2007 14:11

[Hide Post](#)

bill_is_back

Yes, I remember that bread and how it smelled baking. We used to walk down there from the Sub to buy the bread late at night. I was thinking about that the other day. 😊

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted March 26, 2007 14:43

[Hide Post](#)

KXOK - AM 630 on your dial. The greatest station of its' day. Top 40 hits and great DJ's. Seemed to lose its' following and shut down sometime in the late 70's. If my radio was on, it was on KXOK. If not, I was listening to my 8-track that Donnie Grey installed 😊 in my 64.5 Mustang. 😊 When the weather was really clear, you could get WLS out of Chicago. Another great station that still exists, but has changed foremats.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted March 26, 2007 15:33

[Hide Post](#)

[KXOK..XOK...XOK](#) for a little spurt

and [listen here](#) for an even better hitch of it. Just click on the yellow and black speaker icon.

Everyone had their left hand radio button set on good ol' KXOK.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: Pogo, March 26, 2007 16:06

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted March 26, 2007 16:01

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by bill_is_back:
Does anyone remember the fresh baked bread above the fire dept. We used to wail until it was finished and buy it around midnight for 20 cents a loaf.

No hot bread above the fire dept. Hawkins Bakery was next door west of City Hall. I used to have a morning Globe Democrat paper route and that was my first stop every morning. It seems to me that the hot bread wasn't sliced when I got it because I could eat the center out and what I had left looked like a sewer tile.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 26, 2007 16:10

[Hide Post](#)

I remember a bottling plant on Broadway where you could stand and look in the window at the filling line. This had to be in the late 40's as I was in high school and this was a

stop on the way home. What did they bottle? Was it coke? I have forgotten but haven't forgotten the experience.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted March 26, 2007 16:31

[Hide Post](#)

Yep, that was Starr Brothers Creamery and Bottling plant on 12th and Broadway. You may recall there was a lady that sat behind a large magnifying glass inspecting every bottle that they had washed for refilling.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

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Jim in PA
Free Time



Posted March 26, 2007 16:41

[Hide Post](#)

I remember the Sunday evening that it all burned...

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

BlueJean
Member



Posted March 26, 2007 18:45

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Yep, that was Starr Brothers Creamery and Bottling plant on 12th and Broadway. You may recall there was a lady that sat behind a large magnifying glass inspecting every bottle that they had washed for refilling.
Posts

Yes, I remember the lady well. I also remember once, while watching, I saw a bottle with a corn cob in it which she grabbed off the line. I never could figure out how some genius could get a corn cob in that bottle, let alone it go through the cleaning process, etc. without someone finding it.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted March 26, 2007 19:21

[Hide Post](#)

Don't forget Wolfman in Del Rio Texas.

quote:

Originally posted by wclark:
KXOK - AM 630 on your dial. The greatest station of its' day. Top 40 hits and great DJ's. Seemed to lose its' following and shut down sometime in the late 70's. If my radio was on, it was on KXOK. If not, I was listening to my 8-track that Donnie Grey installed 😊 in my 64.5 Mustang. 😊 When the weather was really clear, you could get WLS out of Chicago. Another great station that still exists, but has changed foremat.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

bill_is_back

Posted March 26, 2007 19:44

[Hide Post](#)

We did also. What year did you graduate? I was '64.

Old Pro



quote:

Originally posted by Sassafra:
bill_is_back

Yes, I remember that bread and how it smelled baking. We used to walk down there from the Sub to buy the bread late at night. I was thinking about that the other day. 😊

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

xminer
Old Pro

Posted March 27, 2007 08:41

[Hide Post](#)

Bill, I too had a 64 1/2 Mustang. I bought it from Bill Page at Holman's in August or September of '64. Then after I came home from the Army I bought '69 GT Mustang from Bill. Donnie installed the 8 track that could be removed to prevent it from being stolen. But then I left it unlocked in Cincinnati and some cretin stole all my tapes. Donnie had a sign that I remember, it went something like this; "Stereos installed \$25.00. If you watch, \$30.00. If you help \$50.00".

Posts: **1830** | Location: **mt. vernon** | Registered: **January 06, 2006**

BlueBelly
Educated

Posted March 27, 2007 09:19

[Hide Post](#)

In 2000 I bought a '64.5 from an older gentle man for \$2500.00 cash. It was Rangoon Red. Sitting on flat bias ply tires in a garage 1990 plates were hung on the bumpers when it was parked. He didn't want to hear the kids, grand kids and great grand kids fighting over it any more. I was the first one to show up to look at it luckily for the spouse as she was the one that wanted it. After three weeks of replacing anything made of rubber, cleaning the fuel tank and waxing on it 'till my fingers were well waxed too, It drove like a dream. More fun than a Harley to boot!. I started having kids again and had to sell it to buy something more practical (bigger). With seat belts. Sold it for \$5,500 18 months after purchase to a guy and his wife that had the funds to keep it stock and in a garage. I miss that car.

170 cubic inches of pure fury! 😊
Three speed on the floor, way cool! 😊

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted March 27, 2007 09:21

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by bill_is_back:
We did also. What year did you graduate? I was '64.

I was '66. There are several on this forum that are from that GREAT class. 🇺🇸

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted March 27, 2007 09:51

[Hide Post](#)

The 64.5 Mustang is probably the only car I've ever owned that I wish I still had. It was metallic silver blue with white leather interior. Convertible with a 289, four barrel, four speed. It was really a screamer. I put Dunlop radials on it and could take most curves faster than it was smart to.

It was a super cool car, but who realized it at the time. Got married, traded it for a Mercury Montego. So Stupid!!!! 🤡

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 27, 2007 09:56

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

The 64.5 Mustang is probably the only car I've ever owned that I wish I still had.

I had a white '78 Mustang with T-Tops that was pretty cool but I had the back seat laid down and one of the tops leaked and the seat ended up with a big mold spot on it. I also had a '62 and '65 T-Bird. Wish I had either or both of them. My favorite though was the '50 Mercury that I had in highschool with the radio hooked up to headphones.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Sassafras
Regular



Posted March 27, 2007 11:00

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quote:

Originally posted by bill_is_back:
We did also. What year did yoIu graduate? I was '64.

I'm a little younger than either of you "Bills". A famous lady used to say that a woman who would tell her age would tell anything. So, I'll just say that I graduated from MTHS in 196Something . 😊

This message has been edited. Last edited by: Sassafras, March 27, 2007 11:52

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted March 27, 2007 17:00

[Hide Post](#)

I thought we might know some of the same classmates i used to run with.

quote:

Originally posted by Sassafras:

quote:

Originally posted by bill_is_back:
We did also. What year did yoIu graduate? I was '64.

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Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 28, 2007 09:50

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone remember who owned/ran and worked at the old Cottage Inn at 9th. and Harrison?

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 28, 2007 09:59

[Hide Post](#)

Don't forget Wolfman in Del Rio Texas.

Anyone remember the station call sign that had Ernies and Randy's Record marts? Wolfman Jack was after my time with radio evidently as I can't remember even hearing of him in the '50s.

We used to be at the Mt. Vernon Drive In and have Randy or Ernie turned on between features or if the movie got slow and the date got "fast". I remember "Skip" Redenour, who worked at Dowser days, was security at the drive in in the '60s. He was a nice guy and died much too young.

Funny thing is they're still showing some of the movies I watched at the old drive in on todays TV. I remember one with Raquel Welsh where she was a "cave" woman and it was so silly I can't understand why anyone would want to film it but it showed up on tv not too long ago. The Good, The Bad, The Ugly was at the drive in as my new wife and I saw it there and it's still playing. It was such a good show we watched it, for a change. Ha!

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted March 28, 2007 13:03

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Anyone remember the station call sign that had Ernies and Randy's Record marts?

That was the powerful 50,000 watt clear channel station WLAC out of Nashville, TN.

[More about WLAC & the music.](#)

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted March 28, 2007 17:29

[Hide Post](#)

My sister was in the class of '66. Many fine people.

quote:

Originally posted by wclark:

quote:

Originally posted by bill_is_back:

We did also. What year did you graduate? I was '64.

I was '66. There are several on this forum that are from that GREAT class. 

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

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wclark
Old Pro



Posted March 29, 2007 08:22

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May I ask what your sister's name was/is? I probably know her.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted March 29, 2007 10:28

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[/QUOTE]

That was the powerful 50,000 watt clear channel station WLAC out of Nashville, TN.

[/QUOTE]

I went to that website and it was really neat. A lot of info. Thanks for the posting! Around 4pm after school, there was a station that boomed in from Del Rio, Texas. He would sell all sorts of things as well as play pop music. He advertised a Sing-A-Tinga for about 3-4 days and said you could make it sound like any musical instrument. He would then supposedly play it and it had the piano, trumpet, saxophone sound and it sounded pretty good so....I ordered it. It took about 4-5 days for it to come but one afternoon when I got home after school it was there, in it's box. I tore through the wrapping and opened it up. It was a funny looking thing and had a little wheel you turned for the different instruments.

Funny thing though, it didn't matter what instrument I set it on it still sounded like a piece of paper on a comb. Needless to say, I soon lost interest in it and never ordered anything else from him. I did sell some salve and religious motto's when I was young though.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [jlmer](#), March 30, 2007 10:30

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted March 29, 2007 17:37

[Hide Post](#)

Cheryl Bailey

quote:

Originally posted by wclark:

May I ask what your sister's name was/is? I probably know her.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted March 29, 2007 19:56

[Hide Post](#)

Knew her well. She is good, I hope. 😊

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted March 29, 2007 20:07

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quote:

Around 4pm after school, there was a station that boomed in from Del Rio, Texas.

That would have been XERF with studios in Del Rio, TX but the transmitter was located across the border in Villa Acuã±a, Mexico in order to thwart the U.S. power restriction of 50,000 watts max. They ran 250,000 watts!

That's where ol' Wolfman Jack did his thing.

[XERF and Wolfman Jack](#)

[XERF history](#)

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted April 01, 2007 10:26

[Hide Post](#)

This topic is too interesting not to post. Anything about old MTV. Does anyone remember when KSHE started. Around 1967.

quote:

Originally posted by Pogo:

quote:

Around 4pm after school, there was a station that boomed in from Del Rio, Texas.

That would have been XERF with studios in Del Rio, TX but the transmitter was located across the border in Villa Acuã±a, Mexico in order to thwart the U.S. power restriction of 50,000 watts max. They ran 250,000 watts!

That's where ol' Wolfman Jack did his thing.

[XERF and Wolfman Jack](#)

[XERF history](#)

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

Bruce Wolfe
Stranger

Posted April 01, 2007 21:20

[Hide Post](#)

I just spent a wonderful Saturday evening reliving old memories from this new-found forum. This was quite a contrast from 40 years ago when I would be at the Sub corner, watching you guys cruise by in your Mustangs, and getting bread down the alley at the bakery, splitting it apart and melting butter inside. (Gee, I wonder why I had pimples!) Here's my question for the group: A couple months ago, a member mentioned playing basketball at the "chicken coop" out by the old drive-in. It was one of the few concrete surfaces available to church league-type players. Was it really the remains of an old chicken coop?

Posts: **4** | Location: **Pensacola, Florida** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

knightprowlr
Free Time



Posted April 01, 2007 23:20

[Hide Post](#)

No it was not a chicken coop. That's what us neighborhood kids called it. I'm not sure who coined the phrase.

Some of the older folks on here said it had something to do with the military.

Posts: **204** | Location: **In my chair** | Registered: **January 09, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted April 01, 2007 23:37

[Hide Post](#)

They called it that because after the C.C.C. and the MP training site closed down the site was taken over by a company named Hawkins Million Dollar Hen. It was a chicken hatchery of course. That lasted for only about four or five years but many people still remember it. It closed in the early 50's.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted April 02, 2007 10:32

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Was it really the remains of an old chicken coop?

It was a great place to skate with the old type sidewalk roller skates and a good place to take our play guns and play "army". A kids haven for a great imagination.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted April 02, 2007 10:46

[Hide Post](#)

One of the "Rites of passage" for a young buck in the mid 50's was to climb the old water tower there and walk around the catwalk on it. Then if the courage level was high enough, climb the ladder on up to the top of the tank and down inside it to stand on the bottom. Someone always brought up the fact that the bottom was pretty rusty and might someday give way and let everyone fall through.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

xminer
Old Pro

Posted April 02, 2007 21:05

[Hide Post](#)

The "cement pond"? Great place for hemp just behind it!!!

Posts: **1830** | Location: **mt. vernon** | Registered: **January 06, 2006**

Pogo

Posted April 02, 2007 21:45

[Hide Post](#)

Old Pro



quote:

Great place for hemp just behind it!!!

Believe it or not, we didn't do any dope in the 50's. I didn't even know of anyone back then that did and I was pretty well tuned in on all the fun things being done. Beer was about the extent of our mind altering drugs.

Those kids with the goofy look on their faces didn't start showing up until the late 60's.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

EastTex
Member

Posted April 02, 2007 22:32

[Hide Post](#)

Re the water tower: I didn't climb it myself but my steady boyfriend at the time, Frank "Vent" Bonner, said he climbed it and painted my name on it. I remember thinking he must have been really brave to have climbed up there, as I am afraid of heights and could not have personally done it. Ha ha

Posts: **44** | Location: **East Texas** | Registered: **June 30, 2006**

knightprowlr
Free Time



Posted April 03, 2007 02:56

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by xminer:
The "cement pond"? Great place for hemp just behind it!!!

The legendary story that was always told about the "cement pond" was that a young kid was inside that pond with a gun using it as a make shift tree stand trying to shoot a deer and when he shot it threw him back and he hit his head on the rocks and no one ever found him and he got buried under all them rocks.

Sounds freaky but that's what the story was way back then. Early 70's era.

Someone dumped one of them old metal jungle jim half mooned climbing things in there and we would go and cut some of the pipes off. We made some killer chopper bicycles from them pipes.

I was doing some target practice in front of that "cement pond" with a BB gun and accidentily shot my sister in the stomach. The wind blew down one of the cans and she was running to set it back up and before i knew it she was in my sights. Dad whipped my ass good for that stunt.

Posts: **204** | Location: **In my chair** | Registered: **January 09, 2006**

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sbevis
Free Time



Posted April 03, 2007 06:44

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I remember the Cottage Inn on 9th between North and Harrison. It was accross from the litle hotle. The owner and his wife were dark headed. Had a counter that ran in a horseshoe shape. Can't remember their name though.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted April 03, 2007 07:25

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by sbevis:

I remember the Cottage Inn on 9th between North and Harrison. It was accross from the litle hotle. The owner and his wife were dark headed. Had a counter that ran in a horseshoe shape. Can't remember their name though.

The owner was a Floyd Phemister in the mid 50's.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted April 03, 2007 11:27

[Hide Post](#)

I'm wondering if anyone here worked at Butche's while in high school? Was a good way to get a free lunch and see all of the friends as the noon hour.

The drug store on the S.E. corner of 9th & Bwdy was a pretty busy place at noon too. Bracy's on the corner of 9th & Jorden would make balonoy and brunswieger(?) sandwiches as ordered.

Anyone remember the livery stable that was where Johnsons Funeral Parlor is now? It had the hay loft upstairs and a ramp to the street. It was before me but I've heard some about it. I also heard that Jesse James and some of his "friends" were there once but could never really find anyone who knew for sure.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

xminer
Old Pro

Posted April 03, 2007 17:29

[Hide Post](#)

"Butch" was named Dillingham. Most of all his wife and kids worked there but he also hired some of the students. After Butch, Sailor ran it. Ah yes, fond memories.

Posts: **1830** | Location: **mt. vernon** | Registered: **January 06, 2006**

sbevis

Posted April 03, 2007 20:43

[Hide Post](#)

Free Time



Butch's had the best fries with individual servings of ketchup. It was a toss up at lunch, Butch's, Goforths or campus cue.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted April 05, 2007 10:00

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by sbevis:
Butch's had the best fries with individual servings of ketchup. It was a toss up at lunch, Butch's, Goforths or campus cue.

I worked the sundae window at Butch's. Was a busy 45 minutes to say the least. Where was Goforths? I remeber the name but not the place.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted April 05, 2007 10:02

[Hide Post](#)

I left town from '56 until '61 and when I got back there were the buildings across from the highschool on the West side. I believe these were a part of Rend Lake College. Can anyone fill me in on these. I know I had a girl friend who had a couple of classes there but she also went to the college at Ina.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

sbevis

Free Time



Posted April 05, 2007 17:24

[Hide Post](#)

Goforths was a block south of Butches. Between the Gym and Burger Barn. On the South side of the street. I am not sure how long it was there. It had more of a hang out quality to it, vs. eat and run at Butches.

The houses on the West side were School of nursing for Rend Lake it seems.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

Pogo

Old Pro



Posted April 05, 2007 17:55

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Goforths was a block south of Butches. On the South side of the street.

I think you may mean the west side of the street. ???

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

sbevis

Free Time



Posted April 05, 2007 18:09

[Hide Post](#)

Well now that you mention it, Goforth's was on the East side of 6th street.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted April 05, 2007 18:10

[Hide Post](#)

I was geographically challenged for a moment

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

<GrannyGrunt>

Posted April 06, 2007 00:09

Tyrone.....are you an old eastsider??? my husband use to tell about the crap games...swimming hole....they use to swim in old water tower on P ump house lane.....he also along with friends would swim in the buff and some east side girls would steal their clothes..more than once haha.....wonder if they left them on the bank on purpose.....he also played ball on the old ball field and Bill Hertenstein was on a team but my husband couldnt afford the ball gloves and had to use his bear hands.

<GrannyGrunt>

Posted April 06, 2007 00:17

my husband just said that they called the swimming hole."OLD ROAD".....and at the crap games, he would go down and sell beer for 50c a can , that he had talked his brothers into buying for him.
The kids use to borrow copper from Stove foundry and that there was old chicken place called Leckrone City

<GrannyGrunt>

Posted April 06, 2007 00:25

Granny...I post a lot to Jeff co web site.Cindy is one of my good good friends

<GrannyGrunt>

Posted April 06, 2007 00:33

how about Kings bakery.....down close to where Mission is.....or Dollies cafe.....use to be another by Kings.was thats first Dollies>>?
Wasnt Dobbs about where Opals was.....my grandpa had an antique or junk shop about where the old My O My or where they do nails.....about area where Beechie Brumbaugh was but he(grandpa) was on other side of Perkins.....I could stand on his little rickety porch and look down at Dobbs.

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


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<p><GrannyGrunt>  Posted April 06, 2007 01:23</p> <p>I THINK I PUT A PICTURE OF OLD LINN MOTEL ON JEFFERSON CO PAGE A WHILE PAGE.POSTCARD.....BUT MAYBE I WAS DREAMING</p>						
<p><GrannyGrunt>  Posted April 06, 2007 01:26</p> <p>I HAVE A LOT OF PHOTOS FROM MARY JANE STUDIO.....BOUGHT FROM FLEA MARKET.LOOKS LIKE 60S TIME PERIOD GIVE ME A NAME.....I WILL SEE IF I HAVE ONE.</p>						
<p>bill_is_back  Posted April 06, 2007 07:32 Hide Post</p> <p>Old Pro</p> <p></p> <p>quote:</p> <p>Originally posted by GrannyGrunt: I HAVE A LOT OF PHOTOS FROM MARY JANE STUDIO.....BOUGHT FROM FLEA MARKET.LOOKS LIKE 60S TIME PERIOD GIVE ME A NAME.....I WILL SEE IF I HAVE ONE.</p> <p>Posts: 4701 Location: savannah, ga Registered: July 17, 2006</p>						
<p>bill_is_back  Posted April 06, 2007 07:33 Hide Post</p> <p>Old Pro</p> <p></p> <p>I would like to see the pics. Do you have them posted anywhere?</p> <p>quote:</p> <p>Originally posted by bill_is_back:</p> <p>quote:</p> <p>Originally posted by GrannyGrunt: I HAVE A LOT OF PHOTOS FROM MARY JANE STUDIO.....BOUGHT FROM FLEA MARKET.LOOKS LIKE 60S TIME PERIOD GIVE ME A NAME.....I WILL SEE IF I HAVE ONE.</p> <p>Posts: 4701 Location: savannah, ga Registered: July 17, 2006</p>						
<p>jlmer  Posted April 06, 2007 11:56 Hide Post</p> <p>Old Pro</p> <p></p> <p>quote:</p> <p>Originally posted by GrannyGrunt: how about Kings bakery.....down close to where Mission is.....or Dollies cafe.....use to be another by Kings.was thats first Dollies>>? Wasnt Dobbs about where Opals was.....my grandpa had an antique or junk shop about</p> <p>At one time the cafe by Kings bakery, about a half block up from Krebs Drugstore (now Flota's Antique Shop) was Terrys or Harrys Cafe run by my uncle Harry Terry. He later had the place where the Hitchin' Post is now, before Meltons took it over. Dobbs was on the corner of 10th St and the E.W. street where the main gate of the car shops was. I used to go in Dobbs and browse while waiting on my dad to get off work at the car shops. Who was your grandad?</p> <p>Posts: 6351 Location: Mt. Vernon Registered: March 18, 2006</p>						
<p>jlmer  Posted April 06, 2007 11:58 Hide Post</p> <p>Old Pro</p> <p></p> <p>quote:</p> <p>Originally posted by bill_is_back:</p> <p>quote:</p> <p>Originally posted by GrannyGrunt: I HAVE A LOT OF PHOTOS FROM MARY JANE STUDIO.....BOUGHT</p>						

FROM FLEA MARKET.LOOKS LIKE 60S TIME PERIOD GIVE ME A NAME.....I WILL SEE IF I HAVE ONE.

Are they of the town businesses or of people?

Enjoy the music & pay the band!



jlmer007@gmail.com

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

<GrannyGrunt>  Posted April 06, 2007 22:59

My grandpa was Clarence Frazier...he was a hod carrier but owned the "antique" place..... he also belonged to several organizations.....and I recently acquired a picture of him and Kenny Sandusky cooking fish at the park.....probably back in 50s.

The pictures are portraits.....I do not have any listed except sometimes on ebay.....I do have other pictures older one on Jeff co web site.....listed under unknowns , and othersI also have lot of MtV postcards.....and I am not even from MTV.....haha.....Can I say it?((I'm from Centralia)))born and raised in Iuka..... But I have all the MTV books.....

The Haney girl that someone mentioned was one of girls that use to chase my hubby and his buddies out of the creek.....he had a big family...one of 15.....and lived on 2nd.....and all up and down that east side.....

<GrannyGrunt>  Posted April 06, 2007 23:02

My dad FE Frazier, use to sell watermelons, cantalopes on 4th st..he and Jim Skelton were buddies.....he was known around town as guy who use to squat when he sit and never had any use for a chair as he would squat right on the floor.on the porch.....on the ground.....like an old Indian.....he passed away in 95.

<GrannyGrunt>  Posted April 07, 2007 01:12

I am going to post names of pictures I have.....hope this is not wrong to do?

NOTO..HILL.....COL-
SAM..BUSH.BROWDER.BARNETT....MCLAUGHLIN....SMITH.....MANDRELL..COBIN..WHITE....BENNETT.....ALLEN.....WELLS..

If you want older than these which are 60s...maybe 70s.....look on jefferson co web page.....Taylor...Wilson..Cameron..

tyrone
Free Time



Posted April 07, 2007 14:07

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quote:

Originally posted by GrannyGrunt:
how about Kings bakery.....down close to where Mission is.....or Dollies cafe.....

The cafe next door south of Kings Bakery was named "Skeet's and Ruby's" when George King bought it sometime in the early 50's. He renamed it after his wife who's nickname way "Dolly" her given name was Evalina. At one time they had car hop service but didn't last long, after that you could walk up to the window and get your order. The new "Dollies Cafe" was build about 1955 or 56. Across the street (Prairie) south was the Oasis Tavern.

On the north side of Kings Bakery and in the same building at one time was a hobby shop. Sold mostly model balsa wood airplanes.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted April 07, 2007 15:09

[Hide Post](#)

Where was Hawkin's Bakery? I also rember going down to Skeletons's Market on South 10th street. Seems like we used to drive toward Shawneetown and get watermelons from roadside stands also.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

MTV_Shorty
Member

Posted April 08, 2007 14:44

quote:

Originally posted by GrannyGrunt:
I am going to post names of pictures I have.....hope this is not wrong to do?

NOTO..HILL.....COL-

SAM..BUSH.BROWDER.BARNETT....MCLAUGHLIN....SMITH.....MANDRELL..COBIN..WHITE....BENNETT.....ALLEN.....WEL
If you want older than these which are 60s...maybe 70s.....look on jefferson co web page.....Taylor....Wilson..Came

I am interested in the Ellis and Minor names.

Posts: **60** | Location: **St. Louis** | Registered: **March 21, 2007**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted April 08, 2007 19:27

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quote:

Originally posted by sbevis:

Where was Hawkin's Bakery? I also rember going down to Skeletons's Market on South 10th street. Seems like we used to drive toward Shawneetown and get watermellons from roadside stands also.

Hawkins Bakery was located at 1108 Main Street, just west of the City Hall Building.

Skelton's Market was in about the 1400 block of south 10th. It was owned by Jim Skelton and his family.

My guess would be that you probably went down towards Carmi,IL for your melons.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted April 08, 2007 22:55

[Hide Post](#)

"I am interested in the Ellis and Minor names."

There are a lot of Ellis and Minors out around Harmony way.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted April 08, 2007 22:56

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How do you do that copy of a quote thing? Where it shows up as saying Quote?

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

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Pogo Old Pro



Posted April 08, 2007 23:42

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quote:

How do you do that copy of a quote thing? Where it shows up as saying Quote?

There are many different ways to do that.

Try this first:

Highlight the text in the post that you want to quote by left click hold and drag across it. Then right click the highlighted text and select "Copy." Then click on the REPLY button. The reply window will open and your selection will already be there and properly formatted to be displayed as a quote.

Another way is to open a reply window and click on the "... " button on the toolbar at the top and it will place the correct VB tags for a quote display. Type your desired text between the quote html tags or copy/paste it there.

Another way, if you want to quote an entire post, just click the quote button at the bottom of the post. It's the little yellow envelope icon with the " mark on it. It's often handy to select this method and then edit out any parts you don't want.

Another way is to type your own VB tags.

All of those methods work equally well so take your choice.

VB stands for Visual Basic and it's a form of HTML (Hyper Text Markup Language)programming code.

Posts: 2030 | Location: 62864 | Registered: January 16, 2006

Jim in PA Free Time



Posted April 09, 2007 01:21

Hide Post

Yep, and a few of us have strayed, but I still own Grandpa's land out there.

Posts: 405 | Location: Harrisburg, PA | Registered: July 14, 2006

sbevis

Posted April 09, 2007 06:24

Hide Post

Thanks Pogo.

Free Time



Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

sbevis

Free Time



Posted April 09, 2007 06:25

[Hide Post](#)

Jim in PA, Which side of the family are you from? My wife is from the Ellis side. Like Dutch, James, Kenny, Carl, Bub, Bonita.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

Jim in PA

Free Time



Posted April 09, 2007 14:10

[Hide Post](#)

I'm from the Minor side. Fred(from Monkey's), Fred, Sr. , from Harmony, and all the rest os the Minors in Field, Farrington, and Mt. Vernon, and Dodds Townships. The Minors and Ellises married into one another's lineages about a hundred twenty yrs ago, I understand.

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

sbevis

Free Time



Posted April 09, 2007 18:08

[Hide Post](#)

I remember Fred. Real good people. I gues Beryl was close relative?

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

Jim in PA

Free Time



Posted April 09, 2007 23:25

[Hide Post](#)

Burrell aka "Peck" was my Dad's first cousin. When he married ZBetty, he adopted her children, Kay, who took the surname Minor, and her brother, Johnny Jones, now the State Rep. for the District. I always told Burrell and Betty I was so happy they married, 'cuz they brought the beauty to the family with Kay. She was Prom Queen w/ the Class of '65. I still remember Dutch. When I was about six, he gave me a beautiful English Setter puppy, just weaned. We hunted with that wonderful dog until he was all of seventeen yrs old. He lived until the day I came home from WestPac in '74. Some wonderful times out there.

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

<GrannyGrunt>

Posted April 10, 2007 00:16

Jim,.....I use to take care of Burrel.....his nickname wasnt Peck....Peck was either his brother or cuz.....don't remember which....Peck lived around the curve from Burrell & Betty.....Betty use to have a slew of cats.....a few dogs.....and every day would boil several chickens.....pick the bones off and feed all her cats the fresh chicken.....she would also fix up a big pot of fresh chopped up potatoes, carrots or ewhat she may have for the neighbors pot bell pig.who would make a trip down from corner, 2 xs a day.....I see Betty oftern in her big car, coming down 15 up Tolle rd...see her once in a while at Ryans.....I sure did love them people.....

luckione

Stranger

Posted April 10, 2007 13:00

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by tyrone:

quote:

Originally posted by wclark:

I don't believe I missed a one of those. 🍷 And I'm a better person for having had them. 😊

One of the best places in town to eat was Ellis's Cafe. Basketball team ate all their meals there "back in the day".

Speaking of Ellis's Cafe, do you recall the big elaborate neon sign on the roof showing Wimpy (the cartoon caricature) eating hamburgers out of a giant pile of them. As he eat the pile grew smaller and smaller. It was the only place that was still opened after closing time of the taverns. Quite a sight with only about 20 counter stool and 50 drunks trying to get something to eat. You had to try and pick a person that was about done eating and then go stand behind them to be ready to grab their seat before someone else did. When the person seated sometimes ordered that extra cup of coffee, you could hear a muffled "Oh Sh*t !" by the person waiting behind them.

BTW I think Emmet Ellis bought the cafe from a man named Cliff Cherry. My oldest son worked for the Ellis's as a dishwasher when he was in high school.

Best biscuits and gravy, except Emmet was to stingy with the gravy. He had his wife , Marge, trained the same way. Henry Billingsley was a fry cook there for years and then was replaced by ET Carrol. ET was the best short order fry cook in this part of the country ! A sight to behold was him at the grille with 20 breakfast orders to make and they never used any kind of written slips but just called out the orders to him. ET and I were fishing buddies.

Tyrone...E.T. Carroll is my father. I remember him talking about working at Ellis's Cafe. He passed away in April of 2000. Thanks for the memory of my father.

Posts: **2** | Location: **missouri** | Registered: **April 10, 2007**

Jim in PA
Free Time



Posted April 10, 2007 14:47

[Hide Post](#)

Granny, you are soooooo right and my old brain cells are embarassed! Peck was Kay and Johnnie's step-father, lived east of the Methodist Church and Burrell and Betty were just north of the property line of the church. I remember when they dug a tornado shelter... Burrell had to be the tallest man in the entire family for at least six generations. Thank you for the mental wake-up, and bless you for having helped them, as they were, indeed, two very fine people. You know, the last time I was home, I drove out there, and I hardly could believe the number of nice homes and beautiful horses I saw. But to any Horse Creekers, you would appreciate the seven deer I saw on the south fenceline of Grandpa's land, south of Peck's. I cannot find a JeffCo map that has all the new road names. If anyone knows how to order one, I'd appreciate it.

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted April 10, 2007 18:20

[Hide Post](#)

I remember rabbit hunting just north of the road bordering the James Ellis place. There was a oil well that usually had rabbits closeby.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

<GrannyGrunt>

Posted April 11, 2007 00:37

JIM-----I love it when I am right.....which is most of time.....if you don't believe it, just ask me,,,,,ha

Burrell has red hair when he was young and still had smidjens of it when he got older.....Peck use to come to their house a couple times a day as he lived right around the curve,,,,,,he was funny and could really spread some tales.
Betty & Burrell were so wonderful.....I worked for Visting Nurses.....they gave us big hams for Christmas both years we had Burrell.Betty ,,well he did too insisted that we sit down and eat with them.....when we said we couldnt.....Betty called the office and told them WE WERE GOING TO.....so the way they layed out the table, was a real feast.....and of course none of the girls objected .
It was sad to see him go down hill so bad.....and poor Betty had to take over everything, but she must have done good job.....the "ranch" is still going .

<GrannyGrunt>

Posted April 11, 2007 00:38

sorry should have said Burrell had red hair.

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted April 11, 2007 09:57

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Speaking of Ellis's Cafe, do you recall the big elaborate neon sign on the roof showing Wimpy (the cartoon caricature) eating hamburgers out of a giant pile of them. As he eat the pile grew smaller and smaller. BTW I think Emmitt Ellis bought the cafe from a man named Cliff Cherry. My oldest son worked for the Ellis's as a dishwasher when he was in high school.

All of the vintage signs have been removed from our town. Thanks to the Johnson era!
At one time the place where Ellis's was had a cab stand connected. A man named Harold Wetzell either had it or worked there. You could get a cab and coffee/sandwich at the same time.

They would line their cabs in the little drive at the North side of the place and wait in line for a call or walk in fare.

There was a barber shop just down from Ellis called Hennis. Speedy Jenkins worked there along with Chick and Marty Henn. Chick had a bad stuttering problem and when he'd get excited he could hardly talk and a lot of car shop guys enjoyed getting their hair cut on Sat. mornings there, along with my dad. They'd get Chick excited about something and the laughs were on. He was a really good sport about it all and made getting a haircut fun.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted April 11, 2007 10:01

[Hide Post](#)

Anyone have any memories of Scout Day from the '50s? It was a day when the scouts took over the town, got in theaters free and a lot of free sodas. There were Firemen, Policemen, Mayor, JP, and other offices...was a great day for fun and frolic for the scouts.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Moderators: Big Hall, Bob Dennis

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Jim in PA
Free Time



Posted April 11, 2007 14:01

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Granny: That's all right, as long as I can see them, the present tense still applies. There were so many good memories out there I cannot count them all, but, in all honesty, I'll wager I could walk from the Tolle Road, across fields, over fences and around ponds, and never leave property of SOMEONE I was a cousin to. The family tree isn't a straight line by any means, but, man oh man, there were/are a lot of us out there between the City and Horse Creek.

Posts: 405 | Location: Harrisburg, PA | Registered: July 14, 2006

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted April 11, 2007 16:15

[Hide Post](#)

My dad always went to Chicks. Chick would always tell me i should wear boxing gloves to bed so i wouldn't play with myself during the night. He thought that was soooo funny. I started going to Ideal barber shop later.

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

Speaking of Ellis's Cafe, do you recall the big elaborate neon sign on the roof showing Wimpy (the cartoon caricature) eating hamburgers out of a giant pile of them. As he eat the pile grew smaller and smaller. BTW I think Emmit Ellis bought the cafe from a man named Cliff Cherry. My oldest son worked for the Ellis's as a dishwasher when he was in high school.

All of the vintage signs have been removed from our town. Thanks to the Johnson era!

At one time the place where Ellis's was had a cab stand connected. A man named Harold Wetzel either had it or worked there. You could get a cab and coffee/sandwich at the same time.

They would line their cabs in the little drive at the North side of the place and wait in line for a call or walk in fare.

There was a barber shop just down from Ellis called Hennis. Speedy Jenkins worked there along with Chick and Marty Henn. Chick had a bad stuttering problem and when he'd get excited he could hardly talk and a lot of car shop guys enjoyed getting their hair cut on Sat. mornings there, along with my

dad. They'd get Chick excited about something and the laughs were on. He was a really good sport about it all and made getting a haircut fun.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted April 12, 2007 06:34

[Hide Post](#)

I miss the reference to the Johnson era, where the old signs came down. Please fill me in.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted April 12, 2007 09:43

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I miss the reference to the Johnson era, where the old signs came down. Please fill me in.

When Johnson was president his wife, Lady Bird, started the campaign that removed all of the highway billboards, the Burma Shave signs and most of the large neon signs from the towns. She said they were eye sores. America lost a lot of its quaintness then.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted April 12, 2007 20:25

[Hide Post](#)

I remember the Lady Bird Beautify America results along the interstates. Didn't realize the impact on the small town signage. I remember the Ellis cafe neon sign. I must have been after the Chick era at the barbershop, because it seems like Max Tittle was the barber there later. Is that right? How bout the summer concerts in the parking lot north of the Ellis cafe? The Stingrays. David Davenport.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

b00ts
Free Time

Posted April 12, 2007 20:39

[Hide Post](#)

I remember the neon sign of Popeye and Wimpy that was on South 10th about where the new Subway is now. That was the best sign with Popeye squeezing the spinach can and eating the spinach. What was that sign advertising?

Posts: **236** | Location: **.** | Registered: **January 25, 2007**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted April 12, 2007 21:09

[Hide Post](#)

"Back in the mid 70s there was a few days of racial problems at the highschool. I was with the sheriffs dept. then and we spent a day there keeping them apart but no riots really. Just the name calling and milling around. There was bias in Mt. Vernon in the 50s as there were in all towns but there was also toleration and a lot of mixed race friendships since everyone worked together."

There was one big fight in front of what was the Baptist church, but then everybody went back to hanging out together.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

jlmer

Posted April 13, 2007 11:17

[Hide Post](#)

Old Pro



quote:

Originally posted by sbevis:

I must have been after the Chick era at the barbershop, because it seems like Max Tittle was the barber there later. Is that right? How bout the summer concerts in the parking lot north of the Ellis cafe? The Stingrays. David Davenport.

I don't remember Tittle. This was in the early 50s when Chick and Martin had it. Bob "Speedy" Jenkins worked there at the time then went into the Navy and when he came back he went back to work with them. I don't remember the concerts so that must have been while I was away from Mt. Vernon. I left from '55-61.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted April 13, 2007 11:20

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

"Back in the mid 70s there was a few days of racial problems at the highschool. I was with the sheriffs dept.

I was called out on that day too. Cable had a scanner hooked up to their system and was broadcasting our calls over the cable system. It sure brought a lot of gawkers out that day. Clint Harvey was the dispatcher at the time. Good ole Clint, he knew I collect records and he and his wife brought me a stack of lps that had a lot of Ray Charles in it. I thought I'd hit it big with all of those records.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

sbevis

Free Time



Posted April 13, 2007 23:46

[Hide Post](#)

Wife and I had got a bunch of LPs from 50s. Chubby Checkers, Tab Hunter, etc.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted April 14, 2007 12:33

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Wife and I had got a bunch of LPs from 50s. Chubby Checkers, Tab Hunter, etc.

I collect records, 45s and the LPs. I went to Schellar a few weeks ago and picked up a stack. I have stuff from Hank Williams Does Luke The Drifter to The Massiah. Enjoy all sorts of music.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Jim in PA

Posted April 14, 2007 18:23

[Hide Post](#)

Free Time



I remember Max Tittle's shop(with Don something?) in the same building as Emmet's cafe. And the best pancakes in town were at Mom's Cafe, just south of Max's shop. I used to try to eat there every other morning with my Dad when Ward's was still at the Tenth and Broadway location. Would be nice to see something productive erected at that corner.....

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

sbevis

Free Time



Posted April 14, 2007 18:48

[Hide Post](#)

Condos seem to be the new rage. Remember when they would open monkey wards up for one night close to christmas for family shopping?

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

sbevis

Free Time



Posted April 16, 2007 06:50

[Hide Post](#)

Speaking of old LPs, has anyone used the ION record player for tranfering lps to CD? Considering getting one. Software takes out scratches, puts in pauses between songs.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

johnj229

Old Pro



Posted April 17, 2007 03:59

[Hide Post](#)

sbevis. Check this out.

<http://tinyurl.com/2f3w7h>

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

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sbevis
Free Time



Posted April 18, 2007 21:12

[Hide Post](#)

Wow! Johnj229.

That was quite the link for the USB turntables. Still in the proces of reading the attendant information. One of the other links on the right sidebar goes deep into the details of converting LPs to CD. Thanks again.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted April 26, 2007 09:58

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone remember the little pond about where the old shopping center was? There was construction going on for something and dirt was piled up all around and in the middle was a little pond. It was muddy but still fun to swim in and no-one could see you unless they climbed the hills of dirt. Back then swimming in muddy water didn't seem to be much of a problem.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted April 28, 2007 13:08

[Hide Post](#)

Where Park Plaza is?

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

RaneyOnline
Old Pro



Posted April 28, 2007 15:05

[Hide Post](#)

I remember a pond full of goldfish near Optimist Park but the pond has been filled in.



Posts: **1005** | Location: **Pennsylvania** | Registered: **May 11, 2006**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted April 29, 2007 11:26

[Hide Post](#)

Speaking of Optimist Park, remember the penguins that lived there for a while?

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

Sassafras
Regular



Posted April 30, 2007 09:55

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by sbevis:
Speaking of Optimist Park, remember the penguins that lived there for a while?

Don't you mean swans? 😊

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

b00ts
Free Time

Posted April 30, 2007 18:08

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Speaking of Optimist Park, remember the penguins that lived there for a while?

sbevis-Did you do hallucinogenic drugs in the sixties? 🤔

Posts: **236** | Location: . | Registered: **January 25, 2007**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted April 30, 2007 19:16

[Hide Post](#)

Well, there certainly were Swans. I am refering specifically to the Oslager's Pond. For a period of time there were some Chilean Penguins that lived on the little island on the Northeast side of the pond.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

MTV_Shorty
Member

Posted April 30, 2007 22:20

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by sbevis:
Well, there certainly were Swans. I am refering specifically to the Oslager's Pond. For a period of time there were some Chilean Penguins that lived on the little island on the Northeast side of the pond.

YES! My grandpa would take me to see the penquins!

Posts: **60** | Location: **St. Louis** | Registered: **March 21, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted May 01, 2007 09:39

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by sbevis:
Where Park Plaza is?

It was close to the tracks and 10th St. they were doing construction on the Park Plaza and had a hole dug that filled up with water and reeds started growing around it some

plus they had piled dirt up around the sides of the pond so it couldn't be seen by the streets.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Sassafras

Regular



Posted May 01, 2007 14:42

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

Originally posted by sbevis:
Where Park Plaza is?

It was close to the tracks and 10th St. they were doing construction on the Park Plaza and had a hole dug that filled up with water and reeds started growing around it some plus they had piled dirt up around the sides of the pond so it couldn't be seen by the streets.

'Bout what year was that?

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted May 02, 2007 09:51

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

It was close to the tracks and 10th St. they were doing construction on the Park Plaza and had a hole dug that filled up with water and reeds started growing around it some plus they had piled dirt up around the sides of the pond so it couldn't be seen by the streets.

'Bout what year was that?[/QUOTE]

It was '62 when I was there. It's been there long enough for cattails to grow.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

sbevis

Free Time



Posted May 02, 2007 14:34

[Hide Post](#)

What year did the Plaza construction begin?

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

RaneyOnline

Old Pro



Posted May 03, 2007 22:50

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Who owns Park Plaza Shopping Center?

johnj229

Old Pro



Posted May 03, 2007 23:49

[Hide Post](#)

Not to change the Park Plaza thread....but....back in the early 1950's Max Davis, owner of Max Davis Printing, and my dad went to McAllen, Texas and brought 6 or 8 burros back. He bought fancy handtooled leather saddles for them. After they were broke and rideable he would take them all over Mt. Vernon and let kids ride them. He would hook them up in line. He had a big tall guy named George, can't remember his last name, that would lead the burros around with the kids having a great time. He also had a Jeep that was fixed up like Nelly Bell from the Roy Rogers TV Show. He was at the city park alot on weekends. I was around 5 or 6 when all this was going on. George wound up playing basketball for the Harlem Magicans for a few years after he left Max's employment. Do any of you oldtimers remember this?

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

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jlmer
Old Pro



Posted May 05, 2007 23:59

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There was a fellow named Hatchett who lived on the North side of town that had a pony that he'd take to neighborhoods and take pics of kids on it. He's been dead for several years now. I'm not sure about Max Davis as when I was a kid we never cared much about names, only the pony would have been interesting to us.

Remember the lady who delivered telegrams and would ride her bicycle all over town? Then there was Molly Renaline (not sure of spelling) who would walk everywhere, and Gordon, the weatherman. All were fixtures in Mt. Vernon in the 50s.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Bugman
Old Pro



Posted May 06, 2007 09:58

[Hide Post](#)

Speaking of people that used to walk around town. Remember the Stargazer, Speedy and Mousy, Raymond (Want ta buy a Gwit?) There was one guy I remember that used to always be at the park that would hide behind the trees and howl like a wolf.

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted May 06, 2007 10:27

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quote:

There was a fellow named Hatchett who lived on the North side of town that had a pony that he'd take to neighborhoods and take pics of kids on it.

Very few people grew up in old Mt. Vernon without having their picture taken by John Hatchett, although some never knew him. In addition to personal service, he had some coin operated booths. I remember one at Bill's Place and another at the City Park.

Yeah, I remember all of those people you posted. They were all part of old Mt. Vernon.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

BlueBelly
Educated

Posted May 06, 2007 12:40

[Hide Post](#)

I have a photo of me that was taken in the mid 1960's and I was sitting on a pony that was white with dark spots all over. I remember my mom forcing me to get on that pony. I did not like horses or ponies when I was a boy.

I am smiling in the photo so I am sure bribery was involved.

I looked in the album just now and it is a 5x7 with no markings/date or name of photographer. I wonder if it was the man mentioned above.

The photographer provided a cowboy hat, chaps and all the trimmings I can see from the pic. I can't see if I had cowboy boots on.
Oh well, my mom enjoyed torturing the brothers and myself with "cutesy" stuff like that as we had no sisters!

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted May 07, 2007 08:06

[Hide Post](#)

Just got off the phone with my mom, 80 years old and still kicking higher and higher, and ask her if I had had my picture taken on a pony. She opened up her album and said there was one of my brother and one of me. She also told me about the time my brother and I were outside playing and I came running into the house saying we were being bombed. It turned out it was the Stag beer blimp floating overhead. I remember that now. That had to be 55 years ago. I also remember my school bus driver. I think his name was John Wooden and he and his wife ran a neighborhood grocery store. I can't remember the exact location but it seems to me it was 2 or 3 blocks west of the jr. high school. He was like a celebrity to my brother and I. We always wanted to go to their store for penny candy. Back then if you acted up on the bus it was nothing for him to stop and get a switch and do a little swinging of it. My, my how times have changed.

Posts: **809** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted May 07, 2007 10:15

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John Hachett was a one of a kind ! He was taking pictures for as long as I can remember. If you have any large family group pictures taken at the city park it's likely that John took the picture. Some people would get a little hot at him because he was outspoken to how he wanted everyone placed in the photo.

My oldest son has a picture taken of him on a spotted pony back in the early 60's and his mother has one of herself probably taken in the early 40's. No doubt it is a different pony as John probably used up more than one over the years. He had a word he used when we would load up the pony and hit the road taking pictures, he called it "kidnapping". He worked Mt Vernon and all the small communities in this area "kidnapping" hundreds and hundreds of kids.

He was such a bad driver when he was pulling the trailer that he told me that the pony was getting harder and harder to load in the trailer and would try and run off when he unloaded for his photo shoot's.

A lot of his pictures that were made during 40's were shot with a home-made camera that was made by him.

If you have a picture of anyone taken on a spotted pony and there is a large number on a card that is hanging off the saddle horn it's a good bet that John was the shooter. That was his simple way to tell who was in the picture and who to try and sell copies to.

I have never met anyone that had a better sense of humor that John Hachett and who I enjoyed many hours listening to some of his "whoppers".

His kind will not pass this way again !

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted May 07, 2007 10:15

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quote:

Very few people grew up in old Mt. Vernon without having their picture taken by John Hatchett, In addition to personal service, he had some coin operated

booths. I remember one at Bill's Place and another at the City Park.

I think John died in the late '70s or early '80s. Was a nice man and would sit and visit with you for hours. I didn't know about his booths at the park, etc. but he was an enterprising man. Fun to be around.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted May 07, 2007 10:19

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Anson Meyers is another photographer who comes to mind. He never took pics of horses, etc. but was very popular at shooting weddings, etc. and he had a lot of his pics. in the paper with his name for credit. Anson had one of the largest record collections I'd ever seen. He had a room about 24X12 (regular bedroom size) that had huge shelves built in it and it was full of albums standing on end. I just wonder if his kids kept them after Anson died. Would be a great collection by now.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Krumudgeon
Free Time



Posted May 07, 2007 11:22

[Hide Post](#)

John Hatchett apparently became inactive before I got to Mt. Vernon in 1970, jlmer. Anson Meyers, as you point out, was one of the active photographers, as were Louis Pavledes and Richard Clark. Lots of photos by all three graced the pages of the R-N. Of course, the most popular photographer of all was that fellow named "furnished."

Posts: **396** | Location: **Texas** | Registered: **March 12, 2007**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted May 07, 2007 11:50

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quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

Anson Meyers is another photographer who comes to mind. He never took pics of horses, etc. but was very popular at shooting weddings, etc. and he had a lot of his pics. in the paper with his name for credit. Anson had one of the largest record collections I'd ever seen. He had a room about 24X12 (regular bedroom size) that had huge shelves built in it and it was full of albums standing on end. I just wonder if his kids kept them after Anson died. Would be a great collection by now.

I just got off the phone with Terry (Anson's son) and he tells me that he has 15K 33's, 1K 78's and probably around 1.5K 45's. Yup, he's got all of them.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

BlueBelly
Educated

Posted May 07, 2007 12:14

[Hide Post](#)

In my photo on the pony is just as Tyrone stated, a large #7 hung on the right front quarter panel of the hoss.

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

tyrone

Posted May 07, 2007 17:07

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Free Time



quote:

Originally posted by BlueBelly:

In my photo on the pony is just as Tyrone stated, a large #7 hung on the right front quarter panel of the hoss.

BluB You were his 7th "kidnapping" on that day.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

sbevis

Free Time



Posted May 07, 2007 22:00

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The phrase I can recall the most at picture taking time was "take the picture Louie" in reference to Louis Pavelonis having to have the picture just right.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted June 06, 2007 09:54

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After seeing the carnival at the K Mart parking lot I got to thinking about the ones we used to have at the city park. Walking amongst the trees looking at the different rides and booths with the smell of Cotton Candy, corn dogs and the other goodies drifting all through the midway. I remember George Smithpeters and I were at the carnival one day and there was a tent that had different bottles filled with alcohol and the bodies of different stages of babies which were born dead. The sign by the door said donation only so George and I went in and looked at all of the display. When we got to the back door the carnival guy said he needed some money and George reminded him that it was donation only and we didn't have any money. He had us stand there for awhile and then told us to get. It was then that I realized that donation only really means ya gotta pay up. It seems that the carnival was always busy each night and all day on the weekends. They were a lot different then than now and seemed to be a lot bigger and better or it could be that I simply enjoyed them more when I was younger. I know I could be home in the evening and hear all the noise from the rides and people laughing.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Buck

Old Pro



Posted June 06, 2007 10:45

[Hide Post](#)

I have read and reminced for the last few months as this thread was going along but unable to join in until now due to not having the appropriate type of email service for registration. For that reason I am going to review some thoughts with my recollections.

In regard to the Hick's drugstore on Perkins, it was at 22nd across from Bolerjacks where the ice plant was later located and later the equipment place was located. An interesting note to this is that this was either the first or second location of KFC in Mt. Vernon. I remember having to stand in line there right after it opened. The other location (I think the 22nd street location was first) was in the little ice cream stand at 10th and Newby in front of the grocery store there (more visible location). George and Sarah Pace started that operation as I remember.

Merle and Jean's drive inn at 24th and Perkins was also the first location of the Taco Villa before Menefees built the site on south 10th.

I don't remeber seeing anyone mention this but I do remember riding on the bus service Mt. Vernon used to have during the '50s'. I know that it was there prior to this but that is my earliest recollection.

I spoke with Jimmy Ellis the other day and he said that the old "Wimpy" sign was sold to, I believe he said, a man named Mike Walker. He said he wished he still had it and just before I asked him someone else had just asked him the same question.

The barbershop that Merle Jennings and much later Kenny Pitchford ran on Perkins was owned previously by the Robinsons who, I believe, moved to Florida.

As far as I was concerned it was hard to beat the burgers at Rusty's or Dement's but the L & N had good burgrs as did the Parkmore Restaurant which was a block south of the Mug on north 10th. As for Joeburger, that was originally Reaban's until Joe bought it.

As for WClark, I was standing right there by the stage in the highschool gym that night you crashed into the stage.

I have finished reviewing the first 10 pages and will see if I can add anything later.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [Buck](#), June 06, 2007 14:52

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

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bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted June 06, 2007 14:27

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Buck, did you live in that area? I lived on 23rd st and remember going to Jim Ellis's house. Also the Olds he had.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

Buck

Old Pro



Posted June 06, 2007 14:51

[Hide Post](#)

Yes, I lived near the city park. I, too, remember the carnivals in the park. I remember hearing that the "carnies" had said once that Mt. Vernon was one of tightest communities with the coin of most of their stops. We filled the park bought the cotton candy and rode the "Rocko plane" (was that what it was called, I'm fuzzy on that name) and tiltawhirl but just would throw the balls and the darts.

Anyone remember the "great" "Johnny A". Johnny Annistopolis was a DJ at WMIX who drove a Thunderbird. He also thought he was a great announcer. That was debateable.

I used to watch Jimmy's brother, Sonny, practice polevaulting in his back yard.

We used to buy liver at Walkers store and go crawdad fishin at the city park lake. As far as I was/am concerned that was/is the only thing that liver was ever good for.

I remember the old shelter at the north end of the park. In the winter they stored all the picnic tables inside. It had a fireplace inside and usually a good supply of wood for weiner roasts.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

wclark

Old Pro



Posted June 06, 2007 15:32

[Hide Post](#)

"As for WClark, I was standing right there by the stage in the highschool gym that night you crashed into the stage."

I've had three operations on that damned knee and it still is a piece of junk. 🤬 Glad you are aboard. 🍷

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted June 06, 2007 16:16

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:

Yes, I lived near the city park. I, too, remember the carnivals in the park. I remember hearing that the "carnies" had said once that Mt. Vernon was one of tightest communities with the coin of most of their stops. We filled the park bought the cotton candy and rode the "Rocko plane" (was that what it was called, I'm fuzzy on that name) and tiltawhirl but just would throw the balls and the darts.

Anyone remember the "great" "Johnny A". Johnny Annistopolis was a DJ at WMIX who drove a Thunderbird. He also thought he was a great announcer. That was debateable.

I used to watch Jimmy's brother, Sonny, practice polevaulting in his back yard.

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I remember the old shelter at the north end of the park. In the winter they stored all the picnic tables inside. It had a fireplace inside and usually a good supply of wood for weiner roasts.

Johnny A would drive by the pool hall in his Thunderbird and everyone would yell Johnny Asta wise ass. Buck, what year did you graduate? I was 1964.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 06, 2007 16:31

[Hide Post](#)

I was a member of the class of '65'.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

xminer
Old Pro

Posted June 06, 2007 17:46

[Hide Post](#)

Ah, yesss. There was another "Buck". Remember, "Rack in the back, Buck" at Parson's pool hall, famous for Parson's Poison Puppies.

Posts: **1830** | Location: **mt. vernon** | Registered: **January 06, 2006**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted June 06, 2007 18:58

[Hide Post](#)

Which one was ran by Harry Mullinax aka gumbo?

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 06, 2007 21:50

[Hide Post](#)

bill_is_back - Did you possibly have a pair of "white bucks" that you wore on a sixth grade field trip? Did they possibly also write a song about you? If those clues don't get ya then you must a been a red head back then.

The pool hall that was known as Harry's back in the sixties was just west of 11th on

Broadway. He sold out and moved to Hot Springs, Arkansas and opened another pool hall. I was thinkin his last name was somethin like Berganzer or something, though.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Bugman
Old Pro



Posted June 07, 2007 08:40

[Hide Post](#)

I remember when Rusty's started behind his house at 1st and Castleton. Then moved to 12th and Broadway after Starr Bros. burned down. Then They moved the building to 12th and Main. To make room for the Mt. Vernon Savings and Loan?
Mt. Vernon Savings and Loan which had the fountain that people would put soap into. Not me of course. Then there was the fountain at the industrial plaza, south of town, that had the same thing happen to it quite often too.

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted June 07, 2007 09:38

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:

.

In regard to the Hick's drugstore on Perkins, it was at 22nd across from Bolerjacks

I was thinking it was closer to the park. Freddie and I went through school together and ran around together. Virgil was his dads name.

quote:

An interesting note to this is that this was either the first or second location of KFC in Mt. Vernon.

It was the first. It was on the N.E. corner of 27th & Bwdy before it went to its current location.

[QUOTE]Merle and Jean's drive inn at 24th and Perkins was also the first location of the Taco Villa before Menefees built the site on south 10th.[/QUOTE]

I remember it well. There was a car hop, Karen Quinn who worked there. She had long black hair and was as cute as a button. Her cousin married my niece some years later.

quote:

I don't remeber seeing anyone mention this but I do remember riding on the bus service Mt. Vernon used to have during the '50s'.

We used to ride it to town to go to the show and at times, when we could get the money we'd just ride it for fun. The drivers were always very nice to us kids.

quote:

I spoke with Jimmy Ellis the other day and he said that the old "Wimpy" sign was sold to, I believe he said, a man named Mike Walker.

Jimmy is a neighbor of mine. I went to school with Sonny. Mike Walker is also a friend of mine and that's a bit of trivia I never knew. Will ask him to show the sign to me and see if I can get a picture of it.

quote:

The barbershop that Merle Jennings and much later Kenny Pitchford ran on Perkins was owned previously by the Robinsons who, I believe, moved to Florida.

I see Merle and his wife at the Hitchin' Post every so often, having dinner. Ronnie and Ida Sue Robinson was in Mt. Vernon last week visiting relatives.

quote:

As far as I was concerned it was hard to beat the burgers at Rusty's or Dement's but the L & N had good burgers as did the Parkmore Restaurant which was a block south of the Mug on north 10th. As for Joeburger, that was originally Reaban's until Joe bought it.

Jeannie Page worked at Dements for years. She later went to Dobbs but since they've closed I've lost track of her. I was thinking Joburger was further up on Salem Rd. There was one across from the Hitchin' Post in a stucco(?) house, N. of Larry's car lot. The parking area was pretty steep though and emergency brakes not so good back then. Their hamburgers were 10 for a dollar.

As you could tell from my other posts, I lived pretty close to the park too. Still do, just a different neighborhood but I own the house I was raised in and the lot next door where my grandmother lived.

From what I heard, Johnny Annistopolis left town ahead of a lynching. He thought he was a Greek God with the ladies and some of the husbands decided to take him off his pedestal.

He was indeed a character. The "Golden" Greek, all 5'5" of him. ha!

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

joyful1
Free Time



Posted June 07, 2007 10:05

[Hide Post](#)

It's fun listening to you ol' farts talking about the "good old days". 😊

Seriously, I didn't live in those times, but it sounds like a much quieter, more peaceful time. Kids could go and hang out with their friends, have a good time, maybe get into a little mischief (ie soap in the fountain) and their parents didn't have to worry about their safety if they didn't make it in before dark. I don't live in town, but if I did, I don't think I would feel comfortable letting my kids go out like that. Times have changed.

I really do love getting on this thread and reading about your old days. Keep it up!

Posts: **374** | Location: **Jefferson County** | Registered: **May 01, 2007**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 07, 2007 10:42

[Hide Post](#)

I grew up with Freddie Hick's brother, Jerry. The last I heard he was living in the Chicago area. I remember going into the drugstore with Jerry a couple times on the way home from school.

I know Karen as well from the Taco Villa at 24th & Perkins. Patty Dillingham also worked there at that time.

Johnny A. was a short little fella and he did seem to think he was a Greek god of some sort. I wonder if his ears are burning today?

I remember during my highschool days that the area just south of Old Union Cemetary was remote enough to be a "parking" area. There were several of us that did not always have transportation but we were able to get around on foot pretty well. Kids did use to walk places and had fun doing it. There were a few "parkers" that were victims of ambushes out there near old Union. The attack usually invovled "matchguns" made with clothes pins that shot kitchen matchheads into the air as they flared, a real police whistle from the son of the police chief, water baloons, and a potato in the tailpipe so they couldn't follow us. It was all in innocent fun and people knew who we were. I remember one guy confronting me and the only thing he said was "don't tell anyone that "Minnie" and I were up there.

bugman you Do seem to know an awful lot about the soaping of the fountains. I do believe that the statute of limitations has run out.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,Il.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted June 07, 2007 10:51

[Hide Post](#)

While parking was one of the finer delights of MtV living during this time, bushwacking was as much fun as you could have with your clothes on. 😊

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

joyful1
Free Time



Posted June 07, 2007 11:21

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

bushwacking was as much fun as you could have with your clothes on.

I am sure that I don't know what "bushwacking" is - not sure I want to know, but I'll ask anyway... What is "bushwacking"?

Posts: **374** | Location: **Jefferson County** | Registered: **May 01, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 07, 2007 11:37

[Hide Post](#)

Bushwacking = As Buck intimated, it's surprising people who are out in the bush makin' whopee!

One of the tools often used was a spotlight so you could see all the action and how red their faces were. 😊

Of course, in the winter time steamy windows were a tip off that you had a sure fire

prospect to bushwack. Some were so steamy that the spotlight didn't cut through it.
True love I'm sure!

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

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Buck

Old Pro



Posted June 07, 2007 14:04

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Of course, back then (mid sixties) there was plenty of back roads in Jefferson county. The only problem was that most of those who were looking for a place to park were usually in too big of a hurry to go too far out of town and those places that they went to were much like the proverbial "Lover's Lane" in that those locations were well frequented.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Pogo

Old Pro



Posted June 07, 2007 15:17

[Hide Post](#)

In the 50's through the mid 60's the "Bean Field" was a favorite. The Fountain Plaza Industrial Center took it over later.

Then the field where the Cable TV tower was located became popular.

Ahh...the sweet memories.

Only the oldest of old timers will remember "The Tomb" as it was called. It was quite secret and if I told you where it is, I'd have to kill you. 😊

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Standing Bye

Free Time



Posted June 07, 2007 16:34

[Hide Post](#)

Steamed a lot of windows and only got bushwacked once by a sheriff. It was th first time we had tried parking at that location.

Normally, I went to an oil pump road off of Game Farm road. No one ever "checked" on us there. Always had plenty of privacy. Would leave the dance at the "Y" or the parking lot early enough to go out there, enjoy ourselves, and get her back or get her home before her parents wanted her home.

Posts: **374** | Location: **Broadway** | Registered: **May 11, 2007**

Pogo

Old Pro



Posted June 07, 2007 18:30

[Hide Post](#)

How many skating rinks and bowling alleys do you remember in Mousetown?

I remember three skating rinks - there was one at the city park, one off south tenth on Virginia Ave. and one east of town where the old Frolic Tavern was previously located which was near where Casey Creek crosses route 15.

I remember three bowling alleys as well - one on Casey ave. where Skelton's (the new and used furniture store)is now (after the bowling alley, it was Ford's national Auto

Supply) one on east Main street on the north side as you come into town (across from the Silver Streak's original location on Main St. when Luke Spurlock ran it) and one just off tenth on Virginia Ave. The name "Kelly" come to mind when I think of bowling alleys. Maybe someone can fill me in on that.

Any more?

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted June 07, 2007 19:27

[Hide Post](#)

You are right about the song but i can't place you. Give me a hint.

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:

bill_is_back - Did you possibly have a pair of "white bucks" that you wore on a sixth grade field trip? Did they possibly also write a song about you? If those clues don't get ya then you must a been a red head back then.

The pool hall that was known as Harry's back in the sixties was just west of 11th on Broadway. He sold out and moved to Hot Springs, Arkansas and opened another pool hall. I was thinkin his last name was somethin like Berganzer or something, though.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

Buck

Old Pro



Posted June 07, 2007 19:42

[Hide Post](#)

Where did you air your bicycle tires up at?

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,Il.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted June 07, 2007 19:44

[Hide Post](#)

Did anyone see the article about Larry Magpie Howard? What a waste!!

quote:

Originally posted by bill_is_back:

You are right about the song but i can't place you. Give me a hint.

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:

bill_is_back - Did you possibly have a pair of "white bucks" that you wore on a sixth grade field trip? Did they possibly also write a song about you? If those clues don't get ya then you must a been a red head back then.

The pool hall that was known as Harry's back in the sixties was just west of 11th on Broadway. He sold out and moved to Hot Springs, Arkansas and opened another pool hall. I was thinkin his last name was somethin like Berganzer or something, though.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted June 07, 2007 21:06

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Standing Bye:
Steamed a lot of windows and only got bushwacked once by a sheriff. It was th first time we had tried parking at that location.

Normally, I went to an oil pump road off of Game Farm road. No one ever "checked" on us there. Always had plenty of privacy. Would leave the dance at the "Y" or the parking lot early enough to go out there, enjoy ourselves, and get her back or get her home before her parents wanted her home.

Y'all remember Peckerwood Lake? Great spot.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 07, 2007 21:19

[Hide Post](#)

That was the place I was thinkin of wc. Several of us were there (mixed company) one night and someone started tellin that old story about the guy goin for help when the car wouldn't start and leavin his girlfriend there. They said it took place at Peckerwood Cemetary. The story goes that the police arrived the next morning and told her not to look back. Yeah, she did and there was the boyfriend danglin above the car.

I saw the story about Larry. Sad case. He looked like he had been drug over forty miles of bad road.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

ibjohn
Free Time



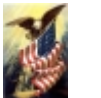
Posted June 07, 2007 21:24

[Hide Post](#)

My father said when he was a child they would go bush-wacking in Oakwood cemetery!!!!!! Anywhere from a couple of kids to a couple of dozen would go out to the back of the cemetery for easy pickins. Of course this was in the middle of the depression and the kids would find what entertainment they could. Pretty much drove a couple guys bonkers!!! And he used to think I was honery one and then when I grew up(debatable) he starts telling me of the mischief him, his brothers and their friends would get into. 😊

Posts: **331** | Location: **Mt. Vernon,IL.** | Registered: **March 14, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted June 08, 2007 09:43

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Pogo:

The name "Kelly" come to mind when I think of bowling alleys. Maybe someone can fill me in on that.
Any more?

Kelly was the one who had the bowling alley on E. Main St. and then moved it to where it is now. I don't think he's alive now and I can't remember his last name. He was a tall fellow and always had a smile on his face.
I didn't know about the one where Ford Nat'l. was. I only knew about the one being on Main St. and moving to where it is now.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

joyful1
Free Time



Posted June 08, 2007 10:14

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Did anyone see the article about Larry Magpie Howard? What a waste!!

quote:

I saw the story about Larry. Sad case. He looked like he had been drug over forty miles of bad road.

Who is this Larry Magpie Howard? What happened to him? And why is it a waste?

Posts: **374** | Location: **Jefferson County** | Registered: **May 01, 2007**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 08, 2007 10:18

[Hide Post](#)

Bernie Kelley was the owner of NuBowl Lanes and his daughter Patty ran the place for a while as well. Two employees during the sixties were Mike and PeeWee. There was a bowling alley at one time ('50s') on the side street by where the Tile company (old WG Motors location) is on 10th across from IGA. I don't know if that was mentioned in the previous post.

I remember the old skating rink in the old KC hall and skated many times out at the park.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 08, 2007 11:43

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Bernie Kelley was the owner of NuBowl Lanes

Thanks **Buck**, that's the guy. I was racking my peanut brain to remember him. 😊

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 08, 2007 12:48

[Hide Post](#)

Larry "Magpie" Howard graduated in the class of 1965 at Mt. Vernon TWP Highschool. Several years ago he was charged with crime(s) involving cocaine. At that point he skipped town. He has been on the run for quite a long time.

Edit - As I said earlier, I didn't have an email address that would let me register when this thread was going strong a couple months ago. I was only able to reread. So, now I have just finished reviewing the second 10 pages. Here's my catchup:

Johnny Twinkletoes and Gordon the Weatherman I remember but vaguely. Raymond Grant is another story. Here's a big clue for ya Bill_ is_ Back. He, Raymond, used to drop by my dad's business at 24th and Perkins quite often. He even wrote me a letter while I was in Vietnam.

There was a time during the '60s' and early '70s' that there were not many places to stay near DuQuoin during the State Fair. Several of the race car drivers would stay out at the Beasley. One night they had just a little too much fun and dumped somebody's sprint car in the pool. This was at a time when Western Gardens was still more roads than homes and a couple drivers, one of which was Parnelli Jones, were known to have been racing out on those roads, probably after having too much fun again.

I had not seen any mention of the Parkmore Restaurant and Drive-in which I mentioned earlier. I have, also, not seen any mention of the place to eat Sunday dinner during the mid fifties, Rocket's Cafe on south tenth. They had a pretty good fried chicken dinner too. That place was hidden for many years by junk cars from McDermotts but now has another restaurant in there.

Lordy, Lordy do I ever wish there was another Kings Bakery. I am sick and tired of this stuff they make today. I lived for cherry rolls from Kings and dad just loved their cinnamin-rasin bread.

Howards Drive-in, across the street from the Parkmore was the first Drive-in I ever went to. It was also the first place I ever had a big cold mug of root beer and a chilidog.

The city park zoo is of particular remembrance to me. I spent a lot of time in that park. I remember that there was a pit about 4 or 5 feet wide and about 8 feet and about 6 feet deep that they kept the alligator in. There were about 6 or 8 cages in a long building that housed a couple lions and some wolves, etc. The mind is kina fuzzy on just exactly what all the creatures were but I am pretty sure on the lions and wolves. I think that there were even some baboons. The one thing I was sure of even at that age was that the facilities were not adequate for a healthy environment for these animals, particularly the gator. There was also a couple large pens across the drive from the cages where they kept a couple buffalo and some deer. Also right there was the old county jail that has since been moved out to the site that Tom Puckett and others have put together.

I'll review the rest and see if I can add anything else to this thread.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [Buck](#), June 08, 2007 13:49

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

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mousegrINfl
Free Time



Posted June 08, 2007 20:18

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Like Buck, it took me a while to get signed on to this. In the meantime I have had a wonderful time reading all of your posts. What great memories - the Sub,the Mug, the Rec Club! And never did I think someone would have to explain bushwackin.

The first post asked about an old swimming pool east of Mt. Vernon. Yes, there was one. It is past the country club almost to where the old road meets 15. It's on the left. When I was in MtV in April I drove out there. What remains are some concrete remnants - and some big concrete ball thing in the yard. My grandmother often told me how her family would spend the summers living out there. Her father would work in MtV during the week and come out on the week-ends. Later my father learned to swim there. (probably in the late 20's or early 30's.) He would often talk about the place. Unfortunately, I do not remember the name of the people who owned it. It was such an important part of his life that after the old city pool closed, he was determined that children in Mt. Vernon should have a swimming pool. That dream became what is now the Rec Club.

Posts: **334** | Location: **a blue state** | Registered: **June 08, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 08, 2007 21:46

[Hide Post](#)

mousegrINfl,

The name of the people who ran that swimming pool and recreation area was "Goin." It was known as Goin's Place. If you can get your hands on Tom Puckett's book "Mt. Vernon a Pictorial History," you'll see the place on page 100. There was a service station, restaurant, swimming pool, miniture golf course, and a playground. It was located on route 15 just a short ways west of the Harmony road on the north side.

I had to laugh since some have confused the issue, for those who came up in those time, Goin's Place was a far cry from the swimming hole at Seven Mile Creek although both were east of town. That's where the similarity ended.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: Pogo, June 08, 2007 22:33

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted June 08, 2007 21:55

[Hide Post](#)

OMG!! How have you been?

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:
Where did you air your bicycle tires up at?

bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted June 08, 2007 22:01

[Hide Post](#)

We used to go to Peckerwood lake, i think a doctor built a house out there and Lehman's lake.

quote:

Originally posted by mousegrINfl:

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**Campfollower
in VA**

Regular



Posted June 08, 2007 22:39

[Hide Post](#)

WClark - I remember your smashed knee. By the way... an old friend of your just earned her doctorate at Virginia Commonwealth University in Richmond a couple of weeks ago. It has been great reading about all the things I remember when I was a kid growing up. Any one remember the "locker plant" on Broadway across from the Presbyterian Church? You could rent freezer space - I remember my mom and my aunt shared a freezer drawer before they got the freezer at home. After the plant closed the cable company took over the building.

The new mayor, Larry Hicks, Danny Hester myself, and many others to numerous to mention even went to Field School before it was named after Dr. Andy Hall.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Pogo

Old Pro



Posted June 08, 2007 22:48

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Any one remember the "locker plant" on Broadway across from the Presbyterian Church?

The one I remember was farther out on Broadway, on the south side just west of 24th street, near McLaughlin's cafe. It was sure nice to go in there in the hot days of summer and get cooled down. They also did custom butchering and would package your meat

and mark the package as to what cut it was so it was easy to get what you wanted. That was in the mid 50's.

Some may remember that McLaughlin's had the first "Basket" menu, (came with fries) with burger baskets, fish baskets, shrimp baskets, and the likes. That's the first time I ever heard that term used around here.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: Pogo, June 08, 2007 22:59

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

**Campfollower
in VA**

Regular



Posted June 08, 2007 22:57

[Hide Post](#)

That is the same one - the church is west of 24th - next to Oakwood Cemetery. The plant was next the McLaughlin's as you said. The church is probably a bit west of the old plant.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Pogo

Old Pro



Posted June 08, 2007 23:17

[Hide Post](#)

Yes, **campfollower**,

You are correct. The church is still there at 2424 Broadway but the frozen food locker and McLaughlin's are gone forever. 😊

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Buck

Old Pro



Posted June 08, 2007 23:47

[Hide Post](#)

I'm doing just fine Bill. I still have more brown hair than gray.

As for McLaughlin's, I had my first piece of pizza at a restaurant owned by the McLaughlin's out on 15 West. This place has been discussed. It has been called the Three Mile House and the Blue Mill. I believe that this was their first endeavor in MTV. They seemed to be quite innovative (baskets) and did a very good business for quite a while across from Oakwood Cemetery.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn, IL** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

johnj229

Old Pro



Posted June 09, 2007 02:55

[Hide Post](#)

I was a good friend of "Magpie". I grew up in Mt. Vernon until the 7th grade and then we moved to Centralia. I hardly ever came back to Mt. Vernon after that. I think I met Larry in the 2nd or 3rd grade. We would go to the Saturday afternoon movies together, first with our folks driving us and then on our bikes. After we started riding our bikes, we were all over Mt. Vernon. I divorced in 1979 and got a job offer in Mt. Vernon and took it. I ran into Larry not long after moving back to Mt. Vernon. To be honest with you I ran into a lot of my old childhood friends and 98% of them were divorced also. Well, needless to say we were partyers from the get-go—from the Gingham Kitchen all the way north to the El Toro Lounge, to the Gas Station Lounge and all parts in between, updown and sideways. Larry was always a bit of a hustler but very likeable and we all had a ton of fun. I left Mt. Vernon 1985 because the judge said if I came before him one more time he would throw me under the jail so I got out of Dodge. I saw Larry about 3 times after that. He was still in the bug business. I don't know what happened to him, but I imagine it was the idea of the fast and easy dollar that attracted him to the mess he is now in. I will always consider him a good friend from that from early childhood to the 1985 period and a friend even now. If he is guilty as charged then he will have to face the and accept the punishment. I wish him luck. I do not condone any of this type of behavior

and the awful things that drugs can do. This kind of shows that drugs can mess up anybody's life. Play with fire and you will get burned.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

beaukitty
Basic training



Posted June 09, 2007 08:22

[Hide Post](#)

☺ I wondered when someone would mention the Parkmore Grill....My mother worked there in the early 50's for Charlie Bruce..My grandfather was a city policeman for 18yrs. before retiring, Then he moved on to the Sheriff's office..There used to be a glass case in the center of the court house with a bear in it ??? I think...My grandfather was one of the deputies that helped capture the bear..Does the name "Fairchild" ring any bells?? Kings Bakery had the best ever Cream puffs in the world..I remember the brick sidewalk well, since I fell on it one winter..I ENJOY reading about OLD MTV.

Posts: **27** | Location: **Tennessee** | Registered: **January 25, 2007**

BlueJean
Member



Posted June 09, 2007 11:09

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Any one remember the "locker plant" on Broadway across from the Presbyterian Church? You could rent freezer space - I remember my mom and my aunt shared a freezer drawer before they got the freezer at home. After the plant closed the cable company took over the building.

The locker plant was owned by Leo Heffington. He had a dear wife Kay who had MS. Leo died fairly young and Kay lived on in Mt.V. for many years. Their one and only son moved to St. Louis and after some time took Kay to live in that area. Once while I was between jobs I worked for Leo for a few weeks. The cost of bandages for my fingers, from the sharp knives, was very high. I was not "cut out" to be a butcher.

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 09, 2007 12:04

[Hide Post](#)

Bill_is_back - The guy that introduced you to your wife told me to tell you hello. His mother passed away last Wednesday and I just saw him at the funeral home. He just happened to mention your name and I told him that I had just had contact with you in the last couple days. His brother and I ran around together in highschool.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,Il.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 09, 2007 12:39

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I wondered when someone would mention the Parkmore Grill....My mother worked there in the early 50's for Charlie Bruce

beaukitty, I dated Wanda Bruce when she worked there (car hop) for her uncle Charlie. She was Harry Bruce's daughter and they lived north of Dix. That was in the summer of '54.

quote:

Does the name "Fairchild" ring any bells??

That would be Jack. I didn't know him personally since he worked days. He was older and evidently had seniority on the younger officers. I was on a first name basis with all of the night officers though. I kept them busy, if you know what I mean. They followed me around most nights just to see what I was going to do next. 🤔

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted June 09, 2007 16:11

[Hide Post](#)

Was that Ron? If so i hate to hear about his mother. I didn't see the obit here. How was he?

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:

Bill_is_back - The guy that introduced you to your wife told me to tell you hello. His mother passed away last Wednesday and I just saw him at the funeral home. He just happened to mention your name and I told him that I had just had contact with you in the last couple days. His brother and I ran around together in highschool.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

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beaukitty
Basic training



Posted June 09, 2007 17:51

[Hide Post](#)

😊 YES that's right...That would be Jack...My Mother's name is Fern..She worked at the Parkmore Grill...I think in the 50's....Grandpa was good at following people around...Don't think there was much trouble, Unlike today...Think those are refered to as "THE GOOD OLE DAYS"

Posts: **27** | Location: **Tennessee** | Registered: **January 25, 2007**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 09, 2007 19:44

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by bill_is_back:
Was that Ron? If so i hate to hear about his mother. I didn't see the obit here. How was he?

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:
Bill_is_back - The guy that introduced you to your wife told me to tell you hello. His mother passed away last Wednesday and I just saw him at the funeral home. He just happened to mention your name and I told him that I had just had contact with you in the last couple days. His brother and I ran around together in highschool.

Yes, it was Ron. He is doin well. Never thought that I would ever see him wearin a pink shirt, though. Of course, I've got one in the closet too. Times do change. He said to say hello for him. How are you doin?

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted June 09, 2007 20:00

[Hide Post](#)

John is a good guy. I think he's in Indiana. My email is bailmandb@yahoo.

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:

quote:

Originally posted by bill_is_back:

Was that Ron? If so i hate to hear about his mother. I didn't see the obit here. How was he?

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:

Bill_is_back - The guy that introduced you to your wife told me to tell you hello. His mother passed away last Wednesday and I just saw him at the funeral home. He just happened to mention your name and I told him that I had just had contact with you in the last couple days. His brother and I ran around together in highschool.

Yes, it was Ron. He is doin well. Never thought that I would ever see him wearin a pink shirt, though. Of course, I've got one in the closet too. Times do change. He said to say hello for him. How are you doin?

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

johnj229

Old Pro



Posted June 11, 2007 14:53

[Hide Post](#)

Wasn't McLaughlin's the home of the Watta-burger or a name similar. I remember it was huge. Mom would buy one for my brother and I to split and one for her and dad to split. I think they were 50c and a meal with all the stuff they were loaded with. I went to school with the kids but for the life of me I can't remember their names. They had a big beautiful house out further west of the cafe. Nobile Thomas lived in the beginning to the fruit bowl almost in back of them. There was a big vancant field right west of McLaughlin's house and probably 30 of us kids played football, softball and even whiffle ball in that field. I delivered the Chicago Daily News to customers in the fruit bowl. It was a early morning route and I knew every dog that liked to chase anything that moved in the early morning's. Mom saved my special paper route jeans. That was the ones that had the tears and from either the dogs getting me or me getting my pants leg caught in my bike chain. I would have by my paper bag on the front handlebars of my bike filled with papers and could hardly get going because of all the weight of the papers but after thowing a few my speed would increase and by the time I got to dog chasing territoy I would be moving along at a fast enough speed to avoid most of the canine teeth. Once in a while it wouldn't work and I would get nailed. All that work and I would clear \$3-\$4 dollars + tips a week but man that was my money to spend anyway I wanted to.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted June 11, 2007 20:45

[Hide Post](#)

I think Buffy was the daughter.

quote:

Originally posted by johnj229:

Wasn't McLaughlin's the home of the Watta-burger or a name similar. I remember it was huge. Mom would buy one for my brother and I to split and one for her and dad to split. I think they were 50c and a meal with all the

stuff they were loaded with. I went to school with the kids but for the life of me I can't remember their names. They had a big beautiful house out further west of the cafe. Nobile Thomas lived in the beginning to the fruit bowl almost in back of them. There was a big vacant field right west of McLaughlin's house and probably 30 of us kids played football, softball and even whiffle ball in that field. I delivered the Chicago Daily News to customers in the fruit bowl. It was a early morning route and I knew every dog that liked to chase anything that moved in the early morning's. Mom saved my special paper route jeans. That was the ones that had the tears and from either the dogs getting me or me getting my pants leg caught in my bike chain. I would have by my paper bag on the front handlebars of my bike filled with papers and could hardly get going because of all the weight of the papers but after thowing a few my speed would increase and by the time I got to dog chasing territoy I would be moving along at a fast enough speed to avoid most of the canine teeth. Once in a while it wouldn't work and I would get nailed. All that work and I would clear \$3-\$4 dollars + tips a week but man that was my money to spend anyway I wanted to.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted June 12, 2007 13:47

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by johnj229:

Wasn't McLaughlin's the home of the Watta-burger or a name similar. I went to school with the kids but for the life of me I can't remember their names.

The resturant was the Glass House and the boys name was Jimmie John. I haven't heard anything of Jimmie for years and years. They also had the drive in at 24th & Bwdy before the Glass House called the Toot 'N Tell 'Em

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted June 15, 2007 09:27

[Hide Post](#)

jlmer, you are shaking up the ole gray matter in my head. I was surprised how the kid's names bought back such good memories of both our school times and play times, cub scout times together. Thanks for the info.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted June 15, 2007 11:10

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by johnj229:

I was surprised how the kid's names bought back such good memories of both our school times and play times, cub scout times together. Thanks for the info.

There may have been a girl called "Sissy" or I may be thinking of John, Eddie and Robert Krebs little sister. Not sure which as we all lived close together. Would play basketball at Krebs as they lived on the corner of 25th & Bwdy. behind Claude Hutchison who had Claude's Shell.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 15, 2007 11:23

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Claude's Shell.

That brings to mind that at one time we had what was called a west Shell and a north Shell. Claude's was the west one and the north one was Foster's on Oakland Ave. @ the Salem Rd.

There was a "North Shell Cafe" behind the service station that was run by one of the Hassakis'. I think it may have been John but I'm not positive.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

**Standing
Bye**
Free Time



Posted June 15, 2007 14:11

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

Originally posted by johnj229:

Wasn't McLaughlin's the home of the Watta-burger or a name similar. I went to school with the kids but for the life of me I can't remember their names.

The resturant was the Glass House and the boys name was Jimmie John. I haven't heard anything of Jimmie for years and years. They also had the drive in at 24th & Bwdy before the Glass House called the Toot 'N Tell 'Em

My mother worked as a waitress at the Glass House for years.

Posts: **374** | Location: **Broadway** | Registered: **May 11, 2007**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 15, 2007 19:46

[Hide Post](#)

I just finished going through the last fifteen pages or so and have very little left to add but did remember a couple points. I have not seen any mention of Mom's Cafe that used to be a couple doors south of Ellis' Cafe. My family ate there a few times in the early to mid '60s'. I remember being in there on at least oocassion when the highschool basketball team came in to eat before leaving for a road game.

Another place I have not see mentioned was south of "Farmer's Lane"/ Veteran's Memorial Drive on Rte 37. It was really busy for several years and its heydays were probably during the fifties. For many years, though, Rockets Cafe was a busy place. There was a major trucking depot (Viking?) just south of Rockets which really kept that area hoppin. It was buried for many years behind all of the cars from McDermotts but the old building is now open again and I believe it is called Grandma's Kitchen. When Rocket's Cafe was open in the '50s' that was the place to get the best fried chicken dinner after church on a Sunday afternoon.

Back in the seventies I had a conversation with someone. It was probably about the time

of the major oil crisis that took place back then. We figured that prior to the Supermarkets like Big Star that Mt. Vernon probably had around 60 neighborhood gas stations and grocery stores each, give or take 10 or so at any given time.

Life in Mt. Vernon was truly a comfortable neighborhood lifestyle. Anyone wanna go get some popsickles and catch lighnin bug?

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 15, 2007 20:06

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I have not seen any mention of Mom's Cafe that used to be a couple doors south of Ellis' Cafe.

In that same vein, we must also mention Virginia's Cafe that was over on south 9th just south of Jordan and on the east side.

Both of those places served good home style meals. I used to eat at Virginia's and recall that the meal cost 65¢ and had the choice of either roast beef or roast pork with mashed potatoes and another vegetable, usually green beans. It came with a small salad to boot. It also included a free tea or coffee and a dessert. The dessert offered was usually some iteration of Jello. If you wanted a Coke instead of the tea or coffee, it cost extra.

That all happened in 50's. Although they had competition from the drive-ins and a few of the fancy eating places like The Rex, Hunts, McGlaughlin's, etc., they got most of the common trade who didn't have the price at a meal at any of those 'Fancy' places or didn't feel comfortable in those places.

BTW, the Moose always had a good steak and so did the Blue Goose. Hunt's beat them all but you always felt like you had to dress up to go there.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [Pogo](#), June 15, 2007 20:56

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted June 15, 2007 20:11

[Hide Post](#)

Moving forward. There wasn't a better "fancy" place than The Top of the First. Fine dining for MtV.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 15, 2007 20:16

[Hide Post](#)

I just looked in my desk drawer - I still have the letter opener that the Top of the First gave out as a complimentary gift on their opening night. It was indeed a grand addition to Mousetown's eateries for a time.

I think that was in 1969 if I'm not mistaken.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Pogo

Posted June 15, 2007 20:29

[Hide Post](#)

Old Pro



Buck said:

quote:

Another place I have not see mentioned was south of "Farmer's Lane"/ Veteran's Memorial Drive on Rte 37. It was really busy for several years and its heydays were probably during the fifties. For many years, though, Rockets Cafe was a busy place.

Yes indeed **Buck**, it was the fifties to be sure. My father leased and farmed the land behind the old Rocket cafe and I often ate lunch there when working the land for him. I generally got a cheeseburger to go and ate out under the old oak tree behind there while sitting in my car and listening to KXOK.

Now it's an industrial plaza and although it looks different, I can still close my eyes and see it as it was then.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

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sbevis
Free Time



Posted June 15, 2007 22:38

[Hide Post](#)

KXOK was the hottest station around. Featherston's had the free handouts of the top songs. Many people from Mt. Vernon got calls to play the on the air game show they ran.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 16, 2007 00:06

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by wclark:
Moving forward. There wasn't a better "fancy" place than The Top of the First. Fine dining for MtV.

I believe that it opened while I was away in the service but do remember a couple birthday dinners there. I probably was there more for the bands in 1970 or so.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted June 16, 2007 09:24

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:
I believe that it opened while I was away in the service but do remember a couple birthday dinners there. I probably was there more for the bands in 1970 or so.

I didn't know they had bands. I moved north in 1969 and didn't get back as much as I would have liked. Bands would have been really cool up there.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

beaukitty
Basic training



Posted June 16, 2007 09:42

[Hide Post](#)

🙄 Does anyone remember HARRY LYNN SHIELDS..he was a singer..If memory serves me he sang at the old Holiday Inn, and possibly the Ramada Inn..His brother Joe owned the pool hall.Harry had cut a record..I think the name was "Sweet Magnolia" Not sure of the name, But I have the record somewhere. I among everyone else enjoy reading about "Old Mt.Vernon" Does anyone remember the grocery store that was on Rt.37 north about 6-7 miles out? Small Mom and Pop place, It was near Pleasant Hill Church...My family used to shop there, But can't remember the name..The name Hutchison's Market comes to mind, but not sure..Keep posting everyone..

Posts: **27** | Location: **Tennessee** | Registered: **January 25, 2007**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted June 16, 2007 10:38

[Hide Post](#)

I remember Harry Lynn. He was a few years older than me. I ran with his little brother-Larry. Harry Lynn sang in the church I went to before he professional.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted June 16, 2007 12:42

[Hide Post](#)

John, what street did you live on? I lived on 23rd.

quote:

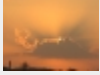
Originally posted by johnj229:
I remember Harry Lynn. He was a few years older than me. I ran with his little brother-Larry. Harry Lynn sang in the church

I went to before he professional.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

Krumudgeon

Free Time



Posted June 16, 2007 12:52

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Here's a thought that someone with a lot of time on his hands and an inclination toward trivia lists might do. Go through a collection of Mt. Vernon City Directories, year-by-year, in the block-by-block addresses of the various businesses that operated in town.

What was particularly interesting was the number of store fronts one could find in each block in the downtown area, comparing, say, 1925 to 1950 to 1975 to 2000. Used to be anywhere from seven to 10 establishments on each side of the block, virtually all of them locally owned retail outlets, with the rooms upstairs occupied by offices or, in some cases, other retail establishments or even apartments. Building codes evolved to make the upstairs areas, for the most part, unusable, and chain stores eventually resulted in the elimination of locally owned retail outlets. Someone could use such research as a historic document to nail down the time frame when the local retail phase-out began.

A corollary trend would be to identify the various neighborhood stores, such as the groceries, restaurants, taverns and service stations that were found all over town ...

It's obvious from the number of posts on this thread that there would be more than passing interest in such a collection, on a truly organized basis. Some of Tom Puckett's historical work and other historical collections could augment the statistical rundown, and even a survey of the local ads in the R-N microfilm could add to the project.

I recall doing one downtown city directory comparison for an R-N Focus Edition which seemed to draw some reader reaction.

The two locations with the most complete collections of city directions were, at least up through 2000, the R-N and the C.E. Brehm Memorial Library.

Any takers?

Posts: **396** | Location: **Texas** | Registered: **March 12, 2007**

johnj229

Old Pro



Posted June 16, 2007 15:39

[Hide Post](#)

My family and I lived at 3208 Central Avenue in County Heights Subdivision. The old Army Camp-Chicken Coop area.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

Buck

Old Pro

Posted June 16, 2007 19:14

[Hide Post](#)

Well, since there are several people that seem to enjoy this thread I have an idea to keep it alive. How about some trivia?



Can anyone answer who used to live across the street to the east from the Brehm Library long before the Federal building went up? That may be too easy for some and too hard for others.

How many different locations has Dixie Cream been at? I know of three. Got any others ya wanna throw in?

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 16, 2007 20:16

[Hide Post](#)

Mrs. Tippie lived there. I think her husband had the place built. It was a beautiful home. I always admired it. I think they were one of the early grocers in the area.

I think the first Dixie Creme that I can partially remember was on either Casey or Jordan near 10th. St. That would have been in the mid 40's. Now that I think about it, it might not have been a Dixie Creme but some other do-nut shop. Does the name Spudnuts ring any bells?

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted June 16, 2007 21:00

[Hide Post](#)

I knew Larry well. Did you graduate in 1964 also? Do you know if the Archer that was in the newspaper was the same one that lived next to Larry?

quote:

Originally posted by johnj229:
My family and I lived at 3208 Central Avenue in County Heights Subdivision. The old Army Camp-Chicken Coop area.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 17, 2007 00:21

[Hide Post](#)

I also am familiar with Larry and Joe. I remember Harry's name but don't know that I ever met him. Bill - Rich Archer lived on twentieth street if I remember correctly about two blocks south of College (the T intersection). I t may be that Larry lived up that way at one time.

As for the house across the street from the library, I may be wrong here but I thought that at one time Silas and Mary Kate Echols, the principal and teacher from the highschool) once lived there.

As for Dixie Cream, I remember the place between Western Union and Lashbrooks Tent and Awning on Broadway. I think that Bobos was there about the same time. The other place, more recently was the second block south on tenth about where the barbershop is now. Then there is the present location.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted June 17, 2007 10:52

[Hide Post](#)

We left Mt Vernon as I was going into the 7th grade. We moved to Centralia and I finished grade school there. They didn't have a Jr. high at that time. I started my freshman year at CHS and then dad got a job in Champaign, Il. We moved to a small town 8 miles south-Tolono, Illinois. I graduated in 1963. I moved back to Mt Vernon in 1979. I worked at Accu-Print and then went to work at Rend Lake College. I moved out of the area in 1985. I wasn't well acquainted with Harry but knew him. I ran with Butch Lashbrook, Steve Kiss, David Thomas, Stewart Webb and countless others from the fruit bowl and points beyond. Years has taken away my name recalling function.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted June 17, 2007 13:06

[Hide Post](#)

Whatever happened to Butch? I recognize the names you mentioned except Steve Kiss. Where are you now?

quote:

Originally posted by johnj229:

We left Mt Vernon as I was going into the 7th grade. We moved to Centralia and I finished grade school there. They didn't have a Jr. high at that time. I started my freshman year at CHS and then dad got a job in Champaign, Il. We moved to a small town 8 miles south-Tolono, Illinois. I graduated in 1963. I moved back to Mt Vernon in 1979. I worked at Accu-Print and then went to work at Rend Lake College. I moved out of the area in 1985. I wasn't well acquainted with Harry but knew him. I ran with Butch Lashbrook, Steve Kiss, David Thomas, Stewart Webb and countless others from the fruit bowl and points beyond. Years has taken away my name recalling function.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

bill_is_back
Old Pro

Posted June 17, 2007 13:18

[Hide Post](#)

Buck, do you remember the 3 mean little boys that lived across from Jim



Ellis. Someone called them ring ding, bob-o, and i can't remember the other one. I think Swan was the name.

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:

I also am familiar with Larry and Joe. I remember Harry's name but don't know that I ever met him. Bill - Rich Archer lived on twentieth street if I remember correctly about two blocks south of College (the T intersection). I t may be that Larry lived up that way at one time.

As for the house across the street from the library, I may be wrong here but I thought that at one time Silas and Mary Kate Echols, the principal and teacher from the highschool) once lived there.

As for Dixie Cream, I remember the place between Western Union and Lashbrooks Tent and Awning on Broadway. I think that Bobos was there about the same time. The other place, more recently was the second block south on tenth about where the barbershop is now. Then there is the present location.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

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Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 17, 2007 13:53

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That would be Terry, Bobby and Deanie Swan. They are all still in this area as far as I know. Deanie has done quite well for himself, particularly with the internet. I believe he started an internet company. I may be wrong but I believe one of the other brothers has/had a sheet metal business.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted June 17, 2007 14:21

[Hide Post](#)

I live in Marshall, Illinois. It's 15 west of Terre Haute, In. on I-70. I've been here for about 15 years-retired. Steve Kiss's mom managed the old bowling alley off 10th street back in the 50's. His dad worked for the telephone company but spent much of his time working on the Dew Line. I ran across Butch when I first came back to Mt Vernon but haven't heard anything about him in years and years. One thing I remember real well about Butch was when he tried to blow himself up with a carbide bomb. We would go down to Dobb's and buy carbide. We would get some empty glass jars put carbide and water in them and tightened a lid. The pressure would build up and explode. That's how we fished alot. Well, Butch got his all fixed up but didn't get it tossed into the pond quick enough and it went off and the flying glass cut him up pretty good. Well all our folks found out about our bomb making and put a stop to that. We used to play soldiers out in the big buildings his folks had for storing all the tents and canvas in. That is until the caught us

smoking [or trying to smoke] in the buildings. His mom gave us all a whipping over that and then I got another one from my mom.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

FtLrdlRob
Newcomer



Posted June 18, 2007 13:24

[Hide Post](#)

Mrs. Echols did live in the block East of the library...In the late '60's the house was white and faced Broadway with a porch across the front.

Posts: **13** | Location: **Cumberland Plateau** | Registered: **February 06, 2007**

xlawman
Free Time



Posted June 18, 2007 17:41

[Hide Post](#)

I remember back in the late 60's - early 70's, 3 very ugly women. One, I assume, was the mother. She's was probably in her late 50's or early 60's. She was always with two younger women, early 20's, that I assumed were her daughters.

You'd see them walking around downtown, or up and down Broadway, wearing the most ridiculous dresses you could imagine and their faces smeared with layers of makeup.

We used to laugh and yell obscenities at them. Hey, we were just kids. Anyone know who I'm talking about?

Posts: **232** | Location: **Mount Vernon** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted June 18, 2007 18:35

[Hide Post](#)

It might not be the same ones but it reminds me of mousie and drafty. I never knew their real names but they were always walking around town.

quote:

Originally posted by xlawman:

I remember back in the late 60's - early 70's, 3 very ugly women. One, I assume, was the mother. She's was probably in her late 50's or early 60's. She was always with two younger women, early 20's, that I assumed were her daughters.

You'd see them walking around downtown, or up and down Broadway, wearing the most ridiculous dresses you could imagine and their faces smeared with layers of makeup.

We used to laugh and yell obscenities at them. Hey, we were

just kids. Anyone know who I'm talking about?

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted June 18, 2007 18:40

[Hide Post](#)

Before i went to junior high, we lived on 19th and Conger. Butch lived up on 19th with his mother or grandmother. He knew more cuss words than i had ever heard. We were the same age but i think he went to military school. Later on, during my high school years, we played pool and saw each other around town.

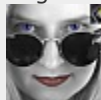
UOTE]Originally posted by johnj229:

I live in Marshall, Illinois. It's 15 west of Terre Haute, In. on I-70. I've been here for about 15 years-retired. Steve Kiss's mom managed the old bowling alley off 10th street back in the 50's. His dad worked for the telephone company but spent much of his time working on the Dew Line. I ran across Butch when I first came back to Mt Vernon but haven't heard anything about him in years and years. One thing I remember real well about Butch was when he tried to blow himself up with a carbide bomb. We would go down to Dobb's and buy carbide. We would get some empty glass jars put carbide and water in them and tightened a lid. The pressure would build up and explode. That's how we fished alot. Well, Butch got his all fixed up but didn't get it tossed into the pond quick enough and it went off and the flying glass cut him up pretty good. Well all our folks found out about our bomb making and put a stop to that. We used to play soldiers out in the big buildings his folks had for storing all the tents and canvas in. That is until the caught us smoking [or trying to smoke] in the buildings. His mom gave us all a whipping over that and then I got another one from my mom.[/QUOTE]

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

**Campfollower
in VA**

Regular



Posted June 18, 2007 19:22

[Hide Post](#)

I think that Mousy and Drafty were the Baldwig sisters. I also remember a very slender woman, in fact downright skinny, with about medium brown longish hair and tons of make up, large sunglasses, and rather gaudy clothing who used to walk all around town and back and forth on Broadway but don't remember anyone with her. I am pretty sure she was always alone.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

**Campfollower
in VA**

Regular

Posted June 18, 2007 19:31

[Hide Post](#)

On second thought - I think we used to call them Speedy and Mousy - one was usually ahead of the other.



Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

beanne
Regular



Posted June 18, 2007 19:52

[Hide Post](#)

the only 3 that I recall were Momma Keisgan and her 2 daughters Lois and Betty.

Posts: **148** | Location: **at home** | Registered: **January 24, 2006**

beanne
Regular



Posted June 18, 2007 19:53

[Hide Post](#)

People called them the Bells

Posts: **148** | Location: **at home** | Registered: **January 24, 2006**

**Standing
Bye**

Free Time



Posted June 19, 2007 15:23

[Hide Post](#)

Brings back warm memories.

My mother moved out of the area and rented her house (the home I was raised in) to those 3 crazy women. They moved the gas heater around and pulled the gas line loose and burned down our house.

Posts: **374** | Location: **Broadway** | Registered: **May 11, 2007**

xlawman
Free Time



Posted June 19, 2007 15:46

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by beanne:
the only 3 that I recall were Momma Keisgan and her 2 daughters Lois and Betty.

Didn't all 3 of them wear glasses?

Posts: **232** | Location: **Mount Vernon** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 20, 2007 19:49

[Hide Post](#)

More trivia:

You'll likely be over 60 if you can remember when folks used to pull all of the

tubes out of their T.V. set and take them to some local drugstore or elsewhere that had a self-service tube tester. Lot's of stores had tube testers and sold new tubes "back in the day."

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

**Campfollower
in VA**

Regular



Posted June 20, 2007 20:37

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quote:

Originally posted by Pogo:
More trivia:

You'll likely be over 60 if you can remember when folks used to pull all of the tubes out of their T.V. set and take them to some local drugstore or elsewhere that had a self-service tube tester. Lot's of stores had tube testers and sold new tubes "back in the day."

Not over 60 but bumping up against it pretty hard. I remember Dad always used to do that and would be really mad when they all tested OK and the blasted TV still wouldn't work and he missed Palladin and Gunsmoke.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered:
February 26, 2007

**Buck
Old Pro**



Posted June 20, 2007 23:25

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Campfollower in VA:

quote:

Originally posted by Pogo:
More trivia:

You'll likely be over 60 if you can remember when folks used to pull all of the tubes out of their T.V. set and take them to some local drugstore or elsewhere that had a self-service tube tester. Lot's of stores had tube testers and sold new tubes "back in the day."

Not over 60 but bumping up against it pretty hard. I remember

Dad always used to do that and would be really mad when they all tested OK and the blasted TV still wouldn't work and he missed Palladin and Gunsmoke.

Cain't blame him a bit!

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

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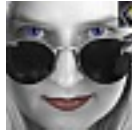
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wclark
Old Pro



Posted June 21, 2007 07:29

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quote:

Originally posted by Buck:
Cain't blame him a bit!

Have Gun Will Travel and Marshall Dillon. Those were the golden days of television. 😊

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted June 21, 2007 09:04

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Posted June 21, 2007 07:29 [Hide Post](#)
quote:
Originally posted by Buck:
Cain't blame him a bit!

Have Gun Will Travel and Marshall

You can still see these shows as well as Andy Griffity, Adams Family and Munsters. There's a lot of them on still. Cimmeron, Bat Masterson, The Rifleman and others are on the Western Channel.

I can understand why Gunsmoke has lasted so long. I've never seen a bad one.

We were one of the last ones to get a tv but my aunt a couple of doors down had one and when I'd get home from the show on Sat. nights I'd find my mom and dad at my aunt's house watching Wrestlin' with Lou Thez and Pat O'Conner.

When Payton Place was on, my wife and I lived about 4 houses down from my parents and only 2 from my aunt. After Payton Place, from 8-9pm I think, my mom, aunt and other neighborhood women would be standing under the street light talking over the events of what they'd just seen.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 21, 2007 10:00

[Hide Post](#)

I was a big Maverick fan. Both Bret and Bart. They seemed to epitomize Joe Cool. 😊

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 21, 2007 10:40

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Pogo:

I was a big Maverick fan. Both Bret and Bart. They seemed to epitomize Joe Cool. 😊

There was also grandppapy Maverick and cousin Beau.

Ocasionally Maverick would be supplanted by Sugarfoot and "Cheyenne" Bodie. There was also a show that, if I remember correctly, was called "The Lawman". It was great to be a kid in those days.

I remeber when we got our first TV. We tried out two at the same time and had "Wild Bill Hickok and Jingles on both.

Trivia time:

What was the name of Wyatt Earp's six gun and why was it named what it

was?

Here's a toughie. What were the real names of Cisco and Pancho and what were their horses names? I know everyone knows the Lone Ranger's horse's name or Gene Autrey's but how about Hopalong Cassidy's?

Sorry, folks, I still love my westerns and have to find westerns today any time I can.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

wclark

Old Pro



Posted June 21, 2007 10:50

[Hide Post](#)

Pancho and Cisco's horses were Diablo and Loco

Gene Autrey's was Champion and Hopalong's was Topper.

According to legend, Earp's gun was the "Buntline Special" named after Ned Buntline who commissioned the weapon from Colt. There is some doubt if this is a true story or a myth.

http://.kancoll.org/khq/1976/76_2_shillingberg.htm

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Pogo

Old Pro



Posted June 21, 2007 13:33

[Hide Post](#)

The Cisco Kid was played by Duncan Renaldo and Poncho by Leo Carrillo.

One of their biggies was "The Gay Amigo." We couldn't let that slide nowadays. 😊

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

johnj229

Old Pro



Posted June 21, 2007 13:44

[Hide Post](#)

These shows I can remember from the 50's. We got our TV about 1952-53. The Buster Brown Show with Froggie the Grimlin and Andy Devine, The Big Top Circus, Space Cadets, Cowboy Bob[out of St. Louis], Howdy Doody, Cecil and Beanie, Original Romper Room, Sky King and of course Kookla, Fran and Ollie. Before these came on in the afternoon or Saturday morning, my brother and I were just as satisfied to sit and watch the test pattern.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted June 21, 2007 14:00

[Hide Post](#)

Hoppy's horse was Topper. He died shortly after Hoppy passed away. I used to run home from school and watch Howdy Doodie & Buffalo Bob

Smith. After that was American Bandstand and then The Wranglers Club which would show 15 minutes of a western. Wrangler Bob was the host's name I believe.

There was 77 Sunset Strip with Cooky Ed Burnes, The FBI with Efrem Zembelista Jr., Your Hit Parade was on Sat. nights around 7pm with Snooky Lanson, Ted Mack Amateur Hour was on Sunday evenings, Milton Berle, Sid Caesar & Imogene Coca, Texaco Playhouse, Liberace, Perry Como Show, Nat King Cole show, Red Skelton, The Rebel with Nick Carter, and the list goes on. Those shows were entertainment for the entire family. Anyone remember Arthur Godfrey on the radio? B-Bar B Ranch, Sky King and Gunsmoke with William Conrad on radio? I collect the old radio programs and have several which are still enjoyable to listen to.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted June 21, 2007 15:34

[Hide Post](#)

jlmer, you are correct it was Wrangler Bob. He had a peanut gallery like Howdy Doody. My brother and I were in it one time. Mom drove up over and it was a big deal. First time I had ever been to St. Louis. We got to go to the zoo and down by the river. Drove past the old Cardinal stadium. I remember going over the Jefferson Barrack bridge. Scared me to death. There was a little hamburger joint, right before the bridge, on the way back home. They sold black cherry pop and it came in real beer bottles. Of course my brother and I wanted that. We have never had black cherry pop before but wanted to be able to drink out of the beer bottles.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

xlawman
Free Time



Posted June 21, 2007 18:59

[Hide Post](#)

Shows I remember in the early-mid-60's.

Sky King, Roy Rogers, Fury (The Story Of A Horse And A Boy Who Loved Him), Sea Hunt, My Mother The Car (Starring Jerry Van Dyke), Car 54 Where Are You, The Legend Of Jesse James, Combat, The Outer Limits.

EARLY-MID-60's CARTOONS:

Ricochet Rabbit, Huckleberry Hound, Tennessee Tuxedo, Space Angel, Go Go Gofers, Dudley Do-Rite, Tom Terrific & His Mighty Wonder Dog Manfred, Quick Draw McGraw, Clutch Cargo, The Funny Company.

Posts: **232** | Location: **Mount Vernon** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 21, 2007 20:18

[Hide Post](#)

On Saturday mornings I was usually supposed to help dad but as a kid there was only one good reason to be up at 7:00 on a Saturday morning. That was Bar 22 ranch with Hopalong Cassidy and sometimes "Gabby" Hayes. I later

found out that George "Gabby" Hayes was actually a Shakesperian actor who went to Hollywood, grew a beard, took out his false teeth and started talking funny. After Bar 22 was Wild Bill and Jingles, Flicka, Fury, and Sky King. I seldom got to work before 10:00.

Any body remember Joey Newton and Fury? He had a buddy nicknamed "Packy" because he was like a pack rat. The father's name was Jim Newton. He made it big on a series from 1966-73. There is now a movie or two with the same name. Can you name him?

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

**Campfollower
in VA**

Regular



Posted June 21, 2007 21:04

[Hide Post](#)

That would be Peter Graves and the show was Mission: Impossible. Do you know who Peter Graves' brother is?

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 21, 2007 21:15

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Do you know who Peter Graves' brother is?

Believe it or not, that was James Arness of Gunsmoke fame.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 21, 2007 21:18

[Hide Post](#)

Good job Campfollower! Just outta curiosity, how did you know the answer? Not many people even remember Fury and there really wasn't much to pinpoint Mission Impossible. Well, I guess maybe just enough.

Also good job on the other questions. wc - yer breakin my heart over here tearin down the image of one of my heroes. Truthfully, Ned Buntline was the author of many western stories. I think they were called dime novels. Who knows, he might even be considered the first Louis L'Amour or Zane Gray.

I had forgotten that it was James Arness but I had heard that quite a long time ago.

I saw a story once, possibly on the History Channel that pretty much proved that Billy The Kid Bonney was actually right handed. The often seen picture of him with a derby and holding a rifle gave historians enough proof to believe that the picture had somehow been printed backwards. I believe that

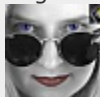
the proof was the rifle. That particular rifle was made in a way that showed that the picture was reversed.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [Buck](#), June 21, 2007 21:36

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

**Campfollower
in VA**

Regular



Posted June 21, 2007 21:30

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Pogo:

quote:

Do you know who Peter Graves' brother is?

Believe it or not, that was James Arness of Gunsmoke fame.

Good goin', Pogo. I think y'all are right about Maverick - Bret and Bart were the epitome of cool. I have a question for you - who played Cousin Beau (hint: he is British)?

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

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Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 21, 2007 21:34

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Beau was none other than Sir Roger Moore.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 21, 2007 21:39

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Y'all are hot tonight! I edited my earlier post with some info on Billy The Kid you might find interesting.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted June 22, 2007 00:50

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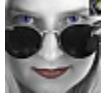
I'm not trying to change the subject, but here is a great music site. There is nothing to worry about it being illegal. You are not required to download anything but a player if you don't have one. This is a great site. It should bring back alot of memories...Enjoy!

<http://.tropicalglen.com/>

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

Campfollower
in VA

Regular



Posted June 22, 2007 07:28

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[QUOTE]Originally posted by Buck:

Good job Campfollower! Just outta curiosity, how did you know the answer? Not many people even remember Fury and there really wasn't much to pinpoint Mission Impossible. Well, I guess maybe just enough.[QUOTE]

Just one of those pieces of trivia I knew. But, I don't think Jim Newton was Joey's father - uncle or cousin or something. I will have to look it up.

Buck, I agree with you - westerns are the best. I have seen them all many times and keep watching. We grew up watching John Wayne, Randolph Scott, Gary Cooper, etc. and all the TV westerns - didn't hut us a bit.

Happy Trails!

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted June 22, 2007 09:56

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Do you know who Peter Graves' brother is?

There was a frequent guest on Gunsmoke named Steve Forrest. He was a great actor, always played the bad guy and has a brother who is/was also a star, any idea of who it is? I can't remember who it was.

Also, the one who played Johnny Yuma on The Rebel was Nick something, I have it as Carter on another post but that isn't right. He's been dead for several years.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 22, 2007 11:09

[Hide Post](#)

'Twas Nick Adams. He died under strange circumstances.

[More Info Here.](#)

That's a neat site for researching the past entertainment industry.

Steve Forrest was Dana Andrews' brother:

[Steve Forrest Info](#)

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

beanne
Regular

Posted June 22, 2007 11:24

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matt dillon is his brother. Can't recall his real name. Just about the time I finish this and submit it, it will come to me.

Posts: **148** | Location: **at home** | Registered: **January 24, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 22, 2007 14:47

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Campfollowr - Jim Newton may well have been Joey's uncle. I always got a kick outta the old man that helped out.

As for Steve Forrest, I remember the particular one that he was a bad guy gunslinger and came to Dodge while Matt was gone. He ruled the town. Matt came back and they got into a gunfight, Matt went down but not out. Forrest was caught offguard when Matt called out from the ground. He shoot the bad guy this time. That was a good one.

Another bad guy shot a priest and started feelin guilty. He played a bad guy quite often. He ended up close buddies with Michael Landon on Little House on the Prairie and the one where they were angels. Victor French ...
"Combed his hair with a wagon wheel. Died with a toothache in his heel."

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted June 22, 2007 17:35

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quote:

I'm not trying to change the subject, but here is a great music site. There is nothing to worry about it being illegal. You are not required to download anything but a player if you don't have one. This is a great site. It should bring back alot of memories...Enjoy!

<http://.tropicalglen/>

Wow! Nice site. That'll keep the tunes flowing.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 22, 2007 18:34

[Hide Post](#)

johnj229 said:

quote:

This is a great site. It should bring back alot of memories...Enjoy!

<http://.tropicalglen.com/>

Thanks **johnj229**, I'm liken' that site a lot already! Great find!

*
*
*

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

beanne
Regular

Posted June 22, 2007 18:45

[Hide Post](#)

James Arness was Matt Dillon and he is Peter Graves brother.

Posts: **148** | Location: **at home** | Registered: **January 24, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 22, 2007 19:00

[Hide Post](#)

Some may enjoy these [interviews with James Arness.](#)

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

**Campfollower
in VA**
Regular



Posted June 22, 2007 20:23

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:
Campfollowr - Jim Newton may well have been Joey's uncle.
I always got a kick outta the old man that helped out.

Hey, Buck, I found a Fury website - <http://.brokenwheelranch.com/>.
Joey and Jim wern't related - Joey was a troubled kid from the city. He bonded with the wild stallion everyone wanted to destroy - they are still writing stories like that. Not much has changed in over 50 years.

What other TV show was Gene Autry's sidekick on in the 70s?

Buck, what year did you graduate? Class of 66 here.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Krumudgeon

Free Time



Posted June 22, 2007 20:26

[Hide Post](#)

I'd enjoy discussing music of the '40s, '50s and even the '60s, but it's a big off topic for "Old Mt. Vernon." Therefore, I'm copying this post to a new topic, "Keep the Music Flowing."

Posts: **396** | Location: **Texas** | Registered: **March 12, 2007**

Krumudgeon

Free Time



Posted June 22, 2007 20:30

[Hide Post](#)

I'd also enjoy discussing TV shows and Golden Age of Radio programs from the '40s, '50s and even the '60s, but it's a also a bit off topic for "Old Mt. Vernon." Therefore, I'm copying this post to a new topic, "How Radio Became TV."

Posts: **396** | Location: **Texas** | Registered: **March 12, 2007**

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Campfollower in VA
Regular



Posted June 22, 2007 20:32

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Krumudgeon:
I'd also enjoy discussing TV shows and Golden Age of Radio programs from the '40s, '50s and even the '60s, but it's a also a bit off topic for "Old Mt. Vernon." Therefore, I'm copying this post to a new topic, "How Radio Became TV."

I was thinking the same thing after your music post - so thank you.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 22, 2007 20:46

[Hide Post](#)

Campfollower in VA asked:

quote:

What other TV show was Gene Autry's sidekick on in the 70s?

Pat Buttrum was on several T.V. shows. Among them:

Petticoat Junction" Mister Eustace Charleton Haney

Green Acres" Eustace Charleton Haney

"The Dukes of Hazzard" Sam

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 23, 2007 00:01

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Campfollower in VA:

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:
Campfollowr - Jim Newton may well have been
Joey's uncle. I always got a kick outta the old man
that helped out.

Hey, Buck, I found a Fury website -
<http://.brokenwheelranch.com/>. Joey and Jim wern't related -
Joey was a troubled kid from the city. He bonded with the wild
stallion everyone wanted to destroy - they are still writing stories
like that. Not much has changed in over 50 years.

What other TV show was Gene Autry's sidekick on in the 70s?

Buck, what year did you graduate? Class of 66 here.

I was a member of the class of '65'. I just went through the Fury website.
Man oh man! I started gettin goosebumps and started thinkin that tomorrow
morning was Saturday and how cool would it be to be able to get up in the
morning for just one more round of Hopalong, Wild Bill, Roy and Dale, Fury,
Flicka, Kemo Sabe and Tonto, Sky King and Cisco and Pancho

OH CISCO! OH OH PANCHO!

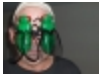
Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Bugman
Old Pro

Posted June 24, 2007 08:36

[Hide Post](#)

Ask anybody who grew up in Southern Illinois and its surrounding areas in



the late 60's early 70's who "Uncle Briggs" is and they'll probably put on their cartoon eyes! Briggs Gordon played "Uncle Briggs" on WSIL after taking over for Cactus Pete in the mid-seventies and made the show his own. With his sidekick "Bananaman" and characters such as "Sally Safety", Uncle Briggs was "must-see TV" back in the day! Me and my Bud's would never miss a day!! Sadly, Briggs Gordon (who ended up on local radio after the show was canceled, Q99 I think) died in his late 30's (he was in his 20's when he did the Uncle Briggs show!) I used to love the cartoon eyes, 3 Stooges eyes, and commercial eyes. Deputy Dawg was my favorite and his Muskie imitation never did win approval with Mr. Cameraman. Although I can still hear Sticks (private joke) doing it.

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

b00ts
Free Time



Posted June 24, 2007 09:49

[Hide Post](#)

I agree Bugman. Uncle Briggs was must see tv back in the day.

Posts: **236** | Location: . | Registered: **January 25, 2007**

BlueBelly
Educated



Posted June 24, 2007 12:56

[Hide Post](#)

Hey! Deputy Dawg, don't go away mad, just go away!!!!!!!!!!!!!! 😊

Bowling For Dollars anyone?
Did not like that show at all.

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 24, 2007 14:52

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by FtLrdlRob:
Mrs. Echols did live in the block East of the library...In the late '60's the house was white and faced Broadway with a porch across the front.

I found this in support of that:

quote:

30 Years Ago Today
Mrs. Elizabeth Echols died Sunday at the home of her son, Silas Echols, 612 Broadway,
at the age of 87 years and five months.

That's from [here](#), which has some other items that may be of interest to some.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted June 24, 2007 15:08

[Hide Post](#)

"Uncle Briggs" supposedly lost his job on radio because he made the comment "I don't think you can actually freeze those off a brass monkey" when he was doing the weather forecast one cold winter day.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

Jim in PA
Free Time



Posted June 25, 2007 00:38

[Hide Post](#)

Pogo: That particular Mrs. Echols was "our" Mrs. Marykate Echols' mother-in-law, the mother of Dr. Silas Echols, principal of MVTHS during the 30s and 40s. I had Mrs. (Dr.) Marykate Echols for World History in my freshman year in '62-'63. She was as gifted a teacher as I have ever known, and, some of us, all through the next four yrs would go over to her home on Friday afternoons to have fresh baked bread and English tea. She was a true lady. She also saw the rief of dissent and discourtesy in the Nation as well as future points of conflict around the World. She had truly "been there and done that" in her life.

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

**Campfollower
in VA**
Regular



Posted June 25, 2007 07:38

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Jim in PA:

Pogo: That particular Mrs. Echols was "our" Mrs. Marykate Echols' mother-in-law, the mother of Dr. Silas Echols, principal of MVTHS during the 30s and 40s. I had Mrs. (Dr.) Marykate Echols for World History in my freshman year in '62-'63. She was as gifted a teacher as I have ever known, and, some of us, all through the next four yrs would go over to her home on Friday afternoons to have fresh baked bread and English tea. She was a true lady. She also saw the rief of dissent and discourtesy in the Nation as well as future points of conflict around the World. She had truly "been there and done that" in her life.

Yes, Mrs. Echols was a true lady. I had World History with Mrs. Echols my sophomore year (63-64). I had her class 5th period, right after lunch. We had just started class that rainy, dreary Friday in November 1963 when loud speaker crackled and Mr. Kuhn announced that the President had died in Dallas. We did not do much in class that day.

She had definitely "been there and done that." Jim, wasn't she in Paris for a time between the wars? You know, that wonderful time when Hemingway and the gang were there and all of that wonderful writing and art came about. I remember her talking about the Chataqua shows.

She also taught so much more than history - like how to be a real student.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

mousegrINfl

Free Time



Posted June 25, 2007 09:02

[Hide Post](#)

Mrs. Echols was a gifted teacher whose life experiences added so much to her teaching. Yes, she lived in Paris and traveled on the Orient Express and she did talk of the Chatauquas. Her storytelling would overload my senses; the sight and smell of oranges being peeled on a park bench in Paris or the smell of Calcutta when she stepped off the plane onto the tarmac in Calcutta or the boiled eggs wrpped in newspaperthe passengers on the Orient Express carried on then proceeded to eat as they traveled.

I attribute much of my wanderlust to those remarkable stories she told - and the fact that she was a woman who traveled on her own at a time when it was rare for women to do that has been an inspiration to me.

I couldn't agree more that she taught us that when it comes to world affairs it is important to view it within its historical context and to look at all the factors influencing the situation. I would wager that anyone who had her as a teacher knows how to take notes in outline form!

Posts: **334** | Location: **a blue state** | Registered: **June 08, 2007**

mousegrINfl

Free Time



Posted June 25, 2007 09:10

[Hide Post](#)

Buck - My parents lived a block north of your dad's station. We knew him (and your mom) well. I can still remember my dad getting \$3 or \$5 of gas from him! Wasn't there an old station that was later built into a more modern station? You were at that time what seemed like alot older than me.

Was your parents garage at their home at one time where everyone in that precinct voted?

Posts: **334** | Location: **a blue state** | Registered: **June 08, 2007**

Bugman

Old Pro



Posted June 25, 2007 09:31

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

"Uncle Briggs" supposedly lost his job on radio because he made the comment "I don't think you can actually freeze those off a brass monkey" when he was doing the weather forecast one cold winter day.

I about spit out my coffee on that one. I think you ARE right!!!

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

wclark

Old Pro



Posted June 25, 2007 09:52

[Hide Post](#)

To all of those replying about Mrs. Echols, you are all 100% correct. Some teachers never leave you. How about Mrs. Cummings - English.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Buck

Old Pro



Posted June 25, 2007 11:22

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by mousegrINfl:
Buck - My parents lived a block north of your dad's station. We knew him (and your mom) well. I can still remember my dad getting \$3 or \$5 of gas from him! Wasn't there an old station that was later built into a more modern station? You were at that time what seemed like alot older than me.

Was your parents garage at their home at one time where everyone in that precinct voted?

I can remember selling gas at 32 cents a gallon and as little as 7 cents a gallon during a gas war. Dad's original building was a little one room building with a tall roof. He started out in that old building in about '42' or '43'. Later he built a "grease" room and then later a building with more room and restrooms was added on to the "grease" room. There was a couch in there and a TV. The neighborhood kids would come in and drink their sodas and "kids" like Roger Irvin would come in on Saturdays and count the change from their paper routes and sell dad their change. Dad was a coin collector and loved to go through all of those coins. This place gained the unofficial title of "The southwest side loafers" club. Kids loved to ride through dad's

drive and ring his service bell. If he wasn't busy he would pretend to chase after them. They all knew it was a game and they all would some time or another be in to have their bike tires aired up. In those days many people who were familiar with traveling on highway 15 would use the 24th street to Perkins route as an alternate route through Mt. Vernon and avoid downtown traffic. Dad was able to have a good neighborhood business as well as the thru traffic business. That would change as time changed. The intersection was a neighborhood center with Shaffer's across the street, and Merle and Jean's/Taco Villa on the other corner. The park was quite active and traffic on Perkins was as heavy as any street in Mt. Vernon except for Broadway and 10th streets.

Mousegirl - Would you happen to have at least one brother who is a preacher? That would be the only girl that I can remember up that way. Brent Hahn and some other boys lived in the next block but that would be the only girl that I can remember right off hand.

Yes, there was a voting place in our garage for many years. It was always interesting to watch the process throughout the preceding evening, the polling day and that night after the polls were closed. I would usually wake up on election day to "Here ye, here ye! The polls are now open! I was able to kinda come and go as I wanted. So, I would peek in ever so often and see the people getting their ballots and go into the cloth covered booth frames. I do believe that I lived and grew up in a great part of this city, state and country.

As for Mary Kate Echols, the most distinct thing that I remember about her was that we had to keep notebooks in outline form of her class lectures. She initially taught us how to use the Roman numeral outline system. At that time it sure seemed like a lot of work but today this historically (no pun intended) bad student thanks her for helping me to become a better student later on.

Another teacher that helped me become a more learned person was Roberta Hopper. I was helping out as a volunteer for a while at Good Sam and saw Ms. Hopper there one day as a patient. She was quite frail and aged. I did take that opportunity to tell her how much her teaching had meant to me. I am sure that at that time in her life that it probably meant quite a bit to her to hear that from a former student. We don't always know what type of impact we have on people throughout our lives and I believe that she was one that deserved to know that. I shall always remember her talking about that British commander at Bunker hill and what a slope head (dunce) he was. It is no coincidence that my first love today is history. These two ladies shaped me even though it did take a while.

Mt. Vernon Township High has had some very good teachers. I still occasionally run in to Mr. Kassner who taught Algebra.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Reply

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Jim in PA
Free Time



Posted June 25, 2007 12:14

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Right you are, Bill! Mrs. Cummings actually made it interesting. And Coach Changnon's wife, Delphine, actually had us reading Canterbury Tales in the original Old English. WheI took Mom to England six yrs ago for her birthday and to do some family tree legwork, we went to the Tower of London, and, in one of the stops in the White Tower, a lady was doing calligraphy in Old English, as it would have looked in the 11th Century, after Chaucer by three centuries or so. She was asking anyone to try to read what she had written, and several English folks tried and couldn't identify it. I gave it a try, and rolled out with the Our Father, or Lord's Prayer. She seemed surprised an American got it when her own countrymen couldn't, and I explained, "Well, my folks were here then, so there might be some genetic memory, but I rather think I owe the ability to two great English teachers in High School in Illinois who loved Latin and English Literature. And, Campfollower (where DID you come up with that moniker???), you are sooo right abiuot Mrs. Echols. She gave me a larger view that sticks to this day. Try discussing world events with a teen today. She was the reason I chose History as a major .

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

**Campfollower
in VA**

Posted June 25, 2007 12:57

[Hide Post](#)

Regular



quote:

Originally posted by Jim in PA:

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Miss Cummings would spin in her grave if she saw how college graduates write and heard how they speak today. Everytime I write I use what she taught me.

I loved Miss Hopper and all her talk of slope heads, especially concerning the Brits during the Revolution.

Jim in PA, as for the Campfollower moniker - hubby and I do 18th Century living history and reenactment, specifically the Revolutionary War period. I portray a campfollower (or camptramp as we laughingly call ourselves). We live about 3 miles, as the crow flies, from Mt. Vernon. The house we live in is on Dogue Run farm, part of the original holdings of George Washington.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [Campfollower in VA](#), June 25, 2007 13:08

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted June 25, 2007 13:27

[Hide Post](#)

I had Ruth Hopper and she was a terror, but we all loved her. I believe all classes feel this way, but I believe we had one of the finest group of teachers during our 4 years that any class ever had. Must have done

something right; they seem to have made an impact. Mr. Wilson(biology), Mr. Oliver(journalism), those already named, etc.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Standing Bye

Free Time



Posted June 25, 2007 14:44

[Hide Post](#)

Frank Kassner was my Algebra 1 and College Algebra & Trigonometry teacher. I still love the guy! I remember he used to have us fold our homework in half and put our name and class time on the outside of the paper. I found out later that he never opened any I ever turned in.

IMHO, he was the epitomy of what a teacher should be.

Posts: **374** | Location: **Broadway** | Registered: **May 11, 2007**

mousegrINfl

Free Time



Posted June 25, 2007 18:20

[Hide Post](#)

Buck - No my brother isn't a preacher, but I did live in the same block as Brett. On the corner of Conger. I was/am younger than you and we moved west of town when I was in 1st or 2nd grade. Not sure, but my dad may have been your dentist.

Posts: **334** | Location: **a blue state** | Registered: **June 08, 2007**

Campfollower in VA

Regular



Posted June 25, 2007 18:53

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by wclark:

I had Ruth Hopper and she was a terror, but we all loved her. I believe all classes feel this way, but I believe we had one of the finest group of teachers during our 4 years that any class ever had. Must have done something right; they seem to have made an impact. Mr. Wilson(biology), Mr. Oliver(journalism), those already named, etc.

WC, I just consulted the 66 Yearbook, Miss Hopper was Roberta and Miss Hagey was Ruth. I agree, for the most part we had great teachers. Over the four years, I had a couple of duds but, alas, they were only there for one year. The problem with schools today is that they are not allowed to teach anything. The textbooks are a joke when the only mention of George Washington in a history book is that he owned slaves.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

BlueJean
Member



Posted June 25, 2007 20:31

[Hide Post](#)

In my books, no one was a worse teacher than the red head, Mrs. Croy. She would write the assignment on the board, sit at her desk and do her nails and God forbid you ask her to explain something. Thankfully I was able to change to Charles Wagner and learn something. Alberta Hamilton, the PE teacher, was another worse teacher in my book. Getting into the marching band I escaped her clutches. To me, the greatest teachers I had were Lloyd DeWitt, Belle Embry, Larry Kaney, and Kenneth Cross. One year when I was back visiting Mt.V., I met Belle Embry in the local WalMart. She is just as cute as she was in 1950. Can anyone forget the stern Mildred Warren, the librarian. How she would pound her desk with a ruler if you made noise. So many of the boys would walk with loud boot steps to see her turn red in the face and use that ruler on the desk!

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

mousegrlNfl
Free Time



Posted June 25, 2007 21:30

[Hide Post](#)

By the time I got to Mrs. Croy, she was no longer a red-head. The one thing I did get out of her class was that I had no talent to be a secretary!

If your parents went to school in MtV, they probably had many of the same teachers mentioned. My mother's '42 and '44 yearbooks have pictures of Margaret Cummings, Kenneth Cross, Lloyd Dewitt, Eleaor Richardson, Ruth Hagey, Mildred Warren, Mr, Beckmeyer and somewhere between 1942 and 1944 Alberta Kunkel became Alberta Croy.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [mousegrlNfl](#), June 25, 2007 21:45

Posts: **334** | Location: **a blue state** | Registered: **June 08, 2007**

EastTex
Member

Posted June 25, 2007 22:07

[Hide Post](#)

I also had Mrs. Croy as my shorthand teacher. I remember she wore her grey hair in a ponytail and the ponytail bounced with each step she took, which I thought was kind of cute, and she was petite and kind of cute. She told us about one of her former pupils who got a job in the Governor's office in Springfield because she could write shorthand at 80 WPM! That really impressed me. Little did I know that ten years later I would learn machine shorthand and be writing machine shorthand at 225 WPM as an official court reporter. She must have unintentionally inspired me! I heard she died in a horrible car accident because she was driving the wrong way on the interstate and ran head on into another car filled with a family and all were killed.

Posts: **44** | Location: **East Texas** | Registered: **June 30, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted June 25, 2007 22:22

[Hide Post](#)

Thanks Campfollower. Age mixes up names sometimes. Anyway, about Alberta Crou. How she was depended on who you were - sexually. I was the only male in her shorthand class my junior year and was treated like a king. Life was GOOD! 😊🇺🇸

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Mandy
Newcomer

Posted June 26, 2007 11:22

[Hide Post](#)

I also had Mrs. Croy. I was in her class the day JFK was killed in Texas. She put her head down on the desk, everyone was crying. I kind of liked her. I thought she was cute. She did tell me she didn't think I would be a secretary, however, that is what I have done my whole working career. Maybe that was her way of making us better????

Posts: **8** | Location: **Missouri** | Registered: **April 13, 2007**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 26, 2007 11:43

[Hide Post](#)

Well, mousegirl, I just couldn't remember that your family lived north of dad's place. So, I just got on the phone and called your former neighbor and he said that it had to be my former dentist's daughter. the home in Western Gardens had pretty well erased any memory of your family's association to the good part of town. LOL! Now that I think about it I do remember your family living on the northeast corner. The (then future)preacher I was referring to lived on the southwest corner in the house that coach Harold Hutchins previously lived in for many years. Brent said he thought you were living in Florida. I never really looked that closely at your handle to see that is what is in your handle.

My condolences in your recent loss.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 26, 2007 18:32

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Here's a little test - what's wrong with this article that was printed in the R-N today, 26 June 2007?

quote:

50 Years Ago Today
Bus service in Mt. Vernon on Sundays and holidays will be completely eliminated July 4, it was revealed today by letter from Arthur F. Bangert, president of the Mt. Vernon Transit Lines

Inc.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted June 26, 2007 19:09

[Hide Post](#)

I don't know

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 26, 2007 19:10

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Pogo:
Here's a little test - what's wrong with this article that was printed in the R-N today, 26 June 2007?

quote:

50 Years Ago Today
Bus service in Mt. Vernon on Sundays and holidays will be completely eliminated July 4, it was revealed today by letter from Arthur F. Bangert, president of the Mt. Vernon Transit Lines Inc.

Mt. Vernon has no bus service and hasn't had one for 50 years. I remember riding the bus. The American social scene, though, in a town like Mt. Vernon which actually went down hill with the closing of the car shops became more independent as everyone started driving themselves. I don't really think that a bus service could have been successful in Mt. Vernon over the last 50 years. However, SCT is holding its own in today's social picture. With gas prices on the steady climb mass transit may become a better option for many. Just think - no car payments, no insurance, no gas with rising rates, no servicing and maintenance and you wouldn't have to wash the bus.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

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Sent: Thu, 27 Aug 2009 09:24:31 -0500
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[Rate It!](#) [Login/Join](#)

**Campfollower
in VA**
Regular



Posted June 26, 2007 19:31

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quote:

Originally posted by Buck:
Well, mousegirl, I just couldn't remember that your family lived north of dad's place. So, I just got on the phone and called your former neighbor and he said that it had to be my former dentist's daughter. the home in Western Gardens had pretty well erased any memory of your family's association to the good part of town. LOL! Now that I think about it I do remember your family living on the northeast corner. The (then future)preacher I was referring to lived on the southwest corner in the house that coach Harold Hutchins previously lived in for many years. Brent said he thought you were living in Florida. I never really looked that closely at your handle to see that is what is in your handle.

Mousegirl, do you remember visiting the Barlows on College Street? I lived next door and if memory serves (which it doesn't always) I remember your family coming to visit the Barlows. They moved to the St. Louis area about 1961.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered:
February 26, 2007

mousegrINfl
Free Time



Posted June 26, 2007 22:02

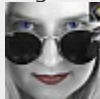
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Buck - Bird dogs, beagles, and all; we lived there - and it was a great place to live! I drove by there recently and was pleasantly surprised at how nice it still looks. Your dad and his station are a fond memory for anyone who lived in that area. I have home movies of the now retired Brent Hahn at my 4th or 5th birthday party playing pin the tail on the donkey!

Campfollower - Had not heard the name Barlow in years, but it certainly sounds familiar. Was someone's name Mickey? I think they were either people who spent time at Crab Orchard Lake or he was active in Jaycees. So many people we knew then lived on College. What hundred block did you live?

Posts: **334** | Location: **a blue state** | Registered: **June 08, 2007**

**Campfollower
in VA**
Regular



Posted June 27, 2007 06:54

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by mousegrINfl:
Buck - Bird dogs, beagles, and all; we lived there - and it was a great place to live! I drove by there recently and was pleasantly surprised at how nice it still looks. Your dad and his station are a fond memory for anyone who lived in that area. I have home movies of the now retired Brent Hahn at my 4th or 5th birthday party playing pin the tail on the donkey!

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Mousegirl - We were in the 2500 block of College. There wasn't a Mickey - kids were Jimmy and Linda (she had childhood diabetes and passed away just shy of her 30th birthday in 1977) and parents were Dick and Becky. They had a boat and did spend a lot of time at Crab Orchard and Dick was in the Jaycees so right on both accounts.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [Campfollower in VA](#), June 27, 2007 07:06

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered:
February 26, 2007

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Posted June 27, 2007 18:50

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GrannyGrunt, I am new to this site but have been fascinated by all the old memories it has stirred up. You mentioned you have some photos that include "EDSON". My mother was an Edson and I would like to see those photos. Actually, I am planning to be in Mt. Vernon From July 4 through July 7. As I stated earlier, I am new to this process and haven't yet figured out all the tricks to contacting people directly. Maybe you could give me some info on that. Thanks

quote:

Originally posted by GrannyGrunt:

I am going to post names of pictures I have.....hope this is not wrong to do?

NOTO..HILL.....COL-
SAM..BUSH.BROWDER.BARNETT....MCLAUGHLIN....SMITH.....MANDRELL..COB
IN..WHITE....BENNETT.....ALLEN.....WELLS.....BELL.TINDELL....RILEY..EDSO
N...ELLIS..MINOR.OSSIG.NEWBERRY...LOCHER.MUSGROVE.BROWN.SLEDGE..
ADAMS.JONES.CAPPS..DULANEY..SANDERS..SHERWOOD..GLASCO..SHULTES..
.MCDANIEL..CROCKER..

If you want older than these which are 60s...maybe 70s.....look on jefferson
co web page.....Taylor....Wilson..Cameron.and more.....

Posts: **3** | Location: **Mission Viejo, CA** | Registered: **June 27, 2007**

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Posted June 27, 2007 19:31

[Hide Post](#)

It would be nice to be able to leave each other a private message. Some people have email or yim on profile page. My son lives in Studio City.

quote:

Originally posted by T-Ray:

GrannyGrunt, I am new to this site but have been fascinated by all the old memories it has stirred up. You mentioned you have some photos that include "EDSON". My mother was an Edson and I would like to see those photos. Actually, I am planning to be in Mt. Vernon From July 4 through July 7. As I stated earlier, I am new to this process and haven't yet figured out all the tricks to contacting people directly. Maybe you could give me some info on that. Thanks

quote:

Originally posted by GrannyGrunt:

I am going to post names of pictures I have.....hope this is not

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NOTO..HILL.....COL-
SAM..BUSH.BROWDER.BARNETT....MCLAUGHLIN....SMITH.....MA
NDRELL..COBIN..WHITE....BENNETT.....ALLEN.....WELLS.....BEL
L.TINDELL....RILEY..EDSON...ELLIS..MINOR.OSSIG.NEWBERRY...
LOCHER.MUSGROVE.BROWN.SLEDGE..ADAMS.JONES.CAPPS..DU
LANEY..SANDERS..SHERWOOD..GLASCO..SHULTES..MCDANIEL..
CROCKER..

If you want older than these which are 60s...maybe 70s.....look
on jefferson co web page.....Taylor....Wilson..Cameron.and
more.....

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted June 27, 2007 20:36

[Hide Post](#)

Can you tell me how your father got his nickname? Are you still in Mt
Vernon?

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:

quote:

Originally posted by Pogo:

Here's a little test - what's wrong with this article
that was printed in the R-N today, 26 June 2007?

quote:

50 Years Ago Today
Bus service in Mt. Vernon on Sundays
and holidays will be completely
eliminated July 4, it was revealed
today by letter from Arthur F. Bangert,
president of the Mt. Vernon Transit
Lines Inc.

Mt. Vernon has no bus service and hasn't had one for 50
years. I remember riding the bus. The American social scene,
though, in a town like Mt. Vernon which actually went down
hill with the closing of the car shops became more

independent as everyone started driving themselves. I don't really think that a bus service could have been successful in Mt. Vernon over the last 50 years. However, SCT is holding its own in today's social picture. With gas prices on the steady climb mass transit may become a better option for many. Just think - no car payments, no insurance, no gas with rising rates, no servicing and maintenance and you wouldn't have to wash the bus.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted June 27, 2007 21:16

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

quote:

Originally posted by Pogo:

Here's a little test - what's wrong with this article that was printed in the R-N today, 26 June 2007?

quote:

50 Years Ago Today

Bus service in Mt. Vernon on Sundays and holidays will be completely eliminated July 4, it was revealed today by letter from Arthur F. Bangert, president of the Mt. Vernon Transit Lines Inc.

The problem with that article is that the Mt. Vernon Transit Company ceased operations on 30 Dec 1952, which would be 54½ ± years ago, making it hard for them to be announcing anything 50 years ago. 😊 It just struck me as amusing that the paper mangles the past as well as they often do the present. Then again, maybe it's a sad commentary on the postal service since the news came via a letter. 📧

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted June 27, 2007 22:40

[Hide Post](#)

bill_is_back - Dad just said that he was somewhere way back when and this guy he knew came in drunk and just started calling him Buck.

I still live in Mt. Vernon but I am in the process of moving to Woodlawn.

T-Ray - I remember you from the days ('72-73') when your sister and some other girls hung out with a guy named Bert (he had the transportation). How is K-Ray doin?

Pogo - I have seen many occasions where the time of an incident did not match the "years back" that it was listed under. I noticed that the 50 years seemed to be less time than I would have imagined but I had no memory or proof of the closure of the bus service.

Regretfully, the quality of the Mt.Vernon Register News went down 2 or 3 decades ago and has never come back up. I remember getting it while I was in Vietnam and it was as informative as any paper I have ever read. At some point, though, advertizing became more important than the news and the number of pages has not really changed, which means that the news is supplemental to the advertizing.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted July 01, 2007 18:28

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quote:

it was as informative as any paper I have ever read. At some point, though, advertizing became more important than the news and the number of pages has not really changed, which means that the news is supplemental to the advertizing.

When I was a kid the funnies were in color and were actually funny. Capt. Easy, Terry & The Pirates, Dick Tracy, Out Our Way, Major Hoople, Dagwood & Blonde, Red Ryder, Smilin' Jack, Steve Canyon, Mutt & Jeff and on and on. Now, half of what they print doesn't make sense or are on a political tyrade. I still enjoy some of the funnies but believe they would be ahead to rerun the ones they had in the 40s and 50s. I have a '32 Register News and it has more news than a weeks worth of them now. Can anyone add to the funnies mentioned above?

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

BlueBelly
Educated

Posted July 01, 2007 20:55

[Hide Post](#)

i was a paper boy in the early 70's and no one could figure out why I HAD to read Alley Oop everyday.

Lil Abner.

Winthrop I could identify with real well at that age/stage of my life.His "inner sanctum" was a hoot!

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

undertaker's
dtr

Posted July 05, 2007 09:39

[Hide Post](#)

Member

quote:

Originally posted by Campfollower in VA:

quote:

Originally posted by mousegrlNfl:

Buck - Bird dogs, beagles, and all; we lived there - and it was a great place to live! I drove by there recently and was pleasantly surprised at how nice it still looks. Your dad and his station are a fond memory for anyone who lived in that area. I have home movies of the now retired Brent Hahn at my 4th or 5th birthday party playing pin the tail on the donkey!

Campfollower - Had not heard the name Barlow in years, but it certainly sounds familiar. Was someone's name Mickey? I think they were either people who spent time at Crab Orchard Lake or he was active in Jaycees. So many people we knew then lived on College. What hundred block did you live?

Mousegirl - We were in the 2500 block of College. There wasn't a Mickey - kids were Jimmy and Linda (she had childhood diabetes and passed away just shy of her 30th birthday in 1977) and parents were Dick and Becky. They had a boat and did spend a lot of time at Crab Orchard and Dick was in the Jaycees so right on both accounts.

Posts: **69** | Location: **so il** | Registered: **July 02, 2007**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted July 05, 2007 14:11

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by undertaker's dtr:

quote:

Originally posted by Campfollower in VA:

quote:

Originally posted by mousegrlNfl:
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undertaker's dtr - I wonder, would that happen to be the former M.B.P.?

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

**Campfollower
in VA**

Regular



Posted July 05, 2007 19:50

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

undertaker's dtr - I wonder, would that happen to be the former M.B.P.?

Undertaker's Dtr - see you figured it out. Hope you had a good B-day.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered:
February 26, 2007

**Buck
Old Pro**

Posted July 05, 2007 23:33

[Hide Post](#)



quote:

Originally posted by Campfollower in VA:

quote:

undertaker's dtr - I wonder, would that happen to be the former M.B.P.?

Undertaker's Dtr - see you figured it out. Hope you had a good B-day.

You talkin to me?

You talkin to me?

I have had many but not lately.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Campfollower in VA
Regular



Posted July 06, 2007 07:44

[Hide Post](#)

You talkin to me?

You talkin to me?

I have had many but not lately.[/QUOTE]

Talking to Undertaker's Dtr, but hope your B-day was or will be happy also and many more to come.

Buck, email me at camptramp1va@yahoo.com so we can catch up after all these years.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

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mousegrINfl

Free Time



Posted July 06, 2007 20:01

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UndertakersDtr.....I am remembering a yellow Chevy parked in front of Sailor's!

Posts: **334** | Location: **a blue state** | Registered: **June 08, 2007**

sbevis

Free Time



Posted July 06, 2007 21:33

[Hide Post](#)

Hate to dip, but would that be Jimmy Sailor?

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

**undertaker's
dtr**

Member

Posted July 06, 2007 23:12

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by mousegrINfl:
UndertakersDtr.....I am remembering a yellow Chevy parked in front of Sailor's!

That would be right...I assume you would have been driving the turquoise camaro (?). I also seem to remember you at grandma's cabin at Miller Lake. That would have been Sailor's Cafe, by the way.

Posts: **69** | Location: **so il** | Registered: **July 02, 2007**

mousegrINfl

Free Time



Posted July 07, 2007 11:18

[Hide Post](#)

Sailor's Cafe was near the high school and was a haven for students who wanted to smoke and eat fried breaded tenderloins and just be a teenager. The Sailor's did have two sons; one was several years older than me and the other one was younger (he probably graduated around '73 or '74). One of them was named Jimmy, but not sure which one it was.

undertakersdtr - your memories are correct.

Posts: **334** | Location: **a blue state** | Registered: **June 08, 2007**

sbevis

Free Time



Posted July 07, 2007 14:48

[Hide Post](#)

Jimmy lived on North 8th st, or maybe that is Tolle Road by then.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

jlmer

Old Pro



Posted July 08, 2007 16:55

[Hide Post](#)

To try to put this back on topic, does anyone have any old postcards of Mt. Vernon they'd be willing to scan and post here?

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

**undertaker's
dtr**

Member

Posted July 08, 2007 17:47

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

To try to put this back on topic, does anyone have any old postcards of Mt. Vernon they'd be willing to scan and post here?

There are several old post cards on the Jefferson Co Genealogy website.
[.iltrails.org/jefferson](http://iltrails.org/jefferson)

Posts: **69** | Location: **so il** | Registered: **July 02, 2007**

bill_is_back

Old Pro



Posted July 08, 2007 22:38

[Hide Post](#)

John Sailer graduated in 1964.

quote:

Originally posted by sbevis:
Jimmy lived on North 8th st, or maybe that is Tolle Road by then.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

johnj229

Old Pro



Posted July 09, 2007 02:47

[Hide Post](#)

Mt. Vernon 1888 Tornado:

<http://.gendisasters.com/data1/il/tornadoes/mtvernon-tornado1888.htm>

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

enlightened

Free Time



Posted July 09, 2007 13:50

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:
To try to put this back on topic, does anyone have any old postcards of Mt. Vernon they'd be willing to scan and post here?

Before my mother passed away, she entrusted Tom Puckett and the historical society with a great old postcard collection of Mt Vernon and the surrounding area. If you have time you might visit the historical village and see the cards.

Posts: **243** | Location: **mcclellan township** | Registered: **March 20, 2007**

**undertaker's
dtr**

Member

Posted July 10, 2007 19:42

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by johnj229:
Mt. Vernon 1888 Tornado:

Scanned the articles; pretty interesting. My gendfather was eight years old and living in Mt. Vernon at the time of the

cyclone. All he would ever say was that it was "terrible...just terrible". Does anyone remember the tornado in December of 1957? There was devastation in that, but technology had progressed quite a bit by then.

<http://.gendisasters.com/data1/il/tornadoes/mtvernon-tornado1888.htm>

Posts: **69** | Location: **so il** | Registered: **July 02, 2007**

MTV_Shorty
Member

Posted July 10, 2007 20:32

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I don't remember the 1957 Tornado, my mom was pregnant with me, but I remember her and my grandma telling me about it. My grandma found a fully decorated Christmas tree in her back yard. She said she saw something explode in the sky and later found out it was a house that a Brownie meeting was being held in. The leader had just gotten all the girls to the basement.

Posts: **60** | Location: **St. Louis** | Registered: **March 21, 2007**

mousegrINfl
Free Time



Posted July 10, 2007 22:57

[Hide Post](#)

Much of the destruction from the '57 tornado was in the Country Heights area. Wasn't there a young girl who died there? The homes were built on concrete slabs thus no basement. I remember a state trooper who lived in that area ended up living in an apartment over the garage behind our house on 24th Street after the tornado for some time until his home was rebuilt or repaired.

Does anyone know which tornado it was that Clara Barton came to Mt.V? Obviously, not '57. My great-grandfather's obituary refers to the "Southern Illinois tornado" in about 1926. Did that hit Mt. V or was it farther south?

Posts: **334** | Location: **a blue state** | Registered: **June 08, 2007**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted July 10, 2007 23:35

[Hide Post](#)

I believe Barton was in MtV for the 1888 tornado.

I certainly remember the December, 1957 storm. Damned thing went right thru our living room. We were the only house on our street that kept it's roof. 700 Magnolia.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted July 10, 2007 23:52

[Hide Post](#)

Clara Barton was born in 1821. She made a name for herself during the Civil War and was about 67 when she was in Mt. Vernon for the 1888 cyclone.

The only death in the 1957 tornado was the child of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Copple. I later had him as a teacher at the high school. The state trooper may well have been Andy Muzzarelli. I believe that they lived in the country Heights area about then. There was also a house that was totally destroyed on the east side of 10th Street just north of Harper's

We went to the basement for a while but thought it had quit blowing and went upstairs and onto the porch. I looked to the west and northwest and the sky had this really eerie green tint to it. Dad, ever the adventurer and explorer decided to see what was happening but all he found that day was a bunch of streets blocked with debris.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

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**undertaker's
dtr**
Member

Posted July 11, 2007 08:15

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quote:

Originally posted by Buck:
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I was raised in what is now the Hughey Funeral Home. Since the tornado happened in December, there were no leaves on the trees. We stood in the windows in the east apartment of the funeral home and watched pieces of homes get tossed into the air like pick-up sticks. Pretty scary stuff. We also had the ambulance business in those days and it was a nightmare.

Years ago, I saw some home movies that Floyd Collins had taken of the aftermath. It was much worse than I remembered as a child.

Posts: **69** | Location: **so il** | Registered: **July 02, 2007**

**Campfollower
in VA**

Regular



Posted July 11, 2007 08:49

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quote:

Originally posted by MTV_Shorty:
I don't remember the 1957 Tornado, my mom was pregnant with me, but I remember her and my grandma telling me about it. My grandma found a fully decorated Christmas tree in her back yard. She said she saw something explode in the sky and later found out it was a house that a Brownie meeting was being held in. The leader had just gotten all the girls to the basement.

My cousin was at the Brownie meeting in Country Heights, I beleive, and hid under the piano. To this day severe storms scare her. She was about 7 at the time. My husband's uncle and his family also lived in Country Heights and lost their home. I remember how dark it got. We went to the basement when we heard the "freight train." My aunt worked at the old Sears store when it was on 10th Street. She was on the second floor and talked about seeing the swirling debris fly by. I saw some pictures and the damage was worse than I remembered. Of course, I was 9 at the time. wasn't the date December 17 or 18?

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

johnj229

Old Pro



Posted July 11, 2007 08:50

[Hide Post](#)

We had moved from Country Heights the summer of 1957 to Centralia. We lived in the south end of Centralia and stood on our front porch and watched the funnel clouds high in the sky. Dad made the comment that they sure looked like they were close to Mt. Vernon. He received a phone call a couple of hours later and was told that it had gone through the CH subdivision. We, my dad and I went down the next day. Even as a 7th grader I realized just what destruction I was looking at. The homes in CH were National prefab homes. The tornado actually picked them up and put them in big piles. The concrete slabs were all that was left of many homes. There really wasn't the

splintering of the homes they were just a pile. The streets run north and south after you get off of Central Ave. and the tornado seem to go on the west side of the streets. It would wipe out the houses on the west side and leave the east side houses alone. It did that on almost every street.

Johnny Muzzarelli was a playmate of my brother and I. Infact at that time there was my brother and I, Johnny, Eddie Hogan and a boy named Beasley [sorry his first name escapes me now] that were the only males that lived in that area. About a block or 2 south there was Don Rich and the McPhierson[sp] brothers that we also played with.

The one thing about the Tornado of 57 I really remeber well was that a house was completely blown away except for a coffee table that had a bowl with a floating flower in it and it wasn't distrubed at all. Another thing that we also saw was that straw was sticking out on the east side of some of the bigger trees that withstood the tornado. The high winds were blowing from the west. It was really strange.

The house we lived in at 3208 Central was standing without any damage at all. The other house dad had owned and sold at the west end of Central was completey gone. It just seemed like the tornado had a brain and knew what it was doing.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

mousegrINfl

Free Time



Posted July 11, 2007 13:08

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

The only death in the 1957 tornado was the child of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Copple. I later had him as a teacher at the high school. The state trooper may well have been Andy Muzzarelli.

Yes, it was Andy. I think he lived on the same street as the Copple family.

Posts: **334** | Location: **a blue state** | Registered: **June 08, 2007**

tyrone

Free Time



Posted July 11, 2007 13:41

[Hide Post](#)

No ! I do not remember Clara Barton being here in 1888 ! Even though my grandkids think I should.

But I do remember Dewey Barton running a pool hall on Tenth Street in the early 50's who would later become Sheriff of JeffCo. A great guy and a good Sheriff. He was also a welder at the Car Shops.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted July 11, 2007 14:01

[Hide Post](#)

Brad Copple was the child killed in the 1957 tornado. He was 4 years old.

Whoever from the Register News that monitors this forum could look back in their archives and post some information on the tornado. Would be nice.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted July 11, 2007 14:07

[Hide Post](#)

I think the Copple family lived on Pine Drive. It may have been Cedar but I will go with Pine Drive. Pine Drive was the street that the Muzzarelli's live on. I know that for sure.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

joyful1
Free Time



Posted July 11, 2007 14:44

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Whoever from the Register News that monitors this forum could look back in their archives and post some information on the tornado. Would be nice.

quote:

There are several old post cards on the Jefferson Co Genealogy website. [.iltrails.org/jefferson](http://iltrails.org/jefferson)

I went to this website and there was a link at the bottom "Visit Jefferson County ILGenWeb". At that page there was a couple of links about the tornado. Interesting stuff.

Posts: **374** | Location: **Jefferson County** | Registered: **May 01, 2007**

joyful1
Free Time



Posted July 11, 2007 14:48

[Hide Post](#)

Okay. I read some of the articles from the website I listed above. I have one question. Some of the articles list "Killed" and then also list "fatally injured". What's the difference?

Posts: **374** | Location: **Jefferson County** | Registered: **May 01, 2007**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted July 11, 2007 14:59

[Hide Post](#)

Brad was struck in the head as his mom tried to get the kids into a ditch in front of their house. I would say that the phrasing and use of certain words are left up to the writer/reporter. To me is kind of like when some articles use the word "Cop" and another will use "Police". Cop seems to me to be a harsh word where police is a kinder word.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

joyful1
Free Time



Posted July 11, 2007 15:50

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I would say that the phrasing and use of certain words are left up to the writer/reporter. To me is kind of like when some articles use the word "Cop" and another will use "Police". Cop seems to me to be a harsh word where police is a kinder word.

Usually, I would agree with that, but this was the same article with one list for "Killed" and another for "Fatally Injured". I just wondered what the diff was.

Posts: **374** | Location: **Jefferson County** | Registered: **May 01, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted July 11, 2007 16:33

[Hide Post](#)

Killed implies instant death whereas fatally injured means that the person probably lived for a while after being injured and later died from the injuries.

Just guessing however.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

joyful1
Free Time



Posted July 11, 2007 16:40

[Hide Post](#)

That's as good a guess as any.

Sounds like such a horrible time, but it really sounds like the country pulled together to help this area out when it hit.

Posts: **374** | Location: **Jefferson County** | Registered: **May 01, 2007**

**undertaker's
dtr**
Member

Posted July 11, 2007 19:06

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by johnj229:
Brad Copple was the child killed in the 1957 tornado. He was 4 years old.

Whoever from the Register News that monitors this forum could look back in their archives and post some information on the tornado. Would be nice.

I have the 12-19-57 edition of the Register news. Brad Copple's parents lived at 313 Pine Drive. I'm pretty sure the daughter, Ellen, was also with Mrs. Copple and Brad at the time Brad was killed. The Copples had a son, Earl, who is probably 58 now. I think he maybe worked for the government (FBI?) I think Mr. Copple taught at the high school, didn't he?

The article in the Register News also lists those who were hospitalized. Looks like Mrs. Muzzarelli and her son Johnny were there, too.

Posts: **69** | Location: **so il** | Registered: **July 02, 2007**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted July 11, 2007 22:37

[Hide Post](#)

Mr. Copple was the assistant Principal during the early 70's.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

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jlmer
Old Pro



Posted July 12, 2007 11:11

[Hide Post](#)

I just came from the "iltrails website and the colors made it very hard to read plus there's very little info on the page about who swerved in the wars, etc. List of names but they are under different states than IL.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

mousegrINfl
Free Time



Posted July 12, 2007 15:32

[Hide Post](#)

I tried to post two post cards to this, but ended up with a new thing for post-cards - so take a look there and I'll explain what they are here.

One is the Egyptian Hospital which was located on 11th Street - behind what most of us knew as Griggs Market and across from the fire station. By the 50's it had been turned into a hotel/rooming house type of place with a big porch. I remember going there for Olen Mills pictures. When it was a hospital the family lived upatairs and the hospital and a nursing school downstairs. Some of the women in nursing school lived upstairs as well based on what I remember hearing. According to one of Tom Puckett's books, Dr. Hamilton had one of the first cars in the county. I can't say for sure that is the car in the photo.

The second photo of the decorated car is possibly Dr. Hamilton's daughter. She did tell me the car had been decorated for a parade that

had to do with something at the high school. As she graduated in 1914, it was probably taken around that time.

Dr. Hamilton eventually closed that hospital and joined with another Dr. (I think it was Dr. Sam Thompson). They combined their hospitals and moved to a location on North 12th St. which was the building for Dr. Steve Zelman's office at one time (it might still be). The story as I recall it is ...Dr. Thompson and Dr. Hamilton both had sons who became dr.s. Before the start of WWI many of the dr.'s had been called up to go overseas - some as part of the French military. With the young doctors gone there were not enough docs to cover the hospitals. It was at that time that the Sisters of St. Francis came in and began to run the hospitals so that the few doctors who were left could spend more time tending to patients.

Posts: **334** | Location: **a blue state** | Registered: **June 08, 2007**

Jim in PA
Free Time



Posted July 12, 2007 23:42

[Hide Post](#)

Dr. Thompson and Dr. Hamilton took over a great big old red brick home on the west side of North 12th., just north of the creek across from a home my aunt and uncle layer bought(600 North 12th.)and the grounds were huge, about three acres plus. The Sisters of St. Francis took over from them in the late 30s or just before we entered the War. I was born in '48 in the building, then known as Good Samaritan Hospital. The grounds across the street, to the east, going up the hill towards Tenth St. were all once a single family yard for a home built in 1900 by my great grandfather, Charles Hoit, and the homes now occupyinf the 600 block were where my Mom and uncles went sledding when there was snow,until the home burned in 1931 and the land was sold and the current homes were built and sold just brfore his death. The Good Sam gave a lot of us our first views of the world....

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

**Campfollower
in VA**
Regular



Posted July 13, 2007 08:02

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Jim in PA:

Dr. Thompson and Dr. Hamilton took over a great big old red brick home on the west side of North 12th., just north of the creek across from a home my aunt and uncle layer bought(600 North 12th.)and the grounds were huge, about three acres plus. The Sisters of St. Francis took over from them in the late 30s or just before we entered the War. I was born in '48 in the building, then known as Good Samaritan Hospital. The grounds across the street, to the east, going up the hill towards Tenth St. were all once a single family yard for a home built in 1900 by my great grandfather, Charles Hoit, and the homes now occupyinf the 600 block

were where my Mom and uncles went sledding when there was snow, until the home burned in 1931 and the land was sold and the current homes were built and sold just before his death. The Good Sam gave a lot of us our first views of the world....

Born there also in 1948. My mom tells me she became quite familiar with the halls as I was reluctant to greet the world and they had here walking up and down to hasten the process. I came into the world with the assistance of Dr. J.W. Wells of Waltonville (young Doc Charlie, son of J.W., had only been in practice about a month when I was born).

I remember visiting my uncle there after his appendectomy when I was about 4.

Do you know what year the hospital moved across the street to its present location? My brother was born in 1953 and I believe it was in the new building.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted July 13, 2007 09:54

[Hide Post](#)

I was born in January of 1947 in the old house that preceded the "new" hospital. I don't necessarily remember the old house but I was always under the impression that the house was on the west side of 12th Street where the present hospital is. The east side of 12th St. has a definitive rise in the terrain that does not match the picture of the old house that is in the hall at the hospital.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn, IL** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

mousegrINfl
Free Time



Posted July 13, 2007 10:01

[Hide Post](#)

Thanks, Jim in PA, for clarifying. The "New" hospital as it was called in the '50s opened in 1952. Nelson McAtee (the son of the dentist Dr. McAtee) was the first child born there. He graduated in the class of 1970.

Does anyone know if Dr. Goff Thompson is the grandson of Dr. Sam Thompson? Goff's father was Dr. Harry Thompson who many of you would remember.

Posts: **334** | Location: **a blue state** | Registered: **June 08, 2007**

Jim in PA
Free Time

Posted July 13, 2007 13:22

[Hide Post](#)

I am pretty sure that Dr. Geoff (Goff to local memories), is the grandson, and



I think he was one of the first Mt. Vernon grads to go to the U of I. i read about him in old alumni newsletters some time back.

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

undertaker's dtr
Member

Posted July 13, 2007 18:09

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by mousegrINfl:
Thanks, Jim in PA, for clarifying. The "New" hospital as it was called in the '50s opened in 1952. Nelson McAtee (the son of the dentist Dr. McAtee) was the first child born there. He graduated in the class of 1970.

Does anyone know if Dr. Goff Thompson is the grandson of Dr. Sam Thompson? Goff's father was Dr. Harry Thompson who many of you would remember.

Mousegirl--How do you know all of this obscure stuff? I do know that I was born in 07-51 and was born in the old bldg.

Goff Thompson delivered by youngest son...he is Harry's son, but I believe Sam Thompson was a chiroprapist. Maybe Cathy Thompson's father--two years older than you.

Posts: **69** | Location: **so il** | Registered: **July 02, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted July 13, 2007 22:31

[Hide Post](#)

Click here and read about the [Thompson family history](#).

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

mousegrINfl
Free Time



Posted July 14, 2007 09:41

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by undertaker's dtr:

Mousegirl--How do you know all of this obscure stuff? I do know that I was born in 07-51 and was born in the old bldg.

.

Well, undertakersdtr....if you remember I had a grandmother whose family had lived in the county for a LONG time....she knew a great deal about the history of the area. She could tell me how I was related, albeit distantly, to just about anyone whose famiy was from Jefferson County people you and I knew and you would never have guessed we were distantly related.

It was because of my grandmother taking me to the cemetery and going on about this and that history that I was the one who discovered last summer that a family member had been buried in the wrong place at Oakwood about a year ago!

So you were born in July of '51 in the old hospital and I was born in June of '52 in the new hospital.....

Posts: **334** | Location: **a blue state** | Registered: **June 08, 2007**

**undertaker's
dtr**
Member

Posted July 14, 2007 13:05

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by mousegrINfl:

quote:

Originally posted by undertaker's dtr:

Mousegirl--How do you know all of this obscure stuff? I do know that I was born in 07-51 and was born in the old bldg.

.

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It was because of my grandmother taking me to the cemetery and going on about this and that history that I was the one who discovered last summer that a family member had been buried in the wrong place at Oakwood about a year ago!

So you were born in July of '51 in the old hospital and I was

born in June of '52 in the new hospital.....

Actually, I had forgotten that your grandparents were long time residents of Jeff Co. Mine, too in the northern part of the county. I was amazed at the post card of the Hamilton Hospital. Had no recollection of it until I saw the photo and then remembered it.

When I was a kid, my mother had a photo book of Mt. Vernon from maybe the 30s with pictures of old homes and businesses, but I have no idea what happened to it. I suppose there would be one at the library...maybe someday I'll check it out.

Posts: **69** | Location: **so il** | Registered: **July 02, 2007**

BlueBelly
Educated

Posted July 16, 2007 00:29

[Hide Post](#)

<http://news.yahoo.com/comics/alleyoop; ylt=Aib7ifRt.Fc0FOV8IBVN2 LlcLQF>

Alley Oop is still around?

found this panel on yahoo.

Tank Macnamara was here too.

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted August 06, 2007 21:15

[Hide Post](#)

The large house in the 2100 block of College was supposed to be the first hospital in Mt. Vernon. Does anyone have a pic of it when it was a hospital? I'd be interested in exchanging pictures of the 40s & 50s if anyone else would want to. Scanned and sent email would be agreeable or I have close up lens and could have them made off of negatives. I don't have a lot but I do have some.

I have one of the street cars used for housing at 24th & Bwdy in the late early 40s.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 07, 2007 00:22

[Hide Post](#)

If you can get your hands on a copy of "Mt. Vernon - A Pictorial History" by Thomas A. Puckett, you'll find a picture of that hospital on page 184. It was located on 1920 College and was called "The Mt. Vernon Hospital." It was opened by Dr. J.T. Whitlock in 1903 in that building that was formerly the "Excelsior Sanitarium" which was first opened in 1895 by Drs. Frank and Will McClain.

The house is currently being used as a childrens day care center.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

jimer
Old Pro



Posted August 07, 2007 10:41

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

If you can get your hands on a copy of "Mt. Vernon - A Pictorial History" by Thomas A. Puckett, you'll find a picture of that hospital on page 184

Geez, that's where I read about it AND I have the book. Oh Boy, and just think, I go out alone.....sometimes. Thanks Pogo.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

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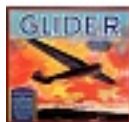
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beanne
Regular



Posted August 07, 2007 19:33

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Do any of the people on this forum read the "Reminisce" magazine? It is full of old time things.

Posts: **148** | Location: **at home** | Registered: **January 24, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted August 08, 2007 17:17

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by beanne:
Do any of the people on this forum read the "Reminisce" magazine? It is full of old time things.

I've taken it for years. I take the "Good Old Days" off and on but not a true fan of it. I take The Saturday Evening Post but don't really like it either. Reminise would be hard to beat.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

PrayerMan
Basic training



Posted August 09, 2007 11:31

[Hide Post](#)

Jimmy is my father-- he is doing well-- retired now, and does a lot of volunteer stuff for the DAV. I don't check this site often-- if you wish to contact me feel free to do so directly at pastorkentmcd@yahoo.com

quote:

Originally posted by Jim in PA:

Prayer Man: I may have gone to Bethel School with your father or your uncle (or both) Joe McDermott and I were in the Bethel graduating class of 1962, and Jimmy McDermott was a couple of yrs ahead of us. Never encountered anyone who knew more about cars even long before we could legally drive 'em. That place was always turnin' and burnin' keeping cars and trucks on the road... Good to hear from you.

Posts: **19** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



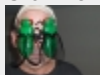
Posted August 09, 2007 17:10

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There were some icons in Mt. Vernon who weren't in politics that haven't been mentioned in this forum, like, Big Jim McDerment, Sol Greenburg, Frank & Keith Tittle, Bob Smith's garage on 10th & whatever the highway going to Continental Tire is now, Lowell Simmons of Western Auto, John Shores of Gebharts, Epllers, on and on.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Bugman
Old Pro



Posted August 09, 2007 18:18

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Posted August 09, 2007 17:10 [Hide Post](#)

There were some icons in Mt. Vernon who weren't in politics that haven't been mentioned in this forum, like, Big Jim McDerment, Sol Greenburg, Frank & Keith Tittle, Bob Smith's garage on 10th & whatever the highway going to Continental Tire is now, Lowell Simmons of Western Auto, John Shores of Gebharts, Epllers, on and on.

quote:

There were some icons in Mt. Vernon who weren't in politics that haven't been mentioned in this forum, like, Big Jim McDerment, Sol Greenburg, Frank & Keith Tittle, Bob Smith's garage on 10th

& whatever the highway going to Continental Tire is now, Lowell Simmons of Western Auto, John Shores of Gebharts, Eppers, on and on.

Boy you hit some nails on the head. Wasn't McDerment a Tucker dealer? Greenburgs 10th and Perkins? Tittle's in front of the ice house? Simmons had the best sports equipment in town. Wooden floors. And his wife was a teacher at Field- Dr. Andy Hall school? Eppler would let you trade 10 comics for 10. Didn't it burn for two days?

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 09, 2007 18:22

[Hide Post](#)

I knew them all **jimer**. You could deal with them with the confidence that you would be treated fairly. If they didn't satisfy, it wouldn't be their fault for not trying.

The likes of them are still here but you have to look harder for them now days.

I miss the small and medium sized businesses we had back in the day. Shops like John Donoho's Welding, Budlock Refrigeration, Ford's National Auto, Virgil Williamson Auto Repair, Dobb's Bargain Town, L&N Buffet, and dozens upon dozens more small markets, garages, drive-ins, sit down restaurants, and the likes.

The people you mentioned struck a chord with me and as I was thinking them through I got hung on Lowell Simmons' brother's name. Can you help me there? I ashamed that I have forgotten it when I knew them both so well. The brain is the first thing to go! 😊 It'll come to me in time...maybe.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 09, 2007 18:25

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Greenburgs 10th and Perkins?

Nope! That was lastly located on the south west corner of 10th & Waltonville Rd (rt. 148). It started out on the south east corner though.

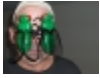
I see that I got that backwards, thanks to Tyrone, so I best correct it. He started out on the southwest corner and ended up on the southeast corner of 10th & Waltonville Rd.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [Pogo](#), August 09, 2007 19:05

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Bugman

Old Pro



Posted August 09, 2007 18:29

[Hide Post](#)

What was the store just north of 10th and Perkins. Where the nail place is now?

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

Bugman

Old Pro



Posted August 09, 2007 18:32

[Hide Post](#)

Did anyone every go down to Ford National and watch the Indy 500 or the Bell telephone movies?

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

tyrone

Free Time



Posted August 09, 2007 18:36

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Bugman:

quote:

Posted August 09, 2007 17:10 [Hide Post](#)
There were some icons in Mt. Vernon who weren't in politics that haven't been mentioned in this forum, like, Big Jim McDerment, Sol Greenburg, Frank & Keith Tittle, Bob Smith's garage on 10th & whatever the highway going to Continental Tire is now, Lowell Simmons of Western Auto, John Shores of Gebharts, Epplers, on and on.

quote:

There were some icons in Mt. Vernon who weren't in politics that haven't been mentioned in this forum, like, Big Jim McDerment, Sol Greenburg, Frank & Keith Tittle, Bob Smith's garage on 10th & whatever the highway going to Continental Tire is now, Lowell Simmons of Western Auto, John Shores of Gebharts, Epplers, on and on.

Boy you hit some nails on the head. Wasn't McDerment a Tucker dealer? Greenburgs 10th and Perkins? Tittle's in front of the ice house? Simmons had the best sports equipment in town. Wooden floors. And his wife was a teacher at Field- Dr. Andy Hall

school? Eppler would let you trade 10 comics for 10. Didn't it burn for two days?

I pretty sure Leland Carr was our local Tucker dealer. He was located on the first curve on the Waltonville Road. Sollie Greenburg was located at 10th and Waltonville Road. Later he moved across the street east where Diamond Smith had had a welding shop. Epplers south of town burned for over a week. He never traded me even up for any comic books though. His home was on Broadway next to Lashbrook Tent and Awning. A very stately and neat two story house.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 09, 2007 18:50

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

What was the store just north of 10th and Perkins. Where the nail place is now?

That would be Beachworth Brumbaughs. Varsity store I think he called it.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Bugman
Old Pro



Posted August 09, 2007 18:57

[Hide Post](#)

My dad told me McDerment had Tucker parts upstairs in the brick build and was a dealer, him and Jim went waaay back so I don't know??

Eppler's house was on the north west side of Broadway and 17th. Across from Broadway drive-inn. Lashbrook's was in the middle of the next block east. About straight across from 16th.

What was the name of the blacksmiths shop in the alley where the Elk's is now? I used to go to Eppler's, get baby buggy wheels, go to the blacksmiths shop and get 1/4" or 1/2" stock, a few boards and have a push (go) cart. What was the name of the guy (hermit) that lived where the storage sheds are across from the old TSC?

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 09, 2007 19:10

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

What was the name of the guy (hermit) that lived where the storage sheds are across from the old TSC?

His name was Dixon. I don't know his first name but we always referred to him as "Goat Man Dixon." If you knew him, you'll know why.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 09, 2007 20:22

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

What was the name of the blacksmiths shop in the alley where the Elk's is now?

I think that may have been Bob Smith's Garage but I'm not sure. I do remember the place though and it was in the alley between Jordan and B'way. I think it was a blacksmith shop at one time. Dana Pickett worked there in the 40's and did the welding. Dana later (late 40's thru the 60's) ran a welding shop just south of 10th & Perkins on the east side. He also had a low income apartment building at the same location.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

**Campfollower
in VA**
Regular



Posted August 09, 2007 20:27

[Hide Post](#)

Mrs. Simmons was Iris - good teacher and very nice lady. I had her for 4th grade at Field School, along with Madame Mayor. I think I was in the 5th or 6th grade when the name was changed to honor Dr. Andy Hall. Remember the Western Flyer bicycles?

Where did you gentlemen go for haircuts?

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

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Moderators: Big Hall, Bob Dennis

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Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 09, 2007 21:38

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In my teen years, I went to the best barber in town, Bob Sledge. He had a shop on the south side of Jordan between 9th & 10th.

When I was younger, I went to a barber on south 10th, along about the 900 block and on the west side. I also occasionally went to one further down 10th on the east side in the block before Perkins. It was across the street from Beechie Brumbaugh's Varsity Store. It was in a house with a front porch that had a bench on it for customers to sit while waiting their turn in the chair. Not a pleasant place to wait while the afternoon summer sun beamed down on you. We lived out on the Opdyke road near Fishers Lane at the time so those were the closest barber shops to walk to but not necessarily the best.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Sassafras
Regular



Posted August 09, 2007 22:31

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Bugman:
What was the name of the blacksmiths shop in the alley where

the Elk's is now?

That was "Lemay Blacksmith Shop".

quote:

I think it was a blacksmith shop at one time. Dana Pickett worked there in the 40's and did the welding.

That building was built about 1952 when the blacksmith shop moved from the alley behind Starr Brothers to that location. Dana Pickett never did work there.

T

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 09, 2007 22:45

[Hide Post](#)

Thanks for the correction sassafras. I was a little fuzzy on that but I do remember taking my '46 ford to a garage in that alley and the year would have been 1953. It was in the 1100 block in the alley between Jordan & B'Way as best I can recall. Must have been another shop - maybe close to Lemay's blacksmith.

I know Dana Pickett worked in Bill Smith's garage in the 40's and I was guessing that was the place. Apparently not. Funny, I don't remember Bill Smith's garage at all. Where was it located?

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Sassafras
Regular



Posted August 09, 2007 22:57

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Pogo:

Thanks for the correction sassafras. I was a little fuzzy on that but I do remember taking my '46 ford to a garage in that alley and the year would have been 1953. It was in the 1100 block in the alley between Jordan & B'Way as best I can recall. Must have been another shop - maybe close to Lemay's blacksmith.

That was probably in that alley behind where Starr Brothers was. The building that is now the Elks is in an alley south of Jordan, between 11th and 12th streets and was built by Pete Lemay.

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 09, 2007 23:08

[Hide Post](#)

Let me see if I have it straight now. The garage I was referring to was likely in the building formerly occupied by a blacksmith shop (Lemay's). We do not know the name of that garage but we think it was in the alley that ran behind Starr Bros, between 11th & 12th streets.

Bob Smith's has nothing to do with it except his last name is part of the term blacksmith. 🤖

Now what remains to be known is what was the name of the garage that was in the former blacksmith shop?

And where was Bob Smith's garage located? Was it located on south 10th just south of Perkins? Did Dana Pickett buy it from him or did he buy it from a man named George Ward, the same man who owned the Mammoth?

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 10, 2007 06:16

[Hide Post](#)

Here's another name from the past, Al Swartz. He ran the Western Auto Store when it was located across from Featherstun's in the 1100 block of Broadway. A clerk there was Bob Pasley.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 10, 2007 07:17

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Bugman:

My dad told me McDerment had Tucker parts upstairs in the brick build and was a dealer, him and Jim went waaay back so I don't know??

Eppler's house was on the north west side of Broadway and 17th. Across from Broadway drive-inn. Lashbrook's was in the middle of the next block east. About straight across from 16th. What was the name of the blacksmiths shop in the alley where the Elk's is now? I used to go to Eppler's, get baby buggy wheels, go to the blacksmiths shop and get 1/4" or 1/2" stock, a few boards and have a push (go) cart.

What was the name of the guy (hermit) that lived where the

storage sheds are across from the old TSC?

As I remember it when Tucker Auto Co folded up Leland Carr sold what parts and supply's for salvage, maybe Jim McDermott bought them as such. It was odd but radio's, clocks, wheel covers etc were sold by Tucker dealers even though they couldn't show or sell you an actual Tucker "48". One Tucker was finally displayed and I saw it at the old midget race track east of town on the Tolle Road. They had some kind of trouble with it as it was trying to make a lap around the track. As a teenager back then I thought it was the most modern car ever built and reminded me of some kind of rocket ship. The engine was in the back and it had a headlight in the middle of the grill that was supposed to move as you turned a corner. The headlight was one of the things that didn't work the night it made it's appearance at the racetrack.

There was no Broadway Drive-In at the time I was referring to. It was a parking lot for Lashbrook's. Lashbrook's was actually a house and the residence of Sybal Lashbrook and was also the office. In a cluster of business buildings just to the east one was the Dixie Creme Do-Nut Shop and at one time just east of it was a small cafe(later Troutt News Agency) and just east of it was Danner's service station. Across the street was Bracey'e Food Store.

Mr Epler was known as "Dick" but his name was Elbert Epler and his wife was Ada. He once ran a used junk store on south 9th near the old Royal (Stadium) movie house. After the fire at the Royal he moved south of town to a building that I remember as Bill's Place, a roadhouse. It was across from Bethel Cemetery and it was the one I was referring to that burned for a week. His store never actually burned on 9th street but I was there and Mr Epler was working like a mad man trying to remove as much valuable junk as he could for fear that the fire would spread to his treasures. I wish I had a chance now to explore those dark and jam packed stores he owned. What real treasure's those building would hold now days.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [tyrone](#), August 10, 2007 07:38

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 10, 2007 07:59

[Hide Post](#)

You know how it is when you capture a memory and bring it to the surface it always shakes loose another related memory. After my post on the south 9th street action it came to mind that I remembered that the Elks Lodge used to be upstairs near the old Summers Five and Dime Store there on south 9th street. Mitchell Furniture was also in that area.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

**Campfollower
in VA**

Posted August 10, 2007 08:24

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Regular



quote:

Originally posted by Pogo:

In my teen years, I went to the best barber in town, Bob Sledge. He had a shop on the south side of Jordan between 9th & 10th.

When I was younger, I went to a barber on south 10th, along about the 900 block and on the west side. I also occasionally went to one further down 10th on the east side in the block before Perkins. It was across the street from Beechie Brumbaugh's Varsity Store. It was in a house with a front porch that had a bench on it for customers to sit while waiting their turn in the chair. Not a pleasant place to wait while the afternoon summer sun beamed down on you. We lived out on the Opdyke road near Fishers Lane at the time so those were the closest barber shops to walk to but not necessarily the best.

No arguments - Mr. Sledge was a good barber and a member of the same union as Dad. I was just looking for anyone who may have gone to the Main Street Barber Shop (across from the Old Emmerson Hotel) and been customers of my dad. When he first graduated from barber school he started working there. At that time the shop was owned by Bob Crosnoe.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted August 10, 2007 20:14

[Hide Post](#)

My first haircuts came at Hennis Barbershop which was just south of where Flota's Antiques were later located. The were related through my father's side. Later it was Robinson's across from Horace Mann school. It was later to become Merle Jennings Barbershop.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 10, 2007 21:19

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

My first haircuts came at Hennis Barbershop which was just south of where Flota's Antiques were later located.

I'm a little (much) older than you so although I didn't go to the same

barber, I remember Henn's barber shop as the one that I took my son to for his first haircut. It was an experience for all three of us! There was much crying, slobbering, snot running and hair plastered all over my young sons face and neck. I'm sure barbers love those first haircuts. 🍷

I'm hard pressed to explain why I took him there since I always went to Bob Sledge for my own haircuts. Perhaps I wanted to spare Bob the trauma. 😊

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

**Campfollower
in VA**

Regular



Posted August 10, 2007 21:55

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quote:

I'm a little (much) older than you so although I didn't go to the same barber, I remember Henn's barber shop as the one that I took my son to for his first haircut. It was an experience for all three of us! There was much crying, slobbering, snot running and hair plastered all over my young sons face and neck. I'm sure barbers love those first haircuts.

I remember a few of those when I would wait for Mom to pick me up at Dad'd shop. It seemed to take more hands than Dad and the mothers had to hold the little tykes down.

I think there is a tattoo shop in that space now.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered:
February 26, 2007

BlueJean

Member



Posted August 10, 2007 22:27

[Hide Post](#)

You fellows had it easy. I was a little girl with blond/white hair straight as a ruler and it was the days of Shirley Temple and mother wanted me to have curly hair. So, she splurged and took me to a lady who had a shop in her home on 24th Street. Those were the days of "machine perms". They hooked you up to what appeared hundreds of electric curler things, so very heavy on your head. She hired a not too bright woman to stand and lift the curlers from you head if they were burning too badly and fan the place. What a miserable, stinking time. Before that Dad had always taken me to his barber shop where I got a short haircut and a soda afterwards if I didn't fuss. I liked that much better than the torture at the "beauty shop".

Posts: **47** | Location: **Napa Valley CA** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 10, 2007 23:31

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Well Blue Jeans, if it's of any consolation to you, I never did want girls to go to all that trouble with the curling irons and all that. I think you'll have to blame your mom for that. I'm not sure who sold them on that idea???

You'll notice that the straight haired blondes are doing pretty well for themselves now days and most girls today have no idea who Shirley was. 😊

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted August 11, 2007 00:23

[Hide Post](#)

Barbers? About the only shop in town I ever used was Eddie Allen's. Several chairs and great cuts.

As for icons, does anybody else remember Bob Kolmer? MtV's finest story teller and a great guy.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

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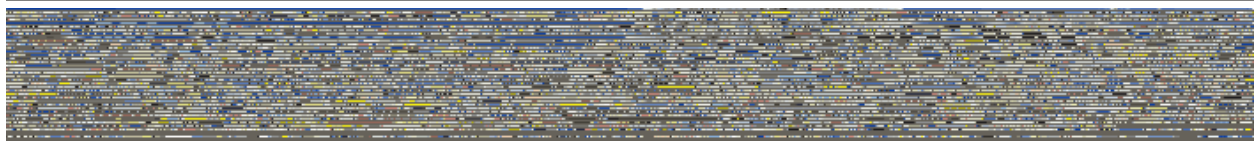
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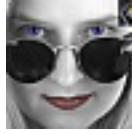
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Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 11, 2007 00:45

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I expect anyone who lived here in the 50's knew Bob. He did indeed possess a great talent for describing events that made you feel as if you were there.

Actually there were times that he described things that I had personally seen and they sounded much better when I heard him describe them.

I think Bob had the ability to see all of the fine details of any event and catalog all of them in slow motion. Then he had the further ability of being able to relate it back to us less fortunates so we could see what we had missed. As I said, his version was often better than being there.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted August 11, 2007 12:15

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone remember "Chic" and Martin Henn's barber shop about two doors down from Ellis's cafe? Chic stuttered and the more excited he got the more he stuttered. The men of the car shops would go there on Sat. mornings for a haircut and delighted in getting Chic excited. That was one barber shop this "kid" enjoyed going to. Bob "Speedy" Jenkins worked here before he went into the Navy,.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 11, 2007 15:31

[Hide Post](#)

Henn's Barber Shop was located south of Kreb's Drug Store in the 900 Block of Tenth Street.

The Shop south of Ellis Fine Food was Leach's Barber Shop in the 200 block of south tenth.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

Bugman
Old Pro



Posted August 11, 2007 17:47

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

most girls today have no idea who Shirley was.

Amen I watched a show "100 Greatest Kid Stars" I think it was on VH1. And Shirley was not even mentioned. Gary Coleman was #1. LOL

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 11, 2007 18:10

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by tyrone:
Henn's Barber Shop was located south of Kreb's Drug Store in the 900 Block of Tenth Street.

The Shop south of Ellis Fine Food was Leach's Barber Shop in the 200 block of south tenth.

Holy Sideburns ! I forgot about the one chair barber shop in the basement south between Ellis's and Leach's barber shop. I carried papers there in 1945 or 46. It was run by a Mr Sweetin. Next to it south was the littlest cafe in town and the neon in the window said "We Make Our Own Ice Cream". You could get a big malt or shake for 20 cents back then. Strange but when the malt was all gone you would have about a half cup of crushed ice in the bottom of the glass. A shelf was built on the north wall and a few chairs were there to sit in. The place couldn't have been over 6 or 7 feet wide I don't remember if they sold sandwiches or not but the malts were heaven. The place was run by an old couple that I thought at the time was related to John Leach the barber next door south.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted August 11, 2007 19:49

[Hide Post](#)

Sorry Tyrone but the Hennis barber shop in the early 50s was about a dor S. where Main Street Music is now, the old Fentons Music store building. I was a block too far North. It was a 3 chair shop with Chic's, Martins and then Bob Speedy Jenkins. I never knew of a barber shop by Krebs. That doesn't mean there wasn't. There was a business just a door or two down from Hennis that sold cigarettes. I was just a youngin' and bought my first pack of "Wings" there for a dime. I used the change from my haircut for my cigs. and when I got home I got caught by my mom smoking and lost my almost full pack right then and there. Krebs were neighbors of ours, they lived on Bwdy and we lived on Casey. Used to play basketball at their house with Eddie and John, the older brother Robert was too old to mess with us kids and the girl, Sissy was too young.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 11, 2007 20:16

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

Sorry Tyrone but the Hennis barber shop in the early 50s was about a dor S. where Main Street Music is now, the old Fentons Music store building. I was a block too far North. It was a 3 chair shop with Chic's, Martins and then Bob Speedy Jenkins. I never knew of a barber shop by Krebs. That doesn't mean there wasn't. There was a business just a door or two down from Hennis that sold cigarettes. I was just a youngin' and bought my first pack of "Wings" there for a dime. I used the change from my haircut for my cigs. and when I got home I got caught by my mom smoking and lost my almost full pack right then and there. Krebs were neighbors of ours, they lived on Bwdy and we lived on Casey. Used to play basketball at their house with Eddie and John, the older brother Robert was too old to mess with us kids and the girl, Sissy was too young.

Oh Contraire jlmer. Henn's Barber Shop was located at 905 South Tenth since about the 20's or 30's. It was started by Lester Henn's dad Martin Henn. When Martin retired Lester (Chic) Henn took over and Bob Jenkins was hired to take over the second chair. It was only a two chair shop and never had three chairs.

John Leach ran the shop you are referring to that was located at 221 South Tenth which was just south of Ellis's Cafe.

You may inquire information about John Leach from his great-grandson who is on this forum quite often.

The shop south of Main Street Music was started by Lee Robinson in the 50's and was later run by Bob Karcher until he retired turning it over to Dante. Lee Robinson moved to Florida and I heard he became a preacher. Bob Karcher is still enjoying his hobby , blacksmithing.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 11, 2007 20:29

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Sorry Tyrone but the Hennis barber shop in the early 50s was about a dor S. where Main Street Music is now, the old Fentons Music store building.

I remember Fenton's music store being on the southwest corner of 10th & Virginia, just south of the service station that was on the corner to the north and adjacent to W.G. Motors (formerly Davidson Chevrolet).

The years can sure blur things can't they? 🌐

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted August 11, 2007 21:43

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone remember Ideal? Bob and Melvin is all i can remember. It was on Broadway around 10th St.

quote:

Originally posted by Pogo:

quote:

Sorry Tyrone but the Hennis barber shop in the early 50s was about a dor S. where Main Street Music is now, the old Fentons Music store building.

I remember Fenton's music store being on the southwest corner of 10th & Virginia, just south of the service station that was on the corner to the north and adjacent to W.G. Motors (formerly Davidson Chevrolet).

The years can sure blur things can't they? 🌐

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 11, 2007 21:51

[Hide Post](#)

Yes Pogo the possum. That building where the music store now is was once owned by "Thurb" White and he ran a tavern there. It was called the Hub Tavern. I think top side the front awning still has HUB written on it or it did the last time I noticed. As many will testify Mr White wasn't to careful in checking id's and you could drink there if you behaved yourself even if you were a little under age. For a few years it was a favorite meeting place to start your evening of fun. I liked to go there and shoot the bull with some of the elder local wine samplers. John Clark, Dyn"O"mite Stratton, Russ White (Therb's brother), and if you were lucky Artie Lyle would be there with stories to astound a young mind. The old wooden booths there were a great place to learn some of the things that made the real world tick. Ah yes, things were pretty blurry after some of the meetings.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 11, 2007 21:59

[Hide Post](#)

Yeah, all us young would be boozers knew Thurb, even back when he had the place on the north side of Main St. just west of the JB Rogers bldg. He called it "The Family." I drank there regularly when I was sixteen! Good cold mugs for 25¢ and if you were the least bit good on the shuffleboard, you could beat Russ White out of enough drinks to get you pretty well loaded. It didn't take that much back then though. 😊

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 11, 2007 22:01

[Hide Post](#)

Ideal Barbar Shop was owned by Melvin Kane and Robert Waller in the mid 50's. Melvin lived on North Street and Robert lived down on Gilbert. Both were good barbers but I never ventured that far north for a hair cut. My dad thought that a 25 cent south town hair cut was just as good as a north town dollar one.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 11, 2007 22:09

[Hide Post](#)

One of the best barbers ever was Robert Dean Sledge, the son of Bob Sledge. He cut hair around town at several shops and finally got his own place down on Jorden. I think he was having a lot of trouble with his private life but it didn't hurt his ability to cut a mean head of hair. He later located in

Centralia and got his act together and enjoyed a brisk business. I heard recently that he was having serious health problems. I wish him all the best and to hang tough. He was and will always be to me the greatest barber I have ever known.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 12, 2007 08:53

[Hide Post](#)

OK, nobody has as yet verified or refuted my post where I said:

quote:

I remember Fenton's music store being on the southwest corner of 10th & Virginia, just south of the service station that was on the corner to the north and adjacent to W.G. Motors (formerly Davidson Chevrolet).

jlmer had previously stated that it was where the present day music store is located, which I knew was not correct. As **tyrone** pointed out, where that music store is now was a local watering hole starting some time around 1954 when Thurb White closed the "Family Tavern" and relocated it there, renaming it "The Hub." The next door north was a barber shop (Karcher's) and north of that was Dewey Barton's pool hall. The business north of the pool hall (on the southwest corner of 10th & Jordan) was a City Service gas station that was owned by a man whose name I can't recall right now but I remember he had three sons who worked there.

I also remember that D.T. Henson had a real estate office in that area and it would have been south of the old Hub Tavern location.

That's the way I remember it. Anyone know more?

I'll have to run by the library some day and take a look at a city directory for the mid 50's. I'm glad they have that collection. It's a nice resource and I'm always amazed when I thumb through one of them as to how some businesses moved around so much.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [Pogo](#), August 12, 2007 09:04

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 12, 2007 15:23

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Pogo:
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quote:

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I can recall that Fenton's Music Store was once located on the southeast corner of 4th and Jordan sometime in the late 60's ? Before that I think they were located somewhere in the 1100 block of Broadway near Starr Bros.

The barbershop in question was south of the Hub Tavern. Between it and the Hub was once a small cafe run by Henry Billingsley (later it was Mack's Cafe)

Also in that block farther south does anyone remember when Marshall Litzell had a small blue house trailer that he used as a photo shop just north of the used car lot of DeWitt and Maxey which was right next to the old Top of The Town Tavern opened by Clint Fleener and Luke Spurlock ? Later the used car lot became the parking lot for the Top of The Town.

There were two hotels in that same block. One was the Thompson Hotel and the other one was the Tenth Street Hotel. I have personal knowledge of the

Tenth Street Hotel as I lived there for a short while. When it was torn down a couple of young guys opened a car wash there. It was named The Downtown Car Wash.

A Mr Ben Smith also had a real estate office in the block. He was a retired school teacher from Waltonville. Close by was also the office of A. Harold Williams Real Estate. D.T. Henson Real Estate office was in the block also. (I ran around some with his son Norman).

I can also recall when the Rescue Mission first opened it was just north of what was then Davidson Chevrolet garage in the 500 block of tenth. Flota's Fruit Market was in the next block south(later to be where the MyOMy Tavern first was located, opened by Frankie Bond). The old Chatter Box Tavern building(which was once a grocery store) was in the next block (600) on the NW corner of Tenth and Newby.

I can't believe I can remember all this ! Damn I'm old !

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

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[Hey Martha...](#)
Vernon

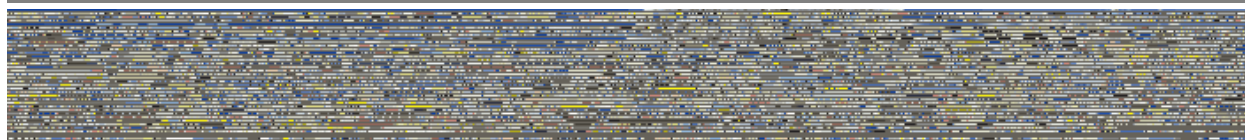
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Moderators: Big Hall, Bob Dennis

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jlmer
Old Pro



Posted August 12, 2007 15:44

[Hide Post](#)

Fenton's Music Store was where Main Street Records are now. He had it at his house on a front porch on 4th St for awhile, it was also on Broadway for awhile with Gale Jines working there. I had a TV shop on Bwdy at 1009, Radio Shack was in the little hallway of a building next door at 1011 Bwdy. then the stairway to the attorneys offices, then Powel Jewelers. Fentons was in the Main Street Records in the early and mid 70s. until he closed down.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted August 12, 2007 15:46

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

jlmer had previously stated that it was where the present day music store is located, which I knew was not correct

It is Main Street Records now. It's very easy to find out as any city directory in the early '70s will have it.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 12, 2007 16:55

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

jlmer had previously stated that it was where the present day music store is located, which I knew was not correct

It is Main Street Records now. It's very easy to find out as any city directory in the early '70s will have it.

My main problem in posting on Old Mt. Vernon is that I am older than 95% of any of the other posters. The 70's are not the old days to me, it more like the mid 40's Therefore over the span of 30 years many changes are seen and different memories recall different facts that were all true in their time. I try and post only things that I remember and sometimes I cannot recall every detail but will post it as I remembered it. If you know that my post is untrue just tell me the way you remember it and we will compare notes. Hell, we might both be right !

Was your tv/radio shop across the street from the Broadway Pool Hall ?

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 12, 2007 17:26

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

Fenton's Music Store was where Main Street Records are now. He had it at his house on a front porch on 4th St for awhile, it was also on Broadway for awhile with Gale Jines working there. I had a TV shop on Bwdy at 1009, Radio Shack was in the little hallway of a building next door at 1011 Bwdy. then the stairway to the attorneys offices, then Powel Jewelers. Fentons was in the Main Street Records in the early and mid 70s. until he closed down.

Is that the same Gale Jines that would later own and operate the Bride Shop in a couple of different locations in town ? If so he was a great guy and the uncle of one of my ex-wives.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 12, 2007 18:46

[Hide Post](#)

It does indeed matter what period you are peering into when you look back in time. This has been a dynamic community and things move around more than you may realize. I'll get down to the library and do some research and post it back here for all to enjoy.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted August 13, 2007 11:07

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Is that the same Gale Jines that would later own and operate the Bride Shop in a couple of different locations in town ? If so he was a great guy and the uncle of one of my ex-wives

It sure is! He had the Bridle Shop and Mr. Tuxedo. He died in his apartment on 9th street behind his store. He had fixed a bowl of cereal and was setting at the table when Betty Lipps found him dead. He was a good friend of mine and helped me get started in music.

My tv shop started out in a building connected to the mission. It got too big and I bought the old Jenkins TV building and house on 430-432 Perkinsj and then was having so much trouble with break-ins I moved to 1009 Bwdy. which was about 3 doors W. of what was Porter & Bonds Drug Store.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted August 13, 2007 11:12

[Hide Post](#)

Since the 50s were my era I know more about them than the 40s but do recall listening to the old radio shows on the radio with my dad in the 40s and I loved the music then. The big band. In fact, in the late 50s I played in an 18 piece dance band and we played the Miller, Dorsey, Shaw, Goodman and the other greats.

That was the era of Tom Mix, Tim Holt, Ken Maynard, Bogart, Bacall, Lizabeth Scott whom I loved dearly, even as a kid.

Most of the businesses that were here in the 40s were still here in the 50s. I was too young for the livery where Johnsons Funeral home is now. My dad and uncle had a garage on Main St. about where the Rex is now. My uncle later bought the quanset hut where the boat motor place is on S. 10th. across from Burger King.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

**Just
Another
Guy**

Educated



Posted August 13, 2007 15:27

[Hide Post](#)

What can you guys tell me about the old bowling alley that was in the building where Skelton's Furniture is? I always here there's history there but no one has ever told me much about it. At least not before the Ford National days.

Posts: **703** | Location: **Mt.Vernon IL & Murray KY** | Registered: **July 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 13, 2007 15:57

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

Is that the same Gale Jines that would later own and operate the Bride Shop in a couple of different locations in town ? If so he was a great guy and the uncle of one of my ex-wives

It sure is! He had the Bridle Shop and Mr. Tuxedo. He died in his apartment on 9th street behind his store. He had fixed a bowl of cereal and was setting at the table when Betty Lipps found him dead. He was a good friend of mine and helped me get started in music.

My tv shop started out in a building connected to the mission. It got too big and I bought the old Jenkins TV building and house on 430-432 Perkinsj and then was having so much trouble with break-ins I moved to 1009 Bwdy. which was about 3 doors W. of what was Porter & Bonds Drug Store.

You're just messin' with me aint you jlmer. You know good and well that Gail Jines died in his apartment at Rose Lane. He was not discovered dead by his long time friend Betty Lipps either but was found dead at around 7AM Friday June 6th, 1997 by his Niece Barbara. His body was slumped over his dinette table in a standing position and it appeared as he may have been trying to reach some of his medication that he kept on the back of the table. He had been sick several months and Barbara was helping out by stopping every morning and trying to get him to have breakfast. Gale was a kind and gentle man. A friend that was always there if you needed him. He is sadly missed by his family still.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 13, 2007 19:22

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Just Another Guy:
What can you guys tell me about the old bowling alley that was in the building where Skelton's Furniture is? I always here there's history there but no one has ever told me much about it. At least not before the Ford National days.

Having never bowled in my life I can't tell you much about the bowling activity but I do remember being in the place back in 1948 and 49. It was there that I had to wait for a ride home from my older brother after he said good night to his girlfriend. Sometimes I thought he had forgot me especially after waiting there until they closed for the night. The one thing I did if I had any extra money was to try my luck at their large shooting gallery. They had air pellet guns and I think you got about 10 shots for a quarter. The distance of the targets was about 30 feet or so and I got to be a pretty good shot while hanging out there every Saturday night for a couple of years. I got to where I almost knew who would be bowling every Saturday nite, although I never knew them personally I did know their names from their conversations. I also remember the shooting range was located in the east side of the building. There was a small food counter and vending machines. No liquor ! The people who ran the business must have been good people because they never once said anything about me loafing around there and not spending any money to amount to anything. I was in my early teens and my folks never heard of any young kid getting an allowance or ever having any money in their pockets. If you had cash in your pocket you had better have a reason for having it and you had to explain exactly how you come by any amount of money.

Sorry I can't help you more with the bowling alley information but to me it was just a shelter.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted August 13, 2007 21:51

[Hide Post](#)

You're right Tyrone. I'm out typing my brain. Betty used to visit Gale at his apartment on 9th st. and they'd play the piano and sing. I'd forgotten that he went to Rose Lane so was totally messed up. I met Gale when he worked for Fenton's on E. Bwdy. I'd pass the store walking home from highschool. I have an albumn that the group Gale was in made and he's young in that one. When Fenton moved to S. 10th St. he hired Lynn "Tiny" Wemette and we became great friends. In fact, my daughter is named after him, Lynne.

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 13, 2007 21:58

[Hide Post](#)

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When Fenton moved to S. 10th St. he hired Lynn "Tiny" Wemette and we became great friends. In fact, my daughter is named after him, Lynne.

Wasn't the group named "The First Day Singers"? I guess you know we have both been spelling his name wrong, it's "Gail" Jines. I remember Tiny very well and used to hear him play down in Benton at the old Holiday Inn.

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted August 14, 2007 11:19

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Wasn't the group named "The First Day Singers"? I guess you know we have both been spelling his name wrong, it's "Gail" Jines. I remember Tiny very well and used to hear him play down in Benton at the old Holiday Inn.

I think so. Yeah, I guess we tend to get lazy and go for the easiest in the spelling.

Tiny played the Holiday Inn at Muddy for a long time. He also played Hunts and at the Hotel Emerson for awhile too. He was equally good on the guitar and organ. We spent a lot of time jamming and fooling around. Used to double date. He went with a gal named Bea I think and I was engaged to Sandy, Clint Fleener's daughter. Tiny married and moved to Benton and then Salem, where he died. Benton was the cause of his problems. He's buried in the big cemetary at Salem and lived just across the street from it on the street running N.& S. I haven't heard from his wife in years so have no idea if she's alive or not.

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 14, 2007 11:59

[Hide Post](#)

This may bring some warm memories back for some of you.

1955 Mt. Vernon City Directory

South Tenth Street - west side:

- 207 - Egyptian Cab
- 217 - Sweetin's Barber Shop (in the basement)
- 219 - Leach & Landis Cafe & Spot Liquor Store
- 221 - Leach Barber Shop
- 223 - Mom's Cafe
- 225 - Joe Boyle Real Estate
- 305 - Harry's Billiards
- 309 - D.T. Henson Realty
- 311 - Mack's Cafe
- 313 - Hub Tavern
- 313 - Karcher's Barber Shop (1 door south of Hub)
- 315 - Riley Johnson, et al, Insurance & Realty
- 317 - Hotel Thompson
- 325 - 10th Street Hotel
- 331 - Top O' The Town Tavern
- 401 - Mt. Vernon Plumbing Supply
- 501 - Mt. Vernon Rescue Mission
- 513 - Davidson Chevrolet
- 515 - Stonecypher Texaco Station
- 601 - ABC Bowling Alley
- 607 - Flota's Fruit Stand
- 609 - Flota's Furniture Store
- 615 - Dairy Dell
- 619 - Vacant
- 621 - Chatter Box Tavern
- 701 - Don Torregrossa
- 705 - Central Radio Shop
- 707 - Lustig's Shoe Store
- 709 - Lucille's Beauty Shop
- 717 - King's Bakery
- 719 - Skeet's & Ruby's Cafe & Bud's Hobby Shop
- 801 - The Oasis Tavern

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [Pogo](#), August 14, 2007 12:31

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 14, 2007 12:15

[Hide Post](#)

And now, time marches on:

1965 Mt. Vernon City Directory

south 10th Street, west side.

207 - Ellis' Cafe
207 1/2 - Yellow Top Cab
217 - Hicks' Income Tax & Book Keeping Service
219 - Spot Loquor
221 - Vacant
223 - Mom's Cafe
225 - Tittle's Barber Shop
227 - DC West Paint Store
229 - Social Security Administration
305 - Homer's Billiards
309 - no info
311 - Vacant
313 - Hub Tavern
313 - D'T. Henson Realty (1 door south of Hub)
315 - Richardson Realty
317 - Hotel Thompson
331 - Top O' The Town tavern
401 - Souther Plumbing Supply
L%N Tracks
Vaught Ave. intersection
507 - W. G. Motors Sales & Service Linc.\Mercury
515 - W.G. Motors Standard Service Station
Virginia Ave, intersection
601 - Fenton's Music Store (formerly ABC Bowl)

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

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Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 14, 2007 12:29

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So you see, Fenton's Music store was where I remembered it but I suspect it was also where jlmer remembered it but some time later than 1965. I left here in 1968 for greener pastures and returned in 2004 so I missed a few reels of the show. 🌐

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Bugman
Old Pro



Posted August 14, 2007 17:46

[Hide Post](#)

Of course Fenton's was at 601

Mr. Gabe McCarty, formerly of the Illinois music group the "Four Vests" provided invaluable information regarding George Harrison's purchase of his first Rickenbacker, a 425 Model. Mr. McCarty experienced what most would consider to be a dream of a lifetime. He spent two weeks with George and his bother Peter in the fall of 1963. This visit took place at a time when almost nobody in the Mt. Vernon area knew anything about George Harrison. The selection and purchase took place at the Fenton Music Store located at 601 South 10th Street, Mt. Vernon, Illinois. Lester "Red" Fenton operated this music store in 1963 at the time of the sale and continued to be its proprietor until the mid 1980's. Mr. Fenton died in 1991.

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 14, 2007 19:55

[Hide Post](#)

I'll stick a link here for those who want some more information on an event that proves Mousetown has connected with many famous people.

[George Harrison buys a guitar here.](#)

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted August 14, 2007 20:56

[Hide Post](#)

The first owner of cable television in Mt. Vernon, if I remember correctly, was Ed Sullivan. In fact, I believe it was originally called Sullivan Cable Television.

There was a time that Elvis stayed out at one of the lakes north of town and I believe that the Manions were the host that. If I remember correctly they were tied in with Sullivan on the cable deal and Sullivan turned Elvis on to the getaway.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 14, 2007 21:04

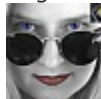
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Sullivan was the second owner. It was built by a private company owned by an investment group. It was first named Mt. Vernon Cable TV. Ed Sullivan's investment company bought it since they realized it would make money. The original developer got his quick buck so it was a win - win deal as they say.

Johnny Manion was instrumental in orchestrating the deal so he got a cushy job out of it. I sat with him at the cabin retreat you have mentioned. I chugged a couple beers while he drank the best part of a fifth of whiskey. He could drink more and show it less than anyone I have ever known. I always thought he had the world by the tail. He had money, brains, good looks, a good job, nice home, and a great cabin retreat. 😊 It didn't hurt that his dad, John Manion, was mayor at one time.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

**Campfollower
in VA**
Regular



Posted August 15, 2007 07:35

[Hide Post](#)

Hey Guys,

Keep this up - these discussions are great. I am finding out so many things about my hometown that I never knew. Thank you

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered:

February 26, 2007

rebelrick
Newcomer



Posted August 15, 2007 09:04

[Hide Post](#)

Red Fenton was a really nice guy. When I was a kid attending Casey Jr. High in the mid-1970's he gave me a job repairing violin bows. I'm sorry to learn that Red is gone, but I hope his shop is still around.

quote:

Originally posted by Bugman:
Of course Fenton's was at 601

Lester "Red" Fenton operated this music store in 1963 at the time of the sale and continued to be its proprietor until the mid 1980's. Mr. Fenton died in 1991.

Posts: **9** | Location: **Cleveland, OH** | Registered: **August 15, 2007**

rebelrick
Newcomer



Posted August 15, 2007 09:33

[Hide Post](#)

Remember the Quake in '68???

That was the headline in the Mt. Vernon Register News a few years after it happened.

It was November 9th, 1968. I was raking leaves in the yard of our home on South 16th Street (back then the address was 1515 1/2 Perkins). It was the loudest noise that I'd ever heard, but I was only 8 back then.

It sounded like a train wreck had happened at the Anchor Coal Company just a block or two north. I ditched my rake and ran up to Anchor to see what happened only to find everything normal.

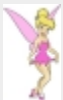
It was the first and so far, only earthquake that I've ever experienced. You can rest assured that I DO remember the quake in '68.

Anyone else?

RebelRick
Cleveland, OH

Posts: **9** | Location: **Cleveland, OH** | Registered: **August 15, 2007**

enlightened
Free Time



Posted August 15, 2007 09:46

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by rebelrick:

Remember the Quake in '68???

That was the headline in the Mt. Vernon Register News a few years after it happened.

It was November 9th, 1968. I was raking leaves in the yard of our home on South 16th Street (back then the address was 1515 1/2 Perkins). It was the loudest noise that I'd ever heard, but I was only 8 back then.

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Anyone else?

RebelRick
Cleveland, OH

We were playing in my aunt's yard. We did not what had happened, but my cousin had to change his pants! 🤢

Posts: **243** | Location: **mcclellan township** | Registered: **March 20, 2007**

Dolphis
Member

Posted August 15, 2007 11:25

[Hide Post](#)

I remember when there was a rumor going around town (it would have been in '69 or '70) that Elvis was going to be staying out at a house at J.C. Lake. I heard later that someone just decided to start the rumor to see if it would get around. I don't know of any evidence that Elvis ever stayed in Mt. Vernon. I think the following things are true: Tennessee Ernie Ford once attended church in Mt. Vernon, Kris Kristoferson once stayed at the old Holiday Inn and jogged down Broadway, Marie Osman went shopping at Times Square Mall in Mt. Vernon, Carl Malone ate at the Sonic Drivein in Mt. Vernon. Tammy Wynette became ill while passing through Mt. Vernon and was taken to one on the local hospitals. I'm sure there have been many such brushes with greatness.

Posts: **47** | Location: **jimcon24@frontiernet.net** | Registered: **April 20, 2007**

joyful1
Free Time



Posted August 15, 2007 11:30

[Hide Post](#)

Dick Butkis (spelling?) had his motor home repaired at the Freightliner dealer here about a year and a half ago. I was told that his brother lives out in the country around Fairfield.

Posts: **374** | Location: **Jefferson County** | Registered: **May 01, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 15, 2007 11:36

[Hide Post](#)

"Lucky" Leroy used to give free performances on the east side of the square! circa '53 ± You could check the county jail log for a more accurate date.



Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

enlightened
Free Time



Posted August 15, 2007 11:48

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Dolphis:

I remember when there was a rumor going around town (it would have been in '69 or '70) that Elvis was going to be staying out at a house at J.C. Lake. I heard later that someone just decided to start the rumor to see if it would get around. I don't know of any evidence that Elvis ever stayed in Mt. Vernon. I think the following things are true: Tennessee Ernie Ford once attended church in Mt. Vernon, Kris Kristoferson once stayed at the old Holiday Inn and jogged down Broadway, Marie Osman went shopping at Times Square Mall in Mt. Vernon, Carl Malone ate at the Sonic Drivein in Mt. Vernon. Tammy Wynette became ill while passing through Mt. Vernon and was taken to one on the local hospitals. I'm sure there have been many such brushes with greatness.

Wasn't Loretta Lynn treated at a local hospital as well? We actually do get a lot of famous folks that stop at our truckstops and some even venture in to WalMart. Maybe the new overpass and new business will attract more!!

Posts: **243** | Location: **mccllellan township** | Registered: **March 20, 2007**

**Campfollower
in VA**
Regular

Posted August 15, 2007 12:10

[Hide Post](#)

Dolphis,



Where are you located - noticed your email provider is the same as mine.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Dolphis
Member

Posted August 15, 2007 12:17

[Hide Post](#)

I think I had Tammy and Loretta confused. It probably was Loretta.

Posts: **47** | Location: **jimcon24@frontiernet.net** | Registered: **April 20, 2007**

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wclark
Old Pro



Posted August 15, 2007 12:31

[Hide Post](#)

Back in the early and mid 60's, USAC racers would stay in MtV during the DuQuoin Fair. AJ Foyt, Mario Andretti, Parnelli Jones just to name a few. Often their alcoholic intake was to excess and the cars were unloaded for some hijinks. One ended up in a hotel pool.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted August 15, 2007 14:14

[Hide Post](#)

Tenn. Ernie Ford stayed out at Lake JC when he performed down at the second Illinois State Fair. I lived in a small trailer on the west side of the lake JC the second trailer from the back way in coming off Rt.37. I would generally fish about every evening about dusk for cats. I had 3 poles out one night and was enjoying myself when I saw a small houseboat coming across the lake. It was heading right for me. I had my coleman lantern lit and I guess that was what bought the boat my way. Anyhow, I started flashing my flashlight hoping they wouldn't get into my lines but that didn't do a bit of good and the guy parked the some of a gun right in the middle of my lines. He struck up a conversation and ask if it was okay to park where he was and sit and talk. I said okay and when he got off the boat I knew who it was. We visited for better than a hour. He wanted to know if I was local and I said yeas and pointed to my little ole 36' house trailer. When I got home the

next evening, he stopped by and ask if I wanted to go down and watch him perform, of course I went. He stayed for 6 days and we visited and even went to Rusty's for chow on Saturday afternoon. A very fine gentlman he was and just as down to earth as any good ole boy.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

rebelrick
Newcomer



Posted August 15, 2007 14:56

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by wclark:
Moving forward. There wasn't a better "fancy" place than The Top of the First. Fine dining for MtV.

I recall an incident in the early 1970's where someone put a small stink-bomb in the elevator and then sent it up to the Top Of The First. It emptied the place out but quick. My how times have changed...just a (stupid) prank back then, but now they'd send you to Gitmo for something like that.

By the way, is Top Of The First still around?

Posts: **9** | Location: **Cleveland, OH** | Registered: **August 15, 2007**

wclark
Old Pro



Posted August 15, 2007 14:57

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by rebelrick:

By the way, is Top Of The First still around?

No, it closed years ago.

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted August 15, 2007 15:11

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by wclark:
Back in the early and mid 60's, USAC racers would stay in MtV during the DuQuoin Fair. AJ Foyt, Mario Andretti, Parnelli Jones just to name a few. Often their alcoholic intake was to excess

and the cars were unloaded for some hijinks. One ended up in a hotel pool.

Back in the mid to late sixties Western Gardens was still a project. For that reason it made a great playground for Johnny Rutherford and Parnelli Jones. They would road race out there after having a few drinks. The car that was dumped was a open wheel sprint car. They generally weigh around 1300 pounds. There was one young lady who was known to be a constant companion of one of these drivers when he came to town. I heard these stories and heard others tell the same stories. They may be legend and the may be true. I tend to believe that they are all true. I don't know for sure that Elvis was ever here but I do remember Ernie Ford being here.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 15, 2007 15:17

[Hide Post](#)

I suspect they may have been playing around on the graded dirt fill that was the base for I-57. It was a popular motorcycle trail during construction and prior to paving (mid ~ late 60's).

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted August 15, 2007 17:10

[Hide Post](#)

Johnny Rutherford and Parnelli Jones were racing on the new streets of Western Gardens in Riveras and Grand Prix' of the muscle car generation. There were very few houses in some parts of that area at that time and they were road racing.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 15, 2007 17:30

[Hide Post](#)

I don't doubt that either, especially as to Parnelli Jones. The man was a maniac and a terrible public image for auto racing.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Bugman
Old Pro



Posted August 15, 2007 17:41

[Hide Post](#)

That wasn't a stink bomb sent to the Top of the First. It was a military tear gas bomb. I know who did it. I talked to him the night he did it. It took one h#ll of a lot of money and a good lawyer to keep him from going to prison. I just talked to Young and he couldn't remember what group it was that played there. But does anyone remember when Young, Herbert and maybe Davenport played up there? I remember it but do not remember the group

name either. Maybe Shades of Sound?

I still have pictures of the stock and USAC cars parked at different motels in Mousetown. I remember some of them are in front of Brehm-Hanna's and you can see the "new" 1967 cars behind them. I also remember being with my dad at Loran McMeans (SP) behind Logan St. church and meeting A.J Foyt. And meeting Parnelli Jones at Gregory's City Service just west of where the post office is on Broadway. I always heard that they all at at the Travelers in DuBois. The best place around in it's day.

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

Sassafras
Regular



Posted August 15, 2007 18:25

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by rebelrick:
Remember the Quake in '68???

That was the headline in the Mt. Vernon Register News a few years after it happened.

It was November 9th, 1968. I was raking leaves in the yard of our home on South 16th Street (back then the address was 1515 1/2 Perkins). It was the loudest noise that I'd ever heard, but I was only 8 back then.

It sounded like a train wreck had happened at the Anchor Coal Company just a block or two north. I ditched my rake and ran up to Anchor to see what happened only to find everything normal.

It was the first and so far, only earthquake that I've ever experienced. You can rest assured that I DO remember the quake in '68.

Anyone else?

RebelRick
Cleveland, OH

That was my wedding day! It also snowed that day. I was in a car on the north side of the square when the earthquake occurred and didn't even feel or hear it, but people came out of the buildings, so I knew something had happened.

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 15, 2007 18:49

[Hide Post](#)

Sassafras, You are supposed to feel the earth shake on your wedding day (or night).

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Capt'n Ron
Old Pro



Posted August 15, 2007 18:53

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Bugman:

That wasn't a stink bomb sent to the Top of the First. It was a military tear gas bomb. I know who did it. I talked to him the night he did it. It took one h#ll of a lot of money and a good lawyer to keep him from going to prison.

The guy should have just walked up to the mike and mooned them. That would have been stinky.

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [Capt'n Ron](#), August 15, 2007 19:32

Posts: **3010** | Location: **Land of the Free** | Registered: **February 07, 2007**

Bugman
Old Pro



Posted August 15, 2007 19:05

[Hide Post](#)

If you do remember who this was - Just call him the "Mad Bomber" and I bet he will roll his eyes at you AND not want to talk about it!!!!

PS It was totally out of character for the guy and he did regret it!!! Even before he paid many \$\$\$s's

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

Capt'n Ron
Old Pro



Posted August 15, 2007 19:30

[Hide Post](#)

I will be talking with him next month. Out of character? Wasn't he the guy with souped up Mustang?

Posts: **3010** | Location: **Land of the Free** | Registered: **February 07, 2007**

Sassafras
Regular

Posted August 15, 2007 19:34

[Hide Post](#)

Speaking of the "Top of the First," my husband went to work for a firm in



Las Vegas in the 80's and met a guy who worked there who had been the manager of the "Top of the First" in Mt. Vernon and another guy working at the same place, had been the manager at "The Gardens," which was an upscale restaurant on Route 13 between Herrin and Carbondale, about the same time. None of them had known each other until they worked together in Las Vegas for a company that was totally unrelated to food service or hospitality. It's a small world!

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

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Buck
Old Pro



Posted August 15, 2007 22:42

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Loren McMean also had an Offenhauser racer car that had raced at Indianapolis in the 500 in that shop behind Logan Street. I done know how correct my memory is but I always thought that the car number was 14 and that it was candy apple red. Since Bugman mentioned meeting A.J. there it makes me wonder if that car wasn't one of A.J.'s old cars.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Bugman
Old Pro



Posted August 16, 2007 07:44

[Hide Post](#)

Nope the Mad Bomber drove a Chevelle.

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

Capt'n Ron
Old Pro



Posted August 16, 2007 10:46

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Bugman:

Nope the Mad Bomber drove a Chevelle.

Without giving away identities, do you think that you know who I am thinking of though.

Posts: **3010** | Location: **Land of the Free** | Registered: **February 07, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted August 16, 2007 11:54

[Hide Post](#)

Does anyone know the name of the groceries from years back which was on 27th Street S. where Odles Insurance is now and the one on 24th St. where the laundry was and the gun shop is now?
Betty King had an article in the paper the other evening and left those out plus had a few wrong.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 16, 2007 12:27

[Hide Post](#)

There was Kate's Delicatessen and Grocery on 626 S. 24th. Street. It was owned and operated by Herald and Kate Powers. circa 1951

Then there was a Wooden's Grocery at 307 S. 24th. street.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

**Campfollower
in VA**
Regular



Posted August 16, 2007 12:27

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quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:
Does anyone know the name of the groceries from years back which was on 27th Street S. where Odles Insurance is now and the one on 24th St. where the laundry was and the gun shop is now?
Betty King had an article in the paper the other evening and left those out plus had a few wrong.

I remember the store being on 24th but not the name. I believe you are speaking of Keele's Market on 27th, located midway between College and Cherry Streets, owned by Leuty and Ruth Keele. I believe their son was Dwight.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

tyrone
Free Time



Posted August 16, 2007 12:32

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

Does anyone know the name of the groceries from years back which was on 27th Street S. where Odles Insurance is now and the one on 24th St. where the laundry was and the gun shop is now?

Betty King had an article in the paper the other evening and left those out plus had a few wrong.

I think it was in the early 50's that Leuty Keele and his wife Ruth ran a store in the 400 block of 26th St (Which is now called 27th)Theylived around the corner from the store on Cherry.

Woodens Grocery was located in the 300 block of South 24th. I can't remember the owners given names.

I don't know if this will help you but it gave me some mental exercise.

Posts: **498** | Location: **Horse Creek** | Registered: **January 05, 2006**

Campfollower
in VA

Regular



Posted August 16, 2007 14:17

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[/QUOTE]I think it was in the early 50's that Leuty Keele and his wife Ruth ran a store in the 400 block of 26th St (Which is now called 27th)Theylived around the corner from the store on Cherry.

Woodens Grocery was located in the 300 block of South 24th. I can't remember the owners given names.

I don't know if this will help you but it gave me some mental exercise.[/QUOTE]

The Keele's had the store well into the 60s and maybe even as late as the early 70s, can't remember for sure as I left in 1967 and was only home periodically after that. I lived right around the corner on College, just east of 27th. After that I think there was a beauty salon for awhile and a Christian book store.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

Bugman
Old Pro



Posted August 16, 2007 17:21

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Without giving away identities, do you think that you know who I am thinking of though.

No. How about giving me their initials.

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

johnj229
Old Pro



Posted August 17, 2007 02:20

[Hide Post](#)

Mr. Wooden was my bus driver when I went to West Salem School. You didn't screw around on his bus either. It was nothing for him to stop the bus and make you get off if you weren't following his bus rules and he didn't care where he threw you off either. He would not hesitate to stop and get a switch off a tree when things got really bad. Unless it something that he couldn't control he would never turn any of us in to Mr. Sledge. Believe me when I say that Mr. Sledge had a belt that must have been 6 foot long and no one wanted to see him start taking it off. I got a whipping from him the second day of my first grade. He and Mrs. Sledge told all the classes that cinders on the playground were not to be thrown at each other. Guess who tested rule???? I went to the orginial West Salem School, Two rooms and two outhouses. Grades 1 thru 6 in one room and 7 and 8 in the other room. There was a penny candy case that we could buy stuff from after we ate our lunch that we brought from home. When it was decided to build a new school, we went to school in McPherson's barn until the new school was done. I know we went one full school year and I think about three months the next year. At the new school we had hot lunch. Everything was true government surplus. Honey, peanut butter that was hard as a rock, mystery meat and the cooks would make homemade bread that was fantastic. It was as thick as Texas toast.

Getting back to Mr. Wooden. As rough as he was as bus driver everyone thought the world of him. Mom and dad would buy groceries at his store and he would always tell them that my and brother were well behaved anytime we were on his bus. He might have stopped and shook the crap out of either of us that very day but he never said we were bad. If anybody did that today, the dropping a kid along the bus route or switching them, he would be in prison. But you know what he didn't ruin my seolf worth or make me turn into a thug. If anything he taught me that rules are rules and you treat your elders with respect. Yes, he was a unforgetable character.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

rebelrick
Newcomer



Posted August 17, 2007 07:26

[Hide Post](#)

Speaking of Grocers...

Does anyone remember Dodsons Grocery? It was located on either S. 10th or S. 12th street, just across the road from where the Dodge dealer was in the late 60's/early 70's? It was owned by Fred & Ruth Dodson. My uncle (David) NELSON ENRIETTO worked in the butcher shop along with a Mr.

Vern Mays.

The reason I'm asking is that I long ago lost contact with Uncle Nelson and was wondering if anyone here knows his fate. I'm sure he has died by now, otherwise he would be over 100. I assume his funeral would have been handled by Hughey Funeral Home, but that's just a guess.

Also while I'm asking questions, can anyone tell me about these other folks:

Ms. Geneva Elder, 5th grade (music) teacher at Dr. Andy Hall School?

Mr. Charles Cravens, 6th grade teacher at Dr. Andy Hall School?

Mr. Charles Inskeep, principal at Horace Mann School?

Mr. Kenneth Mills, orchestra director at Casey Jr. High School?

Mr. Floyd Bean who owned Bean's Barber Shop on S. Perkins St.? I still have a scar on my left ear, but no hard feelings, thanks to Mr. Bean.

Southwest Christian Church, originally located just south of the City Park across from where the tennis courts/miniature golf used to be, but later relocated to 42nd Street?

Also, in conclusion, I would like to thank all who have posted here in the past. Since I found this page a few days ago I have spent many happy hours learning about the people and places from my youth. I lived in Mt. Vernon from 1967 to 1975 and I feel I am a better person for it. I am now a Hospice patient, just sitting here waiting for the lung cancer to take me. Reading the posts on this page have brought considerable joy to me on some days that aren't all that joyful lately.

Thanks again to you all,

Rick Bunn
Cleveland, Ohio

Posts: **9** | Location: **Cleveland, OH** | Registered: **August 15, 2007**

joyful1
Free Time



Posted August 17, 2007 09:38

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Southwest Christian Church, originally located just south of the City Park across from where the tennis courts/miniature golf used to be, but later relocated to 42nd Street?

Southwest Christian Church is on 34th street. Randy Steele is their preacher. I haven't attended services there, but have heard him speak and he does a

great job. He even had the FBI called on him once. Now that's a preacher that is doing something! 😊

Mr. Bunn, I am sorry to hear what you are going through. Cancer is the nastiest of the nasty! But I am glad that you found this forum and found us. It is almost always nice to reminisce. I am not originally from Mt. Vernon (and even if I were, I'm not nearly old enough to remember any of the things some of these guys have talked about 😊), but I have also gotten joy out of reading some of these tales. I've gotten quite and education on this thread.

You are in my thoughts and prayers, sir.

Joyful1

Posts: **374** | Location: **Jefferson County** | Registered: **May 01, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 17, 2007 12:14

[Hide Post](#)

Welcome aboard **rebelrick!**

Stick around and keep those questions coming. This is an interesting thread and like you, I get a lot of pleasure out of reading it.

I have to run an errand today so I'll see if I can find out some information on those people you mentioned and post it here.

All the best until later.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 17, 2007 14:38

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Rick, Here's what I found out:

Nelson Enrietto b. 24 Feb 1916 d. 25 Sep 1998
wife Rubilee b. 17 Jun 1913 d. 21 Dec 1987

Charles Inskeep b. 26 Aug 1905 d. 27 Jul 1997

Kenneth Mills b. 3 May 1928 d. 10 Jun 1993

Nothing found for Geneva Elder, Floyd Bean (there is a Floyd in the phone book though = 242-3152), or Charles Cravens although there is an entry for Nancy J. Cravens, shown as wife of Charles Cravens. Her info is b. 31 Mar 1937 d. 20 Jul 1986.

I hope that gives you something to go forward with.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted August 17, 2007 16:44

[Hide Post](#)

Charles Inskip, one-time principal of Horace Mann Grade school, has been gone for quite some time. His daughter, I think her name was Sue, married Dale Erickson in the late fifties or early sixties when Dale was the youth minister at Central Christian Church. Dale, I believe, when he left Central completed some medical training and I believe that she was already a qualified nurse. They became missionaries to Rhodesia. They still do missionary work.

I attended Southwest Christian Church on 26th across from the park from about 1952 to about 1957 or 8. I remember baptisms in the park lake and very hot revival tents in the summer where the miniture golf course later was and now near where the basketball courts are. I can still see all those old hand fans a crankin.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

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Bugman
Old Pro



Posted August 17, 2007 18:24

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Speaking of Mrs. Elder---
I was in the hall at Dr. Andy Hall switching classes waiting to go into Mrs. Elders class when someone came down the hall crying and said that the president had been shot. That's where I was Nov. 22nd 1963 at 12:40, Do you all remember where you were at?

Posts: **2497** | Location: **Mousetown** | Registered: **January 30, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted August 17, 2007 19:06

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:
Charles Inskeep, one-time principal of Horace Mann Grade school, has been gone for quite some time. His daughter, I think her name was Sue,

I remember baptisms in the park lake and very hot revival tents in the summer where the miniture golf course later was and now near where the basketball courts are. I can still see all those old

hand fans a crankin.

I went to school with Sue, from grade school thru highschool. She was a very pretty, blonde, girl and on the quite side. Hopefully, she'll be here for the class reunion next month.

My dad performed many baptisms at the city park as he was the minister of the 1st. Free Will Baptist Church for some years.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

johnj229

Old Pro



Posted August 17, 2007 20:39

[Hide Post](#)

Nov. 22nd 1963 at 12:40, Do you all remember where you were at?

I was stationed at Biggs AFB in El Paso Texas. I had just came out of the blood bank at Ft. Bliss Army Post located across the road from Biggs. I had just finished being volunteered to give a pint of my finest. I am AB Pos and everytime their was a "blue baby" born at the Army hospital I was volunteered for a pint. "Blue babies" are AB Neg and my AB pos is what they needed.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

Pogo

Old Pro



Posted August 17, 2007 23:02

[Hide Post](#)

I was in Don's TV repair shop behind the Oasis Tavern that day. That was just off the 800 block of 10th street on Prairie Ave. for you younger readers. I saw Walter Cronkite cry and I knew we had a big problem.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

Sassafras

Regular



Posted August 18, 2007 10:09

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quote:

Originally posted by Bugman:

That's where I was Nov. 22nd 1963 at 12:40, Do you all remember where you were at?

I was in the home ec department, in "F" Building at the high school, sitting on the back counter (no class going on), ripping a seam on an orange (what was I thinkin') dress, looking out the window, and some kids walking by the back of the auditorium said that the president had been shot. It was unbelievable!

(Guess I'm older than you, huh, Buggy.) 😊

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted August 18, 2007 10:52

[Hide Post](#)

Sassafras - We were probably in the same building at the same time that day. I was in Mr Griffith's typing class. I still can't type worth a hoot. In any case there was an announcement on the intercom. There was just a strange empty feeling for several days. I really think that Americans up to that moment thought that this country was more stable than to experience such a national tragedy.

There was a point at Gettysburg during the Civil War where the Southern soldiers actually thought that they would win the Civil War. They had busted through Union lines and held part of it for about a half hour until Union forces regrouped and successfully counterattacked. This was called the highpoint or high water mark of the Civil War for the Confederacy. As for the United States and its social structure I believe that the moments prior to JFK's assassination were the highpoint of the American social order. True we have gone on successfully ever since but much of the social structure, educational system and infrastructure of this country has been in decay ever since. Industry is not even close to what it once was. The Minnesota bridge collapse is a good example of our inability to keep out infrastructure in good repair. I had to tell a young man the other day to take his hat off in church. Respect for God, country and fellow man went out the window with Hollywood and hip hop.

Get next to God today!

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

BlueBelly
Educated

Posted August 18, 2007 11:20

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Bugman:
Speaking of Mrs. Elder---
I was in the hall at Dr. Andy Hall switching classes waiting to go into Mrs. Elders class when someone came down the hall crying and said that the president had been shot. That's where I was Nov. 22nd 1963 at 12:40, Do you all remember where you were at?

I was sitting in the kitchen eating canned corn watching a 13 inch Admiral portable TV with aluminum foil rapped around the antennae as my mother folded laundry.

I turned three a month earlier.

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

Sassafras

Regular



Posted August 18, 2007 12:22

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:
Sassafras - We were probably in the same building at the same time that day. I was in Mr Griffith's typing class.

Yes Buck, we were in the same building, weren't we; right across the hall. I don't remember the announcement, though I'm sure there was one. I was probably still in shock. I thought the kids were making a bad joke, but they said it was true.

I think I know who you are. Is one of your initials an "H"? 😊

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

Jim in PA

Free Time



Posted August 18, 2007 13:54

[Hide Post](#)

I remember Dodson's , located at the NE corner of South 12th and what was then Waltonville Road at that point, then in about 1955, Fisher's Ln was connected to the highway and extended to S. 16th or 17th. I went to Bethel School, and Paul Gorrell, John Gorrell, Steve Fisher, and I would gather empty pop bottles from around the area and trade then in for "snacks", mostly soda and other refined sugar at Dodson's. I remember Mr. Mays and another man in the butcher area, on the east end of the building, but I never ordered from that area, it being mostly grownups who were savvy about meats and such. It was always a friendly place, with two registers and about everything a neighborhood ever needed.

Posts: **405** | Location: **Harrisburg, PA** | Registered: **July 14, 2006**

EastTex

Member

Posted August 18, 2007 16:24

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by BlueBelly:

quote:

Originally posted by Bugman:
Speaking of Mrs. Elder---
I was in the hall at Dr. Andy Hall switching classes waiting to go into Mrs. Elders class when someone

came down the hall crying and said that the president had been shot. That's where I was Nov. 22nd 1963 at 12:40, Do you all remember where you were at?

I was sitting in the kitchen eating canned corn watching a 13 inch Admiral portable TV with aluminum foil rapped around the antennae as my mother folded laundry. I turned three a month earlier.

I was working at Sears in E. Hempstead, Long Island, NY. My boss came in and told us the President had been shot and I laughed and asked him what the punchline was. His face fell about a mile and he told us he was not joking. I then became very scared for my husband who was in the Navy and on sea duty on a ship based out of Brooklyn Navy Yard. I was sure some Soviet spy had done the shooting and that we would soon be involved in a nuclear war with Russia because of it. I was very young and naive.

Posts: **44** | Location: **East Texas** | Registered: **June 30, 2006**

Buck
Old Pro



Posted August 18, 2007 17:16

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Sassafras:

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:
Sassafras - We were probably in the same building at the same time that day. I was in Mr Griffith's typing class.

Yes Buck, we were in the same building, weren't we; right across the hall. I don't remember the announcement, though I'm sure there was one. I was probably still in shock. I thought the kids were making a bad joke, but they said it was true.

I think I know who you are. Is one of your initials an "H"? 😊

Yes. The not too enjoyable part.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

**Campfollower
in VA**

Regular



Posted August 19, 2007 09:07

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Bugman:

Speaking of Mrs. Elder---

I was in the hall at Dr. Andy Hall switching classes waiting to go into Mrs. Elders class when someone came down the hall crying and said that the president had been shot. That's where I was Nov. 22nd 1963 at 12:40, Do you all remember where you were at?

Bugman, I think you are the same age as my brother. I was a sophomore that year and had what they called a split lunch - 1/2 hour study hall in the auditorium, lunch, and another 1/2 hour study hall in the auditorium. John Cavaletto was the teacher in charge. I remember him announcing that the President had been shot right after we all got back from lunch. The silence after that was deafening. I then went to Mrs. Echols' world history class. As I remember, she was already in tears or close to it. I remember as the loud speaker crackled and we all held our breath before Mr. Kuhn made the announcement that the President had died.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

**Buck
Old Pro**



Posted August 19, 2007 09:59

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:

quote:

Originally posted by Sassafras:

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:

Sassafras - We were probably in the same building at the same time that day. I was in Mr Griffith's typing class.

Yes Buck, we were in the same building, weren't we; right across the hall. I don't remember the announcement, though I'm sure there was one. I was probably still in shock. I thought the kids were making a bad joke, but they said it was true.

I think I know who you are. Is one of your initials an "H"? 😊

Yes. The not too enjoyable part.

I must say that you probably have me pegged but I have no clue as to who you might be. I just never heard of anyone named "Sassafras" while in school. Isn't that always the way of things, though, when someone has the better of you.

Posts: **2517** | Location: **Woodlawn,IL.** | Registered: **May 25, 2007**

Lost Ram
Free Time



Posted August 19, 2007 12:04

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Standing by:
I'm lead to believe Mt. Vernon experienced some race riots. Myself, I'm 40 and have never been involved in such, so don't carry contempt like some folk in the generation before mine. Bluford sometimes sees marketing as racist, for example a sociology textbook used at the community college depicted 4 or 5 WTHS Alumni (very strong resemblances) as white supremacist. Were there many race riots?

I attended MTV High in '73 and seem to recall 1 day of tension. I couldn't attest to cause of it, but it was a minor thing as I recall.

Posts: **359** | Location: **Plano, Texas** | Registered: **August 19, 2007**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted August 19, 2007 13:32

[Hide Post](#)

It occurred at the old First Baptist Church which had just been converted to Teen center sort of building. Right across the street from G Building at the West end of the block.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

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RAMbunctious
Educated



Posted August 19, 2007 15:07

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The "riots" that standing by referred to I believe occurred during the fall of 1974. It was my 2nd year of teaching at MVTHS. The story I had always heard was that there had been a fight at a sandwich shop near the Armory over some drug money that was owed & someone got beat up. It just so happened that one of the people involved in the fight was white & one was black. The next day the loser came with some friends & took care of the guy that beat him up and it escalated from there. By the end of the week it was a black/white thing and most had little or no idea that it all started over a bad drug deal. It seemed like every policeman in Mt. Vernon was driving around the school during lunch periods. Mt. Vernon didn't have many squad cars at that time & they were all at the school. Lunch time would have been a good time to commit a crime because all the police were at the school. I remember one or two kids got beaten pretty badly & maybe had to be hospitalized. Parents met one night at the school to help restore order. J.D. Shields did not want this happening at his school on his watch and after a week or so things calmed down a bit.

We can say what we want about kids today, but I am in my 4th decade at MVTHS and it is a much safer, more secure environment now than it was back then. If they had done the "No Child Left Behind" Prairie State Exam type testing that is required today, I wonder what kind of scores we would have had then. I know I certainly was questioning my choice

of occupations my first couple of years & it was mostly because of all the unrest & fighting on campus then.

Posts: **882** | Location: **Under the Goal Posts** | Registered: **April 22, 2007**

sbevis

Free Time



Posted August 19, 2007 18:20

[Hide Post](#)

Thanks RAMbunctious
I thought the refernce was to several incidents that oocured in 1973 which resulted in police patrols arround campus.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

Sassafras

Regular



Posted August 19, 2007 21:36

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:

I must say that you probably have me pegged but I have no clue as to who you might be. I just never heard of anyone named "Sassafras" while in school. Isn't that always the way of things, though, when someone has the better of you.

I am enjoying maintaining my anonymity. Don't know if you knew who I was... probably not.

Posts: **151** | Location: **South Of Town** | Registered: **July 25, 2006**

BlueBelly

Educated

Posted August 19, 2007 23:03

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by Sassafras:

quote:

Originally posted by Buck:

I must say that you probably have me pegged but I have no clue as to who you might be. I just never heard of anyone named "Sassafras" while in school. Isn't that always the way of things, though, when someone has the better of you.

I am enjoying maintaining my anonymity. Don't know if you

knew who I was... probably not.

One kid had his hide ripped of his forehead and his spleen or gizzard knocked out as I recall. The one doing the knocking and ripping had a chain. Patrol cars? Yes there were, and cops crawlin' all over in riot gear. In that time frame (school year) a snow ball fight started over near Ford National and ended with a rumble amongst the races. Stewart Clark tried to help out with a little tear gas in "G" building but was a few months early or late, he may have been confused a bit. His heart was in the right place though. 😊

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

BlueBelly
Educated

Posted August 19, 2007 23:05

[Hide Post](#)

Oops, I quoted the wrong person. Should have been a reply to Rambutuoses post.

Posts: **869** | Location: **North Pole** | Registered: **January 03, 2007**

**Standing
by**
Educated

Posted August 20, 2007 00:39

[Hide Post](#)

Thanks Rambunctious, I know a guy whose 70 from Ohio who took second in a boxing championship. He was riding with 4 friends and yelled at some black guys somehow. Everyone got out of the cars and the guys friends jumped back in. He went home with broken ribs etc. and his dad beat him for crying in the front ditch laying in his blood. He didn't fight the guy who took first, in the championship. The winner was a big black guy whose eyes were swelled and could barely stand, but the guy I knowed walked off and wouldn't fight him. He said once it was a Golden Gloves competition. We, the younger generation, don't know how good we've got it.

Posts: **617** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **May 10, 2006**

rebelrick
Newcomer



Posted August 20, 2007 07:10

[Hide Post](#)

Thanks to everyone who helped answer the questions I posed in my previous posting.

To Joyful1...

I truly appreciate your kind words and thoughts as they relate to my current health situation. The way I see things, death is only a part of life. Without death life would be totally meaningless.

To Pogo...

Thank you for the information regarding my Uncle Nelson. Although I was almost certain that he had passed away, I had been unable to find out for sure. Thanks for helping bring me closure on this.

To Buck & Bugman...

I appreciate your remembrances of Mr. Inskeep and Ms. Elder, both of whom were fine educators.

Also, I would like to thank **The Mad Bomber...**

Your little prank with the tear gas probably saved me from a career in food service, a vocation to which I was not very well suited. I was supposed to start work as a busboy at the Top Of The First the next week, but after the gas incident my mother refused to agree.

Warmest regards to you all,

Rick Bunn
Cleveland, Ohio

This message has been edited. Last edited by: [rebelrick](#), August 20, 2007 07:31

Posts: **9** | Location: **Cleveland, OH** | Registered: **August 15, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted August 20, 2007 10:49

[Hide Post](#)

There were evidently more than one instances in '74. I was on patrol during one at the high school and went to the school where there was a lot of yelling and milling around but it was quickly broken up. One thing that fed it was that the cable company had a scanner on one of the cable channels and people were hearing what was going on and coming to the school which only compounded the problems. It wasn't too long after that the cable company cut the scanner feed. There was maybe a couple of fights but I never saw any and all we did was make an appearance, walk around and move people along.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted August 27, 2007 20:38

[Hide Post](#)

Just a throwback to an old topic here. Stopped at the Main St. Records and got my copy of the Farm. Those guys really were good. Thanks for the heads up about the CD being available.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted August 28, 2007 10:57

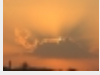
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I was reminded by the post about Main St. records. Featherstuns had small record booths in their store along the North wall. You could look at records, 78s, 45s and later LPs and then take it into the booth and play it to see if you liked it. Several of us used to stop there on the way home and spend some time playing our favorite hits.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Krumudgeon

Free Time



Posted August 28, 2007 11:17

[Hide Post](#)

I got to Mt. Vernon (in 1970) too late to have direct knowledge of the record departments at Mt. Vernon stores, but when I first arrived, while John R. Mitchell still owned WMIX, the music was programmed on a list prepared each day by Millie McGill. The word I had heard was that Millie had run the record department at Mitchell Furniture. There was a really strange mixture of musical selections that Vince Lyle and Bill Simpkins had to play.

WMIX, which first went on the air in 1946, has had just two owners, both of whose middle name was Russell. What a legacy!

Posts: **396** | Location: **Texas** | Registered: **March 12, 2007**

johnj229

Old Pro



Posted August 28, 2007 20:06

[Hide Post](#)

Kind of related to WMIX. Back in the 50's we would go to see my grand parents in Odin Illinois and take Rt. 37 to the 161 extension and head west and then dad would take a shortcut through the oilfield. Anyway, my brother was scared to death when we would get to the radio tower because he just knew it was going to fall and crush us all. I mean he would go into panic mode. Mom and Dad tried everything out side of putting him in the trunk until we passed the tower. This went on for a long time. One trip on our way up the folks stopped at the drive-in on north 37, I can't remember the name now, and we all got a ice cream cone. Well, back on the road and my brother and I where in the back seat of Dad's big ole boat of a Chrysler. When we got just south of the tower and my brother started his panic attack and wound up shoving his ice cream cone into the side of my dad's head. Of course that didn't set well at all and Dad believed that a good dusting of the britches is just what the doctor ordered. He stopped and jerked my brother out of the car and wailed him pretty. Of course I started laughing about it and the next thing I knew I was out also getting a dusting. From then on when we would go that route my brother would hide in the floor of the car and there would be dead silence until we got past the tower.

Posts: **8009** | Location: **Illinois** | Registered: **December 15, 2005**

wclark

Old Pro



Posted August 29, 2007 07:38

[Hide Post](#)

Bump

Posts: **2007** | Location: **Decatur, IL - MtVHS Class of '66** | Registered: **January 13, 2006**

jlmer

Old Pro

Posted August 29, 2007 09:20

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quote:

The word I had heard was that Millie had run the record department at Mitchell Furniture.

I don't remember Mitchells ever having a record department. I was always bored when we'd go there as it seemed to be all furniture. I think they had appliances upstairs and in the room East. Featherstuns seemed to have the record business back then.

Karch, the photographer, upstairs and on the N. side of the Court House had 45s he would sell. He'd get them off of the jukeboxes but I was engaged to Sandy Fleener and her dad, Clint, had the bar so we got the records free. I used to wake up every morning for school to the sound of "When the red, red, Robin goes bob, bob, bobbin' along...". Later in the morning they'd go into their county programing at the "Old General Store" playing a lot of Eddie Arnold. Ah, good ole days.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

**Campfollower
in VA**
Regular



Posted August 29, 2007 10:38

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quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

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I don't remember Mitchells ever having a record department. I was always bored when we'd go there as it seemed to be all furniture. I think they had appliances upstairs and in the room East. Featherstuns seemed to have the record business back then.

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I remember Sandy - the Fleeners lived right across Casey from my great aunt and uncle, Alma and Hardy Mannen. I remember being scared of

Sandy when I was little. She was pretty tough and enough older to be intimidating sometimes.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

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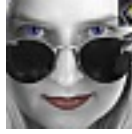
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bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted August 29, 2007 18:24

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Did your uncle have D&M Seed Co?

quote:

Originally posted by Campfollower in VA:

quote:

Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

The word I had heard was that Millie had run the record department at Mitchell Furniture.

I don't remember Mitchells ever having a record department. I was always bored when we'd go there as it seemed to be all furniture. I think they had appliances upstairs and in the room East. Featherstuns seemed to have the record business back then.

Karch, the photographer, upstairs and on the N.

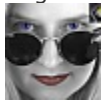
side of the Court House had 45s he would sell. He'd get them off of the jukeboxes but I was engaged to Sandy Fleener and her dad, Clint, had the bar so we got the records free. I used to wake up every morning for school to the sound of "When the red, red, Robin goes bob, bob, bobbin' along...". Later in the morning they'd go into their county programing at the "Old General Store" playing a lot of Eddie Arnold. Ah, good ole days.

I remember Sandy - the Fleeners lived right across Casey from my great aunt and uncle, Alma and Hardy Mannen. I remember being scared of Sandy when I was little. She was pretty tough and enough older to be intimidating sometimes.

Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

**Campfollower
in VA**

Regular



Posted August 29, 2007 20:11

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Originally posted by bill_is_back:
Did your uncle have D&M Seed Co?

quote:

I remember Sandy - the Fleeners lived right across Casey from my great aunt and uncle, Alma and Hardy Mannen. I remember being scared of Sandy when I was little. She was pretty tough and enough older to be intimidating sometimes.

Not that I know of - he farmed and as I remember sold cars. I will ask my mom. Called Mom and D&M was owned by Jerome Mannen, Uncle Hardy's brother.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered:
February 26, 2007

jlmer
Old Pro

Posted August 30, 2007 10:08

[Hide Post](#)



quote:

Not that I know of - he farmed and as I remember sold cars. I will ask my mom. Called Mom and D&M was owned by Jerome Mannen, Uncle Hardy's brother.

There was a boy, Jerry Mannen and I believe he had an older brother. Sandy didn't live in the big house after her dad remarried. She moved in with her aunt and uncle on N. 37. Her uncle owned Penny's Diesel Repair. Pennys wife, Jewel, was a sister to Clint.

I can see that she would be intimidating to younger kids as she was a tomboy. I met her in '61 and we were together until late '62. She had some quirks that I couldn't handle.

Unfortunately, she's buried in Oakwood with barely a marker. I'm sure Clint would be devastated.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 30, 2007 10:46

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Unfortunately, she's buried in Oakwood with barely a marker. I'm sure Clint would be devastated.

I suppose it's one of those things that Clint should have done but never did. He died in 1966. I don't know exactly what year Sandy was murdered.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

beanne
Regular

Posted August 30, 2007 13:18

[Hide Post](#)

to- sbevis, we are so very sorry about your wifes mother dying. I am sure you all will miss her.(a relative)

Posts: **148** | Location: **at home** | Registered: **January 24, 2006**

bill_is_back
Old Pro



Posted August 30, 2007 16:56

[Hide Post](#)

I thought it might be Hank's parents, they lived in that area. About Casey pr College and 21th st.

quote:

Originally posted by Campfollower in VA:

quote:

Originally posted by bill_is_back:
Did your uncle have D&M Seed Co?

quote:

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Posts: **4701** | Location: **savannah, ga** | Registered: **July 17, 2006**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted August 31, 2007 13:54

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

I suppose it's one of those things that Clint should have done but never did. He died in 1966. I don't know exactly what year Sandy was murdered.

Sandy was killed in '64 I believe. I was in Oregon when I found out about it. I suppose that the guy is still in a mental ward somewhere. He was a nut to start with and kicked out of the service on a section 8. He had the same problems with her that I did except he handled it all wrong. The other Mannen I was trying to think of in another post was Max Mannen. He was about 3 years ahead of me. Did you go to school with Sandy?

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

**Campfollower
in VA**
Regular

Posted August 31, 2007 15:44

[Hide Post](#)

quote:



Originally posted by jlmer:

quote:

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The other Mannen I was trying to think of in another post was Max Mannen. He was about 3 years ahead of me.
Did you go to school with Sandy?

The other Mannen you may be thinking of is Mac. He played basketball and had two brothers - David and Charles, aka known as Red. They moved away from Mt. Vernon in the 50s, I think. They were Uncle Hardy's grandsons.

Posts: **129** | Location: **Jefferson County, WBGV** | Registered: **February 26, 2007**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted August 31, 2007 17:05

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

to- sbevis, we are so very sorry about your wifes mother dying. I am sure you all will miss her.(a relative)

Thanks so much. I will tell the wife. Will you be there Saturday?

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

Pogo
Old Pro



Posted August 31, 2007 18:19

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

Did you go to school with Sandy?

No **jlmer**, I'm older than she or you. Actually, I'm older than *most* people on this forum.

Posts: **2030** | Location: **62864** | Registered: **January 16, 2006**

beanne
Regular

Posted August 31, 2007 20:12

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to sbevis. sorry I can't be there but some of my family will be, Mark, Carl and susan

Posts: **148** | Location: **at home** | Registered: **January 24, 2006**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted September 01, 2007 08:34

[Hide Post](#)

Thanks for your thoughts.

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

sbevis
Free Time



Posted September 03, 2007 10:35

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Boy am I glad that the Sweetcorn and Watermellon festival is over. Both my children were born in Mt. Vernon during the week of the festival. Made me kind of gunshy there for a while. 😊

Posts: **318** | Location: **hbg** | Registered: **March 31, 2007**

jlmer
Old Pro



Posted September 03, 2007 11:14

[Hide Post](#)

quote:

No jlmer, I'm older than she or you. Actually, I'm older than most people on this forum.

Gee,I don't know why but I had you pictured a lot younger. Do I know you? I don't spend much time trying to figure out who people are on these forums. I only know a few who have made it obvious to me.

Posts: **6351** | Location: **Mt. Vernon** | Registered: **March 18, 2006**

Baseball Mom
Old Pro



Posted September 03, 2007 15:15

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Jlmer, I thought I had figured out who Pogo is because of his wise posting until he said he was older than you 😊 Now I just don't know. Boy, Mt. Vernon sure has alot of interesting history. I grew up in a small town close to here, so I can't really reflect too much on the history.

Posts: **2166** | Location: **Left Field** | Registered: **May 02, 2007**

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