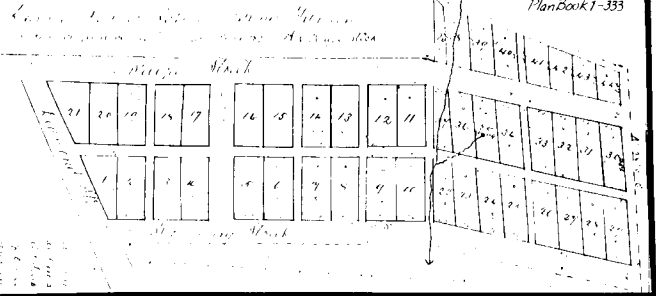


Loaned by J. E. Bigley

Our Neighbors

Copyright by H. C. Frick Coke Company, 1893

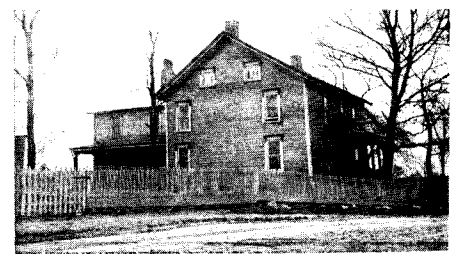


Later known as Standard, Spring Garden was laid out in 1877 by Daniel Shupe. A photograph of the Union Supply Co. in Standard can be found on page 30.



Loaned by Ralph Meredith

Later known as the Parfitt Town Hotel, the Miner's Home, built in the 1880s by George Parfitt, stood at the corner of Quarry and Reservoir streets until 1966 when it burned down. Shown on the balcony in the 1890s; Agnes Parfitt Queer, Jesse Parfitt, Martha Parfitt, Mrs. Agnes Parfitt, mother; below, left: William Parfitt with Captain, the dog; man with hat, George Parfitt, owner; to his left, John Parfitt, bartender.



The old Duncan farmhouse, the manor house of the tract on which Duncan Plan was laid out, was torn down in 1944 when the road, now route 31, was straightened. An 1850 survey of the farmland, then owned by Abraham Overholt, shows this house and tract "situate on the Mountpleasant and Somerset turnpike road, in Mountpleasant Township." The farm was sold to John Duncan in 1872.

DUNCAN PLAN OF LOTS

MOUNT PLEASANT BOROUGH.

WESTMORELAND CO. PA.

1901

LARGE SIZE LOTS 40'x50' 120'x150' FT.

EASY TERMS.

AGENT ON THE PLAN DAILY.

FIFTEEN MANUFACTURING SITES.

WATER-GAS-MUCH LABOR-FUEL-LOW TAXES-LARGE LOTS-AT REASONABLE PRICES- INVESTIGATE LIBERAL INDUCEMENTS OFFERED TO COMPANIES LOCATING FACTORIES ON THIS PLAN.

FIRST ADDITION

NO. 1.

Documents and pictures loaned by Sarah Weisel

Our Neighbors

Aside from the great industrial changes, one of the most striking transitions emerging in recent years is the development of the rural sections in the vicinity of Mount Pleasant, a trend which is apparent in many other parts of Westmoreland County.

Land devoted to farming has steadily declined in the amount of acreage, while suburban home building has progressed at a constantly accelerating pace. During this period the area has seen entirely new communities such as Norvelt created, while many older communities such as New Stanton, Donegal and Bear Rocks have gained new life and vigor. These communities have continued to play an important part in the shaping of the destiny of Mount Pleasant.

The nearest of these neighbors are three communities in Mount Pleasant Township just across the borough line, in fact, they appear to be extensions of the borough itself; they are Standard and Standard Shaft on the north and the Duncan Plan on the east.

Standard and Standard Shaft both were named for the H. C. Frick Coke Company's Standard coal mine and the huge coke producing operation which for many years was the largest of the beehive oven type in the world. The Standard community also is known as Spring Garden, the name of the voting precinct.

The Duncan Plan was given its name about 70 years ago as a real estate development in which lots were sold from the acreage owned for years by the Duncan family. The suburban development was launched with an ox roast, and lots sold briskly. In a few years most of the meadowland was built up with homes. The voting precinct is Duncan.

One of the largest and yet youngest of the neighboring communities is Norvelt, which was founded during the depression years of the early 1930s. It holds the distinction of having been started as a federal government project. Originally called Westmoreland Homesteads, the Mount Pleasant Township voting precinct still bears that title. The name "Norvelt" was formed from the last syllables of the name Eleanor Roosevelt. The administration of President Franklin D. Roosevelt created the Federal Resettlement Administration, which sponsored the Norvelt project in its early days.

A community in Mount Pleasant Township which has two names is Hecla, which first took its name from the three coal mines purchased from the Thaw family of Pittsburgh by the H. C. Frick Coke Company and ultimately owned by the United States Steel Company. The three mines were Hecla No. 1, Hecla No. 2 at Trauger, and Hecla No. 3, which also was in Hecla on "Goat Hill." When the post office was established at Hecla it was given the name Southwest. The change was necessary because there already was a Hecla post office in the eastern part of the state.

Other Mount Pleasant Township communities which were named for coal mines are United, Calumet and Mammoth. The communities of Kecksburg, Trauger and Carpentertown were named for early settler families — the Kecks, the Traugers and the Carpenters. Laurelville was poetically named because of the abundant growth of mountain laurel.

A short distance to the south of the borough of Mount Pleasant are three closely related communities — Bridgeport, Hammondville and Buckeye.

Hammondville, in Fayette County, is separated from Bridgeport, Westmoreland County, by Jacobs Creek. Shupe's Run separates Bridgeport and Buckeye. Bridgeport is in Mount Pleasant Township and Buckeye is in East Huntingdon Township. The late George Hebenenthal, well informed on the history of the area, once stated: "To all intents and

purposes the three communities are one. The same schools, churches, stores and places of employment have historically served all three."

Hammondville was named for the father of Elizabeth Hammond Pershing, wife of John Pershing, on whose land the village was built. Bridgeport originally was known as Stauffer, a variant spelling of Stouffer — a prominent family in the area a century ago. Other names applied to what is now Bridgeport were Pershing, after the Pershing family, Mullin Station, a stop on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad branch, and Hazlett, the name of the company store between the parallel B & O and the later Pennsylvania branch lines in the northern end of Bridgeport. The village of Buckeye took its name from the Buckeye mine.

The communities of Ruffsdale and Tarrs in neighboring East Huntingdon Township were named for families — Ruff and Tarr — who were early settlers on land situated along what became the route of the Pennsylvania Railroad's Southwest Branch between Greensburg and Uniontown.

Also in East Huntingdon Township, and not far from Tarrs and Ruffsdale, is Alverton, one of the older communities of the area. Many of its settlers came from the eastern part of the state in the late 1700s. All with a deep religious faith, they included members of Lutheran, Reformed and Mennonite denominations, and later Methodists, United Brethren and Church of God. The village at one time was known as Stonerville after J. B. Stoner, owner of considerable land in the vicinity.

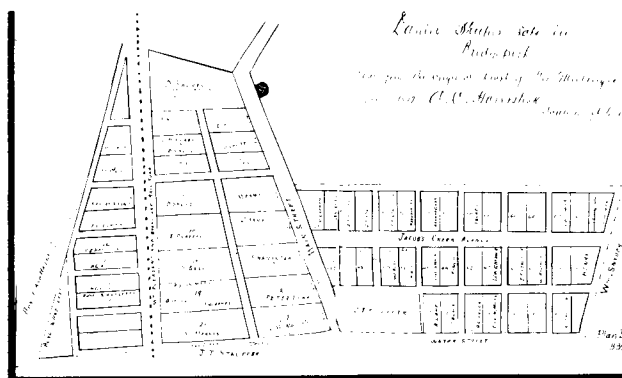
A little more distant, but with growing importance, are Youngwood, New Stanton and Hunker, parts of another progressive industrial center that manufactures various products to which Mount Pleasant's economy is linked.

Donegal Borough and Donegal Township were named for Donegal, Ireland, "*Dear Old Donegal*," as Bing Crosby used to sing. Donegal Township was one of the original townships into which Westmoreland county was divided by the court at its first sitting at Robert Hanna's on April 6, 1773, and a number of its earliest settlers came from Ireland. Nearby Jones Mills was named after Thomas Jones, an early settler. Both Donegal Borough and Jones Mills were on the old turnpike from Somerset to Mount Pleasant, a wagon and stage route across the mountains.

Like Donegal, the history of Acme is closely linked to the old Glades Road between Mount Pleasant and Somerset. In the early 1900s Acme, meaning the highest point, was chosen as the name of a new post office for the community located at the top of Three Mile Hill on that road. Not far from this area is Bear Rocks, named for the rocks which for years were a scenic attraction and popular picnic spot near which a rural village sprang up. During recent years the Bear Rocks area has had an influx of new residents who were first attracted to it as a summer home location in a pleasant mountain setting.

From the very beginning Mount Pleasant has been the natural center of a thriving area which has gradually grown in population. These friendly neighbors make an extremely valuable contribution to the business and professional economy of the town and have long been a highly important factor in its prosperity.

by Scott Lane



Daniel Shupe's plan of Lots in Bridgeport, 1877, along the Mount Pleasant and Broadford Railroad and Jacobs Creek swamp.



The Pump House on Water Street, Bridgeport, built by the Mount Pleasant Water Company chartered in 1880s, supplied water necessary for the final step in making coke at Frick's ovens.

Below: Main Street, Bridgeport, about 1915.



Mud School, Greenlick, Fayette County.

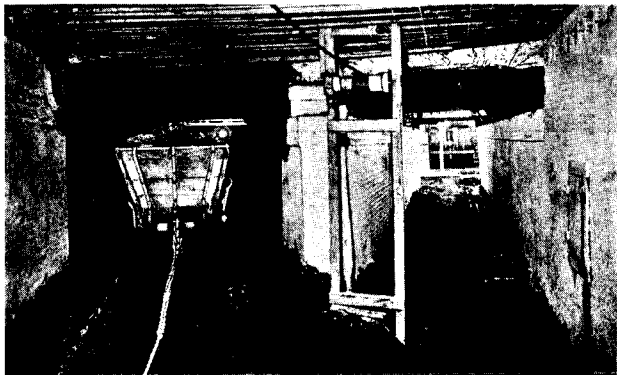
The Acme post office and general store, 1890.



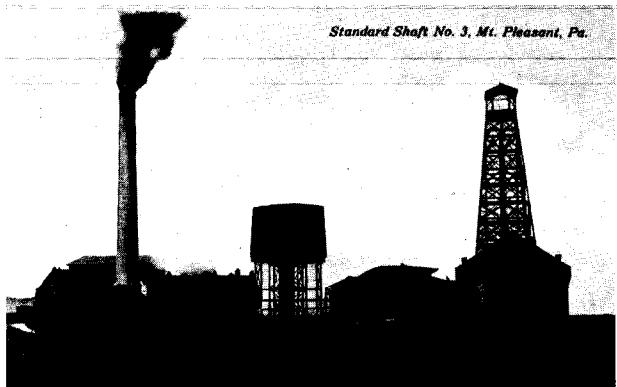
Loaned by Leo Zelko

Loaned by Rev. F. T. Bach

Loaned by Susan B. Werry



A 9596 Standard Mine, 300 Feet under Ground.



Standard Shaft No. 3, Mt. Pleasant, Pa.

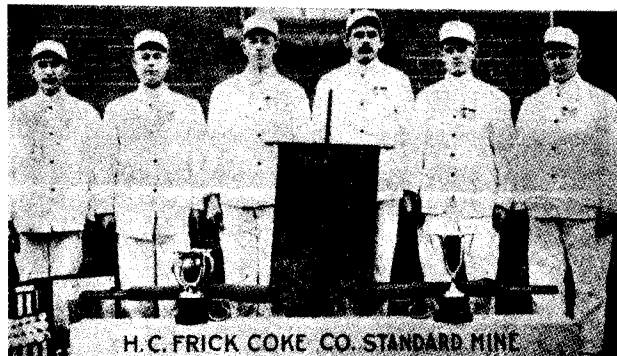
Loaned by Howard Allison

The Frick interests purchased and operated various plants in the vicinity which meant so much to the economy of Mount Pleasant. Among the plants acquired was the Standard mine from A. Hutchison Bros. in 1883 which was considered the largest coke plant in the world.

The H. C. Frick Coke Company motto was: **SAFETY THE FIRST CONSIDERATION**. This brought about the development of first aid teams and rescue squads at all their plants. At Standard, men from the Mount Pleasant area had one of the championship teams in the U. S. A.

From material submitted by J. E. Bigley.

Members of the safety team, winner of the 4th National Mine Safety contest held in 1918 at Forbes Field, Pittsburgh, were, from the left: William Gefsky; Curtis Spence, master mechanic and team captain; "Rube" Shaw, hoisting engineer; Dick Reese, mine driver; Oscar L. Armstrong, blacksmith; Milton Anderson, hoisting engineer at Standard Slope.



H. C. FRICK COKE CO. STANDARD MINE

The Story of a Miner

The following is an account of the last years of the coal industry at Standard as told by 75 year-old Louis Sibal, a retired miner and native of Standard. Although this is an individual's story, it describes the living and working conditions prevalent in the area's "Company" towns and mines. It recalls memories and perhaps experiences shared by some of our residents and many of our neighbors. Mr. Sibal and his wife Madeline live on Front Street, Standard Shaft.

In 1918 I quit school to work in the mine. Because I was only 14, a seventh grade graduate of Visitation School, I had to get a blue work card. In the township these were issued at Hurst. Superintendent Rumbaugh gave me mine.

Times were hard. There were 10 in our family. My mother was a Czech and my dad an Austrian. He came to the states in the 1890s. My parents were married at Coalbrook outside of Connellsville. They worked hard and we lived in a self-owned home in Standard.

I started working with my dad in Standard Shaft No. 2. I was green and didn't know how to mine. Everyone had to work with someone until he was 17 ... then he could get a miner's certificate.

In the morning the whistle blew at 5 o'clock for the first shift and continued for 15 minutes. You reported to the lamp house. You bought all your own tools but the company rented you battery lamps for your helmet at seven cents a day. No one was permitted to carry matches. At Standard they searched us.

At 5:54 or 6 they started dropping men, 12 in an elevator. There was a man at the top and one at the bottom who signaled by whistle when to raise or drop the next man load. It took about an hour to drop a shift of 100 men. Usually there were 300 men working in three shifts then. The second shift began being dropped about 2:30. The first shift waited at the bottom in a man hole, a room with benches near the elevator. As men were dropped, coal was brought up ... as the empty coal wagons were lowered, the earlier shift was brought up. Men and coal wagons were carried on the same elevator, but not at the same time.

The coal wagons held three tons, all hand picked. The pay for each wagon was \$1.37; there were no scales then. My dad and I could load about two wagons a day. These were pulled to the elevator by horses.

The inside of the mine wasn't level as people think. This mine had the slope of Standard's slag dump. The tracks for the coal wagons had to be sanded to keep the wagons from running into the horses and breaking their legs. A coal driver got \$4.15 a day. He was an expert with the horses.

Working hours weren't rigid but usually we worked 9 to 12 hours a day. Some days we ended owing the company money ... the Connellsville vein we mined was 6 to 8 feet deep. We had to drill our own holes with an auger and shoot it with a powder call monebell, rolled in 8 inch long sticks. The monebell was set with a six foot tapping rod. The cable attached to a cap, set in one of the sticks, was stretched out till you had a hiding place then hollered "Fire" two or three times ... the explosion would loosen the coal. The timber to brace the roof was provided by the company but you weren't paid to put it up. The monebell cost six cents and the cap seven cents. You had to buy the cable too. The monebell was carried in a box, your lunch and tools inside your clothes against your back. If you missed the man trip to your work site at the bottom of the mine you walked. The mine ran about four miles from Standard to Hecla.

The clay had to be picked out of the coal too. Slate was thrown aside. There was no pay for slate but if the inspector didn't see any slate at your digging site, he might suspect your wagon load was dirty and not give you credit for the wagon. If the company had it in for you they could send you to a cement head to work. If your wagon came out level, not wearing what was called a Frick hump, an extra large heaping top, the foreman at the bottom noted it in his blue book. Next morning your lamp was stopped by the lampman. You were given the day off. If the Frick hump was forgotten again, you got more days off.

If you didn't report for work, the "Tugs", the company's private Coal and Iron Police, were likely to kick in your front door. It was probably the company's door anyway. On company property, the workers had no rights or protection.

Company houses were usually six to eight rooms divided in half. A family lived on each side. These rented for \$6.50 and \$7.50 a month. They had no electricity down there until '26 or '27. Frank Uhrin helped wire them. Water was gotten from hydrants in front of the houses, one every 75-100 feet. The water came from the reservoir used for watering the ovens. In the "Patch" we used salt sacks to strain the dirt as it came out of the pumps.

In '22 when the strike came, I was a single man still living at home and working with my dad as a coal loader. The people who went on strike and lived in company houses were evicted. Without any notice, the company men came with eight foot horse-drawn wagons and loaded up the worker's furniture and unloaded it along the road leading up to Oak Grove School.

In '22 John L. Lewis was here; he was in Greensburg organizing District #3. (There was no arbitration and no legal means to do anything for the workers.) When notified about the people being moved out of their homes, Lewis sent 24 tents. These were set up on four acres across from where the Standard Shaft Citizens Club is now. It looked like a circus. People put their furniture in a few tents and used the rest for eating and sleeping. There wasn't too much violence. A lot of hollering as people were happy because they were together in action. No strikers were allowed on company property in the "Patch". They knew that they would be shot if they trespassed. During the summer the families shared whatever they had—hogs, chickens, vegetables—and they got help from people in the self-owned homes. But after about six months and before winter, they decided to go back to work, without any pay raise or help from anyone.

So we worked until 1932 then went out on strike again. This time I was married and had two children and lived in company house No. 230. My neighbors in 231 were black. We were getting \$1.94 a wagon and there were motors on the cars in the mines. J.T. Pisula was superintendent from 1930 to 1935. Premoshis was mine foreman. Since '31 we had been getting only 2-3 days a week. Yes, I was a leader of this strike. Before the strike there was a 10-day company ruling: whichever shift took the last part of the coal stumps out, they had to make a rock fall. Steve Bellish, Norman Ellis, Dave Hall and me had to make this rock fall. We worked and ended up owing the company seven cents for our lamps. We pulled out all the roof timber and track. Next day our lamps were stopped for two days because we hadn't dug any coal that day. So we went on strike. We tried again to organize but more "Tugs" were brought in. Some men went back to work. In this strike, the people weren't moved out of their houses.

A few scabs were brought in from Standard Shaft No. 1 and a few from No. 3. They were given pickhandles to protect themselves. They were careful to stay on company property. From High Street, they crawled through the sewer that went under the road and came out about where Scrabot's property now begins. There along the side of West Penn's tracks, a fifteen foot high backstop was built to protect the "sewer rats" as they came out. We couldn't touch them. We marched the public roads and were angry. One striker was shot and killed.

Nobody wanted to go back to work. Deputy "Big Greenwalt" came up to take two of us to see the superintendent at his house. It was a big house with a fence around that stood where Shop and Save is now. It was still Prohibition but Pisula offered us some of his 17 year-old whiskey to be friendly. Then he says: "If you two go to work, the others will follow you. Tell you what. If I blow this whistle maybe you could come down the road. Maybe we could solve the problem if they see you go to work." I said, "No, I don't think I want to do that. You blow the whistle but I think I'll still stay away." So they blew the whistle. No soap. No one went to work. The next day the superintendent came to my house. He said, "Well none of you fellows want to go to work so the company's going to close up. They're going to tear down the company houses." I said, "Well I don't care. They don't belong to me." And the superintendent said, "I think we'll start on your house here!" And they did. They tore down No. 230 and 231 that I was living in. It's the only one they tore down in the "Patch" and that lot is still vacant. After the passage of the "Right to Organize" law, no one was contacted to work. I went to work for the WPA.

In 1933 the mine here was shut down. In 1936 they started to clear out all the equipment because of the rising water inside. In 1937 the top of the mine was sealed with a cap of twelve inch thick concrete with a peephole in it to check the level of the water.

By 1936 unions organized and there were better conditions. I made \$11.55 with the Fayette Company. (Today it's \$63 a day.) I had a big family and up 'til 1942 we lived out of the company store. Money for rent and groceries was taken directly from the wages. We were paid in script . . . sometimes there was a little left but the company store had good quality and everything you might want.

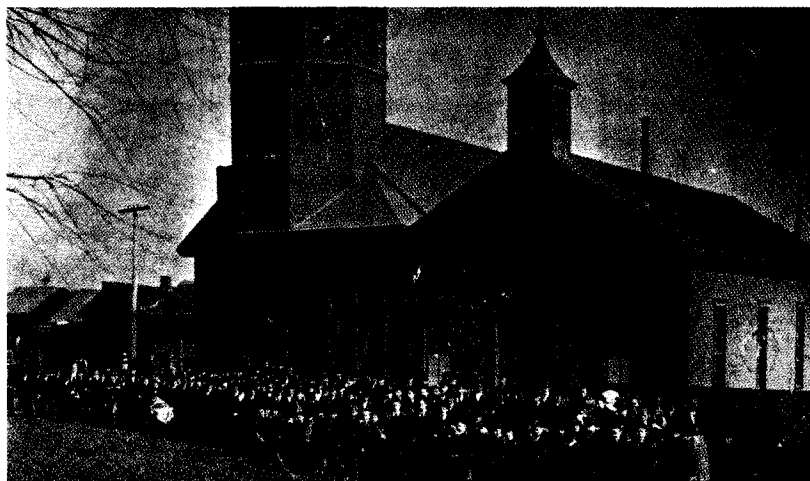
In 1956 or 1957 the cap of Standard Shaft No. 3 blew off. This shook homes and broke windows. The cap was about twenty foot square and the sound when it blew was just like a bomb drop. It was heard for miles. The federal and state inspectors including J. Bigley, checked for weeks trying to find the cause of the blown cap. Their decision was that a big rock fall back in the mine had created pressure that forced the water in the 360 foot shaft against the cement cap, making it explode. The company bulldozed the brick boiler house and engine house and some other brick buildings into the shaft, filled and covered it with another cap the same size as the first, a 20'x20' slab of concrete 12" thick. The Standard Shaft mine was permanently closed.



Loaned by Elias Farrah

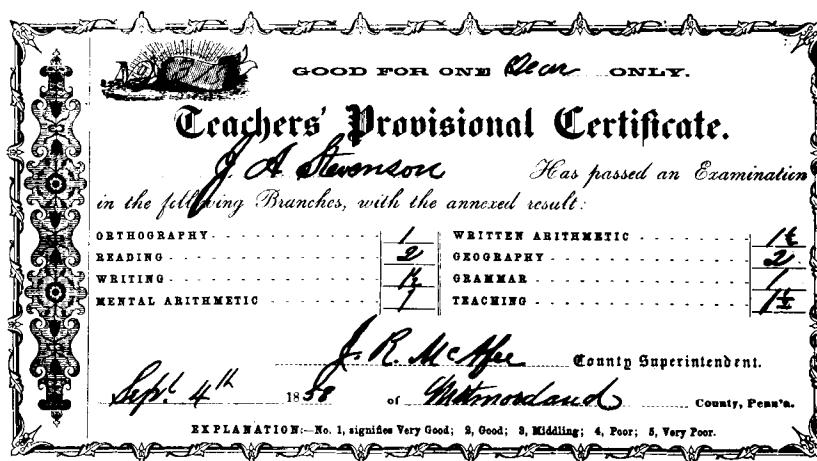
In 1953 Louis Sibal was the captain of the first aid team of the Carpentertown Coal & Coke Company which competed in the state first aid contest at Ebensburg. Prior to this they had won second place for the second year in succession at the annual first aid contest of the Westmoreland County Safety Association. Members of the team were, left to right, seated: Harry Mathias, plant superintendent; Louis G. Sibal, team captain; John Hunter, mine foreman. Standing: Edward Parfitt, Wilmer Rice, James Weaver, Michael Minix, Robert Rodgers, Robert Coking. This team worked in the rescue operations following the 1954 Carpentertown mine explosion.





The Transfiguration congregation gathered outside their first church and school building which stood on the corner of Hitchman and Smithfield Streets from 1890-1906.

Religious



J. A. Stevenson was one of our early teachers; he later was editor of our newspaper.

This photograph taken about 1908 shows the old burying grounds behind the United Presbyterian Church and bordering Stand Pipe alley across which stood the Mount Pleasant Hospital.



Educational

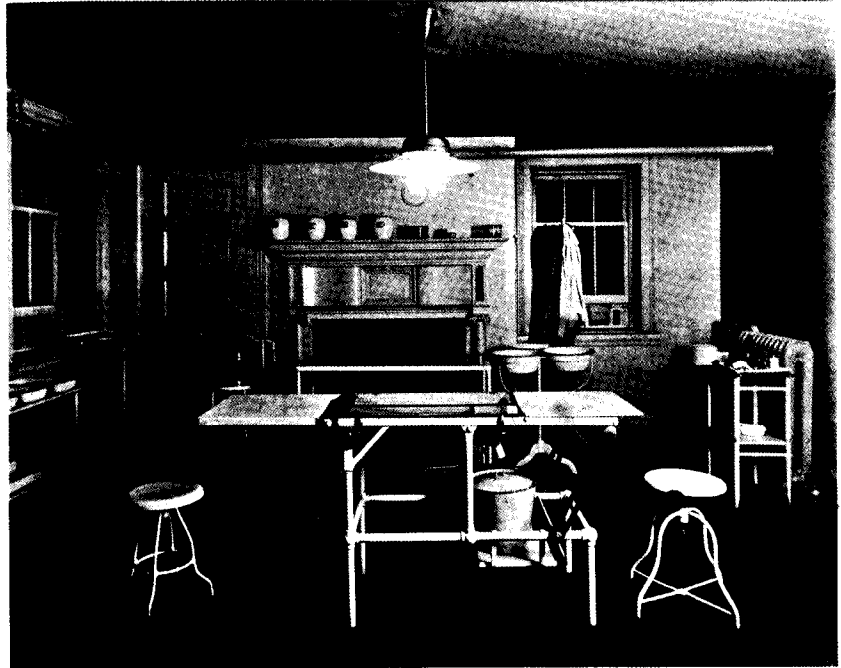
Cemetery

Newspaper

MT. PLEASANT JOURNAL.

MT. PLEASANT, WESTMORELAND CO., PA., WEDNESDAY, MAY 10, 1882.

The delivery room of the Mount Pleasant Hospital was equipped with the best up-to-date equipment in the 1920s.



Health

While once the Mount Pleasant library was hard to find as noted by the newspaper comment of July 24, 1876, a hundred years later the whole community takes pride in its present library facility completed in 1970. Where? On South Church Street, upon the site of the old First Ward School.

Library

The Mount Pleasant Dawn,

It is now currently reported that we have a public library. Those parties having it in charge should use every precaution not to let it become generally known that there exists such an institution. If they are as successful in the future as they have been in the past, many a citizen will go "where the woodbine twineth" without ever knowing that there was in the quite town of Mt. Pleasant, a circulating library. For the benefit of those having it in charge we would just say that there is a paper published in Mt. Pleasant once a week.



The character of Mount Pleasant's citizens is exemplified by its institutions.

Institutions



*Trinity United Methodist Church
Main Street and College Avenue*

The Rev. Abramham Truxel, John D. Pfrimmer, Br. Berger and Christian Newcomer were early church leaders followed by Hustand, Crum, Winters, Erratt, Spaythe, Worman, Rider, Horner, Medsger, Rathfum, Shulky, Lawson, Sitman, Winter Eckert and Huzy.

The Rev. George Miller	1839
The Rev. Jacob Miller	1840-1841
The Rev. J. L. Baker	1841-1843
The Rev. J. B. Resler	1844-1845
The Rev. S. Snyder	1846-1847
The Rev. J. Wallace	1848-1849
The Rev. Isiah Potter	1850-1851
The Rev. W.S.H. Keys	1852
The Rev. J.L. Holmes	1853
The Rev. J.B. Resler	1854-1856
The Rev. Wm. B. Dick	1857-1858
The Rev. T. L. Keesy	1859
The Rev. D. Speck	1860-1861
The Rev. Resler	1862
The Rev. E. B. Kephart	1863
The Rev. Wm. B. Dick	1864-1865
The Rev. A. J. Hartsock	1866
The Rev. Wm. Wragg	1867-1868
The Rev. D. Sheerer	1869
The Rev. A. Wilson	1870
The Rev. W. P. Shrum & The Rev. C. Wortman	1871
The Rev. Wm. Wragg & The Rev. M. O. Long	1872-1873
The Rev. D. D. DeLong	1874-1876
The Rev. F. Fisher	1877-1879
The Rev. J. E. McClay	1880
The Rev. J. C. Sherrer	1881
The Rev. L. R. Jones	1882-1885
The Rev. J. I. L. Resler	1886-1890
The Rev. G. W. Sherrick	1891-1892
The Rev. H. A. Schleichter	1893
The Rev. E. U. Hoenshell	1894-1895
The Rev. S. W. Keister	1896-1900
The Rev. Lawrence Keister	1901-1907
The Rev. G. L. Graham	1907-1911
The Rev. S. L. Postlewait	1911-1913
The Rev. T. C. Harper	1913-1920
The Rev. C.W. Hendrickson	1920-1922
The Rev. J. D. Good	1922-1926
The Rev. S. R. Seese	1926-1928
The Rev. J. H. Bridgum	1928-1933
The Rev. E. G. Sawyer	1933-1949
The Rev. B. F. Bungard	1949-1954
The Rev. Lloyd J. Housel	1954-1958

Trinity United Methodist Church 1803

Trinity United Methodist Church on Main St. and College Ave., originally the Mount Pleasant Church of the United Brethren in Christ, has been a part of the local community since its earliest beginnings. It is believed that regular services were held in the Mount Pleasant vicinity starting in the year 1803. At the time the area was sparsely settled, but Abraham Draksel (Truxel), traveling United Brethren minister, conducted occasional services as early as 1790. His preaching and that of others laid the ground work for a revival meeting held at the Bonnett School just east of the town in 1803. To this revival is attributed the origin of the Mount Pleasant Church of the United Brethren.

Initially, the congregation did not have a permanent meeting place, but met in homes of the members or in the Bonnett School. Between 1806 and 1812 a log house was built on a site at 26 South Church St. This building was jointly owned with the Associate Reformed Church. It served the needs of both congregations until 1830 when it was replaced with a brick structure. Although both congregations shared the facility, they did not have joint services. The United Brethren held their service in German; the Associated Reformed held their service in English. As the congregations grew, separate facilities were required. Both congregations agreed that the church be disposed of at public sale to the highest bidder. On Sept. 10, 1853, it was sold to Samuel Warden, bidding for the Associate Reformed Church (United Presbyterian), for \$700, one half of which went to the United Brethren.

A new brick church was then erected on the present site on Main Street in 1854. At that time the membership was 194 and the pastor's salary was \$267 annually. The tower was constructed in 1874 in which the town clock was placed in 1890 at a cost of \$1,000. The church had been incorporated in 1876 and the parsonage at 714 Walnut St. was built in 1878.

Sunday, March 17, 1912, was the last day that services were held in the 1854 church building; razing began the following day. Until the new church was built, services were held in the Opera House at 657 West

Administrative Board and Program Council. Left to right, 1st row: Fred Snider, Claudia Stahl, John Coldsmith, Betty Coldsmith, Bob Boyer, Jr., Erma Eckels, Ernest Kuhns, Donna Kuhns, Bill Brinker, Charles Cunningham, Mabel Cunningham, Bob Boyer, Sr., Nancy Boyer, Mary Schwartz, Don Cunningham. 2nd row: Jay Spadafora, Anna Mae Gearhart, Jim Billingsley, Harry Sherwin, Reed Allison, Jean Shaw, Rev. Jay F. Shaffer, Gary Sherwin, Ted Thomas, James Wall, Phyllis Rodgers, Kay Foote, Bob Foote.



Main St. J.Z. Fox, a member of the church, was the contractor, with Mr. John R. Harman of Uniontown, the architect. The new \$50,000 church was dedicated March 16, 1913, and improved in the 1950s. Carillon bells were installed in 1951.

In 1946 the union of the Evangelican and United Brethren denominations occurred. In 1967 the Methodist and Evangelical United Brethren merged and the congregation chose the new name Trinity United Methodist Church.

Among its organizations is the Sunday School Orchestra, which was organized in 1908 under the direction of Dr. B. M. Loar and Orray Zuck. It is the oldest instrumental musical organization in Mount Pleasant.

Presently the Rev. Jay F. Shaffer is the pastor of the 450 member congregation.

Nancy Boyer

Wesley United Methodist Church 1816

Before any official organization was formed a handful of faithful would gather in a private home to worship God. The Rupert home and the Samuel Miller home, both still standing on Main Street were early meeting places. The first Methodist Society was organized in 1816 by Jacob Dowell, who had charge of the Connellsville Circuit. On May 22, 1833, the dedicated found it expedient to purchase a lot where they built the first Methodist Church in Mount Pleasant, completed in 1837. Located just below the Diamond and on the north side of Main Street, it was known as the Methodist Episcopal Church.

In 1856 the present building was erected at 720 West Main St. at a cost of \$4,000. The membership was small but grew rapidly through the Sunday School, which was one of the first organized in the area.

In 1892 a \$17,000 church renovation resulted in the extension of the building to Main Street, the placement of a bell in the tower, the purchase of new furniture for the auditorium and the installation of memorial windows. The Methodist Conference maintained a Bohemian Mission in the former Mud Lane schoolhouse on North Shupe Street from about 1900 until 1929 when the Mission consolidated with the Methodist Episcopal Church. In 1939 the old Mission building was torn

On May 22, 1977 the Rev. Milo Vondracek (right) presented the John Wesley Memorial Plaque to the Wesley Methodist Church in honor of his parents and to depict the union of the Mud Lane Bohemian Mission and the Methodist Episcopal Church. The Rev. H. Wayne Beam received the plaque for the church.



The Rev. Bruce Bishop 1958-1965
The Rev. Allen W. Reed 1965-1969
The Rev. Jay F. Shaffer 1969



*Wesley United Methodist Church
720 West Main Street*

B. F. Sawhill	1852
E. B. Griffen and J. T. Stiffy	1853
E. B. Griffen and M. J. Montgomery ..	1854
D. L. Dempsey and J. A. Miller	1855
J. McCarty and J. A. Miller	1856
S. Wakefield and S. Burt	1857
J. D. Knox and S. Burt	1858
J. D. Knox and W. A. Stewart	1859
J. McIllyar and W. A. Stewart ..	1860-1861
Z. S. Weller and William Lynch	1862
R. Cunningham	1862-1863
E. Williams	1864
J. W. Kessler	1865
J. C. High	1866
J. W. McIntyre	1869
Thomas Storer	1868-1870
A. Gallaher	1870-1871
M. M. Garrett	1871-1872
Samuel Wakefield	1892-1894
M. B. Pugh	1875-1876
A. P. Leonard	1877-1879
S. W. Davis	1880-1882
Thomas Storer	1883
L. R. Beacom	1884-1885
T. F. Pershing	1886-1889
J. B. Taylor	1890-1893
William Lynch	1894-1896
D. J. Davis	1897-1899
C. L. Smith	1900-1903
J. K. Lowe	1904-1907
T. N. Eaton	1908-1910
J. A. Younkens	1911-1912
S. P. Sallady	1912-1915
E. J. Knox	1916-1921
R. S. Hardin	1922-1923
A. H. Davies	1923-1927
G. E. Buhan	1928-1931
J. M. Vondracek (Mission)	1929
L. H. Hoover	1931-1934
E. C. Lindsay	1934-1937
J. L. Bayha	1937-1942
W. G. Lowry	1942-1945

W. T. Hartley	1945-1948
R. W. Jackson	1948-1951
J. H. Breakiron	1951-1953
R. R. Stephens	1953-1956
John Wood	1956-1959
Seth Bower	1959-1963
Clark Derby	1963-1966
John F. Balliet	1967-1969
Dallas Butler	1969-1970
Robert Borden	1971-1972
H. Wayne Beam	1972-



*First Baptist Church
709 Main Street*

The Rev. James Estep	
The Rev. William Shadrach	
The Rev. Milton Sutton	
The Rev. T.C. Teasdale	
The Rev. Isaac Wynn	
The Rev. William Hichman	
The Rev. John Parker	
The Rev. Edwin Brown	
The Rev. Simon Segfried	
The Rev. John Rockefeller	
The Rev. B.D. Purinton	
The Rev. B.F. Woodburn	
The Rev. George A. Ames	
The Rev. Leroy Stevens	1873-1880
The Rev. N.L. Reynolds	1880-1890
The Rev. G.R. Smith	
The Rev. Eugene Reed	
The Rev. J.E. Darby	
The Rev. C.W. Haines	1903-1910
The Rev. E.T. Humpton	1910-1913
The Rev. L.E. Yahn	1914-1916
The Rev. E.P. Smith	1916-1918
The Rev. J.A. Erbe	1919-1924
The Rev. T.H. Robertson	1924-1929
The Rev. H.W. Fowler	1929-1931
The Rev. A.E. Douglass	1931-1936
The Rev. S.S. Cuthbert	1937-1940
The Rev. Gordon W. Whitney	1940-1946
The Rev. Gerald W. Swetnam	1947-1949
The Rev. Henry N. Haglund	1949-1955
The Rev. William A. Babel	1955-1958
The Rev. David E. Martin	1958-1964
The Rev. Robert V. Hanrahan	1965-1968
The Rev. David Francis	1969-1974
The Rev. Daniel W. Cottrell	1975-

down and much of the material was used in a new addition to the rear of the West Main Street church, completed in 1940.

Following a merger of the Methodist Episcopal and the Methodist Protestant Churches, the local congregation became the First Methodist Church in 1939.

In 1946, a project covering major general repairs was conducted; this included interior decorating and installation of the present organ.

Responding to the merger, in 1968, of the Methodist Church and Evangelical United Brethren Church, the United Methodist Church came into existence. Due to this action the name of the congregation became the Wesley United Methodist Church in 1970.

The Rev. H. Wayne Beam is pastor of this 328 member congregation at the present time.

First Baptist Church 1828

The First Baptist Church of Mount Pleasant was organized on November 15, 1828, by Dr. James Estep, a practicing physician and lay minister. The Rev. William Shadrach, a student of theology under Dr. Estep, became the pastor of the 20 member congregation; he baptized 30 and held weekly prayer meetings during his pastorate.

The Rev. Shadrach and his immediate successors serving First Baptist Church covered a broad geographical area. They traveled east to Indian Creek Valley and Jones Mills, west to Mendon, north to Pleasant Unity, and south to a point between Pennsville and Connellsville, organizing the Indian Creek Baptist Church in 1834, the Big Sewickley Baptist Church in 1842, and the Donegal Baptist Church.

The Jacobs Creek Church at Pennsville and the first Baptist Church were a *joint organization* for 37 years, served by the same officers and sharing collections and expenses.

In 1869 the First Baptist congregation moved from its first home on South Church Street to a new brick building on Main Street. In 1894 a fire destroyed this structure; only the walls were left standing, by the grace of God and the leadership of Pastor James E. Darby the building was quickly restored and continues to serve the congregation.

On Sept. 13, 1966, a new parsonage at 712 Parkview Terrace was dedicated replacing the South Church Street parsonage.



The Reverend Daniel Cottrell

Since 1975, the Reverend Daniel Cottrell has been pastor of the 92 member congregation. The Church continues to offer spiritual growth through its activities and organizations: the Mission Society, Philathea Class, Ladies Aid Society, the Young Adult Class, Bible Study and Sunday School program.

Bearing witness to the successful work of the 35 successive pastors and countless members, the First Baptist Church, along with Mount Pleasant Borough, celebrates its 150th anniversary in 1978, reflecting on the proud histories of our growth and people.

Mrs. Joan Sowansky

First United Church of Christ 1864

The congregation was founded in March 1864, as All Souls German Reformed Church. There were twenty-eight communicants at the first Holy Communion celebrated on June 12, 1864. Originally the congregation met in the Chapel of the Mount Pleasant Institute where the H.C. Frick Community Hospital now stands.

In 1871 the name of the congregation was changed to St. Peter's. In this year the congregation worshipped in a schoolhouse on Bunker Hill while waiting for the erection of a new church building on the northeast corner of Main and Hitchman streets. This building was dedicated on April 17, 1872.

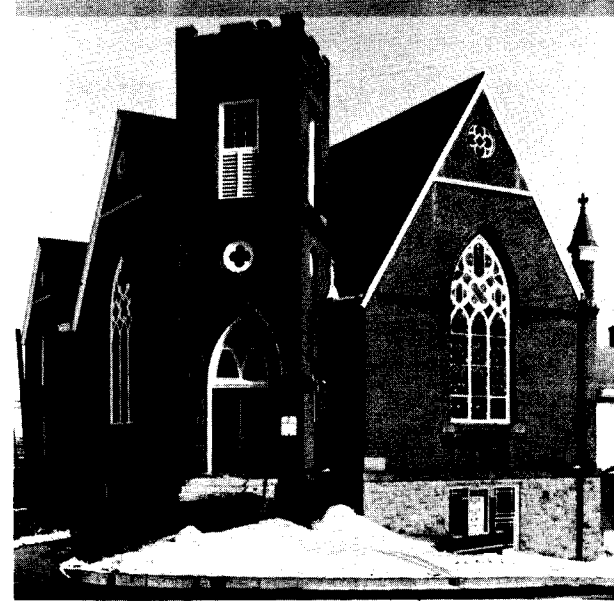
In 1887 the church was found to be too small and was moved to a rear lot at Smithfield and Hitchman streets. About 1890 it was sold to the Transfiguration congregation as a place of worship. The present brick building was dedicated June 23, 1889. It was built at a cost of \$13,634. At the time of the dedication the membership was approximately 150. That year the name of the congregation was changed to First Reformed Church.

The original educational building was completed and dedicated in 1916. A second addition was begun in 1949 and dedicated in 1950.

Due to the merger of the Reformed Church in the United States and the Evangelical Synod of North America in 1934, the name of the congregation became First Evangelical and Reformed Church. In 1957 the congregation became a part of the United Church of Christ, which is a union between the Evangelical and Reformed and the Congregational Christian Churches.

Since 1970 the Rev. H. Neil Mumma has been pastor of the 325 member congregation. Each of the following groups and organizations is a part of the total life of First United Church of Christ: an active Church School for all ages, Confirmation Class, Youth Fellowship, Willing Workers, Women of the Church, Senior Choir, Junior Choir, Adult Fellowship, Cub Pack No. 133, and Scout Troop No. 133.

H. Neil and Nancy Mumma



*United Church of Christ
Main and Hitchman Streets*

The Rev. John A. Peters	1864-1869
The Rev. Andrew J. Heller	1869-1872
The Rev. David B. Lady	1872-1878
The Rev. Samuel Z. Beam	1878-1884
The Rev. F.B. Hahn	1884-1885
The Rev. Charles R. Ferner . . .	1885-1895
The Rev. William H. Tussing . .	1896-1905
The Rev. Edward R. Deatrick . .	1906-1913
The Rev. Arthur W. Barley . . .	1914-1919
The Rev. Paul Stonesifer	1920-1937
The Rev. Harold C. Baer	1938-1942
The Rev. Marvin E. Heath	1942-1956
The Rev. Robert F. Peeples . . .	1957-1964
The Rev. Benjamin Griffin . . .	1964-1969
The Rev. H. Neil Mumma	1970-



The Consistory. Left to right, 1st row: Calvin E. Eicher, Mrs. Ruth E. Kern, William E. Pritts, Mrs. Irene S. Duffey; 2nd row: West Brown, Mrs. Herbert E. Newlin, Rev. H. Neil Mumma, Leonard Bertram; 3rd row: Robert G. Weisgerber, Robert E. Shebeck, Ronald W. Gray, Gilbert P. Clark, W.L. Pegram, Jr., James L. Coffman. Not Present: Mrs. Doris B. Lentz, John Fencil, and Elders Emeritus, Lloyd F. Rumbaugh and J.R. Wood.



*Church of God
936 West Main Street*

Elder W.B. Long.....	-1873
The Rev. Peter Loucks	1873-1878
The Rev. J.S. Marple	1878-1881
The Rev. J.W. Davis	1881-1882
The Rev. John Hickernell	1882-1885
The Rev. C.H. Grove.....	1885-1886
The Rev. J.S. Marple	1886-1887
The Rev. Thomas Woods	1887-1888
The Rev. C.H. Grove.....	1888-1889
The Rev. S.G. Yahn	1889-1890
The Rev. R.L. Byrnes.....	1890-1892
The Rev. S.G. Yahn	1892-1909
The Rev. J.L. Updegraph	1909-1917
The Rev. S. Fulmer	1917-1927
The Rev. J.L. Updegraph	1928-1934
The Rev. V.O. Barnhart	1934-1946
The Rev. Joel Cock	1946-1950
The Rev. Harry W. Slagle	1950-1959
The Rev. Martin Bell	1959-1965
The Rev. Earl F. Show	1965-1975
The Rev. Larry G. White.....	1976-

Church of God 1872

In 1871 members of the Church of God at Stonerville (Alverton) who lived in or near Mount Pleasant met in the former Presbyterian *Meeting House* at the northeast corner of Braddock Road and Main Street, purchased in 1870 by a founding member, Jesse J. Fox. Under the direction of the congregation's first pastor, the Rev. Peter Loucks, a new frame bethel was erected on this site; known as the Mission Chapel Church of God, it was dedicated in March 1872. The congregation was organized in March 1873. Membership was 125 nine years later.

The Bunker Hill schoolhouse at 214 East Main Street, purchased in 1886, became the congregation's Mission House. After being remodeled, it was dedicated in 1887 and housed afternoon Sunday School and revivals for many years before being sold in 1954.

On March 27, 1891, a fire erupting from extraordinary pressure of natural gas completely destroyed the Mission Chapel bethel. The congregation worshiped in the First Ward schoolhouse during the one year construction period of the present brick church, dedicated on May 1, 1892.

The pastorate of the Rev. S.G. Yahn in the early 1900s stands out as the era of the greatest church growth, a growth that coincided with the expansion of mining and industrial employment in and about the community. To accommodate a membership increase of 600, a two story addition with an assembly room and thirteen Sunday School rooms was built in 1914.

In 1949 another fire damaged the church's interior. The Presbyterians shared their church with the Church of God congregation during the renovation, completed in 1950. A former resident parishioner, H. Clifford Fox, President of Findlay College, Ohio, preached at the rededication service on Dec. 17, 1950.

Integral parts of the congregation life are: the Sunday School program began in 1893 by David Fox; the youth group, Church of God Youth Advance, a tradition established in 1893; a Missionary Society; and since 1937, an annual two week Vacation Bible School.

Among the fine pastors who have served the congregation was the Rev. Earl Show, the immediate past minister, who carried his ministry to the entire community. Since 1976, the Rev. Larry G. White has continued this service with the 500 member congregation and the 250 member Sunday School.



Church Council. 1st row left to right: the Rev. Larry G. White, John Fox, Jr., Douglas Show, Lawrence Shebeck, Jay Brown, Roy Crosby, 2nd row left to right: Dale Dix, Richard Crosby, Donald Porterfield, Terry Porterfield, Edward Eberhart, Rudolph Maceyko, Jr., Clarence Millwood.

Reunion United Presbyterian Church 1873

The Middle Presbyterian Church, organized in 1774, served all the Presbyterians in Mount Pleasant Township. In 1825 members of this church started a Sunday School in the village of Mount Pleasant in a log schoolhouse on Main Street, south side, between Quarry Street and Braddock Avenue, fortified against Indian attack and visited fortnightly by the pastor of Middle Church. Purchasing the logs of a dismantled Associate Reformed and United Brethren church, the village Presbyterians erected the white plastered *Meeting House*. Recorded in a deed of John Neel, dated June 30, 1836, conveyed to Dr. Wm. Rector, James Shields and John Sherrick, Jr., *Trustees of the Mount Pleasant Meeting House and Congregation* thereof a lot on the northside of the Turnpike (Main St.) and thereon erected a house for public worship. This building at the northeast corner of Main Street and Braddock Avenue was sold in 1870. The site of the present church on Main Street, just east of Eagle Street, was purchased from John and Mary Sherrick in 1886 by the trustees of the congregation: Wm. Neel, A. Schall and J.S. McCaleb. On June 15, 1870, a cornerstone for the Memorial Presbyterian Church was laid. On April 25, 1873, by request of 107 members of the Middle Church, the Redstone Presbytery, then in session in the Memorial Church, organized the separate society of the Reunion Presbyterian Church. To house a resident pastor, a large brick parsonage was built on land adjacent to the church lying along Eagle Street, purchased from the Benjamin Kemp Estate in 1880. Sold in 1952, it had housed seven pastors.

The church building was remodeled in 1911 and in 1922. During the construction of a \$70,000 educational wing, began in 1957, the property abutting the church on the east and extending from Main Street south to Spence Way was purchased from Mrs. John Kortright. On this site stood one of the original log and frame buildings of the town's early settlement built about 1784 by David and Mary Metzgar; it was razed in 1968 to provide space for parking and for a future manse.

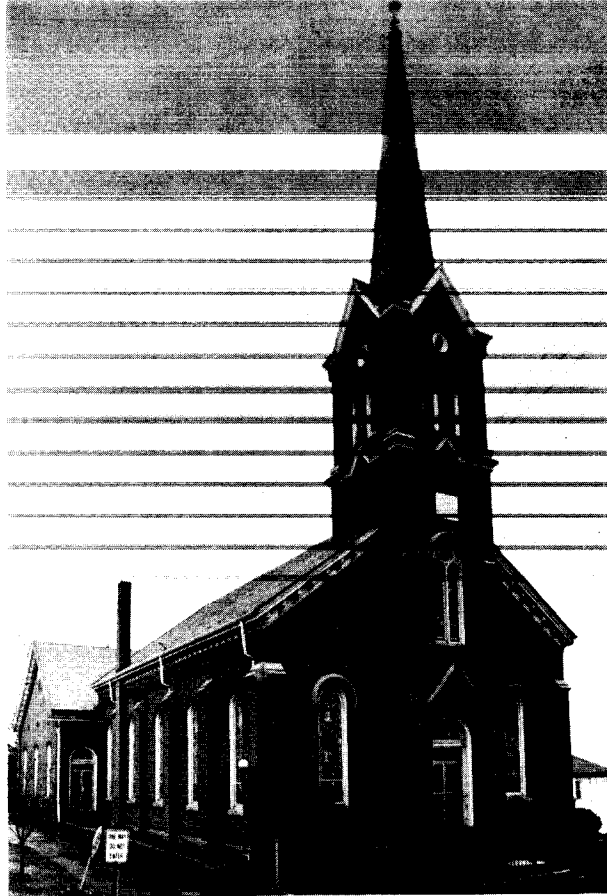
Under the direction of a building committee: Dan W. Cook, chairman; Tom Copeland, sec'y-treas.; the educational wing was completed. Dedicated on June 30, 1960, it added a pastor's study, office, kitchen, parlor, nursery and classrooms. The Seton Hill Day Care Center has been housed here since 1972 and the Shefler Nursery School since 1976.

The 227 member congregation continues to balance its religious programs with an interest in serving the community under the leadership of the Rev. William Weaver.

Thomas Copeland



The Church Board Left to right, 1st row: the Rev. William Weaver, Hilda Copeland, Gloria Christie. 2nd row: Lillian Wood. 3rd row: Clair Replogle, Thomas Copeland, Bonnie Wilson, Donald Robinson, Dale Walker, Clyde Milliron, Elizabeth Montgomery, Kenneth Withrow, Robert Copeland. Not present: Evelyn Barnes, Mary Ellen Lawson, Chester Echard, James Murtha, William King, William Caruso.



*The Reunion Presbyterian Church
Main and Eagle Streets*

The Rev. John McMillan, D.D.	1873-1879
The Rev. S.L. Finney	1880-1882
The Rev. J.M. Jenkins	1883-1885
The Rev. S.E. Elliot, D.D.	1886-1900
The Rev. D.M. Lyle	1900-1907
The Rev. K.J. Stewart	1908-1913
The Rev. J.E. Hartman, D.D.	1913-1953
The Rev. Judson Wiley	1953-1958
The Rev. Dale Rose	1958-1960
The Rev. Gene Boyd	1961-1967
The Rev. Bertram Saunders	1968-1974
The Rev. William Weaver	1975-



*Tree of Life Synagogue
26 South Church Street*



*Spiritual leaders: Henry Abromson,
Leonard Levinson and Harry Berger.*

Tree of Life Congregation 1880

In the 1880s the influx of Jewish people into the Mount Pleasant area was part of the great emigration from Eastern Europe caused by the discrimination against and persecution of Jews. The United States offered a haven for these people. Here they found religious and political freedom and an opportunity to earn a living and raise their children in a democratic country.

The first record of a Jewish congregation in Mount Pleasant dates in the early 1880s, although individual Jews settled in Mount Pleasant prior to this time.

In the early years, daily services were conducted in private homes, notably in the homes of the late Meyer Barron and the Rev. Nathan Abromson, who was the spiritual leader of the Jewish Community from 1903 until his death in 1942.

Adopting the name *Tree of Life Congregation* in 1900, the congregation was incorporated in 1923, with William Rakusin serving as president. He had served in that capacity since 1918. Charles Pross was the first president, serving from 1900 until 1907. Hershel Kobacker served from 1910 until 1918. Successor presidents to Mr. Rakusin were Abe Margolin, Louis Glick, Harry Berger, Henry Abromson, and Leonard Levinson.

A house of worship was established in various locations during these years. From about 1910 until 1920 religious services were conducted and a Hebrew School was operated in the rear of the West Penn building, now Main Street at Mullin Avenue; a Sunday School was conducted at the Odd Fellows Hall, 657 Main St. From 1921 until 1938 the second floor of the old Mount Pleasant Journal office building at the northeast corner of Washington and Church Streets housed the Hebrew and Sunday Schools and religious services. High Holiday Services were held in the Slovak Hall on West Main Street and Sunday School Confirmation was held in the Grand Theatre, Main Street.

A Tree of Life Sisterhood was created in 1938 and has continued since that date. That same year the Tree of Life Congregation purchased the building of the United Presbyterian Church located on South Church Street. This building, built in 1872, has served as their house of worship to this date.

Seventy-three men, women and children, comprise the membership of the Tree of Life Congregation in 1978.

Some of the well known early settlers in Mount Pleasant were the Goldstone family, Hershel Kobacker, the Kovacs Brothers, pharmacists; Meyer Levin, Morris Levin, Meyer Barron, Abe Revitz, Alex Levin, Richard Gerecter, Charles Pross, Samuel Levinson, Benjamin Posner, Myer Posner, William Rakusin, Sam Levin, Louis (Big Louie) Levinson, Louis (Little Louie) Levinson, Nathan Abromson, Ezekiel Zeckhauser, Philip Poster, Jacob Marchel, Michael Simon, Morris Berger, Morris Volkin, Jacob Rogoff, Joseph Glick, Louis Glick, Hyman Glick, David Epstein and the Katz family.

Henry Abromson & Leonard Levinson

Good Shepherd Lutheran Church 1882

Lutheranism came to the Mount Pleasant area nearly a decade before the American Revolution with the arrival of the first German families west of the Allegheny mountains. By 1780 German pastors were holding services at Middle Church in Mount Pleasant Township where St. John's Church was organized in 1793 to serve all the Lutherans of the area.

The Rev. Enoch Smith	1869-1837
The Rev. S. L. Harkey	1873-1882
The Rev. Jonathan Sarver	1883-1886
The Rev. J. R. Groff	1886-1891
The Rev. C. L. Holloway	1891-1896
The Rev. Herbert Martens	1897-1900

Services were begun in Mount Pleasant Borough about 1869 by the



The Reverend Eugene Newell

Rev. Enoch Smith and continued by the Rev. S. L. Harkey who organized the Trinity Lutheran church here, January 12, 1882. Harkey's successor, the Rev. Jonathon Sarver, immediately set about raising money for a church building. On August 1, 1884, with \$3,000 collected, the congregation laid the cornerstone for a Gothic style brick church at the corner of West Main and Jordan Streets. Dedicated on March 1, 1885, the building with the lot cost \$7,000.

Shortly after 1900 the Zion congregation in Ruffsdale was organized by John Bryan and John Houser, local Lutheran adherents. In 1913 a church building was erected along Route 31 in Ruffsdale, the Rev. W. R. Swickard, pastor of Trinity and

St. Johns served Zion Church also.

Under this shared ministry, Trinity Church grew slowly. In 1918 it became a separate parish; Zion and St. John's continued to be served by one pastor. In 1923 Zion associated with St. Matthew's Church in Hunker and St. John's joined with Trinity again.

The Trinity congregation continued a slow steady growth. With formation of an aid and missionary society, a men's brotherhood in 1936, and the Luther League for youth, the church offered programs for all. During World War II a large flag was hung in the church with a star affixed for each church member in military service. At the end of the war the flag was removed in a special ceremony; each serviceman was presented *his star* with a certificate of recognition from grateful church members. In 1956 "Trinity Partners" was formed by the David Bergs, the Wilber Bergs, the Ray Nolls, the Clair Shaffers and the Rev. and Mrs. Thomas Baker. Now the Adult Fellowship, it meets monthly with about 60 members present.

On January 1, 1971, Trinity and Zion Churches merged. Served by Rev. Eugene Newell, Trinity's pastor, the two congregations united their separate ministries and assets to become one new entity, the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. As part of the merger, Trinity Church was enlarged and renovated; on November 14, 1977 it was rededicated as the Good Shepherd Lutheran Church. The congregation numbers 502 adults and 148 children.

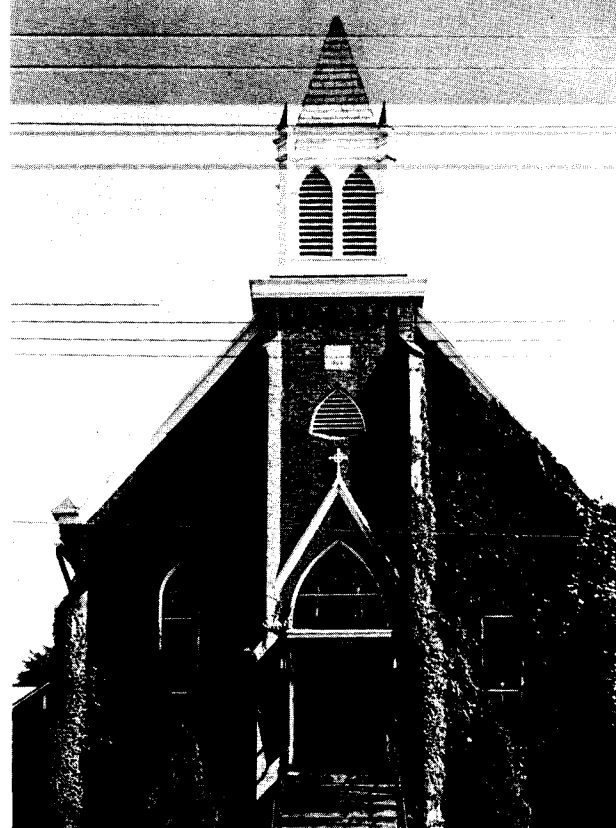
Eugene Newell

St. Pius X Parish

St. Joseph Parish 1886

St. Bernardine Parish 1906

The few Catholics registered among the early settlers of Mount Pleasant attended Mass and were numbered with the parish of the Blessed Sacrament in Greensburg until 1878 when St. John the Baptist Parish was established in Scottdale. The Catholic population of Mount Pleasant swelled in the 1880s as the developing coal and coke industry caused a rapid influx of European laborers to work the mines and ovens. *In 1883 a mission on Summit St. was established by the Rev. Michael Lambing of St. John the Baptist. The Rev. Father Lambing's notes describe this*



*Good Shepherd Lutheran Church
822 Main Street*

The Rev. W. R. Swickard	1901-1905
The Rev. R. L. Leatherman . . .	1905-1922
The Rev. A. W. Trumpeter . . .	1923-1930
The Rev. L. J. Kaufman	1930-1935
The Rev. George Booth	1935-1938
The Rev. George Wolfe	1939-1942
Temporary-W. A. Zundel	1942-1943
The Rev. R. L. McCullough . . .	1944-1953
The Rev. Thomas W. Baker . . .	1954-1965
The Rev. Eugene Newell	1966-

*St. Joseph Church
Shupe and Summit Streets*





*St. Bernardine Church
Oak and Summit Streets*

St. Joseph Parish

The Rev. Michael Lambing . . . 1883-1886
(Mission of St. John the Baptist)
The Rev. Peter May 1886-1892
The Rev. Dennis Cushman . . . 1892-1894
The Rev. James Nash 1894-1895
The Rev. M. P. McNelis 1895-1897
The Rev. R. K. Collins 1897-1903
The Rev. Patrick O'Neil 1903-1905
The Rev. Michael O'Donnell . . 1905-1914
The Rev. John Hackett 1914-1925
The Rev. Phillip Moore 1925-1928
The Rev. George Bullion 1928-1935
The Rev. Philip Dugan 1935-1961
The Rev. John Conway, assoc. . 1961-1964

St. Bernardine Parish

The Rev. J. Piazza 1906
The Rev. Francesco Negroni . . 1907-1910
The Rev. Nicola Albanese . . . 1910-1922
(Mission to Our Lady of Grace)
The Rev. Andrew S. Ippolito . . . 1922
The Rev. Andrew DiSanto . . . 1923-1953
The Rev. Renato Gianni 1953-1963

St. Joseph and St. Bernardine Parish

The Rev. John Meighen 1963-1968
The Rev. T. Bertolina, assoc. . . . 1963
The Rev. A. Ciuffoletti, assoc. . . . 1964
The Rev. N. Trongo, assoc. . . . 1965-1970
The Rev. John Garred 1968-1970
The Rev. Vincent Rocco 1970-1972
The Rev. L. McAlpin, assoc. . . . 1970-1972

St. Pius X Parish

The Rev. Geno Rivi 1972-1975
The Rev. P. O'Connor, assoc. . . 1972-1975
The Rev. Joseph DeAndrea . . . 1975-1976
The Rev. J. Joyce, assoc. 1975-1977
The Rev. Frank Capo, assoc. . . 1976-1977
The Rev. John J. Welsh 1976-
The Rev. C. Rainer, Assoc. . . . 1977-

mission: 1883 — A temporary building was used for a church until June 1884. About 900 souls in this place and Scottdale. 1884 — About 400 of this congregation are English speaking and 50 Germans, the rest are Poles and Slavs, etc . . .

In 1886 St. Joseph Parish was established with the Rev. Peter May, pastor. The entire block of ground between Shupe and Silver Sts. and facing on Summit St. was purchased for the church plant. In November 1887, the rectory and new brick church building were dedicated. Here the English speaking Rev. May served the parish's large congregation representing four or more different languages and cultures.

In 1890 the Polish organized Transfiguration Parish and in 1892 the Slovaks founded Visitation Church of B.V.M.

The Rev. May's successor, the Rev. R. K. Collins, established a parish cemetery on South Diamond St., built a convent on Summit St. and organized a school. In 1903 four Sisters of Charity of Seton Hill, invited to serve the parish school, began classes in a storeroom on Main St. and in the old Mission Church. In 1905 a school building was erected; with four large classrooms on the top floor, it provided for grades one through eight, two grades to a room and the basement serving as an auditorium and social hall.

Although the Italian members formed their own parish, St. Bernardine in 1906, they continued to depend on St. Joseph's school for the education of some of their children.

In 1915 a fire destroyed the church building; only the walls were left standing. With the aid of workers and administrators of Frick Coke Company, the church was quickly rebuilt. It was rededicated on November 21, 1915.

The Rev. Philip A. Dugan, the congregation's last pastor, was made Domestic Prelate in 1959; after leading the congregation for 28 years, Msgr. Dugan retired. His retirement coincided with the joining of St. Joseph and St. Bernardine Parishes on June 10, 1963, served by a common priest and associate.

St. Bernardine brought to this jointure a large congregation and a \$325,000 treasury, a great contrast to its humble beginning in 1906 recorded by the Rev. Francesco M. Negroni, their pastor, on his initial visit to Mount Pleasant.

When I came here, on November 8, 1907, I found nothing, no books, no registration, no receipts, no checks, no vestments, no furniture, only there was stone foundation of the church in danger, because it was not covered and knew that there was the deed in the Episcopal Chancery of Pittsburgh of the lot of the church only. There were five claims, amounting to \$502.13 about, and could not know if they are right.

St. Pius School South Shupe Street



His report showed 96 families with 632 souls, 24 children enrolled in St. Joseph's new school and 78 attending public school. With the year's cash income of \$597.47 and a \$1,000 bank loan, the chapel building was finished on the corner of Oak and Summit Sts.

The Rev. Negroni departed in 1909 and St. Bernardine became a mission of the Lady of Grace Church in Greensburg until 1922, served by the Rev. Nicola Albanese, *a small man with an unquenchable thirst for souls*. He traveled by street car from Greensburg to perform Sunday Mass. In 1916 the congregation built the Mission Church on the site of their earlier chapel.

In 1922 a resident priest arrived, the Rev. Sebastian Ippocito who was a guest of the Anthony DeLuca family during his nine month pastorate. In 1923, under the Rev. Andrew DiSanto, the home of John Murtha at 341 Washington St. was purchased for \$4,000 to serve as a rectory.

In 1953 the new pastor, the Rev. Renato Gianni, stirred the ambitions of the congregation with 273 families, 1,162 souls and a treasury of \$41,000. In ten years he doubled the size of the congregation and through increased collections and fund raising activities, plans for a new church plant became viable.

However, during the early planning stages, the Greensburg Diocese began examining the parish structure in Mount Pleasant, recommending a consolidated school for the parishes of St. Joseph and St. Bernardine. In June of 1963, the two parishes were given a common pastor and associate. With the \$325,000 from St. Bernardine's treasury construction of a new school began at once, opening April 9, 1965. The 11,400 foot ground floor contained a cafeteria, kitchen, and library, with offices and eight classrooms on the first floor.

The convent was purchased from St. Joseph by the jointure and remodeled in 1964 for the Sisters of Charity. To provide space for the building of the new school the St. Joseph rectory was demolished. The property at the corner of Spruce and Silver Sts. was purchased for a rectory; St. Bernardine rectory was sold in 1965. A playground area was created with the razing of the old St. Joseph School.

On July 1, 1972, the nine year old jointure of St. Joseph and St. Bernardine Parishes became a merger known as St. Pius X, reuniting under one name the oldest and youngest Catholic parishes in Mount Pleasant.

Since 1976 the Rev. John J. Welsh has been pastor with the Rev. Chester Ramier, associate.

In 1977 the St. Joseph Church was condemned and razed in 1978 to provide space for a new church building which is expected to be ready for occupancy by Christmas, 1978. Mass is celebrated in the school cafeteria and in the St. Bernardine church. The St. Pius X congregation numbers 850 families with 2,000 souls and 174 students in the parish school.



St. Joseph Church built in 1886, was gutted by fire in 1915.



The Reverend John J. Welsh

Transfiguration R.C. Parish 1890

The Transfiguration Parish, organized in 1890 by about 100 Polish families, purchased the old frame church building of St. Peter's Reformed congregation (United Church of Christ) at the southeast corner of Hitchman and Smithfield Streets. This building served as both a church and a school; the first pastor was the Rev. Henry Cichocki and the first school instructors were lay teachers. About this time a parish cemetery was established just west of the borough along the turnpike (Route 31).

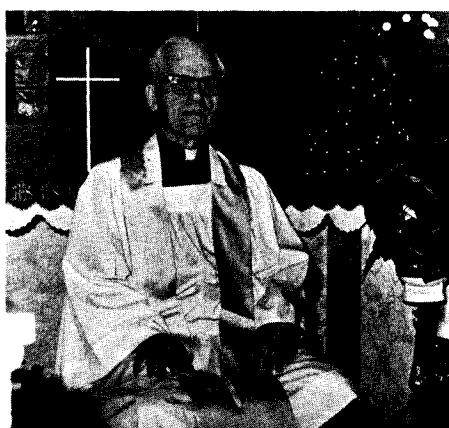
The Rev. Henry Cichocki	1890-1899
The Rev. Francis Pikulski	1899-1902
The Rev. Alexander Siwiec	1902-1909
The Rev. Michael Kozlowski . .	1909-1929
The Rev. Ladislaus Przybylski .	1929-1937
The Rev. Anthony Pniak	1937-1957
The Msg. Marion Rosenthal . . .	1958-1968
The Rev. Walter Iwaniski	1968-

Associates

The Rev. B. Adamowski
 The Rev. W. Pawelkiewicz
 The Rev. W. Sliwinski
 The Rev. L. Osinski
 The Rev. M. Drelak
 The Rev. C. Zielinski
 The Rev. A. Zwolinski
 The Rev. L. Darkowski
 The Rev. C. Trzeciakowski
 The Rev. F. Lesniak
 The Rev. J. Tamiowski
 The Rev. W. Bratus
 The Rev. T. Wisniewski
 The Rev. L. Hoppe
 The Rev. H. Brzuska
 The Rev. S. Jasione
 The Rev. L. Bealko

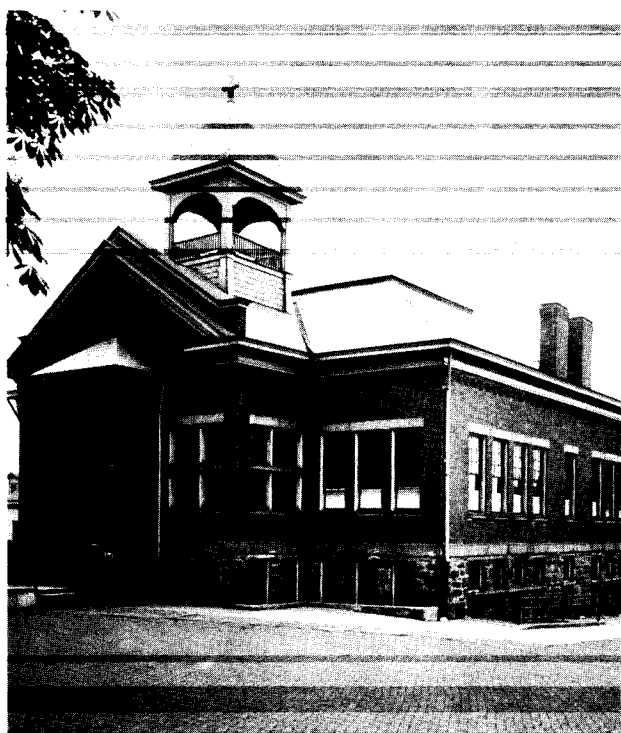


*Transfiguration Church
 Hitchman and Smithfield Streets*



The Reverend Walter Iwaniski

*Transfiguration School
 Hitchman and Smithfield Streets*



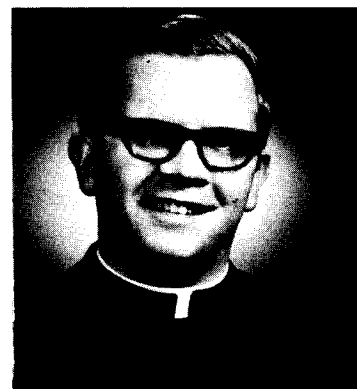
In 1896 the congregation acquired the ground at the southwest corner opposite their frame building and erected the present brick church, dedicated on Nov. 29, 1899, during the pastorate of the Rev. Francis Pikulski. Under the Rev. Alexander Siwec, magnificent altars were installed in the sanctuary, a rectory was built in 1902 and the Felician Sisters arrived to teach the parish school's 105 boys and 104 girls in 1903. The Sisters stayed one year then departed; they returned in 1909 and remained. During their six year absence, lay teachers had been employed and a new four room brick school, built in 1906, had replaced the earlier frame structure on the same site. The Rev. Michael Kozlowski added three classrooms to the school building in 1913.

In 1940 with the Rev. Pniak as pastor, the parish celebrated its Golden Anniversary. The Grotto to Our Lady, dedicated in 1956, was donated by John G. Jendras in memory of his wife, Rose.

With the sudden death of the Rev. Pniak, in 1957, the Rev. Walter Bratus, associate, took over the parish duties until the parish was assigned to the Rev. Marion Rosenthal. He served as pastor from 1957 to 1968, making many church improvements and adding an eighth classroom to the school. Before his retirement, he was twice honored: in 1958 on his fortieth anniversary and in 1960 on his elevation to Domestic Prelate.

Msgr. Rosenthal's successor and the present pastor, the Rev. Iwaniski built a school cafeteria in 1970 and installed new church offices. Rev. Iwaniski is assisted by the Rev. Leonard Bealko in caring for Transfiguration's 555 families and 89 parish school students.

Vocations from the parish to the priesthood: the Reverends Hippocit Koscielniak, Stanley Kilar, Paul Fredercik, Stanley Idzik, John Maniak, Joseph Tylka, Mitchell Kaczmarek, Adam Jurczyk, Ferdinand Sojka and Michael Bienia. Vocations to the sisterhood: the Sisters Leonica Narozna, Boneventa Gesinska, Joanetta Fornal, Michaela Meisner, Humilia Idzik, Angela Ziomek, Placentia Domajcan, Amadea Gorecka, Alfonsa Kaczmarek, Otilia Szaflarski, Albina Rysz, Narcisia Pawlak, Cherubina Garstecka, Loretta Iwaniec, Clara Glod, Eutrasia Szuba-Fiedor, Anita Bienia, Evangline Kwak, Fabiola Bilik, Claudia Fornal, Mericia Ziomek, Eufasia Bienia, Matea Fiedor, Amelia Gorecka and Bernice Fiedor.



The Reverend Leonard Bealko

Pearl Guadiano

Visitation Parish 1893

On April 16, 1893, a small group of Catholics from the St. Joseph Church met to organize a Slovak parish electing a board of trustees: Michael Disman, pres.; Andrew Mikula, sec'y; George Lesso, treas.; Stephen Sofranko, Martin Wilkovski, John Addamus and Joseph Vilcek. The next week the Committee of the Greek Rite Catholic Congregation was formed. They purchased a plot of land on Walnut Street near Eagle Street from Cassius and Ida Galley for \$1,500 on which to build a Slovak church and appointed members to solicit the surrounding areas.

Their first pastor, the Rev. Coleman Gasperek, celebrated Mass on October 8, 1893, in St. Joseph Church where the congregation met until their new \$17,000 brick church was completed. In November of the same year, the first Mass was celebrated in the Visitation Church.

A cemetery was established on four acres on South Diamond Street purchased from James and Sarah Warden in 1898.

In 1901 a \$7,000 rectory was erected at the northwest corner of Eagle and Walnut streets adjacent to the church; the parish school was started with the first classes held in the basement of the church and the lot abutting the church on the east was purchased from Katarina Pfrogner as the site for a future school. In 1904 the Methodist Episcopal Church parsonage was converted into a parish school served by Myrtle Patterson, the first salaried teacher of record; she was replaced by John Kovalik with Michael Depta as assistant. In 1906 three Sacred Heart Sisters from Texas arrived to instruct the school's 200 students; they departed in 1910 and were followed by the Vincentian Sisters of Charity from Perrysville, Pa., with whom the school is associated today.

The present brick school was completed in 1908; the two and one-half story building included an apartment complex above the classrooms and an auditorium.

On January 3, 1915, a fire destroyed the church and gutted the adjacent school building. A new, larger, brick church was erected on the original site and dedicated on July 2, 1916. During the construction period, Mass had been held in the Slovak Hall on Smithfield Street and in the school hall after its renovation was completed in March 1915.

A grotto was added to the church in 1921; the interior was decorated in 1923 at a cost of \$7,345 with the pastor, the Rev. Charles Janda, donating \$3,000.

The earliest organizations within the church were the Holy Trinity Society, Immaculate Conception Society and St. Francis Society. Formed in 1912 the Rosary Society is the oldest existing society and the Christian Mothers organized in 1949 and the Holy Name Society are the most recent.

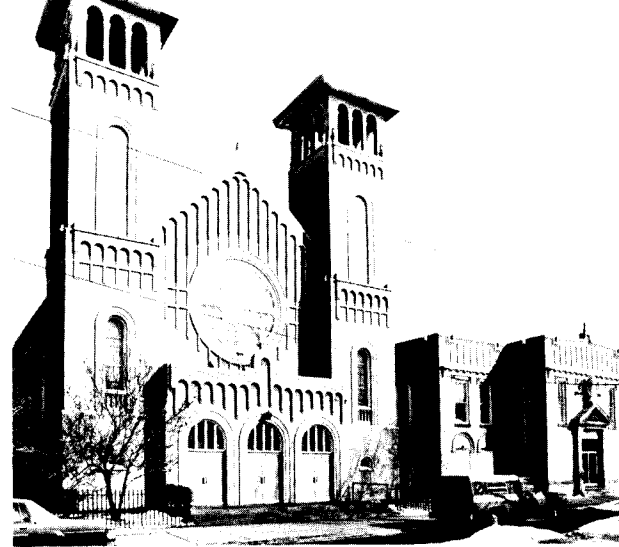
In 1950 Mrs. Elizabeth Myslewski, part-time organist for 23 years, became organist and choir director, a position she holds today.

From 1958 to 1962 the parish complex was remodeled under the direction of the Rev. Robert A. Hanicak. Land purchased from John and Katherine Miele in 1964 added adjacent property to the original cemetery as did the purchase from Pleasie Warden in 1940. Under Msgr. Andrew Balok, a new organ was installed in 1968, the Church redecorated in 1971 and a parish school board organized.

During the tenure of the present pastor, the Rev. John Stofcik, a school cafeteria and a parking area have been added and the Parent-Teacher Organization formed.

Total Christian life has been emphasized under Rev. Stofcik for the Visitation Parish's 413 families with 1968 souls and 116 school children.

Vocations from Visitation to the priesthood; the Reverends Stephen (August) Dzuban, Giles (George) Dzuban, Remigius (Bernard) Verostko,



*Visitation Church and School
Walnut and Eagle Streets*

The Rev. Coleman Gasperek ..1893-1895
The Rev. Emery Richtarcik ..1895-1899
The Rev. Methodius Slatinsky 1899-1908
The Rev. Valerian Janda 1908-1922
The Rev. Charles Janda 1923-1958
The Rev. Robert A. Hanicak.. 1958-1965
Msgr. Andrew Balok 1965-1971
The Rev. John Stofcik 1971-



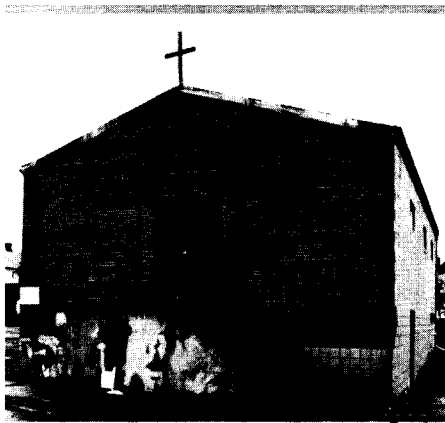
*The 1901 Visitation Church building was
destroyed by fire in 1915.*

The Reverend John Stofcik



resigned; and Roman (Joseph) Verostko, resigned. Vocations to the sisterhood: the Sisters Colette Baluh, Irminda Benjok, Anselm Czap, Modesta Dzuban, Desdieria Dzurik, Peregrine Hornik, Augustine Hornik, Theophila Hornik, Balentine Hornik, Helen Ann Hudak, Justine Klamar, Theodore Liska, Faustina Petak, Leonard Petak, Domitiilla Polcha, Euphrosine Polcha, Katherine Pavlik, Magdalene Philip, Wilfred Pravlik, Regis Puskar, Emily Ann Spisak, Valeria Sofranko, Mercedes Topoly, Sabina Ulichny, Angnella Vrabel, and Camilla Janos.

Summarized from a 1976 church history written by Ronald Kozak. Names of vocations submitted by E. Myslewski.



*A. M. E. Zion Church
220 North Silver Street*

A. M. E. Zion Church 1882

Founded by C. H. Rodgers, its first pastor in 1882, the A. M. E. Zion Church is located at 220 North Silver St.; the continuity of the original congregation is presently unavailable.



*Free Methodist Church
16 North Silver Street*

Free Methodist Church 1891



The Reverend M. Jean Parry

The Free Methodist Society of Mount Pleasant sprang from a revival organized by H. A. Baldwin and H. L. Speer in 1891. Since there was no church building, the Society held services in schoolhouses, private homes and in some instances, barns. J. J. Zahniser became the first appointed pastor in 1892.

In 1901 during the pastorate of the Rev. G. C. Wadding, a church and parsonage were built at the site on North Silver Street. Several rooms were added to the parsonage in 1904 under the direction of the Rev. F. F. Diddle. In the 1960s, two Sunday School rooms were added in the church basement.

In the Church's four score and seven year history, forty pastors have served the congregation. The present pastor, the Rev. Marion Jean Parry who came to the pulpit in 1975, is the fourth woman pastor to serve the Free Methodist Church.

The Second Baptist Church 1896

With 23 charter members and with the Rev. Thomas Ford as pastor, the Second Baptist Church of Mount Pleasant organized in 1896. Services were held in the old Mud Lane schoolhouse on North Shupe Street until



Church administrators and families. Left to right, 1st row; Dana Terry, Christine Coles, LaShawn Monroe, Benjamin Monroe. 2nd row; Wilbert E. Wilson, Harriet Wilson, Barbara Jean Terry, Stephenie Coles, Kathleen Coles, Dawn Terry, Geraldine Monroe, Clifford McAbee. 3rd row; LaRoyal Wilson III, W. Donald Thomas, the Rev. Edward D. Jackson, David Coles, William Terry.

1900 when the congregation purchased a two-story frame house on the north side of Washington Street, just west of Diamond Street. In 1915 the present frame church building was erected on this site, replacing the house as the congregation's meeting place. The church was remodeled in 1926 and improvements continue to be made periodically. In 1928 the church membership was 70.

A highlight event of the church was a homecoming celebration held in November 1957. At that time the pastor was the Rev. C. U. Walker who succeeded the Rev. E. W. Demps who came to the congregation in 1950. Presently the Rev. Edward Jackson is pastor of the 32 active member congregation.

First Brethren Church 1904

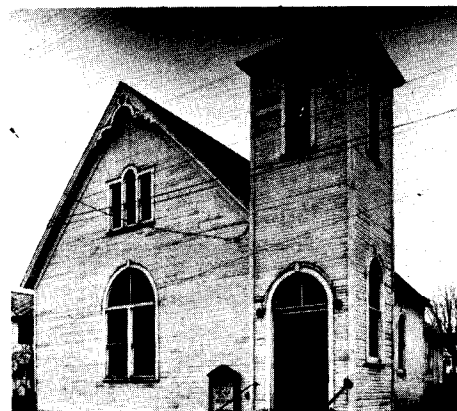
The First Brethren Church was organized by the Rev. J.P. Wampler and the Rev. Daniel Crawford in the Free Methodist Church in January 1904. Following the dedication on October 2, 1904, of the church on North Shupe Street, west side between Main and Smithfield streets, the congregation hosted the state conference there on October 4, 5 and 6 of the same year.

In the early 1960s the church was rededicated and various remodeling projects undertaken. An organ and new heating system were installed and new Sunday School rooms were added. During 1977 the inside of the building was redecorated and new windows were placed. Plans for the exterior remodeling of the church building are in progress.

Over the past 74 years the congregation has been served by the



*Second Baptist Church
510 Washington Street*



*First Brethren Church
17 North Shupe Street*

Reverends Jennings, J.P. Wampler, Daniel Crawford, W.S. Myers, Lewis Clifford, William Grey, D.C. White, Edgar Berkshire, Ralph Singer, C.C. Collins, Paul Huddle, Harold Garland, Elmer Keck, George J. King, Gearhart, and Black.

Since 1964 the Rev. Robert N. Stahl has been pastor serving the religious needs of the congregation and fostering a program of church activities which include Sunday School, Wednesday Prayer and Youth Groups and a Women's Missionary Society. The congregation has 67 members.

Robin Stahl



The Reverend Robert Stahl



*Church of the Brethren
201 Washington Street*

The Rev. B.B. Ludwig
The Rev. Robert T. Hull
The Rev. J.C. Beahm
The Rev. A.J. Beeghley
The Rev. Harry Meredith
The Rev. M.G. Wilson
The Rev. D.P. Hoover
The Rev. Wilmer Kensinger
The Rev. Irwin Pletcher
The Rev. Reno Pletcher
The Rev. W.K. Kulp
The Rev. Quincy Holesopple
The Rev. F.A. Myers
The Rev. William Beale
The Rev. W.C. Sell
The Rev. Charles Beiber
The Rev. William B. Gauntz
The Rev. Carl Yoder
The Rev. John Ebersole
The Rev. Clyde Hilton
The Rev. Richard Peterson
The Rev. Alvin S. Cox

Church of the Brethren 1918

The Mount Pleasant Church of the Brethren is an outgrowth of the Mount Joy congregation, formerly known as the Jacobs Creek Church, organized early in the nineteenth century by pioneer settlers coming from Maryland. During the pastorate of the Rev. B.B. Ludwig at Mount

Joy, the Mount Pleasant Mission was organized May 19, 1918, in a small restaurant room near the Pennsylvania Railroad depot. Fifty-seven persons were present for the Sunday School session. Although the Rev. Ludwig left in September 1919, the Mission continued until January 1923, aided by Mount Joy's new pastor, the Rev. Robert Hull.

In 1922 the Mission moved into the Bohemian Mission School on North Shupe Street, quarters that offered more space and better lighting. In March a locating and lot committee was elected that purchased a site at the southwest corner of Washington and



The Reverend Alvin S. Cox

Shupe streets for \$800; on May 20 the Mission became a congregation. The next year Elder A.J. Beeghley came from the Rummel Church to be pastor bringing success and prosperity to the congregation and adding 43 members during his tenure. In 1924, when 126 communed for *Love Feast*, the need for a larger building was realized. Subsequently, the present brick church was erected.

Under the Rev. W.C. Sell who came to the congregation in 1942, a parsonage was built to the west of the church and a church auditorium was completed at a cost of \$5,000 with the volunteer labor of many dedicated members. Presently the Rev. Alvin S. Cox is pastor of the 125 member congregation.

East End Church of God 1952

On Jan. 6, 1952, with twenty-three persons present for Sunday School, the life of this congregation began with an all day meeting. Obtaining the old Bunker Hill schoolhouse as their place of worship, the initial service was conducted by Carl L. White who became pastor when the congregation was officially organized on March 23, 1952.

On Aug. 13, 1970 under the pastorate of the Rev. Speck, a new parsonage was completed; a mortgage burning for this addition was held on Dec. 31, 1972 under the present pastor, the Rev. Charles H. Duffy, who succeeded the Rev. Speck in 1970.

Active groups within the 50 member congregation are Sunday School, Ladies Auxiliary, Bible Study and Young Peoples Endeavor.

The East End Church of God is a Pentecostal Church with national headquarters in Cleveland, Tenn.



*The Reverend
Charles H. Duffy*



*East End Church of God
214 East Main Street*

Mount Pleasant Ministerium

Mount Pleasant is blessed with community minded clergy. They have gathered together during a transition from the Association of Churches and formed the Mount Pleasant Ministerium from a tradition begun about 1890. This group, with an open and fluid membership, gathers on issues of interest and concern focusing on two priorities: providing for the spiritual expression on a community level and addressing the social concerns of the community.

The spiritual is expressed through organized hymn sings, the annual Good Friday service, an Annual Week of Prayer, Baccalaureate services for students, and special events as the occasion arises. One such special event was a worship service in honor of our Nation's Bicentennial held at the Transfiguration Church on July 4, 1976.

Social concerns addressed by the group have been numerous. It serves a continuing chaplaincy in the H.C. Frick Community Hospital and the Wolfe Nursing Home, is involved with transportation for the needy, petitioned the courts to close the Sunday business operation of large stores and initiated action to bring a dislocated South Vietnamese family into the community after the Vietnamese conflict.

The Ministerium aspires to continue its role of service to the people of Mount Pleasant.

Daniel Cottrell, president

Responding to the energy crises, January and February 1977, six major Protestant Churches of Mount Pleasant, all located on Main St., joined together in one church building for Sunday morning worship on Feb. 6, 13, and 20, and for Ash Wednesday Communion Service on Feb. 23. The overwhelming response by the people made it necessary to have an early service at 9 a.m. and a late service at 10:45 a.m. on Sunday mornings. An example of the favorable reaction was the attendance of 460 persons on Feb. 13, despite adverse weather, at the First United Church of Christ.

H. Neil Mumma



Left to right The Reverends: Eugene Newell, Good Shepherd Lutheran; Wayne Beam, Wesley United Methodist; Jay Shaffer, Trinity United Methodist; William Weaver, Reunion United Presbyterian; Daniel Cottrell, First Baptist; and Neil Mumma, First United Church of Christ.

AGREEMENT BETWEEN

= Directors and Teachers =

IT IS AGREED, By and between Araminta Galley Teacher, and the Board of Directors of Mount Pleasant Borough School District, in Westmoreland County, that said Teacher shall, under the supervision and exclusive direction of said Board and their successors, but subject, nevertheless, to the visitation and lawful authority of the County Superintendent, teach in Room No. 12, Mount Pleasant Schools, for a term of Eight months, at a compensation of Forty Five Dollars per month, to be paid monthly; reserving the right to the Board of Directors for the time being to dismiss the said Teacher at any time whatever, for any of the causes specified in the Twenty-third Section of the Act of May 8, 1854, entitled, "An Act for the Regulation and Continuance of a System of Education by Common Schools."

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, That said Teacher will attend the County Institute, at a compensation of Two Dollars per day; and shall keep the book of monthly reports, and return the same at the end of the term, in good order, subject to a fine, at the discretion of the Board, of not more than five dollars for the loss or abuse thereof.

IT IS ALSO AGREED, That the schools shall be closed on Thanksgiving Day, Christmas, New Year's Day, Washington's Birthday and Good Friday.

IT IS FURTHER AGREED, That the said Teacher shall keep a record of all the Text Books and other school supplies which are furnished by the School Board in conformity with the Free Text Book Law, and shall distribute the same to the pupils as they are needed, charging the same to each pupil; and shall be responsible for the correct keeping of said record and the return of said Text Books and supplies at the close of the school term or at any other time that the School Board shall order the same returned or shall give satisfactory reasons why any or all books and supplies are not returned.

IT IS ALSO AGREED, That the said Teacher shall attend the Teacher's Meetings to be held each and every Monday evening during the school term between the hours of 4:30 and 5:30 o'clock, and for failure to attend any such meeting shall be subject to a fine of two dollars for each and every such absence unless excused by the Board of Directors.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF The parties have hereunto set their hands and seals this

29th day of August A. D. 19 03

Countersigned:

F E Pounts
Secretary of Board.

W M Morrison [SEAL.]
President of Board of Directors.

Araminta Galley [SEAL.]
Teacher.



The Bonnett Schoolhouse. Built about 1800, it was the only school in this part of the county and served the community within a five or six mile radius for many years before being torn down in 1880. A plaque along Route 31 west of the present Lenox Crystal Plant commemorates the site of this early school.

A History of the Mount Pleasant Schools

Recorded educational opportunities before 1800 are not available, but it can be assumed that those pioneer settlers in Mount Pleasant and its environs in the second half of the eighteenth century taught their children reading and writing in the home. Some instruction was given by traveling ministers teaching the catechism.

The first school of record in the Mount Pleasant area was the Bonnett School. About or before 1800 Colonel John Bonnett, son of a French Huguenot and later county commissioner from 1802 through 1806, enlisted the aid of his neighbors to build a log schoolhouse on a plot of ground set apart at the corner of his plantation about one mile east of the town on the turnpike. Following the custom of the day that laid the foundation for the future school system, this *no pay* or *subscription* school was supported by community donated money. The money was given to a teacher for a three-month term of teaching or for as many months as the amount justified. If the school held two terms, the older students attended during the winter and the younger students attended during the summer.

Richard Geary, father of John W. Geary, twice elected Governor of Pennsylvania, was among those who taught private schools. In 1830 John and Alice McGinnis conducted a school in the Methodist Church at 425 Main St., below the Diamond. In 1834 a Mr. McCune held school in a building at 790 Main St., near Eagle Street. Mr. Lazarus McClain, a Scotch Presbyterian, conducted a school in 1837 followed by a Mr. Gould in 1839. Schools for young ladies were established about 1840. Dr. Reiter founded a girls' school in 1850 in the White Church (Presbyterian Meeting House) situated at the west end of Main Street on the property now occupied by the Church of God.

Although the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania passed the first school law in 1824 providing for the election of directors in each borough or township with duties similar to those of our present-day directors, the public was strongly opposed to popular education and cast their votes against election of *schoolmen*. In 1834 the first free

A Teacher Wanted

IN the school house on colonial John Bonnet's plantation, Mountpleasant township, Westmoreland county, to teach an English School. He must be a man of good moral character, capable of teaching Reading, Writing, Grammar, Arithmetic, Book-keeping and Surveying. Such a one will meet with good encouragement.

JOHN LOBINGIER.

August 26, 1849.

The Greensburg Gazette, Sept. 12, 1819

"So celebrated was that old log schoolhouse for the schools held in it, church and other meetings, that the late Daniel Shupe had it photographed by A.N. Stauffer, of Mount Pleasant, before it was torn down and had a walking cane made from one of the timbers." G. Dallus Albert, *The History of the County of Westmoreland*, 1882.

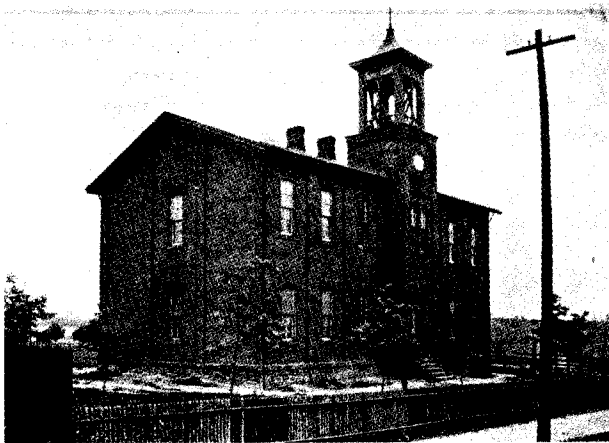
"At an election in this borough fifteen votes were given for school men. No previous notice, agreeably to the school law, was given by the inhabitants. We know of no law or act of any legislative body so unpopular as this law has proven to be in this county. At the election in Hempfield township a scene of confusion and tumult occurred which is represented as having been frightful. A person who witnessed part of it states that if any advocate of the school law had openly avowed himself as such he would have been literally torn to pieces. Expressions to this effect were uttered by several persons.

"Disorder on occasions of this kind is generally confined to a few individuals who drink too freely, but in this instance it is not a little surprising to find a great majority of the people present openly opposed to the adoption of any measure having the least relation to the law in question. A greater number of persons were present than ever congregated at the same place before.

"In Unity township, and, indeed, in every other township from which we have heard, a very decided disapprobation of the provisions of this law was manifested by the people. What could have produced such an unanimity of opinion upon the subject it is difficult for us to conjecture."

The Greensburg Gazette, March 25, 1825.

Opposite page: A 1903 teacher's contract. Araminta Galley, one of the seven students in the first graduating class of the new Third Ward school in 1901, taught first grade from 1903 to 1946. Upon her retirement, she opened a kindergarten which operated until 1949 when the borough schools kindergarten began in Third Ward with Helen Hargnett as teacher.



Mud Lane (Bohemian Mission) School

Loaned by Mary Schwartz



Bunker Hill School Students

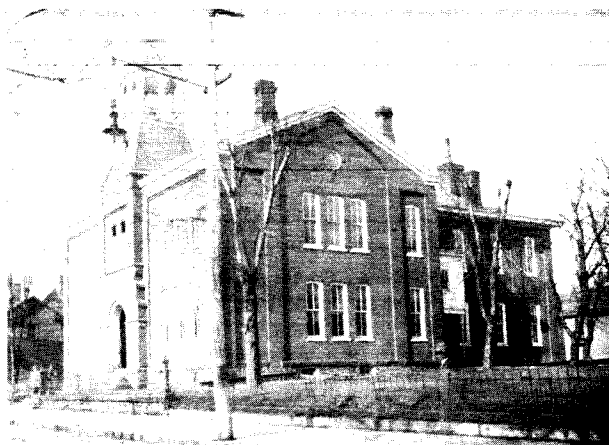
Loaned by Wm. G. Osterwise



First Ward School Students

First Ward School

Loaned by Ruth Cooper Brown



Loaned by Peggy Doncaster Milliron

school law was passed. In 1837 Mount Pleasant elected their first school directors: J. Lobingier, pres.; D. Keister, sec'y; I. Snyder, C. Painter, A. Shallenberger, and H. Lippincott.

Through the heirs of David Keister, the minutes of the school board meetings held between 1837 and 1862 came into the possession of Jonas M. Yothers, father of Miss Anna Yothers, a career teacher in the borough schools. *The Mount Pleasant Journal* published them in a series of installments beginning Aug. 23, 1929. A selected sampling of the early minutes follows:

1837 April 6

On motion resolved that a tax be assessed for the school year 1838 equal in amount to the county tax. On motion resolved that a suitable room be procured without delay for the accommodation of all scholars in the District and that a competent teacher be procured at the most reasonable terms.

April 11

The Committee of enquiry made report as follows: They have examined the Methodist schoolroom and also Mr. Luytee's and they prefer the former. They have obtained from Mr. Stokes a proposal to teach the whole number of pupils for \$36 per month or one-half of them for \$25. They have ascertained that the Methodist schoolroom can be had for \$15 for three quarters of a year or \$6 for one quarter. Proposals were read from Mr. Luytee as follows: For teaching one-half of the scholars in the District including room rent, \$20 per month or \$100 per quarter for teaching all the scholars. On motion resolved that the president be authorized to rent the Methodist schoolroom on the terms proposed and to article with R. E. Stokes to take charge of all the pupils in the District for one quarter at \$36 per month.

1838 April 6

On motion resolved that a tax of \$110 be assessed for the coming school year. A motion was made by Mr. Painter that it is expedient that two schools be opened during the year, one for males and one for females.

May 23

The committee to obtain a female teacher made a report that their efforts were unsuccessful, and ask to be discharged. The request was granted. The President, in behalf of the committee to obtain a male teacher, reported that John Harrold can be had at a salary of \$23 per month. On motion resolved that he be authorized to enter into an article with him for three months.

1839 May 17

The committee appointed to procure a lot made report that the lot adjoining the Presbyterian Meetinghouse on the east, can be had for \$45. On motion resolved that the offer be accepted, and that the President be authorized to draw on the Treasurer for the amount. Resolved that Doc. Reiter and J. Sherrick and I. Snyder be a committee to prepare and submit a plan for a schoolhouse.

June 10

Resolved that the size of the house to be built be 34 x 32 feet, of brick. Interior arrangement according to the plan of the Superintendent, except that the door shall be in the center, back of the teacher's seat. The height of the ceiling to be twelve feet at the highest end of the floor—three windows each side—three in the back end and two in front, of the twenty-four panes 10 by 12 glass.

1840 March 4

On motion, the annexed rules were unanimously adopted for the regulation of the schools:

1st. The elementary books to be used shall be the following: Cobb's Speller, Cobb's Reader, Cobb's Arithmetick (sic), Olney's Geography, Smith's Grammar.

2nd. No child shall be permitted to enter the school after the first week in any quarter, except for reason deemed justifiable by the Directors, and all children having entered the school shall be required to attend regularly and punctually or suffer expulsion, unless a reasonable excuse be assigned.

3rd. All parents dissatisfied with the teachers are requested to state their complaints to the Directors, and from them expect redress.

4th. While two schools are in existence at the same time in the Borough, the division of the children into two classes shall

be performed and controlled by the Board of Directors. 5th. The school hours from the first day of April to the first of October shall be from 8 to 12, and from 2 till 5 except Saturdays, when it shall close at 11. And from the first of October to the first of April from 9 till 12, and half-past one till 4. Saturdays as before.

Resolved that the proposal of Mr. Baker to teach a school at \$30 per month be accepted, and that the President be authorized to enter into an article with him to that effect.

Resolved that Doc. W. Reiter and D. Keister be a committee to procure an additional room, and to endeavor to engage the services of Mrs. Farrell as a teacher.

Resolved that J. Sherrick and A. Shallenberger be a committee to put in order the Methodist school room, in readiness for school on Monday next.

March 6 Doc. W. Reiter, of the committee in relation to an additional school, made report that the White Meetinghouse (Presbyterian Meeting House), can be had, and that Mrs. Farrell will take charge of a school for one month at a salary fixed by the Directors. Resolved that Doc. Reiter be authorized to engage the service of Mrs. Farrell at \$12 per month.

Resolved that the Board of Directors meet at the Methodist school room on Monday morning at half-past eight o'clock to divide the children into two classes for two schools.

June 5 Resolved that the Board of Directors be arranged in committees of two to visit the schools every two weeks in succession during their continuance in office.

1842 April 9 Moved that the President be authorized to procure a deed from Mr. Joseph Lippincott for a lot for a school at \$175. (The following is a copy of the deed on record at the Court House in Greensburg:

1842 June 30 Volume 27, Page 118. From Joseph Lippincott for \$175 by William Wagoner, John Lobingier, George W. Moore, Simon Siegfried, Isaac Shupe, and Samuel Miller, Directors of Common School for the Borough of Mount Pleasant, bounded on the east by Church Street, on the west by land of John Lloyd, on the north by a lot belonging to said Joseph Lippincott, of which this is a part, on the south by a lot belonging to David Christ, and extending in front on said Church Street sixty feet and running back in parallel lines to John Lloyd's land.)

Oct. 24 Moved that the building committee secure proposals for building an outhouse to the school on Church Street.

Oct. 28 The board entered into the consideration of building a new schoolhouse. Moved that the new schoolhouse at the West End of the Borough be required to be built and finished by the middle of May next, 1843. School and outhouse to cost \$499.

Nov. 28 Board met in the new schoolhouse on Church Street. The Board of Directors entered into an article with Mr. Ebersole as contractor to build the schoolhouse at the West End of the town, also the outhouse.

1845 Sept. 2 111 students in the District schools.

1846 Oct. 27 Moved and carried that Mr. Sherrick take the Church Street schoolhouse, Mr. Morrison the Methodist school room, and Mr. Statler the upper schoolhouse.

1848 Aug. 5 Scholars—Upper District, 52; Middle District, 50; Lower District, 51; Total 153.

1849 June 15 On motion it was resolved that we have four schools for four months, two consisting of the smaller children with female teachers to commence in July; and two with the remainder of the scholars, to be taught by male teachers, to begin in November.

1850 June 7 Filled report to the Superintendent: four schools four months; average in each school, 30; cost to teach scholar per month, 4 cents; received of state, \$64.37; received of collector, \$231.01; total \$295.38; cost of instruction \$272; expenses, \$14.09; total \$286.09; balance \$9.29.

1851 April 12 Mr. Marsh as teacher for the summer school to commence on Monday, April 21, and to continue five months for the

Loaned by Peggy Doncaster Milliron



Third Ward School

Loaned by Wm. G. Osterwise



Students and teacher, Susan Overly (Swink)

Cheerleaders 1930: Edna Bobbs, Wilson Parfitt, Gayle Hamel, Henry Lentz.



Mount Pleasant High School



The First Graduating Class of 1887

At that time the entire school course consisted of nine grades, at the completion of which the students were awarded diplomas. Commencement did not take place on Monday evening April 4, 1887 as scheduled, because while final examinations were being conducted by the principal, Nathan McGrew, three members of the school board dropped in to ask a number of questions to which it seemed the answers of the pupils were not satisfactory. Several of the pupils considered this action uncalled-for and all nine refused to participate in the ceremonies. Since tickets had already been sold for the commencement exercises, a concert program was presented instead. The graduates however, did receive their diplomas.

Questions asked which were regarded as among the hardest problems submitted:

Bought three bushels of nuts at \$2 per bushel and sold them at ten cents per quart, liquid measure. What was the gain?

(Answer \$5.17)

If a ten cent loaf of bread weighs 15 ounces when flour is \$8 per barrel, how much will a six cent loaf of bread weigh when flour is worth \$6 per barrel?

(Answer: 12 ounces)

Washington is 77 degrees west from Greenwich, England; what is the difference in the time?

(Answer: 5 hours, 8 minutes)

Sold a horse for \$180 and gained 10%; what did the horse cost me?

(Answer: \$150)

Mount Pleasant Journal
September 8, 1926

Women were rarely employed as teachers prior to 1840. Occasionally they were hired at low salaries to teach a few small children during the summer; however, following the Panic of 1873, the schools in the county began to employ female teachers since their services could be secured for less than half the amount required for the services of male teachers. In 1927 a contract with any female teacher bore a clause making it null and void if the teacher married during the school term.

1858	April 15	Examinations given to teaching candidates in orthography, reading, writing, mental arithmetic, geography, grammar.
	April 21	It was agreed to make Church Street the dividing line in the Borough, the children living above it to go to the upper schoolhouse and those below to the Church Street schoolhouse.
1859	Oct. 31	On motion, it was agreed that Mrs. Farrell may occupy the upper schoolhouse this winter for a subscription school, by having the necessary glass put in the windows at her expense. On motion resolved, that the secretary be required to visit the school once a month, and spend half a day each visit, according to the school law and the recommendations of the State Superintendent.
1860	March 30	Mr. J. B. Jordan reports that he purchased the lot of ground adjoining the Church Street School for \$175.
1862	April 17	President of the School Board to get the deed for the schoolhouse lot on Church Street from Joseph Lippincott's assignees.

After assessing a school tax equal to the county tax in 1837, the new directors rented the Methodist Church schoolroom at six dollars a quarter and hired R. E. Stokes to take charge of all the pupils for \$36.00 per month. In 1839 the first schoolhouse was built on a lot adjoining the Presbyterian Meeting House on the east; this log building was replaced in 1842 by a new upper school. In the same year, a second schoolhouse had been built on South Church Street. Periodically the Presbyterian Meetinghouse schoolroom was rented to help accommodate the public school scholars who numbered 153 in 1848.

In the 1880s and 1890s, there were school buildings on North Shupe Street, and on Bunker Hill. The North Shupe Street building, locally known as the Mud Lane School, built in 1876, was a public school until approximately 1900. Sold by the school district to the Pittsburgh Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church, it became the *Bohemian Mission School* and served as a school, religious and social center for the members of the local Bohemian community. The school had a gymnasium where high school students were permitted to play basketball for a charge of one dollar. The building was dismantled in 1939. The Bunker Hill School, built in 1867, operated through 1929 as a school for first and second grades. Today it is occupied by the East End Church of God.

For several years after 1906, school was held in a former National Guard Armory on College Avenue just south of Washington Street. A long, narrow and poorly heated building, it housed elementary students taught by Miss Edith Rhoades.

In 1868, the First Ward School on South Church Street opened, a four-room, two-story, red brick structure built where the former Church St. School had stood. Five additional rooms were added in 1885. In 1887, the first Mount Pleasant High School had nine graduates. Mr. N. N. McGrew was the principal of this two-year high school, with a curriculum that included bookkeeping, physiology, literature, history, and algebra.

During the 1920s, an increasing school population necessitated the erection of a two-room building on the lawn behind the school. Heated by pot-bellied stoves, this building housed the third and fourth grades and was affectionately, or derisively, called the *chicken coop*. Until 1938, regular classes operated in the First Ward School. While the Pennsylvania Turnpike was being constructed, the Turnpike Commission used the building for headquarters. From 1942 to 1962, industrial arts classes were held in the building; one room of the school housed the public library from 1939 to 1968 with other rooms used by



The First High School Graduates 1887. Left to right, 1st row: Robert Graham (at-ty.); Anna Dullinger, Nathan McGrew, Principal; 2nd row: William H. Hanna (Rev.), Charlotte Dillon (Galbreath), Elizabeth Miller (Stark), Anna Grisbert (Reed); Jennie Landis (Galley), Emma Dullinger (Springer), Orrin Reese.

Photos above and below loaned by Ferne Springer Leonard

School Teachers 1903. Left to right, 1st row: Blanche St. Clair, Annie Edwards, Arminta Galley, Maude Slemons. 2nd row: Carrie Byerly, Laura McGranahan, Agnes Withrow, Anna Berthel, Eleanora Vossler, Effie Lindsay. 3rd row: Capitola Mason, Margaret Kalp, Grant Miller, (two unidentified), Anna Dullinger, Laura Dillon. 4th row: Gertrude Berthel, Anna Yothers, Ada Edhard, Maude Kalp, J. A. Fennel. Missing or not identified: Cleo Rist, Gertrude Zundell, Estella Miller, Edna S. Rumbaugh, and Dolly Mitchell.





Mount Pleasant School District

Supervising Principals

N.N. McGrew	1885-1887
G.B. Crissman	1887-1888
W.H. Graham	1888-1889
D.B. Repogle	1889-1890
Benjamin Scanlon	1890-1891
Benjamin Kline	1891-1895
W.G. Kintigh	1895-1901
Grant Miller	1901-1905
Henry D. Hoffman	1905-1907
U.L. Gordy	1907-1917
H.H. DeLong	1917-1921
John C. Haberlen	1921-1930
Superintendents	
John C. Haberlen	1930-1958
C. Kensey Dillon	1958-1960



Dr. John C. Haberlen

Ramsay High School 1959. The Athletic field at the rear saw many years of strong rivalry between the borough and township teams, the Blue and White against the Red and White. Since the jointure in the early 1960s, all field events have been held at Hurst.

many community activities such as scouting. The building was razed in 1968. The new library building was dedicated on this site in 1970.

An increased population of school children required the construction of another school. Built in 1896 at the corner of Washington and Oak streets on Hitchman property, at a cost of \$46,000, the 13-room red brick building came to be known as the Third Ward School. In 1901, Third Ward's first graduating class consisted of six young women and one young man: Homer C. Deffenbaugh, Ferne Braddock, Maude Kalp, Margaret Gibbs, Mabel Eicher, Gertrude Zundel, and Araminta Galley. The faculty included Miss Anna Yothers, teacher of Latin, Greek and English.

The town's growth continued, prompting the construction in 1908 of a buff brick high school in the center of town at Washington and Diamond streets; the First and Third Ward buildings became elementary schools. In 1910 the first class graduating from this new high school numbered twenty-seven; no class graduated in 1909, owing to the change from a three-year to a four-year curriculum. Still living from the Class of 1910 are Mrs. Isa Christner Rumbaugh, Mrs. Flossie Zundel Keller, Virgie Spence McCombs, and Mr. W. Scott Lane. Within a decade this high school was overcrowded; although the condition was temporarily relieved by the erection of a portable building on the lawn in the 1920s, the building was replaced as a high school in 1930. After serving for 45 years as a junior high and elementary school, the building was rented to its present occupant, the Multi-Service Center for Senior Citizens.

In 1930 Mount Pleasant High School's 370 students moved to the new \$265,000 Ramsay High School. Built on the former William and John D. Hitchman property on Eagle Street at the intersection of Walnut Street, the school was named to honor a former resident, Erskine Ramsay of Birmingham, Ala., who had donated \$65,000 toward its construction. With 15 classrooms, a gymnasium and an auditorium, Ramsay was the *showplace of western Pennsylvania*. A few years later



The Mount Pleasant Area Senior High School. Located two miles north of the borough on a 40 acre level site, the building is a single story electrically heated structure built around a series of open courts. Facilities include more than 40 regular classrooms, industrial arts shops, auditorium, gymnasium, natatorium, planetarium, kitchen and cafeteria, library and offices. A photography darkroom, well-equipped laboratories, animal workroom and large group instruction room are some of the special facilities along with a language laboratory and areas for mechanical drawing, arts and crafts, homemaking and vocal-instrumental music. A 1975 expansion of facilities added a special gymnasium, and laboratories for mathematics, shorthand, and drivers education to this modern educational plant.

The current school population is 1,154 with 310 seniors to graduate in 1978, of which 30% are college bound and 20% will enter trade, technical, nursing or associate degree schools.

The school's professional staff, including the administration, numbers 68 with James F. McKenna, principal.

Mount Pleasant Area School District 1978 Administration

Superintendent John R. Grecco
Asst. Superintendent . . . Dr. Ronald Gray
Administrative Asst. Joseph E. Stas
Principals

Senior High James McKenna
1st Assistant Thomas Miscik
2nd Assistant Donald Rega
Hurst Jr. High Frank Farrell
Acting Stephen Whisdosh
Donegal & Ramsay Floyd Murray
Norvelt & Rumbaugh
. Robert Patterson
Reading Supervisor . . . Joanne Krynicky

One of the 28 bright yellow buses, 3 vans and a mini bus transporting some of the district's 3,371 students to public, special, private and parochial schools. Students living within a one-quarter mile radius of their respective schools walk if there are sidewalks.



The Mount Pleasant Area Educational Association affiliated with the PSEA represents all but 3 of the district's 153 teachers with John Swetic, pres.; Joni Rozell, vice pres.; John Keto, treas. The starting teacher's wage is \$7,000. During the current school year a 34 day strike took place which resulted a new three year contract.

Buses transport the district's students to the senior high, Hurst junior high and the four scattered elementary schools as well as to the three parochial schools in the borough, covering the 107 square mile Mount Pleasant Area School District. Other bus routes include the Central Westmoreland Vocational Technical School and the Westmoreland Intermediate Special Educational Unit in Youngwood; Geibel, a parochial high school in Connellsville, and Armbrust Wesleyan Academy, Mt. Carmel, Mount Zion and Verna Montessori, private elementary schools.



Loaned by Sue Spence

Mount Pleasant Area High School Class of 1978





Left: The members of the Mount Pleasant Area School Board, seated: William Newill; Joan Rega, sec'y.; Gene Rosky, pres.; Jay Hoffer; standing: Donald Hacker, solicitor; Joseph Malesky and Bill Kraisinger; not present: Phil Davis and Paul Kern.

under the WPA a football field and four clay tennis courts were added. Seventy-four students graduated from the new high school in 1930. Administration and faculty at the time included: Superintendent of Schools John C. Haberlen, who served from 1921 to 1958; Principal Harold K. Darling; Anna Yothers, Latin; Elizabeth Ramsay MacDonald, Household Arts; Leone Rial Haberlen, French; Kathryn Saylor, Biology; Orrel Freed, Bookkeeping; Charlotte Roy, English; William Yeager, Science and Athletic Coach; Clifford Singley, History and Athletic Coach; Betty Rial, English; Leora Billingsley, Typing; and Blanche Galley (Cowden), Mathematics.

On July 1, 1960, Mount Pleasant and Mount Pleasant Township School Districts formed a jointure; in 1962 Donegal School District became part of this jointure, which operated under a combined administration headquartered at Rumbaugh Elementary School. In 1966, soon after the opening of the new multi-million dollar senior high school, a merger of schools replaced the jointure, creating the Mount Pleasant Area School District. The township's high school, Hurst, and Ramsay became junior high schools; Second Ward and Third Ward schools in the borough, Norvelt and Rumbaugh schools in the township and Donegal School served as elementary schools for the new district. In 1974 the 80 year-old Third Ward School was sold after being condemned; in 1976 Ramsay became an elementary school for kindergarten through sixth grades and the Hurst building became a junior high school for the seventh and eighth grades.

In 1960 C. Kensey Dillon, the borough schools' superintendent since 1958, became the assistant superintendent of the consolidated school districts; Thomas J. Flaherty was superintendent until 1966. Mr. Flaherty's successor, Kenneth Ruoff, served from 1967 until 1969; he was followed a few months later by John R. Grecco, the present superintendent. During two interim periods in this succession, Thomas Copeland was acting superintendent.

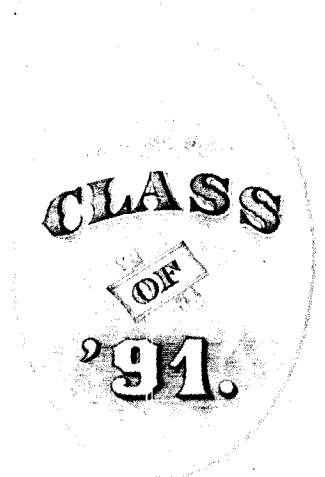
The nine member elected school board is headed by Eugene Rosky, president. The district is supported by an 83 mill tax and a \$10 per capita tax levied on residents 18 years of age and older (borough rate) and by federal and state subsidies.

Robert W. Myers and Robert F. Glick

High school students who graduated from the Ramsay High School and returned to the staff as either teachers or administrators.

Leonard "Lefty" Volkin '30
Thomas Copeland '31
Rosemary Cooper (Shields) '31
Josephine Splendore (Tesauro)
Theresa Galone
Virginia Coppula (Bergia)
Sam Freed
Elizabeth Corcoran
Lucille Ross (Brown)
Virginia Lentz Siska
Robert Myers
Frank Farrell
John Simon
James Zema
Janet Zelenske Coppolina (Brown)
Michael R. Comfort
Chester E. Tepper
Carmen Izzo
James Krofta
James McKenna
Jane Forejt (Haberlen)
Vincent Miele
Elinore Milliron (Allison) Sec'y. '38-'65
Harriet Burge
*Compiled by Robert Myers
and Thomas Copeland*

Opposite page, above: Fifty years ago Mount Pleasant High School, Class of 1928, graduated 63 seniors; below: In 1978 Mount Pleasant Area High School graduated 293 seniors on June 30th.



Loaned by the Westmoreland-Fayette Historical Society

Mount Pleasant Institute, Class of 1891, clockwise from the bottom left: Ada Lou Brownfield (Mrs. R. E. Sellers), Robert F. Graham, Pearl E. Smith (Mrs. M. W. Horner), Frank W. Jackson (attorney-New York), Lillie J. Worchester, Edgar Golden Crisswell (publisher-New York), Annie M. Colvin (Mrs. W. M. Overholt), center: Rev. Leroy Stephens, A.M.D.D., principal.



In 1882 the Western Pennsylvania Classical and Scientific Institute, then a decade old, was at its peak. Eight teachers were employed to instruct the 150 students, nearly all degree candidates in the school's 3-year college preparatory program, 3-year scientific program or the 4-year literary program. The girls' building on the left, had just been completed at a cost of \$20,000.

Loaned by Frank Janesko

The Institute

For 81 years Mount Pleasant was a college town. *The Mount Pleasant College*, which stood on the site of the present Frick Community Hospital, was chartered in 1849. One of the first colleges established in the county, it survived to become the oldest at the time of its closing in 1931. This institute changed names five times as ownership passed successively through the hands of four church affiliated corporations.

In 1847 the Allegheny Conference of the United Brethren in Christ began looking for a location for a school for higher education. Sites in Johnstown and Mount Pleasant were considered with the latter being chosen. By a deed dated Aug. 17, 1849 Joseph Lippencott and his wife, Eliza, sold two acres of ground in East Huntingdon Township to be used exclusively for an institute of learning.

...Jno. Wallace, David Keister, D. S. Cherry, Joseph Gross, U. S. Johnston, Jno. Clair, Sam'l Zuck, Benj. Clair, Solomon Keister and Christian Ebersole of Mount Pleasant and vicinity Trustees duly appointed by the United Brethren in Christ for the management and control of the Mt. Pleasant College...

In consideration of the \$300 cost of the property, Lippencott donated one

1849-1858

The Mount Pleasant College
The Allegheny Conference of the
United Brethren in Christ

1858-1861

The Mount Pleasant Union College
(Presbyterian) Stock Company

1861-1872

The Westmoreland College
The Westmoreland Classis of the
German Reformed Church

1872-1913

*The Western Pennsylvania Classical
and Scientific Institute*

1913-1931

The Mount Pleasant Institute
Music School
Pittsburgh and Monongahela
Baptist Association

MOUNT PLEASANT INSTITUTE, WESTMORELAND COUNTY.

A. K. BELL, D. D., President.
 JONATHAN JONES, A. M., Principal.
 Z. C. RUSH, A. M., Assistant.
 Miss E. C. WALTER, "
 Miss M. L. PLUMMER, "
 Miss K. NEWMYER, Music Teacher.
 Mrs. M. LLOYD, Matron.
 The THIRD TERM of the school year, '74-'75

BEGINS APRIL 8th 1875.

Departments of Instruction.

The courses of study pursued in the Institute are five, viz:

- I. A College Preparatory Course.
- II. A Scientific Course for Ladies and Gentlemen
- III. A Scientific Course with Latin and Modern Languages.
- IV. A Normal Course for those preparing to teach.
- V. A preparatory course for those not qualified for the above courses.

TUITION.

In regular course	-	-	\$12 per term
Preparatory course	-	-	10 "
Board and furnished room, \$3.50 per week			
Send for a catalogue. Address Principal			
April -ly. MT. PLEASANT, PA			

The Mount Pleasant Dawn
 March 3, 1875

Loaned by Viola Stevenson



In 1903, the Mount Pleasant Institute, a Baptist affiliated corporation, operated as a secondary education boarding school for boys and girls. Its four-acre campus adjoining South Church Street at College Avenue, was considered "...near enough to the business center of town for practical purposes and remote enough for the seclusion that a boarding school ought to have." Fourteen students graduated that year.

half while the trustees paid the remaining \$150 by deed recorded Aug. 18 1849.

After erecting a large brick building with classrooms, dormitory and chapel, the United Brethren opened the school. Seven years later it was merged with another college of the same denomination, Otterbein of Westerville, Ohio. Insight into the college's condition and fate is found in *Education for Humanity: The Story of Otterbein College*, published in 1934:

This was a period of denominational competition in founding colleges (1840 to 1900). Like other denominations the United Brethren started too many... Mount Pleasant College promoted by the Pennsylvania conferences, had been opened in 1850. At first its hopes, if not prospects, were bright, but financial support failed. In 1857 a proposition was submitted to Otterbein College of transferring the Mount Pleasant property on condition that Otterbein would assume its indebtedness, which amounted to \$4,500... The proposition was acted upon favorably. The minutes of the board of trustees of Mt. Pleasant College, now preserved with the records at Otterbein show that the union was unanimously approved.

The Rev. J. R. Reslar of Mount Pleasant College was appointed to secure the sale and transfer of the property here and apply this to the debts due.

Although an agreement of sale to its new tenant, *The Mount Pleasant Union College*, was signed on Feb. 16, 1858, the property was not transferred until 1869. This delay may have resulted from the need to settle debts which exceeded the value of the property by more than \$1,000.

The Mount Pleasant Union College was incorporated on March 23, 1858. The new school's officers were Presbyterian. Edward Braden, pres.; George W. Newmyer, sec'y.; Thomas Hurst, treas.; Rev. James H. Fife, A.M., principal. An 1858-1859 college catalogue shows that the school retained the commitment to Christian education.

While it is not the intention to establish a distinct Normal Department at present, yet instructions are given on all the Branches.

Prayers are attended in the College Chapel every morning with reading of Scriptures, and all the Students are required to be present.

It is believed that at a later date the school was known as the Mount Pleasant Academy and Normal School, but this is not documented.

On February 11, 1861, the trustees for the Mount Pleasant Union College signed an agreement with Rev. N. P. Hacke and Rev. Geo. B. Russell of the Westmoreland Classis of the German Reformed Church, to sell the school pending the Otterbein merger. The new tenant, chartered under the name *Westmoreland College*, began classes at once. Rev. F. K. Levan, A. M., was principal. The first year 117 students registered, the second, 87 with 55 males and 32 females. In 1863 the first graduating class had 4 members: Mary Hogus, A. M. Lippincott, Lizzie Miller and Louise Voight. The catalogues of 1863 and 1864 describe the school:

Westmoreland College is located near the foot of Chestnut Ridge, in one of the finest and most fertile valleys of Pennsylvania. It is twelve miles southeast of Greensburg, on the Pennsylvania Central Railroad and has daily stage connections with that point, as well as with Johnstown, Somerset and Cumberland.

A primary object in the establishment of this institution has been to furnish conveniently first class means of a liberal Christian Education to the youth of both sexes, in the flourishing and prosperous valley in which it is located, and in country adjacent. The want clearly exists and is widely felt. Westmoreland College seeks to supply it.

Gentlemen can get good boarding and rooms at an average of \$2.00 per week, washing \$1.00 per month. Tuition per year \$20.00

Finally in 1869 the United Brethren transferred the *Mount Pleasant College* property to the *Mount Pleasant Union College* for \$3,500 by deed dated January 5, 1869 (recorded July 5, 1902).

The German Reformed of Westmoreland College then purchased the property for \$1,500 on February 4, 1869; this was recorded the same day. An adjacent half acre was added to the school grounds in 1871 just prior to the sale of the college by Trustees William Neel and William Hitchman to the Baptists.

On Jan. 27, 1872, the school was deeded to this Baptist corporation in consideration of \$10,000, recorded July 19, 1873.

...C. S. Overholt, William Shadrack, A. K. Bell, James Lynn, J. Lloyd Shallenberger, H. C. Tinstman, Dr. J. H. Clark.... Trustees of the Western Pennsylvania Classis and Scientific Institute at Mount Pleasant...

C. S. Overholt, who served as the Institute's president until 1907, initiated the school "with an unconditional subscription of \$42,100 with another \$17,900 upon the condition others give \$40,000 making a total of \$100,000." By 1876 subscriptions of \$90,000 had been made, \$24,500 collected in cash while \$16,350 was held as an endowment.

The school opened in 1873 with Rev. A. K. Bell as principal and with 46 students. Three graduated in 1875: Mary McCormick (Scott), Mary H. Wadell, Sarah M. Wadell (Pangborn). In 1876, 95 students were enrolled. In 1877 another parcel of land was purchased for the school at \$350; on the deed, which was not recorded until 1902, H. C. Frick is listed as a trustee of the Institute; N. B. Critchfield was secretary of the board. A catalogue of this period shows that although the tuition had increased, the goals of the school remained the same.

The School in all its parts will be aggressively Christian. The Bible will be in constant use. Christianity is a necessity of the school. The school, though Christian, is not sectarian.

Board and tuition per annum—\$176.00.

Mount Pleasant is reached by the Southwestern Railroad. Passengers get off at Tarrs' Station.

Although the enrollment was healthy the Institute operated at a deficit as shown by this 1878 report.

The total income last year (1877) was \$5,245.28. The deficiencies for the last four years totalled \$5,839.26.

The Committee on Salaries last year reduced the Principal's salary from \$1,400 to \$1,050; Prof. Rush from \$1,000 to \$800; Miss Walter from \$500 to \$350 per year. This made a reduction of expenditures to the amount of \$900. Total deficit \$10,098.42.

MT. PLEASANT INSTITUTE.

Second Annual Commencement.

July 5th, 6th.—Examination of Classes.

July 6th, 1 P. M.—Annual Meeting of the Board of Trustees.

7:30 P. M.—Anniversary of the Everett Literary Society. Orator, Rev. B. F. Woodburn.

July 7th, 10:30 A. M.—Exercises of the Graduating Class.

12:30 P. M.—Commencement Dinner.

2 P. M.—Centennial Meeting.

The Examinations will be held in the School Building; the remaining exercises in the Baptist Church.

The Mount Pleasant Dawn
July 1, 1876

In the Institute's "Memoir" written in 1932 by the school's last president, Byron Loar, all the graduates from 1875 through 1931 are listed. Of the 302 graduates from 1875 to 1907 (no record is available of the careers followed by the 57 graduates in the next six academic classes) 21 became ministers, 19 teachers, 9 physicians (one female, Hannah Ophelia Staufft, class of 1885), 16 attorneys, 4 bankers, 3 school superintendents, 2 college professors, 1 college president, 2 funeral directors, 1 legislator, 1 congressman, 1 publisher, 1 civil engineer, 2 dentists, a judge, a journalist, an attorney-general, a postmaster, 1 nurse, 1 architect, 1 stenographer, 1 bookkeeper, 15 businessmen, and 9 farmers. Besides settling in towns and cities in Pennsylvania, these graduates had addresses in twenty-two other states, from Tacoma, Washington, to Apalachicola, Florida. Two others lived in Hamilton, Ontario, and Montreal, and one became a pastor in Uddevalla, Sweden.

The last board of directors included 4 members from Mount Pleasant: Charles E. Clark, Wm. A. Marsh, M.D., John L. Ruth and Charles F. Stoner, treas. Two members from Scottdale also served: E. M. Overholt and John M. Stauffer.

Bucknell University Board Refuses Proposal to Deed Institute Property to Town

Absence of Detailed Plan for Maintenance Forms Chief Basis of Rejection

The board of trustees of Bucknell University in session at Lewisburg on Saturday failed to look with favor on the proposal for deeding the buildings and grounds of the Institute to the town of Mount Pleasant for an educational and recreational area.

Although no formal statement of reasons for the rejection of the proposal had been received up until yesterday, the refusal is believed to have been based principally on the fact that no detailed plan had been submitted to show just what the town was prepared to do in making use of the property and what provision would be made for its upkeep.

A statement setting forth the grounds for the action was to be mailed by the trustees to Borough Secretary Frank Overly and any further moves will await receipt and study of the statement.

Local persons interested in the matter including members of Council, former members of the Institute board of trustees and others, had expected that at least tentative approval would be given to the proposal by the University Trustees, and in this event had anticipated preparing a detailed plan at a later date in which proposed use to which the property would be put would be explained at length as well as the manner in which the cost of maintenance was to be met. Among the features that were contemplated were provisions for various educational facilities, such as Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts activities, a public library, a gymnasium, and a public park. Three reasons were advanced in support of the request for deeding of the property over to the borough: first, the Institute had been a part of the community for many years that its name should be perpetuated; second, that Mount Pleasant has never received its proportionate share of the earnings of the endowment fund; third, that the town has no recreational facilities for young people, and the acquisition of the property would fill a long-felt need.

Mount Pleasant Journal
June 16, 1939

The endowment stabilized the school as the enrollment peaked in the 1880s, held steady until about 1905 and then dwindled. In 1913 Michael Gazo was the last graduate of the academic department; 360 Institute graduates had preceded him.

In September of the same year the college reopened as the *Mount Pleasant Music School*. In the next 9 years 119 graduates and 25 post graduates received diplomas from the music department. After the first years of a solvent operation, this school began to encroach on the endowment in 1922. Not wishing to close the school, James S. Braddock, president of the board from 1907 until his death in 1929 and John A. Murphy, secretary from 1893 until his death in 1931, worked relentlessly to interest large universities in establishing a junior college at the Institute site but without success.

In 1931 the last commencement was held, the 56th for the Institute and the 81st for the college. Byron Loar, D.D.S., was the last president.

On Aug. 18, 1936 the *Western Pennsylvania Classical and Scientific Institute* and Bucknell University at Lewisburg, both educational institutes with Baptist affiliation, merged. The Mount Pleasant Institute endowment fund, which was collected mainly from Baptist sources and amounting to approximately \$100,000, along with the four acres of land and buildings of the school, were transferred to Bucknell.

In acknowledgement of the community support for the Institute over the years, \$15,000 was placed in a trust in Greensburg First National Bank. Known as the Mount Pleasant Citizen's Fund, it is administered by citizens of Mount Pleasant for support of Christian secondary education within the community. The fund's present board of trustees is headed by Gilbert Clark; John Haberlen is secretary.

One half of the remaining endowment was placed in an undergraduate scholarship fund known as the *Leroy Stephens-Mount Pleasant Institute Endowment and Scholarship Fund* at Bucknell. This fund, named as a memorial to the Institute's second principal for his efforts to conserve and enlarge the school's endowment, gives preference to student applicants from Western Pennsylvania.

Bucknell sold the Institute property on Jan. 9, 1941 to Evertt E. Leadingham despite the borough's request to obtain the building and grounds for educational and recreational purposes.
Jill Cook, ed.

Opposite page: The Violin students of Professor Joseph H. Gambles of the Mount Pleasant Institute Music School are shown in a photograph taken about 1913 by Robert Goodman; front row: Wilmer E. Fox, Carl Ruder, Gilbert P. Clark, Howard Kalp, _____, Emerson Loucks, William Sheets, _____; second row: Floyd Harrer, Eugene Coldsmitth, Reuban Barnhart, J. W. Swartz, Prof. Gambles, Donald Tedrow, John Kromer, _____, Edgar Kromer; third row: Thomas Cort, Violet Crosby, Jean Smith, Clifford Sheppard, James Cowan, Jr., Raymond Faust, Chester Painter, _____, Florence Loar, Christine Jordan, Elizabeth Hurst. Professor Gambles, an Englishman, had arrived in the United States shortly before this picture was taken. Locating at Iron Bridge, he began his musical career which was to make him well known in Westmoreland and Fayette counties as a violin teacher, orchestra director and concert soloist. When in his eighties, he continued to play the violin regularly in the Sunday school orchestra of the First E. U. B. church until his health failed. Loaned by Alice C. Hoffman and Gertrude C. Coldsmitth



The last Community Chorus at the Institute in 1930 was composed of members from both Mount Pleasant and Scottsdale; 1st row: Virginia Gettemy —, Sarah Wiley, Ruth Corder, Helen Tracey, Georginia Byers, next 5 unknown, Anna Rumbaugh, Margaret Colye, Beulah Lemmon; 2nd row: —, Blossom Pahel, —, Sarah Clark, Rachel Walker, Jean Brownfield, Barnhart, —, —, Vern Baker, —; 3rd row: Evelyn Pahel pianist; Whilavene Snyder, Iva Canose, —, —, Elizabeth Tobinon, Nell Walker, Hulda Lauffer, Ohma Harman, Helen Cort, —, Charlotte Fox, Ola Pigman, Dorsie Cochran, Ruth Williams, Marg Saures, Sarah Horner, director; 4th row: Archie McPhail, Wes Beadling, —, Harry Gettemy, Floyd Harrer, Barnhart, Prof. J. H. Gambles, violinist, —, —, Roy Haberlin, Osterwise, —, Wilmer Berg, Thoborn Snyder.



East or west, Pennsylvania's health problems remained constant from the 17th through the 19th centuries. Smallpox was an especial scourge. Coming along on the *Welcome* with William Penn, it killed about thirty passengers enroute. The disease apparently also helped the colonists: smallpox, introduced by the Swedes or Dutch, killed off large numbers of the colony's Indians. This perhaps even more than Penn's celebrated regard for Indian rights, may explain the harmonious relations of white and red men in early Pennsylvania.

Even though vaccination was known from the eighteenth century, smallpox was a major killer in Pennsylvania until as late as 1861, and not only until 1895 did all Pennsylvania school children have to be vaccinated.

In addition to smallpox, Pennsylvanians appear to have been plagued by the common cold, the children's diseases (chicken pox, measles and mumps), and huge numbers of other infectious and communicable diseases including scarlet fever, malaria, diphtheria, typhoid, typhus, dysentery, influenza, yellow fever, tuberculosis, and even syphilis and gonorrhea. Well into the 19th century, a man wasn't considered a man in rural Pennsylvania unless he had the chills, and it was only with the large scale clearing of the land and the use of pesticides that malaria became rare. Malignant and degenerative diseases usually being internal were not generally recognized and there were few old people around to suffer from many complaints familiar to geriatricians...

The most feared medical problem in early Pennsylvania was the epidemic. . . the time span between the great yellow fever epidemic (1793) and the last Asiatic cholera seige (1866) marks the growth of scientific medical knowledge. At the beginning of the period, as for centuries before, epidemics were looked upon as divinely wrought devices . . . but the general attitude was overlaid by religiosity, and prayer was very widely relied upon. By 1866 epidemics were recognized as medical problems best coped with by proper sanitation and more rational treatment.

As a rule sanitary measures like cleaning streets and draining stagnant pools were only feverishly put into effect after an epidemic had broken out.

300 Years of Medicine in Pennsylvania

Early Medicine and Doctors

Although the first hospital in America was established in Philadelphia in 1751, not until the opening of Mercy Hospital in Pittsburgh in 1847 did the western part of the state have a medical facility. Mercy, in common with other early hospitals, was a charitable institution for the care of the indigent: the old, sick or insane. These early hospitals did not rival the care a man with family or means could receive in his own home attended by a physician. There seemed to be no need or support for hospitals beyond the urban areas for each Christian community took care of its own poor and sick.

In 1845 the state provided for the election of overseers of the poor; in Mount Pleasant Samuel Shupe and Abraham Shallenberger were the first to serve in this capacity. In 1849 Westmoreland countians voted for the establishment of a county poor-house which included an infirmary. Robert Hitchman was one of the 15 elected directors charged with forming a corporation for the erection of a County Home, completed in 1850. Built on a farm two and a half miles south of the town of Greensburg it was within a hundred yards of the Southwest Railroad and the road that led to Mount Pleasant. *"At the present time (1865) there are 115 men, women and children in the poor-house . . . Of the present inmates, 44 are women, 50 are men and the remainder children . . . There are 12 insane idiotic women and girls and 6 insane and idiotic men and boys."*

Considered a great improvement over the old plan of selling paupers to the highest bidders in their respective townships where those thus indentured were often kept in garrets and outhouses, fed and clothed rudely and never seen by a doctor, the County Home still had a high mortality rate and the infirmary was constantly filled. The 1881 statement of expenditures for the home lists \$431.79 for coffins; \$392.02 for clothing; \$303.90 for tobacco and \$343.18 for drugs and medicines. As no doctor fees were listed, all medical services were probably donated. That year the home had 10 deaths, 9 births and 10 indentures.

But rich or poor, up until the latter half of the 19th century only a small percentage of people in Westmoreland County were treated by academically trained physicians. Most doctors had served apprenticeships or picked up a year of lectures somewhere. Isolated from other practitioners in the early 1800s, a conscientious country doctor studied the best authors of the old school of medicine, Cullen, Rush, Fordyce, Darwin, etc. Besides this constant independent study, a doctor had to be strong enough to do the work of a coach-horse to care for all the sick within a 40-mile radius. *"Travel overland by coach or horseback was slow, laborious and expensive. The population was sparse, the country wild and covered with forest, the roads rough, crooked, hilly and dangerous. The shops of apothecaries and medical prescriptions were rare or unknown. Every village physician was obligated to carry his drug shop in his saddlebags. In addition to his ordinary duties, a country doctor was expected to pull teeth, bleed, extract wild hairs, and deliver babies, acting as physician, surgeon, optician, dentist, nurse and midwife."*

Mount Pleasant's earliest physician of record was William C. Reiter, who served as burgess for five years between 1840 and 1849. At a meeting held at the County courthouse in 1852 for the purpose of organizing a medical society, Dr. Wm. C. Reiter contributed the major resolutions of intent and was requested to deliver an address before the members of this society at the next meeting on April 12. This group like others in the state were attempting to create more distinct lines between quackery and organized medicine.

In 1859 the Westmoreland County Medical Association formed.

Among the five doctors appointed to prepare a constitution and by-laws was James McConoughy of Mount Pleasant who was then elected the first vice president of the association. Dr. McConoughy was probably the town's first academically trained doctor.

Despite a nationwide public health movement that began in 1857, practice of medicine and knowledge of disease control remained unsophisticated as shown by the fact that disease killed more soldiers in the Civil War than wounds. In the war's hurriedly thrown-up emergency hospitals, new techniques in surgery, disease and infection control and therapy developed rapidly out of necessity. Here most soldiers and rural doctors encountered the hospital facility for the first time. One of these may have been 18 year-old Sergeant F.L. Marsh, who after his discharge in 1865, attended medical school before settling in Mount Pleasant to practice.

Sanitary Fairs, held during the Civil War years, initiated the slow process of educating the public in sanitation and hygiene. A comparison of a borough ordinance of 1866 to ones from 1892 and 1893 shows a growing understanding of disease control here:

Ordinance No. 1, July 17, 1866

Section 14 It shall be deemed and taken to be a nuisance to throw coalashes, manure, old tin ware, waste paper, old boots or shoes, deads, or anything that would become offensive on any streets or alleys of the Borough... Person or persons laying their manure on back alleys shall not be considered to have violated the foregoing ordinances. Provided, at their own cost and charges they lay said alley clear across as far as their manure extends with stones properly broken, at least eight or ten inches in depth and leave a sufficient cart or wagon way clear of all obstructions, and provided also that all such manure shall be removed regularly on or before the 15th day of April and November of each and every year.

Ordinance No. 34, July 25, 1892

Section 1 That from and after the 25th day of July 1892 it shall be unlawful for any dog or dogs, bitch or bitches to run at large, within the borough of Mount Pleasant, Pa. without being muzzled by a substantial wire muzzle between the first days of June and September in each year.

Ordinance No. 38, Sept. 18, 1893

Section 10 All privy vaults shall be cleaned at least once a year between the 15th of March and the 15th of April of the same year. And they shall be thoroughly disinfected once a month or oftener if so ordered by adding to their contents from one to four gallons of disinfectant solution according to their size.

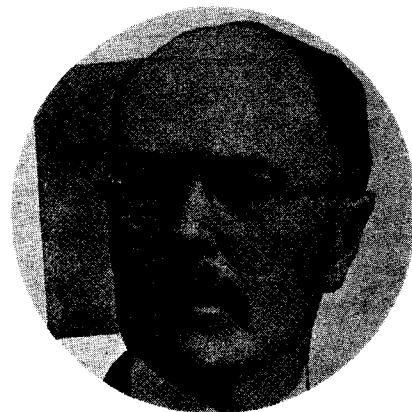
Section 24 It shall be the duty of the occupants of every house within the limits of this Borough in the month of May in each year to clean the cellars thereof of all dirt, vegetable and impure matter calculated to engender disease and cause them to be thoroughly white-washed with fresh lime.

The early ordinance cited refuse, manure and dead rats as nuisances or distasteful while the later ones regulated muzzling of dogs to prevent the spread of rabies, the cleaning of privys and food storage areas regulated to eliminate the breeding areas for disease and disease-carrying rodents. In 1894 the first sewer lines were laid that emptied into Shupe's Run.

The Free Dispensary and the Hospital 1901 and 1904

The women of Mount Pleasant, already aware of the health hazard of alcohol and having carried the temperance banner for many years, were quick to adopt the new sanitation and hygiene methods. In 1898 they formed a Red Cross society to help equip and sew for the soldiers of Company E which had been mobilized and ordered to the Philippines. At the close of the Spanish American War, the society did not disband but worked for better care for the sick and injured. Mining accidents were

Although the state did not require the mandatory three to four year medical course and licensing until 1893, a law of 1854 required the examination, certification and taxation of all medical practitioners. The following were listed in the county prothonotary's office in 1882 as residents of Mount Pleasant: Ralph Erskin Fulton, Jefferson Medical College, 1869; Robert McConoughy, Jefferson Medical College, 1862; Florence L. Marsh, Jefferson Medical College, 1868; Joseph Hester Clark, filed statement; James McConoughy, Jefferson Medical School, 1845; Lewis Shupe Goodman, Eclectic Medical Institute, 1878; Martin Dallas Heath, Puite College of Cincinnati, 1880; James Buchanan Wakefield, filed statement.



Doctor F. L. Marsh



Doctor Joseph H. Clark

Dr. Joseph Hester Clark, who practiced medicine in the Mount Pleasant area from about 1860, was one of the last *saddlebag doctors*. Although not formally trained, he was a respected and skilled physician, serving on the board of the town's college and lecturing alongside of his better educated colleagues. About 1900 this series of lectures was given at the Insitute:

How a Daily Newspaper is Made

G.N. McCain

The History of Coke

J.A. Strickler

How to Preserve the Teeth

Dr. J.A. Loar

The Hygiene of the Eye

Dr. F.L. Marsh

Accidents and Emergencies

Dr. J.H. Clark

Physiology

Dr. W.A. Marsh

The first hospital board consisted of the 15 members of the Jacob Justice Free Dispensary Board and 4 additional members, one appointed member from the Lutheran, Reformed, Visitation, and Transfiguration churches. Members of this board were: Dr. F. L. Marsh, S. C. Stevenson, Samuel Neel, Rev. C. L. Smith, Cassius M. Galley, B. F. Scalon, H. O. Tinstman, H. R. Freed, W. A. Kalp, C. E. Mullin, J. A. Loar, S. K. Ebersole, George W. Stoner, J. McDonald Bryce, Rev. P. K. Collins, Daniel C. Rumbaugh, John Brush, Michael Disman and Amos Trout.

In October of 1903, the board met and adopted the following monthly wage schedule: matron and superintendent, \$45; trained nurse, \$25; ass't nurse, \$15; first girl, \$12; second girl, \$8; wash woman, \$16; cook, \$16; orderly, \$30. Miss Jennie Durstine was selected matron and superintendent.

The original staff of the Mount Pleasant Memorial Hospital was composed of seven men and one woman, all practicing physicians resident in the town in 1904: S. M. Crosby, M. W. Horner, R. E. Fulton, J. W. Shelar, W. A. Marsh, M. L. Montgomery, J. J. Pratt and F. L. Marsh.

The following physicians and dentists, having served on the staff up till the time of their retirement or death, have been remembered by memorial plaques in the present hospital: F. L. Marsh, M. W. Horner, J. W. Shelar, W. A. Marsh, L. T. Gilbert, E. B. Gilbert, M. A. Noon, C. H. Poole, J. W. Burkholder, S. S. DeVaux, V. P. Pisula, J. Strickler, T. R. Snyder (D.D.S.), G. C. Stamm, G. Toth, T. Wollak, J. P. Donnelly, (D.D.S.), J. B. Pollock, G. E. Biskup, A. H. Becker, G. T. McNish, S. M. Crosby, P. H. Deffenbaugh (D.D.S.), H. T. Garard, S. Gray, B. Hammers, M. T. Jackson, M. L. Montgomery Marsh, N. Kerr, F. N. Mangold, R. H. McClellan, F. J. Pyle, A. Waide, D. A. Walker, W. Robinson, M. Post, C. L. DePriest, J. S. Blackburn (D.D.S.), F. W. Feightner.

frequent and the new immigrants to this booming area were often without means or education to care for their sick. The women's campaign for a hospital seemed futile until 1900 when the disclosure of a \$76,000 bequest from the estate of Jacob Justice for the establishment of a free dispensary, stirred the town.

Jacob Justice of Philadelphia, born and educated in Mount Pleasant, had lived with his mother and sister on West Main Street and had attended the Westmoreland College in the 1860s. Prior to his death, his wish to provide a medical dispensary for the sick and needy of his home town was known only to his friend, Dr. F. L. Marsh. Although the estate was not settled until 1905, the newly appointed directors of the Jacob Justice Free Dispensary applied for and were granted a charter in June of 1902 upon the terms of the Justice will:

I give, devise and bequeath all the rest, residue and remainder of my estate to a corporation to be organized under the laws of Pennsylvania, and the members of which shall consist of three representatives from each of the following churches: the United Presbyterian Church, located on Main Street, of Mount Pleasant, Westmoreland Co., Pennsylvania, of which my mother was formerly a member, the Baptist Church, the Methodist Episcopal Church and Church of the United Brethren, all being located on the Main Street of Mount Pleasant, and three persons appointed by the Orphans Court of Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania. In trust nevertheless for the purpose of establishing a Dispensary at Mount Pleasant, Westmoreland County, Pennsylvania, for the free use and benefit of such sick and disabled poor persons as may require the same and cannot afford to pay for medicine and doctors' advice, such charity not to be confined to members of any particular religious faith, but to be open and free for the use of all.

Rooms had been rented on Main Street and in July the staff was appointed.

The quick action of the board and the promise of the large bequest made plans for a hospital in Mount Pleasant viable. In September of 1902 a charter for the Mount Pleasant Memorial Hospital was granted. In 1903 a state appropriation of \$12,000 provided for the hospital building acquisition and maintenance for that and the following year.

It was the second hospital established in the county, and like its predecessors, it was a charitable institution as Boucher in his *History of Westmoreland County* of 1905 notes: "Those without means to pay for treatment are served before others are admitted, this being the condition on the part of the state in making the appropriation."

The J. Lippencott home and office building on Main Street built in 1841 was purchased and converted for use as a hospital with rooms for the Free Dispensary on the ground level. The former Red Cross society, now the Hospital Aid, sewed sheets and sought contributions to stock the pantry and kitchen of the hospital. The Needlework Guild also contributed linens and blankets. H. C. Frick, who had founded the Frick Coke Works, donated \$2,500 for equipment and Mr. Coll of the water company furnished free water for hospital use.

On three consecutive days before the opening of the hospital on Jan. 21, 1904, the Aid Society prepared and served hot meals in the hospital to earn money for additional furnishings and 2,000 guests were given escorted tours of the facility by the 19 hospital board members and the eight staff physicians.

Since there were no trained nurses on the staff, the hospital organized a training school in October of 1904. Three graduated from this school in 1907: Rebecca Cloves (Braddock), Florence Couch (Pore, Barnett), and Minnie French (Speirs). Quarters and classrooms for the student nurses were located on the second floor of the hospital.

Initially the hospital borrowed \$5,000 from the Jacob Justice Free Dispensary to cover bills and subsequent sums were borrowed to provide



Mount Pleasant Memorial Hospital opened in 1904 with 67 beds housed in the former Lippencott office and residence built in 1841. This converted building served the medical and surgical needs of Mount Pleasant and surrounding communities until 1965 when it was replaced by a new facility. Razed in 1966, it had stood on the southside of West Main Street on the site presently occupied by a borough parking lot and the Pittsburgh National Drive-In Bank.

On the day before the opening of the hospital the first patient arrived, a man found unconscious among the coke ovens and suffering from severe burns and exposure. The young matron, with only a janitor to assist, an empty drug shelf and crates of unpacked equipment and supplies, found a spoon among her own unpacked personal items to administer medicine to this unexpected arrival. The unidentified man lingered for a few days and then died.



Left: the 1907 graduates and students of the hospital's nursing school pose on the steps of the hospital with Dr. W. A. Marsh, the school's founder and teacher. 1st row: Loretta Enos (English), Pearl Thom (Love), McElar, 2nd row: Minnie French (Speirs), Dr. Marsh, Florence Couch, (Pore, Barnett), 3rd row: Chamberlin, McKenna, Masters, Smith.

Corner Stone of New Hospital Laid

Laying of the cornerstone of the new Frick Community Hospital took place with appropriate ceremonies Sunday afternoon (Sept. 6) at the \$2,597,000 structure now approaching completion in the South end of town.

William Rakusin, oldest member of the hospital board of directors, placed items of historical interest in a copper box which later was enclosed in the corner stone.

Master of ceremonies at the cornerstone laying was board member Lawrence A. Rehanek. The welcome was given by Charles W. Cunningham, president of the board, and the invocation by the Rev. Charles E. Hamnett, pastor of the First Presbyterian church of Scottdale and a member of the board. Music was furnished by the Ramsay High school band under the direction of Fred R. Houseman. The principal speaker was Elias S. Cohen, commissioner of aging, Department of Welfare, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, who with Mr. Cunningham laid the cornerstone.

Also taking part in the program were Alfred Sasser, Jr. hospital administrator, and John M. O'Laughlin of Scottdale, who conducted recognition of groups affiliated with the hospital, each of which had a representative present to place an item in the cornerstone.

Representative of these groups included Dr. A. H. Becker, president of the medical staff; Dr. John S. Blackburn, dental staff; Mrs. Frank Mullin, president of the Hospital Senior Aid Society; Mrs. Julius Kurimcak, Jr., president of the Junior Auxiliary; Mrs. Frank Myal, president of the Scottdale Auxiliary. Also present were: Dr. Mary Montgomery Marsh, honorary member of the medical staff, who recounted events leading up to the starting of the hospital and subsequent years up to the steps for building the new hospital; Donald E. Bittner, president of the Jacob Justice Free Dispensary board; Dr. William H. Robinson, who represented ailing Dr. V. P. Pisula, veteran member of the staff and Dr. John C. Haberlen, secretary of the board of directors.

The Journal September 24, 1964



Dr. Mary Montgomery Marsh was the only surviving member of the original hospital staff to witness the opening of the new hospital in 1965.

for urgent needs as the first ambulance service. This emergency vehicle was purchased from John Feagley (old Feg) for \$529. The contract for stabling its horses and storage was awarded to S. P. Zimmerman. Ambulance fees were: \$1 in the borough; \$2.50 for trips to Morewood, Alice, Rainey, Acme, Standard, Bridgeport and Buckeye; \$3.50 for trips to Tarrs, Alverton, Donnelly and Central.

Henry Clay Frick died in 1920 leaving a residual stock fund to be shared by nine hospitals including Mount Pleasant Memorial. With these funds, expansion, improvement and modernization was performed on the hospital; the most visible addition was the nurses' residence. Built in 1930 on the site of the old United Brethren and United Presbyterian cemetery across Stand Pipe Alley behind the hospital, this detached building included student classrooms.

The second floor of the hospital was thus released for maternity and nursery use with 12 bassinets and one incubator. This area became the project of the newly formed energetic Junior Auxiliary who furnished, decorated and gave volunteer service there.

In 1950 the nursing school closed. During its 46 years of existence, 310 students had been admitted of which 244 earned their diplomas. Many of these served in this hospital holding positions that ranged from administrator to anesthetist and X-Ray department supervisor. Nine graduates of the training school hold positions in the hospital presently.

In 1953 the Scottdale Auxiliary formed which brought new volunteer support for the hospital. Although broad community concern and support for the hospital continued, in 1955 the hospital building, suffering from age and an increased patient load, was found to be too obsolete to renovate. The board of directors began acquiring property for a new facility in 1958 with the largest tract of land purchased being the old Mount Pleasant Institute, then owned by the Pilgrim of Holiness Institute.

Since the hospital's founding, the board of the Jacob Justice Free Dispensary had also served as the main body of the hospital board. In 1961 the by-laws were revised to include residents from the larger area which the hospital served: Scottdale, New Stanton, West Newton, Kecksburg, Donegal, Indian Head and Smithton. The number of directors was increased to 27 and the name changed to Henry Clay Frick Community Hospital.

Mount Pleasant and these surrounding communities contributed more than \$750,000 toward the \$2 million cost of a new hospital; Miss Helen Frick, daughter of Henry Clay Frick, made a generous contribution.

Wishing to continue Free Dispensary services in the new hospital as had been provided in the old one, the Jacob Justice board and the hospital board reached an agreement: needed space was to be supplied for 25 years for an advance payment of \$50,000 from the Jacob Justice funds to be used in the building program.

The new hospital facility, dedicated in August of 1965, was the first total electric hospital in the nation, designed to accommodate new procedures in medical care and with a 104-bed and 21 bassinet capacity. A new auxiliary formed, the Senior Volunteers, whose time was given in serving in the hospital.

In 1970 a 54-bed addition, the South Wing, was completed and in 1972 the lower level of this addition was dedicated to house the Rehabilitation Center providing out-patient counseling service. In 1976 a North Wing added 66 beds. Currently the hospital has 235 beds in the following units: 161 in the medical and surgical units, 16 in obstetrics plus 5 labor beds, 21 bassinets in the new-born nursery, 18 beds in pediatrics, 7 in intensive care and 7 in coronary care units. In 1978 a visit to the emergency room cost \$18 and the average cost per patient day was approximately \$117.32. The medical staff numbered 76.

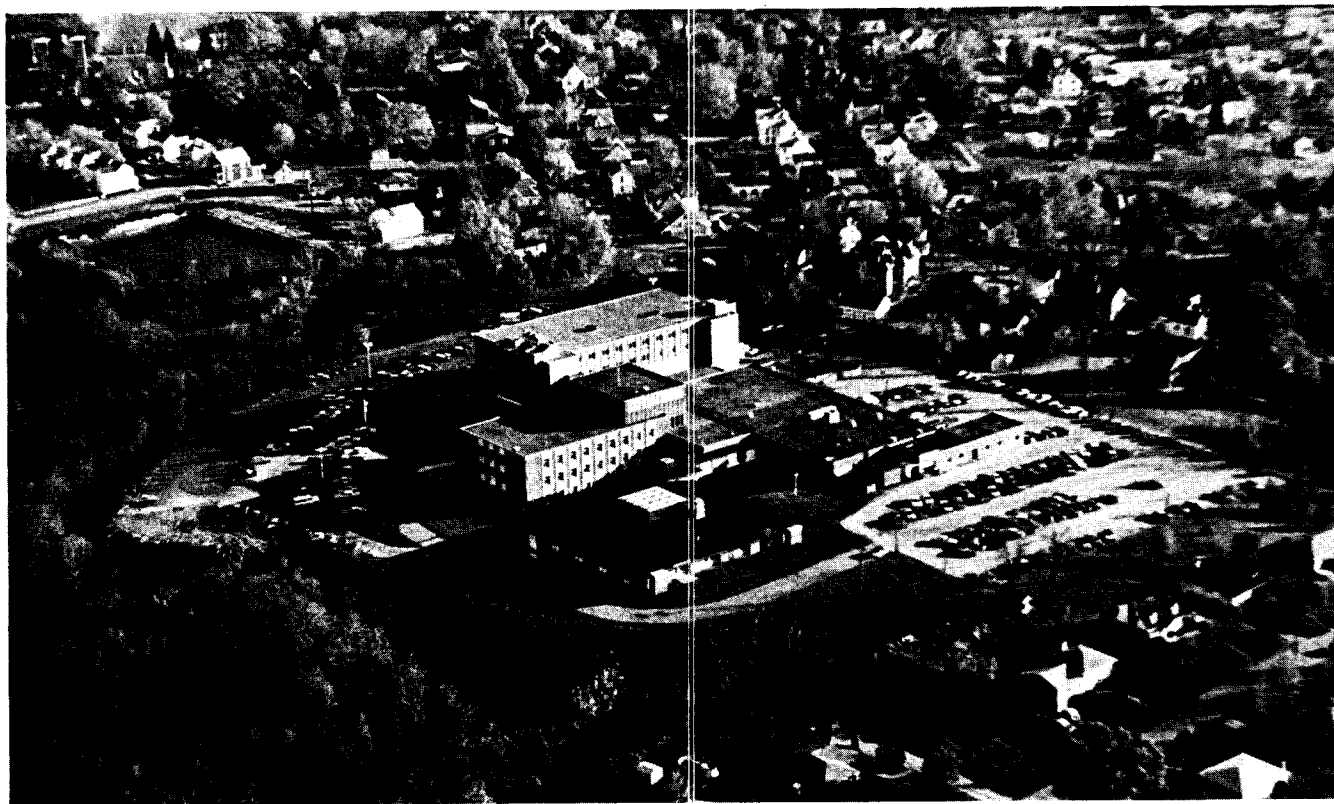
During the past fiscal year Frick Hospital's more than 570 employees rendered care to more than 9,100 patients and 22,500 patients coming to the emergency room. Since June of 1977 some 300 of these employees have been represented by Service Employees International Union, Local 585. In June of 1978 the first union contract was ratified after a 13 day strike during which hospital services continued uninterrupted. Rosemary Trump is the Local's president.

Arriving in December of 1965, Joseph R. McFerron, the executive director, has guided the hospital through the past decade of expansion and growth, increasing the involvement with the community. Under the Rev. Neil Mumma of the United Church of Christ, a chaplaincy program to care for patients' spiritual needs continues; the Emergency Medical Technician programs, offered by the hospital since 1974, educates volunteer and professional emergency personnel; the hospital acts as the center for eight ambulance units in the area which includes the borough's Medic 10.

Jill Cook

From material provided by Arlene Assey, Executive Secretary, H.C. Frick Community Hospital, Journal articles by Leona Haberlin, 1961, and notes of Jean Marsh Brownfield, Leah Carlson Lohr and Lawrence Rehanek.

Executive Director . . . Joseph R. McFerron
 Ass't. Administrator Joseph O'Leary
 Chief Radiologic Technologist Jean Bowman
 Director of Pharmacy Services Thomas Boyle
 Controller Jane Hepler
 Co-Director of Nursing Sonia Kuputa
 Director of Environmental Services Ralph E. King, Sr.
 Co-Director of Nursing Mary Lou Kurimcak
 Chief Nurse Anesthetist Geraldine Marks
 Director of Medical Records and Utilization Patricia Painter
 Director of Personnel M.E. Reynouard
 Chief Laboratory Technologist Stephen Squires
 Director of Volunteers Audrey Troutman
 Director of Dietary Services Dorothy Forsythe
 Administrative Director of Rehabilitation Joseph Stanton



In August of 1965, following the dedication, Henry Clay Frick Community Hospital moved to its new facility located at the intersection of South Church and Eagle Streets on the site of the former Western Pennsylvania Classical and Scientific Institute. This 1976 photograph shows the additions to the main building of the South Wing completed in 1970 and the new four story North Wing. The board began acquiring the hospital's present 20 acres of grounds in 1958.

Medical Staff—1977

Medical Staff Officers:
 James E. Nicolette, D.M.D., *pres.*
 Klaas Vandyk, M.D., *vice pres.*
 James D. Brubaker, M.D., *sec'y.*
 Frank Santamaria, M.D., *treas.*
 Ali Aboosi, M.D.
 Willard D. Adams, D.D.S.
 Ahmad Al-Mallah, M.D.
 Shadiya Al-Mallah, M.D.

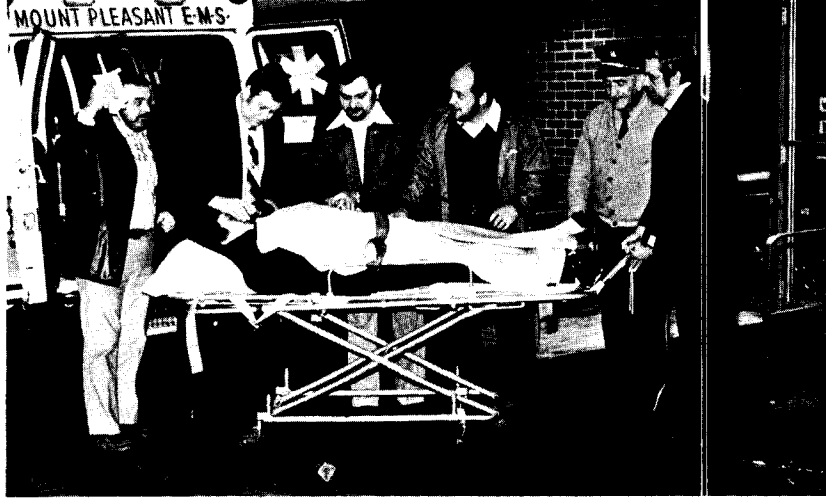
Orhan Alponat, M.D.
 John Amoroso, D.M.D.
 Murat Bankaci, M.D.
 John V. Barber, M.D.
 Subrata Barua, M.D.
 Ronald Berardi, M.D.
 Francis D. Beyer, Jr., M.D.
 Donald Blatchley, M.D.
 Donald Brown, M.D.
 Joseph F. Bucci, M.D.
 Sannasie Chandrasekaran, M.D.
 Charles Chang, M.D.
 Jerome Curtin, M.D.
 John E. Dubnansky, M.D.
 L. Alan Egleston, M.D.
 Selim El-Attrache, M.D.
 Yahya Fadl, M.D.
 Heriberto Florentin, M.D.
 Earl B. Gilbert, M.D.
 Thomas E. Gretz, D.D.S.
 Richard Grimaldi, D.M.D.
 Robert Holst, M.D.
 Geoffrey M. Hosta, M.D.
 William M. Hughes, M.D.
 Barid Jana, M.D.
 Walter W. Jetter, M.D.
 Gurbachan S. Kathpal, M.D.
 Constancio Katigbak, M.D.
 Yong Kim, M.D.
 Efren Leonida, M.D.
 William D. Levinson, M.D.
 Young K. Lim, M.D.
 Robert T. Lindner, D.D.S.
 Tun-Yu Liu, M.D.
 Richard Lynn, M.D.
 James McCloy, D.M.D.
 Thomas McLellan, M.D.
 Chikkanarasappa Mahalingappa, M.D.
 Frank V. Maida, M.D.
 Ted A. Matthews, D.D.S.
 Sung Bin Moon, M.D.
 Richard Murphy, M.D.
 Ganesan Nagarajan, M.D.
 Anthony Nicolette, M.D.
 Joseph Novak, M.D.
 Raul Olave, M.D.
 Wylie Overly, M.D.
 Ahsen Ozarda, M.D.
 Frank Pantalone, M.D.
 Abol Pourhamidi, M.D.
 Philip J. Reilly, M.D.
 J. Philip Robinson, M.D.
 William O. Robinson, M.D.
 James Rosen, M.D.
 Albert G. Saloom, M.D.
 Donald Santora, D.M.D.
 Theodore Schultz, M.D.
 Polepalli Setty, M.D.
 Allen Sherwood, Jr., D.D.S.
 Usha Singh, M.D.
 Joseph A. Slezak, M.D.
 Thomas Sproch, M.D.
 Arnold Stern, D.D.S.
 Frank W. Thomas, Jr., M.D.
 Reynaldo Torio, M.D.
Honorary:
 Arthur Barnhart, M.D.
 Merritt J. McCloy, M.D.
 Jacob R. Silvis, D.D.S.
Adjunct:
 Victor Boerio, D.P.M.



The January 1978 meeting of the H. C. Frick Community Hospital Board of Trustees. Clockwise from the left: Robert E. Wingert, sec'y.; James R. Murtha, pres.; Peter A. Zaphyr, Charles W. Cunningham, Mrs. Horace Thomas, William M. Seaman, Samuel B. Magie, William R. Armor, Joseph F. Bucci, M.D., Alan F. Phillips, Joseph P. Fagan, Frank W. Thomas, Jr., M.D., J. R. McFerron and J. A. O'Leary. Members not present: Charles A. Thomas, Leonard Feldman, Robert P. Boyer, John J. Gardner, Rev. Charles E. Hamnett, Rev. Edward C. Jackson, Frank V. Maida, M.D., Theodore Sarniak, III, Jess M. Stairs, and Rev. John A. Stofcik. Several of these 22 members were in their fifth and final consecutive three-year term. A by-laws amendment of November 1977, reducing the maximum and minimum size of the board from 27 and 21 to 21 and 15 respectively, will take effect in December 1978.



Jacob Justice Free Dispensary, established in 1901, is one of the oldest existing medical dispensaries in the state. Housed at Frick Community Hospital, it continues to provide free services today to the needy within a three mile radius of Mount Pleasant, a defined area that may be extended by special board action. The Board of Directors pictured from the left: Eugene G. Saloom, Fred M. Hagerman, treas.; William D. Mullin, sec'y.; Donald E. Bittner, pres.; Harold V. Miller, Thomas Tepper, Domenick Wilczynski, William R. Armor, Thomas S. Galley, George S. Simon, Lawrence A. Rehanek, v. pres.; George Dailey.



The medically trained volunteers of the Mount Pleasant Medical Service, known as Medic 10, continue to give life-support assistance as a patient is delivered to the emergency facility at Frick Community Hospital; from the left: Jack Caruso, Chuck Phillip, Ray Lucotch, Jack Treber, hospital security guard Russ Davis, and Ed Hogan.

Mount Pleasant Emergency Medical Service, *Medic 10* 1976

For the past decade, major concern for life-saving emergency medical services has been shared by every community throughout the nation. For Mount Pleasant, this concern has been answered by *Medic 10*.

Chartered on May 19, 1976 with 10 medically trained volunteer attendants, *Medic 10* began providing emergency ambulance service to the community. Its present 22 members have training ranging from standard first aid procedures to advance life-support systems; their classifications include: 4 as Paramedic One (P-1), 5 as Emergency Medical Technician Two (EMT-2), 9 as Emergency Medical Technician One (EMT-1), 1 as advanced First Aid Attendant, and 3 as First Aid Attendants. *Medic 10* members must complete EMT-1 and EMT-2 course within a three year period.

Each attendant, cognizant of his own limitations in administering aid, is covered by Pennsylvania's Good Samaritan Act and is provided malpractice insurance by the borough. In 1977 *Medic 10* answered an average of 52 calls monthly which varied from simple transport to tragic accidents.

Medic 10 holds classes for its members to review old and learn new procedures. To the public, *Medic 10* offers Cardio-Pulmonary Resuscitation classes (CPR) using American Heart Association procedures. These qualify individuals, after three to four hours of intensive training, to give basic emergency life support until skilled technicians, as *Medic 10*, arrive.

With an ambulance containing the most modern equipment including a "Life Pack" with EKG communication linked to Frick Hospital and intravenous and respiratory apparatus, *Medic 10* provides an invaluable service to Mount Pleasant. Equipment maintenance and insurance are provided by the borough while new or replacement equipment is funded by contributions from concerned citizens.

A recent installation of a two-channel radio system in the Emergency Center of Frick Community Hospital has improved vital communications between the ambulance in the field and the doctors at the hospital. With Dr. Klaas Vandyk, medical advisor, and Nurse Esther Hagerman, co-ordinator of the EMT training program at the hospital, *Medic 10* is one of the finest emergency medical teams in Western Pennsylvania. Mount Pleasant's *Medic 10* includes some of the county's first EMT-2's.

From material submitted by Patty Shaffer

After advance Red Cross first aid certification, higher classification may be pursued through a strict and progressive training program. The EMT-1 program requires 85 hours of instruction, 10 of which are clinical training in a hospital. The EMT-2 program requires an additional 140 hours of instruction with 12-20 hours of clinical practice monthly in a hospital and certification from a qualified physician. P-1 classification can be acquired by a certified EMT-2 attendant by passing a qualifying state examination. Retention of this rating requires 20 hours of clinical practice monthly under the supervision of a registered nurse or physician in the emergency room and intensive or coronary care units of a hospital. EMT-2 and P-1 attendants receive training in venipuncture, cardiology, entubation and other life support procedures. A P-2 rating is being formulated to include skills in obstetrics, gynecology and psychiatric care.

1978 Officers: Edward Hogan, pres.; Raymond Lucotch, v. pres.; Greg Smolka, sec'y; Charles Phillip, treas.; Jack Caruso, chief; John Ceroni, training officer; Robert Steiner, ass't. training officer; Greg Smolka, William Steiner, John Rogacki, auditors.

Dr. Klaas Vandyk, medical advisor, and Nurse Esther Hagerman, co-ordinator of the EMT training program at Frick Hospital voluntarily give their professional assistance to the Emergency Medical Services.





In 1945 the Hospital Aid Society held the annual Founder's Day Tea, continuing the tradition of contributing and celebrating upon the anniversary of the opening of the Mount Pleasant Memorial Hospital, Jan. 21, 1904. Officers and tea committee, from the left: Mrs. Frank Overly, Mrs. T. R. Snyder, Mrs. M. R. George, Mrs. Claude Harrer, Mrs. C. B. Shupe.

In 1904 the group had 44 members; officers were Mrs. Gerard Bryce, pres.; Miss Alice Warden, v. pres.; Mrs. S. G. Hohn, sec'y.; Mrs. George Stoner, treas. In 1978 the group has 103 members headed by Mrs. Richard Stahl, pres., Mrs. Michael Tullio and Miss Lois Horner, v. pres.; Mrs. Mason Rager, sec'y.; Mrs. Stephen Hitchak, treas.; Mrs. Niles Ripple, corres. sec'y.; and Mrs. Alex Copeland, memorial fund ch. In the past 10 years this group has given 56,270 volunteer hours in the hospital and Hospitality Shop.

The Women's Auxiliaries of the Henry Clay Frick Community Hospital

Since 1972 the four hospital auxiliaries have been organized under one executive committee which is composed of two representatives from each group and the Hospitality Shop Board. The executive committee serves to coordinate activities of the auxiliaries and is represented within the Pennsylvania Association of Hospital Auxiliaries. In 1977 to 1978 the officers are: Mrs. Walter Burns, pres., Miss Zella Lowe, v. pres., Mrs. Mason W. Rager, sec'y-treas. In 1977 Mrs. Horace Thomas became the first appointed Hospital Board Director representing the women's auxiliaries: the Hospital Aid, the Junior Auxiliary, the Scottdale Auxiliary and the Senior Volunteers.

On Oct. 7, 1902, less than a month after the chartering of the Mount Pleasant Memorial Hospital, Mrs. Susan Kennedy wrote in her minutes: "The sun is shining and the birds are singing on this beautiful afternoon when the Red Cross Society became the Hospital Aid Society." Mrs. J. McDonald Bryce was the group's first president.

In preparation for the hospital opening, these dedicated women purchased unbleached muslin by the bolt and made sheets; to earn money for linens and furnishings they made and sold jellies and held turkey, chicken and oyster dinners as often as three times a week.

As the years passed, the women celebrated the anniversary of the opening of the hospital in January with "Donation Day" when canned foods, linens, soap and other staples were collected. In the fall they conducted "Potato Day" collecting an ample winter's supply of this staple from barrels placed in schools, theatres and churches. Although the projects have changed to bake sales and luncheons, the annual "Founder's Day Tea" still marks the anniversary of the hospital opening.

From material submitted by Sarah Overly

CHRISTMAS DANCE

JUNIOR AUXILIARY OF THE HOSPITAL AID SOCIETY

Monday, December 26th, 1932

Mount Pleasant State Armory

DANCING 9 TILL 1

Among the Junior Auxiliary's first projects was Jelly Day when jars of jam and jelly were solicited to stock the hospital's pantry. An annual Christmas dance, begun by the Nemacolin Club, became an Auxiliary project and in its first years was held at the Armory. This dance, known as the Mistletoe Ball since the 1950s, remains the social event of the year and is held at the Pleasant Valley Country Club.

Profits from this, a yearly bake sale, card party, a spring project and the Westmoreland County Airshow of 1975 and 1976 have permitted the group to donate \$31,065 to the hospital since 1967.

On March 10, 1931, a group of 71 energetic young women formed the Junior Hospital Auxiliary with Miss Emily Bryce their first elected president. Their interest was centered on the children's and maternity wards.

In April of 1933 the Citizens Savings and Trust Company closed its doors and all club funds held there were frozen; records fail to show if any monies were recovered. The group remained active until 1944 when it dissolved after donating all funds for needed hospital equipment.

In October of 1947 a new group of women organized under the old but revised by-laws; June Hostetler (Eicher) headed the group assisted by Miss Louise Husband. Except for the years 1961 to 1967 when \$15,000 was pledged toward equipping the Hospitality Shop in the new hospital, the Juniors continued to donate to the areas in the hospital for children and women, now designated pediatrics and obstetrics.

In 1977 there are 48 active members with Jill B. Cook, pres.; Myra Abromson, v. pres.; Cheryl Kazan, sec'y.; Barbara Burtyk, treas.; Carol Grubich, corres. sec'y.; and Karen Kozak, ass't. treas.

Early history taken from 1961 Journal article by Frances Lipps (Wujs) and Margaret Donnelly—Jill Cook, ed.



On a cold snowy day in January of 1978, members of the Executive Board of the Hospitality Shop, representing three auxiliaries, gather in the shop with volunteers and cooks during the morning coffee hours; from the left, 1st row: Sarah Trout, sec'y.; May Ripple, Kristie Maida, Gwen Baker, chairman; Ruth Stahl, Jill Cook and Georgie Ann Tony; 2nd row: Betty Miller, cook-manager; Mary Gayle Jordan, treas.; Ruby Ruth, Peggy Hill, Betty Roadman, cook; and Gertrude Ruth.

The Scottdale Auxiliary was formed in 1953 with 40 members. Officers were: Mrs. Robert Ruth, pres.; Mrs. Donald Ruth, v. pres.; Mrs. T. R. Heyward, sec'y.; Mrs. Earl Gilbert, treas.; Mrs. Herbert Morrison, corres. sec'y.

When the new hospital opened August 30, 1965, this group which had grown to 112 members, became very active. Mrs. Donald Ruth was in charge of the Gift Shop in the hospital. Many unique projects to earn funds for the hospital were conducted such as a theatre train to New York and a World's Fair train. Scottdale's social event of the year is the auxiliary's Sweetheart Ball held in February at the Pleasant Valley Country Club. Bridge flights are held there monthly, in the evening for couples and in the afternoon for women. In 1975 the group co-sponsored the Westmoreland County Air show. From 1967 to 1976 the auxiliary has contributed \$39,991 from these projects to the hospital.

From material submitted by Goldye Miller

When the new hospital opened in 1965, Mrs. Robert Heyward, in the new post of director of volunteers, organized a group of about a dozen women to work in the hospital and on benefit projects such as bake and rummage sales. At first this group was not unlike the other auxiliaries, until early in its history a decision was made to give service only within the hospital: helping in medical records, escorting patients to and from X-ray and physical therapy, escorting new patients to admissions, prepacking medication in the pharmacy, delivering ice water to rooms and doing errands for patients, working at the information desk for 11 hours a day, marking patient mail and delivering it and flowers to the rooms. In the past volunteers had also helped patients make menu selections, cut and sew new and mended old linens, made charts, helped in the Coffee Shop and read and wrote letters for patients.

With the arrival of Mrs. Dwight Troutman as director of volunteers in 1970, the organization grew and became the Senior Volunteers, Unit IV. Presently the group has 60 members, which includes two husband and wife teams, the Frank Fords and the Harold Leonards, and a third gentleman.

From material submitted by Mary Kay Leonard

In 1961 the Senior Aid, the Junior and Scottdale auxiliaries undertook a pledge of \$40,000 toward furnishing a coffee and gift shop to be part of the proposed new hospital facility. The Senior Aid and Scottdale auxiliaries each pledged \$12,500 and the Juniors \$15,000. The Tri-Auxiliary Council, composed of four representatives of each group, planned for the equipping, operation and the staffing of this co-operative ongoing project, working closely with Miss Albertina Six of the hospital administration.

As this project came closer to realization, in 1964 the council became the Executive Board of the Hospitality Shop with chairmanship rotating annually between the auxiliaries.

August 30, 1965 was the long-awaited opening day! The coffee shop with a seating capacity of 72, had a working crew of a cook-manager, two salad makers, one part-time assistant and 85 volunteers; the well-stocked gift shop was staffed completely by volunteers. From the early days when donations varied from soup to high-chairs and gift items and the volunteers included the candy-strippers, to the present, the shop continues to convert the time and talent of volunteers and the 12 and 13 year-old mini-servers into money for the hospital.

From its operation, the executive board has, over the past 10 years, contributed \$55,000 for a South Wing Nurses Station and \$110,000 for an area in the North Wing designated for an ambulatory care unit.

Since 1967 Alyce Seaman has been in charge of the Gift Shop. Margaret Thomas, assisted by Gertrude Ruth schedule the volunteers for the Hospitality Shop. From 1967 through 1976 Scottdale volunteers have given 63,616 hours of service to the hospital and Hospitality Shop. Mrs. Jean Simmons is the president for 1977 to 1978.

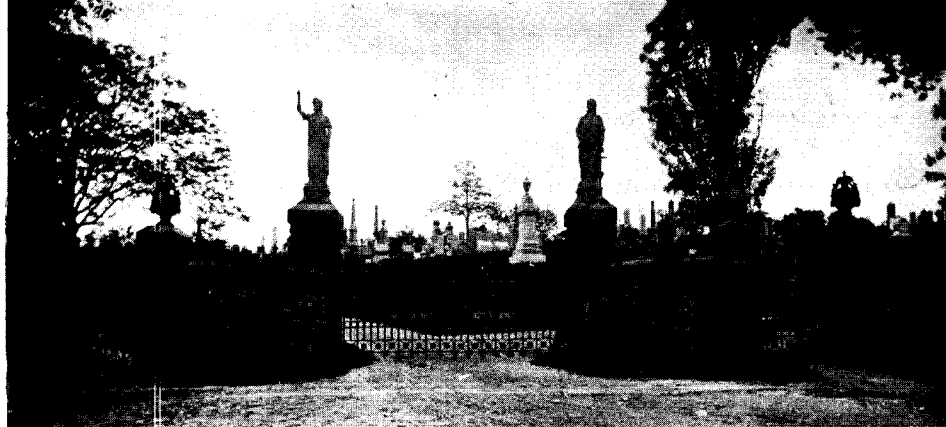
In 1976 Unit IV gave 11,458 volunteer hours with Mrs. Kenneth Kurtz accumulating the largest number, 4,494. Past presidents have been Mrs. Harold Leonard, Mrs. Sidney Woods, and Mrs. Walter Burns. Four active members who have given service in the hospital are Annabelle Evans, Mary Kay Leonard, Rita Abromson and Jean Kurtz.

Unit IV's president, Mrs. Eugene Evans sorts patients' mail while working at the reception desk of the hospital.



About 1802, Clement Burleigh, one of our early settlers, set aside grounds for the use of all Christian denominations, along what was later called Church Street. Although no photograph of the old "Meeting House" graveyard has been discovered, Albert's county history of 1882 provides this description of the grounds where the borough's Municipal Building now stands:

Loaned by W. Hixon



This 1910 photograph shows the main gate of the Mount Pleasant Cemetery, on the east side of Braddock Road Avenue. The land, originally called "Mount Joy", is the high point of land in the borough.

THE OLD UNITED PRESBYTERIAN GRAVEYARD

lies just back of its church, on Church Street, but is now abandoned for burial purposes. It was the first and only graveyard in the village, and among the old settlers are the following interments:

John Shupe, Sr., died Nov. 12, 1861, aged 81.
 George Fults, died April 14, 1827, aged 71; his wife, Elizabeth, died April 3, 1836, aged 81.
 Rev. Daniel Warman, born Dec. 3, 1786, died Aug. 19, 1862; his wife, Elizabeth, died Feb. 12, 1855, aged 66.
 George Warman, died March 13, 1824, aged 72; his wife, Catharine, died Nov. 26, 1834, aged 78; their son, Daniel, died March 9, 1836, aged 39.
 Simon Stickle, died Sept. 4, 1847, aged 89.
 Samuel Shrader, born Jan. 30, 1797, died Sept. 2, 1866.
 Mary Shepherd, died Nov. 16, 1854, aged 73.
 Margaret, wife of Daniel Clair, died Sept. 1, 1848, aged 32.
 William Anderson, died Aug. 29, 1843, aged 79.
 Ann J. Anderson, died April 25, 1855, aged 50.
 Jane Anderson, died June 10, 1833, aged 71.
 Mary Anderson, died May 15, 1837, aged 42.
 Alexander Anderson, died May 12, 1832, aged 27.
 John Lippincott Anderson, died Sept. 14, 1824, aged 26.
 Samuel Clark, born July 26, 1808, died May 13, 1845; his wife, Sarah, died April 4, 1846, aged 61.
 Samuel Shupe, died Sept. 9, 1845, aged 59.
 Elizabeth, wife of Samuel Coldsmith, born Oct. 2, 1786, died Dec. 30, 1834; her husband died Aug. 31, 1846, aged 62.
 Sophia Stanley, died July 23, 1834, aged 39.
 Samuel Ford, died Oct. 6, 1834, aged 75.
 John Shupe, died April 2, 1835, aged 84; his wife, Mary, died May, 1843, aged 86.
 Catherine, wife of John Shupe, born March 15, 1786, died Oct. 17, 1836.
 Matilda, wife of J. Miller, born May 5, 1829, died Dec. 13, 1863.
 John Hawkins, Sr., died April 5, 1847, aged 56.
 Rosanna, wife of Henry Hawkins, born May 3, 1818, died March 16, 1838.
 Jacob Rupert, died Sept. 14, 1832, aged 40.
 Catherine Cook, born March 23, 1794, died Feb. 23, 1847.
 Samuel Brechbill, died Dec. 28, 1846, aged 22.
 John Zarger, died Feb. 25, 1847, aged 75.
 James Morrow, died Dec. 21, 1842, aged 66; his wife, Jane, died March 6, 1855, aged 66.
 Jane, wife of Jacob Stahl, died Jan. 16, 1841, aged 48.
 Josiah Mitchell, died July 9, 1830, aged 26.
 John J. Heminger (Revolutionary soldier), born May 9, 1758, died April 5, 1842; his wife, Mary Ann, born Feb. 24, 1766, died Jan. 14, 1847.
 James M. Clark, died March 16, 1849, aged 51.
 Susan Myers, died Feb. 23, 1849, aged 79.
 Conrad Keister, died Oct. 7, 1844, aged 67; his wife, Susanna, died 1846.
 Sarah Keister, died Jan. 25, 1860, aged 41.
 Jacob Funk, died May 31, 1840, aged 70.
 Clement Burleigh, died March 28, 1822.
 John Gant, Sr., died Dec. 24, 1855, aged 82; his wife, Martha, died June 9, 1842, aged 75.
 Margaret Lippincott, died Sept. 1, 1833, aged 59.
 Nancy, wife of James Thompson, died April 14, 1865, aged 55.
 Marv Elcher, died Jan. 5, 1829, aged 57.
 George Leightberger, died Nov. 8, 1861, aged 79; his wife, Elizabeth, born Dec. 31, 1780, died May 13, 1847.
 Margaret, wife of J. Crumbaugh, died Aug. 31, 1858, aged 69.
 Charles Kelly, died Jan. 13, 1858, aged 79.
 Dorcas Kelly, died Sept. 23, 1847, aged 44.
 Mary Swartz, died Sept. 28, 1856, aged 66.

The Mount Pleasant Cemetery 1865

In the spring of 1770, the Neel Brothers, John and William, came into the newly opened western territory which was then part of Bedford county, bringing their sparse supplies and tools on pack horses from their native Lancaster County. The brothers took up lands a little north of the Glades Road and bisected by Braddock's Road; John got the land on the west in what later became Huntingdon Township and William took the tract on the east in what was to become Mountpleasant Township. In 1786 William Neel applied and received a patent on a tract called "Mount Joy" bounded on the south by the lands of Nathaniel and Joseph Marshall, on the east by lands of Patrick Jack, and on the north by the lands of John Bovard, paying 14 pounds, 10 and 4 lawful money for 208 acres.

Much of the land passed to his son, who died intestate; the land then passed to a grandnephew, James Neel. In 1865, five acres were sold to the newly formed corporation called the Mount Pleasant Cemetery: a section of their charter from Book 1857 Laws of Pennsylvania follows:

Section 1 . . . That James McConaughy, John Lloyd, Joseph Lippincott, Samuel Miller, B. Kempf, A. Overholt, Matthew McMillen, H. Eicher, A. Challenger, Jacob Stahl, Sr., David Metzgar, J. Sherrick, W.P. Griffith, A. Hitchman, B. Challenger, David Keister, Daniel Shupe, J. McCaleb and their successors and all persons who are now or who may be hereafter associated with them, by subscription, contribution, or as lot-owners, are now a body polity and corporate in law, by the name Style and title of the Mount Pleasant Cemetery.

In 1867 the cemetery land was cleared of the forest of black oak trees standing there and their roots removed. Gradually more land was added to the holdings of the corporation. In 1910 there were 18 acres; in 1978 this had grown to 50 acres divided into 14 sections with records showing over 7,500 interments. The present board of directors are: C.W. Cunningham, pres.; Ralph Stoner, Robert Shultz, Milton Kuhn, Joseph M. Piper, Joseph Thompson, Robert Jendras, and Thomas Copeland, sec'y-treas. Oliver S. Shields, who had served as president and member of the board for 40 years, retired recently.

From information provided by Tom Copeland and from the Land Patent Office, Harrisburg.

In the 1920s, in preparation for the building of a Nurse's Residence on the site of the old "Meeting House" graveyard behind the United Presbyterian Church, on Church Street, the tombstones and coffins there, many dating from the early 1800s, were unearthed and moved to the Mount Pleasant Cemetery. These old markers can be seen just east of the north gate.



This photograph taken in 1968 to document the construction site of the central fire house on South Church Street at Washington Street, ironically recorded the opposite corner with the Journal building, erected in the 1880s and the adjacent Knights of Columbus building. On Dec. 1, 1970, after almost a century of reporting events of others, the *Journal* became front page news: "*Journal and K. of C. buildings destroyed by fire*," proclaimed the banner headline of the *Mount Pleasant Journal*, Dec. 3, 1970.

The Mount Pleasant Journal 1873

Over the past 140 years Mount Pleasant has been served by a number of its own community newspapers. The newspaper with the longest history, and the only one of the publications to survive, is the *Mount Pleasant Journal*, which celebrated its centennial in 1973.

Although its earliest editions have been lost, sources indicate it was founded as the Mount Pleasant *Independent*, a four-column single sheet newspaper first published on Saturday, Oct. 19, 1872. E. B. Halsinger was editor and part owner. A. W. Fox, who owned a major share of the company, assisted in the publication until 1874 when it was purchased by A. C. Haverstick.

The newspaper had ceased to be published as the *Independent* in 1873 and the first edition of the *Mount Pleasant Journal* appeared June 5, 1873. Haverstick was succeeded by M. A. Cooper who published the *Mount Pleasant Dawn* from 1874 to 1881. Cooper sold the newspaper to J. A. Stevenson, who was the editor, and to Joseph A. McCurdy. McCurdy operated the newspaper (then the *Democratic Review*?) for about one year before selling it to John L. Shields and his brother-in-law, Daniel Kennedy, who formed the company of Kennedy and Shields on Dec. 1, 1882. The oldest newspapers in existence with the *Journal* masthead are from this period, dated 1883.

Shields purchased his partner's interest in 1885; the following year he enlarged the newspaper from a four to an eight page publication. Its circulation in 1906 was about 2,200. In 1923, after nearly 40 years as editor and publisher, Shields, ailing at the time, sold the newspaper to Howard M. Stoner, who operated a printing shop across the street, and to Clark Queer.

Queer served as editor while Stoner was in charge of production. On March 29, 1963, Stoner and Queer sold their interest to the newly formed Mount Pleasant Publishing Corporation: H. Ralph Hernley was president; D. Byron Yake was the newspaper's managing editor; W. Scott Lane, who had served under Stoner and Queer, was news editor. In October of 1976, after more than 51 years with the newspaper, Scott Lane retired.

Since the resignation of Yake in 1968, three editors have served the *Journal*. Eugene D. Miller, who held the operation together during the relocation following the Journal building fire in 1970, was succeeded by Thomas W. Wertz in 1974. When the Mount Pleasant Publishing Corporation, having expanded to include three other weekly newspapers, named Wertz as managing editor of the Laurel Group newspapers on Jan. 1, 1976, Leonard D. DeCarlo became the editor of the Mount Pleasant Journal.

During its history, the day of publication for the *Journal* has varied. At present it is published on Wednesdays.

From material submitted by Leonard D. DeCarlo

From a bibliography of Pennsylvania newspapers, published in 1969, the following list is taken:

Mount Pleasant

Mount Pleasant *REGISTER*, weekly, 1838-1940.

DEMOCRATIC courier and literary gazette, 1843. (Norval W. Truxel, ed.; D. H. Wakefield, ass'ted.)

TEMPERANCE banner, 1845-1846.

INDEPENDENT, weekly, 1872-1873.

Mount Pleasant *JOURNAL*, weekly, 1873

DAWN, weekly, 1875-1881?

DEMOCRATIC REVIEW, weekly, 1882.

TIMES and mining journal, weekly, 1879.

STAR, daily and weekly, 1897-1901.

Besides the Journal's weekly publication, four daily newspapers currently circulate in Mount Pleasant: the Greensburg *TRIBUNE REVIEW* and the Connellsville *DAILY COURIER* with the largest circulation; the Pittsburgh *PRESS* and the Pittsburgh *POST GAZETTE*.

The staff of the Journal in 1978 posed in the newsroom for their own camera, from the left: Barbara L. Zema, receptionist; Audrey Soforic, society editor; Hope Stephan and Paul Brittain, reporters; Charles D. Hixson, advertising representative; Leonard D. DeCarlo, editor.



This reference in the Mount Pleasant Dawn, and several made in editorials addressed to mothers who left their daughters walk unescorted on Main Street to the "downtown library" (1874) show that a library existed in Mount Pleasant a century ago, although no other record has been found.

Thursday, April 8th 1874.

SHORT STOPS.

Warm weather.

Look out for the spring bonnets.

Sleeping in Church is in order now.

Now is the time to clean the streets.

Church Street is a terrible place for music, and they say its increasing.

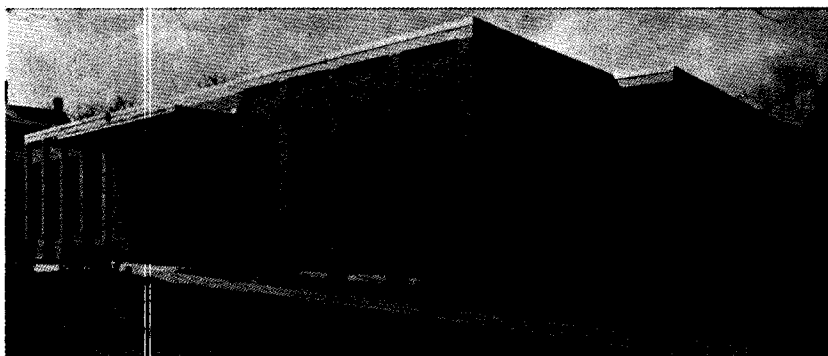
Does any person know what has become of the Mt. Pleasant Library Association?

On November 21, 1957, *Opal Berthel* was named "Woman of the Year" at a dinner sponsored by the Kiwanis. Representatives from the entire community gathered at the National Hotel to honor and praise this woman who after retirement from a teaching career stayed among the books



and children she loved by becoming the town librarian. She modestly explained: "I just wanted to help out until another librarian could be found, and stayed for 16 years." Born on January 14, 1884, Miss Berthel now resides at the St. Paul Home in Greenville, Pa.

The 1978 Library Association Board, seated: Helen Robinson, librarian; Margaret Donnelly, treas.; Jill Cook; Estelle Blackburn; standing: John Stephan, Frank Uhrin, v. pres.; Richard Stahl, pres.; Don Bittner, sec'y. Directors not present: Albert Kozak and Beverly Schroll. Mrs. Blackburn, who chaired the association's first meeting in 1938, has served as a director continuously for the past 40 years.



Jim Cook Photo

The Mount Pleasant Free Public Library 1938

In February of 1938 members of the Junior Woman's Club of Mount Pleasant and other citizens of the borough, recognizing the need for a public library held a public meeting. Mrs. Estelle Blackburn chaired this meeting where by-laws and nominating committees were appointed. On March 17, 1939, the Mount Pleasant Library Association formed with the following elected board of directors: Rev. V. O. Barnhart, pres.; Henry Abromson, v. pres.; Mrs. Howard Stoner, sec'y.; Mrs. Samuel Warden, treas.; Mrs. Estelle Blackburn, Mrs. G. Clifford Singley, John C. Haberlen, B. J. Murphy and Miss Opal Berthel.

WPA help was made available to prepare a room donated for library use by the school board. Miss Coretta White of Bridgeport was named librarian. An operating budget for the first year of \$1500 was approved and the Mount Pleasant Free Public Library opened in November of 1939 in a room on the first floor of the First Ward school building. When the WPA assistance came to an end in 1942, borough council agreed to contribute certain sums annually upon the condition that the association would conduct a subscription drive yearly for private donations. The school board continued to furnish the library room and for awhile the utilities were provided.

In 1946 Miss Opal Berthel, a recently retired school teacher and a member of the association board since its beginning, became the *temporary librarian*. Her temporary assignment became a second career that lasted 16 years. Upon Miss Berthel's retirement in 1962, Miss Helen Robinson of Connellsville became librarian.

In 1965 plans for a new library facility began to be formulated; the First Ward school building had been condemned and the library was the only remaining occupant. The architectural firm of Gordon Pierce of Greensburg was commissioned to design a new library building. Milton Munk and Lawrence Rehanek were named building-fund chairmen. The library association became an agent of the borough to provide library service to the community, with two members of council being appointed annually to the association's board.

From late 1966 until January of 1970 the library was housed in the ground floor of the former Frick Hospital nurses' residence, made available through the borough after their purchase of this building, the old hospital and a house facing on Church Street. In 1967 Council approved the building of a new library facility on the site of the Church street house. Subsequently the condemned First Ward school building was sold to the borough for one dollar and a new central fire station was proposed for this site. In March of 1968, plans for the library and fire station building sites were interchanged, permitting easier inlet and outlet for fire equipment and the building of the library upon its original location. The school building was demolished in the summer of 1968.

The new facility was dedicated Sunday, January 11, 1970. With state allocated funds and generous contributions by individuals, organizations



Left: in 1949 the children enjoying a summer reading program conducted by Miss Berthel, gathered outside of the library room at the side of the First Ward School on Church Street: first row: Bill Pakulskin, Don Porterfield, Connie Yancosky, Cheryl Glick, Dianne Breakiron, Tom Zellers, Suzy Spence, Rita Sebek, Patty Sebek, Bernard Paladino, John Kaminsky, _____; 2nd row: Jackie Macaluso, Angelina Costabile, Priscilla Spence, Connie Crosby, Esther Breakiron, Jean Jurella, Sanna Rozell, Bob Andrews, Jeanne Crawford, Ruthanne Harrer, John Muir, Bill Zellers, Kristin Haberlen, Jimmy Paladino; 3rd row: Sandy Spence, _____, Anna Yancosky, Phyllis Porterfield, Mary Ann Buczek, Patty Liska, Bonnie Smetak, Sandy Kastner, Jim Rozell, Jane Keimbrook, Ron Smetak.

and foundations, the new \$176,000 building was completely paid for when it opened.

Nearly forty years after its founding, the Mount Pleasant Free Public Library continues to be an important part of the educational and cultural life of the community. Its collection includes more than 20,000 titles with 247 new ones added in 1977, 300 reference books, 250 photograph records, and 70 current magazines and periodicals and 5 newspapers.

From material submitted by Don Bittner.

Our Authors: Among the books in our library are works by four writers who were born, schooled or resided in the Mount Pleasant area:

The Toy Circus, 1963; Ruth Stephens Porter. Born in Mount Pleasant in 1885, Ruth Stephens attended the Western Pennsylvania Scientific and Classical Institute where her father, Dr. Leroy Stephens, was principal for many years. In 1905 she graduated magna cum laude from Bucknell University. In 1920 she wrote *Songs of the Seasons* with words by her sister, Alif Stephens, published by Willis and Co. She contributed regularly to 24 different educational and children's publications and her songs and poems appeared in 5 school music readers. A resident of St. Petersburg, Fla. since 1934, she died there in 1965.

(From material provided by Bucknell University)

In The Time of the Lily, 1975; Gladys Hazel Freed. A scholar, teacher and writer, Gladys Freed, born in Hammondville in 1900, received her A.B. degree from the University of Pittsburgh and her M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Chicago. A classical language scholar, she studied at the American Academy in Rome, Italy on a Ryerson Fellowship in Archaeology. A teacher of English and classical languages at Ramsay High School in the 1940s and 1950s. Dr. Freed, before retirement, had inspired students at three high schools and four colleges with her quiet, competent yet demanding methods. Two years before her death while living on East Main Street, her first book, a fictional account of the life of an Amish girl, was published. Its title, *In the Time of the Lily*, might be used to eulogize Dr. Freed's years devoted to education.

Rotten Ralph, Fair Weather Friends and Sleepy Ronald, 1976; Jack Cantos. A 28 year-old former area resident and student at Norvelt Elementary school before his family moved to the West Indies, Jack attended the College of the Virgin Islands, later receiving a B.A. in writing from Emerson College in Boston. Autographed copies of his three children's picture books, published by Houghton Mifflin Company have been donated to the library. Jack, who lives in Boston, has a new book soon to be published, *A Scream for Aunt Bernice*.

How to Get More Miles per Gallon, 1978; Robert Sikorsky. A 1954 graduate of Ramsay High School, Bob, whose home was on West Smithfield Street, attended Penn State University, later receiving his degree from the University of Tucson, Ariz. Recently he teamed his knowledge as petroleum geologist with his skills as a writer to produce two timely books. The first, *Every Driver's Guide*, a technical work used primarily by governmental agencies, was followed by *How to Get More Miles per Gallon*, a publication for the everyday motorist interested in conserving fuel. A copy of his "how to" book published by St. Maartin Press, was donated to the library by Mr. Sikorsky, who lives with his wife and son in Tucson.

From material compiled by Helen Robinson.

Gladys H. Freed



Robert Sikorsky



Beginning in 1973, a group of library volunteers organized an annual used book sale as part of the Nationality Days celebration. For the past five years, rain or shine, their bookstall has appeared on the south west corner of the Memorial Square, attracting both young and old readers. Officers of the volunteers are: Betty Keller, pres.; Carol Kloczek, v. pres.; Jodi Lupher, sec'y.; Jill Cook, treas.

Nancy Macaluso Photo

