
Harrison Finney

Harrison Finney, 79, of Amanda, died Thursday, 6 p. m., in the Marshall Clair Rest Home, Columbus, where he had been taken five weeks ago.

He leaves a brother, David Finney, of Ashville, and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services will be held Saturday, 2:30 p. m. (slow time), from the Crites and Van Cleve funeral home in Amanda, with the Rev. Clarence Stewart officiating and burial made in Amanda-tp cemetery.

Friends may call at the Crites Van Cleve funeral home any time.

More Articles on Harrison Finney

Jo Baumgartner <mrsb2185@gmail.com>

Mon 4/4/2022 6:01 PM

To: villageofamanda@hotmail.com <villageofamanda@hotmail.com>

Hi again...found a few more on Harrison Finney. Just for your records.
If you can't open any of these please let me know. I will try again. Thanks!

--

Respectfully Yours,

Jo Baumgartner

Franklin County Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T)
Franklin County Emergency Management and Homeland Security Volunteer
Moulage Artist & Instructor Medical Reserve Corp (MRC) Volunteer
National Weather Service Trained Weather Spotter
Amateur Radio KD8SQG
Volunteer Damage Assessment Specialist
Lead FCEM&HS Moulage Unit

The bond of Harrison Finney of Amanda, whose indictment on three bills, for rape, rape with consent and incest, was reported in a partial report by the jury, was fixed at \$1500.

WIFE GETS DIVORCE ON THE GROUNDS OF CRUELTY

A divorce has been granted Emma Finney from Harrison Finney on the grounds of extreme cruelty. She is also restored to her maiden name of Emma McDougale and is given a clear title to real estate in Amanda, from which Harrison Finney is divested of his dower right. In lieu of alimony, she is also given his share of this real estate and all personal property, except two chairs, one bureau and his bed and bedding, and all pictures and books owned by him. The plaintiff is ordered to pay Harrison Finney \$100 and also the cost of the divorce suit. Frank Acton represents the plaintiff and M. A. Daugherty the defendant.

Harrison Finney Articles

Jo Baumgartner <mrsb2185@gmail.com>

Mon 4/4/2022 6:00 PM

To: villageofamanda@hotmail.com <villageofamanda@hotmail.com>

Hi Carrie,

It was so nice talking to you today. Here are a few articles mentioning Harrison Finney and/or Amanda. I have a few more but they are almost exactly alike just in other papers.

Thank you for checking records for me. Good luck getting those records scanned for digital use. I will call back later in the year and check in with you.

Have an awesome day!

--

Respectfully Yours,

Jo Baumgartner

Franklin County Community Emergency Response Team (C.E.R.T)
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HE PLAYS HARRY TRACY

AND IS FATALLY SHOT

Stoutsville, O., Oct. 27.—Playing "Harry Tracy" will result fatally for John Tope, aged thirty, and unmarried. He was a resident of Lancaster, and under the influence of drink became boisterous. He boarded a train for Amanda. On the train he told the passengers that he was a bad man, and that his name was Harry Tracy and he could prove that he was a better man than his Far West namesake because he was still alive. Becoming more troublesome, he finally got into a quarrel with the conductor. At Amanda he left the train, and again became quarrelsome. Constable Harrison finally tried to quiet him. He explained to the officer that he was not to be interfered with and motioned as if to draw his gun, whereupon Harrison drew his own pistol and shot Tope in the breast.

HISTORIC CONTEXT

("How We Got Here")

5.23.05
DRAFT COPY
FOR REVIEW ONLY

- There are several accounts of the founding of Amanda. What is known is that William Hamilton surveyed southwestern Fairfield County and established Amanda Township in November, 1805. It has been popularly assumed that he named the township after a loved one. The Village of Amanda was dedicated in November, 1819, by Samuel Keslar, using the same name that had been chosen for the township by Hamilton. The 64 original lots were platted around the intersection of Main Street and Center (now Johns) Street. As late as 1850, just over 200 persons resided in Amanda, Ohio.
- The Cincinnati & Muskingum Valley (C&MV) Railroad was constructed through the Village in 1852. The railroad provided needed access to markets for grain and farm products, and, over the course of time, the Village became a primary market center for the surrounding farmlands. During the late 1850's, over 400,000 bushels of grain were shipped annually from Amanda on the C&MV.
- The surrounding agricultural lands have traditionally been the mainstay of Amanda's economy. The area around the Village - particularly to the north - is still regarded as some of the most productive farmland in Fairfield County.
- During the 1920's, the path of U.S. 22 was established following Main Street through Amanda. During the Depression of the 1930's, Amanda fared better than many communities, due to the relative stability of its agricultural economic base.
- At the end of WWII, Stanford Johns established Midwest Fabricating, using initial financing raised primarily from Village residents. Today, Midwest manufactures a range of metal components for the automotive and power equipment industries. Currently, Midwest Fabricating has over \$23 million in annual sales and employs over 200 at its headquarters in the Village.

- Traditional industry provided economic diversity that has been a principal component in the Village's survival in the face of changing economic realities. By the late 1950's, the railroad had been abandoned (Amanda never witnessed the full conversion from steam to diesel). In 1967, U.S. 22 was rerouted around the northern part of the Village. Many of the traditional community-based businesses that lined Main Street have closed. A single grain elevator still services the farm economy.

TABLE ONE

**DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE / 2000 CENSUS
Amanda and Selected Communities**

	FAIRFIELD COUNTY	AMANDA TOWNSHIP	VILLAGE OF AMANDA	LANCASTER	BREMEN	ASHVILLE
2000 POPULATION	122,759	2,429	707	35,336	1,265	3,174
1990 POPULATION	103,461	2,262	729	34,507	1,386	2,254
% CHANGE/1990-2000	18.7%	7.4%	-3.0%	2.4%	-8.7%	40.8%
PERSONS / HSHLD	2.70	2.79	2.76	2.37	2.62	2.58
AGE						
% <5	7.0	6.2	8.8	7.7	7.5	8.7
% 5-14	15.3	15.6	16.0	13.1	17.3	16.7
% 15-24	12.5	10.9	9.9	13.1	12.6	13.9
% 25-44	30.2	29.9	32.9	29.0	29.3	33.7
% 45-64	23.8	25.4	18.4	21.1	20.0	17.7
% 65>	11.1	11.3	14.0	16.0	13.1	9.3
MEDIAN AGE	36.2	37.0	33.8	35.9	35.0	31.3
% POP <18	26.8	27.2	29.1	24.6	29.6	29.6
% POP 16> IN LABOR FORCE	68.2	63.1	58.4	63.8	66.3	66.6
% OF LABOR FORCE in						
PROFESSIONAL/MGMNT	32.2	24.2	18.0	23.8	22.2	21.1
SERVICE, SALES, OFFICE	42.1	37.3	43.4	46.3	46.0	44.8
LABORERS (inc. Farms)	25.8	38.5	38.6	29.0	31.8	34.0
MEDIAN HH INCOME	\$47,962	\$41,104	\$40,114	\$33,321	\$38,036	\$40,776
HOUSING						
OCCUPIED HSG UNITS	45,425	872	256	14,852	483	1,243
% OWNER-OCC	76.3	81.0	73.0	59.4	74.7	57.1
% RENTER-OCC	23.7	19.0	27.0	40.6	25.3	42.9
% HSG STOCK <1939	20.4	41.8%	46.4	28.1	56.0	27.5
% HSG STOCK 1980-2000	26.1	20.8%	10.5	18.0	4.0	41.1
MEDIAN VALUE/OWNER-OCC HSG	\$129,500	\$96,000	\$87,200	\$92,500	\$86,100	\$116,300
% OWNER-OCC HSG <\$100,000	31.2	56.5%	81.6	60.2	71.5	41.2
% OWNER-OCC HSG \$200,000>	12.6	5.6%	0.0	4.6	.6	0.6

TABLE TWO**DEMOGRAPHIC COMPARISON / 1990 - 2000
Village of Amanda**

	2000	1990
POPULATION	707	729
OCCUPIED DWELLING UNITS (DUs)	256	261
OWNER-OCCUPIED	73%	74%
RENTER-OCCUPIED	27%	26%
MEDIAN VALUE / OWNER-OCCUPIED DUs	\$87,200	\$43,600
% OF OWNER-OCCUPIED DUs <\$50,000	4.5%	63%
% OF OWNER-OCCUPIED DUs <\$100,000	81.6%	100%
AGE		
% <5	8.8%	7.1%
% 5-17	20.3%	24.6%
% 25-44	32.9%	30.4%
% 45-64	18.4%	18.6%
% 65>	14.0%	11.2%
HOUSEHOLDS	256	261
% FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS	79.3%	78.1%
% NON-FAMILY HOUSEHOLDS	20.7%	21.8%
PERSONS / HOUSEHOLD	2.76	2.79

DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE

TABLE ONE portrays key social and economic data for Amanda, as reported in the 2000 Census. Like data is included for Fairfield County and Amanda Township. (Data for Amanda Township includes the Village of Amanda). For comparative purposes, similar data is included for the City of Lancaster, Bremen and Ashville, Ohio. Bremen, in southeast Fairfield County, is a small village which - like Amanda - has not yet experienced significant growth pressure. Ashville, in nearby Pickaway County, is a larger community which experienced substantial growth during the 1990's. Over 41% of the housing stock in Ashville was constructed after 1980's.

TABLE TWO shows comparative demographic data for the Village of Amanda for the 1990 and 2000 Census

- In TABLE ONE, the best indicator of residential growth that has occurred in the listed communities is reflected in the figures for the percentage of the housing stock built 1980-2000.
- The demographic characteristics of the Village of Amanda displayed a high degree of stability from 1990-2000. Household size, which declined in most communities, only decreased from 2.79 to 2.76 in Amanda.
- *Age distribution* is an important determinant of community character. In Amanda, the percentage of the total population aged 25-44 increased from 30.4% in 1990 to 32.9% in 2000, and the population over 65 increased markedly, from 11.2% in 1990 to 14.0% in 2000; all other age cohorts declined. In most communities, the share of total population aged 45-64 (the first wave of the "baby boomers" increased substantially during the 1990's; in Amanda, it actually declined slightly, from 18.6% to 18.4%.
- The percentage of the population in the labor force is lower in Amanda than in comparable communities. Following national trends, the employment of Amanda residents is shifting from traditional labor fields to services. The 2000 Census reported that just over 38% of the Amanda labor force were engaged in

farming, production, assembly and similar traditional manufacturing-based jobs. (According to Midwest Fabricating staff, less than five employees reside in the Village.) Conversely, service, sales and office jobs made up 43% of the labor force. Amanda reports a somewhat lower percentage of professional and managerial employees than other comparison communities.

- Significant residential growth typically impacts a community's age distribution. Generally, the percentage of elderly (over 65) decreases as growth occurs. Another likely impact of residential growth for a small community is the increase in school age (under 18) population. During the 1990's, the percentage of school age population increased in Ashville. It should - of course - be emphasized that the *type* of residential growth that a community receives determines the impacts on age cohorts.
- *Median household income* is regarded as a key measure of market potential, particularly for commercial growth. Amanda's median household income was \$40,114 in 2000. Typically, as new residential growth occurs, median income levels will increase.
- Just over 46% of the housing stock in Amanda was constructed prior to 1939. This figure is typical for older villages not yet subject to substantial growth pressure. Obviously - as the data for comparison communities shows - this percentage decreases as new residential construction occurs.
- The median value of owner-occupied housing in Amanda is significantly lower than in unincorporated Amanda Township and Fairfield County. It should be noted that, in communities like Amanda with a relatively high share of older housing, the aggregate value of housing is usually constrained.

SCHOOLS

Schools are an important image-builder for the local community. According to real estate professionals and residents, the reputation of the schools is an important factor in attracting residential growth and - ultimately - businesses.

The Amanda-Clearcreek School District encompasses most of Amanda, Clearcreek and Madison Townships, as well as the western third of Hocking Township, in southwest Fairfield County. The district is unique in that all students K-12 are housed in a new state-of-the-art single two-building complex in the Village. K-2 students are housed in the new building on School Street, while grades 3-12 students are housed in the large structure on the east side of the Village.

There is strong local pride in the school system. The football program is recognized statewide; autumn football Friday nights in Amanda attain festival status. The alumni organization is one of the best endowed in the State of Ohio, and numerous local scholarships are available to Amanda-Clearcreek students.

Enrollment in the school district shows a pattern of slow but steady growth in student enrollment over the past five (5) years. Virtually all growth has been in the elementary and middle school population:

YEAR (OCT.)	K-8	9-12*	TOTAL
1999	1,069	441	1,510
2000	1,144	456	1,600
2001	1,128	404	1,532
2002	1,141	414	1,555
2003	1,162	426	1,588
2004	1,166	440	1,606

*** Does not include vocational students housed elsewhere. Since 2001, the average of this enrollment is 43 students.**

The new school facility complex was designed to accommodate a total student population of 2,200-2,400 students. Typically, school facilities are programmed within a context of a 10-15 year time frame. Using this

approach, the district is well positioned to accommodate growth, particularly in the short term.

School districts have traditionally relied on property taxes for the bulk of their revenues. Under this system, the *type* of growth that a community experienced has substantial long-term impacts upon its ability to service that growth. Suburban residential development usually does not provide sufficient revenue to fund school operations. In particular, "starter homes" - at the low-middle end of the price spectrum - typically result in higher aggregate student enrollment for a longer time period. Commercial or industrial growth - which contributes revenue but no students - is typically sought. In a similar manner, active farmland contributes more in aggregate tax revenue than it consumes in services.

UTILITIES

Public Water

The existing water system in Amanda was constructed in the early 1950's. The water treatment plant is located south of the Village on Amanda-Southern Road, surrounded by a Village-owned park and playfield facility. The system is fed by two (2) wells. Treatment is by chlorination. The peak daily capacity of the plant is approximately 85,000 gallons per day (gpd), while the current average flows are in the range of 72,000 gpd. Storage is provided by a 155,000 gallon standpipe located on Kirby Avenue. The capacity of the current treatment and storage facilities meet or exceed standards for the present population of the Village. Although the water produced by the plant meets or exceeds present standards, some objections have been voiced by resident users pertaining to the degree of "hardness" and/or iron content.

Most of the distribution system is comprised of 4"-6" lines. Water pressure is good in virtually all areas of the Village. Due to the relatively young age of the system, repair and/or replacement of lines has not been significant. One potential concern is the extensive use of asbestos cement ("transite") water pipe. This type of inexpensive pipe was used extensively in the 1950's, when Amanda's system was constructed.

The Village is in the initial stages of a major water improvement project. A new water plant will be constructed with a capacity of 400,000 gpd - essentially a four fold increase from the present facility. Although the initial project called for the replacement of the existing storage facility, the condition and capacity of the current standpipe allows for postponement of this component. The overall cost of the proposed project is estimated at over \$2 million, to be funded by bonds.

Analysis of the current system, along with proposed improvements, points to the following needs:

- Aggregate raw water supplies should be expanded by development of a third well. The existing wellfield is located so as to minimize issues related to wellfield protection and required spacing of wells.
- Overall quality of the water should be improved to address issues expressed by system users.
- The current water user rate structure will not support planned improvements.

Public Sewers

The relatively level terrain and presence of multiple small watersheds in Amanda are factors that constrain sewer construction. This may be one reason why the development of central sewers within the Village was relatively recent. The system was designed and constructed in the late 1980's-early 1990's. Due to its relatively recent origin, maintenance or replacement issues have been minor.

The sewage treatment facility is located southwest of the Village, along the abandoned railroad right-of-way. The plan provides basic treatment by a system of three (3) unaerated lagoons. The overall capacity of the plant is estimated at 65,000-70,000 gpd. According to the Village Engineer, the capacity of the plant could be minimally increased by adding aeration to the treatment process.

Generally, communities strive for sewer systems that are as simple and basic as possible, primarily to reduce future operations and maintenance costs. In many cases, systems with lower initial construction costs have higher long term costs. Gravity systems are favored over systems including pump stations, force mains or other components subject to future maintenance. The physical landscape in particular areas around Amanda may preclude such "simple solutions."

Amanda's sewer collection system spans two (2) smaller watersheds, basically separated by School Street. Areas to the east of School Street drain - by gravity - to a pump station at the eastern terminus of Church Street. From this point, sewage is conveyed to a second lift station in the western part of the Village, where - combined with flows from areas west of School Street - it is conveyed to the treatment plant via a 4" force main.

In evaluating annexation potential, most communities will carefully consider not only the initial capital costs of infrastructure to the annexed site, but also the future costs associated with operations and maintenance, particularly if mechanical appurtenances are involved. Generally, many areas subject to annexation south of US 22 can be served by gravity sewers. Service to most areas north of US 22 will involve pumping facilities.

become quarrelsome. Constable Harrison Finney tried to quiet him. He explained to Finney that he was Tracy and not to be interfered with, but the constable thought differently. Then he feigned to draw a gun, but Finney was there first and sent a bullet through his abdomen. Finney says he did not intend to shoot.

Shot by a Constable.

Stoutsville, Oct. 28.—Playing "Harry Tracey" will result fatally for John Tope, aged 30, of Lancaster. He boarded a train for Amanda. On the train he told the passengers he was a bad man and that his name was Harry Tracey. He finally got into a quarrel with the conductor. At Amanda, Constable Harrison Finney tried to quiet him. He started to draw a gun, but Finney was there first and sent a bullet through his abdomen.

PLAYED

That He Was Harry Tracey.

An Ohio "Bad Man" Fatally Shot by an Officer.

Stoutsville, O., Oct. 27.—Playing "Harry Tracy" will result fatally for John Tope, aged 30, and unmarried. He was a resident of Lancaster, and under the influence of drink, became boisterous. He went to the depot and boarded a train for Amanda. On the train he told the passengers that he was a bad man and that his name was Harry Tracy and he could prove that he was a better man than his far-west namesake, because he was still alive. Becoming more troublesome, he finally got into a quarrel with the conductor. At Amanda he left the train and again

Amanda's Early Days

The first settler in area Frederick Leathers kept a tavern in SE part of the where Amanda is today and Isaac Griffith ran it to 1818-1855. Old Chill road. Hewed logs, 2 stories. Burned in 1858. Neighbors at that time in township were Abram Kestler, Abram Myres, John Wesheiner, David Leathers, Samuel Leathers, Gardner, Wm Hamilton, M. Shallenbarger, Martin Landis, Vanmeter, John Leis Kirkwood, John Swoyer, Daniel Conrad, M. Nigh, Daniel Peters.

1. Samuel Kesler laid out a town in Section 35 in Nov. 18, 1819. *- wife Polly* $\begin{array}{r} 1818 \\ -1819 \\ \hline 191 \text{ years} \end{array}$
Township also in November, 180~~0~~ *Couldn't write 1805*
2. 64 Lots - Main St. E and W. and Center St. N and S. - 66 feet - *1820*
3. No. 1 was in NE corner
4. Nine sold the first day, Jacob Weaver, Elizabeth Grover, David Leather, Jacob Conrad, and Martin Miller, Jacob Mouser, first blacksmith, 3 lots on Main.
5. Mr. Spitler was shoe and boot maker
6. Mr. Potts, cooper
7. Joseph Reed, first merchant, a wheelbarrow of goods 8. Joseph Temple and Henry Sunderman followed as merchants 9. Some delinquent lots sold for \$1.10 to \$1.33 in 1827.
10. Four businesses listed in 1830- tavern, blacksmith, barrel maker, and shoemaker, and school teacher.
11. Rocky addition in 1844.
12. Early residents, Abraman Christy, Selby Woward, George Nye, and Samuel Dum, first mill. Conrads were blacksmiths.
13. First school on Lot 4 on High across from church and library. Solomon Grover, Then Margaret Griffith granted land in 1855 where primary is.
14. First church Methodist, 1834, now Lutherans in 1884, and Pres. In 1838 on their site.
15. First PO by Joseph Reed, probably in his store.
16. Sunderan brought the C. and MV railroad to Amanda, he had 3 story brick for warehouse, store and telegraph office.
17. Some say 2 grain and flour mills, 3 hotels, 7 general stores, lumber yard, cement works, by Jim Moody where skating rink is, hardware shops, and drug store.
18. Eventually 3 doctors, dentist, veterinarian, 2 funeral homes, 2 banks, an opera house, 3 newspapers, telephone company, photographer, and gas company.
19. Huston Grain building for hay and in 1910 became a canning factory, peas and beans, closed when farmers went to corn. Started Reichelderfers then Sears-Nichols. Became Huston Mill.
20. - Strayer's drugs, Tatmans' barbership, Hiatt's Grocery, Dickson's Store, and Young's Garage, Clearcreek Valley Bank, and Houston Grain Elevator. Dickson started by John and Ray and bought out by son Lloyd in 1919.
21. In the 1920 a man would come with a projector and show movies in town.
22. Hiatt's and Dickson had huckster wagons coming to each house. Deliver groceries and exchange goods.
23. Several restaurants, glove factory, icehouses, bakeries by Meisse and Griffith, two butcher shops by Balthaser and Noldy.
24. Herb Young sold Maxwell cars, Model T's and A's. Sold in depression.
25. General store on Main and Johns by Balthaser
26. Funeral home where Grange stands.
27. Old furniture store beside PO owned by Lape, then Welch and Dum and old school books.
28. After the 30's two saloons shut down.
29. Gas station where Rudy's was, and the Tavern restaurant sold good ice cream. Weaver owned both.
30. Stanton Johns started factory in 1945. Died in 82, library in 87. 46 Doc Ayers came and R. still there. Bill and Glenna Crook started Greenhouse. 46
31. 1950's the roller rink by Chester Shaeffer. Amanda Furniture in the 50's by Elsie Dickson Bookman. 3 gas stations. 51 water tower, S. Johns gave labor for firehouse. 59 Lew Taylor came to town, youngest business owner in state.
32. 1960's 22 by-passed. 1960 school together, Dickson closed in 66.

In early yearbooks,

1912-Dickson Hardware(Studebaker, buggy or wagon
Huston and Swope Co. (Mill
H. C Fogler(DDS
W A Cromley-Phy and Surgeon
Farmers and Merchants Bank Co.
K. W. Nye (Water Wells
H. G.Hiatt (Groceries, etc.
West Side Lumber and Manufacturing Co.
Amanda Milling Co. Webb Bros.
G A Lutz and Son, dry goods, Auto supplies.
P T and LE Conrad, buggies and carriages, horse shoeing.
Metler Bros, General Merchandise, groceries
Ag. Implements- Helm
Balthaser's-meats, groceries, and undertaking
H. G. Lutz, shaving parlor
The Democrat- semi-weekly
The Amanda Cement Products Co.- Moody- JD and RP

1910-Ed. Middleton-registered Pharamacist

Water Well-Nye
Lutz Bros- Groceries and dry goods
The Bank
E J Lilly, MD
J E Hewetson MD
W E Shadrach- Dentist
F M Moore-meat market
V E Barr-Insurance and notary public
The Amanda Press-Gortner
W Lape-contractor
Theodore Lape-Furniture

1917-Strayers Drug Store

Young's Garage-Buick, Ford
Johnston and Son-general merchandise
S B Swope-auctioneer
Kinser Jewelry Store-Elgin watches.
Bussert Bros-tinning and roofing
Sears and Nichols Canning Co.
Amanda Bakery
John Phillips-florist
F G Lutz- Laundry
Amanda Press
Friends Restaurant
Albert Conrad-groceries,sporting goods
C C Webb and E Webb-the Amanda Milling Co.
The New Lutz Hotel- Teahan and John Helm
S D Reichelderfer Insurance
Dickson Hardware Co.-Wilys and Overland Cars

X NOV. 1929

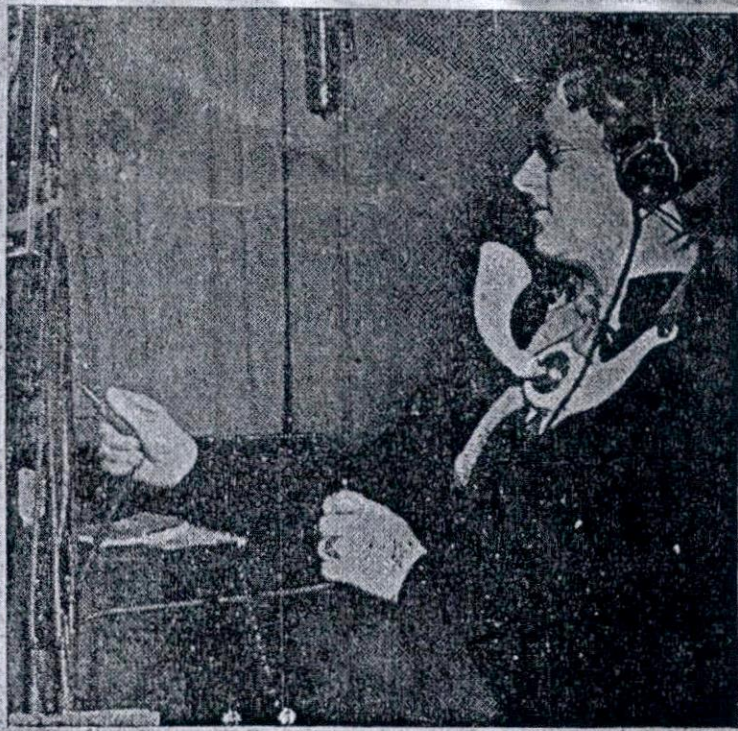
40 Years Ago

Eight places of business were burglarized at Amanda but in spite of their activity, the robbers netted less than 20 dollars for the evening's work. No merchandise was stolen in any of the stores robbed so far as could be determined. At Herbert Young's garage, \$9.50 in small cash was taken. At Mooney's Garage, fifty cents and at C. J. Nolte's meat market, only 35 cents, all in pennies, was obtained. The thieves got nothing at J. W. Dickson and Son General Store, nor at the office of the Huston Grain and Lumber Co., or the Pepper Oil Co. filling station. Six or seven dollars was taken from the E. P. Miesse Bakery. They made off with \$1.25 in pennies at Hiaty's Men's Furnishings Store. Sheriff Sesler and Deputy Crider spent most of the morning at the scene of the robberies, but there were few clues to be found. At no time during their activities were the thieves seen or heard. At Young's Garage it was evident the thieves knew something about the Dalton cash register system used there as they were able to open the self-locking device. A number of endorsed checks was handled by the robbers but left lying in the drawer after the money was removed. There was no night watchman at Amanda.



Ned R Young
304 E Mound St
Circleville OH 43113-1819

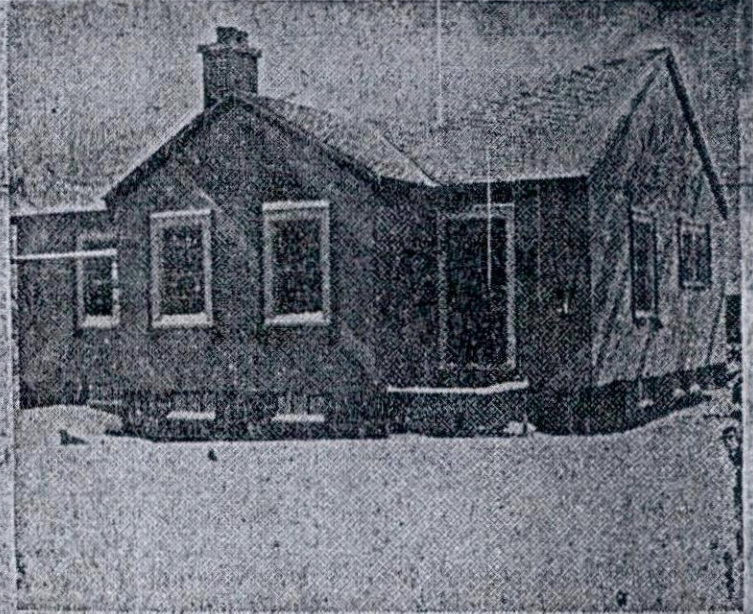
(1) [Illegible]



Mrs. Lata Barr above left, Amanda's postmistress since March 1935, finds her job one of unceasing interest as she sorts out the letter business and personal which village residents eagerly await. Mrs. Jessie Fraunfelter, telephone operator, serves the community in an equally important manner as she pulls her plugs in and out at the switchboard, connecting Amanda people with the surrounding country for messages which may mean life or death or again merely a friendly chat. She receives and sends the first alarms of fire, accident, sudden death, birth.



Never a village general store without its council of men around the stove in the rear room and Dickson's is no exception. Here the fate of nations is daily settled, the next President elected, the corn and wheat crop estimated. Reading left to right Denver Stebelton, Frank Hartman, Frank Reed, holding Tom, the store cat, John Dickson, Jacob Stebelton, Ray Dickson, were snapped Thursday afternoon, as they warmed their feet about the modern coal heater and speculated on how low the mercury would drop before morning.



R. C. CLARK, filling station proprietor, is keeping Amanda's building program to the front by erecting a new home right above on the eastern edge of the village, on Route 22.

Bruce Guthrie, Lancaster, is architect for the six-room bungalow and Huston Grain Company furnished materials.

Clark, who was a former principal in the Amanda schools, now operates a gasoline station beside the Huston elevator. He and Mrs. Clark have two daughters.

Also, shown is a front view of the Dickson General Store, which will celebrate its twenty-fifth anniversary with a sale, February 1 to 12.

Mrs. Lata Barr, postmistress, combines a professional career with homekeeping for she and her farmer husband, Albert Barr, maintain a home on the edge of the village.

The postmistress, who has two children, Betty, 13 and George 11, was a former grade school teacher.

er and has a degree from Ohio University, Athens. She is a native of Laurelville but has resided in Amanda for the past 15 years.

The postoffice has two rural carriers but no city delivery.

Mrs. Jessie Fraunfelter doesn't find it difficult to remember the numbers of 365 subscribers of the Ohio Association Telephone Company, she says, but the rows and rows of little round holes and the crossed cords when a number of calls come in at once, look like a

hopeless maze to the novice.

Miss Ruth Clements is the chief operator at Amanda and Mrs. Pauline Clevenger, night operator.

Mrs. Fraunfelter, who has worked at the switchboard for three years revealed a surprising circumstance, at least surprising to the interviewing reporter. "Our busiest period of the day is from 8 to 9:30 a. m. getting the children off to school by giving the correct time," she reported.

was a former grade school teacher. Calls come in at once, look like a hopeless maze to the novice. Correct time "She reported"

A Little History of AHS Yearbooks

By Carolyn Tilley

You might feel this is strange history to be writing about, but it really helps to understand the history of the schools. The first yearbook of Amanda High School was published in 1910. The A-C Alumni Association is fortunate to have a donated copy from the late Orville Coffman. It was called the "Prosthenian" and was an 8 by 10 inch soft back publication. It contained poetry and stories by the students, editorials, class histories, local history, and notes from some alumni. It is very interesting to see the many business advertisements in Amanda and Lancaster; history of businesses at your fingertips. Exercises for the whole school were held in the K of P Hall where prizes were given for the best essays, poems, readings and debating during the 1909-10 year. An athletic association was organized and a hall was rented so they could play basketball. They played many in the area, even a Columbus team whom they beat. It was mentioned that Amanda's colors were black and gold. There also was a baseball team who opened the season with Stoutsville.

In the autumn of 1909 the school was visited by the State School Inspector. The school has been raised from a third class high school to a second in 1907. Now it received word that it was a first-class institution. Because of this change to a 4-year high school, there was no graduating class in 1910. Five had graduated as 3-year students. Two of those who graduated in 1909 decided to stay for the fourth year, but a job and a baseball injury them from completing the year: however, in the next edition they were listed as alumni teaching in country schools..

The staff of the yearbook included nine students who looked so formal and old in their picture. In an editorial from them they apologized for not having a picture of the present school. They said

they were ashamed of the building and pleaded their case for a new building. We have pictures of the building in the Alumni material. A new one was constructed in 1911. They also lamented that there was no Alumni Association yet.

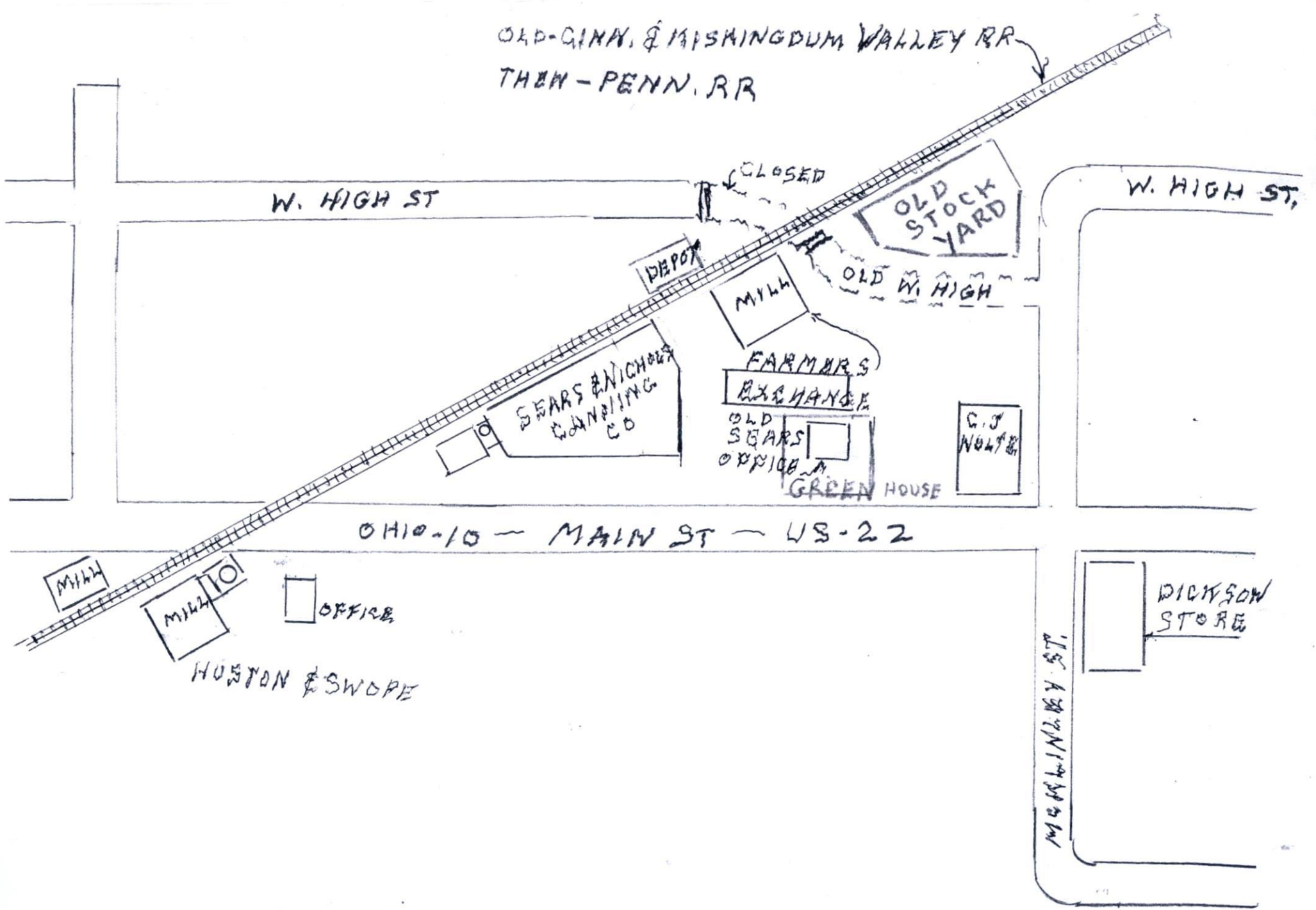
Although it had been planned that the yearbook would be published annually, the next staff explained that the school's two Literary Societies held a contest which was expensive to the school and that the new building was started and they did not want to burden the community any more. It was decided to make it a bi-annual publication. This 1912 edition of the Prostheneian had a dark paper cover 7" by 10" size also donated to the Alumni Association. The staff of students proudly included a picture of the new building with the old still standing in front. This picture of the two has been published before in this publication. The old was demolished about 1913 or 14. Reports of both the 1911 and 1912 baccalaureates and commencements were included in the yearbook. . The graduates always entertained the audience with orations at graduation. The book included past class histories. The 1911 class who started in 1907, were told at the end of their junior year that they would not be seniors, but needed one more year due to the change in the school's classification. The 1912 class motto was in German, translated "Not at the end but on the way." Their colors were crimson and cream and the class flower was the lily of the valley.

It was not until 1917 that another Prostheneian was published, acknowledged as the third annual. It was of legal size paper still with a soft dark cover. The first page showed their banner and motto, Amanda High, Do or Die. It belonged to my mother who was a junior at the time. The staff proudly talked about the new building shown from the front as the old building had been demolished. This building's likeness in granite and the preserved name in stone will appear on the Legacy Wall going up this spring on the campus of the new 3-12 A-C building. Pictures of the

faculty and each individual graduate with their activities were shown in the yearbook. There was a girl's basketball team and girl's athletic club. Pictures of an orchestra and a dramatic club were shown. It included a class poem, the valedictory speech, class prophecy, and class will. All past graduates were listed many with their current occupations.

As far as we know many years passed without a yearbook. The next was called the "Spyglass" of 1929. A neighbor, Evalene Bobo Warner, was a member of that class, one of our oldest living alumni. An Honor Society had been organized in 1927 and a Glee Club and a Student Self Government. There was a picture of the new high school of 1925 sitting beside the 1911 building.

The next yearbooks started in the 1940's, we think, known as the "Yearling". They were published annually. The oldest the school has in their archives is 1947. The 1955 class asked for permission to change the name to "The ACE". It has continued that way until the present time.



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W. HIGH ST,

OLD STOCK YARD

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OLD W. HIGH

SEARS & NICHOLS
 CANNING CO

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EXCHANGE

OLD SEARS
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C. J.
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OHIO-10 - MAIN ST - US-22

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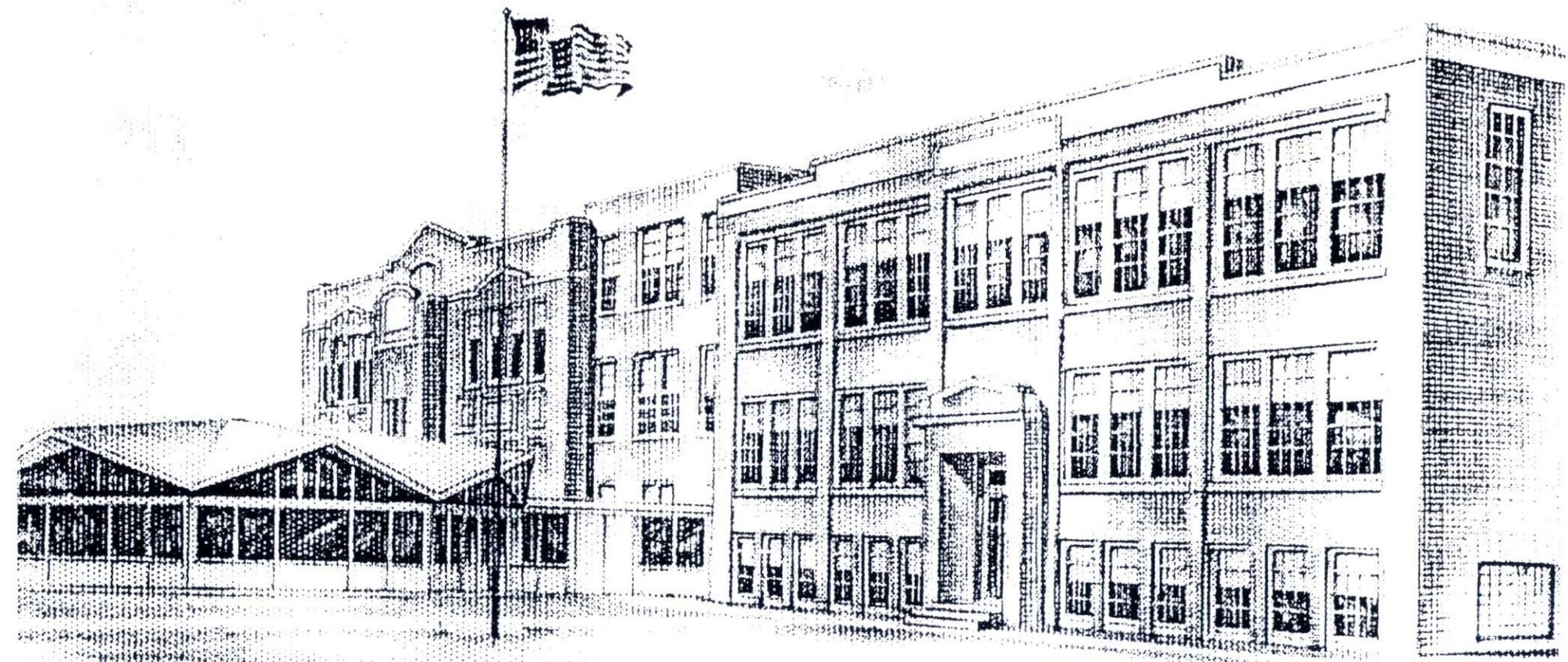
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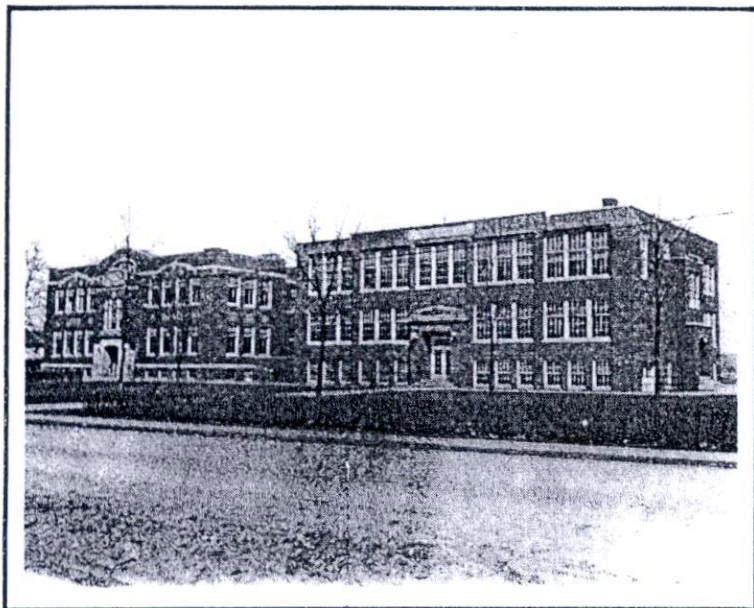
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E. M. KIRKWOOD. NOAH SMITH.





*Despite the gray-
ing veil of time, may
school memories live
and be seen again and
again through the pages
of The Spyglass of
Amanda High School.*

— Quote and picture taken from *The Spyglass*, a newly named yearbook published in 1929.

Amanda built a new high school in the 1924-25 school year. It stood beside the old 1911 school building.

THE FIRST AMANDA H.S. ALUMNI BANQUET

*Information Taken From the Amanda Press
June 22, 1922*

The first annual alumni banquet held by the Amanda High School Alumni Association on Thursday evening, June 15th, was a pronounced success.

A business meeting was held 8 o'clock in the school auditorium. Edgar Ritchie, president of the association, presided. The minutes of all meetings thus far were read by Viola Barr, secretary. The constitution was changed so that officers will hereafter be elected on the night of the banquet instead of in April. The meeting was adjourned and everyone went to the K. of P. Hall where a four course supper was served while Wilson's Orchestra entertained with a number of jazz selections.

After a short introductory speech, Mr. Ritchie turned the remainder of the program over to the toastmaster, Alvin Barr. Mr. Barr made a short talk and called upon the following as representatives of their classes for toasts: Lloyd Shupe, Chas. Highland, Dunnick Swope, Granville Conrad, Mrs. L.M. Shupe, Gladys Hartman, Jesse Hutchins, Everett Kerns, Corinth Campbell and Thomas Hewetson and Supt. J.T. Pickering and Principal L.P. Dauterman of last year's faculty.

A rising vote of thanks was given the Class of 1917 who under the leadership of Loren O. Bitler, founded the association. Eighty-one graduates and twenty-four guests were at the banquet.

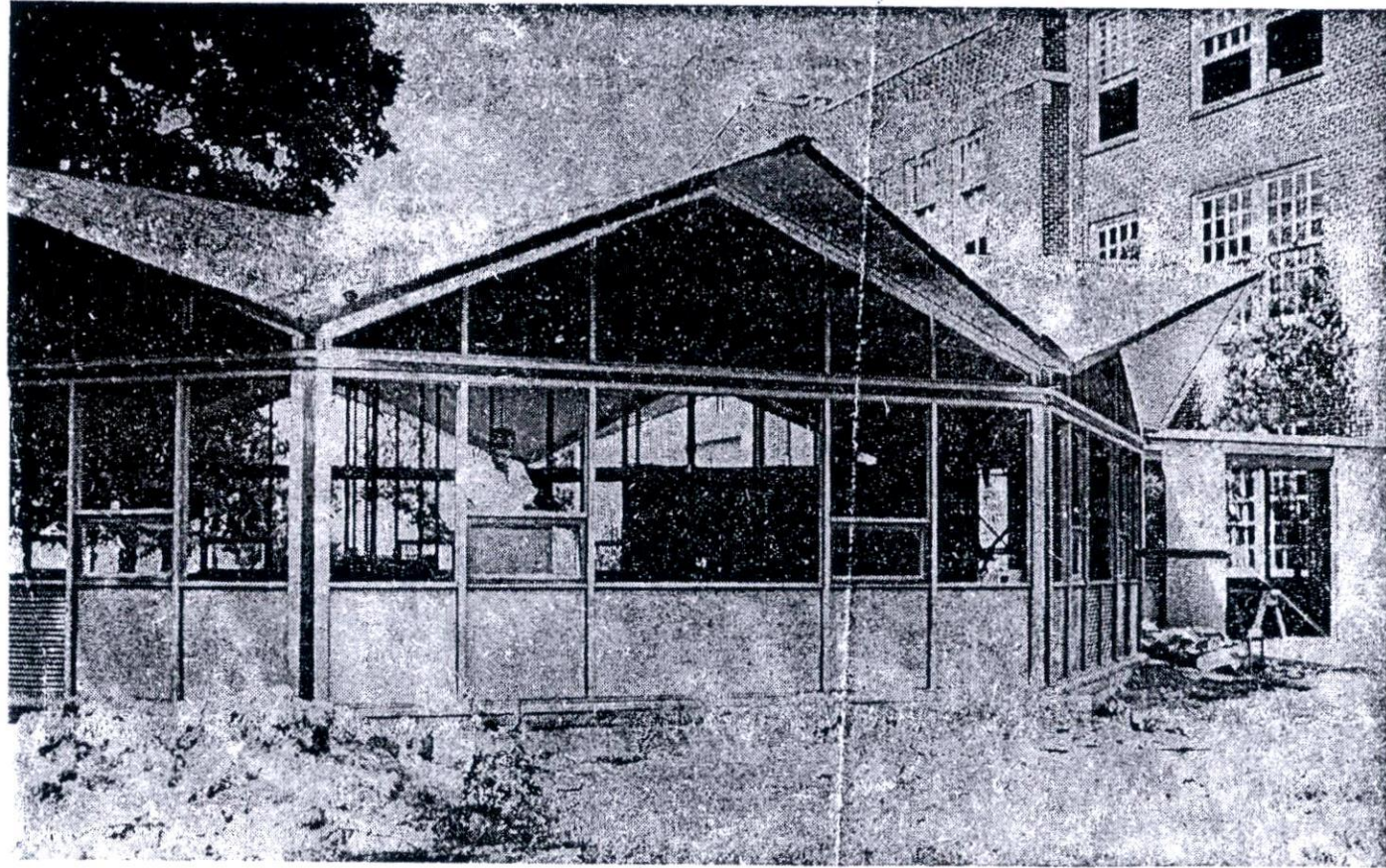
Mostly cloudy, windy today and tonight. High 72, low tonight 48. Slightly warmer Thursday with a high of 76.

LANCASTER "EAGLE"

YOUR NEWSPAPER SINCE

ESTABLISHED 1809—No. 92

LANCASTER, OHIO, WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 11, 1937



A REMINDER TO the 15,000 or more city and county boys and girls that school bells will ring for them in just 4 weeks from today is this picture of the new library at **A m a n d a**. Said to be one of only 4 or 5 of this design in the country, this very functional new library stands in the front yard of the school building. There is no center support but rings in the center and around the edge are used in this unique construction. Stoutsville school also has a new library within its building. Only Amanda-Clearcreek and Berne Union schools have building programs this year and area students there are certain to delight in these expanded facilities. In-

cluded are new classrooms, science, multipurpose, home ec rooms, remodeled or new cafeterias and the like. Incidentally the new libraries have a 5,000 book capacity so donations of books will be welcomed, Supt. William Smith reports. Lancaster city and parochial schools have undergone the usual painting and repairing but there were no additions this year. There are an additional 1,400 students enrolled in private schools here and for them, too, Labor Day will mark the end of the summer holidays. Next Tuesday, Aug. 18, the Lancaster Eagle-Gazette will publish its annual Back to School edition with news of new teachers, programs and the like.

(Photo by Duke Ellis)

T u fo

SCHOOLS101

- .785 - Federal Government set aside 1 section (#16) in each township for educational purposes.
- 1802 - The Enabling Act applied to newly settled Congress Lands in the Ohio Territory. If section # 16 was not available, equivalent land to be granted for educational use.
- .803 - State of Ohio agreed to use revenue from section #16 of each township for schools (revenue from leases, not a tax). LESSEE AGREEMENT : to improve property by clearing and fencing it, planting 100 apple trees, as well as other duties for a period of from 7 to 15 yr.
- .817 - length of lease increased to 99 yr., renewable forever.
- .817 - SOLOMON GROVER is teaching school in the upstairs of his home. This home situated on what would become LOT # 7 of Amanda Village in 1819.
- .826 - Due to increasing number of students and declining funds, Ohio made a request to be able to sell school property, with permission from a vote of the township inhabitants.
- .827 - Ohio granted permission to sell the section of land in each township being held for education and the proceeds to be dispersed among the " common school " districts.
- 827 - LOT # 4 in Amanda Village purchased by Samuel Williams
- 835 - LOT # 7 in Amanda Village purchased by George Morrison
- ? - One room, frame school structure built on LOT # 4
- ? - One room, frame addition to structure.
- 851 - Ohio Constitution specified regulation of funds for education by the township trustees.
- 852 - Township trustees to establish a Board of Education.
- 855 -MAY - Margaret Ann Griffith sold 1 acre on the N.W. corner of Section 36 for \$1. to be used for school purposes.
- 355-JUNE - LOT # 4 sold to Joseph Nye by the Board of Education
- 355 / 60 - ??? A 2 room, 2 story "brick and mortar" schoolbuilding erected.
- 365 / 80 - ??? This brick school caught on fire. The structure rebuilt and a 4 room, 2 story brick was added to it. School classes were held in the churches and private homes while construction took place.
- ite --- Early records concerning school property deeds and transfers are kept at the Ohio State Auditors office and certificates and leases are in the Ohio Archives.

1946 - 1955

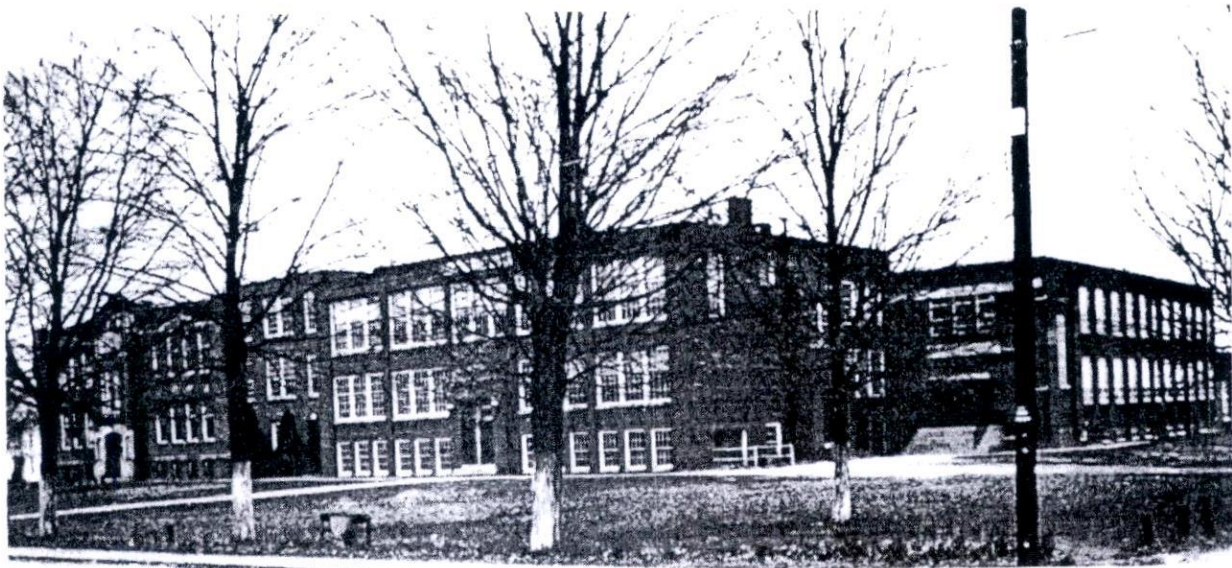
In 1946 we started to recover from World War II. We turned in our ration stamps for gasoline, rubber tires, sugar, and coffee. No more saving milkweed pods for life preservers, or tin cans. Even aluminum foil from gum wrappers, canning home grown food from our victory gardens, or practicing black outs. We started to have a boost in our economy, and many students participated in advanced education. Television became a reality.

We headed to the 50's, the blizzard in November, the Friday after Thanksgiving, keeping us out of school for over a week.

This brick, two-story facility underwent three additions and renovations prior to consolidation - 1924, 1936, 1951. The 1951 addition and renovation was supervised by Superintendent Ralph McCollister. The major addition included a gymnasium, a cafeteria, a vocational agriculture shop, a home economics room, a commercial room, a science laboratory, a library, a music room, and improved restroom facilities. These special facilities were well designed and received positive evaluation in a 1960 Ohio State University Study of the Educational Facilities of Fairfield County.

During Mr. McCollister's superintendency, the Amanda School helped organize a long standing tradition in Fairfield County, the County Fair Band Show. For years, Mr. McCollister served as master of ceremonies.

In 1952 we built the gym which is now the old gym, keeping the stage. We learned about drive-in movies, sock hop, drive in restaurants, such as Jimmy's, cruising about in cars, rock and roll, square dancing, and cha-cha.



SCHOOLS

THEORY - Fact or fiction Researched by Roxie Bussert Cordle Class of 1956

Mr. Solomon Grover held classes in the upper story of his home as early as 1817. His 2 room 2 story log house is situated on what would become Lot #7 of Amanda village in 1819. This structure is still there, altho it has been altered and remodeled for modern day use. Its present location is on the south side of High St. across from the library parking lot. Mr. Grover probably continued to teach there until after 1827 - when lease agreements for schools changed. He may have moved, died or for whatever reason, the property was sold to George Morrison in 1835.

The next site used for school purposes was just east on the same street, at lot # 4. This lot was owned by Samuel Williams in 1827 and there is no transfer recorded to the Board of Education in the county record. Prior to 1852, there were no broads of education, so the one room frame building may have been built by Mr. Williams, his heirs, or the Amanda Township Trustees per lease of transfer agreement. Records would be at the State Auditor's Office or the Ohio Archives. On May 11, 1855, Margaret Ann Griffith deeded 1 acre of the N.W. quarter of section 36 for \$1 for school purposes. The Board of Educations sold Lot #4 to Joseph Nye for \$137.00 in June, 1855. The one room frame building and its later one room addition may still be there. The property was deeded to Adam Nye in 1879. According to Virginia Nye Harpst, the old school was being used as the kitchen for the residence in the 1950's. This home, too, has been remodeled, the porch in the rear (facing east) was the original entry for the School. There were 2 outhouses - one for boys - one for girls - at the back of the property on the alley - benches held pans and water for hand-washing. This property sits on the south side of High St. on the alley corner across from the present Lutheran Church.

The First "brick and Mortar" building on the present day school grounds was probably a 2 room, 2 story with a vestibule. It sat directly east of the "Pump". Heated by wood and coal, It caught fire (sometime between 1865 & 1880.----- I think it was likely 1872 to 1880----- because the Methodist church deeds for 1872 (present day Lutheran /church) and Debbie Lutz purchased the next lot to the west in 1876 (this is the Little red brick home) where classes were held in private homes and the Methodist and Presbyterian Churches while the school was rebuilt and a 4 room, 2 story addition was put on. There is no mention of classes held at the Lutheran Church because it was still at Dutch Hollow until 1884.

By 1889, the school became an accredited 10 year institution as opposed to the prior 8 year program.

Between 1907-1909 the school became a 12 year institution. In 1911, more land was deeded for the school by Miss Anna Griffith. The new school building had 8 rooms with seating for 350 students, plus a playroom and lab in the basement as well as a furnace room. Also a library to contain 5600 volumes. All at a cost of \$25,000.

The "old" brick school was torn down around 1913/14, - Harlan Meister (1917) said he and the "boys" played ball there when he was in the 7th or 8th grade. They had to quit when one boy got cut on a brick and they broke a window. Several homes in the village soon sported new brick side - walks.

Those A-C Aces

By Carolyn Tilley

Recently in the Columbus Dispatch, there was an article about school mascots and team nicknames. The author had researched 31 teams whose names began with A in Ohio and concluded that they were mostly very macho names. The A reference caught my attention immediately. With some names being very militaristic, such as Warriors or Knights, he decided they were politically incorrect. Some were aggressive animals, others flying fanatics, and Amanda-Clearcreek Aces were, in his opinion, some of the "obscure oddities". Instead of cards or tennis, the writer, Mr. Rozenman, thought of Eddie Rickenbacker and the Red Baron when he studied our name, the Aces. He has not seen the logo we use mostly, has he? I began to wonder what our own community, alumni, and students think of when we say "Aces."

I thought I might go back to the sources of that name and ask their thoughts. A bit of the history first is as follows. A county magazine came out 4 times a year for the county schools, The Fairfielder. In February or March there was always a basketball issue. In the February 1940 issue there was an article on the Varsity "A" history. A Varsity "A" Club of Amanda High School was founded in the 1936-37 school year by a group of letter winners. The basketball teams, both boys and girls, had been very successful in the late 30's and early 40's. The club even built a tennis court in '39, which I suspect many didn't know we ever had. The club raised money for an electric scoreboard; the first, I am sure. The Varsity "A" Club then ran a contest to name the basketball team in the 1939-40 year. No football at that time. This was written by Wayne Hiatt, '41, who played on the basketball team that went to the State Tournament twice. He stated that an undertaking of "this year", 39-40, was choosing a name for the school teams. The winning name was the "Black Aces".

There were two winners, it seems. Virginia Meister, '40 remembers submitting "Black Aces" and "Aces" was submitted by Joan Barr Beguhl, '42. They were both given credit earlier, but the first reference in the Fairfielder to our team as the "Black Aces" in print was in the 1941 winter issue.

Neither of the ladies remembers when the spade was first used as the symbol or when the word black was dropped. Both had graduated shortly after. The winter issue or basketball issue in 1946 still referred to the team as the Black Aces. The March 1954 basketball issue shows our team's pictures around the edge of the black spade shape with a black spade on the jackets, but we were called the Aces by that time. In 1955 when the yearbook was changed to the name "The Ace," that class used the spade shape in their colors on the cover. Currently we use the deck of cards as a reference many times along with the spade shape alone.

But let's get back to the meaning. I asked Mrs. Beguhl what her thoughts were on the meaning. Her immediate response was someone top notch. Ms. Meister quickly responded to the question about her choice, that the black ace of spades is the highest in value in the deck of cards, of course. So the spade may have been its use from the beginning. One dictionary meaning of ace is, "one who excels at anything, first rank, or

surpassing, in excellence". What do you think of when you think of our Aces? One alumnus added that they think of our tradition. Another expressed it this way, a feeling of pride in the past and the future. One said just take the name itself, Amanda Clearcreek Educational System, ACES. Most alumni see it much more than just the sports teams; they see it in every aspect of the school, academic and activity achievement, and sports achievement.

When asked, some present fifth graders also mentioned the highest card in the deck of cards and therefore, meaning to be the best. Several wisely decided ACES could stand for Amanda Clearcreek Elementary School, their part of the system. Most agreed that it was good to be "different" from other logos or names.

One class of high school students when asked about the meaning of the ACE to them, had such great answers that it as hard not to quote them all. All seem to agree that it meant trying to be the best, as that value of the Ace of Spades means. One person certainly felt that you don't have to be a student or an alumnus, but the whole supporting community are Aces, also. The students mentioned pride in the school and community and always representing them well whenever and wherever they go. The students already realize as the alumni always have that, Tradition Never Graduates!

A-C Schools Continued

Consolidation

By Carolyn Tilley

We have told the story of the early schools in the four townships in the A-C district today. We have told the beginnings of the village schools in Amanda, Stoutsville, and Oakland which had its own school until 1944. The stage-auditorium-gymnasium and classrooms were added to the Clearcreek-Stoutsville 1921 building by 1950. The changes in the Amanda school were shown in the last story. All of the one-room schools had closed by 1937 in the area, and all had come into the Amanda and Stoutsville village schools. Parts of two townships went to neighboring school districts.

Financial hardship necessitated further consolidation. Attempts to consolidate with Pickaway County Schools were blocked by the Clearcreek Township residents on many occasions. However, a 1958 vote to join the Logan Elm District was overturned by the Ohio Supreme Court, and in 1960 the Clearcreek Township Schools became a vital part of the Amanda-Clearcreek consolidation. Madison and part of Hocking Townships were already a part of the Amanda schools at that time.

The people of Clearcreek Township had always strongly supported educational programming. Pride in their achievements caused resistance to consolidation between Oakland and Stoutsville, between Clearcreek and Pickaway County, and finally between Clearcreek and Amanda. It is that same pride however, that has helped make the Amanda-Clearcreek Local School District an excellent educational program.

The Amanda-Clearcreek Local School District held its first Board of Education meeting on January 4, 1960. At this meeting Carl Azbell, Wayne Beck, Ernest Francis, Herbert Ruff, and Cecil Warner were sworn in as board members. Ernest Francis was elected president and Phyllis Harmon was clerk-treasurer. Robert Schmidt was named acting local executive and Hubert Cole as named assistant.

The 1959-60 school year was completed without moving students between the existing districts. On March 8, 1960, a consolidation plan was agreed upon for the 1960-61 school year. District students in grades one through six would attend their local elementary building. Students in grades seven and eight would attend the Stoutsville building. Students in grades nine through twelve would attend the Amanda building. The first graduating class from Amanda-Clearcreek High School, the class of 1961, had 48 graduates. It was soon realized that existing facilities would need upgrading.

The residents of the new district passed a bond issue on the first try in November of 1962 for \$825,000. William A. Smith was the district superintendent as of July of that year. At the Amanda site nine classrooms, kitchen facilities, a multi-purpose room, and a treasurer's office were added. A high school library was added to the front of the Amanda complex. At Stoutsville, six rooms, a science lab, a library, and an office complex, and an industrial arts shop were built. These were completed in 1963-64.

The Athletic Boosters donated the field house in 1974. After some success and failures, a bond issue and an operating levy were passed in two elections in 1976. By 1977 the district would have four new classrooms and a band/physical education storage area in Stoutsville and six new classrooms and a new physical education facility in Amanda. That gymnasium stands today behind the new Primary Building.

In 1980, Dr. Ralph Hosler, a well-known doctor for over 50 years in the A-C and Ashville areas, passed away. In his will he established the Hosler Memorial Scholarship Fund. This provides for financial assistance for any pre-med and medical school student that is a graduate of A-C or Teays Valley High School.

The community has come together in many endeavors. A vocational agriculture building was built with community help in 1987. The A-C Alumni Association was recognized by the IRS as a charitable educational organization in 1991. This recognition permitted the formation of the Endowment Fund to collect, invest, and distribute earnings as scholarships to the Amanda-Clearcreek High School graduates. To this date the Association has given \$660,525 to 341 graduates. This year 24 seniors and 23 upper class college students received \$90,000.

The Alumni Association celebrated the 100th anniversary of the first Amanda graduating class in 1998 with several special activities around banquet time in June. Paintings by Shirley Hochradel were commissioned of the 1921 Stoutsville building and the then present complex of A-C High School and Amanda Elementary.

After being placed on the Ohio School Facilities Commission list, the district received notification of the help. A levy was passed by the residents in 1999, and the state planned a K-12 building. Soon it was realized by the state that we were growing as the local district had stated, and it was decided that two buildings should be built. The state of Ohio agreed to help with the same 85-15% formula for the second building. The 3-12 building opened in 2003 on acreage behind the A-C High School and housed all district students while a Primary-K-2 was planned. This meant that the old Amanda complex would be demolished except for the 1977 gym. This was sad for all and even worse, since state aid would help with demolition, but not renovation, the Stoutsville complex was completely demolished in 2004. Pieces of the two old original buildings have been saved and will be placed in a Legacy Wall on the 3-12 grounds, which should be constructed this spring. The Primary building opening in the fall of 2005 sits on School Street, and the 3-12 building faces Main Street. These beautiful buildings and the athletic facilities are situated on an approximately a 50- acre site. We as a district and community are very proud of our facilities and our achievements of the Amanda-Clearcreek Local School District.

The Schools of the Village of Amanda

By Carolyn Tilley

The original town of Amanda was laid out into 64 lots with Main Street (westward to eastward) and Center Street (north and south) 66 feet wide. Center would now be School Street. We mention the lots to start our story of the schools. We take our information from Mr. Charlie Goslin's research and that of Roxie Bussert Cordle, Class of AHS 1956. Roxie says of her research that some is theory.

Mr. Solomon Grover held classes in the upper story of his home as early as 1817. The town was officially laid out in 1819. Mr. Grover's classes were held in his 2 room 2 story log house situated on what would become Lot #7 of the new village. This structure is still there, although it has been altered and remodeled for modern day use. Its present location is on the south side of High Street across from the library parking lot. Mr. Grover probably continued to teach there until after 1827 when lease agreements for schools changed. He may have moved, died or for whatever reason, the property was sold to George Morrison in 1835. Remember school property could be sold now to gain more funds.

The next site used for school purposes was just east on the same street at Lot # 4. This lot was owned by Samuel Williams in 1827, and there is not a transfer recorded. Prior to 1852, there were no boards of education, so the one room frame building may have been built by Mr. Williams, his heirs, or the Amanda Township trustees per lease of transfer agreement. Records would be at the State Auditor's Office or the Ohio Archives. On May 11, 1855, Margaret Ann Griffith deeded 1 acre of the N. W. quarter of Section 36 for \$1 for school purposes, the present location of the Primary School. According to Record Book 23, p.6, the Amanda Township Board of Education at that time were David Vanhue, Peter Disinger, John Walters, Thomas Stewart, Andrew Peters, Mitchel Morris, John Hutchins, Thomas Barr, and Johnson Andrew Uker.

The Board then sold the old Lot #4 to Joseph Nye for \$137.00 in June, 1855. The one room frame building and its later one room addition may be one now or it may be the other one mentioned. The property was deeded to Adam Nye in 1879. According to Virginia Nye Harpst, the old school was being used as the kitchen for the residence in the 1950's This home too, had been remodeled, the porch in the rear (facing east) was the original entry for the

school. There were two outhouses, one for boys, and one for girls, at the back of the property on the alley. Benches held pans and water for hand-washing. This property sat on the south side of High Street on the alley corner across from the present Lutheran church.

On Section 36 that Margaret Griffith sold for the new school a one room frame was built and later another room was added to it. But the attendance was becoming larger and another building was required. A four-room building ,the first “brick and mortar building”, was built. We are not sure exactly when, sometime between 1855 and 1860. It caught fire sometime before 1880. The structure was rebuilt as a two-story with a vestibule. We are not sure if the first was a two-story and more was added or exactly what. It is said 4 rooms were added and it was a two-story. It sat directly east of the “Pump” on the grounds of the present day A-C Primary. School classes were held in the churches and private homes while construction took place. It was mentioned that the Methodist church held some of the classes, and they started in 1872 so this helps pinpoint the fire date. It was the Lutheran church just recently closed and sold to another congregation. Some of this information came from the first yearbook in 1910,

In that issue, the students pleaded their case for a new building and would not show a picture of the old.

By 1889, the school became an accredited ten-year institution as opposed to the prior eight-year program. Students could have a high school diploma after two years of high school. The first graduating class was in 1898 with 8 graduates.

The A-C Alumni has a copy of the first graduation announcement. Their motto was “ We Study to Learn”. Between 1907-1909, the school became a 12-year institution. In the 1907 class Vest Reichelderfer and Ralph Hosler both became local doctors and Clarence Moody became president of the Fuller Brush Company. From the 1908 class Boyd Strayer ran the local pharmacy for many years. In the class of 1909 during the transition years to a 12-year high school, two students are listed as graduating in 1909 and stayed to graduate again in 1910. Both taught school for a time.

The first yearbook was published in 1910 known as the Prosthenian. Quoting from it, “ Late in the autumn of 1909 our school was visited by Mr. S. K. Mardis, the State School Inspector ...after the second grade charter has been received in 1907, attendance increased and much more interest was manifested in

the general work of the school...in late 1909 Mr. Mardis officially recognized Amanda High School as a first class institution.” May 20, 1910.

In 1911, more land was deeded for the school by Miss Anna Griffith. The new school building had 8 rooms with seating for 350 students, plus a playroom and a lab in the basement as well as a furnace room. It also had a library to contain 5600 volumes, all at a cost of \$25,000. This housed all grades. The outhouses were still very far back in the back of the property. How the country kids were to get there was still a problem. Some drove their own horse and buggy and, of course, the horses had to be housed during the day. One early student, Grace Swank, remembered that there was a school wagon driven by mules, driver Charlie Haas of Amanda. He picked the students up in the morning and took them home at night. Soon buses were added. It was mentioned that Clearcreek Schools had the first bus in the county. This 1911 building had on its front, Amanda High School: this stone engraving had been salvaged for the Legacy Sign. We will call this building No. 2.

The “old brick school” was torn down around 1913-14. Harlen (Mick) Meister (1917) said he and the “boys” played ball there when in the 7th or 8th grade.

They had to quit when one boy got cut on a brick and they broke a window. Several homes in the village soon sported new brick sidewalks. The new building was shown from the side in the 1912 yearbook with the old still in front. The next yearbook was not published until 1917 with a picture of the 1911 building clearly shown.

In 1924-25 a new high school was constructed. On the front is had the word Auditorium. This was a completely separate building for the high school grades. It had eleven rooms plus a combination auditorium-gymnasium. Madison Township and some of Hocking Township came into Amanda district at this time. In the next yearbook, the Spyglass, not published until 1929, we have a good picture of the two buildings. In 1937 they were connected and several rooms added on to the 1911 building. In fact seven new classrooms, four in the elementary, and three in the high school besides office space were added with a connecting tunnel below. The vocational agricultural department was started at that time.

The 1951 addition and renovation was supervised by Superintendent Ralph McCollister. The major addition included a gymnasium, a cafeteria, a vocational agriculture shop, a home economics room

a commercial room, a science laboratory, a library, a music room and improved restroom facilities. The original stage was kept, going from an auditorium to a double gym for intramural games with pull out bleachers for the night games. The Stoutville building also had some changes from the original to consolidation in 1960 which we will cover when our A- C story continues.