



MUSEUM MEMOS

Mt. Airy Museum Newsletter



VOLUME 15 NUMBER 4

Winter 2015

The President's Pen

Mike Eacho

On behalf of the Historical Society of Mount Airy, MD., I would like to thank Mr. Ronnie Runkles for giving the Historical Society and its guests his presentation on the Runkles Mill in October and to Ms. Peggy Fleming and Ms. Kitty Lowman for giving us their presentation on the Ladies Auxiliary of the Mount Airy Fire Company in November. Both presentations were very interesting and informative.

Once again, I would like to extend my thanks to all of our members and friends who have volunteered their time to help the Historical Society this year. With this help, the Historical Society has been able to keep the Mount Airy Museum open on most Friday and Saturday afternoons from April through December.

Thanks also to our members who have spent so much time cataloguing the items in the Historical Society's collection, coordinating the museum volunteers, researching and writing stories for the newsletter, and organizing Historical Society events such as the Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Banquet.

I wish every one of our members, friends, and local businesses a happy Thanksgiving, a very Merry Christmas, a Happy Hanukkah, and a blessed and happy new year. God bless you all and your families during this holiday season.

Mount Airy Hall of Fame

The Annual Hall of Fame Induction Ceremony and Banquet will be held Tuesday, March 15, 2016 to honor the inductees for the Mount Airy Hall of Fame Class of 2016. Once again, it will be held at the American Legion on Prospect Road. Please mark the date on your 2016 calendars and join us for the evening to honor these people who have done so much for our community. Please be aware that because of price increases at the American Legion, the price of tickets will be slightly higher than last year.

Thanks

The Historical Society of Mount Airy, Maryland would like to thank the following individuals and organizations that have donated photographs and artifacts. These items will go on display in the museum and help us to portray the history of Mount Airy and its people and businesses.

- A. Thomas Fleming
- Pam and Bill Medairy
- Lisette Schmitz
- The Mount Airy Vol. Fire Co.
- The Town of Mount Airy

Welcome New Members

The Historical Society would like to extend a welcome to the following new members:

- Janet Haines
- Wanda Barnes Hall

OFFICERS

Mike Eacho, President
Pete Bowlus, Vice-President
B. J. Dixon, Secretary
Pat Norwood, Treasurer

Highlights of the Auxiliary to the MAVFC

Compiled by Peggy Fleming, Secretary

The Ladies Auxiliary to the Mt. Airy Volunteer Fire Company was organized in March 1940 by Mrs. Mildred Brust, the President of the Maryland State Ladies' Auxiliary. 25 ladies were present and elections were held with Mary Buck being named the first President.

Charter members were: Leola Beall, Lillian Belt, Clara Boone, Dorothy Bowen, Dolly Brandenburg, Mary Buck, Blanch Butler, Laura Chaney, Mildred Haines, Helen Hobbs, Drucie Hood, Rachel Jones, Leona Leatherwood, Mae Lowman, Beth Molesworth, Molly Molesworth, Lillian Nicholson, Ruth Pickett, Hazel Smith, Viola Snyder Hart, Chloe Warfield, Irene Welsh, Eva Wilson

The mission of the Auxiliary as stated in the bylaws *is to cooperate with and assist the Fire Company socially and financially.*

In the early years the financial support was in the amount of \$100 or \$200 to the Fire Company. By the late fifties the Auxiliary was able to donate \$500! By the 1990's the Auxiliary had donated over \$490,000 to the fire company. The funds were raised by serving banquets, wedding receptions, raffles, bingos, and the annual carnival. The Auxiliary has always assisted the fire company with the annual turkey, oyster, and ham dinners. They help to pat the oysters (coat with bread crumbs) and prepare the food, as well as baking desserts. The Auxiliary has sold knives, jewelry, wrapping paper, and two year calendars to raise funds.

Some highlights from our past:

1953 - Chanced off a chaise lounge at the carnival and made a profit of \$188. They were able to donate two blankets for the ambulance.

1957 - Chanced off a glider and chair and made a profit of \$142, and were able to donate \$500 to the fire company.

1960 - Bought 50 folding chairs for the firehouse and 50 for the Activities Building. They chanced off a 22" inch window fan and afghan at the carnival. The Auxiliary won second place in the bucket brigade.

1962- Sponsored a Little League Team for the first time. They purchased 150 folding chairs, 22 folding tables and a freezer for the Activities Building.

1963 - Auxiliary organized a bowling team. They took a bus trip to Washington, DC.

1964 - Purchased blouses for the bowling team, gave \$500 for a stretcher for the ambulance and bought two coffee urns.

1965 - Purchased a deep fat fryer with two baskets. Bought uniforms and equipment for the Little League team. Jean King was installed as the Carroll County Auxiliary President.

1966 - The fire company held an appreciation dinner for the Auxiliary at the American Legion.

1968 - Profit from carnival was \$1,000. Purchased new stove for Activities Building at cost of \$1,400. Donated \$50 towards new uniforms for the South Carroll Band.

1970 - Had the floors sanded and refinished at the Activities Building at a cost of \$1,200. Purchased navy blue jackets with the name sewn on the back. Celebrated 30 year anniversary at the New Windsor Center.

1972 - Mae Lowman was installed as the Carroll County Auxiliary chaplain. Carnival profit was \$1,725. Donated \$3,000 to the firemen towards a new fire engine.

1973 - The Ladies Auxiliary hook up team took 1st Place at the Carroll County Convention in Westminster. Purchased new uniforms for the Little League team, took a bus trip to the Eastern Shore.

1975 - The Ladies Auxiliary hook up team again took 1st Place at the Carroll County Convention.

1976 - Mae Lowman was installed as Vice President of the Carroll County Ladies Auxiliary. Profit from the carnival was \$1,600.

1979 - Sold over 210 homemade pies at the carnival. The carnival profit was \$2,500. Committee formed to research installing a new kitchen at the Activities Building.

1984 - The Auxiliary published and sold a cookbook as a fundraiser. All members submitted their favorite recipes for the cookbook.

1984 - Maryland State Police presented the Auxiliary with a Good Citizens Award for helping stranded motorists during the February snow storm.

1985 - Donated \$30,000 to the fire company. Carnival profit was \$7,000. Edna Titus was installed as the Carroll County Ladies Auxiliary Historian.

1987 - The bylaws were revised to change the name from Ladies Auxiliary to Auxiliary to the Mt. Airy Volunteer Fire Co. This was done as the Auxiliary now had both women and men as members.

1989 - Donated funds to the fire company to have the pavilion built on the carnival grounds next to the food stand.

1990 - Celebrated 50 years with a banquet at the Activities Building. President Bush sent a letter of congratulations for 50 years of service.

1992 - Held our first meeting at the new fire station on North Main St.

1993 - The Auxiliary purchased an ambulance for the fire company.

1999 - Sharon Sidler was installed as Chaplain of the Carroll County Auxiliary; Auxiliary voted to discontinue serving functions on Sundays.

2000 - The carnival profit which included both the inside buffet and the outside building was over \$19,000. Mac and Sue Molesworth were honored at the 60th Anniversary banquet for their dedication and hard work with all Auxiliary functions. Isabelle Windsor was also honored as being one of the "chief cooks"!

2003 - President Camuti presented Helen Plunkard with a certificate for 40 years of service and Kitty Lowman with a 50 year pin.

2004 - Red polo shirts with the Auxiliary patch were purchased by our members. The Fire Company decided to have one Spring and one Fall turkey, oyster, and ham dinner per year.

2006 - Sharon Sidler was President of the Carroll County Auxiliary.

2008 - Walter Malinak's fire prevention entry placed second!

2011 - Auxiliary stopped serving the dinners for the Mt. Airy Lions Club meetings after many, many years of doing so.

2012 - Auxiliary decided to no longer serve any functions such as banquets, wedding receptions, etc. This is due to decline in membership. The main fundraising is the carnival and a September bingo.

2013 - Auxiliary partnered with the Mt. Airy Lions Club to host the Fall Festival and in the spring the May Fest.

In addition to assisting the Fire Company, the Auxiliary has donated to Mt. Airy Net, Mt. Airy Lions Club, Jaycees, Pleasant View Nursing Home, American Red Cross, Lorien, and to various community members that have been "burned out", Linganore High School, South Carroll High School.

The Auxiliary has always sent delegates to the County and State Associations meeting and conventions. They always enter a project in the State Fire Prevention contest.

The Auxiliary's main fundraiser has always been and still is the food booth at the annual firemen's carnival. We would like to thank the community for their support of all of our functions.

The Auxiliary would like to thank the members of the Mount Airy Volunteer Fire Co who have always supported us! We would not be here if not for them.



Greeting from the Community Reporter – November 26, 1965

A Look Back to the Early 1900s: A Story Of Commerce in Mount Airy, Maryland

by Mr. Ronald R. Runkles

This article was written by Mr. Ronnie Runkles. He presented this information to the Historical Society at our November meeting. It has been slightly edited and some of the photos have been omitted for size considerations. The article is presented here for all to enjoy including those not fortunate enough to attend the presentation.

In the spring of 2013, I was asked to develop a presentation for what was called Mt. Airy History 101. I gave this presentation/lecture on September 17, 2013, in the town hall as it was part of a week celebrating Mt. Airy, Maryland and its past. The following material is based on that presentation/lecture with additional supplemental material.

Material in quotes without attribution is from the writing of my father, Marion V. Runkles, Jr. Photographs without acknowledgement are from my grandparents, Marion V. and Martha W. Runkles, the Runkles-Wilson collection. For all others I have indicated sources.

Since there are numerous figures, they are all collected at the end of this text.

The Baltimore and Ohio Railroad.

When I was a child, people sometimes referred to the railroad tracks running through downtown Mt. Airy as the “The Main Line.” I could not understand why they called it such when there had been a tunnel at Ridgeville, Maryland for many, many years, and most of the trains passed through it. How was it that the main line ran or had run through downtown Mt. Airy?

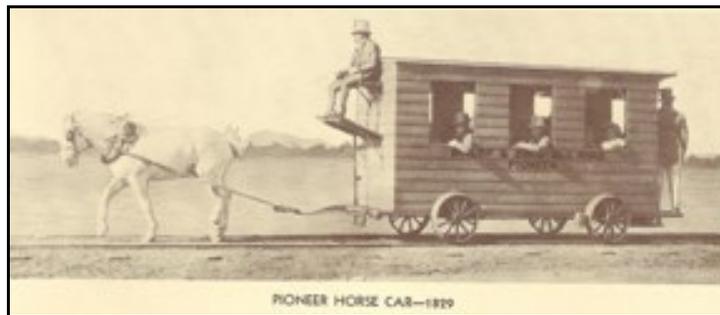
On December 1, 1831, the B&O Railroad opened a line from Baltimore to Frederick Junction, just a few miles south of downtown Frederick, Maryland. Track was laid on a series of four inclined planes in order to go over Parr’s Ridge at Ridgeville, Maryland, two inclined planes on each side of the ridge. These inclined planes allowed the cars and engines to be winched and pulled over the ridge. But, moving the trains over the ridge was difficult work and often caused a bottle-neck, so a loop was completed in the late 1830s that ran west from Watersville through downtown Mt. Airy and turned south just beyond Hill Street to Mt. Airy Junction.

Mt. Airy Junction, the railroad term, was located at the bottom of Ridgeville Hill where two tracks of a Y crossed the National Pike (S.R. 144). Mt. Airy Junction

was also called Pike Crossing by the locals. To reach what was Mt. Airy Junction, turn west from Main Street onto Ridgeville Boulevard and travel to the bottom of the hill. One of the two tracks of the Y still crosses the National Pike (the westernmost one).

Work on the tunnel and what we call the Twin Arch Bridge was not completed until about 1905. Thus, the main track that ran through downtown Mt. Airy and passed on the west side of town was for many years (~1839 to ~1905) “The Main Line” of the B&O railroad and was referred to as such for years even after the Ridgeville Tunnel was completed. Once the Ridgeville Tunnel was completed, the B&O Railroad continued to use the track through Mt. Airy. “We had [in 1919] twelve passenger trains that stopped in Mt. Airy every week day and two weight [freight] trains; one came up from Baltimore and one down from Brunswick, each day, and they spent most of the day shifting cars.” By shifting cars, I think my father was referring to the making of new trains, which could be done because there were several sidings and spurs in Mt. Airy.

Today, it is hard to imagine some of the locomotives that passed across Parr’s Ridge in Ridgeville or through downtown Mt. Airy in the 1800s. The first trains were simply one car pulled by a horse or team of horses.



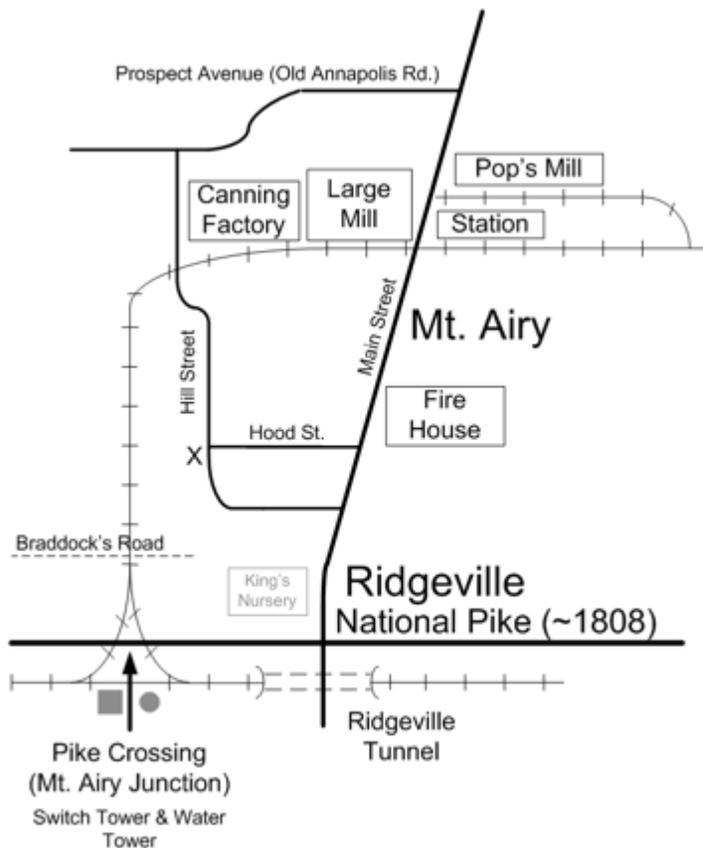
Early B&O Railroad Passenger Car

My father said that the original tracks over the ridge at Ridgeville were laid on square blocks of granite and not cross-ties. These original tracks and granite blocks over Parr’s Ridge were removed and used as an exhibit in the 1927 “Fair of the Iron Horse” in Halethorpe, Maryland.

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A Look Back to the Early 1900s (Continued)

The following figure provides a rough, not-to-scale, map of Mt. Airy and Ridgeville for the purposes of orientation. X marks my childhood home at 300 Hill Street. Pop's Mill locates where my grandfather's mill stood before it burned down in 1925. It was originally built by my great-great uncle, Charles A. Runkles and sold to a Mr. O.T. Davis from whom my grandfather, Marion Runkles, bought it in 1919. It was a single-elevator, wheat flour mill. Across Main Street from the station and my grandfather's mill was a much larger mill, the Mt. Airy Milling Company and behind it to the west was the largest cannery in the world.



As mentioned previously, Pike Crossing, or Mt. Airy Junction was the site of a Y where engines could be turned around. Helper locomotives from the Watersville area and Plane #4 were attached to long freight trains climbing Parr's Ridge, and this was the point at which they could be turned around. A water tower and switch tower were located at the Y. Several of my ancestors on both the Runkles and Wilson sides manned the switch tower.

Not far from and to the north of the Y was an old dirt lane that crossed the railroad tracks, known as Braddock's Road. Deer Hollow Road approximates the location of Braddock's road today. Tradition has it that

the two parts of Braddock's army met at Frederick, Maryland before they marched westward as one toward Fort Pitt. One part of his army supposedly marched from Baltimore to Frederick along this route. Thus, it became known as Braddock's Road. This was the forerunner of the National Pike, now S.R. 144.

The dates for initiating and completing the construction of the Ridgeville Tunnel are somewhat ambiguous. I have seen dates given indicating that it was started as early as 1899 to 1903, and I would guess that it was finally completed in about 1905.

Spaced evenly along the brick-lined walls of the tunnel on both sides were manholes. These man-holes (one is shown below) were about six feet high by two-and-a-half feet wide and about two feet deep. When trains came through the tunnel, workmen stepped off the tracks into the man-holes so as not to be crushed by an on-coming locomotive.



Ridgeville Tunnel Manhole

Mt. Airy in the Early 1900s.

I divide downtown Mt. Airy in the early 1900s into the north and south malls; of course, separated by the railroad tracks. Today we have large shopping malls, like Columbia, White Marsh, and Tyson's Corner, with stores packed together under one roof. In the early 1900s, there were numerous stores packed together on each side of the railroad tracks, only they were just not under one roof.

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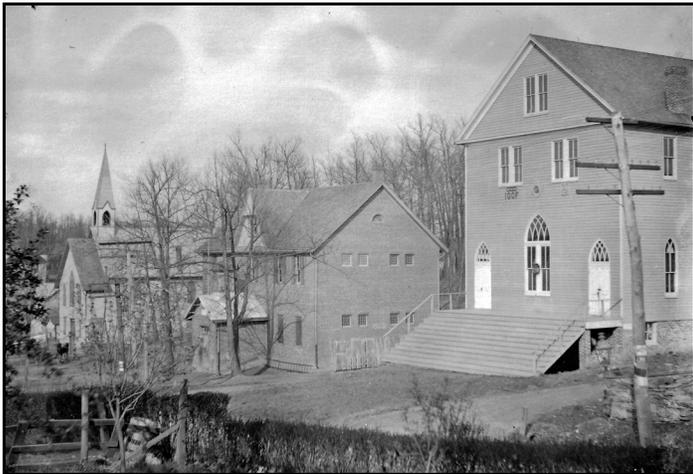
A Look Back to the Early 1900s (Continued)

The photo below looks down the south mall along Main Street. The south mall extended to Hood Street. The store closest on the left is still standing along with the Flat Iron Building and the old hotel in the background.



The South Mall

Traveling south on Main Street in the very early 1900s past the downtown area on the left were Calvary United Methodist Church, the school and the Masonic Hall (see photo below). The Masonic Hall when I was a child served as the town movie theatre and later as the post office. It was located at the corner of Main Street and Paradise Avenue.

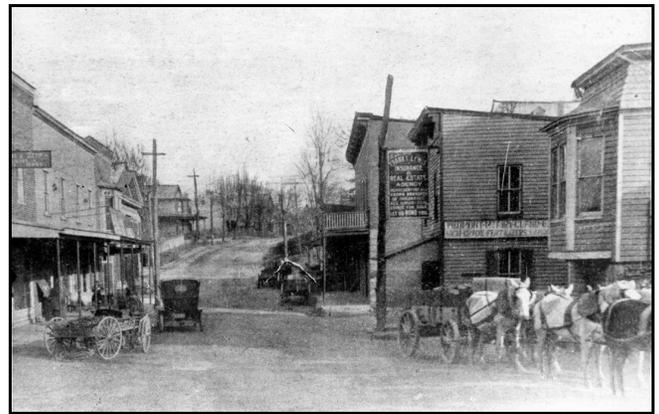


South Main Street

Through family oral and written tradition, I am more familiar with the north side of the railroad tracks, the north mall, which extended on Main Street to Prospect Avenue, sometimes called the Old Annapolis Road (see the photo in the next column). Businesses also extended down Prospect Avenue.

My father listed the businesses in the north mall in the 1920s:

- The B&O Railroad Station
- The Mt. Airy Bank
- Two flour mills, Mt. Airy Milling Company and my grandfather's
- An ice and ice cream plant that generated electricity for the town and Ridgeville
- A.B. Sellman & Brothers Sewing Factory. Built in 1921, it produced 250 pants and 400 dozen coveralls per week
- Three coal yards
- Six stores (furniture, fertilizer, hatchery, etc.)
- Electric shop
- Print shop
- Three warehouses
- Two restaurants
- A tin smith and roofing shop
- And along the railroad tracks on the west side of Main Street, the world's largest canning factory, the Mt. Airy Canning Factory, established in 1915.



The North Mall

In the early 1920s, Mt. Airy was commercially very active. As my father said, "It is my guess that Mt. Airy did a larger volume of business per year than Frederick." Why would he have said this? One reason is that the B&O Railroad ran a direct line through Mt. Airy such that the freight trains could run east and west, while Frederick only had a spur of the Pennsylvania Railroad entering its downtown area. He continued, "Our population was less than 1,000 and Frederick was 1,500. Many times after harvest, the main street through town would be blocked with four-horse teams, and if you went up to Hill Street to get around, the canning

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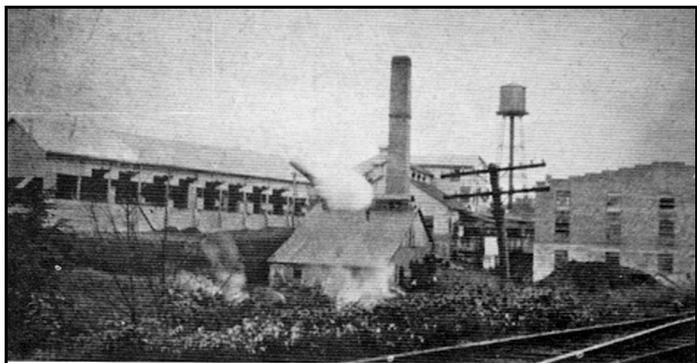
A Look Back to the Early 1900s (Continued)

factory would have it blocked also. Our coal yards would handle upward of 150 car-loads of coal per year.

Our mill ground 75 barrels of flour per day, and the big mill ground 250 barrels per day and ran 24 hours continuous. They put in ten huge cement storage tanks for wheat and still had to bring western wheat in here to keep running.”

“The canning factory [first established in 1915] shipped hundreds of car loads of canned vegetables every season. They started in the spring with peas and followed with sweet corn, tomatoes, and sauerkraut.

This was a busy town from spring through fall. In winter the town was full of stick wagons and buggies for then they were after groceries, flour, and feeds.” A photo of the canning factory is shown below.



The Mount Airy Canning Factory

“In those days nearly everything a farmer bought was traded. If he needed sugar, coffee, or tobacco, he would bring a basket full of eggs to the store to trade. When he brought in his wheat at harvest time, he would leave enough in trade for the amount of flour and hog feed that he would use the following year. Most of the coal was hauled home in small lots and put in bags. Dairy feeds were sold to be paid for monthly when farmers received their milk checks....”

The following photo is a picture of my grandfather’s mill that sat next to the train station on the north side. This picture was probably taken sometime soon after the 1914 fire when my great-great uncle still owned it because of the charred wood in the foreground. My grandfather, Marion V. Runkles, bought the mill in 1919.



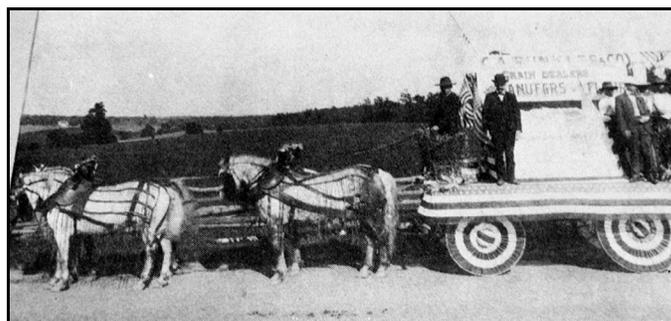
C. A. Runkles & Company Mill

Figure 16 shows the farmers bringing in their wheat to my grandfather’s mill at harvest time.



C. A. Runkles & Company Mill

A parade was one way for local businesses to advertise. The photo below shows a float from C.A. Runkles & Company Mill in an early 1900s Farmers Parade, while my great, great uncle, Charles A. Runkles, still owned it. If one were to enlarge the picture to see details more clearly, one would see my great-great uncle standing by a large pile of white flour bags in the middle of the float.



C. A. Runkles & Company Mill Float in Farmer’s Parade

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A Look Back to the Early 1900s (Continued)

March 3, 1916, saw the first issue (Volume 1, Number 1) of The Mount Airy Messenger. It opened with the headline, "Greetings from the Mt. Airy Board of Trade."

My grandfather, Marion Runkles, saved a copy of the first federal income tax form (Form 1040) from 1913. The tax started at one percent and was graduated. There were very few tax deductions, one of which was for education.

Mt. Airy from time to time graded its Main Street, which in the 1920s was still a dirt road. Workmen used a farm plow and a grader pulled by farm tractor to level the road. The photo below shows the grading of north Main Street. I do not know when Main Street was first paved, but when I was a young child it was paved with cement. In 1951 when I was four years old, my grandfather took me downtown to watch the workmen pave Main Street with asphalt over the cement. We sat on used vegetable and fruit crates in front of Mr. Topper's grocery store across from the Flat Iron Building.



The Grading of Main Street North of Prospect Avenue

The Three Great Mt. Airy Fires.

In the early 1900s, three great fires occurred in Mt. Airy, each time wiping out a number of businesses. They were the following:

1. February 24, 1903: most of Mt. Airy's business section south of the railroad tracks burned
2. March 24, 1914: fire destroyed much of the business section north of the railroad tracks
3. June 4, 1925: fire tore through most of the business district north of the railroad tracks

My father recorded the following about the third great fire. "I was graduating from high school, and it was class night held at the old Masonic Hall. It was a hot night. After the program, about ten o'clock, I took my little brother, Henry, and started out Ridge Road [old S.R. 27] to cool off. As I crossed the railroad tracks, Harry Bellison yelled, "Fire!" I saw smoke coming out Watkin's and Zepp's store, which was located on the west side of north Main Street...." "I hurried home to Ridgeville to get my father as our mill and elevator were in danger. When we returned to the mill, the fire was by then blazing from the entire front of the store. We loaded ledgers and important papers from our mill into the car. After unloading our papers at home, we returned to the fire, but could not cross the railroad tracks as the entire mill office was blazing."

"The first fire engine came from Frederick. The B&O Railroad had an engine there from which the fire engine could pump water [from the tender]. Westminster, Rockville, and Ellicott City sent fire engines. The B&O Railroad provided a second engine for hauling water from the water tower at Pike Crossing [Mt. Airy Junction]. This action saved the railroad station, the big mill, and the rest of the town. Six stores, two restaurants, a bank, a hatchery, two warehouses, a mill and elevator burned to the ground. The sad part was that insurance was so expensive that none of the businesses could afford to carry enough insurance to replace their lost buildings."

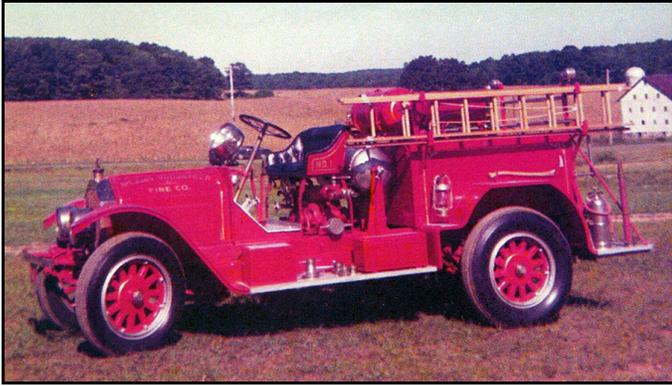
"Immediately after the fire, the businessmen of the town called a meeting and organized the present Mt. Airy Volunteer Fire Company. It was officially incorporated on April 29, 1926. We had one fire plug in town that was hooked to the old Sanitarium's water tank. This tank stood on the right side of the front entrance to the school ground. The fire plug was located on the northwest corner of Main Street and Prospect Road, but there was never any water in it after the school was built and the Sanitarium closed."

Engine Number 1 arrived on October 7, 1926, at a cost of \$8,325.00. "Our new engine came by rail, loaded in a box car. I helped Herman Beck and Edgar Wilson unload it onto the station platform. After servicing it, we ran it through town several times blowing the siren. Everyone came out to view the new engine, and we were very proud. We housed the engine in Callahan's old paint shop ... until we could build a firehouse to put it in."

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A Look Back to the Early 1900s (Continued)

“Our first engine was chain driven, and we had very few paved roads. In the spring after the thaw, we often threw a chain while trying to get through deep mud to a fire. A few fires we never reached because we remained stuck in the mud until the fire engine could be jacked up and a new chain put on.”



Mount Airy's First Fire Engine

In Conclusion.

Why did Mt. Airy grow and thrive and build and rebuild as needed in the early 1900s? Why was the town so resilient after three great fires? There is probably no one simple answer, but a combination of reasons:

1. Education: A high school was built in 1915. My grandfather sold his store in Linganore and moved to Mt. Airy so his children could have an education at least through high school. He was not alone in his thinking.
2. Jobs: Mt. Airy had a canning factory, sewing factory, a lumber company, two mills and numerous other businesses.
3. Transportation: The B&O Railroad laid its major route right through Mt. Airy and Ridgeville, providing ease of travel and shipping and access to far away places.
4. Energy: Because of the railroad Mt. Airy had access to an abundance of coal and soon had one of the first plants for generating electricity by the railroad tracks on Prospect Avenue.
5. Water: Mt. Airy had three deep wells: one near the American Legion on Prospect Avenue, one for the canning factory, and one for Ridgeville Nurseries in Ridgeville.

6. Food: We had the world's largest canning factory. At one time Parr's Ridge and the Central Valley of California were considered the breadbaskets of the world.
7. Fire Safety: It finally established a volunteer fire department.

The three deep wells produced prodigious amounts of water over the years they were in use. My father was present when the well near the American Legion was drilled. He said that, when the well men broke into the underground aquifer, they lowered the drill bit on the end of a four hundred foot rope all the way out and it never touched bottom.

Years later when the town was laying its sewer system, the blasting partially filled the aquifer. The Ridgeville Nurseries water tank stood until 2014, when it was finally taken down. This tank could be filled in 24 hours. Its well and pump house were under the parking lot of the current Food Lion store. The canning factory well pumped 24-7 for three seasons of the year. Its pump house stood on what is town property on the right side going up the first hill on Prospect Avenue.

There were also about 14 natural springs in the Mt. Airy area. One was under one of my grandfather's mill warehouses. This particular spring still feeds "The Castle" pond off Prospect Avenue.

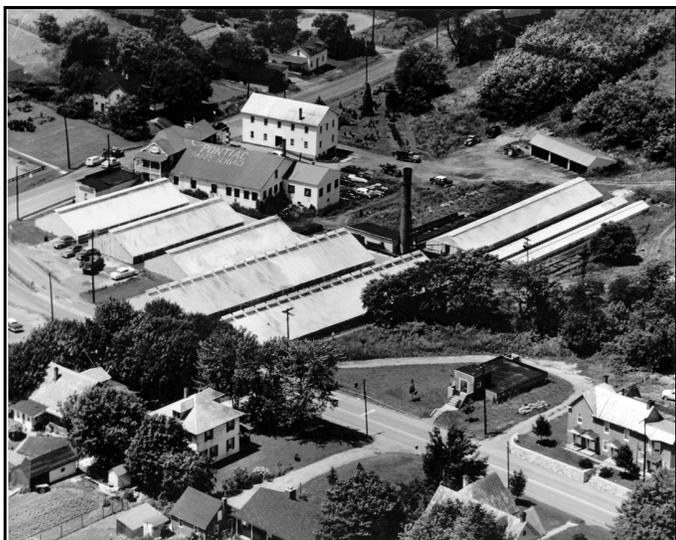
Epilogue.

There is a missing piece to this story of commerce in Mt. Airy in the early 1900s. Ridgeville, which is now part of Mt. Airy, once had the world's largest flower, shrub, and tree nurseries, originally King's Nurseries and later called Ridgeville Nurseries. It was originally started by the King family of Ridgeville. People came from all over the world to visit its greenhouses and see its nursery stock. A forty-foot extension ladder would not reach to the top of its largest greenhouses. I know because as a young person, it was one of my jobs to repair their roofs in the summer months. I had to help replace any broken glass and caulk around the glass panes. These greenhouses once stood where the parking lot is now to Food Lion.

Ridgeville Nurseries also owned a large farm, around 500 acres, off of S.R. 144 towards Baltimore, where much of the nursery stock was kept.

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A Look Back to the Early 1900s (Continued)



Ridgeville Nursery

They also kept nursery stock in the area of the spur that goes from south Main Street down to S.R. 27. They had at one time a flowing fountain and small flower garden along the south side of the National Pike about mid-way up Ridgeville Hill from Mt. Airy Junction to Main Street. Ridgeville Nurseries at one time shipped plants and cut flowers all over the United States.

Notice

The Mount Airy Museum will be closed for the winter beginning the second week in December. We will open again in late March of 2016.

SMITH'S GROCERY *SPECIALS*

FREE DAILY DELIVERY

Main Street Phone 829-1610 Mt. Airy, Md.

MYER'S FRESH SAUSAGE	69c lb.
MYER'S FRESH SCRAPPLE	59c pan
MYER'S FRESH PUDDING	55c lb.
ESSKAY CHUCK ROAST	49c lb.
COMET	6 for 85c
NESCAFE COFFEE	10-oz. \$1.39
STANDARD OYSTERS	\$1.35 pt.
SELECT OYSTERS	\$1.45 pt.
EGGS (small)	3 doz. \$1.00
TENDER LEAF TEA BAGS	100 for 95c
SWEET CIDER	79c gal.

TURKEYS — CHESTNUTS — DRESSING

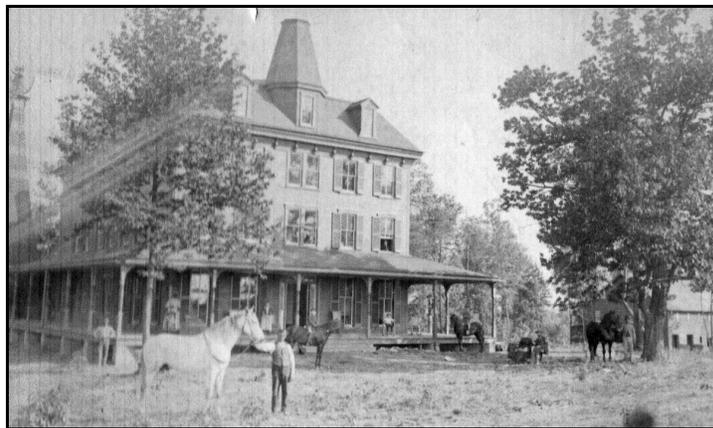
HAGERSTOWN ALMANAC

Smith's Grocery Community Reporter – November 26, 1965

The Mountain View Hotel

Pete Bowlus

The Fall 2015 Museum Memos, the last issue, featured a letter from Mr. Richard M. Horn. He shared a letter from his father Paul V. Horn about Paul's father Ernest B. Horn. Ernest had owned and operated a hotel and race track in Mount Airy. Many of the members asked: where was that hotel and race track? See the photo below. Does anyone remember seeing a picture of this building? The building was called the Mountain View Hotel.



The Mountain View Hotel

Thanks to research compiled by Mrs. Barbara Warner an article in The Frederick News dated January 31, 1890 suggests the hotel was located 1 mile east of Mount Airy on Ridge Road. Based on this information, we are trying to determine where this hotel would be located. Your input would be appreciated.

On Saturday May 19, 1894 The Baltimore Sun had an advertisement about the Mountain View Hotel. The ad stated: "Mountain View Hotel, Mount Airy, Md. The highest point between Baltimore and Blue Ridge Mountains, will open June 1, 1894. Send for descriptive circular. Ernest B. Horn, Proprietor."

The Frederick News of May 12, 1912 reported that Mr. Ernest B. Horn, a prominent resident of Mount Airy died after an extended illness of diseases. Heart trouble was given as the direct cause of his death. He leaves a widow and 4 sons and 5 daughters. Mr. Horn was aged about 65 years old. Mr. Horn is buried in Loudon Park Cemetery, Baltimore, Md.

Historical Memories from Fifty Years Ago

Compiled by Althea Miller

The information for these Historical Memories was compiled from articles in the August, September, October, November and December, 1965 issues of the Community Reporter. The newspaper was the main source of information for Mount Airy residents and surrounding areas from November 29, 1929 until the last issue on July 1, 1983.

- Construction of the new Winfield Senior High School has again been held up for a temporary injunction issued by Judge Edward O. Weant. The injunction was signed by representatives from the Mount Airy Citizens League and the South Carroll County Citizens Group both opposing the building of the school at Winfield. (8/6/65)
- Chester G. Elder, principal of MAHS, and Harrieton Merritt, principal of Mount Airy Elementary and Junior High School, have been at New York University for the past few weeks for a National Institute by Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964. (8/12/65)
- Local girls, Karen White and Sherry Warfield, recently returned from the "Old West" with a group of 36 4-Hers from Maryland. The girls spent time in Colorado in order to exchange information and ideas with other 4-H members. (8/20/65)
- Mr. and Mrs. Claude Archer announce the marriage of their daughter, Claudette, to Allen G. Brown on August 6 in Potomac, Maryland. (8/20/65)
- Bus transportation for town students was approved for another year. The rates are as follows per month: 1 child per family--\$2.50; 2 children per family--\$3.75; 3 children--\$4.25; 4 or more--\$4.75. The initial payment is due September 13. All payments are due in advance with the amount subject to change determined by the number of participants. Based on 20 days a month the cost is less than 15 cents per child per day. (8/27/65)
- The Board of Education of Carroll County held a special meeting on August 24 to consider bids that were submitted for South Carroll High School. Contracts were awarded to the lowest bidder. (8/27/65)
- Mr. and Mrs. Albert Hardy announce the marriage of their daughter, Barbara Jean, to Carlton Luther Dixon at Howard Chapel Methodist Church on August 2. (9/3/65)
- Karen White has won a trip to Chicago to the 4-H Club Congress for her prize winning outfit. Her blue silk brocade party dress won over 22 other contestants. (9/3/65)
- Members of Howard Chapel Methodist Church have announced the addition to their Educational Building is near completion. The first event in the completed building will be the chicken and ham supper on September 11. (9/10/65)
- A number of local students are continuing their education at institutions of higher learning according to Chester G. Elder, principal. (9/17/65)
- Smith's Grocery, one of Mount Airy's venerable business establishments, is observing a special occasion this week in the commemoration of the 44th year of operation at the same location. (9/17/65)
- On September 16, Chief Judge Stedman Prescott, of the Court of Appeals of Maryland, signed an order denying the right of the Mayor and Town Council of Mount Airy to intervene in the suit brought by citizens to prevent the Board of Education of Carroll County from constructing the new consolidated South Carroll High School at Winfield. Contracts have been awarded and construction is expected to begin within a week. (9/24/65)
- The 1965-66 school year marks the nineteenth year that schools across the country have been serving students noonday lunches. The week October 10-18 has been declared School Lunch Week. (10/8/65)
- Airman Thomas W. Wagner, son of William E. Wagner, has been selected for training at Amarillo AFB, Texas as an Air Force supply specialist. (10/15/65).
- Miss Judith Lee Pickett and Edward Clovis Morgan were united in marriage on October 9 at 2:00 P.M. at Ebenezer Methodist Church. (10/22/65)

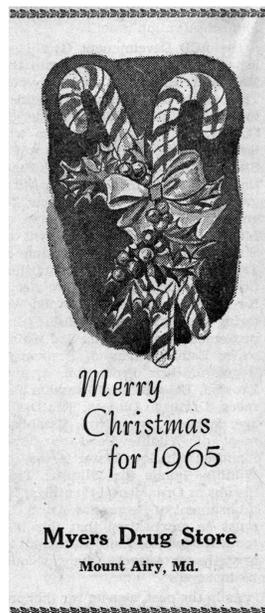
Historical Memories from Fifty Years Ago (Continued)

- Over 250 Lions, ladies and invited guests attended the 25th charter anniversary celebration of the Mount Airy Lions Club at Frock's Sunnybrook Farm in Westminster. Lions Club president Leonard Sherman gave the introductory speech. (10/29/65)
- Basketball season is near. Coach Baker has asked the support of the community once again. Mount Airy teams have won three county championships. Returning from last year's varsity are: Mike Day and Wilson Etzler who played first string as juniors as well as Ron Hawkesworth, Dana Jackson and Dan Boone. (10/29/65)
- At the October meeting of the Prospect Homemakers Club, Mrs. Henry Magaha gave a demonstration on "What Detergent Shall I Use?" She displayed various detergents and explained how to test the water to ascertain the type. (11/5/65)
- Preparations are being made for Ridgeville's (Methodist Church) dinner to be held on November 6 featuring turkey and oysters served family style. (11/5/65)
- Sunday is Carroll County's second date for the assault on tetanus, what has been called "our most unnecessary deadly disease." The Carroll County Medical Society considers death (from tetanus unnecessary) because it is so easily avoided. (Tetanus) Immunizations will be offered at Westminster Junior High School, Francis High School, North Carroll High School, Mount Airy High School and Freedom Elementary School. (11/12/65)
- Mr. and Mrs. David L. VanGosen announce the birth of their third son, Luke Allen, on November 5. (11/12/65)
- Mr. and Mrs. Edward T. Garrett announce the birth of their second daughter, Dawn Linette, on November 6. (11/12/65)
- Under the direction of Mrs. Dorothy Etzler, more than 165 MAHS pupils participated in the Fall Music Festival. Featured were soloists Donald Duncan and Marijean Kaetzel. Also featured was a sextet composed of Marijean Kaetzel, Pat Kuhl, Pat Bohrer, Linda Farver, Susan Boller and Charlotte Helton. (11/19/65)
- A Mount Airy girl, Karen White, leaves this week for Chicago to attend the National 4-H Congress. She will represent Maryland in the country-wide dress revue. (11/26/65)
- The Mount Airy Garden Club will sponsor a Christmas project for the town. Beginning with figures of the Holy Family pieces will be added annually as resources permit. It will displayed somewhere near the downtown area. It is hoped that interested individuals and organizations will contribute to the project to make it a civic effort. Contributions can be given to Mrs. Ivan Colburn at the Community Reporter office. (11/26/65)
- On December 7 a new Dar Lon Hair Fashion Salon will open in the completely remodeled premises of the former Ray Brown property located between Jones Motors and Bohrer Motors on Highway 144 in Ridgeville. The owners, Pat Fullerton and Pat Barnes, are owners-operators of Dar Lon in Damascus. An open house on December 5 will introduce you to Kay Easterday, manager, and Kathy Whipp, stylist. (12/3/65)
- During Fall activity Week Wilson Etzler and Peggy Davis were named Mr. and Mrs. MAHS. Special recognition was given to staff members who have not received as much recognition as they deserve on successive days: Walter McWilliams—yearbook advisor since 1961; Mrs. June Gordon—in her second year as guidance secretary; Mrs. Pauline Buchman, cafeteria manager who has been with the MAHS cafeteria since 1946; Frank Miller for the last nine years as instrumental music teacher and band director and vice principal, Harold Thompson who has taught vo-ag and has been FFA advisor for 12 years. (12/10/65)
- Mr. and Mrs. Aubrey King, Jeffrey and Vicki, were pleasantly surprised last Saturday when a large group of family and friends arrived for a housewarming at their new home on Boetler Road. (12/10/65)

Historical Memories from Fifty Years Ago (Continued)

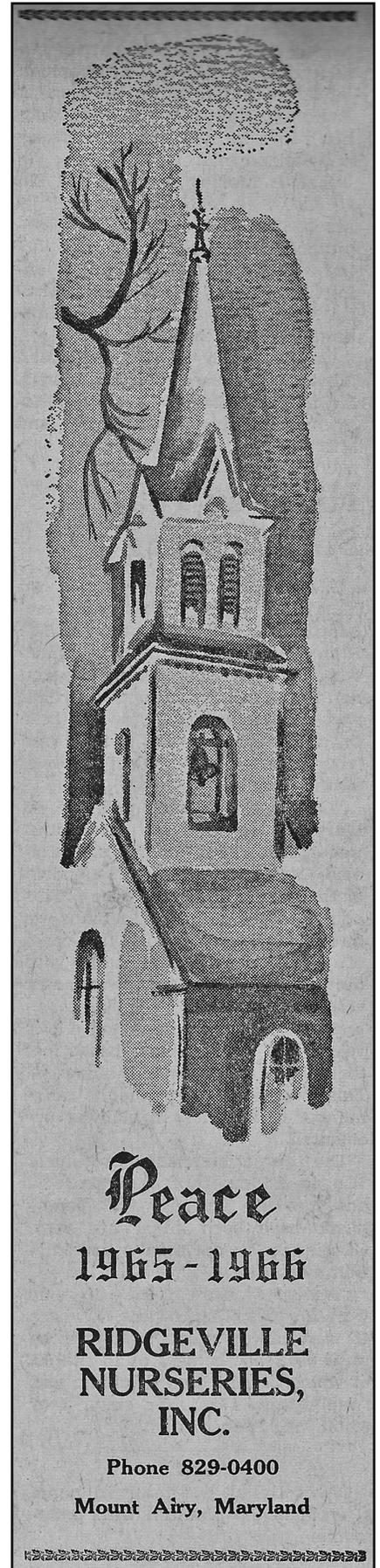
- Ronald Beck has been named the outstanding science student at Mount Airy High School and will receive the Bausch and Lomb Honorary Science Award. (12/17/65)
- The Ki-Wives and Kiwanis family Christmas Party was held at the Fireman's Activities Building. Santa Claus (Robert Browning) and Mrs. Claus (Grace Mason) introduced the guests, made necessary announcements and presented the program. (12/24/65)
- Susan Boller, Cathy Clutter and Mary Lou Lowman have been selected to represent MAHS in the Citizenship Contest sponsored by the DAR. Final selection of the "good citizen" will be made by a faculty committee. (12/24/65)
- Two elementary school classes (grades 1 and 2) presented "Santa Saves Christmas", a choral reading. Third and fourth grades presented "The Twelve Days of Christmas." (12/31/65)

Christmas Greetings from Merchant's in Mount Airy – Community Reporter December 24, 1965





The Historical Society of Mount Airy, Maryland
P.O. Box 244
Mount Airy, Maryland 21771



New Year's Greetings from Ridgeville Nurseries –
Community Reporter January 31, 1965