

# 1943

FORT LEONARD WOOD  
*In the Beginning*

January 7

*Pulaski County Democrat*  
POST OFFICE BUILDING HERE  
NOT BIG ENOUGH AND  
NOT ENOUGH HELP

The post office building here is not big enough and neither is there sufficient help to handle the volume of mail that pours out of here every day with long lines of patrons standing in line for service.

One thing that makes for the crowded and sometimes jammed conditions is the excessive general delivery. There are 260 boxes for General Delivery which means that about 2,000 receive their mail through that channel alone. There are 500 rented boxes with from 1

to 10 persons receiving their mail there. About 5,000 persons receive mail at this office with four regular clerks and two substitutes.

More help is needed and more room.

Dear Readers...

Roy Burson of the Burson Cafe and his partner of Kansas City, H. V. Plattner, have built 10 housing units east of town known as Courtesy Court. The Court is modern and up-to-date.

I suppose the WAACs have arrived at Ft. Wood, at least they were expected the first of the year, the first company consisting to three officers and 152 enrolled women. They will replace enlisted men doing much of the work that the men have formerly been doing. They will occupy three new, two-story barracks.

Mrs. Neal D. Williams of Oakwood east of town was a pleasant

visitor in this office last Thursday. One day last week, a friend gave them a young coon and upon the refusal of her colored cook to roast the unusual delicacy, Mrs. Williams proceeded to cook the animal according to the way she thought it ought to be cooked—parboiled in boiling water to which was added plenty of hot pepper thence transferred to the roasting pan, garnished with strips of bacon and roasted to a delicate brown, accompanied by Irish and sweet potatoes with crunch corn sticks, the coon tasting like roast pork. They liked the unusual dish very much. I have been told by others that they are delicious. *[We include this recipe as a service to our readers.]*

Several have informed us that the largest crowd ever known was here Saturday night. If the “drunk” or “drunks” who lost their supper sometime Thursday night (New

*Dear Readers.....*

In this news recap of the beginning of Fort Leonard Wood, we also reprint excerpts from a column called “Dear Readers...,” written by Ruth Long, owner and publisher of the *Pulaski County Democrat*. Ruth and husband V. V. Long bought the *Democrat* in September of 1914. When V. V. Long secured the postmastership in November of 1933, he ceased active management of the paper. His wife Ruth became publisher and their son, Douglas E., editor and business manager. Ruth wrote a weekly column called “Dear Readers...”. News about neighbors and former county residents was interspersed with gems of local history. Ruth’s column reports the emergence of Fort Leonard Wood but her account is a personal one of the boom years of World War II. She notes the changing landscape, expresses awe at the huge military effort and influx of people, while sometimes lamenting the change. We offer her perspective alongside the news articles, all of which are from the *Democrat*.

Year’s Eve) on the street between my home and the Baker hotel, can have same by applying some time after dark. I am getting tired of almost stepping in the “mess” that consisted mainly of meat and potatoes, also some persons must have been extremely “full of spirits” for four empty bottles were left in front of



Pictured above are the tidy white cabins of Courtesy Court, developed by Roy Burson and H. V. Plattner. The two-story house belonged to Roy Burson. It was located on Plattner Avenue in what is now St. Robert (there was no St. Robert then). Several of the cabins still exist, as well as Burson’s house. City of St. Robert Museum.



Daniel Whittle

*Thank You For  
Allowing me to  
serve you as  
Assessor  
of  
Pulaski County*

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at  
Old Settlers Day**

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**Re-Elect  
Brent Bassett  
Pulaski County Clerk  
Republican Candidate**

Paid for by Citizens to elect Brent Bassett, Nichole Bassett Treasurer

my home along the road. Crushed glass is very hard on precious tires. [The Longs lived on North Benton Street across from the Baptist Church, one house from City Park. Their grandson, Judge Douglas Long and his wife, Ruth, now occupy the house.]

It is not only childish but disgusting to hear criticism of any part of the rationing program when only a grain of sense is needed to know that IF it was not VITALLY ESSENTIAL it would not be done. I am glad to say I have heard of very few selfish ones who put their own comfort above that of the fighting forces and starving people. The fact is we have had plenty of everything we need and in most cases too much.—RUTH LONG.

January 14

The Pulaski County Selective Service Board moved their office Thursday of last week into the new Wilson-Long building from the courthouse. [The recently completed Wilson-Long building (August, 1917), built by Roy Wilson and V. V. Long is on the west side of the square, currently the office of Deborah Hooper, attorney. The Pulaski County Democrat office was on the ground floor along with the Greyhound Bus

Station and the draft board was on the second floor.]

Dear Readers...

There is a situation here that calls for drastic action—that of young girls coming here, some from distant states—PENNILESS—who arrive to visit the boy friends, expecting fairies or ravens to feed them and give them shelter and if it turns out to be the ravens no one need to be surprised. Parents are laying down on the job, or the girls leave home suddenly and without many parents knowing their whereabouts.

January 21

Dear Readers...

Walter D. Layton, General Manager of the Pulaski Cab Co., was telling me Monday of the enormous amount of traffic his company handles—they have over 75 vehicles, 30 of them staying within Ft. Wood unless taken out for repairs. The weekly payroll is \$800.

The Waynesville Lions Club of which Dr. C. B. Hadley is president, is interested in a city cemetery for Waynesville and a committee has been named to locate site, price, and many other details that will have to be worked out before anything definite can be done. [Ruth has been on a mission to get a city cemetery. The

original one, Mitchell Cemetery on Main Street near the current library, was full.]

January 28

Dear Readers...

Friday afternoon about 3 pm V. V. and I walked over to Pine Bluff from Highway 28 the first time I have been in that section, although I have admired it from afar.

We sat on a pinnacle of the bluff overlooking the clear green water of this spring-fed stream, and enjoyed the gorgeous view up and down the valley, looking down upon Possum Lodge and Cedar Mere, the former belongs to Mr. and Mrs. Perkins and the latter to Mr. and Mrs. Fred Beneke in St. Louis. Where we were, everything was still and calm but up the valley men and machines were busy on the new bridge across Big Piney a few hundred yards below the old bridge which now handles all the traffic at Devil's Elbow. The new route also could be viewed skirting beautiful Sunset Rest owned by Mr. and Mrs. F. G. Burgard.

February 18

#### WAYNESVILLE USO CLUB TO CELEBRATE ANNIVERSARY

The Waynesville USO Club will celebrate its first anniversary on Sunday, February 28th. A full day of

activity has been scheduled by the Program Committee of the Club, beginning and ending at midnight.

The Waynesville Club is a joint occupancy type, operated by the Salvation Army, Jewish Welfare Board and Y. W. C. A.

Dear Readers...

Many older people have told me and lately too, that the last two wars fought on foreign soil have been no comparison to the Civil War when the whole country was laid waste and the "abomination of desolation" was everywhere. People starving, no clothing, or very little of it and V. V.'s mother was telling me last week that she went barefoot the winter she was 7 years old, carrying water from a spring quite a distance from the house which was the farm on Spring Creek owned for many years by John Pillman, who is well known in this entire section. Soldiers drove away all their cattle, but sent back one cow after her mother had pleaded with them on account of the children.

February 25

#### DR. C. A. TALBOT'S LIFE STORY TO BE PRINTED IN LOOK MAGAZINE

The life story of Dr. C. A. Talbot, one of Pulaski County's best known doctors will appear in an early issue



This is part of the view that Ruth describes in her column. Looking south from the bluff, Possum Lodge is visible on the west bank of the Big Piney River. Possum Lodge was built on this location at least by 1915, its earliest mention in the newspaper. Courtesy of Jan and Terry Primas.



Also visible to Ruth and V. V. Long was Sunset Rest and several log cabins for rent. The building faced the original Route 66. It stood at the intersection of the old road and the new four-lane being built through Hooker Cut. Frank and Nellie Burgard began operating the roadside business in 1937. Charlotte Shelden Smith recalled that the Burgard's had "gas, groceries, and lots and lots of cats." Courtesy of Jan and Terry Primas.

of the magazine Look. Together with pictures of Dr. Talbot, his family and his work will be an article about how the War has affected the health situation in this area in regard to number of doctors, etc.

Dr Talbot was selected by the U. S. Surgeon General's Office as a typical American doctor doing valiant work in our community. He has practiced in Waynesville for the past thirty-two years. For many years he was the only doctor in the community. At the present time he has turned much of his practice to Dr. Clyde Miller who came to Waynesville two years ago to assist him. The fast growing population of Waynesville and surrounding communities proved too much for one doctor to take care of.

Dr. Talbot was born and reared near St. Joseph, Mo., in Buchanan County. He graduated with honors

from Missouri University at Columbia, Mo., and Northwestern University at Chicago, Ill. Following his graduation he practiced in Joplin, Mo., for several years before moving to Waynesville where he has made his home.

Dr. and Mrs. Talbot have three sons, Lt. Blake S. Talbot (J.G.) in the Navy, Charles Talbot, County Agent at Shelbyville, Mo., and Dale E. Bradford, who is stationed in Terrill, Texas with the R. A. F. *(Dr. Talbot finished a building to house his City Drug Store near the corner of Commercial (Historic 66 today) and Maple (Benton) in September 1941, next to Rigsby's Standard Service (Nona's Kitchen).*

#### WATER METERS BEING INSTALLED BY CITY

City Manager Roy Wilson announced this week that workmen were busy installing water meters at

residences and business houses that are connected with the city water system.

At the time the water system was installed in Waynesville, the city was unable to purchase the meters but meter barrels were placed by the construction company at that time. There will be no further deposit charge other than the one paid when connecting with the town system.

February 25

#### COMPLY OR FACE INDICTMENT SAYS OPA

George C. Dyer, Enforcement Attorney for the Office of Price Administration, arrived in Waynesville Friday for interviews and investigation of the rental situation.

Mr. Dyer announced that he had come to Waynesville with the intention of filing injunction proceedings against some of the landlords here

but following interviews with some of them and other investigations will now file criminal proceedings instead if they do not comply with orders of the OPA at once.

While some of the orders may not be fair and equitable, they must be complied with until hearings on complaints may be heard and adjustments made. "Rent gouging involving soldiers and soldiers' dependents are going to be abolished," Mr. Dyer continued.

Any landlords or tenants having complaints to make may file them at Rolla with the temporary Attorney-Director G. Ralph Ernst, who has replaced Eugene Northern.

Bill Brisch, owner of the O. K. Garage here is taking a ground course in aviation at the Rolla School of Mines. His wife is running the garage while he is gone.



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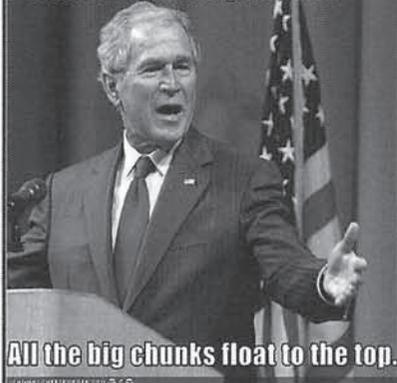
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Thanks  
for flushing  
our  
business  
down the drain!

Politics is like a septic tank.



All the big chunks float to the top.

March 4  
HOUSING SHORTAGE NEAR  
POST BRINGS  
OFFICIAL WARNING

Fort Leonard Wood authorities issued a pointed warning today to wives, parents, and friends of soldiers planning to visit this area. There are few housing facilities available within a 50-mile radius of Fort Leonard Wood.

The continued influx of soldiers' families to the Rolla-Waynesville area has taxed hotels, rooming houses and private dwellings far beyond their normal capacity, and the situation has become serious. In many cases wives, parents and children of soldiers visiting here have been forced to spend the night in autos or hotel lobbies, and some have found it necessary to spend several days in sub-standard tourist cabins while awaiting accommodations.

Traveler's Aid agencies in nearby communities have found it impossible to cope with the situation. Cases continually arise where soldier's families with or without the knowledge of the soldier, arrive unexpectedly in this community's "boom towns" without housing reservations of any kind. Training schedules at

the fort cannot be disrupted to permit the soldier to search for rooms for his family.

Until recently some accommodations had been available, but civilian building has necessarily fallen behind current needs. There is no immediate prospect of alleviation of the situation. Housing facilities on the post itself are limited, and no one is permitted to hold guest-house rooms longer than three days except in rare instances.

Housing agencies point out that visits to soldiers often have a result quite different from what was expected. For example, the 65-year-old mother of one soldier appeared one day in a Traveler's Aid office, asking for a room. No room could be had, the woman was forced to return home on the next train, since her age prevented her making use of hotel chairs as a place to sleep. Children are another source of trouble; there are no places in this area suitable for them. Crowded hotels, dingy tourist cabins and shacks are all they can expect here.

It is pointed out that the army has no objection to soldiers' families visiting them or following them from camp to camp, when adequate

housing is available. Here, however, the facilities are NOT available, and the authorities urge that the families and friends remember that their soldier won't have a pleasant memory of their visit, if they are forced to spend their nights in a car, a shack, or an all-night restaurant.

Buy Pleasant Grove  
Filling Station, Cabins

Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Schuermann of Morgan Heights purchased the Pleasant Grove Filling Station and six cabins west of Waynesville last week from the Regal Heirs of the estate through Minnie Noe, Administrator of the estate. Mr. and Mrs. Schuermann will take charge the first of the week.

March 11  
NOTICE!

Owners of chickens in Waynesville within the city limits are requested to keep them off the city streets and off the property of others. The law will be strictly enforced this year.

WAAC OFFICERS NOW CHOSEN  
FROM THE RANKS

The Women's Army Auxiliary Corp recently announced that from now on every WAAC officer will

be chosen from the ranks. Every member has an equal opportunity to qualify for officer candidate training after completion of her four weeks basic training. A four weeks basic training period is the first step of a newly enrolled WAAC. At the completion of this training each one is given an aptitude test which will determine the type of work for which she is best fitted. If you have special training which the army can use, you will be placed with little further training. Those who have no training will be sent to specialists' schools which teach communications, radio, parachute rigging, gun sight and instrument specialists and many others.

This a chance for the women of America to serve with an organization set up along military lines for the purpose of performing noncombatant duties releasing men for front line duty.

If you would like to "Serve with the WAACs", or would like information, write, U. S. Army Recruiting Office, Springfield, Missouri.

Dear Readers...

I was very much amused Thursday evening when I noted in a daily



Accommodations were scarce in 1943. Butler City, owned by Bob Butler, was one of the numerous cabin courts built during the first Fort Leonard Wood boom. It had the largest number of cabins in the area in 1943—more than two dozen. The cabins varied in size. The larger ones had gable roofs and the smaller ones supported shed or flat roofs. The cabins were portable. Butler City was located on Route 66 where I-44 Exit 161 in St. Robert is today. Courtesy of The State Historical Society of Missouri.



Pleasant Grove was built in the early 1930s on the east side of Route 66 in the small community of Pleasant Grove, as Buckhorn was then known. The cabins, which had private cooking facilities, rented for \$1.00 to \$1.50 a day. Rudy and Clara Schuermann bought the resort in 1943, sold it to John Wall in 1945, who sold it to Edgar Bell and wife in 1946. They renamed it Bell Haven. There was an office/filling station/grocery store which still stands as a private residence. Courtesy of Joe Sonderman.

paper where former Gov. Alf M. Landon of Kansas was "shocked" when some friends of President Roosevelt proposed a 4th term for him. Now, this isn't the only time the President has "shocked" Mr. Landon—he "shocked" him in 1936 by leaving Mr. Landon far to the rear in his presidential aspirations. In fact he has "shocked" Mr. Landon several times. I don't see how he can survive further shocks.

Old Mother Hubbard's cupboard and ours is about the same so far as meat is concerned. The meat shops here the past two days have been empty except for some cheese, lone-some liver in small trays and sparse sausages.

#### WAAC EXAMS FOR WOMEN OF WAYNESVILLE

It was announced today that women in and around Waynesville will have the opportunity to enlist in the Womens Army Auxiliary Corps, more commonly know as the WAACs, on March 23rd. The exams are open to any woman citizen of the U. S. between the ages of 21 to 44 inclusive, who is physically, mentally and morally sound, and who have no dependents or children under 14. Applications will be accepted

up until the time for examination. Applicants will have transportation paid to and from the examination and will be given an allowance for food and quarters. Write or visit the Army Recruiting Office, New Federal Building, Springfield, Mo., and find out how you can help win the war by "Serving with the WAACs".

March 25

Dear Readers...

I forgot to tell you last week that we have had two of our popular and longtime cafes close—the Owl operated by Mr. Martin and the Bell owned by Mr. and Mrs. W. L. Thomas. Now we have other popular cafes here but they are all handicapped by not being able to accommodate the crowds and the closing makes for much hardship on the eating public. Shortage of help and inability to obtain certain foods was the cause.

150 WAACs have arrived at Fort Wood and I won't be surprised to hear that they have captured the fort without firing a shot heavier than one of cupid's darts.

April 1

#### Hanna Post Office Discontinued This Week

By the time this is being read the

Post Office at Hanna, Missouri, will have ceased to exist, a casualty of the war.

Established 45 years ago, it has served a large territory and is no doubt one of the best known inland post offices in the Ozarks. It saw the transition from the pony express rider to the auto and airplane. Its mail was carried by ponyback and sometimes on foot. But the establishment of Fort Leonard Wood nearby restricted its territory to such an extent that it was deemed unnecessary to continue it so the department ordered it to be discontinued.

Hanna was more than a post office address, it was a community. Its familiar postmark spelled "home" to many boys now fighting for Uncle Sam on all the far-flung battlefronts of this global war, and the passing of the old post office will bring a feeling of nostalgia to many of them. To many of the old-timers it will be like the passing of an old friend you are accustomed to see every day for years, then suddenly drop from sight.

It would be interesting to know just how many birth certificates have been issued giving Hanna, Mo. as the birthplace. So Hanna is gone and at 4:00 p. m. Thursday, March

31st, 1943, it postmarked its last letter, canceled its last stamp, and quietly slipped into the shadows of "Never, Never Land" and is now but a legend of the Ozarks and a story of "Once Upon A Time.: written by C. C. Smith for the PCD.

April 8

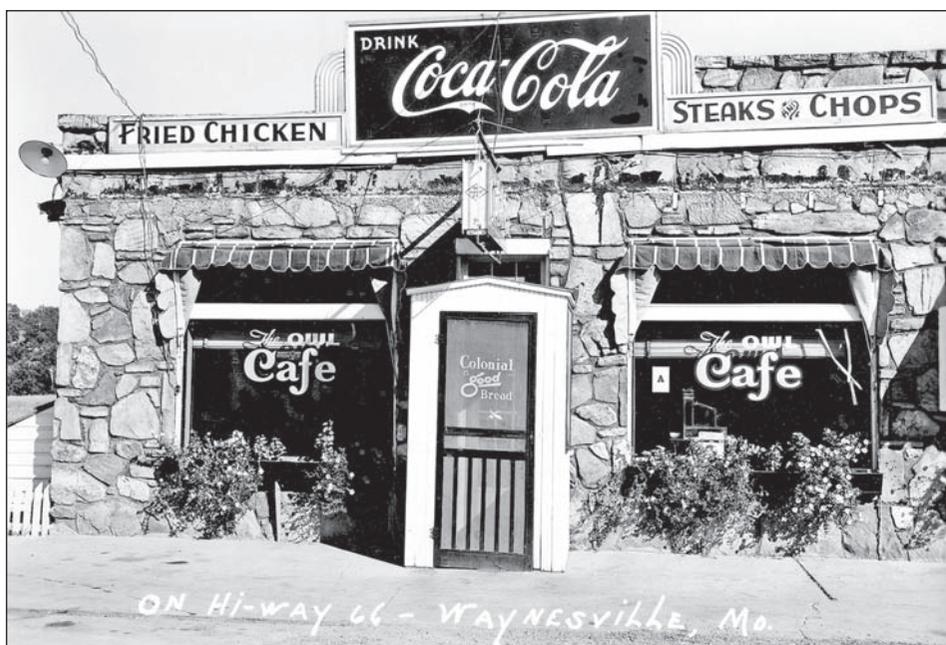
#### LONGS SELL LOT ON MAIN STREET

Mr. and Mrs. V. V. Long here sold a business lot on Main Street last week to Bill Finley of the Ft. Wood Cab Co., formerly of Centralia, Ill and brother Dewey of St Louis.

The lot is 20 x 148 feet located near the center of Main St. where the Democrat building formerly stood. [The newspaper office burned in 1939 which explains why the issues from 1917 to 1940 are not on microfilm. The vacant lot sold by the Longs to the Finley brothers is the east 20-foot wide portion of the current Hoppers Pub building.]

They plan to start a new building about May 1st, the full length of the lot up to where the two lane highway (Hwy. 66) is surveyed to the rear. The lot fronts 66 on the north.

The building will house the office of the cab company and a bowling alley.



The Owl Cafe was in the front of Carl Brisch's garage building on the south side of Route 66 in West Waynesville. It closed but reopened in 1943 when Lucille Ransdall bought the business. She operated The Owl until 1955. Courtesy of Jan and Terry Primas.



Iva Mae Dye Case in front of the Hanna store/post office. The store was built of rubble rock with decorative concrete top corners. Stella Dye was postmistress when it closed (Harvey Dye 1918-1942). Courtesy of Georgia Dye Primus.

May 6

**BIGGEST WEEKEND FOR WAYNESVILLE BUSINESS MEN**

As reflected by the local banks clearings on Monday following, Mr. Rollins says; Waynesville business men enjoyed the heaviest business in the town's history.

The Waynesville Security Bank received on deposit of last Monday 259 deposits totaling \$101,628.76. The healthy business tone was shown by the ordinary size of any single deposit only one deposit was up to \$6,500, one around \$5,000, and all others \$4,000 and less, no one large deposit was received to boost the total of the day.

The day's clearings showed 648 checks totaling \$40,288.42 and cleared on the banks own accounts and 1079 checks totaling \$41,107.07 on other institutions. The efficient officers in charge at the bank's windows kept the customers moving and all were waited on without much delay.

The bank's officials take this minute to thank the bank's customers for their orderly way in assisting us with the "business jam" on busy days and assure them of the bank's willingness to serve them.

May 13

**Big Flood.**

Water had taken possession of 17 rows of seats in the Ft. Wood Theatre here Wednesday. The Roubidoux takes charge of the theatre about this time annually.

June 3

**BUILDING MODERN BRICK AND TILE STRUCTURE ON MAIN ST.**

Bill and Dewey Finley of this place are building a modern brick and tile two story structure on Main St. here, work commencing last week with the excavating by Dan Smith and Buck Graham.

The building will be 20 ft. by 148 ft., the entire length of the lot to the alley.

A contractor and architect from St. Louis is in charge of the work. The lot was bought recently from Mr. and Mrs. V. V. Long and the building will replace the Democrat building destroyed by fire over a year ago. Offices of the Ft. Wood Cab Co., will be in part of the building, also a bowling alley.

June 17

**ACCUSED OF OVERCHARGING BY THE O. P. A.**

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Atwill here posted bond in Springfield Monday in the first proceedings filed in the Springfield's Federal court for alleged violation of rent ceilings.

The information includes nine counts and was prepared in Kansas City last Saturday by assistant U. S. district Attorney Richard Phelps.

The information charged that the Atwills, operators of the Baker Hotel here, doubled or more than doubled rent on rooms allowed under the ceiling set for Waynesville.

The government charges these

violations: charging of Lt. and Mrs. Harold Levinson \$7.00 a week for a \$3.60 room on May 27th; charging Pvt. and Mrs. W. E. Duff \$5 for a \$2 room on May 26; charging Lt. and Mrs. Robert C. Britt \$10 a week for a \$4.75 room on May 19th; charging Walter H. Beach \$10 for a \$4.75 room on May 17; charging Pvt. and Mrs. Donald Muckey \$5.00 for a \$2 basement room on May 21; charging Mrs. Ruth Walstrom and husband \$7.00 for a \$3.50 room on May 28; charging Lt. and Mrs. John A. Rogers \$6 for a \$3 attic room; charging Pvt. and Mrs. Robert Sander \$5.00 for a \$3.00 basement room.

[In his defense, Ralph Atwill told a St. Louis Post-Dispatch reporter that he bought the hotel for \$12,500 from the heirs of the Baker estate last October 15. The filing of rent regulations, he

asserted, was taken care of by Gertrude Baker, former operator of the hotel, and last January 3 he received final instructions from the OPA rent board, he added, and has been operating in accordance with those instructions ever since.

"The hotel and the annex, which I built as my home for \$1600, are filled all the time," Atwill said. "We can't possibly take care of the demand for rooms around here."

Taylor Sandison, State Attorney, for the OPA for Eastern Missouri, said the information against Atwill and his wife charge that from an investment of \$1600 in the annex, they had been obtaining \$290 in rent each month. The OPA rent control board had permitted them to take a maximum of \$147 a month.—from St. Louis Post-Dispatch, June 13, 1943.]



The Baker Hotel was located on the northwest corner of the square in Waynesville. Ralph and Mattie Atwill bought the hotel in 1917. In 1918 they were charged with violation of wartime rent controls. Jan and Terry Primas.

**Sue RAPONE**  
**Treasurer**

*Thank you for allowing me to serve as your treasurer*



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Dear Readers...

...While in this office last week on business, Frank A. Jones of Gasconade Farms near Hazel Green on the Gasconade, said he found that he had made a mistake when he raised his son to be a farmer and when my look registered a question mark he said that he should have raised him to be a coal miner and his inference was plain. Now, everyone knows that the lot of the coal miner and their families have been hard and dangerous work, but the past few years have seen much improvement in their wages and living standards but this war and the front line trenches are dangerous, too.

Mr. Jones and his son are producing Grade A milk for the soldiers at Ft. Wood and it is being distributed through a dairy. They have been plowing at night with a tractor and he reports great damage to his fields



in the Gasconade bottom during the recent

floods. I have only been privileged to visit Gascozark farms once but hope to again before the year is out.

It is one of the most beautiful places that I have ever seen, the home and grounds and the setting is ideal.



A partial view above of Frank Allison Jones's farm on the bank of the Gasconade River which he named Gasconade Hereford Ranch. Among several efforts, he built a dairy and milk processing operation. He also developed Gasconade Hills Resort on the grounds. An in-depth article on GHR is in the 2007 *Old Settlers Gazette*. Courtesy of Jason Jones.

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August 12

**START PAVING EAST OF TOWN THIS WEEK**

The Hite Paving Co. commenced work on paving the 7-mile stretch on U. S. Highway 66 east of town this week.

Several months has elapsed since anything has been done to this section of the highway which is a part of the super-highway that was halted several months after Fort Leonard Wood was built. The fills and other preliminary work was completed several months ago.

Work is going forward slowly on the new bridge across Big Piney at Devil's Elbow but this section is not part of the paving being done at this time.

The work being done now is nearby and adjacent to what has been known as the Wye.

[This refers to the work on Highway 66 which included the four-lane from Missouri Avenue junction to the top of Waynesville Hill.]

August 26

**Tut's Open For business**

Floyd Mooney, manager of the Red Front store here has rented the Brisch building on the north side of the Square and opened a new cafe with new furnishings and air-conditioning, the cafe being known as Tut's. The cafe is operated by Nelson (Tut) Royalty. The cafe is very attractive both as to appearances and eats.



Sept 9

**OPA RENT CONTROLLERS LOSE FIRST WAYNESVILLE CASE**

Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Atwill of Waynesville, operators of the Baker Hotel and Annex were winners over the OPA Rent Controllers in a half dozen suits filed against them in Springfield District Federal Court which came to a conclusion yesterday when a jury took 65 minutes to decide the case.

The were alleged by the OPA to have violated rent ceilings set by that agency.

**STATE HIGHWAY NEWS**

The State Highway Department at Jefferson City reports that much road building is being carried

on, essential to the war effort and consists not only of highways, but bridges. Other classifications include those for the transportation of war workers, farm and mine products.

In Pulaski County in the vicinity of Ft. Leonard Wood are 4.8 miles of grading, structures and 22-foot concrete pavement. A four-lane bridge is being constructed over Big Piney river on U. S. 66 near Devils Elbow, 10 miles east of Waynesville. [The state called for bids on the new bridge construction proposal but there were no takers for the first letting of the contract. Hooker Cut, the new bridge, and pavement construction was considerably delayed due to shortage of men and cement because of the war.



At first, Tut's Cafe shared the Brisch building with Adkins Refrigeration and Appliance store. The rear part of Adkins was also the bus station for a time. Mabel Mottaz's house is partly visible on the right. Lettering on Tut's window reads "Frosty Malt 10 ¢." Postcard courtesy of John Bradbury. Tut's glass courtesy of Jan and Terry Primas.

*The projects east of the intersection with Highway 28 were not completed until September of 1945.]*

October 14

**FT. WOOD CAB CO. ROBBED OF \$350 EARLY LAST SUNDAY MORNING**

The Ft. Wood Cab Company was robbed at 5:40 a.m. Sunday morning and \$350 was taken from the cash register after the bandits in civilian clothes had struck a woman employee over the head with a blunt instrument, dragging her to a men's restroom in the rear of the bowling alley in the building.

The money was the proceeds from the bowling alley in the building and of the Cab company owned jointly by two brothers, Dewey and Bill Finley. [The Finley Building, the construction of which was announced in April, was completed and the bowling alley operational in the 20-foot wide building, now east side of Hopper's Pub in Waynesville.]

October 21

Elmer Barton, of Valley View Store and post office near Hooker on U. S. 66 was here last week and advanced their Democrat subscription. [A yearly subscription to the Democrat was still \$1.00 per year or a cord of wood.]

We may be the fastest growing community in the nation as a St. Louis Star Times reporter wrote in the Wednesday, Oct. 6th issue but

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• *12 Angry Men*

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• *Pinocchio*

June 7, 8, 9, \* 14, 15, 16, \* 21, 22

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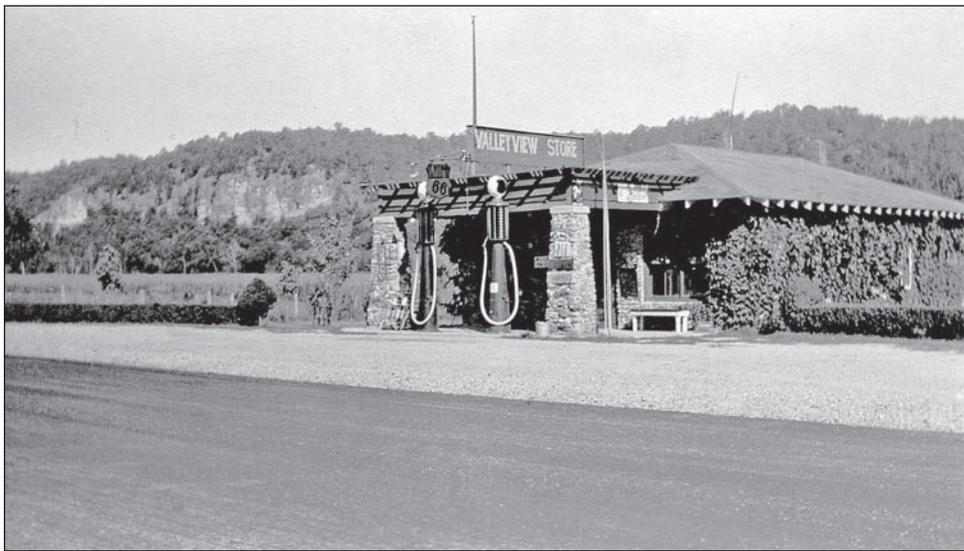
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**KEVIN HILLMAN**  
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY  
PULASKI COUNTY, MISSOURI

Enjoy Old Settlers Day  
and

Thank you for the opportunity to serve the people of Pulaski County as Prosecuting Attorney.



Valley View store was on the original gravel Route 66 in Hooker near where the old sawmill is visible on the south side of I-44 before crossing the Big Piney. Pine Bluff is visible above looking northwest on the other side of the river. It was owned by Elmer and Bertie Barton. Elmer became Hooker postmaster in 1942-43. Bertie then became postmaster from 1943 until 1955 when it was discontinued. Valley View was the last business to close on the old Route 66 through Hooker. Courtesy of Joe Sonderman.

we are not all that was claimed for us, for instance it was said that our only bank, the Waynesville Security, was housed in an ordinary wooden store building with only a padlock on the door, which is a mis-statement for the building is concrete and the safe and other fixtures are as good as any to be found in banks. Sam T. Rollins is the president; W. L. Burchard is the Cashier; and Mrs. W. L. Burchard is the Ass't Cashier. If there is a padlock on the door I have never seen it.

We DO have many old ramshackle cabins and buildings which are nothing but fire traps but we also

have several modern cabin camps. We NEED about 150 modern new homes here which would take away much of the congestion.

Bill Finley, who with his brother Dewey, own the Ft. Wood Cab Co. here and a new modern business building here on Main St. has many ideas for the betterment of the town and community—the making of more paved streets, more recreation of the right kind, and many more improvements. He and his family live about a mile east of the Wye on U. S. 66.

More than 800 are enrolled in the Grade and High school here.

October 28  
NEWSBITS FROM  
FT. LEONARD WOOD

Members of the three WAC detachments now stationed at Fort Leonard Wood were awarded their first service ribbons last week. The ribbons signify service in the WAAC before it became the WAC and a part of the regular army. After the war a suitable medal will be struck off and awarded to all ribbon-holders. The WAC ribbons are green with narrow gold bands at each end.

JAMES CURRAN REBUILDING FOLLOWING FIRE RECENTLY  
Mr. and Mrs. James Curran here are re-building on the site where the old structure was destroyed by fire about two weeks ago.

The dimensions are 30x40 of tile and exterior white stucco.

Living quarters to the rear, consisting of two large rooms with bath are to the rear of the main business building.

A public rest room and store room combined is being built adjacent to the main building.

The walls are practically finished.



Curran's Cafe new concrete block building was located just west of the Roubidoux Bridge on Highway 66 on the eastbound lane across from the road from the Bell Hotel. This view is from the mid-1950s. It was one of the longest-lived roadside eateries on the highway in Pulaski, changing its specialty and name to Curran's Hickory Smoke House in 1961 and lasting into the mid-1960s. It had a glass-walled smokehouse so you could watch the barbecuing. Today the building is Steve's Place tavern.

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- Pulaski County Museum
- Route 66 Scenic Byway
- Roubidoux Spring and Trophy Trout Area
- "W. H. Croaker," the Waynesville Hill frog
- Blue Star Memorial Site

And More

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**Thank you for allowing me  
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**RACHELLE BEASLEY**  
Pulaski County Circuit Clerk  
573-774-4755  
Rachelle.Beasley@courts.mo.gov

Employment opportunities for civilian residents of the area surrounding the fort were announced this week by the Civilian Personnel Office. Both men and women are needed. Vacancies exist at the post laundry, where bundlers, wrappers, press operators and others are sought at pay rates carrying from 43 cents to 49 cents an hour. Typists and stenographers are needed for jobs paying \$1260 to \$1440 yearly, plus overtime. Typists must have a speed of 35 words per minute and stenographers must be able to take dictation at the rate of 80 words per minute.

November 4

#### CIRCUIT CLERK BUYS OWL CAFE HERE

Circuit Clerk Mart Ballew here bought the Owl Cafe in west Waynesville last week from K. E. Weaver.

J. D. Herbert who has lived in Waynesville the past 3 years will manage the business.

The restaurant is being cleaned and re-decorated. The building is owned by Deputy Sheriff Carl M. Brisch.

#### OLD CHURCH IN ARMY CAMP AREA DISBANDED

The construction of Fort Leonard Wood near here will result in the removal of many landmarks, but none will be missed more by Pulaski County residents than the old Friendship Church, about two miles from Bloodland,

The congregation held its last formal service, an all day meeting with a bountiful basket dinner, two weeks ago. At the business meeting, the church clerk, Mrs. Roy Atkinson, was authorized to grant letters of dismissal to the membership to join with other churches. The old church is in the midst of the new army cantonment.

The church has been closely connected with the religious and social life of the county almost throughout its entire history, and it is credited by many for the fact that Pulaski County has a larger proportion of Baptists in its population than any other county in Missouri.

#### Church 83 Years Old.

According to Mrs. Mae Gan Cox of Waynesville, the first services of the church were held about 83 years

ago, when four women including Mrs. Cox's grandmother, asked an itinerant Baptist minister, the Rev. Calloway Manes, to preach in their community.

The Rev. Manes was a man of strong convictions, and during the Civil war, after being warned against his preachings and having persisted in his views, he was called to the door of his home in Waynesville one night and shot and killed by bushwhackers. His nephew, the Rev. J. N. Manes, later preached at Old Friendship for 20 years.

Other ministers who preached and were licensed to preach in the old church included T. J. Zumwalt, Wesley Logan, Silas Page and his grandson, Elmer Page, and the Rev. Messrs. Wheeler, Springer, Hendricks, Anthony, Mustain, Thomas, Milt Hibbs, Daniel Turner, W. C. Peterson, C. A. Ormsbee, J. W. Bullcock, Joseph Renfroe, W. V. Rook, T. J. Mickels, Clifford Bartlett, Charles Roach, Harry Zumwalt, Roy Atkinson and the present pastor, Andy Sheppard.

#### Served Without Salaries

The early pastors usually served

without pay, receiving only such gifts of clothing and food as the members chose to present, and thus avoiding the stigma of preaching for money. During 1871, for example, the records show that the congregation paid the Rev. J. N. Manes the sum of \$22.35 for the year's work, and in meeting his obligations to the church the Rev. Mr. Manes rode on horseback a distance of between 20 and 30 miles and returned each week-end. In January, 1905, the church voted to hire a janitor and employed J. H. Gan at a salary of 25 cents a month. Gan held that position for seven years.

In the early days matters of religion were handled by the men, and it was not until 1909 that a woman was elected to an office in the church. Mrs. Alice Posten then was elected church clerk and held that position until her death in 1939.

#### First Building Was Log House

The original church building was a small log house erected before the Civil War. When the summer work was ended and protracted meetings were held, services were sometimes conducted in brush arbors adjoining



## CARRYING ON

LEFT—A quarter century after the writer of that immortal poem "Trees" was killed on a battlefield in France [see page 5], his son is carrying on the Kilmer military tradition, beginning his career with the New York National Guard Regiment, "The Fighting 69<sup>th</sup>", as a private, just as his father, whom he never saw, did. Christopher Kilmer, 25, is a lieutenant and mortar platoon leader in the 289th Infantry's Company M, Fort Wood. Acme World Wide Photos courtesy of Jan and Terry Primas.

RIGHT— Private Jennie York, WAC and cousin of Sergeant Alvin York of World War I fame [see page 4], takes her turn at KP at Fort Leonard Wood, MO. Formerly a waitress at Clinton, Tenn., home of the York clan, Private York says there must be "at least a Battalion of Yorks" serving in the Army in the present conflict, plus several in the Navy. — U. S. Army Signal Corps Photo from Acme, courtesy of Jan and Terry Primas.



the building to accommodate the crowd. The present frame building was erected in 1901, largely by donated work by the members. This building will be removed to make way for the army camp.

Although the church as an organization was disbanded, further services will be held from time to time until the building is razed. The members voted to distribute the proceeds from sale of the church property by giving one half to the district missions, one fourth to the church co-operative program and one-eighth each to the hospitals at Rolla and Lebanon. They appointed Roy Atkinson, Henry Bailey and Whis Dye as trustees to supervise the distribution of the proceeds of the sale.

—Reprinted by request from *St. Louis Post-Dispatch* during “Boom Period.”

November 25  
DEER SEEN NEAR TOWN  
BY MRS. JOHN BALES

Mrs. John Bales of near town saw an unusual sight Friday morning November 12<sup>th</sup> about 11 o'clock when a young deer ran across their pasture and crossed the road onto the Wilbur Johnson pasture. The animal was about half-grown and apparently frightened by a jeep driven by a soldier along the road. Mr. and Mrs. Bales live on the Orville Laughlin farm. *[Yes, deer were so rare that a sighting made the news in the paper.]*

December 9  
**Newsbits from Ft. Leonard Wood**  
Fort Leonard Wood was three years old this week. On a blustery day in December, 1940, the vanguard of a construction army numbering 32,000 workmen descended on the wilderness of the Mark Twain

National Forest to begin the task of carving a huge army encampment out of the tangle of scrub oak and rocky hills. Six months later the fort was completed, and the first troops were already in training. Old-timers here recalled this week that when they first arrived on the post, such things as running water and electricity were unheard of. They heated water for shaving on improvised stoves, then carried the water to basins placed on shelves ranged around the room. Baths were obtainable only at nearby towns.

Today the fort has a modern, high-capacity water purification plant, many miles of surfaced roads, its own railroad spur, a bus line, fire department, and every other facility needed by a “city” its size. Hundreds of thousands of men (exact numbers cannot be revealed) have been trained here and sent to fighting

fronts all over the world, and the fort is still going strong.

**Newsbits from Ft. Leonard Wood**  
An epidemic has struck the fort's Headquarters WAC detachment—an epidemic of weddings. Three weddings between soldiers and WACs during the past week has brought the total for the past 20 days to five weddings, and the WAC detachment's commanding officer has been moved to call her girls “The Marryin' Platoon.”

December 16  
**MUST PREVENT LIVESTOCK FROM STRAYING INTO FORT WOOD RESERVATION**  
Farmers and stockmen in this area were warned this week that they must prevent their livestock from straying into the Ft. Leonard Wood reservation. Artillery and small-arms firing is conducted daily, and cattle and horses frequently have

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wandered into the danger zone. The Government is not liable for damage to or destruction of livestock permitted to wander onto the military reservation.

The new fire truck delivered December 7 is being stored in Bill Brisch's new garage in West Waynesville. [Carl Brisch, Bill Brisch's brother, was the Fire Chief. The new garage was the O. K. Garage, pictured opposite.]

#### NEW BUILDINGS UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Work is progressing on all the new home and business buildings here among which is the Witt business building joining the United Telephone office. The building is large of tile and brick and will be occupied by George Morris. [This was the Victory Pub building.]

#### Newsbits from Ft. Leonard Wood

Here's what WACs at Fort Leonard Wood want for Christmas, as revealed by a survey completed last week: First on the list is cologne, an almost unanimous choice of the girls questioned. Next comes cosmetics, mostly lipsticks; silk stockings, stationery, fountain pens and frilly pin ---s. And at least one WAC wants Santa to bring her—a pound of good old American cheese and a box of crackers.

Despite the threatened shortage of Christmas trees this year there'll be no lack of cheer for patients at the fort's Station Hospital. Over 80 trees will be erected at the hospital, one in each ward, mess hall, and laboratory, and several in the Red Cross recreation building.

Dear Readers...

Many have asked me to write about the "boom that came to Waynesville" and the era that preceded it—it would take too much space but I will try to condense.

Two years ago, before Pearl Harbor, although growing slowly, Waynesville continued to be a



At the corner of Oak Street and Route 66 is a large brick building. William Brisch constructed the building in 1943, characterized by the Democrat as "the largest brick building in West Waynesville." It was christened the O. K. Garage, selling Chrysler and Plymouth autos. It also contained a machine shop. William was the younger brother of Carl Brisch, the Pontiac dealer since 1926. The painted garage sign is very visible on the east side of the building, above right. On the west side, barely visible, is "Oldsmobile," the result of Mark Twain Motors occupying the building from 1955 to 1958 as the new Olds dealer in town. The building was sold at auction by Brisch on June 19, 1962. The garage has recently been rehabbed by a local entrepreneur. Photos by Terry Primas.

typical Ozark town, a county-seat town, where the main events centered about the circuit-court room semi-annually where the county scandals, as printed in the court docket, in the criminal section, although small, was enough to set the whole country talking.

Funerals were few and far apart and they still continue that way though we have a population of at least 3,500.

Before Pearl Harbor, Waynesville enjoyed lazy summer days when friends and neighbors including women and children congregated on the Courthouse lawn to visit and gossip about everything in general and nothing in particular. Children played through the early summer nights going home to bed and to sleep. Their favorite games were hide-and-seek and the whirr of the roller skates could be heard, with shouts and laughter.

Folk from the farms round about made it a point to gather on Saturday to trade and visit with friends.

Groups of friends gathered regularly for picnics where the main event was the bountiful lunch, most of which was cooked over a fire out in the open with chicken and fish

being the favorites, fried potatoes and coffee made in the open which is always better than that made at home. Swimming, boating and fishing were enjoyed. Without doubt Waynesville is ideally situated for the enjoyment of the wholesome things in life.

Regardless of what you may have heard to the contrary, Waynesville continues to be a Church-going town, with two churches, the Baptist and Methodist with Catholics conducting services in the Ft. Wood Theater building on Sunday mornings. In spite of the influx, the churches have continued their unprecedented growth and crowds of young people attend all the services which is heartening. Before the "boom" all the town's activities centered about the Churches and school. Although motion pictures were brought here, they died a natural death until the advent of Ft. Leonard Wood; now we have two large ones.

We continue to 'point with pride' to our pre-civil war history and the Old Fort on the south hill overlooking the Roubidoux.

Each year another main event was the "Homecoming picnic"

attended by the whole county and several hundred former residents who timed their annual visits then, usually the week-end in August preceding the Primary Election, where the main topic was "politics."

A sociable, homely atmosphere of intimate life as lived daily in a small town in which the whole community was on a "big family" scale with the usual "falling out" and "reconciliations." A wholesome life.

Then came Dec. 7th, 1941—that Day of Infamy and all this was changed—surveyors appeared on the local scene—people—men, women, and some children, strangers appeared on the streets of Waynesville looking for a place to open up a business and staying until they found it which sometimes ran into weeks for Waynesville citizens have always held on to their property like leeches. [This part of the time line is not exactly correct. Mrs. Long implies that the boom started with Pearl Harbor, but the fort had already been established for a year. The construction boom of building the fort was during the early part of 1941.]

A Chamber of Commerce was quickly formed in the old weather beaten courthouse (by the way, what has become of that organization?)

The lazy days were over when checkers provided the main interest on slow, summer afternoons.

The "rush" for the Almighty Dollar began in earnest and continues until this minute.

You will find all the main events chronicled in the Democrat whose business it is to tell of life (birth) and death, accidents, tragedies, wrecks, sickness, recovery, and the little personal, intimate details as written in this column.

Ruth Long



The 1918 Red Cross Christmas Seals received less publicity this year due to the push for Thrift Stamps and War Bonds.

## FOR SALE

**PIKES PEAK CAVE CLUBHOUSE**

12 acres—2 complete homes—  
1 cabin—large chicken house with electric, gas and running water. Rental income \$100.00 month. In cave is large dance pavilion, kitchen, etc. For past 30 months the cave has been used as a commissioned officers' recreational center for Fort Leonard Wood officers and their guests and has been very profitable.

Property has approx. 2,000 ft. river frontage, 1000 ft. on Gasconade River and 1000 ft. on Roubidoux River. Very good fishing, boating and swimming and one of the most scenic spots in the Ozarks.

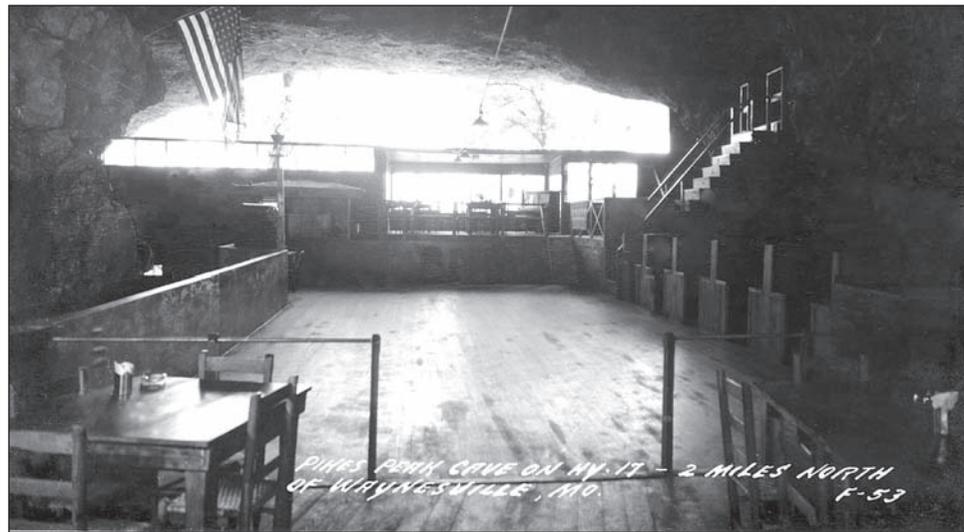
Priced very low. Located 2 miles North of Waynesville on Route 17.

See GIL SWANSON, Owner

Phone Waynesville 5120 or 5112

*ad in Pulaski County Democrat, December 9 and 16, 1943.*

The cave and grounds were developed commercially in the early part of the 20th century by B. F. "Sam" Scott (see page 11). It has been known by a variety of names: Kraft, Indian, Roubidoux, Saltpeter, and Swanson. However, it was most often called Pikes Peak Cave, referring to the towering limestone bluff in which it is located at the confluence of Roubidoux Creek and the Gasconade River. Scott built a two-story structure at the roadside, calling it the Pikes Peak Club. The cave has two openings a short way up the bluff, as seen in the picture below. At least as early as



1916, St. Louisans were renting the club house for summer vacations and to escape the city heat. Pulaski County had long been a vacation destination for city folk and sportsmen. First they came by train, taking a hack from the depot to the resort. As the roads improved, so did the number of vacationists. By the 1930s, there were more than 30 resorts on the Gasconade and Big Piney rivers in Pulaski County.

In 1939, Gilbert Swanson and wife relocated from Chicago to the Pikes Peak Club's twelve acres, which had 2000 feet of river frontage evenly divided between the Roubidoux and Gasconade. They built another house and had two rental cottages. In 1941, the Army leased riverfront access at the mouth of the Roubidoux for soldiers to use as a swimming hole "under the watchful eyes of the Military Police and life guards."

Swanson realized that the cave had other possibilities besides underground exploration, particularly

with the swelling military population and tourists on nearby Route 66. He installed sewer tiles to drain some of the interior stream water, installed a cistern, built a dance floor that could accommodate 60 couples (above), and equipped a kitchen (seen in 1951 entrance below right). The smaller upper entrance contained a large ledge that became the Musician's Balcony, reached by stairs visible above.

In December of 1943, Gil Swanson advertised that Pikes Peak Clubhouse was for sale. Part of the enticement stated, "For the past 30 months the cave has been used as a commissioned officers' recreational center for Fort Leonard Wood officers and their guests and has been very profitable." It could be that the Swansons tired of operating the cave/restaurant/dance hall or that business waned, but it did not sell and they retained ownership. They began a seasonal operation, closed during the winter months but available for special occasions, such as the Christmas party for the

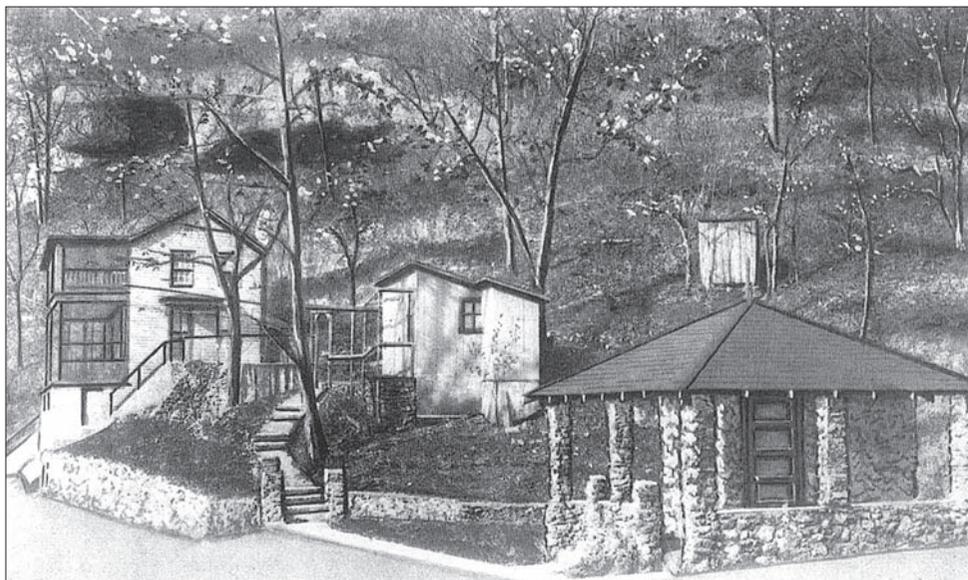


Waynesville Senior High School class on December 18, 1946.

The season during the early 1950s began June 1 with tours daily. About 1,000 feet of electric lights lit the main passage to where crawling was necessary. More than 3,000 Indian artifacts from the cave and grounds were on display. There was dancing nightly from 7:30 to 11:30 p.m. The biggest difference in this decade from the 1940s was that the dancing was primarily to juke box music rather than musicians on the balcony. Live music was irregularly booked during the season. The cafe was open from 11 a.m to 11 p.m., featuring barbecue ribs, chicken, and a variety of sandwiches.

Gilbert Swanson died in the early 1960s and his wife sold the cave in 1962. There were at least two more operators in the mid-1960s when fire destroyed the frame buildings and the commercial era of Pikes Peak Cave came to an end. Its notoriety devolved into being a destination for rescue parties extracting fun-seeking soldiers who got lost in the cave.

—pictures and text from *Route 66 in Pulaski County, Missouri—a local history* by Terry Primas



Ruth Long recapped a bit of the history of the “boom” brought to Pulaski County by the construction of Fort Leonard Wood on page 26. It all started with piles of lumber in 1941, below. Here are some other images from 1943.



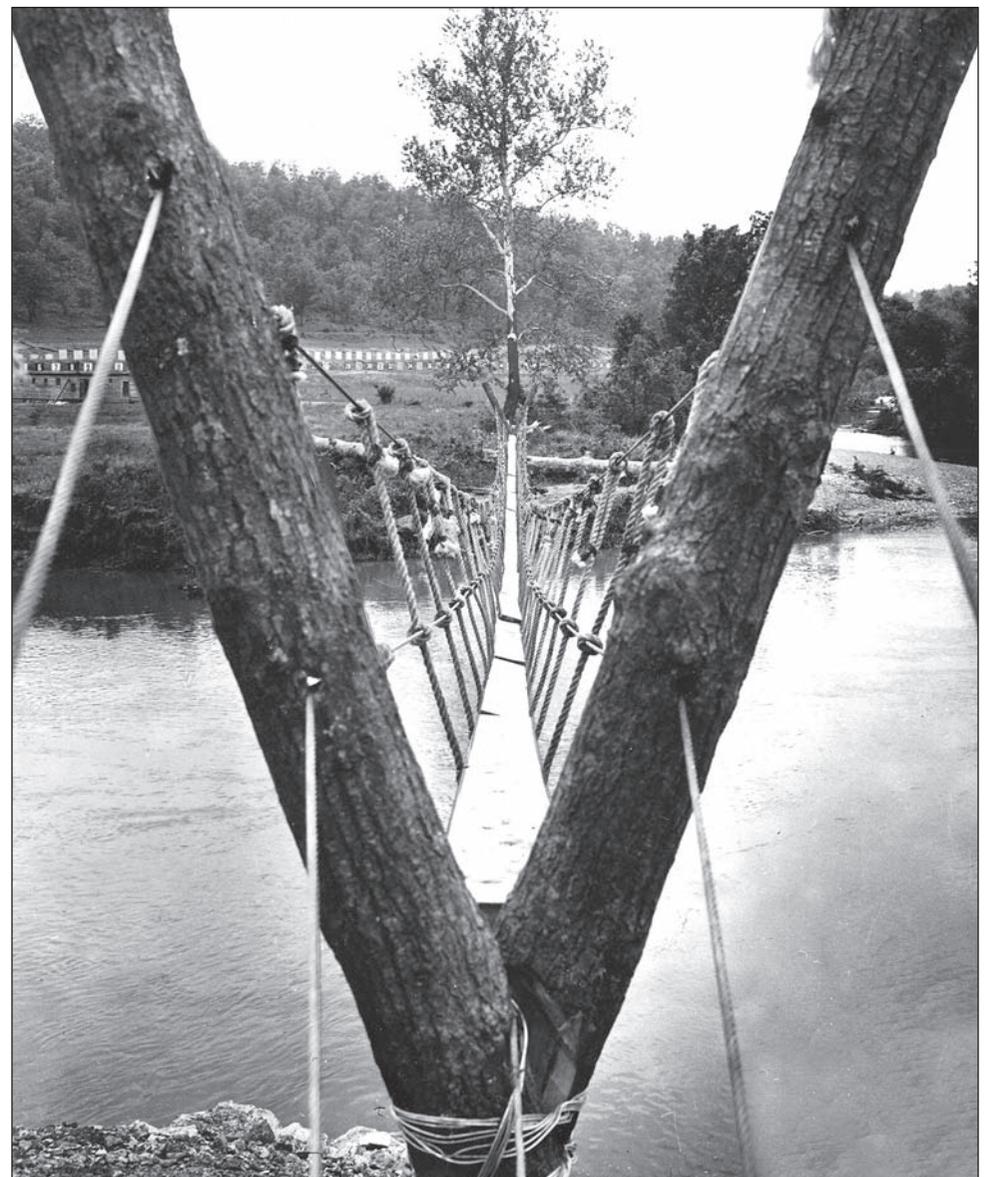
**Above** It takes a lot of lumber to provide quarters for the 37,000 men who will occupy the camp after April 1, 1941. Here are some of the piles of timber in the storage yard. More than 54,000,000 feet of lumber will be used to build the camp's 1,540 separate buildings. January 22, 1941.

**Top Right** Randall Chang, 18, who at the age of 14 killed two Japs during guerrilla fighting in China, now a U. S. soldier in the 75th Infantry Division, Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., is shown in his favorite sniping pose. June 30, 1943.

**Bottom Right** This toggle -type bridge, in the form of a striking “V”, was erected by cooks, clerks and supply personnel of the 75th Infantry Division's engineer battalion at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. Toggle bridges are built on five cables slung across a stream and may be constructed in a matter of minutes. June 18, 1943.

**Below** “Now youse guys wanna see what goes on in this man's Army, huh? You, on de left, wipe off the grin! Number two! The hat, fix the hat!, and you, Five, trow out yer chest, don't fall on it!” And while the Sergeant may not have said just that, these Missouri Industrialists tried a 24 hour hitch in the Army at Fort Leonard Wood. As guests of the War Department, they got a typical G. I. day and liked it. *Left to right:* C. M. O'Toole, Blackmer-Post Co., St. Louis; E. C. Peper, Peper Tobacco Co., St. Louis; H. H. Holden, Springfield, Mo.; J. C. Graves, Springfield, Mo.; C. Schade, St. Louis, Blackmer-Post Co.; Frank E. Fisher, Chillicothe. The men are under the direction of Lieut. Maurice Huddart. September 17, 1943.

Photographs on this page by Acme Worldwide, courtesy of Jan and Terry Primas.



## WAACs Arrive!

On March 20, 1943, the first WAACs arrived at Fort Leonard Wood, a contingent of 154 members of the Women's Auxiliary Army Corps. They trained at Fort Des Moines, Iowa.

The organization for women in the military in World War II required two versions. Congresswoman Edith Nourse Rogers of Massachusetts introduced legislation in May of 1941 to establish a women's corps, separate from the Army Nurse Corps, that would work with the Army "for the purpose of making available to the national defense the knowledge, skill and special training of the women of the nation." Rogers wanted the members of the women's corps to receive equal pay, pension, and disability benefits as that afforded the regular

G. I. However, the Army was resistant to women serving directly in the ranks. Compromises were made and the bill languished until Pearl Harbor in December. Fearing a manpower shortage, General George Marshall realized women could fill necessary noncombatant roles. Applicants were required to be U. S. citizens between 21 and 45 years with no dependents, at least five feet tall, with a weight of at least 100 pounds.

Enlistment was overwhelming. A second WAAC company began arriving at Fort Leonard Wood in June of 1943. The WAAC was considered an unqualified success. Requests for WAAC assistance far exceeded the available personnel. The Army, resistant to the whole notion at first, requested authority to convert the Women's Army

Auxiliary Corps into the Women's Army Corps (WAC), making it a part of the Army rather than merely serving alongside or assisting it. This move would accord equal pay, privileges, benefits, and protection which was lacking in the original enabling legislation.

More than 150,000 American women served as WACs during World War II. Along with "Rosie the Riveter" and her cohorts, the WAC began breaking down the stereotype of the delicate "little woman" whose place was at home taking care of the children and fulfilling her many domestic duties.



WAACs were trained for a wide variety of jobs, including vehicle maintenance. Courtesy of the National Archives.



Women filled stereotypical positions such as typists and switchboard operators but also highly skilled jobs such as electronic repair above. Courtesy of Fort Leonard Wood.

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