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The Call of the Pewee

PEWEE VALLEY, OLDHAM COUNTY, KENTUCKY

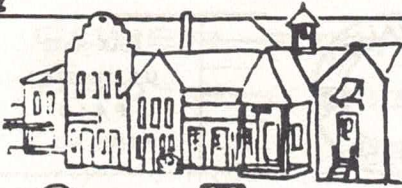


VOL.19 NO.2

FEBRUARY 1988

PEWEE VALLEYIAN
KATE MATTHEWS
PHOTO EXHIBIT
AT U OF L ARCHIVES
THROUGH MARCH 25

Details on Page 12



Our Town

By Lee Heimar, City Clerk

HEARING ON A VARIANCE

The Pewee Valley Board of Adjustments & Appeals will have a public hearing at 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Feb. 23, in the Town Hall on a request from Donald A. Thiel for a dimensional variance for a storage building on his property at 7607 Woodridge Dr.

The 26x22-foot building's location one foot from the rear of the lot is four feet closer than specified by the County's zoning ordinance.

CHEAPER INSURANCE?

An ordinance approving the City's participation in a Kentucky Municipal League risk management trust for the purchase of property-damage and liability insurance has been enacted by City Council. According to City Insurance Commissioner Harry Johns, Pewee Valley is one of almost 70 towns participating in this self-insurance pool created to help reduce the small municipalities' insurance costs.

HOUSE, BARN AND POOL

The construction of another residence in the new Stoney Creek subdivision off Ash Avenue has been authorized by the County Planning & Zoning Commission.

The permit was issued to the Lehmann Co. for building the four-bedroom house at 116 Stoney Creek Court. Other permits:

Lawrence G. Lannon, 23x20-foot barn, 7609 Woodridge.

Bobco, Inc., for David Glyn John, a 17x29-foot swimming pool, 7619 Woodridge.

CITY'S LEGAL COUNSEL

The City has rehired Stewart & Roelandt, a Crestwood law firm, as legal counsel for 1988-89.

The fee of \$100 a month is to cover attendance at six City Council meetings a year and preparation of ordinances, with additional legal service to be paid for at \$70 an hour the first year, \$76 the second.

Attention

Senior Citizens

Homeowners who will be 65 or over anytime during 1988 may be eligible to receive the

HOMESTEAD EXEMPTION

Apply: Property Valuation Administrator's office in LaGrange (info: 222-9320)

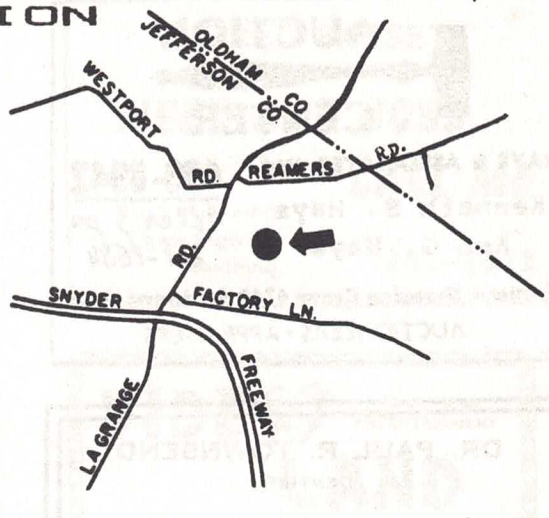
ZONING IN QUESTION

Some Pewees see a problem brewing in attempts to rezone a Jefferson County area not far from the City's west city limit as a business park, or so-called Planned Employment Center (PEC).

The 225-acre area in question, now zoned low-intensity residential, is on the east side of LaGrange Road between Reamers Road and Factory Lane--near Gene Snyder Freeway.

A Jefferson County study on future development along the Freeway recommends that the area remain zoned as it is. But the Louisville-based Fencroft Corporation has sought rezoning in order to build the Jefferson Research & Business park at that location.

Two months ago, Pewee Valley resident Beach Craigmyle, an attorney in Louisville, alerted our City Council to the rezoning effort, pointing out that "PEC zoning means any-



thing goes, including heavy industry."

Afterward, he and Mayor Vivien Reinhardt were under the impression that the rezoning request had been withdrawn.

However, a Fendley Corp. representative now says the request was not withdrawn--only postponed.

At its Feb. 1 meeting, the Pewee Valley City Council adopted a resolution opposing a zoning change. However--even though the change to PEC zoning would greatly affect the Pewee Valley environment -- the Council is aware that there's little that could be done legally because we're in the adjoining county.

The Jefferson County Planning & Zoning Commission is, however, being informed of our Council's resolution.

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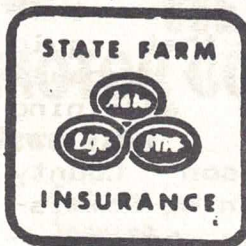
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KINSER ELECTED PRESIDENT

Koss Kinser, President and Owner of Kintec Wood Truss Mfg., Inc., Pewee Valley, has been elected the President of the National Association "Wood Truss Council of America" The WTCA is a non-profit organization working to promote the wood truss industry nationwide. Koss was instrumental in the creation of the WTCA and in directing it's progress over the past years as a member of the Board of Directors. He is looking forward to the coming year as an opportunity for growth in the industry and for WTCA.

STEWARTS ARE GRANDPARENTS

Former mayor of Pewee Valley John F. Stewart and his wife Mary welcome their first grandchild ... an 8 lbs., 4 oz. boy born Feb. 7, 1988. The proud parents, Julie and Todd House, have named him Kollan Roe House.

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POLICE NEWS

ODD GOINGS-ON

There were some odd things going on in January, according to Police Chief Larry Walls' monthly report to the City Council:

Someone living on Highway 22 (outside the city limits) allegedly set his car on fire and then reported it stolen. Car recovered--but burnt.

A Crestwood man allegedly bumped his car into a utility pole at Old Floydsburg Road and Ash Avenue in a deliberate attempt to commit suicide. Mission not accomplished, but he ended up in a hospital.

Someone drove his car over the lawn of an Elm Avenue resident, apparently as part of an ongoing argument.

And someone else broke open the entrance door of a home on Tulip Avenue but apparently changed his mind since nothing was reported missing.

MARKS ON AN UNMARKED CAR

Now you won't always be aware when our policemen are patrolling.

The City has purchased a 1982 Ford Crown Victoria that will be used as an unmarked police car.

No sooner had it been purchased last month, how-

ever, back to the shop it went for repairs:

On the ice that covered the streets Jan. 25, a car slid off LaGrange Road. Chief Larry Walls, driving the new addition, went to make a report and parked just off the road. As he was preparing to get out of the car, there came another car sliding off the pavement--into the police car.

No injuries were reported in that accident--except to the Chief's pride in his new vehicle. It was repaired immediately and returned to unmarked duty.

SPEEDERS' HEAVEN?

Indianapolis isn't the only place with a Speedway. Pewee Valley has one of its own--usually referred to as Ash Avenue.

Of 38 speeding citations issued by our police in January, 29 were on Ash. The other nine were on LaGrange Rd.

Other motorist citations in January, according to Chief Larry Walls' monthly report, included:

Two for disregarding a stop sign; two for failure to dim; and one each for driving under the influence, reckless driving, suspended operator's license, no operator's license on person, and abandoned vehicle.

Valley Vignettes

THE TELEPHONE COMES TO PEWEE VALLEY

Before the arrival of one telephone company, many small independent companies - each operating their own systems - vied for the right to bring the new "Communication Miracle" to Pewee Valley. By 1910, our town was served by two companies -- the Cumberland, and the Home Telephone Company -- a situation which caused some confusion among area callers.

Most businesses had both phones, but people usually had only one or the other in their homes. You could not call from one company to the other, so when you wanted to call somebody on the other company's phone, you had to phone somebody nearby with the same kind of phone as yours and ask them to fetch the person you wanted. You heard every ring on your line and could listen in to the town gossip or have a conversation with the operator -- who usually knew it all anyway.



The Home Telephone Co. operated early 1900s. It was one of the at Mt. Mercy Drive and Central

Later the Ohio Valley Telephone Company moved in. With the dial system, the telephone became more efficient, but much less interesting so far as the town news was concerned. One of the Cumberland's early operators, Ida Ochs - ner, turned out to be an unlikely heroine in 1912 when fire swept the Cumber-



*in the Foley Brothers General Store building in Pewee Valley in the
phone companies to serve the community in those days. The building
venue now houses the Pewee Valley Veterinary Center.*

land building one day.

Discovering the building below on fire, she phoned the alarm throughout the town. Finding her escape route barred by the flames, she climbed out a window of the building onto a telephone pole that stood next to it and made her way to the ground.

Word of Miss Ochsner's

courage spread far and wide and she was deluged with telegraphic offers of marriage from as far away as Texas. She found none so sweet as that proposed by William Herdt, Sr., whom she later married. This marriage produced 3 very popular Pewees: William Herdt, Jr., "Sis" Marker and "Ginny" Chaudoin.

RECENT DEATHS

Charles H. Schimpeler, once a Pewee Valley City Councilman, died at 94 on Jan. 16 at his home on Central Avenue.

He was founder of the old Mellwood Dairy in Louisville.

Survivors include his wife, Helen; a son, Dr. Charles C. Schimpeler; daughters, Nancy Nemeth of Pewee Valley and Suzann Schimpeler-Lishka of Los Angeles, and two grandchildren.

Aimee Elizabeth Reinhardt, born just last Sept. 14 to Adam and Sylvia Reinhardt of Pewee Valley, died on Jan. 27 at home. Pewee Valley Mayor Vivien H. Reinhardt is the baby's grandmother.

Richard Parrish, a former Pewee Valley resident, died at 56 on Jan. 31 in Houston. His home was in Delray Beach, Fla.

Survivors include his wife, Mary Elizabeth; four daughters, his mother, two brothers and six grandchildren.

A LETTER

Whatever the outcome, the request to ban burning in the township was moderate and sensible. The reaction of the townspeople was largely xenophobic and embarrassing.

I know what it's like to be an outsider in Pewee; the "pecking-order" here renders ludicrous any vaunted "superiority". To avail of democracy to set up a pseudo-aristocracy invites the wrath of justice. Money does not make an aristocracy... manners do.

Yes, I am for burning leaves. However we cannot ignore the distress and possible suffering that smoke may cause others,

and complacently presume Christian community. Recall the answer in the parable to the question "Who is my neighbor?" and go from there.

Some of Pewee's "old ways" are very old indeed--as old as the Pharisees. Alas! There's never a preacher around when one is needed.

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"NUMBERS" STORY

Our Town's per-capita income was the highest of any incorporated area in Oldham County in 1985, according to a recent report from the Kentucky Data Center, which disseminates U.S. Census Bureau statistics for this state.

The 1985 per-capita income was \$15,298, an increase of \$5,650 - 58.6% - since 1979. In 1979, River Bluff had the county's largest per capita income.

However, in population increase, Pewee Valley had the county's smallest increase. The City's 1985 population was reported to be 1,010, an increase of 28 persons - 2.9% - over 1979. (In population, there was a discrepancy between the 1980 Census figure, which has us slightly under 1,000, and the City's own unofficial count, slightly over 1,000.)

DID YOU MAIL EARLY?

Hey, don't figure on any last-minute Valentines via mail this year. In observance of Presidents' Day... Washington and Lincoln's birthdays combined... the Post Office will be closed on Monday, the 15th.

On Saturday, the 13th, window services will not be operating, due to a recent Postal cutback.

GREG BASSETT

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"In February, there are days when winter lifts a little bit ... and Spring peeks through the cracks."

--Dorothy Aldis

The Call of the Pewee

is published monthly by the Pewee Valley City Council (Vivien H. Reinhardt, Mayor) and is mailed free to all Pevees. To submit news, or subscribe (\$3 for one year, mailed anywhere), or to order extra copies (20c each), ...contact Patti Nuermberger, Editor, P.O. Box 648, Pewee Valley KY 40056.




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The Call of



"CRIMES OF THE HEART"

Rehearsals are underway at the Little Colonel Playhouse for their next production, "Crimes of the Heart", which will play March 10, 11, 12, and 17, 18, and 19. Bill Baker is directing the drama, the story of three eccentric Southern sisters reunited when the youngest shoots her husband. For reservations/information, call 241 4210.

"LITTLE COLONEL" VIDEO

The "Little Colonel movie that Shirley Temple made with Lionel Barrymore in 1935 has now become available on videotape, along with several other of Shirley's old films.

(Most of our readers are aware that Pewee Valley ... under the name Lloydsborough... was the setting of the popular "Little Colonel" series of books for young people written between 1895-1930.)



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NEW-PEWEE PARTY

Residents who have moved into Our Town during the past year were honored January 27 with a New Pewee Potluck Dinner sponsored by the Town Greeter Program & the "Call of the Pewee".

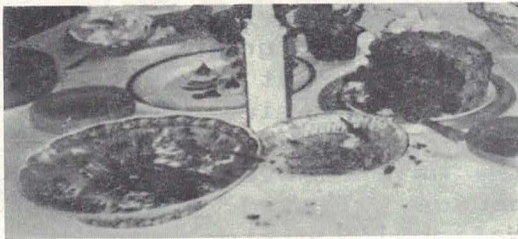
Good food and fellowship was enjoyed as new Pewees got acquainted with each other and with our councilmen and Mayor Reinhardt.

So many party-goers asked for the following recipe that we decided to print it here... Kathie Hodge's

CHOCOLATE CHESS PIE

Combine in mixer: 2 eggs, 1 1/2 cups sugar, 3 T cocoa, 2/3 cup pet milk, 2 teaspoons vanilla and 1/2 stick melted butter.

Pour into unbaked pie crust and bake at 350 for 30-40 minutes.



All that was left (lower left) of Kathie's chocolate chess pie.

Also, if you left a gold/brown stoneware casserole dish, or 2 lovely oven mitts, or 2 serving spoons, one fork...call 241-1550 or 241-8602 to pick them up.



Mayor Vivien Reinhardt chatted with new residents during the New-Pewee Party on Jan. 27.



Mark and Debbie Scussell of Poplar Terrace were there. . .



. . . so were Ellery Esposito of Rebel Drive and Susie Stauffer of Shadewood.



Co-hostess Patti Nuermberger, left, looked pretty for the camera. Table companions were newcomers Mary & Ben Sanders.

COVER STORY: PHOTO EXHIBIT

An exhibit of 40 unpublished works by turn-of-the-century Pewee Valley photographer Kate Matthews (1870-1956) opened Feb. 11 at the University of Louisville Photographic Archives and may be seen through March 25. The Archives' gallery, ground floor of Ekstrom Library, is open from 8 a.m. til 4:30 p.m. Monday-Friday, with hours extended til 8 p.m. on Thursdays. The Gallery is closed on Saturdays and Sundays.

This exhibit includes some pictures done for gifts. They were recently donated to the Archives by Mr. and Mrs. Matthews Fletcher of Pewee Valley, and by the executors of the estate of Mrs. Lillian Fletcher Brackett.

Kate Matthews' works were published often, in such magazines as Vogue, The Youth's Companion, and The Southern Magazine. She won prizes in numerous competitions.

Since 1960, her photographs have appeared in exhibits at the George Eastman House, the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the San Francisco Museum of Art, and at the Sidney Janus Gallery in New York.

PRESERVATIONISTS TO HEAR SHAKER AUTHORITY MARCH 1

Historic Pewee Valley, Inc. is happy to announce that Charles Mueller, editor of "Antique Review" and a noted authority on Shaker furniture and lifestyle, will be the speaker at the preservation group's first general meeting of 1988. The meeting, one of four to be held during the year, will be March 1, 7:30 p.m., at the Pewee Valley Presbyterian Church. Refreshments will be served.

Membership will be renewable in January of each year. Current membership will be valid until Jan., 1989. We need your interest and support in our group, so please join us!!! Contact: Karen Graves, Box 470, Pewee Valley, KY 40056

The National Register forms were submitted and approved by the State of Kentucky. It will be a few months til grants will be awarded, but everything is progressing smoothly. By the end of 1988 we hope to have several of our houses listed on the National Register.

If you have driven down Central Avenue lately, you have noticed that Edgewood is being prepared for its move. We will be relieved and excited to see it resting on its new foundation.

Karen Graves