

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT Spanning 53 years Neal brothers form unique partnership

By Jane R. Dumas
Of The Mercury Staff

They're brothers, and they've been together for almost 53 years - a record. It's rare, for Carlisle's business community.

Who are they? Gene and Powell Neal, owners of Neal's Square Deal Pharmacy, and formerly of Neal's Square Deal Grocery and Furniture, which carried the slogan, "Where Ma Says 'I Do'!"

Even a heart attack for both and a divorce for Powell a few years ago have not dented their desire to stay together and prosper in the business.

In 1933, Harvey Hamm bought the grocery business from the Neals. It became Harvey K.Y. Food Store, and grew almost like when it closed. The Neals kept the furniture part of

the store, and expanded it following the closing of Harvey K.Y. Food Store. You'll find a carton of apples for 99¢ on the floor, evidence that the Neals are still generous to their customers.

The legendary book building which houses the furniture store is located at 119 and 121 West Main Street, and was built in 1883 by John T. Sims. According to Gene, the ground floor was used for a grocery store for approximately 10 years before the Neals' grocery business opened.

Gene has vivid memories of father operating a grocery store.

"Gene has vivid memories of father's store coming to town in the present location, right by the meat butcher's store. It took out glazing. The place had rubber tires, which Gene says you didn't see much then."

Gene graduated from Carlisle High School in May 1934. The following month, he, Powell and their father, R. W. Neal, started Neal's Square Deal Grocery in the Sims' building.

Gene and Powell, who were 17 and 15 years old, respectively, had borrowed \$1,000 capital and rented the building the same day. "It was a lot of money in those days, and we had to go out to borrow it during good weather, down here in Carlisle. It was the whole town turned out. He also said all small towns had a bank and a bank in the middle of town at that time."

Powell is married to the former Lucille Sweig. They have two daughters, Nancy Reed and Susan Neal, both of Lexington.

Gene is married to the former Dorothy Howe, who was the Home Demonstration Agent in Nicholas County at the time of their marriage.

When Gene was asked why he and Powell started (or expanded) the business following the closing of Harvey K.Y. Food Store, he replied, "We had to put something in the building."

That intention "kept the Neal brothers interested and active in Carlisle's business community, as they have been for 53 years, and is providing heritage for many homes in Nicholas County."

Gene made a large chalk sign in 1934 advertising items and prices of the day for Sandy Valley products (S.V.). The sign still hangs on the wall in the store. Some of the items are: S.V. Coffee D. 14, S.V. Sweet Pickles of 27, S.V. Mayonnaise of 27, S.V. Solid Dressing of 27, S.V. Cocoa 2 lbs. 27.

Gene and Powell spent three and one-half to four years in the army during World War II, and while away, their father ran the store. When they returned in 1945 they purchased the building from Mrs. Hamm.

The store did not handle such fresh meat prior to entering World War II. They sold a lot of country hams, according to Gene.

"We have had as many as 100 sides of hams hanging in the back at one time."

Following the war, about 1946, the meat refrigeration unit was installed in the store, "when it was made and service."

In the wall of the store hangs a letter, dated the 19th of May 1945, from the residents of the Mayville area who receive Social Security benefits. It says they are very grateful for the help they are getting and hope they will receive any change of address so they will receive any notices sent about their benefits.

It is very important for people with direct deposit to continue notifying Social Security by calling 866-668-6868 or by changing of address so they will receive any notices sent about their benefits.

Check us out directly to a check or savings account in a bank, savings institution, credit union, or other financial institution, rather than to the person's home.

Some advantages are:

- The money will be immediately available in an account.
- There is no worry about the check being lost or stolen.
- There is no need to stand in line to cash or deposit the check.
- It is safer to keep money in an account rather than at home or in one's person.



Neal's Square Deal Pharmacy Store building, located on West Main Street, has been a landmark in Carlisle since 1883 when John T. Sims had the building constructed. His name is visible at the top of the building. According to Gene Neal, a grocery business had been in the building for about 10 years. — Jane R. Dumas

Social Security Update

Direct deposit after advantages: Residents of the Mayville area who receive Social Security benefits can now receive their benefits by having part of the direct deposit program. If you have your check deposited in an account in a financial institution, then you can receive your Social Security benefits directly to a check or savings account in a bank, savings institution, credit union, or other financial institution, rather than to the person's home.

Some advantages are:

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- There is no worry about the check being lost or stolen.
- There is no need to stand in line to cash or deposit the check.
- It is safer to keep money in an account rather than at home or in one's person.

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OBITUARIES

EVELING FELTON

Eveling Scott Gray Felton, 84, Millersburg, widow of Lowell Felton, died Wednesday, March 4, 1987 at Nicholas County Hospital.

She was a native of Nicholas County.

U.S. SENATOR FOR KENTUCKY

Mitch McConnell

The federal government often gets into the business of owning and operating industries in which it has no business. Conrail is a perfect example of this — it is the fish-hatchery in Frankfort, Kentucky.

In the early 1950's the Commonwealth of Kentucky decided that it needed a warm-water fish hatchery and acquired land on E28-horn Creek near Frankfort for this purpose. An agreement was reached to that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service would operate the hatchery and the land was transferred to federal government ownership. The hatchery has served Kentucky and surrounding states well as a breeding area for channel catfish, black bass, bluegill, walleye and hybrid tilapia.

Unfortunately, the hatchery has not been adequately funded in recent years and has been placed on a list of proposed closings of a number of times. To compound the latest attempt to close the hatchery, the Commonwealth of Kentucky entered into an agreement with the Fish and Wildlife Service in 1986 to lease the facility for 25 years. To alleviate this problem, I have introduced a bill to return hatchery ownership to the Commonwealth. The federal government obviously has not and does not wish to operate this hatchery, yet continues to assert management prerogatives and title to the facility if it is sold. Since the Fish and Wildlife Service has already made a long-term commitment to run and finance the hatchery for its maximum benefit, it should be returned to its original owner without compromise or restrictions.

CHARLES B. BURKH

Charles Burkhardt Burkhardt, 54, Cincinnati, died Friday, March 6, 1987 at the Veterans Administration Hospital, Cincinnati.

He was a native of Little Rock, and was educated in the Huron County school system. He was the son of Allen Clark Burkhardt, Paris, and the late Charles Burkhardt.

Over survivors are Mrs. George B. Burkhardt, Paris, and Mrs. Russell A. Burkhardt, Hendersonville, NC; and Mrs. Thomas W. Burkhardt, Denver, CO; one brother, John Curtis Burkhardt, New Bern, NC; two cousins, Mrs. Myrtle Crouch and Dr. O. H. Lankford, Carlisle.

Services were Tuesday, March 10 at the Station Turner Funeral Home, Paris by the Reverend of Dale Lowrie Burkhardt in the North Middleburg Cemetery.

REVEREND JESSE L. MOBY

The Reverend Jesse L. Moby, 88, Carlisle, formerly of Harrison County, a retired minister of the Church of Christ, died Friday, March 6, 1987 at Edgemoor Nursing Home in Harrison County. Services were Monday, March 9 at Whaley-McClary Funeral Home, Lynchville.

MISS JAMES BUTCHER

Mrs. Anne May Whaley Butcher, 34, Mt. Sterling, wife of James Butcher, died Sunday, March 8, 1987 at Mary Child Hospital, Mt. Sterling, after a short illness.

She was a member of the Christian Church, employed as a cashier at Jerry's Restaurant and owner and operator of Country Charm Beauty Salon, Mt. Sterling.

Over survivors are her mother, Viola Whaley, Mt. Sterling; one son, James Andrew Butcher, Louisville; four daughters, Phyllis Sewell, Barbara Gibson, and Wanda Adams all of Mt. Sterling; and Wilma Deatery of Nicholas County; seven grand-children, one brother, Jerry Whaley, Mt. Sterling.

Funeral services were Tuesday, March 10 at Faithful Trust Funeral Home in Mt. Sterling. Burial in the Quenton R. Staley Fanner-V Home, near Clark, Ohio.

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FARM CREDIT SERVICES

Offering Farm and Rural Home Loans, is located on South Locust Street in Carlisle. The mailing address is P.O. Box 268. Farm Credit Services has been a part of Carlisle's business community for over 50 years. Long and short term loans for all farm needs and rural home loans are available. We are Credit Life, Disability and Multi-Pair Crop Insurances to borrowers.

Monte Corral and Brendo Rector are the loan officers, with Charlene Snapp, employed as office assistant. Office hours are 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday thru Friday. Phone number is 289-2728.

Farm Credit Services is a new name for the farmers' old friends — Production Credit Association and Federal Land Bank Association. In 1986 the PCA's and FLBA's were united to form Farm Credit Services. Now we offer short, intermediate and long term credit under one roof. The two lenders were chartered over 50 years ago to fill a void for credit for farmers. Then, and we are still here offering a hand to rural areas all over the United States. The Farm Credit Administration sets forth rules and regulations governing all Farm Credit Agencies. This office services Nicholas and Robertson Counties. We are committed to meeting the financial needs of the local farmers, however large or small they may be.

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"We have been serving the Nicholas County area for the past 5 years, and look forward to continuing that service."

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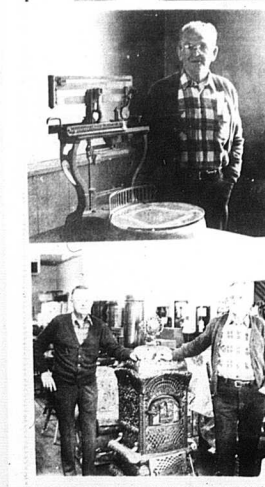
Tuesday, March 17!

IGA

Raincheck Policy

At IGA we guarantee we will do everything in our power to have ample supplies of all advertised specials in our store when you shop for them.

If, due to conditions beyond our control, we run out of an advertised special, we will substitute the same item in a comparable brand (when such an item is available), reflecting the same savings, or if you prefer, give you a "Raincheck", which entitles you to the same item at the special advertised price any time within 30 days.



Top photo is of a sign made by Gene Neal in 1934 depicting prices of the day. In middle photo, Gene Neal is holding a sign for the Computing Book Co., Dayton, Ohio school dated 1888. He is going to donate it to the Dayton Historical Society as part of a group of 1000. Photo, bottom left, shows the Neals' store in the building. In bottom photo, Powell, left, and Gene are pictured in their store by a Moore's home dated 1883. They took it in 1946 after 40 years and the Neals' home dated in the basement. According to Powell, it was a partner banker, and considered the "cathedral of all houses." — Jane R. Dumas