

Out of the Past ... from the archives of The Winchester Star

100 years ago

A branch of the B. Snyder stores of Baltimore, among the larger chain stores operating a general line of dry goods, will open for business in this city on Saturday, Nov. 3, in the old J.P. Haddox property on North Main street. The entire interior and exterior of the building have been entirely remodeled and enlarged.

The property is now owned by J. Henkel Henry.
Nov. 1, 1923

Another guinea hen probably got on the wires last night and caused the electric lights of town to go out for over an hour last night.

A few nights ago the lights broke down and it was given out that "a guinea hen" had gotten on the wires at Dam No. 5, causing the trouble.

Nov. 3, 1923

Carrying his three little children through smoked-filled hallways, while flames licked all around him, Ralph Rinker succeeded in bringing them and his wife to safety through the fire which nearly wrecked his house at one o'clock this morning, at Braddock and Monmouth streets.

The house built of logs, covered with weatherboarding, burned stubbornly and it was with the greatest difficulty that water was actually gotten onto the blaze. About half a century ago it was the home of Judge Joseph S. Carson of the Corporation Court. What is said to have been the most destructive electric storm ever witnessed here, struck the town at midnight. Lightning struck and destroyed a large number of places in the county and among the homes destroyed in town was that of Judge Carson.

Many people still living declared that the lightning fell to the earth as great balls of fire which ran along the roadways of the town and exploded with deafening roars.

Nov. 5, 1923

75 years ago

The Henkel-Harris Co., furniture manufacturer, has leased the basement and first floor of a building at 660 N. Loudoun St. owned by Vernon Whitace, into which it will move this month.

C.H. Henkel said the new location will provide three times the space as at their present location at 318 W. Boscauwen St.

Henkel is manager, Harris is cabinet room foreman, William Saville is machine room foreman and Mervel Dailey finishing department foreman. Mary Henkel is secretary-treasurer.

Nov. 1, 1948

Boy Scouts in the Shenandoah area council, including troops in Winchester, Frederick and Clarke counties, will participate in mock man hunts between Nov. 15 and 30.

The activity will be known as "Operation Missing Persons" and is designed to train scouts and scout leaders in the up-to-date techniques of locating lost persons.

Nov. 1, 1948

Polio struck in Clarke County over the weekend when Suzanna Carr, ten-year old daughter of Mr. and Mr. Clay Carr, was stricken at her home in Boyce.

The youngster was in school last Friday and entertained at a Halloween party at her home Saturday night.

Nov. 2, 1948

Middletown town council at its November meeting last night passed an ordinance to extend the town limits to add 300 more to its population.

The extension of limits was approved by a mass meeting of citizens Oct. 18.

Although no survey has yet been made of the town's present population, it is roughly estimated that about 450 persons live within the present limits.

The 1940 census gives Middletown a population of 361.

Nov. 2, 1948

Radio station WINC and the Winchester Evening Star will continue their facilities tonight to bring to the citizens of this area local, state and national election returns.

A special radio wire has been installed in the newsroom of the Star and the returns will be broadcast from there as they come in from the local precincts and over the Associated Press teletype circuit.

For the benefit of those who attend the theaters tonight the Star will make available to the manager of the Capitol and Palace election returns to be flashed on the screen.

Nov. 2, 1948

KANSAS CITY — President Truman, a smiling, happy man, received the congratulations of well wishers today, as he won one of history's greatest political upsets to capture a term in the White House in his own right.

Nov. 3, 1948

Winchester voters going to the polls in record numbers yesterday declared the sentiment against Daylight saving time, gave Thomas E. Dewey a lead over President Truman and voted heavily in favor of returning A. Willis Robertson and Burr P. Harrison to Congress.

In Frederick County a majority of the voters favored a straight Democratic ticket, but voted much more heavily for Robertson and Harrison than for Truman. The same was true in Clarke County.

In one of the hottest issues before City voters, four precincts gave a majority of 350 votes against DST. The unofficial returns showed 1,460 voters against any change to fast time next summer compared to 110 citizens who would be favorable to such a proposal.

Nov. 3, 1948

The large 128-year-old brick residence, 119 S. Washington St. on the corner of Cork Street, operated as "Gray Gables Inn" for 23 years by Miss Caroline S. Hunter, has been sold to Mr. and Mrs. Harry R. Kern Jr., 318 W. Leicester St., who will modernize it and occupy it as their home.

The old house has been occupied by members of the Hunter family since 1866. Gray Gables



In honor of Veterans Day, the Stewart Bell Jr. Archives shared this photo of Col. Leigh Austin Fuller Sr., who served in the U.S. Army Medical Corps circa World War I. He practiced medicine in Winchester after the war. The estimated date of this photograph is 1917-18.

was built in 1820 by Judge Obid Waite. In 1866, it was purchased from Judge Obid's widow by Maj. Robert W. Hunter.

Nov. 5, 1948

Dr. Hans Kindler and his National Symphony orchestra of 90 musicians will write history in Handley auditorium tonight, for it will mark the first time an internationally famous, full size symphony group has played in this section of Northern Virginia.

Nov. 5, 1948

At the close of business today the American Stores Co. will close their location at 115 N. Loudoun St., and commencing Tuesday will serve the public from the new Acme supermarket at Braddock and Wolf streets.

The new 50x150 foot building was constructed especially for the market by Frederick County Improvement Corp. and has been leased for 10 years.

The storeroom being vacated on Loudoun Street is to be occupied by Silco stores following alterations and improvements.

Nov. 5, 1948

50 years ago

KUWAIT — The Arab oil nations announced new production cuts today in their oil offensive against supporters of Israel but said "friendly" countries would not be affected.

The statement did not specify which countries were "friendly."

The new cuts have no effect

on the oil situation in the United States since all 10 nations already have stopped all shipment of oil to America.

Nov. 5, 1973

25 years ago

WASHINGTON — In what could be a crucial step toward creating heart, liver and other tissue for transplantation, researchers have discovered how to grow human embryonic master cells in the laboratory.

Researchers long ago isolated stem cells from mice and other laboratory animals, but work on human stem cells has been slowed by controversy.

Nov. 6, 1998

— Compiled by Priscilla Lehman



PROVIDED PHOTO

Pigging out

Pigs munch on pumpkins last week at Piggins and Banks, a pig and animal sanctuary in Cross Junction. All the pumpkins used at the White House 2023 Halloween event were donated to Piggins and Banks to help feed the organization's rescued mini and full-size pigs. The day after Halloween, Syzygy Events International, the Maryland-based company responsible for putting together the Halloween event at the White House, delivered pallets full of pumpkins to the sanctuary. Pumpkins are a type of "superfood" for pigs, meaning they are full of nutrients that are beneficial for their health and well-being. Piggins and Banks is home to 66 pigs who were either unwanted, abandoned or neglected. Small guided tours of the sanctuary are offered to the public on Sundays. To sign up, visit <https://pigginsandbanks.org>.