

Work on New College Gym Starts in Spring

Construction Fund Stands at \$150,512, President Ramseyer Says

Trustees Give Go-ahead Signal at Meeting Here Friday Afternoon

Construction of the proposed auditorium-gymnasium for Bluffton college will begin in the late spring of next year, it was revealed last Friday afternoon after a meeting of the Bluffton College Board of Trustees. It is hoped that some units of the proposed building may be in shape and ready for service some time during the next school year.

The Board was unanimous in its affirmative decision and the building committee has been authorized to appoint a licensed architect as soon as possible, to work with him, and then proceed in letting the contract. The next meeting of the building committee has been tentatively set for December 2.

NEAR SCIENCE HALL
The time of the completion of the building is still indefinite since construction will proceed as fast as funds will permit. It will be located at the proposed site near Science Hall.

The latest financial figure, which was presented by Dr. Lloyd L. Ramseyer, president of Bluffton College, in his report to the Board of Trustees reached a total of \$150,512. The Building Committee is made up of J. S. Slabaugh, Nappanee, Ind.; E. W. Baumgartner, Berne, Ind.; Jerry Sander, Grabill, Ind.; Oliver D. Diller, Wooster, Ohio; William Mohr, Bethlehem, Pa.; Walter Yoder, Bloomington, Ill.; D. W. Bixler, Bluffton, Ohio; and Rufus Rich, Washington, Ill.

M. M. Bogart Is Ill In Hospital

M. M. Bogart, chairman of the Allen county Board of Elections and director in the Citizens National bank here is seriously ill in Bluffton hospital. Bogart suffered a cerebral hemorrhage at his apartment on South Main street last Wednesday afternoon as he and his wife were making preparations to spend the winter in Florida.

Edward Kempf Drops Dead At Home Here

Funeral services will be held at 2:30 p. m. Friday in the Paul Diller funeral home for Edward Kempf, 64, who dropped dead at noon Tuesday while carrying water to cattle at his farm home, one mile east of town on Route 103.

His death was unexpected, for he had been in good health. The body was discovered by his wife shortly after he had collapsed.

Born Oct. 29, 1884, near Bluffton, he was the son of Christian and Katherine (Klay) Kempf. He was married in April, 1926, to Lillian Marquart, who survives.

Other survivors include three children, Mrs. Treva Elizabeth Clark, Benton Ridge; Herbert James Kempf, Bluffton; Miss Verna Mae Kempf, at home, and a step-daughter, Mrs. Edith Staley, of Ada.

Surviving brothers and sisters are Albert Kempf, Bluffton; Gideon Kempf, Rawson, and Miss Diana Kempf, Toledo. A brother, Calvin Kempf, died six months ago.

Rev. V. C. Oppermann, pastor of St. John's Reformed church, of which Mr. Kempf was a member, will officiate at the last rites Friday. Burial will be in Maple Grove cemetery.

Births

The following births at Bluffton hospital:

Mr. and Mrs. James Hilty, Bluffton, a girl, Catherine Louise, Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Huston, Mt. Cory, a boy, Donald Lee, Thursday. Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Cookson, Benton Ridge, a girl, Eva Charlene, Thursday.

Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Hoch, Rawson, a boy, Friday.

Mr. and Mrs. Carl Cole, Mt. Blanchard, a girl, Susan June, Saturday.

Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Fleming, Ada, a girl, Janet Elaine, Monday.

Rev. and Mrs. Robt. Welch, Bluffton, a boy, James Edward, Monday.

Mr. and Mrs. Chas. Mabry, Pandora, a girl, Lana Sue, Tuesday.

Milk Price Is Stabilized At 21 Cents Here

MILK prices in Bluffton which showed the first indication of breaking from last summer's record high level were stabilized this week at 21 cents a quart, delivered. This is one cent under the former price.

One of Bluffton's two larger suppliers of home delivered milk dropped the price to 21 cents last week and the second followed Monday.

Some quarters said that reduction in price may be only a temporary because of the current plentiful supply of milk. Cold weather may cut production and result in a higher price, dairymen said.

Stove Starts Fire In Wash House

Interior of a wash house at the Mrs. Eph Geiger property on Jefferson street was damaged by fire Tuesday morning shortly after 8 o'clock. The residence is occupied by Mr. and Mrs. Howard Carman and family.

The source of the fire was an oil stove in a small outbuilding adjacent to the dwelling. The Bluffton fire department extinguished the flames and protected the house and other buildings from the fire. The loss is estimated at about \$350.

Community Football Banquet For Town's Teams Draws Crowd Of 270

BODY OF SOLDIER KILLED IN FRANCE IS ENROUTE HERE

Remains of George Burkholder Arrive in Columbus From Overseas

Funeral Arrangements Will Await Arrival of Body in Bluffton

The body of George Burkholder, former Bluffton High athletic star, who was killed in action in France on Sept. 22, 1944, was among 7,572 soldier-dead returned to this country this week on the U. S. Army Transport, Carroll Victory. It is now in Columbus.

When the body arrives in Bluffton, it will be taken to the Paul Diller funeral home where it will remain until time for the re-burial service.

Burkholder was 22 years old at the time of his death. He was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Harvey Burkholder, residing three miles west of Bluffton.

With an Army liaison unit, Burkholder was on a flying mission when he met death in France.

He was inducted into the service on March 17, 1943, and went overseas in April, 1944. When he was inducted into the army he was in his second year at Bowling Green university.

A graduate of Bluffton High school in 1940, Burkholder was an outstanding football and basketball star.

Wilbur Althaus Dies; Formerly Lived Here

Wilbur R. Althaus, 59, died suddenly of a heart attack at his home in Lewisburg, Tuesday.

A native of Bluffton, he was the son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Peter Althaus of South Main street. The family home, at South Main and Kibler streets is now owned by Charles Hilty.

For many years identified with the stone quarry industry, he was at the time of his death employed as a bookkeeper at the Marble Cliff quarry in Lewisburg.

His wife, formerly Vida Amstutz of Bluffton, survives. Also surviving are two sons James Althaus of Akron, Judson of Great Lakes, Ill., and a daughter, Mrs. Kermit Howell of Lewisburg. Also one sister, Mrs. E. T. Paul of Liberty, Indiana.

Funeral services will be held Saturday afternoon at 2 o'clock at Lewisburg followed by burial at that place.

QUIET OBSERVANCE OF THANKSGIVING IN PROSPECT HERE

Union Service To Be Held At First Mennonite Church Thursday Morning

Traditional Family Dinner Is Focal Spot of Interest For Family Circles

Highlighted by the traditional family dinner at noon, Bluffton's observance of Thanksgiving this Thursday will be a quiet one, in keeping with the age-revered custom of family gathering amid a general cessation of business and industrial activity.

Public observance of the holiday will be centered in a union Thanksgiving church service at 9:30 a. m. in the First Mennonite church, under auspices of the Bluffton Ministerial association.

Speaker at the Thanksgiving service will be Rev. V. C. Oppermann with Rev. G. T. Soldner and Rev. E. J. Batterson assisting. Special musical features also will be presented and an offering will be received for the CROP relief program.

Bluffton's business establishments and industries will suspend operations for the holiday, and there will be no mail deliveries on town or rural routes. Windows at the post office will be closed, but outgoing mail will be made up and dispatched as usual.

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Thanksgiving

For the hay and the corn and the wheat that is reaped,
For the labor well done and the barns that are heaped...
For the trade and the skill and the wealth in our land,
For the cunning and strength of the working man's hand...
For our country extending from sea to sea,
The land that is known as the land of the free,
Thanksgiving! Thanksgiving!

-ANONYMOUS

Holland Bulb Grower Calls On Trade Here

HARRY Verdegall of Sassenheim, Holland, grower of tulip and other spring flowering bulbs was a dinner guest of Mr. and Mrs. Willard Cherry, owners of Skip's Nursery, Rt. 2, Columbus Grove.

Last Rites For Peter D. Geiger

Funeral services for Peter D. Geiger, 70-year-old farmer were held at the Stanley Basinger funeral home Tuesday afternoon with Rev. John Steiner officiating. Burial was in the Reformed Mennonite cemetery northwest of Bluffton.

Mr. Geiger died at his home on College road one mile north of Bluffton Saturday night following a six months' illness.

He was born in Riley township, Putnam county, February 9, 1878, a son of Benjamin and Marie (Diller) Geiger.

On Nov. 6, 1901 he was married to Julia Basinger, who survives together with a daughter Marcellie of Dayton and two sons, Francis of Indianapolis and Leslie Geiger of Cleveland. There are two grandsons.

Also surviving are four sisters, Mrs. A. E. Kohli, Mrs. A. S. Diller, Mrs. L. T. Greding, and Miss Ella Geiger all of Bluffton, and three brothers, Albert Geiger of Bluffton, Edward R. of Brookville and Homer Geiger of Cleveland.

RADIO TIME CHANGED
The Gospel of Grace, Lima radio broadcast conducted by Hal Reed will be heard Saturday morning at 8:30 instead of 12:45.

Cost Of Turkey Is Up 20 Per Cent But Most Of The Trimmings Are Down

Increased Cost of Turkey And Chickens Partially Offset By Drop Otherwise

Shortage of Turkeys Also Apparent, Particularly In 8-18 Pound Bracket

Although the price of turkeys is sharply higher, between 15 to 20 per cent, this Thanksgiving, the increase in cost of the traditional holiday dinner centerpiece partially is offset by a proportionate drop in the cost of the trimmings.

Oven-dressed turkeys this year may be had in a fairly wide price range, depending on customers' preferences. Heavy young toms weighing 20 pounds and over are retailing at 63c, with prices grading successively higher to fancy young grade-A hens, averaging 8 to 15 pounds at 87 cents a pound.

Live birds are retailing at from 50 to 60 cents a pound on local markets and quotations to farmers from wholesale buyers range from 42 cents for toms to 51 cents a pound for hens.

These prices are up approximately 20 per cent over last year, and those who plan to turn to chicken as a substitute will find even a greater increase in the cost per pound.

CHICKENS COST MORE
Chickens, liveweight, this week are bringing 45 cents a pound, an increase of more than 50 per cent over the preceding Thanksgiving holiday. Farmers receive 38 cents a pound.

On the other hand, the cost of Thanksgiving dinner trimmings has turned downward in comparison with last year.

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Firemen Fight Two Blazes at Same Time

TOWN AND SCHOOL GET MONEY FROM TAX DISTRIBUTION

Corporation Receives \$1,078; Schools Benefit in Sum of \$4,474

Bluffton's Public Library Gets \$2,000 From Classified Taxes

Bluffton village received \$1,078.75 and Bluffton schools \$4,474.62 in the last-half 1948 distribution of personal taxes, it was announced last Saturday by the office of Allen County Auditor Russell L. Hire.

At the same time the county distributed classified tax amounting to \$200 for the municipality; \$637.96 for Bluffton schools and \$2,000 for the Bluffton public library.

In the personal tax distribution, Richland township received \$153.87; Beavertown village \$44.96; LaFayette \$29.15; Monroe township \$40.19; Jackson township, \$57.59; Beavertown schools \$366.07; and Lafayette-Jackson schools, \$378.39.

In the classified tax distribution Beavertown got \$3.11; Beavertown schools, \$258.45; LaFayette-Jackson schools, \$366.71.

One Truck and Crew Battles Fire in Farm House South of Town

Second Truck and Firemen Make Run to Extinguish Burning Auto

Bluffton's fire department had a busy evening last Wednesday when for the first time in history there were calls to fight two fires at the same time.

While the firemen and one of the pumper-trucks were battling a \$7,000 blaze that destroyed the Wayne Moser farm residence, five and one-half miles south of town, a second alarm was sounded when an automobile owned by a Deshler man caught fire on the Allen-Hancock county line road near the Mrs. Clara Niswander home.

The town's second pumper, manned by a skeleton crew left in town, made the run to the second fire and extinguished it, long before the first group of fire-fighters had returned to the station.

Starts In Roof
Fire of the Moser residence was discovered at 4 p. m., and altho the household furnishings were saved, the house was almost completely destroyed.

When the Bluffton fire department arrived at the scene, the blaze, said to have started in a shingle roof from a defective flue, had reached the second story. Water was pumped from a nearby creek in fighting the conflagration.

The Moser residence recently had been re-sided and re-decorated. It was the second fire at the site, a previous residence fire having occurred several years ago when the home was occupied by the Ivan Irvin family.

Made Homeless
Made homeless by the blaze, Mr. and Mrs. Moser temporarily are living with his father, Ira Moser, Route 2, Ada.

The second alarm, sounded at 5:15 p. m., came when an automobile owned by Ralph Pearsall, Deshler, caught fire on the county line road. Defective wiring was blamed for the blaze.

Lester Niswander and Aldine Weiss answered the alarm with the town's second fire truck and extinguished the blaze with chemicals. Motor of the automobile was badly damaged.

College Crowd Home For Thanksgiving

Many Bluffton young people attending college are expected home for Thanksgiving and the week end. Among these are:

Jean Ann Steinman, Baldwin Wallace college, Berea.

Neil Schafert, Purdue university, West Lafayette, Ind.

James Howe, Northwestern university, Evanston, Ill.

David Stearns, Heidelberg college, Tiffin.

Beverly Biery, Western Reserve university, Cleveland.

James Fett, School of Mortuary Science, Pittsburgh.

Wilhelm Amstutz II, Robert Coon, Michael Reagan, Ohio Northern university, Ada.

Sarah Amstutz, Miami university, Oxford.

Alice Ruth Pannabecker, Bethel college, Newton, Kansas.

Elmer Stonehill, Bowling Green State university.

Eleanor Linden and Malcolm Basinger, the latter accompanied by a classmate Morley Russell, of Northfield, Minn.

Marcielle Steiner, Betty Elaine Deeds, Bliss Business college, Columbus.

Jean Ann Burcky, Ellen Burkholder, John Althaus, Charles Tripplhorn, Hugh Hilty, Robert Burkholder, Virgil Basinger, Dale Goud, Nelson Hiestand, O. S. U., Columbus.

School Thanksgiving Program Wednesday

Annual Thanksgiving program of the Bluffton grade schools was held in the First Mennonite church, Wednesday afternoon.

Business Men Meet

Meeting of the Bluffton Business Men's association has been postponed because of the Thanksgiving holiday from November 24 to Wednesday night, Dec. 1 at 7:30 o'clock in the council chamber at the town hall.

All retail stores will be open on Thursday afternoons until after Christmas. Regular store hours will be resumed at that time.

THANKSGIVING PROCLAMATION

President Truman's Thanksgiving Day Proclamation

"AS the traditional day of Thanksgiving approaches, our thoughts incline, as in previous years, to the richness of our blessings. The spiritual endowments of our country are undiminished; we may, as always, walk as free men unafraid. Our Harvests have been bountiful, our production of goods abundant. Our resources have permitted us to aid the needy and helpless of other lands.

"We are privileged to participate in international efforts to advance human welfare. We are profoundly grateful for the existence of an international forum where differences among nations may be submitted to world opinion with a view to harmonious adjustment.

"We pray this year not only in the spirit of thanksgiving but also as supplicants for wisdom in our approach to the problems

confronting this nation. Believing in the dignity of man and his right to live in freedom and peace, we ask Divine guidance in helping to safeguard these gifts for ourselves and other peoples of the earth.

"Now, therefore, I Harry S. Truman, President of the United States of America, in consonance with the joint resolution of congress approved December 26, 1941, designating the fourth Thursday of November in each year as Thanksgiving Day, do hereby proclaim Thursday, November 25, 1948, as a day of national thanksgiving; and I call upon our citizens to observe that day by giving thanks to Almighty God for the bounties which have been bestowed upon our nation and by resolving to render general assistance to the hungry and homeless in other lands, thus renewing our devotion to the cause of good-will among men."