

# METAMORA ASSOCIATION FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION

## NEWSLETTER

October 2019



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**Special Thanks to Durward Guth and Charles Kamm.** Former resident Durward Guth sent his cousin Charlie most of the pictures and articles in this month's newsletter and donated them to the Historic Association. Look for the picture of Durward in the 1951 baseball team.

### Ladies, You Haven't Changed a Bit...



**Happy Birthday Maxine!** In one of the really neat Metamora events this summer, over 300 well-wishers gathered at Snyder Village to help Maxine Kern celebrate her 100<sup>th</sup> birthday. Maxine and her family were just great! We should all be so fortunate to be as healthy and spunky as Maxine!

The family had posted on the wall some of the highlights of Maxine's wonderful life. How things have changed!! (The Newsletter will need special permission to release the kid's birthdays!!)

Happy Birthday, Maxine!!

Here's her partial list...

### Maxine Kern's Timeline

- 1919 Born July 16
- 1924 First ride in a car
- 1926 Met Charles Lindberg after he crashed in the field (this story was in a previous edition of the Newsletter)
- 1934 Rode a horse and buggy to Lowpoint High School everyday
- 1936 Drove a car to school after learning to change a tire
- 1937 Graduated from Lowpoint High School
- 1938 Got a certificate from Brown's Business College as a comptometer (adding machine)
- 1938 Met Bob at a box supper at Bricktown Grade School
- 1938 First job as a bookkeeper for an excavator
- 1942 Married Bob August 29, honeymooned in Denver CO
- 1942 First indoor plumbing
- 1942 First car, owned half with Bob's parents
- 1943-1950 Had the kids
- 1952 Bought first TV - \$70, Bob wanted to watch the Eisenhower presidential campaign


**From the 1951  
MTHS Parrot**

We've checked the records, and, as far as we know, none of these thespians ever made it to Hollywood – at least not as an actor.

But it sure looks like they were having a lot of fun!

THE PARROT

*Farcical Antics of Children Compete  
With Brodt's Portrayal of Character*



**CAST OF "A READY-MADE FAMILY"**

Doyne Jones, Pat Grieser, Jim Seckler, Donna Rose Wagner, Leroy Noel, June Ioerger, Dick Dehority, Alice Wernsman, June Bachman. Ray Brodt is not pictured.



Sam Snyder  
Bertha "  
Fred Stephenson  
Lucille "  
Julie Engel  
Art "

**What's New (er, rather, "old")** Thanks to Durward Guth and Charlie Kamm for most of the pictures and articles in this newsletter. Stop by the Stevenson House during open house (schedule is on Facebook) and check out the rest of their artifacts.



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### The Rock House is Moved

**May, 1959.** Most people are familiar with the "rock house" which is now located on Prairie Street near the grade school.

Herman Weber, who built the bandstand in the Square and other landmarks around town, built the home.

You may recall that old Route 116 made a fairly sharp curve northward before it was changed to its current location. The old road followed roughly the same path as Clark Street.

Mr. and Mrs. Weber's rock house lay just south of the old route and had to be moved to make way for the new road.

These pictures, taken in May 1959, show just how it happened.



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Mr. and Mrs. Herman Weber



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It's believed that this is the location of the rock house before it was moved. This roughly follows the current Clark Street. If anyone has any further information, we'd love to hear from you!



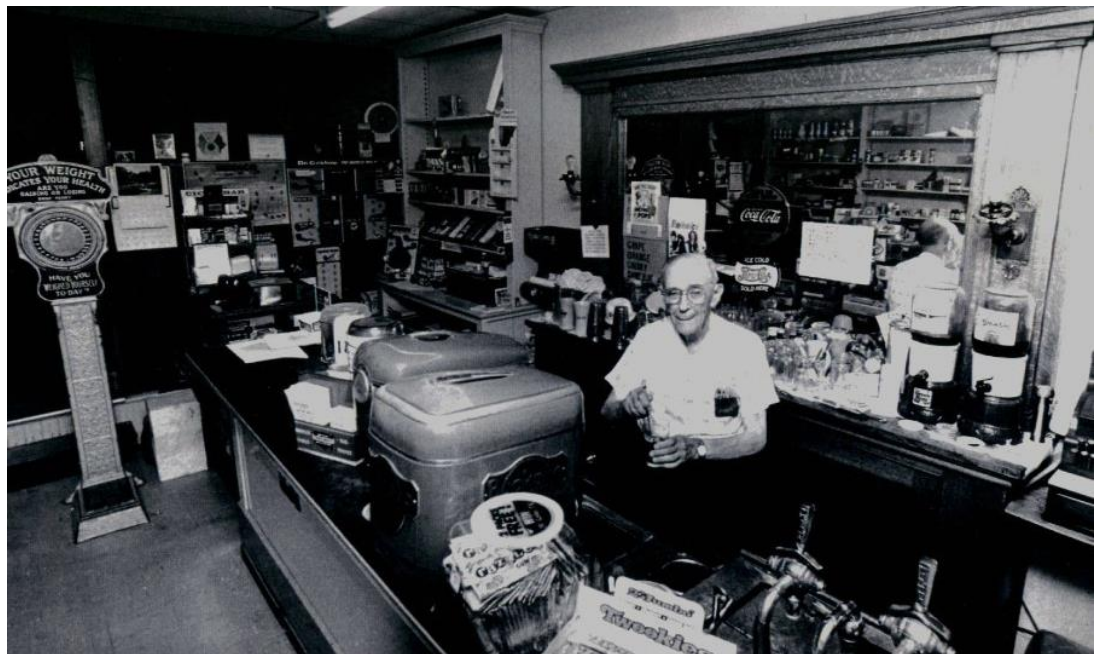
## A Lot of Great Memories

This picture of Willman's will probably evoke warm memories of penny candy and especially of Green Rivers! Bet that's what Mr. Willman is whipping up right now!

There was even a hook on the outside that was used to secure a set of scales (maybe the one in the picture?) The scales say "Have you weighed yourself today." Guess if you had a penny, privacy wasn't such a big issue then!

After the scales were later moved inside, the hook worked great for hooking up your dog when you went inside to pick up the Sunday paper.

Great times!



REDBIRD BASEBALL SQUAD



First row, left to right: Clem Ioerger, Jim Wiltz, Durward Guth, Capt. Jim Zimmerman, Gene Schlabach, Leo Kiesewetter, Marvin Elbert.

Second row, left to right: Bob Mason, Jack Gaetz, Dick Herring, Jerry Broers, Jack Fries, Willie Bachman, Dick Dehority, Milford Broers.

Eight Lettermen Bolster Baseball Nine

Braving wind, rain and snow the 1951 Metamora baseball squad started practice on March 28. Twenty-four men answered Coach Larson's call for manpower. Included in this group are eight lettermen. Veteran pitchers back for another season are Durward Guth, Jim Wiltz and Jim Seckler. In the infield, Gene Schlabach will be seeking the initial sack for the third consecutive season. Milford Broers is back to reclaim the keystone sack, and Dick Dehority is the leading contender for the hot corner. The only letterman returning to the outfield is Capt. Jim Zimmerman. The eighth letterman is Jack Gaetz, catcher.

There are several promising looking candidates who will make the veterans hustle to maintain their positions.

The other diamond prospects are: Seniors, Bob Chilcot, Dick Goldsmith and Leo Kiesewetter; juniors, Willis Bachman, Marvin Elbert, Dick Etter, Jack Fries, a transfer base-

Freshman teammate Bob Mason recalls the game when Durward broke his nose colliding with an opposing player. The call was very controversial. Much later, Dick, Bob's brother, saw one of the refs involved and told him "Metamora never forgets!"

Contact Us

Questions, Ideas - Love to hear from you

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