

In 1926, Jack Chapman, wife, Camille and baby son, John W., moved to Tuscola and started **Jack's Machine Shop**. It was first located on the corner of Parke and Pembroke and later moved to S. Wilson. Jack's Machine Shop was used to train men for the U. S. Military from 1939-1942. Jack was legally blind at this time but was considered an expert machinist.

When John W. Chapman came back from service in 1945, he and wife, Edith, opened **Jack's Place** at 700 S. Main St. They sold groceries, hot dogs, hamburgers, ice cream and more. In John's first year of business, he sold \$5,000 worth of hand dipped ice-cream at 5 cents a scoop. John sold 500 hotdogs at 10 cents each on the Fourth of July, 1945. In 1950, John built a larger building for Jack's Place. Two years later, John sold his grocery inventory to Bruce Williams who owned the Dew Drop In Grocery located one block north. At that time there were eleven grocery stores in Tuscola.

In 1952, Petro was being constructed and new families were coming to town. Jack's Place was turned into **Jack's Laundry**. The laundry was both a coin and service laundry. It became a common meeting place for many customers. Jack's Laundry was in operation from 1952 until 1974 when John became legally blind. In between working at the laundry, John helped Paul Winkler farm and **Quentin Weber** build 52 homes in Tuscola. The Chapman family lived on the corner of Main St. and Pinzon next to their businesses from 1940-1997 before moving to their present home at 408 E. Daggy.



**Jack's Place at 701 S. Main St.**



**Jack, wife, Camille and son, John W., holding their dog.**

**Brookside Drive-In** was located on Niles Ave. facing Ensey St. The building had originally been a meat market. It was built around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century by Charles Kitts. Charles Clark then owned the building and added groceries to the line of meats. Bill Brooks bought the building in 1942. That is where the name Brookside came. Brooks had promising plans of branching out with a chain of stores, but his plans were prematurely ended when he was called to service where he lost his life. Bob Burg then owned the business and operated it until 1949 when he sold it to George McLennan. McLennan, like Brooks, was called to service and died in an air accident. James Lamb bought the building in 1951 and constantly improved the site. The store was just a half block from the high school and was a handy eatery for teenagers. It was also a practical stopping place for housewives. On Thursday, Oct. 3, 1957 a gas explosion leveled the building and contents. There was some warning of the explosion. Francis Cole was a waitress there and after opening the store, she noticed a strong smell of gas. She phoned Lamb who arrived just as the explosion occurred. Lamb had reached the south kitchen door when the blast knocked him away from the building. Cole fell to the floor and Homer Carroll, a customer, was injured. Boyd Henderson, who was a senior in high school at the time, left his physical education class and ran to the scene. He entered the building and helped Carroll to his feet just as fire began to spread along the north wall of the building. Fifteen stitches were required to patch Carroll up, but that was the worst of injuries reported as a result of the explosion. Tuscola lore has it that upon returning home from Jarman Hospital to get sewn up, Homer replied, "Damn, that was some cup of coffee!"



**Brookside Drive-In**  
Niles Ave. and Ensey St.



Brookside – 1950's  
Judy (Stabler) Cler



**BROOKSIDE - 1950'S**  
 Jim, Darrell, Mary Kay, Lynnette  
 Lamb



**BROOKSIDE - 1950'S**  
 Rosie (Mayer) Crowder

The **Tuscola Locker** was owned and operated by Bill Meyer of Atwood since the 1930's. It was purchased in 1970 by Wanda and Leo Jess. The locker was later destroyed by fire.

<b>Get'em At The Locker</b>	
FRESH DRESSED	
Frying Chickens, Per Lb.	39c
COUNTRY STYLE	
Stuffed Sausage, Per Lb.	45c
Lean Pork Steak, Per Lb.	45c
Lean Cubed Pork Cutlets, Per Lb.	59c
Sliced Fresh Side Pork, Per Lb.	43c
Sliced Pork Liver, Per Lb.	19c
Boiling Beef, 2 Lbs.	29c
Choice Chuck Roasts, Per Lb.	39c
Choice Sirloin Steak, Per Lb.	69c
Sliced Baby Beef Liver, Per Lb.	39c
Lean Bacon in the piece, Per Lb.	49c
Sliced Bologna, 3 Lbs.	\$1.00
Frozen Orange Juice, 2 cans	29c
Frozen Strawberries, 2 - 12 oz. cans	49c
8 Inch Frozen Pies	55c
— CHERRY — APPLE — PEACH — MINCE —	
Ocean Cat Fish Fillets, Per Lb.	45c
— Fresh Smelt and Channel Cat Fish —	
Manhattan Coffee, Per Lb.	97c
<b>Tuscola Locker Service</b>	
Phones 11 or 237	Tuscola, Illinois



Fred Renner ran **Nu Way Cleaners** in the old Douglas Hotel building. J. P. Morehead, contractor, built the 1<sup>st</sup> cleaning plant in Douglas County on south Main St. for **Renner's Cleaners**. It was then sold to Armin Root then known as Root's Cleaners.

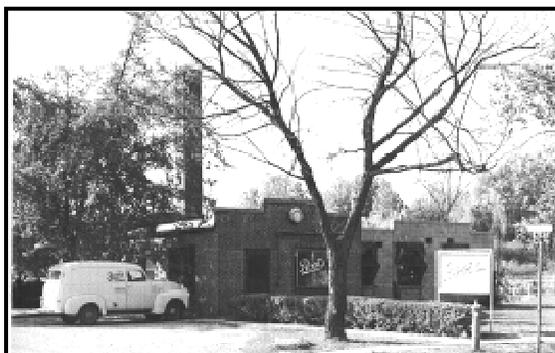
Armin E. Root owned **Root's Cleaners**. Mr. and Mrs. Armin Root came to Tuscola from Indiana. Mr. Root bought the business in 1936 from Fred Renner at 608 S. Main St.

**Alexander's Cleaners** was a new name for an old business formerly known as **Root's Cleaners**. William Alexander assumed charge of the business on December 1, 1955. Armin Root had been in business beginning in August, 1936. He purchased the business from Fred Renner. The business was located at 608 S. Main St.

**Kleanrite Cleaners** was owned and operated by Paul Jones assisted by Eleanor Frahm, Helen Ball, Estel Melton, Bernice Stone and Montelle Froman. Paul and Mary Jones purchased **Kleanrite Cleaners** from Bill Huber and Judson McGuire in 1957 when it was located on the corner of Niles St. and Barker St. (Huber and McGuire had started the cleaners in 1948.) The store was later moved to 104 S. Court St. The business was closed December 31, 1982. Paul and Mary raised five children in this community: Kent, Carrie, Cathy, Kim and Devin.



**Paul and Mary Jones  
Klean Rite Cleaners**



**ROOT'S DRY CLEANERS**



**Pettitt Photo Service** was started by James Myron Pettitt who was born in Youngstown, OH, on October 28, 1911. Mr. Pettitt's father was a civil engineer who died when Jim was two years of age. After the death of the elder Pettitt, young Jim and his mother came to live in Chrisman, IL

Mr. Pettitt, Sr. had been something of an amateur photographer, and when his son graduated from the 8<sup>th</sup> grade, his mother gave him his father's camera.

James Pettitt graduated from Chrisman High school in 1929 and went into business for himself. The Pettitt Studio was first located in Chrisman.

Mr. Pettitt married Margaret L. Stanfield of Edgar Co. on February 5, 1934 in Champaign. From Chrisman the couple moved to Tuscola to establish a photography business in the Boyce Building at the west end of Sale St. The building had housed the photo studio of David N. Boyce for many, many years. Pettitt began his photo service on October 1, 1936. Mr. and Mrs. Pettitt lived in the apartment above the studio until they moved to their home at 300

East Scott St.

During his first years in Tuscola, Mr. Pettitt attended the Winona School of Photography in Winona, IN. This was an Eastman sponsored school.

The Pettitt Studio was moved into the building at 108 E. Sale St. in Tuscola on March 29, 1941. The building which sported a marquee, had been a theatre while the **Strand Theatre** (which since burned down) was being built.

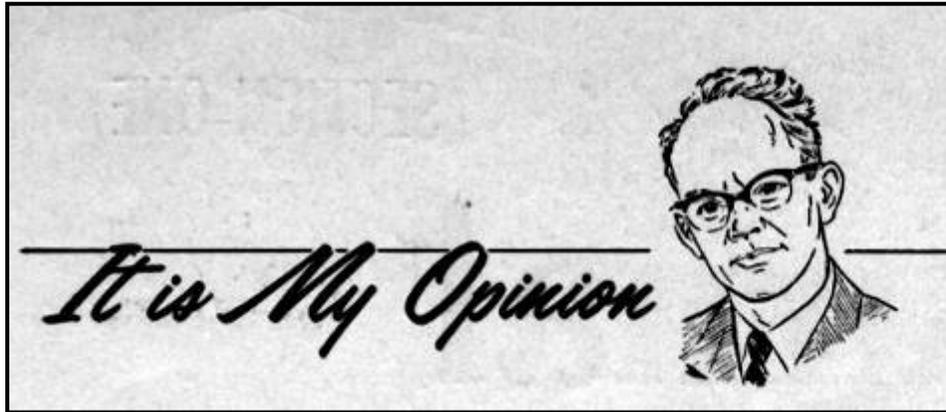
The studio in Paris was opened in 1948, and Mr. Pettitt divided his time between the Tuscola and Paris stores.

Pettitt was skilled in his chosen field and won trophies, ribbons and plaques from the national and state Photographers Association. One particular photograph, a picture of USI Chemical Plant taken shortly after it was built, took a number of awards for excellence.

James M. Pettitt died at the age of 61 on February 8, 1973. Since the founding of Pettitt Photo Service, Mr. Pettitt had been assisted by his wife, Margaret, "Peg", who assumed ownership and operation of the Pettitt stores upon the death of her husband. Peg continued the same excellence in photography as begun by her husband, taking and developing pictures herself. She disposed of the Paris store in 1975 and continued to operate the Tuscola store until 1978. At that time, Peg devoted full time to teaching gymnastics and exercise. Mrs. Pettitt was the first gymnastic coach for Olympian, Linda Metheny. At 93+ years of age, Mrs. Pettitt is still teaching exercise. The Pettitts' had two children, James M. Pettitt III and Peggy Pettitt Jensen.



**MEMBERS OF THE TUSCOLA JOURNAL STAFF**



**Phil White, Editor**



**Ruthie Moore**



**Doris White**



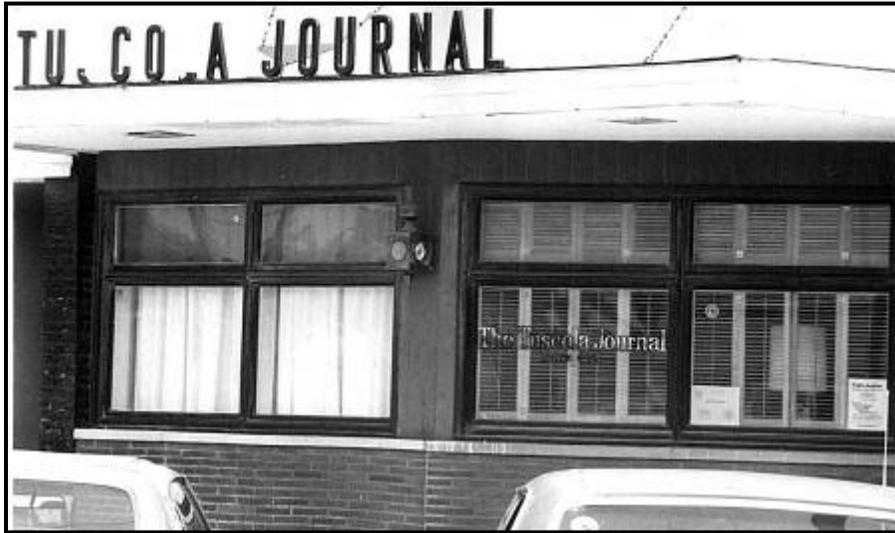
**Mary Thomas**



**Steve Allison**



**Joyce Firestone**



**Joan Armstrong, Doris White  
and Louis Armstrong**



Phil White became publisher of **The Tuscola Journal** in 1947. He passed away September 17, 1972. During his years as publisher, Mr. White received the Grand Honor from the Audit Bureau, Excellence award from Illinois press Association and an honor for advertising excellence from Southern Illinois Press Association.

*The Tuscola Journal* was sold to Louis and Joan Armstrong by Doris White after Phil White (publisher) passed away in 1972. Prior to White's ownership of **The Tuscola Journal**, the paper was owned by Lou's sister and brother-in-law, Bob and Margaret Pickard. After 34+ years absence from Tuscola, Lou and Joan returned to Tuscola from McLean, VA with their youngest daughter, Shelly. Louis and Ann Armstrong owned **The Journal** for approximately 10 years.



Robert Dean Hastings was the owner and operator of *The Tuscola Review* and *The Regional Newspaper* from 1958 until 1993. In 1958 he became a partner with Bert Quackenbush at *The Tuscola Review* and later purchased Mr. Quackenbush's share of the business and established himself as one of the state's premier small-town journalists. *The Review* thrived under his guidance and his efforts did not go unnoticed. The Illinois Press Association bestowed more than 50 annual awards to the paper for advertising and editorial excellence. Mr. Hastings' editorial column, "Sale Street View," highlighted his conservative values and opinions. He offered his commentary without apology and became a respected voice on local, state and national issues. In the late 1980's Mr. Hastings' editorial career was capped by his receiving the Golden Quill Award for Editorial Excellence from the International Society of Newspaper Editors. He continued to write his Sale Street View column, even after he handed over the reins of the paper to his sons Greg and Randy in 1993. Mr. Hastings was also an avid sport's fan in covering local school sports and summer softball leagues, Little League, bowling leagues and area race tracks. He was a volunteer scorekeeper for Tuscola High School for 17 years.

*The Tuscola Review* was established in 1875 by Converse & Parks. In 1890 Col. Charles Wilson became owner. It was the leading Democratic newspaper in Douglas County



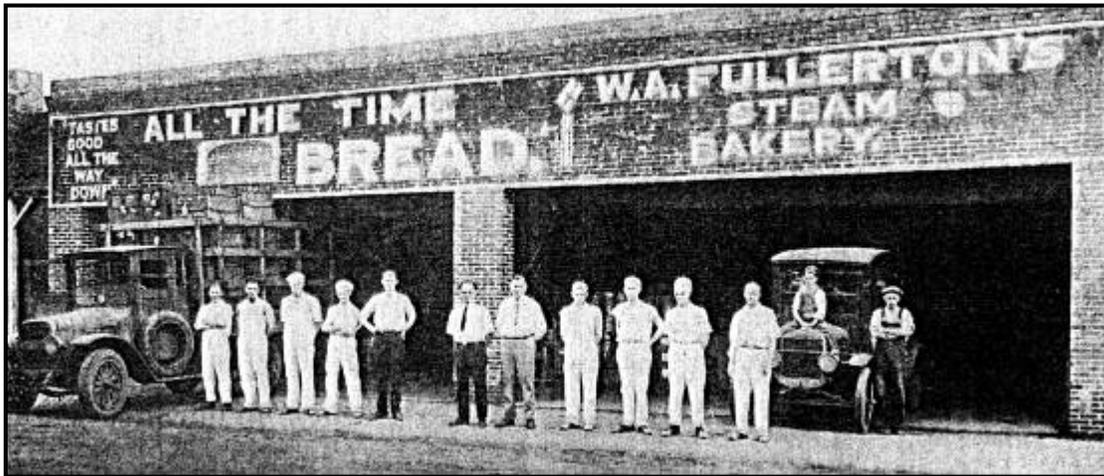
In 1937 after Helen Vickroy returned to Tuscola after attending Champaign Commercial College, she made \$1.00 a day plus meals waiting tables at **Baldwin's Café** on Sale St. In 1938 Helen and Dean Ziegler were married. They had three daughters, Ruth Ann, Joan and Deanna. While the girls were young, Helen became acquainted with Bruce and Blanche Weatherford and started picking 1,000 chickens a day along side Blanche. They would start at 6:30 or 7:00 A.M. and work until 5:00 or 6:00 P.M. After they got a picking machine, they could easily pick 100 to 150 chickens a day. Dean worked for **C. A. Vest** at the **Case Implement** store and later Everett Kerns in his welding shop during the war. Dean later opened his own place with a **Maytag** franchise. After twenty years or so, Dean sold out the Maytag business and went to work for Frank Michener at **Jones Lumber**. Helen retired from the poultry business and went to work steaming hams at **Bill Meyers' Locker** for about ten years. After Dean's death, Helen was elected **Douglas County Treasurer** where she served for many years.





W. A. Fullerton owned and managed the **Tuscola Bread Factory** in the 1930's, 40's and 50's. It was one of the largest factories in central Illinois, having a capacity of 15,000 loaves daily and occupied a building 75 x 120 feet and equipped with the best modern machinery. Mr. Fullerton had the largest number of employees engaged by any one Tuscola firm. Orsen B. Moorehead was the office manager, W. H. Howard was the foreman of the bakeshop, Charles Black and Harry Black took care of the wrapping department, J. Langley, shipping, Orville Miller and Vigil Moore attended the ovens, and the dough room was in the charge of Clarence Tressewriter and Wayne Tressewriter. Other men employed in the shop were: Everett Tackett, A. Hill, Clint Hatabaugh. Guy Davis was the traveling salesman. J. M. Langley had charge of truck deliveries from the factory to various express offices in Tuscola. Owing to the poor service afforded by the railroads, Mr. Fullerton established five truck lines radiating from his factory. John Gregory made the trip to Champaign and intermediate points daily; Bert

Grisson to Mr. Zion and the intermediate points; E. B. Baker to Ridgefarm and intermediate points; B. Todd to Jamaica and intermediate points; Hugh Lewis to Charleston and intermediate points. This factory represented the investment of practically \$50,000 and employed over 20 men.



#### **TUSCOLA BAKERY**

**Lawrence McDonald, Ray Adams, Ernest Tackitt, ?, Harry Black, Orson Moorehead, W. A. Fullerton, ? Moore, Charles Black, Pat Tressewriter, W. V. Howard, Myron Fullerton, Jay Langley**

W. A. Fullerton, although more familiar to everyone for his association with **Lovely Bread**, as owner of the Fullerton Bakery, he had a varied business career. It included farming, drug store, furniture, clothing, coal, grocery and bakery.

**Kenny Huber** first worked with **George Land Barber Shop** then at the **Douglas Hotel** with Paul Roderick. He then bought the building at 703 N. Niles from Bill Rogers and had his own barber shop from 1949 until 1971. The last move was to Rt. 36 in the building with "**The COFFEE Mug**". His business spanned 1949 to the mid 1970's.

**Dietrich Electric Company** was owned by Dennis Dietrich and was located on Rt. 36 in March of 1971. Mr. Dietrich had been in the electrical business since 1957. His shop provided electrical equipment and service. There was also a coffee shop adjacent to his business. His wife, Jeanine and their 5 children all helped out in “**The Coffee Mug**” which served coffee, donuts, sandwiches, homemade pies, chili and soups.



**Kenny Huber**  
with Grandson,  
Dan Crossman,  
and Great Grandson,  
Marc Crossman - 1975

**Jesse T. Brock**, better known as “Slim” was a barber in Tuscola beginning in 1925 when he entered the employ of R. H. Carpenter. Later he and **Fred Cooch** formed a partnership and purchased the shop. Jesse then became sole owner.

Paul Roderick began barbering in Tuscola in 1929. He started working at the **Douglas Hotel Barber Shop** in 1941. Fred Cooch began barbering in Tuscola in 1921. He went to work at the Hotel Douglas Barber Shop in 1949. George Tabb joined the staff, May 13, 1957. Warren Thompson, class of '62, worked at the Douglas Hotel after school and evenings during high school.

**The Cooper Motel** on Rt. 36 was built in 1949 by P. L. and Bonnie Cooper

By 1970, **I-57** between Chicago and Cairo was almost all opened. It is the longest of the interstate routes in Illinois.

**D & M Discount Store** was owned and operated by Don and Mary Young. It was located at 114 W. North Central and was opened in June of 1971. The discount store carried automotive, fishing, hardware and tires. D & M Discount was later located at 101 E. Southline Rd. It closed its doors May of 1996.



Warren Smith was the owner and operator of **Smith Shoes** at 123 W. Sale St. "Tuscola's only store devoted exclusively to the sale of shoes and accessories."

**Warren Smith**

Helen and Fred Jones bought the **Douglas Hotel** in 1940 and owned it for over 20 years. During that time Fred was mayor of Tuscola for 12 years and Helen helped manage the hotel and was the bookkeeper at the hotel along with a 25 year teaching career.



**Helen Jones**

**The Schable Beauty Shop** was opened in Tuscola by Sara Schable in 1921 and was later joined by her sister Miss Mary. It was located in the first National Bank building for almost 30 years. In January, 1957 it moved to 202 W. Van Allen where the **Chatterbox** now operates.

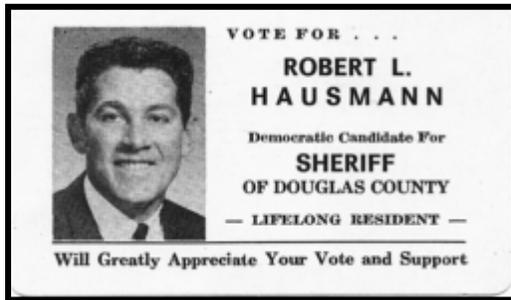
Shirley J. Hausmann rented her beauty salon from Sara and Mary Schable at 202 W. Van Allen St. and called it **Angle Face Beauty Salon** from 1964-1971. The salon had been formerly run by the Schable sisters. The business was sold to the VanDeventers.

**Shirley Hausmann**  
**Angle Face Beauty Salon**  
**1964-1971**



**The Tuscola Milk Company** distributors of Sealtest dairy products began serving Tuscola in March, 1952. James R. Rice, assisted by his brother John, began the business. In November, 1954 when Mr. James R Rice was elected Douglas County Sheriff, Robert Hausmann assumed the manager ship. He was assisted by his wife, Shirley, who was in charge of bookkeeping. The original business was located at 109 W. South Central. On Christmas Day 1955, a fire which destroyed the Elks

Lodge building next door east also damaged the Milk Company building. A new building was erected in April, 1956 on Rt. 36 and opened for drive-in business. Later, Hausmanns constructed a building to the north of their home on South Washington St. from which they operated business. When Robert Hausmann was elected Sheriff of Douglas County in November, 1970, he sold the milk business to Mike and Pam Payne of Tuscola. With the assistance of their children, Mark and Sherry, the Payne's operated the business of distributing Sealtest dairy products in the Tuscola and Villa Grove areas until the early 1980's, when they closed the business. This ended the last home delivery of milk products in Tuscola.



**Robert L. Hausmann  
Milkman and Sheriff!**



Robert R. Smith D.V.M. and family came to Tuscola in 1949 and Dr. Smith maintained a farm and small animal general practice in his garage along side his house on N. Line Rd. until they built a clinic at 606 S. Washington St. Due to the cost of inventory and dwindling farm animals, in 1974, Dr. Smith devoted his full time to companion animals as **Okaw Veterinary Clinic**. Dr. Smith retired in 1988.

**R.R. Smith D. V. M.  
Practiced Veterinary  
Medicine for 39 years.**

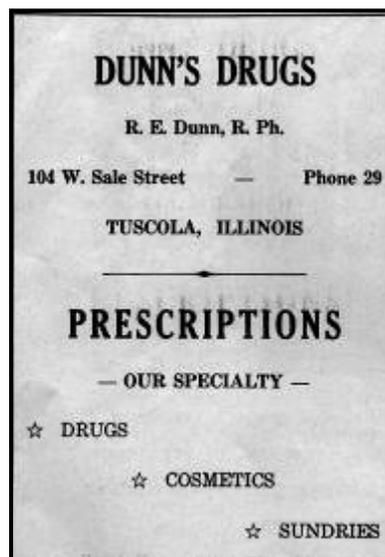
**Monical's Pizza** on Main Street was owned and operated by Otha and Lois Smalling with the help of their four sons: Harlan, David, John and Richard. Due to a lack of space, Monicals moved to a new and larger building in June of 1972.

**Bankers Life Insurance** – Dean Mulligan – 105 W. Sale St. began in April of 1969. It was located at 105 W. Sale St. Dean and Joan Mulligan retired December 31, 2003.

**Dunn's Drugs**, operated by R. E. Dunn, was originally started by **Marion F. Stacy** in 1896. He was assisted in the business by his brother Alonzo C. Stacy. A son, Everett E. Stacy, completed pharmacy school in 1903 and joined the firm. He continued the operation of the firm until his death in 1931. Mr. and Mrs. M. F. Stacy both died in the same year. Mrs. Everett Stacy and her son, Bernard, were in charge of the store until 1938 when Miss Clara Bruhn and her brother John purchased the business. Miss Bruhn operated the store until 1949 when R. E. Dunn purchased the business. It was later located at the corner of S. Central and S. Main Streets (SE corner).



**Ray Dunn**  
**Owner of Dunn's**  
**Drug Store**



During World War II, Ralph Allen worked as a mechanic and metal repairman in war manufacturing industries in Dayton, OH and St. Joseph, MO. For a short time after returning from the war effort, Ralph returned to his pre-war employment as body man for Douglas County Garage. In approximately 1946, Ralph opened his own body shop at his residence at 106 E. Ficklin St.: **Ralph Allen Body Shop**. During his years in the body shop, Ralph was a skilled artisan in repairing and restoring damaged motor vehicles. He could take a totally damaged motor vehicles and return it to its original condition. Ralph was assisted in his body shop by his wife, the former Wanda Lincoln, who was in charge of keeping the books for the business. In the early 1970's Ralph closed his body shop business and became an examiner for the Illinois Secretary of State from which he later retired. Ralph was an active and dedicated member of all Masonic bodies in Tuscola for which he served as an officer and presiding officer for many years. An active Republican, Ralph served as precinct committeeman and Tuscola Township Trustee and Supervisor for many years. Ralph died in 1992, followed by his wife, Wanda, in 2004.

The practice of **Drs. Garber and Baker**, optometrists was established in 1922 by Dr. H. M. Garber. Dr. A. B. Baker was son-in-law of Dr. Garber and entered the office in 1948. Mrs. Garber assisted with the book work.

In July of 1981 the **Studio on Main** opened for business. Portrait and other photo services were offered. Bob McElwee owned the business at 704 S. Main St. Brian Cannon was the manager and Mitch Ditter also worked there.



The **Jos. Kuhn & Co. Clothing Store** in Tuscola was opened June 11, 1955. The store was located at 102 N. Main St. The store was managed by Lee Burch and he was assisted by Larry Kirchner and Robert Davidson, fulltime, and William Boub, part time.

**Mitchell's Department Store** 120-122 W. Sale St. Mr. and Mrs. Mitchell Cohen came to Tuscola in October, 1950 and purchased the department store operated by Morris Eddis. They took over the operation of the business which began in 1936. In 1955 the store was expanded to include two store fronts. Mrs. Hazel Sterling and Virginia Logan assisted the operation of the business.



**MITCHELL'S DEPT. STORE**

Photos Pettitt Photo Service

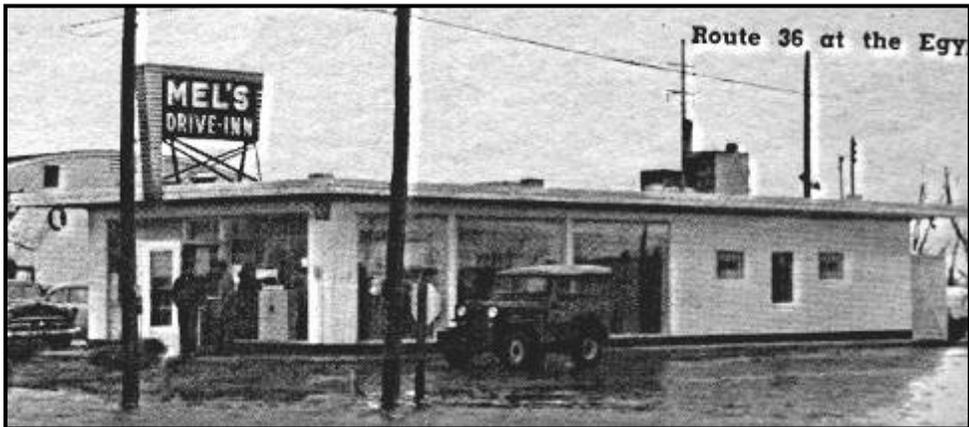
**Mitch and Addie Cohen**



**Arndt's Variety Store  
104 E. Sale St.**

Photo Pettitt Photo Service

Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Wright bought the former **Mel's Drive-In** at the corner of Rt. 36 and Egyptian Trail on January 1, 1972. The land consisted of Mel's Drive-In in the front and the **Stop and Go Convenience Store** in back. The name of the restaurant was changed to **A&J Drive-In**, A for Anna Wright and J for Jerry. The drive-in was established in 1950 by John Gernon. It was sold in 1958 to John "Mel" Johnson of Champaign. Mel operated the business for about 10 years and then leased it to Alex Postelwaite.



**Charles and Lucinda Weaver**  
**Weaver's Variety Store**  
**103 W. Sale St.**



**Ida's Gift Shop**  
**Rt. 36 and Court St.**

*Kinney*  
Phone 702  
Tuscola Ill.

**Kinney Electric Service**  
205 S. Carico Tuscola, Illinois Phone 702

This firm was established in 1947 by Delbert Kinney, after he had spent five years in the employ of Young's Electric.

ELECTRICAL CONTRACTING  
FARM — HOME — COMMERCIAL — FIXTURES — ACCESSORIES

PIONEERING IN ELECTRICAL HEATING  
BASEBOARD — RADIATION — HEATERS  
QUALIFIED INSTALLATION SERVICE  
AIR CONDITIONING — MOTOR REPAIR

**Kinney Electric, Delbert Kinney**

**"SALUTING TUSCOLA"**  
**MRS. MASON'S STYLE SHOP**

105 N .Main  
(Same Location Since 1933)

☆ DRESSES  
☆ LINGERIE  
☆ MILLINERY

**Mrs. Celia Mason**

**SHARP  
LAWN & PATIO  
ORNAMENTS**

**Sharp Lawn and Patio  
Ornaments**  
1982-1987  
800 S. Main St.  
Jackie Sharp

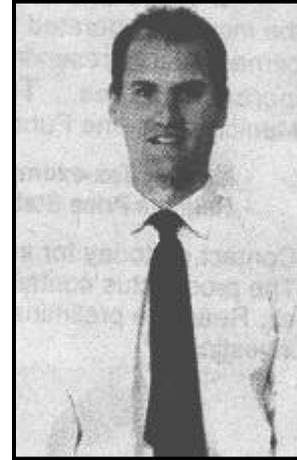


**Castle Mall – 202 S. Main St.**

May 1978, Jim Higgins moved his **True Value Hardware** Business from downtown to Rt. 36 in the former Eisner Grocery Store and later changed to **Tuscola Do It Best Hardware Store and Awesome Machines.**



**Dick's Clothing Store – 1940's**  
Main St. and North Central  
Photo Pettitt Photo Service



David Dotson, Attorney established a downtown office in 1993 previously filled for over 50 years by his grandfather, Charles Dotson.

**Tuscola Builders Supply** started operation in Tuscola in 1951, at the same time USI was locating in Tuscola. It was set up to supply concrete for that job, but then there was such a demand for it being located here, it stayed. Don Huckaba was the first manager. Dale Cornwell took over the management in 1967. The plant supplies ready mix concrete and concrete supplies to the county.

**Omana's Truck Stop** opened for business in 1958 under the ownership of Roy Bartley for ten years. In 1968 Anna and Omer Yoder purchased the Truck Stop and then changed the name to Omana referencing their first names: Omer and Anna. Real home cooked meals including pies, cookies and rolls were served 24 hours a day except on Sunday.

Terry and Carol Savage opened **Citizens TV** in February, 1971 after being in the appliance business since 1967. It was located in the McNeill Building.

In the 1960's **Wilma Keigley** was the owner of **Beauty Lane Styling Salon** in her home in Meadowview and later in the McCumber Building. Beauticians she remembers working for her include: Mary Hill, Janet Abney, Ginny Ghery, Donna Dittamore, Billie Jean Arthur, Linda Fuller, Veralee Karn, Sanci Meyer, Dee Beachy, Mrs. Kyle, Linda Reed, Nancy Baker, Mrs. Etzweiler and Billie Jean Oye.



Martha Beck owner of **Tuscola Beauty Salon** at 115 1/2 E. Sale St. from 1946 until the late 1950's when the salon was moved into Mrs. Beck's home at 203 E. Sale St. until 1964. Dr. W. C. and Mrs. Zaida Blaine owned the home at 115 E. Sale St.

**The Spinning Wheel** on Rt. 36 was opened for business by Marge Conn July 9, 1973. It fulfilled a need for “notions” in Tuscola. The store carried fabric and home sewing needs.

**Marge Conn  
The Spinning Wheel**



Ted Anderson came to Tuscola to run his father's business – **Anderson's Fabric Shop**. The store was located at the corner of N. Main and E. Sale St. He sold the business the end of April 1972 and the fabric store was closed.

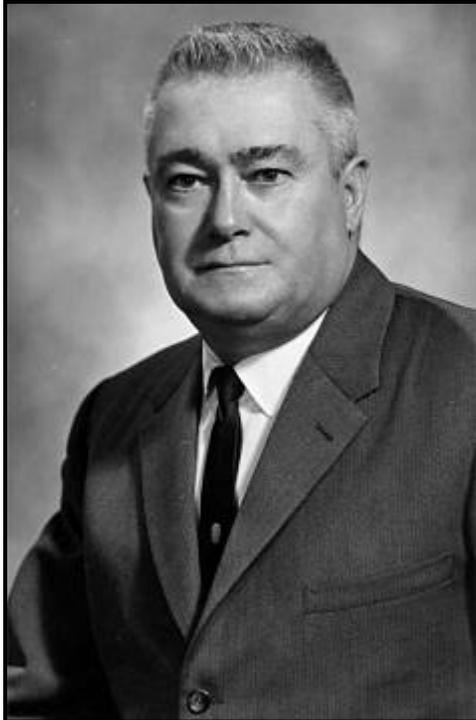
**Anderson's Department Store – 1950's**

Photo Pettitt Photo Service

The **Tuscola Sav-Mor Store** opened its doors on November 18, 1968 at 123 W. Sale St. in the Smith Building. Initially merchandise included house wares, cosmetics, and various other items including medications not requiring a prescription. On June 2, 1969, they opened the pharmacy. Due to an increase in merchandise they bought the Warren Building next door and expanded in 1972.

**The Tuscola Bakery** was located at 302 South Washington St. The building has housed **Zane's Bakery** and later **The House of Donuts**. Robert Turner, Jr. of Decatur was the owner. It began in 1972.

**Oliver's Restaurant** was located west of Tuscola on Rt. 36 and owned by Don and Donna Walker and Mark and Becky Weaver



The Weber brothers: Bernard, Harold, Quentin, Everett, Verlin and Elmer, Jr. were responsible for creating 52+ homes and also new buildings for business in Tuscola during the 1950's and on. Some of these included: The Chop Rice Ford Dealership on Rt. 36, the Tuscola Community Building, the Tuscola Swimming Pool, Forty Martyr's School, Dr. Steiner's office and others. Bernard was the general contractor, Harold as electrician, Quentin a carpenter and brothers: Everett, Verlin and Elmer, Jr. employed by Bernard. Harold built a new building on Rt. 36 for his electric shop, which he later leased for many years to P & H Motors. He then built the building at 502 E. Southline Rd. where he opened **Weber Electric**, an appliance and electric company. This later became **Allison's Appliance Store** and now the home of **Kleiss Investments** and **Tuscola Tourism** and others. Quentin Weber built many houses in Tuscola and purchased the old North Ward property, located at North Court, East Overton and East Ensey Streets and developed that area as well.

**Bernard Weber**  
**Weber Electric**



**Quentin Weber Family - 1957**  
Front row - Joan, Ronnie, and Bill.  
Back row - Catherine, Shirley and Quentin.

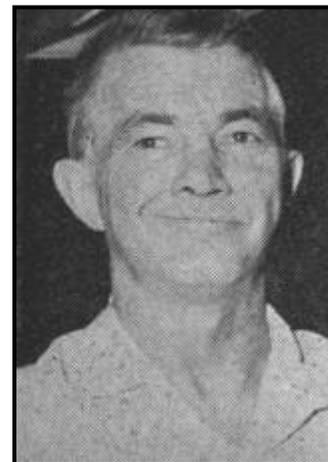
**Pat's Studio** was owned and operated by Pat Hill Phillips. She began her business in October, 1966. There were several locations over the years. Her main business was wedding photography and outdoor photography. Cards and gifts were added over the years. In 1970, her parents, Jake and Betty Hill bought into the store and took over the cards and gifts. Betty ran that part. Pat worked at **Pettitt Photo**

**Service** for several years and learned from whom she thinks was the best, Mr. and Mrs. James M. Pettitt. She learned a lot about photography from Jim and a lot about developing and printing photos from Peg. Pat closed the photography business in 1997. Pat has been the proud owner of Jim Pettitt's negative library since 1982 and that mainly is how the **Tuscola Pictorial History Book** got started. Pat has worked for the Tuscola Tourism office since 1998.

William L. Arthur owned a pool room and bowling alley on N. Central Ave. in the 1930's and early 1940's.

Jake Hill owned and operated **Jake's Pool Hall** from 1964 to the early 1970's when he sold it to Howard Whitsall. Before Jake's, it was owned by **Jim Huser**, before him, it was **Riley's**. It operated upstairs at 114 W. Sale St. in back of the restaurant. When Loren Riley enlarged the restaurant it was moved to the basement. At one time Frank Smith owned the **Tuscola Bottling Works** in the basement and later Bill Riley took it over.

Betty and Jake Hill owned the **Village Card Shop** and Betty ran it when it was moved to 100 W. Sale St. in late 1972. It then was renamed **The Store**. It was enlarged to several times larger than the original store. Lots of great lines were added in China, Chrystal, Silver, Towels, gourmet foods, etc. There was also a complete line of Hallmark. The store was closed in 1989 when Mrs. Hill retired.



**Jake L. Hill**  
**Jake's Billiards**



Chris Hill owned several businesses over the years. He had **The Little Red Barn** (antiques and stuff) behind his parent's home when he was a teenager. In 1969 he had **Christopher's Attic** over his sister, Pat Phillip's Studio. He later purchased the old White House Restaurant and turned it in to **Chris Hill's Antiques**. His aunt, Opal Wilson ran it for him the entire time it was there from 1971 to its closing. Chris has also been in real estate and development. He also owned **Stop & Go Convenience Store** for awhile located at Rt. 36 and Egyptian Trail. His office is located at 600 E. Southline Rd. He was the youngest councilman in the County and he was also the youngest Mayor of Tuscola at that time.

**Opening of Dixie Truck Stop Chuck Keller, Dr. Podesta, Frank Wilhelm and Chris Hill.**



**Koehneman's  
Furniture Store**  
Photo Pettitt Photo Service

On August 8, 1971 **“The Store”** opened its doors owned by Watson Brother, Inc., Larry Watson was president and manager of the store. The firm purchased the Reliable Furniture store in Champaign in May, 1971, with the intent of closing out that store and moving into the **Koehnemann** building in Tuscola. The Store had everything to furnish a house from carpets to wall paper and draperies.

Barb Wills was the broker/owner of **Wills Realty** from 1978-1989. The business was then sold to Kathryn McCumber who changed the name to **Home Real Estate**.



**Realty Wills and Galey's Optometric** on the occasion of moving their businesses. Wills Realty to 401 S. Main St. and Dr. Galey to Southline Plaza, Rt. 36  
1<sup>st</sup> row: Pat Galey, Morris Galey, and Barb Wills  
2<sup>nd</sup> row: Helen Hurt, Connie Wills, Betty Hensley, Kathryn McCumber

**Home Real Estate**, 1989-2002 Kathryn McCumber became involved in Real Estate in 1978 through Barb Wills who was the managing broker for **Romine Real Estate**. Later, Barb became broker/owner of **Wills Realty** and Kathryn was a sales agent with Wills until 1989 when Kathryn bought Wills Realty and changed the name to Home Real Estate. Sales agents working for Home Real Estate were: Sue Bienias, Tracy Icenogle, Cindy Shafer, Joyce Arseneau, Tony Hettinger and Jana Rodmaker.

**Welch's Family Restaurant** opened its doors in December of 1971. It was formerly known as **Williams Café**.



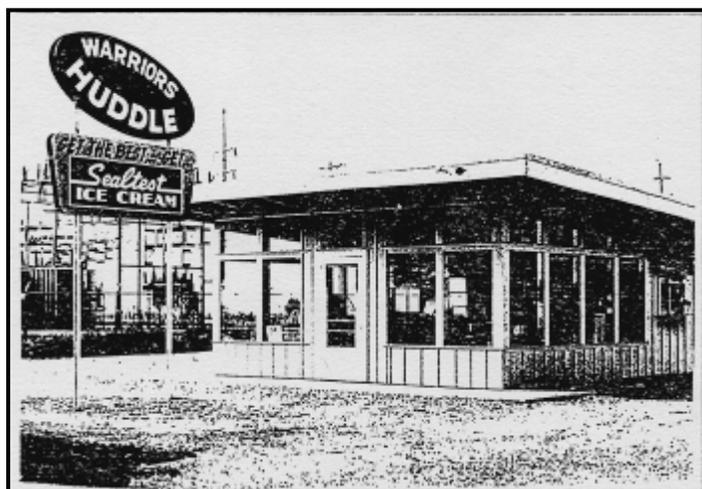
**A & J Drive In 1972**

1<sup>st</sup> row: Robert Willison, Joyce Navel Enyart, Sally Anderson, Anna Mae Wright  
Alice \_\_\_\_, Barb Moore Lewis  
2<sup>nd</sup>: row: Ronald \_\_\_\_, Kathy \_\_\_\_, Polly \_\_\_\_.

**Fannie and Charlie's** was owned by Tom and Vickie Harriss from Feb. 1987 to Oct. 1994. It was located at the intersection of Rt. 36 and Egyptian Trail and served pizza, pasta and sandwiches. It was the home of the "Fannie Burger" and pizzas such as "Charlie's Choker" and "The Kitchen Sink." It was purported to have the best fish around on Fridays.

The original owners of **The Country Sampler** were Dee Beachy, Carol Weemer, and Betsy Stuerke from 1984-1998. Kay Meharry later owned the business. The business had several homes: 210 S. Main St., 701 S. Main St., 116 W. North Central and 103 S. Main St. The business specialized in counted cross stitch and framing.

**The Huddle** was built by two high school coaches, Bob Brigham and Bob Brehm, in the middle 1950's as a hamburger gathering place for teenagers and for the high school crowd after games. The Huddle was purchased by Don and Rosa Dumas in Nov. of 1969. Don had previously been the manager of the Wellworth store in downtown Tuscola. They started **Tuscola's FIRST Packaged Liquor, Inc.** after the city voted to "go wet". Rich Whalen purchased the business in 1985.



**The Warriors Huddle**  
Rt. 36

Darren and Vilma Cooper began **Cooper Motors, Ltd** in 1994 located on Rt. 36. They specialize in car sales, special interest and collector cars and Classic British car restorations.

**The County Realtors** has been owned by Fred McDonald since 1993 and is located on Rt. 36 and Court St.

The grand opening for **The Food Court** at the Tanger Outlet Mall was in January of 1995. The food court featured TCBY, Sbarro, Panda Express, KFC Express and Taco Bell Express and Hebrew National.

**Kate's Restaurant** was located at 125 W. Sale St. The **Tuscola Family Restaurant** began March 16, 1994 by Ismet "Sam" Selimi.

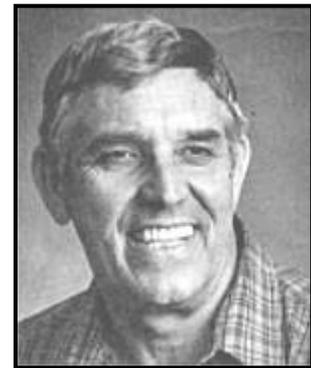


Bill Huber, Ismet Selimi, Linda Olivero and Susie Huber at opening of **The Tuscola Family Restaurant**, 1994  
125 W. Sale St.

The **Huber Auction Team** held auctions at 108 W. Sale St. The building formerly housed **Das Alte Haus Antiques and Collectables**. Bill Huber started in the auction business with his father-in-law, John Malhoit of Assumption, IL in 1958.



**The Huber Auction Team**  
auction house  
108 W. Sale St. – March, 1994



**Bill Huber along with son, Rudy, were partners in the Huber Auctioneer Team.**





Wood Tin 'n' Lace



Ken Snyder

**Snyder Roofing**  
*"Since 1959"*  
 COMMERCIAL  
 SINGLE-PLY SYSTEMS A SPECIALTY  
 ♦ All Types Of Quality Roofing ♦  
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 Ken Snyder - Owner  
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**Snyder Roofing Company** was founded by Kenneth James Snyder in 1963 and operated until Mr. Snyder's death Saturday, December 12, 2003. A construction firm had previously been owned by Ken's father, James Snyder.

Sarah Lawrence  
 Lawrence Graphics



**The Smokehouse Restaurant** located on Tuscola Blvd. south of Rt. 36 was opened during 2000 and was owned and operated by Jim and Margaret Stillwell.



**The Smoke House 2000-2003**

Owned and operated by Jim and Margaret Stillwell  
Located south of Rt. 36 on Tuscola Blvd.

**Pangburn Oil, Inc.** was started in 1959 by Myron Pangburn. His son, Mike, joined the firm in 1978 and son, John joined in 1979.

Pete Kelsey established **Kelsey's Furniture Store** in 1959 at 215 N. Main St. It sold retail furniture and carpeting.

After the closing of the **Grab-It-Here** grocery store at the corner of Pembroke St. and Parke St., residents were concerned that there was no place to buy groceries north of the railroad tracks. Kathy Clevidence and Julie Hoetker opened the **Corner Grocery** at 200 N. Parke St. 1974-1997.



**Corner Grocery Store**  
200 N. Parke St.  
1974-1997

**Hoke Construction** was located west on Rt. 36. Ernest R. Hoke and William C. Hoke along with Hank Rottman, Millard Dukeman and Bill Cain were owners. The construction company was in business for over 40 years and dealt with chemical plants, gas compressor stations, natural gas pipelines, power plants, and food processing plants.



Harold and Ruth Zane located **Zane's Bakery** at 300 S. Washington St. after constructing the building along with Bill Laley, Oscar Zane, Ron Roller plus Bernard Weber's construction crew. They made and sold donuts, yeast rolls and sweet rolls, cookies, cakes, pies and bread. The business began in the spring of 1962 and closed in 1969. The business was sold to Paul and Lonnie Frances.

**The Neal Motor Company** was founded by Earl Neal. Mr. Neal passed away in 1947. Max Thode purchased the former Tuscola Milk Company from Mrs. Ellen A. Rice in February of 1959. Mr. Thode had been a shop foreman for the Neal's which had housed the Studebaker dealership. **The Thode Garage** specialized in car repair work.

**Duensing's Standard Service Station** was purchased from O. B. Smith in June of 1964 at 300 N. Main St. In June of 1983 it was sold to Charles and Sara Holmes.

**Denny's Classic Diner** was opened in the early 1990's on an out lot by Tanger Outlet Mall on Progress Blvd. It is designed going back to the classic days of the 1950's including a Wurlitzer jukebox, chrome, and 1950's memorabilia.

Groundbreaking ceremonies for **McDonald's Restaurant** were held in October, 1985 by Mayor Clarence Snyder and Chamber of Commerce president, Doug McCumber. The restaurant was opened for business in early 1986. Other people attending the ceremony were: Harold Scheu, Danny Jo Kleiss, Bob Rafferty, Boyd Henderson, Dr. R. R. Smith, Bill McCarty, Earl Pendergrass, Keith Restad, Paul Flock, Wayne and Leone Steven and "Ronald McDonald."

**Tuscola Trucker's Home, Inc.** was owned by Frank Wilhelm and Dr. Will. Podesta in September of 1976. It was later sold in May of 1978 to **Shirley Oil and Supply Co., Inc.** of **Dixie Trucker's Home.**

In 1969, Robert Gray was the owner of **Bulldog Marine**, maker of water sports equipment.

Bill Betzold owned and operated **Betzold Bus Service** prior to 1973 and then Roy Gould purchased the business and retired 31 years later selling **Gould's Bus Service** to son, Shane and Shane's wife, Lindsey.

**At New Location**  
 Republic National Ins.  
**Al Kish, Agent**  
 is now located at the  
**Tuscola Community Building**  
 Phone 253-2219 Tuscola



**Poplar Motel and Café** owners: Tom and Mary Haines  
 with staff: Ruth Ziegler, Edith Thomas and  
 Geneva Stabler.  
 Establishment on Rt. 36 and Court St. closed March 1,  
 1979.

George and Irene Flesor, owners and operators of **Nick's** for more than 30 years, sold the business to Clarence Synder in July of 1977. The name was changed from Nick's to **Clarence's Smoke Shop**.

**Clarence and JoAnn Snyder,  
 George Flesor and Bertie Hume**



Owner, operator Orlena McDaniel (seated) during grand opening at **Orlena's On the Boardwalk** beauty shop on Rt. 36 – July, 1978.  
 Operators: Debbie Holsapple and Carol Hawkins

In May of 1978 **Littlefuse** employed over 100 people who manufactured fuses. The plant was located on North Parke and West Pembroke Streets.



October, 1978 groundbreaking for **Ben Franklin** on Rt. 36 next to IGA. Bill McCarty, Bill Cain, Marge Conn, Mayor – Chris Hill, Jerry Reynolds, Kent McGillan, and Robert Proctor.



Marlene and Linda Bricker opened **Classic Casuals** a specialty jean shop at Rt. 36 and Embarras St. in July of 1980.



Grand Opening of **L & K Restaurant** on Rt. 36 – 1977 Forest Rank, Margaret Czerwonka, Malcomb Maclean, Janet Hettinger, Hines Stiehl, John Holden, Mrs. L. Lloyd Green, Donna Smalling, and Mayor, Chris Hill.

**Country Fresh Meats** opened by Greg Jamison June, 1978 on Rt. 36



**Amishland Country Village (The Red Barn)** has had a varied existence. It was originally opened by Jim and Margaret Stillwell. After Jim's death in 2003, it was closed and later reopened.

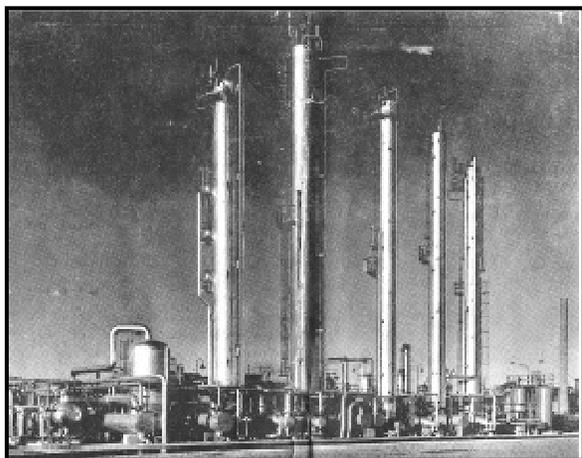
Dave and Joyce Arseneau owned and operated **Douglas County Office Products** located on Rt. 36 for over twenty years. In November of 2003 the business was sold to Rogard's Office Plus in Champaign but continued a customer order service in Tuscola.

**Brookstone Estates**, a senior living facility located on Northline Rd. was opened in 2004.



Dennis Hanners  
**Douglas County Hearing Center**  
Jarman Center - 2001

**National Petro - Chemicals Corporation** opened one of its largest plants west of Tuscola in the fall of 1953.



**PETRO CHEMICALS**

**Carle Clinic** broke ground in April of 1994 for a new facility located on Rt. 36 and Court St. Carle had previously been located at Jarman Center.

1994 was a banner year for Tuscola to close on a mall deal. Charter Oaks and Tuscola Mills Corp signed binding agreements to make **Factory Stores Outlet Mall** a reality.

**Dr. Morris Galey** practiced optometry in Tuscola for over 31 years closing his business in May of 1994.

In what was once Waddington Funeral Home, 400 S. Main St., Claire Sutter established – **Sutter’s Bed and Breakfast** in May of 1995.

**The Tuscola Copy Shop** opened in Dec. of 1996 at 701 S. Main St. by Keith Ayers. It was previously owned by Bob Sumption. Dorothy Goff was employed by Ayers and Sumption.



**Keith Ayers, Dorothy Goff, Bob Sumption  
Tuscola Copy Shop - 1996**

**Tuscola Auto Parts Plus** has been open since April of 1988 at 708 E. Southline Rd. by Larry Nees. Jim Nees, Larry’s son, opened **Pro Hardware Store** in May of 1997.



**Jim Nees – 1997  
Pro Hardware**



**Sara Holmes  
Original owner of  
Friends Remembered  
Fall 2001**

Ground was broken in early spring of 1994 for **The Holiday Inn Express** on Rt. 36.

In 1996, Tom and John Tewell bought the former Century Motors from Red Proffitt in order to establish **METCO, Inc.**, an industrial machining and Fabrication Company that specialized in the manufacturing of custom-made parts for industrial and commercial use.

Sonny and Natasha Hamili opened **Four Seasons Family Restaurant** in the former Dixie building on Rt. 36 on August, 2005.

**In 2007, CILCO and CIPS merged into one: AMEREN of Illinois.**



**AMEREN STAFF**

Dennis Swan, Dave Pottle, Mary Harris, Mary Ellen Harris, Jean Clapp, Brian Warner, Derik Kresin, Mike Otto, Jeff Rodmaker, Kyle Hoke, Dave Quick, Dick Laley, John McGrath, Darin West, John Hyde, Greg Bare, Doug Ecker, Steve Quinn, Ryan Weber, Jim Ippolito, John Hudson, Stacy Clough, Bill Fleming

**IRON HORSE GOLF COURSE** and residential development began selling lots for homes in 1995. Golf play began in May of 1997. John Kenney was the developer out of Champaign. The Iron Horse name was originally because of Tuscola being developed alongside the railroad lines: the name symbolizing the big iron engines.



**Kemper CPA Group LPP** began in January of 1976 in the Hillard Building and moved to their present location in 1981 at 307 S. Main St. Pictured here are: Ann Poznic, Karen Mauzy and Jack Wetzell.