

# THE FABULOUS '50s

Happy Days in Hopkinsville

Wednesday, June 21, 2017

WITH THE MUSEUMS OF HISTORIC HOPKINSVILLE-CHRISTIAN COUNTY

Kentucky New Era Est. 1869

## POLICE PROBE ALLEGED RAID BY LITTLE MEN IN SPACE-SHIP

**KELLY FARMHOUSE OCCUPANTS SAY THEY DID BATTLE WITH STRANGE CREW**

BULLETS SAID TO HAVE NO EFFECT ON VISITORS

Aug. 22, 1955 — All kinds of investigations were going on today in connection with the bizarre story of how a space-ship carrying 12 to 15 little men landed in the Kelly community early last night and battled occupants of a farmhouse.

Most official of the probes was reportedly being staged by the air force.

More than a dozen state, county, and city officers from Christian and Hopkins counties went to the scene between 11 p.m. and midnight and remained until after 2 a.m. without seeing anything either to prove or disprove the story about the ship and its occupants.

The farmhouse is located on the Old Madisonville Road about eight miles north of Hopkinsville. The property is occupied by Cecil (Lucky) Sutton, one of those who reported experiencing last night's phenomena.

There were some 10 or 12 persons at the house, including several children, but investigating officers were not able to determine exactly how many of those present actually claimed to have seen any of the little men from the space ship.

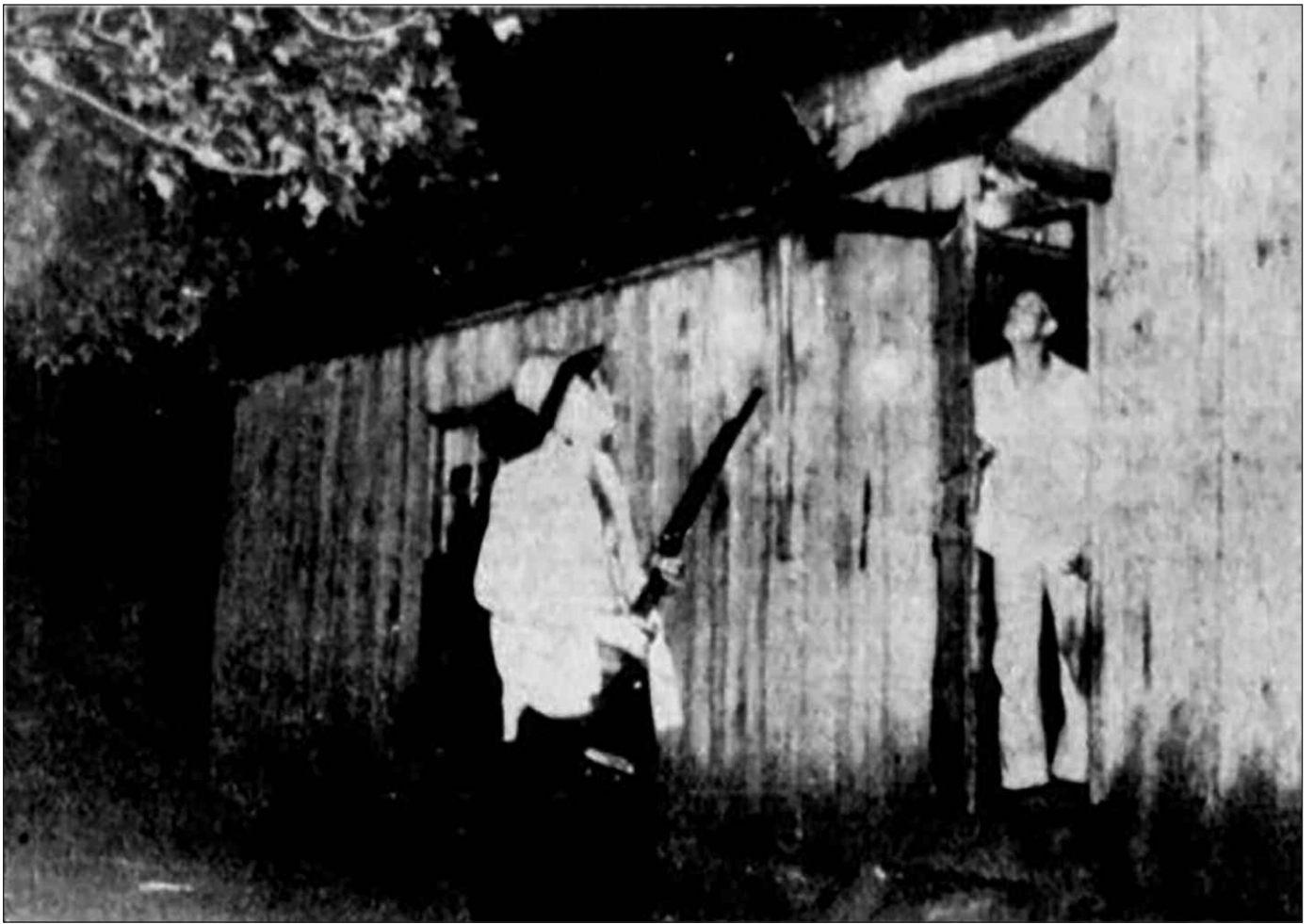
Only other person whom officers quoted directly was identified as Billy Ray Taylor. One account said Taylor was a visitor from Pennsylvania, which recently had a similar report of a space ship. Neither Sutton nor Taylor was at home when officers returned to the scene this morning.

The story broke around 11 o'clock last night when two cars, one bearing a Pennsylvania license drove up to Hopkinsville's police headquarters. Officers then at the station said the two autos contained at least five adults and several children. All appeared highly excited.

Spokesmen for the crowd told of how something resembling a space ship or flying saucer had landed at the back of their house near Kelly and 12 or 15 men, who appeared to be about 4 feet tall, had got out of the ship and come up to the house and done battle with the occupants.

"We need help," one of the men said, "we've been fighting them for nearly four hours."

(Continued on Page 2)



Lucky Sutton (left) holds a gun while looking up at the spot where an alien invader allegedly sat on his roof. In the doorway is Billy Ray Taylor, who said his hair was pulled by one of the little men on the roof.

### Inquiring Reporter

## Local Residents Left Gog-Eyed Over Flying Saucer Reports

### Invasion of 'Little Men' Just Monkey Business, Rumor Claims

Aug. 24, 1955 — One story could conceivably throw some light on the Kelly confusion, officers admitted today. There were reports that one of a number of circus trucks passing through Hopkinsville late Sunday stopped about eight miles north of town, and some of the monkeys were allowed out of their cages to exercise in a field beside Highway 41A.

This tip is based on some semblance of fact. King Circus did travel through Hopkinsville Sunday, coming here after a show in Springfield, Tenn. The route from here was west on Highway 68, not north on 41, however.

Officers admitted it was as good explanation for the little men yet advanced — unless the Lankford farmhouse was actually visited by creatures from another world.

Aug. 23, 1955 — News reports of a space ship supposedly landing near Kelly Sunday night and the battle with 10-15 little green men have left local residents gog-eyed over the strange weird story.

Reaction ran something like this:

Mrs. Alice Pyle, Dawson Springs Road: "It certainly is a mystery. It has made me begin to wonder, especially with all those reports of flying saucers and the like in the news lately. There must be something to the Kelly report, all right."

David Lander, LaFayette: "That story sounds preposterous. I believe one thing just led to another until the present story was evolved. I would suggest a career

as short story writers. Hopkinsville always manages to get on the map, in one way or the other."

Mrs. T. M. Herndon, 2313 South Virginia Street: "The story is rather hard to imagine. I tend to think that one of the secret experiments of the government is connected to this incident in some way."

Paul Barnes, moving to Hopkinsville: "Those boys were just pranking with the women. As for recent flying saucer reports, I think the people are seeing things. You know, the Bible states that there will be signs of different kinds. And I think those flying saucer reports are one of those signs."



Members of the Junior Chamber of Commerce hand out chances to win a 1956 Ford at Ninth and Main streets. Melvin Douglas Duke won the car in a drawing held on Aug. 11, 1956 at the Pennyroyal Fair.

## 1950s: A Nostalgic Decade

Happy days are here again! This decade of jukeboxes, hot rods, bobby socks, and letter sweaters fills us with nostalgia. We want to pay tribute to this baby-booming era that

took us from world war to civil rights.

Kentucky New Era archives provided the content for this journey back in time. The articles chosen are offered verbatim and provide a peek into the past of this community. From aliens to floods to school integration, the language and reactions

are all straight from the 1950s — a decade that shaped our community and our nation in profound ways.

If this special section brings back memories for you, we hope you will join us tomorrow night at 6:30 p.m. at the Silo for "Dinner at the Drive-In: A Journey through the 1950s." The Museums and the Pennyroyal Arts Council have come together again this year for a fundraiser that celebrates this iconic decade. A diner-inspired meal (complete with ice cream sundaes and root beer floats), tunes from the jukebox, memorabilia from all 7 local high schools, a bit of history from William T. Turner, and a movie on the outdoor big screen will combine to make for a swell time.



Alissa Keller

EDITOR'S NOTE: Articles in this special section are presented as they were originally written, although some have been edited for space. Stories may depict racial prejudices that were then common in our area. These characterizations were and are wrong and do not represent the views of today's Kentucky New Era or the Museums of Historic Hopkinsville-Christian County.

# Kentucky New Era.

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**1950S IN TIME**

**Jan. 6, 1950:** Winter storm cuts off communications and closes schools in area.

**March 10, 1950:** A displaced Latvian family makes their home in Christian County.

**April 1, 1950:** For the first time, the 1950 census counts a population in the United States over 150 million people.

**April 14, 1950:** U.S. designates Camp Campbell as a permanent military installation and the name changes to Fort Campbell.

**April 17, 1950:** Twenty-nine students and sponsors from HHS return from a trip to New York City.

**June 25, 1950:** The Korean War begins its 3-year conflict. Two days later, the United States Air Force and Navy are ordered in by President Truman.

**Jan. 6, 1951:** The old portion and gymnasium of Crofton School is destroyed by fire.

**Feb. 27, 1951:** The 22nd Amendment, establishing term limits for President, is ratified.

**July 16, 1951:** The Catcher in the Rye is published by J. D. Salinger and invigorates the rebellious youth of the period.

**Sept. 13, 1951:** Bethel College opens as a co-educational institution with nine men attending classes at the school formerly for women.

**Oct. 15, 1951:** The situation comedy I Love Lucy premieres on CBS.

**January 14, 1952:** The Today Show debuts on NBC.

**Feb. 16, 1952:** African American attorney, poet, and philosopher Claybron Merriweather dies. He remembers local charities – the American Red Cross, Community Chest, and Salvation Army – in his will.

**Oct. 28, 1952:** The federal grand jury at Paducah issues a report following investigations of vice activity within the Hopkinsville police department. The chief of police and six police officers were suspended the following day – pending local investigation.

**Sept. 9, 1952:** Dorris James is named Hopkinsville Fire Chief.

**Oct. 1, 1952:** City of Hopkinsville officially annexes land for the first time in 40 years.

**Nov. 1, 1952:** Administration of the Clarksville Base, better known as the "Bird Cage," transfers from the Air Force to the Navy.

**Nov. 4, 1952:** General Dwight D. Eisenhower is elected U.S. President.

**Nov. 5, 1952:** The city votes to change city government from a commission form to a council-manic form.

**Dec. 22, 1952:** A special grand jury in Christian County Court issues 17 indictments against 11 individuals as a result of investigations because of the federal grand jury report.

**March 12, 1953:** Gov. Lawrence Wetherby appoints 12-man city council. The council is sworn in the following day.

**March 25, 1953:** The Pioneers, Inc., a civic group organized for the purpose of promoting, advancing, and stimulating social, cultural, and civic interest in Hopkinsville, is incorporated.

**July 27, 1953:** Fighting ceases in the Korean War. North Korea, South Korea, the United States, and the Republic of China sign an armistice agreement.

**Oct. 30, 1953:** The Cold War continues when President Eisenhower approves a top secret document stating that the U.S. nuclear arsenal must be expanded to combat the communist threat around the world.

**Dec. 30, 1953:** The first color televisions go on sale.

**Feb. 23, 1954:** The first large scale vaccination of children against polio begins in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

**May 17, 1954:** Racial segregation in public schools is declared unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court in Brown vs. the Board of Education.

**July 9, 1955:** Rock and roll music enters the mainstream when "Rock Around the Clock" by Bill Haley & His Comets tops the Billboard pop charts.



Flood waters completely submerged the intersection of 9th and Main streets during the disaster on November 18, 1957. Looking north on Main Street, a car sits almost completely under water as a row boat travels through the streets.

# City Nearly Isolated In Greatest Flood In Decades

## MOST MAJOR ARTERIES UNDER HIGH WATER AS POLICE ATTEMPT TO PROVIDE DETOURS

November 18, 1957 — Most major highway arteries leading into Hopkinsville were closed today as heavy rainfall sent scores of streams and Little River flooding over their banks.

State police said the only major highways remaining open to traffic early this afternoon were the Nashville and Clarksville Roads.

High water had halted vehicular traffic on US-41N, US-68 east and west of Hopkinsville, and the Dawson Springs, Princeton, and Greenville roads.

Police said attempts were being made to provide detours for traffic on many of the flooded highways.

One of the first major traffic arteries to be closed by high water was the Cadiz Road. Reports indicated small streams overflowing their banks had flooded the highway in at least two main locations — near Shiloh Church and near the Henry Hayes residence. Some of the eastbound traffic on Cadiz Road was being routed at Gracey via Ky 117 (the old railroad bed).

Flood waters closed US41N in at least two points between here and Crofton. State highway department spokesmen said traffic was halted at Little River Bridge on North Main Street and at "Billy Goat" Hill, just north of the city.

Traffic also was halted between Hopkinsville and these nearby towns: Elkton, Dawson Springs, Greenville, and Princeton.

Little River left its banks at the bridge just west of Cadiz, halting traffic at this spot. State highway department officials said motorists were being detoured over the recently constructed Ollie James highway just west of Cadiz to avoid the section at Little River bridge.

Jim Tuggle, Cadiz merchant, said several families had been evacuated from the low-lying area at the Cadiz Little River bridge.

Elkton also was hit by flood conditions. Elk Fork had left its bank at the east Elkton city limits and was threatening at noon to halt all traffic on US-68 at this point. Reports also indicated that a storage building on the Elkton city square collapsed this morning. No one was reported injured.

Trigg County school superintendent Roy McDonald ordered all schools dismissed at

noon. No decision had been reached early this afternoon about conducting school tomorrow.

Bus service into Hopkinsville was halted in some cases and was running 2 to 4 hours behind schedule on other trips.

As waters left the Little River banks at Hopkinsville, 28 prisoners were moved from the city workhouse to the hold-over at the police headquarters. Equipment from the city street department also was moved from its garage on Fifth Street.

## Gov Calls Militia To Aid In Evacuation

November 18, 1957 — Governor A. B. Chandler today ordered out local National Guard forces to aid in the evacuation of families in this area as Christian County was faced with its worst threat in 20 years.

At 2 p.m. more than five inches of rain had fallen on the Hopkinsville area in 48 hours, sending the Little River and all other small streams in the area out of their banks.

The high waters split Hopkinsville in half, doused its business district, flooded its power and water facilities, and disrupted transportation and communications to the outside.

The city's business district was under its heaviest load of flood water since 1949, and even that mark was in danger early this afternoon as the rains continued to fall.

Also badly hit by rain storms was Fort Campbell. The military reservation had had close to five inches of rain by early afternoon and many roads on the fort were impassible.

The rainfall here at noon today had reached 5.28 inches since the steady downpours started early Sunday morning. Aggravated by more than four inches last mid-week, Little River started leaving its banks in the business district, via storm sewers, this morning.

At noon the water had reached the Ninth and Main intersection and steady climbing toward the 1949 highwater mark just east of the Princess Theatre. In the '37 flood the water climbed all the way to Ninth and Virginia Streets.

The local chapter of the Red Cross was making preparations to find lodging for those persons stranded by the flash flood. This included local residents who have been chased from their homes, and any tourists or transients that might become stranded in the city.

It was estimated that between 50 and 60 families had been forced to leave their homes by early afternoon, and the steady rise of streams in the area at that time threatened many others.

The precipitation started in innocent enough fashion about 2 a.m. Sunday. Only .13 inches fell during the next five hours. But in the ensuing 24 hours (by 7 a.m. today) another three inches had fallen.

The downpours continued through the morning hours and by early afternoon an additional 2.15 inches had fallen.

Newell Smith, government weather observer here, said the recent rains brought to 12.43 the number of inches of precipitation measured here this month. The figure is believed to be an all-time record for November.

## Near Flood Tragedies Averted

Nov. 19, 1957 — The flood of November 18, 1957, is less than 24 hours old but many tales of harrowing moments will be related far and wide for many a day to come — and some of the tales may even get stretched a little by the tellers and re-tellers.

One such story will inevitably be that of the Iowa couple, who, through some misunderstanding, attempted to drive their car through the flooded area along Ninth Street around 3 o'clock yesterday afternoon.

Mr. and Mrs. Roy Lemoine of Ames, Iowa, headed east on the street and got about 25 yards east of the Ninth Street bridge before the car gave way to the swift current of Little River. It stopped a short distance away with water to the car windows.

The couple was rescued by boat after an on-looker alerted rescuers of the Lemoine predicament.

Another flood story which might be forgotten, but not soon by a local policeman, happened on West Seventh Street.

City patrolman Frank Dudas, wearing knee boots, was walking along the sidewalk covered by about five inches of water when he suddenly dropped in the ground. He kept from going under water by bracing himself with his elbows.

It seems the cover to a sidewalk manhole had been forced off by the rising water, leaving it open and concealed by the flooding river. It was the manhole he dropped into.

He related that he first thought it was a break in the pavement caused by an under-wash. It was difficult for him to free himself from the hole because of the down-tow of the sewer on his boots. He escaped uninjured-but shaken a bit.

These are but a few of the tales to be told of the 1957 Hopkinsville flood.

## POLICE PROBE

— Continued From Page One

Four city police, Chief Russell Greenwell, T. C. Gross, Dorris Francis, and Gray Salter, drove to the scene to see about the "little men." By radio, contact was made with State Troopers R. N. Ferguson Jr. and G.W. Riley and Deputy Sheriff George Batts, all of whom joined the motorcade to Kelly in their own vehicles. Four MP's also went.

The radio discussions also brought two Hopkins County deputy sheriffs and at least three state troopers from the station at Madisonville.

First arrivals found the scene deserted. The two cars which had brought the report to Hopkinsville did not return to the Kelly farm until after officers had arrived and looked the situation over.

Officers reported they found no tracks of "little men," nor was there any mark indicating any-

thing had landed at the described spot behind the house. There was a hole in the screen at the window through which occupants said a shot had been fired at one of the strange little men.

Both Chief Greenwell and Deputy Sheriff Batts said they got approximately this story from the still terrified and excited Sutton and Taylor families:

About 7 p.m. one of the men went out of the house to get a bucket of water. He saw what looked like a flying saucer come over the trees and land in a field at a point about a city block behind the house. There was no explosion, only a semi-hissing sound, and the watcher returned to the house with the bucket of water.

A short time later somebody reported some little men with big heads and long arms were approaching the house. The men were described as having huge eyes and hands out of proportion to their small bodies. The visitors were wearing what looked to be

metal plate.

The men got their guns, a shotgun for Sutton and a .22 caliber target pistol for Taylor. By and by one of the little men pressed his face against the window and the shotgun was fired through the window. The face disappeared.

The men decided to go outside and see if the visitor had been hit. Taylor was in front and when he emerged from the front door, a huge hand reached down from the low roof above the door and grabbed him by the hair. He pulled away and the two men went out of the house.

One of the strange little men was in a nearby tree, another on top of the house. A blast from Sutton's shotgun knocked another one of the men down but he did not appear hurt. He disappeared in the darkness.

Taylor reportedly opened fire on other members of the invading party, also with little effect. The battle went on for some time. When the occupants of the house saw their chance, they jumped

into their cars and drove to Hopkinsville for help.

Deputy Sheriff Batts said the men told him that in all they fired up about four boxes of .22 pistol shells. The officer quoted a neighbor saying he heard shooting over at the Suttons but distinguished only about four shots and mistook them for fire-crackers.

Officers who visited the scene during last night's excitement were reluctant to express any opinion today in regard to the reported invasion of Kelly. All officials appeared to agree that there was no drinking involved.

Only outspoken comment came from Frank Dudas, city police desk sergeant, who was not on duty last night and has not visited the scene so far. He said, "I think the whole story is entirely possible."

Sergeant Dudas was one of two city policemen who reported seeing three flying saucers early one morning last summer. He said, "I know I saw them. If I saw them, the Kelly story certainly could be true."

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# 12 Democrats Appointed To Initial City Council

## NO CURRENT CITY LEADERS APPOINTED; MAYOR CALLS MEETING

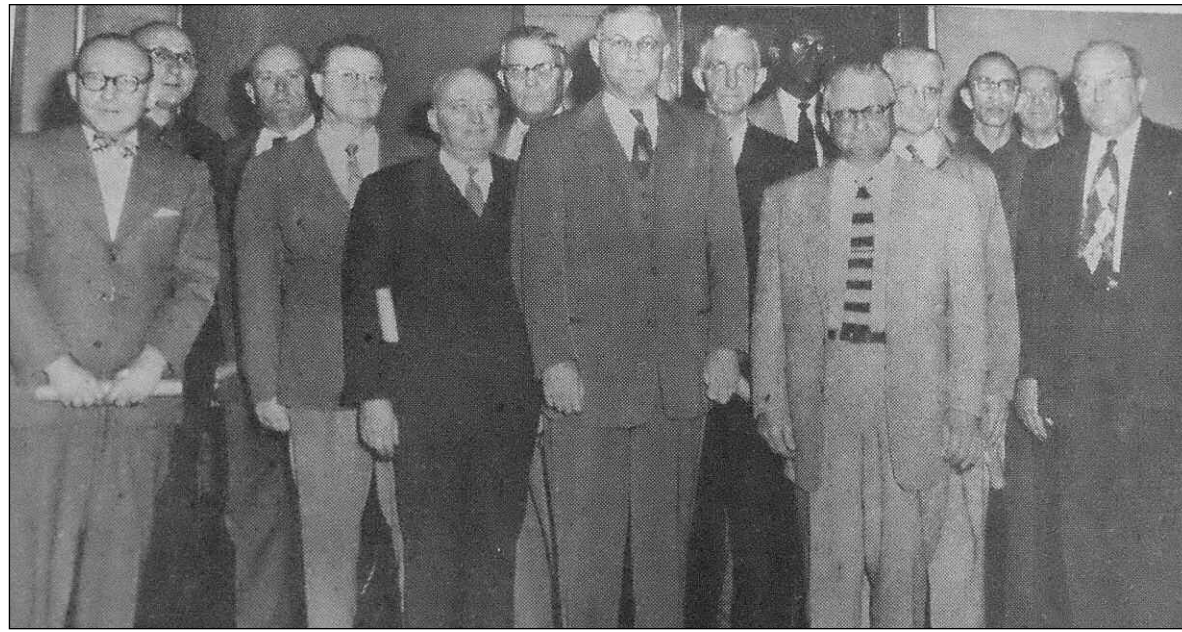
March 12, 1953 — A 12-man city council that contains none of the citizens recognized as the leaders in last year's fight to change Hopkinsville from a commission to a councilmanic form of government was named this afternoon by Governor Lawrence Wetherby.

The city for the next eight months will be operated by a group that includes 10 white and two colored citizens.

The men named today by Governor Wetherby include: Wallace Henderson, Latham Avenue; Chester Porta, Alumni Avenue; Ira Thompson, East 18th Street; R. Clyde King, East Seventh St; F. E. Whitney, East First St; Leslie Riggins, Cleveland Avenue; Howard Lebkuecher, Central Avenue; William Snorton, East Younglove; Edward D. Moseley, Bryan Street; F. C. Cull, Walnut Street; Jake J. Sabel, South Main St.; Ray O. Mililkin, Latham Avenue.

Not all of the men appointed today have been contacted and agreed officially to serve. However, it is believed virtually all have indicated a willingness to act on the council, if named.

Only three of the 12 men appointed by the governor were on the list of "willing" citizens announced last Oct. 22 by the Citi-



Members of Hopkinsville's first city council pose for a photo following their first session March 13, 1953, a day after being appointed by Kentucky Governor Lawrence Wetherby. They are (from left) Jake Sabel in rear, Ray Millikin in front; Leslie Riggins in rear, Wallace Henderson in front; R. Clyde King in rear, Edward Moseley in front; Mayor A. S. Koon; William Snorton in rear, Ira Thompson in front; Howard Lebkuecher in rear, Chester Porta in front; F. E. Whitney in rear, F. C. Cull in front and City Attorney W. H. Southall to the right in the rear.

zens Committee just before the November showdown on the city government issue. At the time the committee published a list of 56 persons who stated they would serve if the change in form of government was approved and they were named to the council.

Only men named by the governor whose names were on the 56-man list were Mr. Sabel and the two colored appointees.

Mayor A. S. Koon, who will re-

tain his office and work with the new council, said this afternoon he plans to contact the appointees at once to try to arrange to have them sworn in as soon as possible.

"We'll want to get some kind of a temporary organization up and working at once," the mayor said. "We must have a solid body designated to sign checks and okey bills."

Mayor Koon indicated the city will risk losing the employees of

the street department unless he arranges to meet with the street department payroll that was due last Saturday. There is also some other pressing business.

The mayor said he would like to have the first get-together with the new councilmen Friday night, but he is not certain whether the meeting can be effected this soon. If not, the initial session will probably come the first of next week.

# Hopkinsville First In School Desegregation

Sept. 4, 1958 — Previously all-white West Side School had two negro children enrolled and Belmont had one as the Hopkinsville public school system opened its 1958-59 session in quiet but history-making fashion today.

The appearance of the small negro children, all three brought by their mothers, was in accord with the announced desegregation policy of the Hopkinsville school board, which permits any student of the first three grades to attend the school in his district.

Formally enrolled at West Side were second-grader Donald Daniel Dennis and third-grader Paul Thomas, his brother. The boys are the sons of Mrs. Rosa Lee Dennis, an army widow living at 406 Elm Street.

The Negro child at Belmont is first-grader Linda McHenry, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Louis P. McHenry of Cedar Street. The father is a Hopkinsville attorney.

The McHenry family has two other children of school age, one in the fourth grade and the other in the fifth. They attend Booker T. Washington, an all-Negro school, and have no intention of transferring to Belmont, their mother said today.

Mrs. McHenry said her daughter is being sent to Belmont because she wants to go there and because the school is much closer than Booker Washington. The mother express the hope the publicity over being the first Negro at Belmont would not cause the child to change her mind.

In pointing out that the older children will continue to attend Booker Washington, Mrs. McHenry said the family planned to abide by the school board's announced desegregation plan.

The Dennis children almost enrolled at West Side last September. Lloyd Seay, West Side principal, said their mother talked with him before the opening of the 1957-58 session and indicated she planned to send them to West Side rather than across town to Booker Washington. The enrollment plan was apparently

## Integration Goes Smoothly

Sept. 5, 1958 — Racial integration proceeded smoothly without a hitch today in the Hopkinsville public school system.

Three Negro students attend their first full day of classes in two previously all-white elementary schools.

Principals at West Side and Belmont schools said no incidents occurred as the students arrived this morning for classes, accompanied by their mothers.

called off at the last minute and the boys went to Booker Washington last year.

The little boys' father was killed during the fighting in Korea, the mother told school officials.

West Side's second grade teacher, Mrs. Walter Joslin, Jr., who enrolled the smaller Dennis boy, said the mother was accompanied by both children when she came to the second grade classroom for enrollment. The mother left the second grader there, then took the older to the third grade enrollment.

Mrs. Joslin said there were about five white mothers and one father who had brought their own second-graders and were on hand when Daniel enrolled.

As for the other children in the second grade, Mrs. Joslin said, "They didn't seem to notice the little boy was enrolling."

Children spent only a few minutes at the city schools for today's enrollment but a full day is planned for tomorrow, when the city system winds up its bob-tailed opening week session.

Both Principal Seay of West Side and Principal Claude Hightower of Belmont said there were no incidents today and added that no trouble is anticipated.

The appearance of three Negro children at white schools marked the first time colored students have enrolled with whites in the city's long public school history. West Side School is some 45 years old. Belmont is an off-shoot of old Clay Street School, the city's first public elementary school.



Students from each of the five county high schools to be consolidated at the new Christian County High School prepare to enter the modernistic school for registration. They are (from left) Johnny Walker, Lacy, a senior; Ellen Clark, Pembroke, a senior; Helen Wilson, Sinking Fork, a junior; Shirley Lanier, Crofton, a sophomore and Andy Buhler, South Christian, a senior and president of the school's FFA chapter.

## New School Will Have Broad Curriculum

Aug. 21, 1959 — Students at the new Christian County High School opening next month will be offered the broadest course of study every provided by the county school system.

Principal Clovis W. Wallis said the expanded curriculum will include three foreign languages, physics, courses in higher mathematics, and additional classes in commerce and social sciences.

Wallis outlined the curriculum to be available at the central high school in announcing plans today for a pre-registration program at the new school on Wednesday.

All students who will be attending the school this fall and did not participate in the pre-registration session last spring should report the school anytime between 8 am and 5pm Wednesday. Wallis said this registration was necessary to complete class schedules.

Students who registered last spring need not report again, the principal explained. Some 600 pupils are expected to

attend the new school, although only some 530 registered last spring.

## 4 Of 6 Grade Schools Open Today

September 4, 1955 — Morningside School, housed in the first entirely new elementary school the city has built in some 40 years, opened today by registering 318 students, some 33 more than had been expected for its first session.

The school, located at the intersection of Morningside Drive with the extension of Walnut Street, was built to take the pressure off old Virginia Street School which had an overflow student body of 500 last year. Despite the sending of part of its students to Morningside, Virginia Street still had a full house today, registering more pupils than had been anticipated.

The two southside schools, Morningside and Virginia Street, had 109 more students between them today than last spring's educational survey indicated the pair would have this September.

## Attucks Crowned State Champs; Defeat Paris

March 11, 1957 — The Attucks Wolves are the Negro high school basketball champions of Kentucky today following their 62-59 conquest of Paris Western in the finals of the KHSAL Tournament at Frankfort Saturday night.

It marks the second time in the past 10 years that the Wolfpack has picked up the marbles at the state chase. Their last championship was turned in 1947, during the heyday of James Torian.

In addition to annexing team honors, Attucks also

placed two men on the all-state squad. They were senior center James Hopkins and junior guard Frank Maypray.

The Wolves were presented the Andrew Bright memorial trophy which can be permanently retained by the team winning it three consecutive years.

The two all-state selections, Hopkins and Maypray, paced the Wolfpack in its championship bid Saturday night. Hopkins tossed in 27 points in the triumph and Maypray added 18.

The contest was close throughout, with each team enjoying the lead at various stages. The clubs saw the lead exchange hands several times during the first two periods before the half finally ended in a 31-31 deadlock.

Attucks managed to get the best of the closely contested third period to go into the final frame with a 2-point advantage.

The win was the 25th triumph of the campaign for the Wolves against only four losses. Paris went into the contest with a 30-4 mark.

## 1950S IN TIME

**July 17, 1955:** Disneyland opens in Anaheim, California.

**July 20, 1955:** Emma Wilson's Under One Roof, a novel about growing up in and around Hopkinsville at the turn of the century, is pushed into its second printing.

**July 22, 1955:** Williams Chevrolet opens.

**Aug. 21, 1955:** Hopkinsville Police respond to calls of a battle with extraterrestrial beings on the Sutton farm in Kelly.

**Sept. 4, 1955:** Morningside School opens.

**Dec. 1, 1955:** Rosa Parks, an African American seamstress, refuses to give up her seat on the bus to a white man, prompting a boycott that would lead to the declaration that bus segregation laws were unconstitutional by a federal court.

**Jan. 15, 1956:** "Rebel Without a Cause" debuts at the Alhambra Theatre.

**June 29, 1956:** The interstate highway system begins with the signing of the Federal-Aid Highway Act.

**July 30, 1956:** "In God We Trust" is adopted as national motto.

**Sept. 9, 1956:** Elvis Presley performs on The Ed Sullivan Show and draws a record 82.6% of the national tv audience. It was the most-watched broadcast of the decade.

**Sept. 21, 1956:** The 101st Airborne Division is formally reactivated at Fort Campbell.

**Sept. 25, 1956:** The first transatlantic telephone cable begins operation.

**March 11, 1957:** The Attucks Wolves win the KHSAL championship for the second time in ten years.

**Sept. 24, 1957:** The President orders the 101st Airborne Division from Fort Campbell to Little Rock, Arkansas to protect African American students during the desegregation of Little Rock Central High School.

**Sept. 9, 1957:** The Civil Rights Act of 1957, primarily a voting rights bill, becomes the first civil rights legislation enacted by Congress since Reconstruction.

**Oct. 4, 1957:** Soviets launch Sputnik; "space race" begins.

**Nov. 15, 1957:** Highway 41A opens as a four-lane highway between Hopkinsville and Fort Campbell.

**Nov. 18, 1957:** A flash flood strikes Hopkinsville causing one of the most disastrous floods in the city's history.

**Jan. 26, 1958:** The last service is held at Ninth Street Christian Church. The church was demolished in 1958 after the congregation moved to Morningside Drive at Walnut Street.

**Jan. 31, 1958:** Explorer I, the first U.S. space satellite, is launched by the Army at Cape Canaveral.

**July 29, 1958:** NASA forms as the U.S. begins ramping up efforts to explore space.

**Sept. 4, 1958:** Hopkinsville's city schools officially desegregate as 3 African American children attend previously all-white Belmont and West Side elementary schools.

**Jan. 7, 1959:** The United States recognizes the new Cuban government under rebel leader Fidel Castro.

**Feb. 22, 1959:** The Daytona 500 is run for the first time with Lee Petty taking the first checkered flag.

**Feb. 25, 1959:** Jordan Furniture Co., located on the corner of Eighth and Main streets, is gutted by fire.

**March 4, 1959:** Belmont Elementary School burns, destroying 14 classrooms, a gymnasium, an auditorium, and the cafeteria. Local churches were used for classrooms until the new school was completed in 1960.

**March 5, 1959:** Officials of the Indian Hills Development Company announce the construction of a 16-lane bowling alley.

**Aug. 21, 1959:** Alaska and Hawaii become the 49th and 50th U.S. states.

**Sept. 1, 1959:** The Christian County Board of Education (separate from the city school system) adopts a voluntary integration policy to begin in the 1960-61 school year.

**Sept. 9, 1959:** Christian County High School opens. Prior to the 1959-60 school year, five high schools operated in the county: Crofton, Lacy, Pembroke, Sinking Fork, and South Christian.

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The photographs in this special section highlight Christian County life in the 1950s. Pictures were gathered from local high school yearbooks, the collection of William T. Turner, and from original Kentucky New Era issues. We hope that these images help recall fond memories of the Fabulous '50s. (Right) Austin Peay State College's Governettes march up Main Street during the annual Christmas and Tobaccoland Parade. The parade was a favorite holiday event and featured elaborate floats, marching bands and majorettes, and the crowning of Miss Tobaccoland.



**ALHAMBRA** STARTS SUNDAY

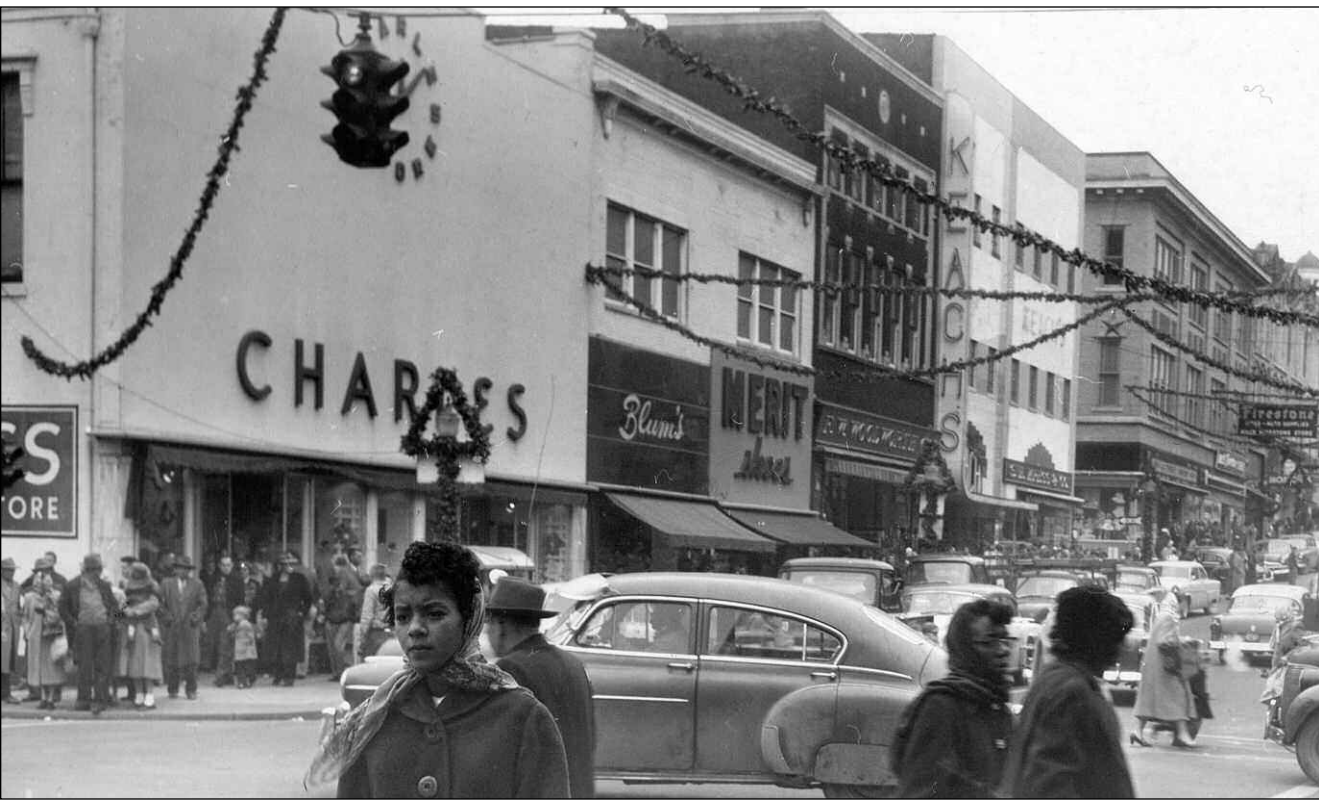
**JAMES DEAN**  
The overnight sensation of 'Rebel Without a Cause'

A portrayal of surpassing impact -- the story of a teenage kid caught in the undertow of today's juvenile violence...

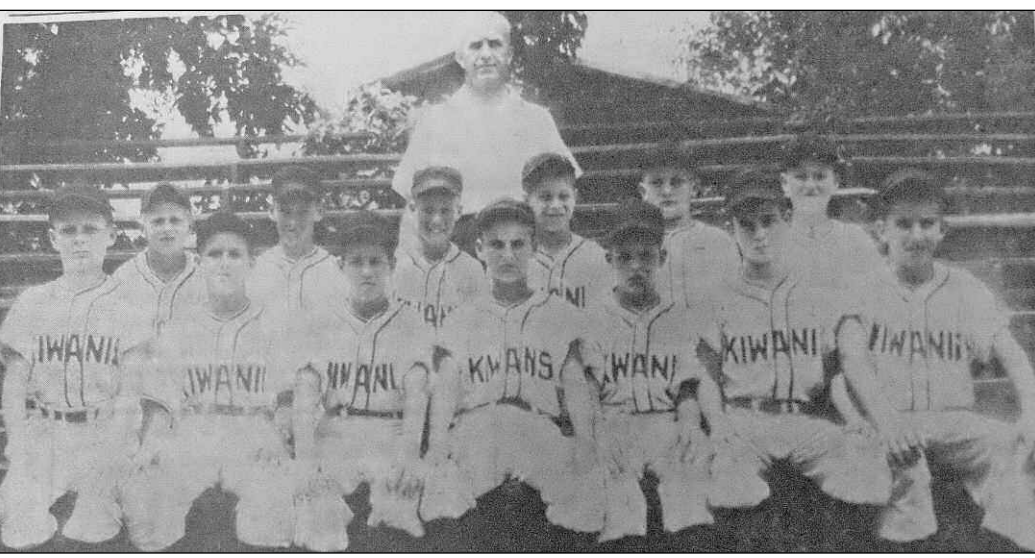
**"REBEL WITHOUT A CAUSE"**



(Above) The Lacy Wildcats basketball squad, 1953-54. (Left) James Dean's iconic film Rebel Without a Cause debuted at the Alhambra Theatre on January 15, 1956. See it again on the big screen at "Dinner at the Drive-In: A Journey through the 1950s" this Thursday, June 22 at The Silo.



(Above) A garland-bedecked Main Street bustles with holiday traffic in this c. 1956 photograph. (Right) The Kiwanis baseball team finished tied for first place with the Elks team in the 1955 Christian County Little League. Pictured, from left, front row: Mike Baldree, Don Harris, Danny Heltsley, Joe Allen, Tommy Winders, Richard Keller, Tommy Owen; back row: Don Bilyeu, Wilford Turner, Wallace Roberts, Charlie Hudson, Kendall Litchfield, and Earl Black. Bud Hudson, in the back, managed the team. (Below, right) Hopkinsville High School offered a wide variety of extracurricular clubs and activities for students in the 1950s. Pictured here are members of the Amateur Radio Club from the school's 1955 yearbook. Other clubs included the Conservation Club, Record Players Club, Handicrafts Club, Current Events Club, and Outdoor Life Club, just to name a few. (Below) Don Atwood, sixth grader at Virginia Street School, directs traffic in front of the school.



**AMATEUR RADIO CLUB**

Vice Pres. Terry Fuqua Secretary and Treasurer Wendell Williams  
 es Baker, Walton Blair, Edward Bilyeu, Jimmy Cain, Rosemary Cook, Sam Gilkey, Jerry Hayes, Bobby Hill, Charles Thomas, Wilson Turner, Don Wood  
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Santa Claus makes his grand entrance aboard an 11th Airborne chopper for the 1953 Christmas parade.



Attucks High School students ride in their 1959 homecoming parade.

**Golden Ice Cream Parlor**  
 Dawson Springs Road  
 Hopkinsville, Kentucky

Owned and operated by  
 MR. AND MRS. JAMES STEWART

Located on Dawson Springs Road, the Golden Ice Cream Parlor was a favorite hangout for teens who attended the County schools.



(Above) Students and teachers at South Christian School enjoy a cold Coca-Cola together. The school, which housed grades 1-12 until the fall of 1959, would consolidate with high schools at Crofton, Lacy, Pembroke, and Sinking Creek to form Christian County High School. (Left) The Acme Sign Co. installs a new neon sign at First City Bank on the corner of 9th and Main streets.

