

Souvenir Program
for the

Westfield Homecoming Festival
August 19, 20, & 21, 2011

Celebrating the Founding of the Village of Westfield

We appreciate your business and are proud to serve the farming community!



Westfield
967-5225

Martinsville
382-4158

Snyder
826-8357

West Union
279-3834



Souvenir Program
for the

Westfield Homecoming Festival
August 19, 20, & 21, 2011

Celebrating the Founding of the Village of Westfield

Homecoming Book Contributors

History Compiled by
Ryan D'Arcy
with contributions from
Evelyn Bailey
Mitzi Johnson
Mary Emma Thompson
Dick Wheeler
Bette Young

Photos from the collection of Ryan D'Arcy
unless otherwise noted

Cover Design
Tara D'Arcy

Ad Design and Layout
Tara D'Arcy



Table of Contents

Schedule of Events 6-8
Select History of Westfield Township and Village 9-13
My Hometown by Genevieve Woodard Rider 14
History of the Westfield Schools 16-22

Fraternal Organizations & Clubs 23
- Freemasonry in Westfield 24-28
- Order of the Eastern Star 29
- Westfield Lion's Club 30
- Odd Fellowship in Westfield 31
- Modern Woodmen of America 32
- Weeden-Zeller Post American Legion 33
- Westfield Improvement League 34

Churches 35
- Church of the United Brethen in Christ 36-37
- Methodist Episcopal Church 38-40
- Free Methodist Church 40
- United Methodist Church 42-44
- Westfield Baptist (Goodhope) Church 45-49
- Richwoods Baptist Church 52

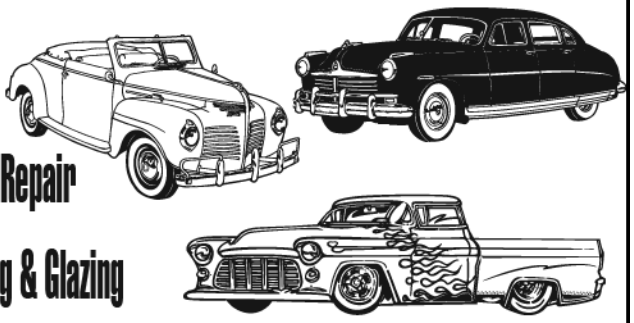
Westfield College 54-57
Westfield Banks 58
Two Telephone Companies 59
Westfield Elevator Company 60-63
Westfield Fire Protection District 64
Clark County Ambulance Service 65
Doctors Who Have Served Westfield 66-73
Railroad 74
Oil 76-77
Historic Downtown Walking Tour 78-88
Playbill from Biggs & White Opera House 90-91
United States Post Office 92
Newspapers 93-95
The Burning of Westfield College by Ida La Roe 98

Westfield Homecoming Festival 2011
Schedule of Events

Friday, August 19

5:00 - 5:45 p.m.	1840's Magic with Andrew's Family Magic
5:00 - 6:30 p.m.	Chicken Supper (Homecoming Committee) Homemade Ice Cream, Pie & Cake (United Methodist Men)
5:15 - 6:00 p.m.	Check-in time for Baby Contest & Pageant
5:45 p.m.	Flag Raising & National Anthem Welcome to Westfield
6:00 p.m.	Baby Contest, Little Miss, Junior Miss and Miss Westfield Pageant
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.	Easter Family
9:00 - 11:00 p.m.	Teen Dance with DJ Joey Stevens

Clapp's Automotive



• Paint Shop
• Body & Fendor Repair
• Power Polishing & Glazing

967-5421 • 415 S. Jefferson, Westfield, IL
Everett Clapp, Owner

Celebrating 50 Years

Saturday, August 20

6:00 - 9:00 a.m.	AYCE Biscuit & Gravy Breakfast (Westfield Masonic Lodge)
9:00 a.m.	Parade Entry Judging (345-9633) *Parade entries must assemble at the Community Gym Grounds to be judged*
10:00 a.m.	Parade
10:30 a.m.	Car, Truck, Tractor & Motorcycle Show *South Side of Park*
11:00 a.m.	Westfield Historic Tour with Ryan D'Arcy *Meet at bank parking lot*
12:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Quilt Show at Methodist Church (Westfield Improvement League)

No Lunch Served, Sandwiches will be sold by the Homecoming Committee

12:30 p.m.	Special Awards
1:00 p.m.	Auction *(Proceeds go toward Homecoming, donations welcome)*
1:00 - 4:00 p.m.	Library Open House & Book Sale - Come take a look at Westfield Class Photos
3:00 p.m.	Pedal Tractor Pull (see rules)
4:00 p.m.	Log Sawing Competition
4:00 p.m.	Andrew's Family Magic entertains around park
4:00 p.m.	Jeremy's Warriors Relay for Life Bags Tournament *(Proceeds go to American Cancer Society)*
4:00 - 8:00 p.m.	FREE Horse Drawn Wagon Rides - West Side of Park
4:30 -6:30 p.m.	Pork Chop Dinner (Proceeds go to Homecoming)
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.	Bluz Brothers



Westfield Homecoming shirts and gift items are available online!

There are two designs available at:
www.cafepress.com/tartstees2
and
www.cafepress.com/tartstees3

Designs by Tara D'Arcy

Sunday, August 21

7:00 - 10:00 a.m. AYCE Pancake & Sausage Breakfast
(Westfield Improvement League)

10:30 a.m. Combined Church Services in the Park

You are cordially invited to the Sunday morning church services provided by the Westfield Baptist & United Methodist churches.

12:00 p.m. Community Potluck

12:30 p.m. Bed Races

1:00 p.m. Community Games

6:30 p.m. Gospel Music in the Park Featuring the Kingsmen

Sandwiches will be sold by the Homecoming Committee



Select History of Westfield Township and Village

Westfield Township, one of the smaller divisions of Clark County, forms the northwest corner of the county. Originally, Westfield was a fine rolling timber land, easy to bring under cultivation and very inviting to the pioneer seeking a home in the "West." The North Fork of the Embarras River rises here, affording fine natural drainage for agricultural purposes. The land is rich soil, returning generous harvest of all crops. Westfield Township was not well placed for settlement, not being on a navigable river or an early road.

James Hite settled in Edgar County just north of this township about 1828 or 1830 and had many friends and relatives in Kentucky whom he attracted to a settlement in Westfield Township. The first family was that of James Shaw of Lawrence County, Kentucky. He erected a small cabin, cleared twelve acres and was the first evidence of civilization. He sold his land to Daniel Evinger and moved away in 1834. Absolom Kester, another Kentuckian, came from Indiana to Section 22. He lived here long enough to see a prosperous civilization spring up where once it was all woods. Thomas Frazier came about 1829. Other early settlers were Esau Morris, Jacob Spears, William Comstock, Alexander Black, and James Jones. David Bennett came in 1830 from Spencer County, Kentucky. Four years later he was killed by a fall from a horse, the first death in the township. In 1831 came the brothers William and



West side of South Washington Street circa 1910

George Goodman. They were good hunters and good bee hunters. Next came Henry Randall and Elijah Stark. Randall had a fine farm in Section 25 but was impractical. He was a good coon hunter. James bell was a violinist and had an education and a library. Robert Lowery came to Section 32 from Kentucky. Francis Davis was a good mechanic but neglected his trade. He was educated and read books and newspapers. Others about 1832 were William Mack, John W. Brooks, and John Barbee, all from Kentucky. Mack was versatile – built houses, made plows, boots and shoes, and cleared forty acres of land.

Joseph Briscoe came in 1831 from Kentucky as a driver of an ox team for James Hite, for which he received ten dollars. He used it to enter land. He returned to Kentucky, married, put his goods in an oxcart and set out with his bride for the new land. In the later part of 1835, Henry Briscoe brought the rest of the family in three oxcarts and a drove of cattle. Most of the settlers in the northeast part of the township were Primitive Baptists. Some were men of literary tastes, and Westfield drew much of its inspiration from these sources.

"This was a good poor man's country." The land was readily cleared and the soil easily submitted to cultivation. After a cabin was erected and the family made comfortable within it, all energy was demanded on clearing a space on which to plant a crop. Ten or twelve acres cleared in a season was a great achievement. Corn was the usual crop. "Hog and Hominy" was the usual fare, carried by wild fruit, maple sugar, and honey. The livestock: hogs, cattle, oxen, and sheep, were penned inside high fences (often about ten feet) because of wolves. Flax was extensively cultivated and used to weave linen. The nearest source of supply was a first Vincennes, the old territorial capital. Later Terre Haute and Paris brought stores nearer. Store goods could only be sparingly af-



Bigelow Lumber on State Street



South side of East State Street showing Opera House and Restaurant, implement building, and W.L. Biggs Hardware

forded. Coarse muslin was forty cents a yard, calico was fifty cents a yard, coffee was forty cents and fifty cents a pound and little but cash would buy them. Maple sugar, whiskey, grain, and flax seed were sold as a means of raising cash. In 1836 Charles Biggs started the first huckster wagon and later started the first store. Biggs came to Crawford County, rented a farm at the south edge of the township and began the huckster business. He bought eggs, butter, maple syrup, bacon, etc. and hauled it to the Ohio River where he exchanged it for goods. He then built a store but later moved to the village.

In 1829 Benjamin I. White came from North Carolina and laid out the village of New Richmond on a part of his farm. He erected the first grist mill in the township. The village he planned was only of nine blocks or eight lots each. Many of the lots were sold. According to a family history of Levon "Sprague" Barbee, Thomas Berkley opened the first store in New Richmond and brought supplies in from Cincinnati. James (Fogler) Folger had a store in New Richmond; Sylvester, a blacksmith shop. In 1840 Thomas Hess opened a tannery. Later it was bought by Wood and Hays. The Village soon lost its individuality to that of its more prosperous neighbor and successor, Westfield.

In 1839 Colonel William Archer of Marshall platted the village of Westfield. The village was laid out on the cross roads of the line

between sections 29 and 30 and consisted of 46 blocks of varying size. State Street passed through the plat east and west and Washington Street passed through the center at a right angle to State. With public spirit he donated block 29 (our park) as a public square and block 19 for a meeting house. The Methodist Church was built on this site. Block 5 was set aside for a school.

Col. Archer was interested in building a road from Marshall to Charleston. The viewing committee did not approve, so Archer, at his own expense, hired twenty men, surveyed and cut out the road sixty feet wide and placed mile stones all the way to Westfield. This led to the platting of the Village of Westfield in 1839.

Col. Archer soon sold the village to David Evinger and his sisters Polly and Catherine. These owners put the lots on sale. Thomas Tefft bought the first lot, erected a log cabin on Washington St. and had the first post office. Others who bought lots were Samuel Tefft, J.C. Skinner, a blacksmith, William P. Bennett, John Fiers, and Nathan Tefft. Charles Whitlock ran the first store for two years. The second store was opened in 1842 by William Hampton who sold it to Thomas Moore who later went into partnership with Michael York. The first hotel was located on the corner of State and Washington Streets and was kept from 1841 to 1848 by Captain Tefft.

The first mill in the village was owned by Delaney, Bennett, and Evinger. It burned in 1850. In 1854 a four-story mill was build by Parcel and Evinger in the northeast part of town. It burned in 1856 but was replaced. In 1868 Rardin erected a mill on the Parcel site.

In 1854 Dr. Parcel bought the unsold part of the plat from the Evingers. He built new houses, improved lots, and infused new vigor into the town, which then began to advance rapidly. One advance was the founding of Westfield Seminary in 1861 (later Westfield College). The village was incorporated in 1866 in Dr. Parcel's office at the northwest corner of Washington and State Streets, immediately south of the Parcel residence. The first board of trustees for the village was made up of J.C. Van Sickle, J.H. Parcel, H.H. Cash, Isaac Bolton, and B.H. Hays.

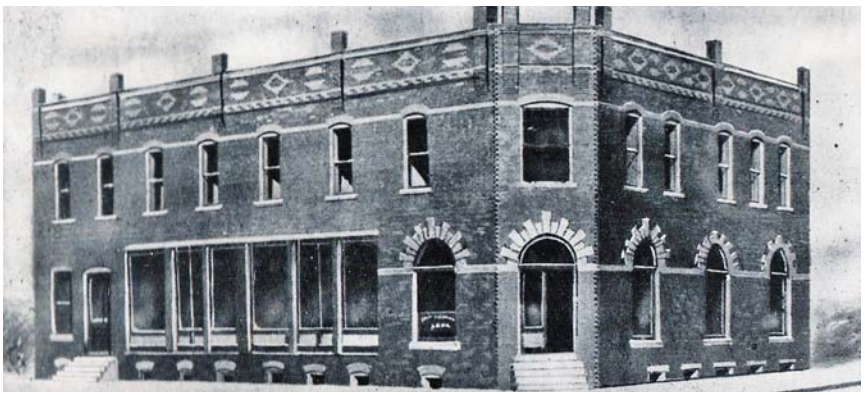
The first business block was erected on the site of the old frame

store by Michael York in 1867. It burned three years later but was rebuilt at once. In 1877, J.R. Redman and Co. and C.F. Knapp and Co. erected a large brick block on Washington St. It also burned but was rebuilt. In 1879, the Watson Block at the northeast corner of Washington and State Streets replaced the building were the first hotel stood.

The Grant House, named for General (later president) Grant, was the successor to the first hotel. It was built in 1864 and is now the home at the northeast corner of Walnut and Franklin Streets. It was noted for its "good victuals." Meals were 25 cents and a bed for the night was 25 cents.

In the 1860s to 1870s Westfield had two clothing stores, three wagon shops, four blacksmith shops, two grist mills, two horse and mule barns, two millinery (hat) shops, one barber shop, one saloon and drug store, four sawmills, three brick yards, one butcher shop, a newspaper, one doctor, a college with about 400 students, and a public school. Mail was carried to Ashmore tow time a day, by horse or buggy, horseback or walking if the roads were too muddy.

The first newspaper, "The Index," was established by G.L. Watson. It was sold two years later and the name was changed to "The Pantagraph." In 1881, Solomon W. Zeller became the owner and the name was changed to "The Visitor." The paper always attempted to remain neutral regarding politics. At one time it had 500 subscribers. Later owners were James R. Dawson and Lee A. Weeden. About 1898 a small news sheet named the Progress was published by Mortie Makepeace. It sold for 50 cents per year.



Westfield Hotel located on the corner of Washington and State Streets.



My Home Town

By
Genevieve Woodard Rider

There's a village dear to me
For many, many years.
Through my youth it guided me
Through my doubts and fears.

Little town—our home town,
You have done so much
Just to teach us how to live,
And in God to trust.

Here the many favored ones
Found their inspiration.
Love and honor they have won
All across the nation.

Home town small, loved by all,
Dearer every day,
In our hearts you still remain
A lamp to our pathway.

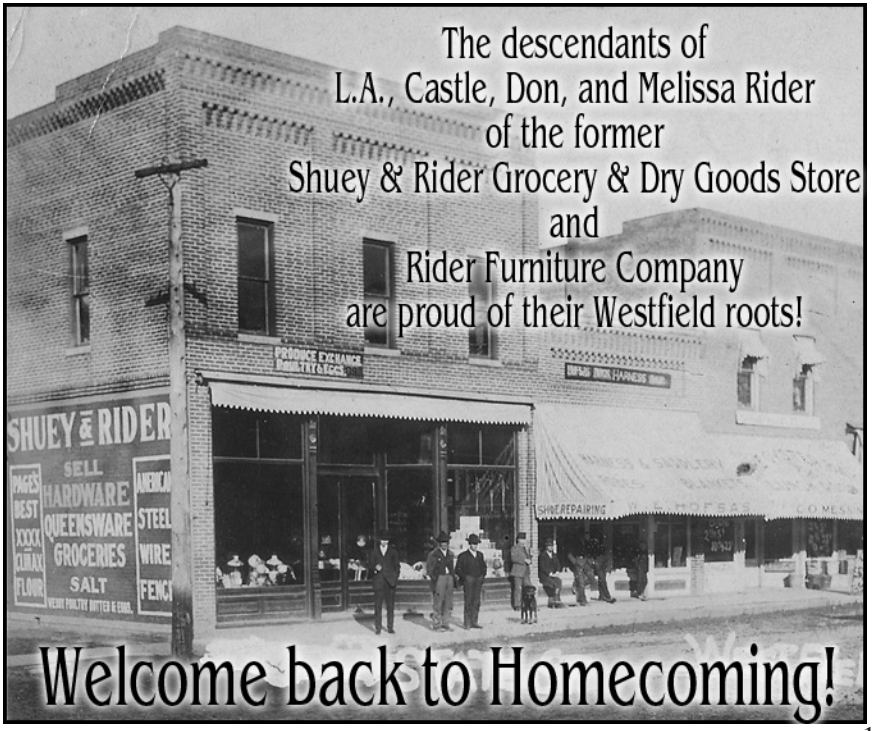
Place of fond remembrances—
Church and school and home.
Friends and loved ones still return
However far they roam.

Hometown small, loved by all
Dearer every day,
Thank you for our heritage
Along the Lincoln way.

Sung to the tune of "Aura Lee"
by John Evans, Wayne Strader,
Doit Biggs, and Castle Rider
at Homecoming 1964.



About 1908, when Shuey & Rider was really a “hardware” store. Left to right: Lloyd A. Rider, Ernest Shuey and man in rear, Charlie Rider. Man on right not identified.



History of the Westfield Schools

From the earliest times, the education of the young people has been a primary concern of the people of the community. The educational process has changed with the times in order to provide for their educational need and to prepare them for the future.

District No. 105

The first public school house was a log building built in New Richmond in 1825. This building was used for 17 years.

A two-story frame school building was erected in the village of Westfield in the northwest part of the village in 1852. The building contained two rooms and was built at a cost of $600. A third room was added to the building in 1864. School was held there until 1881, when the building was destroyed by fire. School was then held in the college building and a vacant store room until a new four-room brick structure was erected in 1882 at a cost of over $6000. Two rooms were added to this two-story structure, which served for both grade school and high school pupils until 1916, At that time, the Westfield Township High School District was organized and the high school was moved to the old college building.

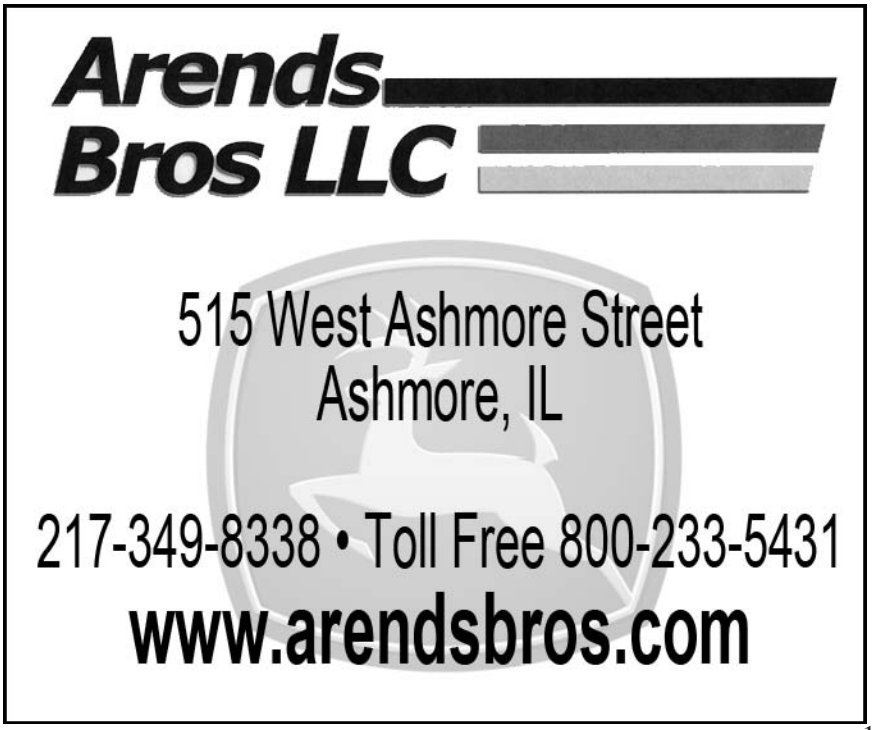


Westfield Grade School 1881-1934

Because the old building was in bad condition, it was razed and a new four-room structure was erected in 1934 at a cost of less than $10,000. The building served as the elementary school for grades one through eight until 1949, when the seventh and eighth grades were moved to the high school. These grades were returned to the building until 1952. At that time grades five through eight were to the high school permanently. In 1964 the kindergarten class was added. The building was closed in 1985, following consolidation of the Westfield and Casey school Districts. The members of the last Board of Education for Westfield District 105 were President Sandra Wheeler, Secretary Ronald Gilbert, Ralph Babbs, Larry Checkley, Dwight Ennis, John Evans, and Delano Oakley.

Westfield High School District No. 201

Westfield Township High School District No. 201 was organized in 1915. The Westfield College building was leased, and the school was conducted there until 1917, when the college building was consumed by fire. School was then conducted in the I.O.O.F.



lodge room until the end of the year 1921. At that time the new school building was completed at the site of the old college building, which the district had purchased from the local United Brethren Church. The first Board of Education of the district was composed of President, Joseph Laws, Dr. Joseph Hall, C. A. Lee, Tonie Tyler, M. O. Whitaker, and Dr. H. V. Anderson.

In 1954, the Board of Education of the high school undertook the building of the new gymnasium north of the high school The old gymnasium in the high school building was converted into a music room, cafeteria, home economics room and classroom. The cost of the entire project was $89,999. The Board of Education overseeing the project was President, Doit Biggs, L.E. Baker, Raymond Jacobs, S. S. Daughhetee, Paul Urick, Russell Neese, and Winston Drake.

These facilities served as the high school, and, after 1952 for grades five through eight until the consolidation of the Westfield and Casey districts in 1985. The last Board of Education consisted



Members of the class of 1985, the last class to graduate from Westfield schools, pictured at Westfield Homecoming 2010.

of President, Delano Oakley, Secretary, Ronald Gilbert, Ralph Babbs, Larry Checkley, Dwight Ennis, John Evans, and Sandra Wheeler.

Consolidation

At one time there were several small country schools in the area. The first consolidations were the closing of these schools in1946. Briscoe School, just south of Westfield, was closed, and the students were sent to Westfield. Johnson School, southeast of town closed in the late 1940s. The students Attended Oilfield School until that school closed in 1957, and all of the students attended Westfield. Richwoods School, east of town on the Clarksville Road, closed in 1951. Lee School, also on the Clarksville Road, closed in 1952.

Until the consolidation movement in the late 1940s, much of the rural area was not in a high school district. At that time the Westfield Grade School and High School Districts were formed and included the same territory. Prior to that time, many students

KUHN
ROLL-OFF
SERVICE

10 yard to 40 yard containers

18754 E 1600th Rd
Marshall, IL 62441

217-826-DIRT phone
217-826-5840 fax

www.kuhndirtworks.com

A SUBSIDIARY OF KUHN DIRTWORKS, INC.

from the surrounding areas attended high school in Westfield, including seniors from Ashmore, which had a three-year high school.

Although consolidation was a general topic of conversation in Westfield for many years, serious consideration was not given to the idea until 1982. At that time a state law stated that any high school district with an average daily attendance of less than 60 would not receive state aid. The enrollment for the high school was declining, and the loss of state aid seemed imminent. At that time a survey of the residents of the district indicated that they believed that consolidation was preferable to a tax increase. However, the efforts local citizens and citizens of other small districts in the state resulted in the elimination of the law.

The reprieve was to be short-lived. The continued decline in enrollment, which resulted in the loss of some state fund, and the loss of local tax money, led to the decision to reconsider consolidation. The issue was placed on the ballot in November 1984. Consolidation of the Westfield and Casey School Districts was approved by the voters in the three districts. In January 1985, the Boards of Education and the administrators began planning for the organization o the new district, which became a reality on July 1, 1985. Activities were planned to help ease the transition for both student and faculty.

The decision was made to close the elementary building. Kindergarten through sixth grade were to be housed in the high school building. The summer was spent renovating the building so that it would meet the needs of the elementary students. The elementary teachers remained in Westfield. The high school teachers were integrated into the staff at Casey-Westfield High School.

The consolidation meant a major loss to the village of Westfield. It was the end of an era. The 1984-1985 school year meant the last homecoming, the last prom, the last graduation, and many other lasts. They were all noted by the students and faculty. While many people were not happy with the consolidation, the student s and faculty have adapted well to the new situation and have taken with them the same school spirit that made the Westfield Schools a major asset to the community.

Changes continued to be made. At the end of the 1985-1986



Casey-Westfield Alumni Association
www.c-waa.org

The Association is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes. It will, in part, foster unity among the alumni, provide service to the schools, award scholarships to assist Casey-Westfield seniors and/or graduates and provide members with opportunities for interactions to raise awareness of Casey-Westfield Community Unit C-4 school program needs.

Upcoming events:

- Westfield Homecoming
- C-W Homecoming
- Popcorn Festival
- Fall Frolic
- Golfing for the Future/M.R. Tedrick Memorial
  1st Saturday in June @ Casey Country Club provides a $1,000.00 renewable yearly scholarship (you can golf, be a hole sponsor, donate by individual, class, or in memory of family or classmate)
- All-school GALA Reunion - 2013



This 1994 photo shows the last student body to attend school in Westfield

school year, the decision was made to either combine the fifth and sixth grades or to send them to Casey because of the small enrollment in fifth grade. The teachers involved decided that the students would be better served by sending them to Casey. That left grades kindergarten through fourth in Westfield. Two teachers went to Casey to teach. Kindergarten through fourth grade remained in the Westfield building until 1994, when the building was closed and all children went to Casey. The school board tried to sell the building, but the only buyers were people interested in using the building for storage. That probably meant an unsightly mess in an otherwise beautiful setting, so a contract was given to a man in Terre Haute, Indiana to tear down the building and salvage what he could. Bricks and lumber were sold to those interested in buying it. The campus and the gym were sold to Westfield. The school district continued to use the gym for team practice.

Consolidation has worked well for the students. They have a much larger choice of subjects to take at the high school level and a much wider variety of sports and other extra curricular activities in which they may take part.

Fraternal Organizations and Clubs

Fraternal organizations and clubs have long been a central party of Westfield society. Early in the history of the village, its citizens found value in joining societies like the Freemasons and Eastern Star, Oddfellows and Rebekahs, Modern Woodmen of American, Women's Clubs, Lions Clubs, Women's Christian Temperance Union, and even the short-lived Ku Klux Klan. Each of these organizations, and others besides, provided a way for local citizens, especially at the turn of the twentieth century, to socialize, promote moral behavior, and perform altruistic deeds that they hoped would improve the community. For example, the now defunct Women's Club started the Westfield Public Library and paid to have the fish pond installed in the park. The Lion's Club built the large pavilion in the park, and the Lions Club and Freemasons cosponsored the new playground equipment. The Odd Fellows held several large Decoration Day parades to commemorate the lives of fallen soldiers. Even the misguided members of the Ku Klux Klan (of the 1920s, or second Klan) believed they were protecting the village from unknown evils and sought to enforce "moral" lifestyles. This section of the commemorative book takes a brief look at some of the fraternal organizations and clubs that have been present in Westfield throughout the years.



Freemasory in Westfield

The Old Lodge

The first Masonic Lodge in this community was chartered in 1854, under the name and number of Westfield Lodge No. 163. The ten original members were Wesley Norman, N.S. Hawley, James L. Parker, Felix Parker, Frederick Hammond, Josiah Connolly, Sylvester Lewis, E.B. Hawkins, G.R. Clark, and Charles Downey.

The earliest meeting place is not known, but in the spring of 1883 the membership had grown to 29, and regular meetings were held in the old Watson Hall, at the southwest corner of Washington and State Streets. Some of the prominent citizens holding membership in the lodge were Michael York, Joseph Van Sickle, C.F. Knapp, Sherman Burnap, Jonathan Biggs, Newton Bean, Thomas Tefft, Joe Stewart, John Endsley, Marshall Hays, Calvin York, John L. Pratt, Charles York, W.Y. Hays, R.E. Endsley, W.L. Biggs, and Dr. J.H. Parcel.

When the Endsley Building (the first brick business block to be built in Westfield – the southwest corner of Franklin and State Streets where the ambulance building is now) was completed, the lodge had quarters there and this continued to be the meeting place until the early 1890s, when owing to small membership, lack of interest, and some rather serious disagreements as to policy, the lodge finally surrendered its charter in 1894.

The Present Masonic Lodge

For several years following the demise of the old lodge, this locality was in the jurisdiction of the Ashmore Lodge and about twenty local Masons held membership therein. There were also several Masons who came into this part of the state during the development of the oilfield in this vicinity, so a strong desire for a lodge in Westfield gradually took shape, and in the spring of 1920, a petition signed by the thirty local Master Maons and with full endorsement by the Ashmore, Kansas, and Charleston lodges, were presented to the Grand Master, stating that a suitable meeting place had been provided, and praying that they would be instituted into

Happy 175th Westfield!



Westfield Masonic Lodge #1046

a working lodge of Masons. As no regular lodge of Masons can be formed without a full consent by the Grand Lodge, it was necessary to work under a dispensation until the next regular meeting of that body the following October.

Grand Master David W. Fitzgarrell granted such a dispensation and the new lodge was instituted by District Deputy "Steve" Wright of Ashmore on June 2, 1920. The regular charter was granted at the meeting of the Grand Lodge in October and dispensation on November 27, 1920, the new lodge was constituted into a regular lodge under the name and number of Westfield Lodge No. 1046 with the Honorable Richard C. Davenport of Harrisburg, Illinois acting as the Grand Master's proxy in charge of this ceremony. With a charter membership of thirty-five, the first officers oappointed by the Grand Master to govern the new lodge were: T.A. Rardin, Worshipful Master; Edwin M. White, Senior Warden; Howard Cornwell, Junior Warden; W.H. Drewel, Treasurer; E.D. Aldridge, Secretary; Charles Brock-Jones, Chaplain; John F. Reglin, Senior Deacon; Paul S. Dodd, Junior Deacon; Oscar P. Boyer, Senior Steward; R.R. Thomas, Junior Steward; Herbert Leonard Parcel, Marshal; and C.M. Bennett, Tiler.

During the first sixteen years, the lodge total membership rose to 110 with sixteen who had no completed their work. The largest active membership at any one time was ninety, in the year 1928.

The present home of the lodge was complete early in 1920 at a total cost, including furniture and dining room equipment of $13,800. It is modern in every respect and amply fitted to all present needs of the lodge. In the last ten years, the lodge has worked to modernize the building. It has new electrical wiring, new central heating and air, new seating in the meeting room, and new paint throughout. A large mural has also been painted in the dining room.

The past twenty-five years have been a period of struggle. In the late '80s and throughout the '90s, membership and active participation declined, though the lodge remained very active. Beginning in the early 2000s, the lodge experienced a new period of growth and a great increase in activity that continues to this day. Present membership is [what is present membership?]. Present officers are: Trevor England, Worshipful Master; Josh Hammond,

Wishing everyone a great time celebrating Westfield's 175th at the Westfield Homecoming Festival!



State Representative Roger Eddy

108 South Main Street, PO. Box 125
Hutsonville, IL 62433
www.peopleforeddy.com

Senior Warden; Victor Oakley, Junior Warden; Ryan D'Arcy, Treasurer; Kevin D'Arcy, Secretary; Jesse Hammond, Senior Deacon; Ted Sanders, Junior Deacon; and Wayne Stephen, Tiler.

Worshipful Masters from 1986-2011

Oakley, Delano	1987-88
Stephen, Robert E.	1989
Smitley, Clifton	1990
Oakley, Delano	1991
Ryan, John H.	1992
Oakley, Delano	1993
Gilbert, Norman R.	1994
Oakley, Delano	1995-97
Francis, Cory B.	1997
Flaherty Christopher M.	1998
Bennet, David L.	1999
Smitley, Clifton	2000
Flaherty, Christopher M.	2001-02
Smitley, Clifton	2003
Stephen, Ronald W.	2004
Saxton, John W.	2005
Sanders, Ted B.	2006
D'Arcy, Ryan M.	2007-2008
England, Trevor	2009-present



Westfield Masonic Lodge members in the 2010 Homecoming parade.

Order of the Eastern Star

At the height of prosperity and growth of the Westfield Lodge #1046 Ancient Free & Accepted Masons, it was that that a chapter composed of wives daughters, mothers, sisters, widows, half-sisters, and legally adopted daughters of Master Masons should be formed. On September 5, 1928 Brother William N. Ewing of Bloomington, the Worth Grand Patron, and a corp of Grand Officers came to Westfield to organize Westfield Chapter No. 982. The officers of Areta Chapter of Casey assisted in the ceremony of initiation and exemplified the degrees to the thirty-two members. The following served as officers for the first year: Alice White, Worthy Matron; Timothy A. Rardin, Worthy Patron; Della Strader, Associate Matron; Hallie White, Secretary; Mary Beasley, Treasurer; Fairy Phillips, Conductress; Martha Reeds, Associate Conductress; Maudena Walter, Chaplain; Ella Church, Marshal, Sadie Mitchell, Organist; Emmar Wilson, Adah; Helen Makepeace, Ruth; Mabel Houser, Esther; Martha Edwards, Martha; Pearl Cox, Electa; Rilla Reeds, Warder; and Ivan Bennett, Sentinel.

The chapter grew in membership for several years, but eventually, due to lack of interest and leadership and unwanted responsibility, it was decided to give up the charter and to merge with a neighboring chapter. On February 1, 1979 a vote was passed that the chapter merge with Kansas Chapter and forty-six of our members became members of that chapter. The remaining members desired to take demits rather than transfer elsewhere.

Cottle Flooring
750 West Illinois Rt. 16 • Kansas, IL • 217-948-5555
Rick Cottle
Cell 232-0506
Sharon Nichols
Cell 549-1339

Westfield Lion's Club

There have been two Lion's Clubs in Westfield. The first club was chartered in 1959 and one of their projects included building the pavilion in the park. The present club was started in 1985 with 26 members and still has seven of the charter members active. Currently we are eighteen strong. We have always focused on the community. Some of our projects have included building restrooms in the park, installing a heating system in the gym, and remodeling the downstairs of the community center. We also helped build the new police office. When the grade school was moved to the gym grounds in 1985, we moved the play equipment. Our club supports and promotes vision and hearing screening. We have three reading machines for anyone needing vision assistance. We also have purchased several pairs of glasses. Our club has had a District Governor. We have always enjoyed great support from the community.



Lion's Club members Jeff Gladu and Mark Wagner in the 2009 Homecoming parade.

Odd Fellowship in Westfield

Westfield Lodge No. 644, Independent Order of Odd Fellows, was instituted October 11, 1877, with William R. Stith, Dr. Joseph Hall, D.S. Hutchison, Mumford Laws, and Z.L. Davee as charter members.

The first lodge home was in the Endsley building, but in 1883 or 1884 it was moved to the rooms over the M.G. Owens' store, on the same location as the present lodge room, and in 1886 this building was destroyed by fire, burning all the equipment and records of the lodge, but the members were not to be bested by this disaster, and when Mr. Owens rebuilt, the lodge was permitted to add the second story and this made a very pleasant lodge home, and with the coming of the oil fields the lodge made rapid strides in membership, but this progress was not for long, as the hall was again burned the night of February 20, 1905. Another building was erected on the same location by Goble & Goble and the lodge was again permitted to add the second story, but twice as wide as the

I & I Deli Fast Stop

Route 16 & Oakland Rd. • Ashmore, IL

Full Deli • Hot & Cold Sandwiches • Carry Out Pizza
Breakfast Sandwiches • Convenience & More

Open Monday-Saturday 6 a.m. - 8 p.m.

old one, and this was admitted to be the nicest and one of the most commodious and best equipped halls in this section of the country.

The degree staff, under the direction of G.M. Collins, gained a reputation second to none and did work for the various lodges for miles around.

The lodge has played a large part in the building of character in and around Westfield. A splendid Rebekah lodge has also been maintained for many years.

Taken from Centennial Souvenir Program 1936

Modern Woodmen of America

Cadet Camp No. 914, Modern Woodmen of America, was organized by ten local men, who felt that this organization offered a cheap and reliable insurance plan, and a charter was issued to the camp by the Head Camp at Rock Island, Illinois, on September 2, 1899.

The ten charter members of the camp were: A.M. Barbee, A.G. Russell, S.T. Morrill, C.H. Campbell, S.J. Richards, Robert Endsley, R.J. Steward, Frank Pepper, W.G. Johnson, and Chas. B. York.

The camp was without a regular meeting place for a number of years, and its growth was slow. In later years the organization and the local camp became more popular and the membership of the camp for a number of years ran well over 100, and regular meetings were held in different rented halls and the camp prospered both as a fraternal and an insurance organization and many thousands of dollars were paid in benefits to the families of deceased members.

With later changes in the policies of the organization and two successive boosts in insurance rates the membership of the local camp decreased, many of the older members dropping their policies and membership, but there is a fairly good membership in the camp, all of whom carry benefit certificates, the fraternal part of the organization being largely lost sight of.

Taken from Centennial Souvenir Program 1936

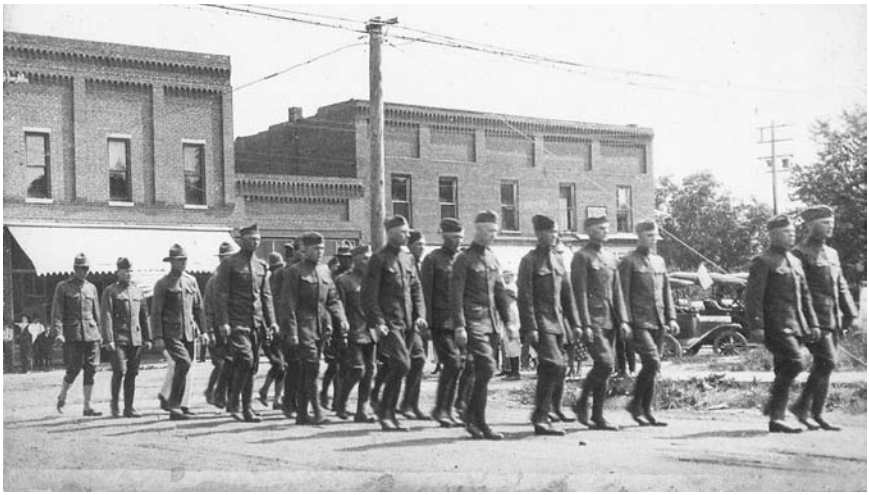
Weeden-Zeller Post American Legion

Westfield citizens have responded to patriotism when the nation has called for volunteers for wars down through the years. Although there were casualties, the greater number of soldiers came back to become loyal citizens. The creation of Weeden-Zellars Post No. 609 of the American Legion and the Auxiliary reflect both the number of veterans and their importance to Westfield.

The ex-service men of Westfield and vicinity met at the city hall in Westfield, Illinois, August 9, 1919 for the purpose of organizing a Post of the American Legion. It was decided that a Post should be established here and that it should be known as Weeden-Zeller Post, in honor of the two local men who paid the supreme sacrifice.

The State Department issued a charter to the post on August 1, 1920, and designated the post as number 609, and the Post was instituted with twenty charter members.

For years the Post met in the building on the west side of Washington Street that is presently L & M Grocery. It later moved to the Community Building after the school left that building in 1985. The post is presently dormant.



WWI soldiers march on Washington Street in front of site prepared for new bank building

Westfield Improvement League

Common interest in improving the economic and aesthetic circumstances in the village of Westfield drew many citizens of the community together in November 2009. At that meeting, community members discussed what they would like to see happen in the community as well as how to achieve those ends. The result was the formation of the Westfield Improvement League. One month after its official founding, WIL, with community support, held the first annual Christmas Carnival to raise money for a new roof for the community gym. The group has continued its activities supporting the community. WIL has frequent work days in the downtown cleaning up the sidewalks and streets and generally attempting to beautify the space. WIL has especially adopted the Westfield Village Park and is working to maintain and improve the facilities there with the cooperation of the village government. WIL has designed and purchased new welcome signs for the community that should be up before this Homecoming. Future projects include continuing to work to improve the downtown and entrances to town as well as efforts to promote new businesses. The current officers are: Ryan D'Arcy, President; Ethan Brewer, Vice-President; Jerry Lowery, Treasurer; Tara D'Arcy, Secretary; Jennie Morgan, Public Relations.

Join the Westfield Improvement League on Facebook for updates on current projects.



Westfield Improvement League members at the 2010 Chili Cook Off. Pictured in back left to right: Ethan Brewer, Kyle Biggs, Jerry Hunt, Ryan D'Arcy, and Mike Duvall. Front row: Marie Finney, Diane McHenry, Ida Hunt, Jerry Lowery, Tara D'Arcy, Rhys D'Arcy, and Jennie Morgan.

Churches

Practically from its beginning, Westfield has been the home of strong churches. The earliest of these churches were the Baptist and United Brethren Churches, though the Methodist Episcopal, a latecomer, would eventually outgrow them both in memberhip. Following are descriptions of the historic churches separately as well as a combined history of their modern incarnations.

In Memory of
Gladys McKinney Robinson
-Lawrence & Gary and families



L & M Grocery
Snacks • Lottery • Groceries
Store Hours:
Monday - Saturday 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. • Sunday 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.
113 S. Washington, Westfield, IL
Leonard DeRouse, Owner
Since 1988

Church of the United Brethren in Christ

The local United Brethren church had its beginning in 1932, when Rev. Henry Evinger, a minister of that denomination, came to Illinois from Ohio, and settled on a farm about two miles northwest of the present village of Westfield, and at once began a Sunday School and preaching service and organized a class that met in homes and the school house.

Otterbein Church was built in 1843, on ground that is now Otterbein Cemetery, northwest of town. In 1852, the members built a new frame church in Westfield, on the south side of Cherry Street between Franklin and Hamilton Streets. Prominent among the early worshippers in the church were members from the Evinger, Brown, Parcel, and Connelly families. The church building was sold in 1862 and the congregation used the chapel in the college building, which was build in that year, as their place of worship.

Among the pioneer preachers who served this church were: Reverends Walton Claybourne Smith, Josiah P. Shuey, A. Helton, S. Buzzard, H. Elwell, Lyman Sylvester Chittenden, Samuel Mills, and C.H. Jones.

The old college building burned in 1917, and the congregation proceeded at once to build the commodious church they now worship at United Methodists. The local church was the next to oldest class in the state of Illinois, and due to its historic beginning and the operation of the college in connection with it, has had high standing in the general denomination. The General Conference of the United Brethren Church was held with the local church in 1877, and representatives from the local church have often had places in the highest councils of the denomination.

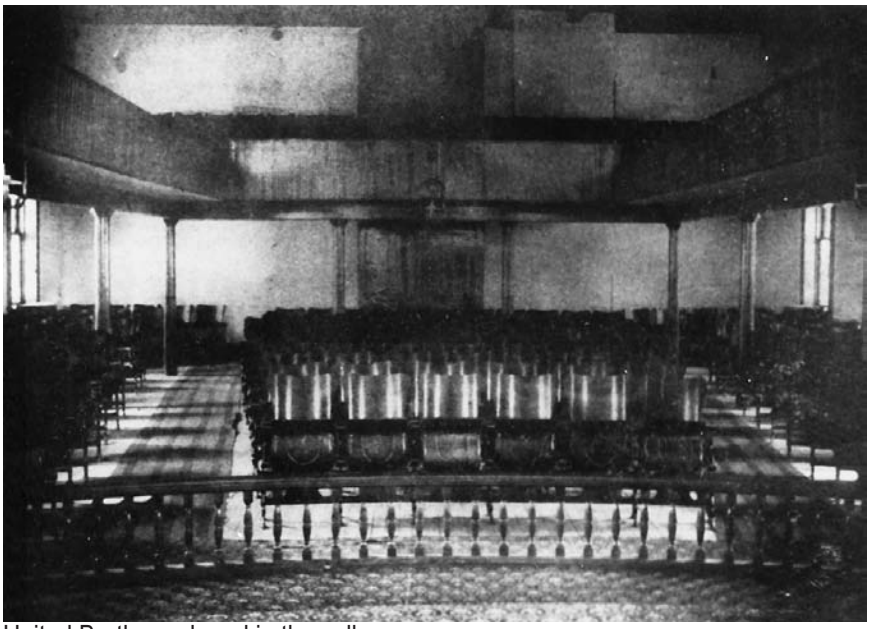
Sometime in the 1880s, possibly dating from 1889 when the United Brethren Church went through its Great Schism, part of the church broke away and formed a new church. The “Radical” or “Old Constitution” Church of the United Brethren in Christ met at a church building on the northwest corner of Elm and Jefferson Streets. This section of the denomination never was large and numbers and had all but disappeared by the 1920s.

As early as 1924, proposals were made suggesting the union of

the "New Constitution" United Brethren Church and the Evangelical Church. In 1933 the separate Conferences appointed Commissions on Church Federation and Union. These Commissions, after meeting separately and together, approved and adopted a Plan and Basis of Union which was accepted by each Conference acting in its own behalf. The Union was consummated at the joint session of the members of the two General Conferences at Johnstown, Pennsylvania, November 16, 1946, to be known as the Evangelical United Brethren Church.

Lloyd A. Rider served on this Commission of the United Brethren Church. He was one of the signers of the merger with the Evangelical Church. In 1945 the Sarah Bennett property was purchased to be used as a parsonage. Rev. and Mrs. E.J. Larson and family were occupying it at the time of dedication. It was dedicated February 3, 1946.

Largely taken from Siltennial Souvenir Program 1961



United Brethren chapel in the college.

Methodist Episcopal Church



Methodist Episcopal church built in 1866 and demolished 1909

In June 1850, the Reverend W.S. Prentice of Paris Circuit organized a class of Methodists here. Its five members were D. Bennett, E. Christianson, Sally Moore, Charles, James, and Martha Downey. In 1851 they began a Sunday School in a log school house in the village of New Richmond, now the northwest part of Westfield.

In 1853 the congregation erected a church on the present site of the Baptist Church (block bounded by State, Division, Fulton, and Cherry Streets), a wooded village block which had been set aside for a church when the town of Westfield was platted. Here the little society worshiped for thirteen years, and no doubt within that time began to use a part of their property as a cemetery, a few stones of which remain.

The enthusiastic spirit of these early Methodists was indicated in 1865, when, although they had just come through the stresses and privations of the Civil War years, they began to build a new church, which was dedicated on February 4, 1866, under the pas-

torate of the Reverend D. Shirley. Cost of construction was $5,000. It was a one room brick sanctuary with a north entrance, above which rose a high steeple. For many years a hedge fence surrounded the block, along the east side of which were hitchracks.

During its duration the church was served by some thirty-one pastors. Names of some of the later ones were Kensil, Morton, Wakefield, English, Strevey, Tharp, Dundas, Pence, Norfleet, and Elder.

After forty-four years the building seemed too small for modern requirements. So following many meetings and much debate, the official board voted on June 11 to undertake the construction of a new edifice. Pledges were made by members and by organization, most active being the Ladies Aid. And it must not be overlooked that on dedication day many friends of the church, other than Methodists, contributed generously.

In the work on the building men of the congregation often donated their labor, and even some of the women sat in the shade of the oak and chipped mortar off the usable bricks of the old building.

On October 23, 1909, the cornerstone was laid by the Reverend Parker Shields, district superintendent. By March of 1910 the building was complete. The decorations of the sanctuary were beautiful, harmonizing with the colors of the two large leaded art glass windows, depicting, respectively, the Good Shepherd and Christ in Gethsemane. A brochure prepared at the time states that the cost of the church and its furnishings was $14,500.

Dedication Day was set for March 6, 1910. The Reverend Theodore Kemp, D.D., president of Illinois Wesleyan University,

A "Grand" Place to Shop!
Grandma's Place I & II
Country & Victorian Shoppes
105 & 107 South Kentucky • Greenup, IL
217-923-9233 • Monday - Saturday 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sue Grissom, Owner

addressed the congregation in the morning service and the Reverend William D. Parr, D.D. at night. At both services the church was filled to capacity. The culmination of the nigh program was the Dedicatory Service of the Methodist Episcopal Church.

Officials of the church at the time were as follows: pastor, the Reverend C.E. Parsons; Sunday School Superintendent, Dr. Joseph Hall; president of the Epworth League, Mr. Charles S. Allen; president of the Ladies Aid Society, Mrs. Hattie Collins.

Largely taken from Siltennial Souvenir Program 1961



Methodist Episcopal Church built in 1909.

Free Methodist Church

In the winter of 1890 and 1891, a revival meeting was conducted by a group of young people in a large hall on the second floor of the building formerly occupied by Stevens Bros. (buildings east of old fire hall).

This revival resulted in the organizations of the Free Methodist society, and a substantial church building was erected on the southwest corner of Cherry and Madison Streets and was dedicated May 10, 1891 with the dedication services being conducted by the Rev. T.J. Noland. Rev. E.E. Robins was the first pastor. Two of the charter members were C.L. Goble and Mrs. Emma Dallas.

Largely taken from Siltennial Souvenir Program 1961



MICHELLE HALEY

Ph. (217) 932-2166 • 800-932-1144

Cell (217)-232-4906

J & K MITCHELL CASEY

FIVE STAR

DODGE

CHRYSLER

ONLY IN A Jeep

CHEVROLET

PONTIAC BUICK

United Methodist Church



Current United Methodist Church built as the United Brethen Church after the college building burned in 1917.

The United Methodist is the name of the merger of the Evangelical United Brethren Church and the Methodist Episcopal Church. This merger came about at a meeting of the United General Conference in Dallas, Texas on April 23, 1968. In Westfield, the two congregations worshiped as one body February 2, 1969 under the pastorate of Rev. Allen Morgan. It was agreed to use the building of the former E.U.B. Church because it was larger, newer, and more suited to accommodate the needs of the combined congregations.

Each congregation brought a rich heritage to the union. Music was an import part of the worship service and an emphasis on youth education, camping, and missions was shared.

In 2004, the Westfield United Methodist Church became a

member of a Tri-County Parish, joining with Oakland United Methodist Church and the Kansas United Methodist Church. The Tri-County Parish has flourished, utilizing the strength of each congregation.

In the past 25 years the Westfield UMC has continued its projects of improvement at the church building. Many structural improvements make the church more welcoming. Those improvements include central air-conditioning, insulated glass doors at each entrance, a classroom converted into a very attractive library with hundreds of media materials from books to CDs and VCR tapes. A high school classroom and game room gives the teens a place to worship and enjoy fellowship with others. The library was dedicated on October 3, 2004 in honor of former pastor, Jim Whitkanack.

An important and historical part of the Westfield UMC is the pipe organ. This organ was installed in 1918-19 by the Reuter-Schwartz Organ Company of Trenton, Illinois when the building served the United Brethren in Christ. The organ retains all 639

Congratulations,
Westfield, on your birthday!

In memory of
Noble & Marjorie,
Marion, Paul, & Bruce

-The Lowery Family

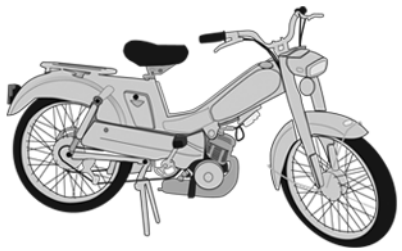
of its original pipes as well as the 19 pipes that were added to the pedal division when the console was rebuilt ca. 1970. This organ was completely restored in 2008 by Buzzard Pipe Organ Builders of Champaign, Illinois. A Restoration Dedication Service was held on Sunday, June 22, 2008. Keith Williams of Homer, Illinois was guest organist. The organ once again plays and sounds as good as it did when it was new, ready for its second century of faithful service.

Another historical part of the Westfield UMC is the bell which hung in the belfry of the Westfield College. The bell has been preserved and now resides in a small structure near the South entrance of the church. Among those instrumental in reaching out to members, former members, and frieds of the church and college far and wide to secure funds for the bell structure were Doit and Elnor Biggs. Jeff Gladu performed much of the construction. A story that has survived about the bell is that when the Westfield College was burning, townspeople heard the bell ringing as it fell through the burning timbers.

New improvements to the church include kitchen renovation and the installation of an elevator on the west side to allow street level access to the sanctuary and basement. The current pastor is Rev. Walter Miller.

Taken from Sesquicentennial Souvenir Program 1986 and new information provided by Bette Young

Fat Tire Brothers Bicycle Shop



• Motorized Bicycles
• Custom Parts & Wheels

Gary & Bruce Kaplon
114 East Buena Vista St. • Kansas, IL
glkinc@gmail.com • 217-948-5241

Westfield Baptist (Goodhope) Church



Westfield Baptist Church built in 1896 on the northeast corner of Lincoln and Jefferson Streets

Westfield Baptist Church, established in 1832, is the oldest church in the Westfield Baptist Association and perhaps the oldest in Eastern Illinois. Lewis Walker, a man of marked piety, of good education, and remarkable public-spirit, and his family provided leadership in the Association during its existence, especially at the time of its founding. Before locating on Parker Prairie, the Walker family was native to Kentucky where they lived near Campbellsville, then moved to Perry County, Indiana in 1824. The Walkers were regular Baptists. Daniel Goble followed them to Indiana in 1824 and married Sitha Walker, the daughter of Lewis Walker. In 1831 the Walkers moved to Parker Prairie (an area settled in 1825 or 1826 by the Parker family), about one mile south of Westfield in the heart of the territory of the Westfield Association. Lewis Walker built his cabin on Section 6, one mile south of Westfield and one-half mile west of Westfield and entered the land. In 1832, Daniel Goble followed his father-in-law and moved to Coles County in 1833 where he pur-

chased land adjoining his in-laws.

In 1832, Elder Stanley B. Walker, a Regular Baptist preacher, native of Kentucky and brother of Lewis Walker, moved to Parker Prairie near what is now known as Westfield. He is one of the earliest Baptist preachers in the territory. It is said that he divided his time and effort between his farm and Church work. He preached far and near whenever a cabin was opened to give him a hearing and assisted in the organization of nearly every Baptist Church in the county. Then records show where he assisted in the organization of Churches in Coles County.

The movement of settlers established a need for a Church. They were not fearful of starting a small or family Church in one of the cabins. They knew that the Gospel must be preached, and the spiritual needs of the people satisfied. They had come far into the wilderness, but even there death could find them. There had to be a Church. On July 28, 1832, The Good Hope Church (Now Westfield) was organized in the home of Brother Lewis Walker. The following words are taken from the charter they drew up:

> "We, the undersigned brethren and sisters being inhabitants of the state of Illinois, and county of Clark, believing it to be our privilege and duty to live in a Church and hoping that it would be to the glory of God, and to the advancement of His Kingdom called upon our Beloved Brethren, Elders Abraham Stark and William Stansil, and they constituted us a Church in the name of the Lord after receiving all the information on that subject, practicable or necessary on the following article: Articles of faith as set forth in the New Hampshire Declaration of Faith." Elder Stanley B. Walker, Lewis Walker, Sitha Goble, Daniel Goble, Martha Walker and Mary Walker attending. The name of the Church was to be "Good Hope" after their home Church down in Kentucky.

Services were held in the homes of the brethren for the first four years. In 1836, the members secured a building site which is now the present site of Good Hope Cemetery. Upon securing timers, they used logs and erected the first Church building. The first services were held in the Church in July, 1836. Just west of

the gate and inside of the Good Hope Cemetery is where the Good Hope Baptist Church stood and where the Westfield Baptist Association was organized. The Church continued to grow in membership and also to spread the Gospel in the community and its adjoining territory through its membership. The First Sabbath School was organized in the Church in May, 1854. This proved to be a help in teaching God's word.

The brethren were satisfied to worship in this building until October, 1856. Plans were being made to erect a new building in a possible new location. In 1862, the Church decided to move the building one mile north and located within the village of Westfield. On March 8, William Lee, a faithful member, donated one-half acre of land to the Church as a building site. In 1864, they completed the erection of a frame building on this site donated by William Lee. The building was dedicated to the Lord the first Sunday in June, 1864. After moving to the village of Westfield in 1864, the Church continued to grow in membership and strength. In April, 1883, the Church voted to change the name of the Church from Good Hope Baptist Church to Westfield Baptist Church. The Church continued to grow spiritually and financially until it could have a Pastor to live on the field and better take care of the work. In 1895 and 1896, the Church created a new frame structure building which still exists on the northeast corner of Lincoln and Jefferson Streets. The new building was dedicated on the fifth Sunday in May, 1896. Elder Graham preached the dedication sermon. In March, 1896, the Church appointed officers to secure letters of incorporation for the Church as an organization. In 1908, the Church built a parsonage on the property.

The Church purchased the former Methodist Episcopal Church at the corner of State and Fulton Street in 1969. A great amount of remodeling was done to the facility over the next several years while Rev. Paul Flowers was pastor of the Church. Rev. Flowers served as pastor for over 18 years and a great number of souls were saved. The Church witnessed a great outpouring of the Holy Spirit as it continued to grow in spirit, stature and membership. The Church also supported our missionary enterprises to a greater extent in the last 45 years.

Association

After asking for admittance in two different associations, the Church was admitted into the Wabash District Association in September, 1836. They remained in that organization until it convened in 1841, when they were dropped from the association; being allowed no correspondence with any other Churches in the association. The Wabash District Association was anti-missionary or Hard-shell (typically meaning Calvinist). For ten years, they remained out of any association affiliation. In August, 1851, A.J. Fuson and other brethren from the Palestine Association inspected the constitution of the Church. At the regular session of the association, they presented themselves with a letter to the association and were received as a member of that Union. The Church remained an active member of that association until the association convened in 1861. It was that time that the Westfield Baptist Association was organized.

Ministers

The following preachers have come from this Church:

- Elder J.M. Humphrey came from Kentucky in 1861 and settled in Clark County. He was ordained by this Church on November 15, 1851.
- Elder James B. Walker, who was the brother of Elder Stanley Walker. He came from Kentucky and was licensed in 1860 by the Church. He was ordained in November, 1862 by the Little Flock Church.
- Elder reason Wiley who married Cynthia Lee, great-granddaughter of Lewis Walker. He was ordained in October, 1882.
- Charles C. Sparks, formerly a member of the Harmony Church, was ordained December 2, 1898.
- Elder Ray Green, great-great-grandson of Lewis Walker, was ordained September 3, 1924.
- Elder Gaylord Green, great-great-great grandson of Lewis Walker, was licensed by the Church in 1933. He was ordained by the Casey Baptist church on September 6, 1934.
- Elder Loren Lang, formerly a member of Enon Church and

a great-grandson of L.W. Lanman, was ordained October 26, 1947.
- Elder Maurice Swinford, who married a great-great-granddaughter of Lewis Walker, was ordained October 26, 1947.

The following have served as Pastors of the Westfield Baptist Church:
Stanley B. Walker (who served until his death in 1842), Hohn Doughty, J.W. Riley, J.M. Humphrey, R.O. Hawkins, T.J. Thornston, L.W.P. Gilbert, James Walker, Abraham Jones, S.T. Reynolds, Reason Wiley, W.J. Bowers, A.T. Griffith, T.D. Davis, W.W. Hay, J.M. Billingsley, J.L. Ryan, W.B. Lile, Rev. Redmond, Rev. Biggs, M. Culp, H.C. Hopwell, H.E. Pettus, B.F. Burnett, T.E. Morrison, W.W. Hodge, T.F. Lowry, J.K. Achiele, R.W. Pruett, C.C. Allen, W.M. Greer, Virtus L. Buzbee, Carl Barnes, W.A. Fuson, O.R. Steiner, Rex Brown, Robert Mann, Glen Womack, Victor Coffman, George McKown, Gail Bierman, Kenneth Stewart, Charles Little, Jonah Reynolds, Paul Flowers, Richard Emrick, Norman Lockwood, Loy Bourne, Bill Thompson, Cortez Merrill, Evan Beasley, Tim Oakley, Jim Butler and Rev. Gene Ellis, the current Pastor.

We are thankful for the early settlers and pioneers of Illinois for their vision, foresight and following the leading of the Holy Spirit to start the Westfield Baptist Church. We are also thankful for all the Pastors and Deacons who have served here the past 179 years, and for the many souls that have been saved. We are thankful for the Westfield Baptist Association which also grew out of this Church. This association started in 1862 and has grown and flourished to what it is today.

Our prayer is that this Church and all of the Churches of our association, and in the state of Illinois, will continue to grow and flourish as we prepare for and await the Rapture and Second Coming of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ.

In Memory of Forrest
Owner of Snyder's

Shade opened the cafe in 1960 and it was open in Westfield until the mid 70's when he retired and moved to Oregon to live with his sister Dorothy Snyder Lovell and her husband Walter Lovell. The cafe was known for home cooking, a place to gather and visit over a cup of coffee and a hangout for th teenagers. There was a juke box and pin ball machines for entertainment.



Dorothy Snyder Lovell, Ted Snyder, and "Bill Shade" Snyder in front of Snyder's Cafe.

A. "Bill Shade" Snyder Cafe - Westfield, IL



Ted Snyder, Dorothy Snyder Lovell, Leonard Snyder and "Bill Shade" Snyder inside Snyder's Cafe.

Shade kept the cafe open late on nights there were ballgames, so the team could come in to eat after the game was over. After the ballgames, the school bus let the kids off at Shade's restaurant, where the parents waited to pick them up. If they won, Shade gave them free hamburgers and milk shakes, and usually they got the same if they didn't win. There are lots of memories of good times shared, celebrating a win for the Eagles. It was a great community meeting spot for everyone.

Shade's sister Dorothy was a cook and baker at the cafe until 1967 when she moved to Oregon. Edna Donovan and Diane McHenry worked at the cafe until it closed.

Richwoods Baptist Church

The Concord Primitive Baptist church was located in the north east part of the township and was organized in 1832. Under the leadership of its first pastor, Richard M. Newport, its influence was greatly felt in the community. Newport came from Crawford County and rode horseback for fifty miles to attend services once a month. He served as pastor for twelve years, moving into the township in 1855. He was a typical frontier preacher, a born leader, tall, muscular, spare built and had a natural gift of oratory. He travelled far and near holding revivals. He was greatly beloved by the Concord church. The first members of the church were Mr. and Mrs. Lasure, Mr. and Mrs. Absolom Kester, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Bennett, and Rebecca Davis. Coleman B. Dawson came to the township in 1831 and was ordained a minister in 1832. He was the pastor of the church for 42 years.

The church is familiarly known as the Richwoods church.

Largely taken from Siltennial Souvenir Program 1961



Richwoods Baptist Church

Photo from History of Westfield Illinois and Northwest Clark County 1981



In honor of Mary Hackett who celebrated her 95th birthday on August 7th.

-Shirley, Jim, Bob, Mary Kay, & Jerry and families

Keep your car running like new.

Have it serviced at

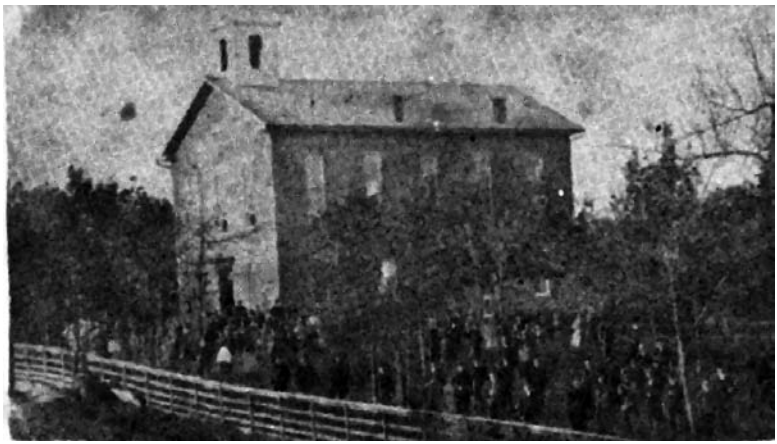
Dwight's Garage

Dwight Ennis
116 N. Franklin • Westfield, IL 62474
217-967-5254
Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.



Westfield College

The history of Westfield College will forever be linked with the Civil War. Westfield College began as Westfield Seminary, essentially a high school, in September 1861, the first year of the Civil War. The seminary was well-supported by the Church of the United Brethren in Christ, the denomination that founded it. The original trustees of the seminary were Walton C. Smith, Daniel Evinger, David Ross, Daniel Coblents, Alexander Helton, Joel W. Nye, John P. Shuey, Samuel Mills, Edmund R. Connelly, and Hiram Elwell. The United Brethren were anti-slavery and largely Lincoln Republicans, a stance that would have put them at odds with the large population of native Kentuckians that lived in the area. Richwoods in particular was home to many Southern sympathizing families, some of which were on the Copperhead side of the infamous Charleston Riot.



Original Westfield College building from 1863

Attendance at the seminary increased after the war. Although the seminary began in the white frame UB church on Cherry Street, the church relocated to the "high school campus" (bounded by Lincoln, Division, Mulberry, and Madison Streets) in 1863, a property purchased from David and Margaret Seebolt Evinger. The new students who flooded in after the end of the war made it necessary to expand again in 1867. In 1865, the board of trustees(Rev. W.C. Smith, Rev. Alexander Helton, Rev. David Ross, Rev. Samuel



Westfield College with it's 1867 addition

Mills, Rev. Hiram Elwell, and Messrs. E.R. Connelly, Daniel Evinger, and J.H. Coons), determined to take up college courses in additions to the current academy courses. It was not until 1869 that college work began and the first college president, Samuel Brown Allen, was hired. One of the high points of the history of the college occurred in 1877 when the college hosted the General Conference for the entire denomination. Milton Wright, the father of the famous aviators, attended this conference and emerged as a leader of the Radical (conservative) side of the church and was voted a bishop. Wright was a longtime friend of W.C. Smith.

President Allen served fourteen years as president, but was forced out of his post, probably a casualty of the unrest in the denomination at the time. Six years later the denomination split and many "old-constitution" members left the college. The denomination reeled under nearly a decade of legal battles to determine rightful ownership of the properties of the denomination. During that decade, the 1890s, Westfield College fell behind, never to catch up. In 1895, Eastern Illinois State Normal School, today's Eastern Illinois University, was founded fifteen miles to the east. A cheaper, better funded school in that proximity boded ill for the institution.

In an effort to more effectively compete, the college decided

to perform massive renovations, modernizing and expanding the building. In 1898, the new addition made the building form the shape of a Roman cross or "t" shape. In spite of efforts to modernize, especially under President Benjamin Daugherty during the first decade of the 1900s, the school could not compete. A falling out with the board of trustees in 1911 spelled nearly certain doom. All but two of the members of the faculty and the entire board of trustees resigned.



Westfield College after its final addition - 1898

The college remained open until 1915 when the Lower Wabash Conference refused to continue to support the endeavor. The residents of Westfield stubbornly decided they were going to continue to support a junior college themselves, supporting a couple of faculty members. The local church rented the building to the school district as a high school in addition to serving as a junior college. The building was struck by lightning and burned in 1917. The property was sold to the school district and became the new high school campus.

The college, throughout its tenure, maintained a reputation as ideologically progressive but also morally upright. From its beginning, the college was coeducational at a time when many schools still excluded female students. It was anti-slavery, pro-temperance, and pro- women's rights. Female students had a dormitory at the



East end of Westfield College

northeast corner of Lincoln and Madison Streets, but male students had to find housing in the community. Alumni and local residents mourned the loss of the college that had been the source of pride in the community for over fifty years. The bell of the college is on display outside of the current United Methodist Church.

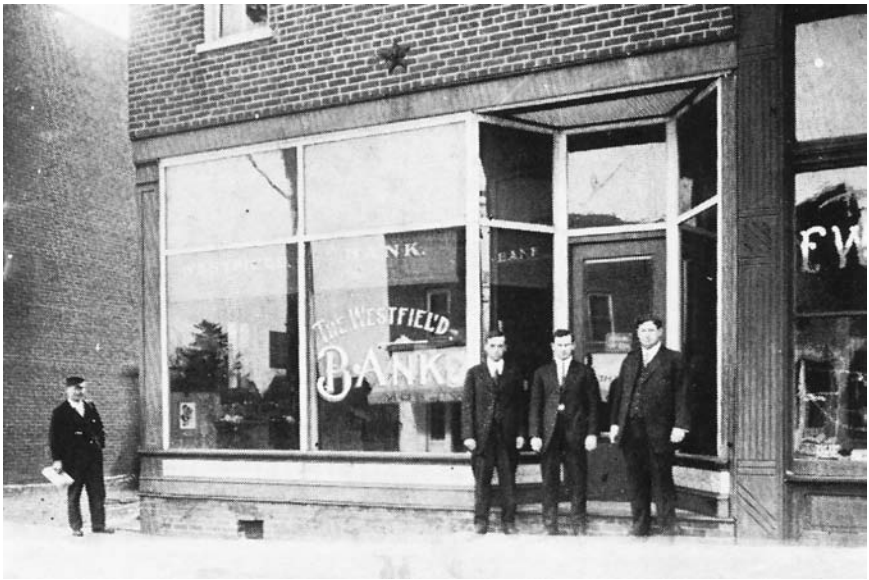


Westfield College 1911-1912 basketball team. Front left to right: John Garvey Pollard, Leland Yanaway, Hilton Redmon, Wilbur Flenner, George Everett Frame. Back: Professor H.B. Simon, ?, Hubert Connelly, and Corwin Russell, Manager

Westfield Banks

Westfield has had many banks in its history. For many years one was located at the northwest corner of State and Washington Streets and later at the southeast corner of the same intersection. The current bank building was constructed in 1920 and served as the First National Bank of Westfield until 1930 when it closed during the bank crisis of the Great Depression. The Westfield State Bank was organized in 1947 with the following board of directors, one cashier, and one assistant cashier. They were John W. Davis, President; Aaron Kirchner, Vice President; Harold Young, Cashier; Erlene B. Newman, Assistant Cashier; J.E. Barbee; R.L. Biggs; Earl Drake; Clyde Green; and F.C. Rider.

Westfield State Bank sold to Bank of Casey on March 14, 1994, to Am Bank in May 1996, to Union Planters on May 10, 1999, and Casey State Bank on October 5, 2001.



Westfield Bank in 1911

Photo from History of Westfield Illinois and Northwest Clark County 1981

Two Telephone Companies

The farmer's mutual was a frame building located on the southeast corner of Hamilton and Walnut Streets. It was operated by Carl Merrick, brother of Earl Sprague, until about 1915. Then the Westfield Telephone Company was located upstairs in a brick building just east of our present bank building and was owned by Glen and Roy Hall. We could call Central and get the ball scores, fires, and other information any time. It was sold to Casey Telephone Company in 1941.



VanSickle Blacksmith shop with Farmer's Mutual building in the background.
Photo from History of Westfield Illinois and Northwest Clark County 1981



Westfield Elevator Company



Hallie White Goble remembers well the family-owned and operated business on which so many depended in the early 1900's.

Hallie's parents, James H. and Mable Alice Makepeace White, purchase the Rardin Mill from the Rardin Bros. around 1908. The mill was built in 1881. The mill we renamed the Westfield Elevator Co. and served as a coal, grain, feed, and ice business.

"The entire family assisted in the operation of the elevator in one way or another, except for Mama, who had her hands full just caring for and keeping house for a family of seven," she smiled. "The boys, Edwin and Stewart, were Papa's associates, but Papa was the overseer. The business was labeled J.H. White and Sons, Proprietors.

Stewart preferred to work the fields of the family farm, but was at the elevator to lend a hand when he was not farming. Edwin spent a lot of time operating the ice business, which the White family purchased from E.G. "Grant" Kirkham.

We appreciate your business and are proud to serve the farming community!



Westfield
967-5225

Martinsville
382-4158

Snyder
826-8357

West Union
279-3834

The ice was manufactured in Charleston and shipped in refrigerated cars to Kansas, IL, and then on to Westfield. Edwin then distributed the ice throughout the community, using an ice wagon pulled by an old white horse, Katie, who was nearly blind. The ice wagon had a step-up on the back-end.

The ice was lifted from the wagon with a pair of ice tongs and then weighed on a scale which hung on the side of the wagon. The ice sold for around 2¢ a pound. Katie was later replaced with a truck. All of the children liked Edwin. When he made his stops, the children clammered aboard the truck and helped themselves to the smaller ice-chips, which was quite a treat back then. Mr. A.H. "Abe" Garver owned a meat market and was one of their larger ice customers. He had a small room insulated with sawdust in which he placed ice and stored the meat.



Horace Makepeace & Edwin White pictured with Old Kate and the ice wagon.

The elevator also contained a feed and grain business. The elevator had nothing in common with modern elevators and feed stores. Very few farmers in those days sold their crops as farmers do now. Most corn was picked by the ear and fed to livestock, although some people brought grain in to the mill for chicken feed. They also kept bran 'n' shorts, ground wheat which was mixed with water and used to slop hogs.

James White also built a large black warehouse near the elevator. This building was used to store hay and straw until it was loaded on the train and transported to other areas. Hay and straw were also sold to area customers to be used for livestock bedding and feed.

Area residents depended on the feed, grain, and ice that the elevator provided. But the coal business was the elevator's main source of income. The coal was shipped to the mill on the C.H. & D. Railroad and mainly came from Indiana and Kentucky mines.

When the train came, they dropped everything and started hauling coal to those who had placed orders. The coal was scooped by hand from the hopper cars onto wagons pulled by mules or into waiting trucks.


Hallie Goble

The elevator had one large coal storage bin which would hold the coal from one hopper car. The coal was cheaper if the customers picked it up themselves. They preferred to sell the coal directly from the train, since the more it was shuffled around the more breakage resulted. There were basically three sizes of coal available; nut size (cookstove size), lumpsize, and block size (also known as Brazil block). The price for coal averaged around $6.00 per ton. Kentucky coal sold for around $7.50 per ton and was regarded as a better quality coal as it provided less ash and, therefore, more heat. The freight charge from Kentucky also increased the cost.

In the 1930's the railroad was abandoned, which curtailed the shipping of ice, grain, and coal. By this time, some families had done away with ice-boxes and had purchased modern refrigerators. Mart Woodard, Alan Parker, and later, Charles Sweeney operated trucking businesses to haul coal to Westfield. Eventually the elevator was forced to close. Today, all that remains to remind us of the mill is an old barn and a few foundations.

Based on an article for the "Westfield Review" by Retha Garver (reproduced in its entirety from the Sesquicentennial book)

Westfield Fire Protection District

In 1957 an idea was born: to organize a fire protection district, which is now known as "Westfield Fire Protection District."

Zollie Arbogast, Clark County Judge at that time, appointed three trustees to organize and oversee the department. Those appointed were Glen Throneburg, Noble Lowery, and Lawrence Lovell. With the help of attorney C.A. Williams, the district was formed, a referendum was brought to a vote and passed. A fire house was to be bought and two trucks purchased. A store building owned by Vernon Van Sickle was purchased and remodeled to fit the needs of the district.

The fire department moved into its new location in 2007. The new station has served as the meeting place for the Westfield Improvement League and a village meeting place and polling place.



Westfield firemen pictured at their recent BBQ fundraiser. Pictured left to right: Dane Tally, Jerry Lowery, Kacey Lovell, Michael Lowery, David Worby, Brian Brewer with daughters Emma, Lindsey, and Mckenzie Brewer, and Jerry Hunt.

Clark County Ambulance Service

The Ambulance Service was started in Clark County in August of 1976 with units in Casey, Martinsville, and West Union. Between August of 1976 and March of 1978, residents in the Westfield area were given service by the unit in Casey.

We started operation with a Cadillac wagon we kept at the Marathon Station, then moved out to the old Standard Station. The first week in August of 1978, we moved into our new building on the corner of State and Franklin Streets where we are now located.

We are available 24 hours a day, seven days a week to serve the Westfield Community and surrounding area.



Doctors Who Have Served Westfield

Dr. J.H. Parcel

Dr. James Hampton Parcel, son of Dr. William Morris Parcel and Mary Fisher Parcel was born near Hamilton, Ohio Sept. 11, 1827. At the age of seven he moved with his family to Clinton Co., Indiana and at the age of 20, he came to live in Westfield, IL. On Feb. 9th, 1852 James Hampton Parcel married Lucinda Evinger, daughter of David and Margaret Seebolt Evinger. James Hampton Parcel became a medical doctor in Westfield where he practiced for 50 years. Frank Baker, a relative, recalled in 1958 that the doctor kept four horses in order to visit his patients in bad weather. The first two years of Dr. J.H. Parcel's practice were in partnership with his father Dr. William Morris Parcel.

Dr. James H. Parcel and his wife, Lucinda Evinger Parcel had six daughters: 1. Henrietta, born March 3 1853, married Michael R. Baer, 2. Mary Frances, born Aug. 27, 1855 and died Sept. 6, 1853, 3. Rosa Belle, born Oct. 7, 1857, married Dr. Charles O. Bennett, 4. Margaret Emma, born Sept 8, 1860, married J.T. Anderson, 5. Cornelia Adeline, born June 14, 1863, died Jan. 19, 1865, and 6. Minnie Alice, born Nov. 25, 1865, married a Mr. Grant.

Dr. James Hampton Parcel's office was just south of his residence, the old Evinger home, (The office was on the northwest corner of State and Washington Streets, the center of town today and where the old Parker Hotel stood and today where the fire department stands on the northwest corner of Washington and State Streets.)

The above location historically was the place where the meeting was held to plan the incorporation of the town of Westfield. Dr. Parcel was one of the first trustees along with J.C. Vansickle, H.H. Cash, Isaac Bolton, and B.M. Hayes.

Dr. Parcel's being a trustee of the new village supports a statement of Fred Weber's that David Evinger had bought several plat from Mr. Archer, and Dr. Parcel in 1854 had purchased part of


. Fishing
. Camping
. Cabin Rentals
. Water Skiing
. ATV Trails
. Horse Trails
. Mountain Bike Trails
. Hiking.
. Boat- Kayak & Paddle Boat rentals
Clark County Park District
Mill Creek Park
20482 N. Park Entrance Rd.
Marshall, Illinois
For reservations and rentals:
217-889-3601 or 217-889-3901
www.clarkcountyparkdistrict.com

them from Mr. Evinger intending to build new homes which we believe he did.

From casual conversations, one gleans bits of knowledge about a person. Dr. Parcel evidenced intelligence and wit and was a very interesting person. When he went out at night on a house call, people often wondered where he went and why. He finally developed a code whereby he announced the birth of a boy by so many shots from his shot gun upon his return from a call, and so many shots for a girl. We didn't learn what he did in the case of twins.

Mrs. Christine Bennett Allen is a descendent of Dr. Parcel. Dr. James Hampton Parcel died March 16, 1905. His wife, Lucinda lived on for nearly twenty years and died at the age of 96, Aug. 25, 1924. They are buried at Maple Hill Cemetery in Westfield.

Dr. Joseph Hall

Dr. Joseph Hall was born at Barnesville, Ohio on January 7, 1849 and was reared as a Quaker. He taught school in Ohio and Indiana for a time before attending medical school in Indianapolis. Before coming to Westfield in 1875, he practiced medicine in Coal City, Indiana. His many years of successful practice involved traveling the mud roads far and near by horse and buggy and on horseback.



Dr. Joseph Hall
Photo from History of Westfield Illinois and Northwest Clark County 1981

Dr. Hall was an active member of the Methodist Church and



In appreciation of our customers and friends for their patronage at Westfield Hardware during our over 30 years in business.

We miss seeing all of you.

~ Gene & Clarice Evans

a charter member of the I.O.O.F. and was active in community affairs and politics. He served on the school board for a number of terms, and, when the high school district was formed, served as a member and as president of that board of education for several years. Dr. Hall died in 1935 at the age of 86.

Reprinted from Westfield Review

Dr. J.J. Hinkley

Dr. J.J. Hinkley, one initial standing for Junia, was born in 1871 in Ohio of a large family of Joseph and Emaline Hinkley. The family later moved to Fairfield Township, Ruran Co., Ohio, near lake Erie in Northern Ohio. He married Emma C. Reinoehl who taught music at the Westfield College the fall tern in 1895. She attended the college 1880 to 1910. The marriage was performed after Dr. Hinkley's arrival in Westfield in April 1898. The couple had one son, Vernon, born in 1905, but only living until 1907.

Dr. Hinkley lectured at the Westfield College on "Circulation of the Blood" during the schoo years from 1898-1901. He practiced medicine in Westfield the remainder of his professional life ending shortly before his death at the Abernathy Nursing Home in Martinsville, in 1955.

The doctor's office was first in a small frame building set back from the east side of Washington Street between the City Hall and the H.V. Anderson brick office building. About 1930 the office was moved to the west side of Washington Street, probably one of the Markwell Bros. Funeral rooms.

Having the appearance and manner of a kindly country doctor, he cared for his patients with insight and understanding. It was said that he believed in "letting nature take its course," and he successfully delivered many babies during his practicing years.

Dr. Hinkley loved flowers and after the first little office was torn down, he was instrumental in planting a lovely flower garden on the site. This open area allowed a graveled walk to the rest rooms to the rear of the City Hall.

For many years he kept the records for the Cemetery Association and was always interested in the care and upkeep of the cemetery. He was responsible for the beautiful plantings in the sunken

garden at the entrance to Maple Hill Cemetery, and served on the Board for many years with outstanding dedication.

The Hinkley home was a large two story structure built by Sherman Burnap, located just west of the small house (known as a Sears Roebuck house) on the north side of the City Park. The Hinkleys were very fond and proud of their beautiful lawn and garden and they had one of the first artificial fish ponds built in their yard. The rooms on the second floor were usually rented. Miss Emmar Wilson, grade school teacher, lived there for many years. When girls began to come from the country to high school, many arranged to rent rooms by the week during the school year.

After the death of Dr. Hinkley, Mrs. Hinkley who was gradually going blind lived on until 1956, dying at the Abernathy Nursing Home in Martinsville. Both are buried in a lot with their only son at Maple Hill Cemetery in Westfield.

Dr. H.V. Anderson

Dr. Horace Victor Anderson was born in 1866 to Rev. J.W.



and C.R. Anderson of Mattoon, Illinois. Horace Victor Anderson graduated from the Westfield College in 1893. Following graduation he attended medical school in St. Louis at Washington University. Upon his return to Westfield, he established a practice and remained in Westfield all of his married life except for ten years. During the years, Dr. H.V. Anderson was a Westfield College Lecturer on tuberculosis. The college lists 1904 to 1911.

The Anderson built two houses on South Madison, three blocks north of the High School and former Westfield College.

The Andersons were loyal church workers in the United Brethren Church. Mrs. Anderson was the president of the Lower Wabash Branch of the Missionary Society. Having graduated from Westfield College in 1892, she was a capable and intelligent, Godly person. George Luther Anderson was their adopted son and only child.

Dr. Anderson maintained an office on the north side of the double office building on the east side of Washington Street in the business section.

Dr. Anderson is remembered as a quiet, stately, learned man. Always a gentlemen, courteous and polite, and an accomplished Greek student.

Many of his patients were from the United Brethren congregation, but he also ministered to whoever chose to seek his services.

Mrs. Anderson died in September, 1934 and Dr. Anderson passed away in 1946 at the Otterbein Home in Ohio.

The Accounts of Drs. Parcel, Hinkley and Anderson are taken primarily from the D.D. Woodard files.

Dr. H.C. Houser

Harvey Clifford Houser was born in Casey, Illinois December 18, 1887. He was the first son of James Nelson and Kate Hammock Houser. They also had five other children: Ethel, Floyd, John, Grace, and Rex.

Harvey attended Casey schools before beginning the study of medicine. He spent his internship at Barnes Hospital in St. Louis.

After graduation he opened an office and started practicing medicine in Westfield, Illinois about 1914. On October 18th, 1916

he married Mabel I. Holmes of Casey. During World War I he served in the Army Medical Corps after spending several months at Petersburg, Virginia.

After the war he returned to Westfield and was instrumental in building and setting up a suite of office building rooms on the second floor of what later became known as the City Hall in Westfield.


Dr. H.C. Houser

Although not exactly a "horse and buggy doctor," Dr. Houser made house calls in the Westfield, Oilfield, Kansas, and Ashmore area making use of his Model T roadster, but when the country roads were too deep in mud, he hired a driver and team of horses to make many calls on sick patients. His kindness, efficiency and bedside manner will never be forgotten. Dr. Houser practiced in Westfield for 43 years.

His benevolence to young people who were striving to work their way through college will always be remembered.

Dr. Houser's death occurred on June 12, 1957 at Gallup, New Mexico while he and his wife were on a vacation tour of the West. Mrs. Houser passed away on May 12, 1970. Both are buried in Washington St. Cemetery in Casey, Ill.

Taken from Hallie W. Goble's submission
to Sesquicentennial Souvenir Program 1986

Railroad

The first railroad through Westfield was called the Narrow Gauge and was a branch of the Danville, Olney, and Ohio River Co. It was built in 1876 by a gang of Swedes who boarded at the Grant House. John Ira Parcel, owner of the Grant House, ran a hack from Westfield to Ashmore daily before the railroad was built. Through the years the railroad changed hands many times. It was important, especially at the turn of the century, for sending livestock to market in Chicago. During the oil boom of the early twentieth century, the railroad was kept extremely busy hauling tankers of oil to the tank yards and refineries. With the lull in the oil industry that corresponded with the Great Depression, the railroad again fell on hard times. It finally gave up the struggle in 1935 and the right-of-way was given back to the owners. This transportation gave way to modern vehicles and modern highways.





Scotts
SHOP
WESTFIELD IL

Automotive Repair

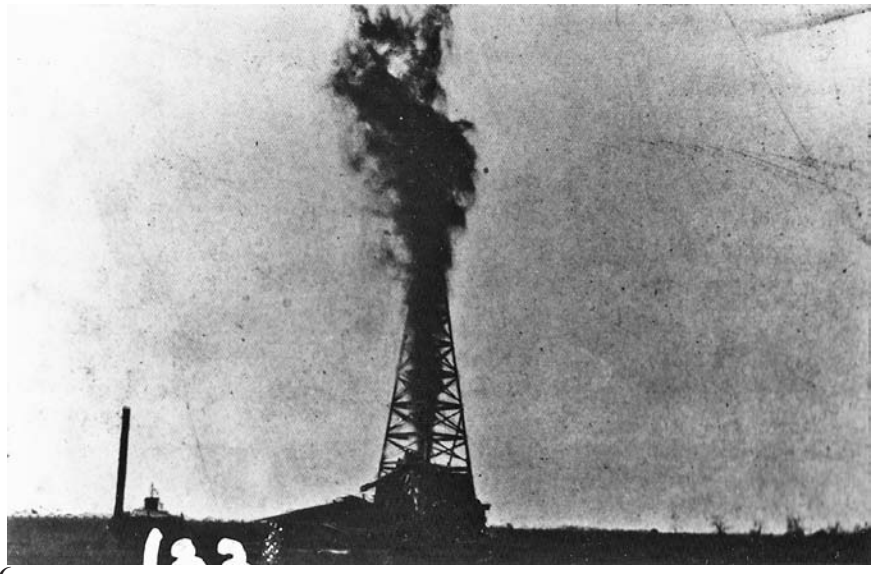
Custom Exhaust
Computer Diagnostics

Scotty Adams
410 East State St. • Westfield, IL • 217-276-5865
"Build'em to Boogie"

Oil

Dame Fortune really smiled on this little community with the discovery of oil. Early oil and gas history really stared in 1865 when a gas well was drilled on the Young farm on Parker Prairie, four miles south of Westfield. It was drilled 300 feet and brought in a well that continued to burn until the first Illinois oil well was discovered on the same farm at 360 feet in 1903. David Leet and J.J. Hoblitzill, Pennsylvania oil men, leased the Young farm and the others in the vicinity. The lease of Alva Biggs bore the date of October 15, 1903. A short time afterward a nice well was brought in on the Young farm. This put Illinois on the maps as an oil state.

The Oil City House was a big frame hostelry erected about a mile north of what would become Oilfield on the Young farm soon after the first gas well was drilled. Herb Biggs had a guest register showing the hotel opened in May 1866. Many well know persons of national and international fame penned their names on its register. Among them were General Grant, Lydia E. Pinkham, Diamond Jim Brady, and Lillian Russell from the US. The register also supposedly included Charles Dickens, the English author, though this is unlikely, and Jenny Lind, the Swedish nightingale. In 2011 the book is in such poor condition it is impossible to verify any of



these signatures.

The Wheeler Brothers operated this hotel for a time. The meals they served consisted of such delicacies as wild turkey, prairie chickens, jacksnipes, frog legs, tree honey, corn pones, wild plum and persimmon pudding, buckwheat griddle cakes, sassafras tea, fiddler catfish, and a variety of other dishes fit for a king. Sunday railroad excursions brought many guests from Chicago, Indianapolis, St. Louis, and intermediate points to see the oilfields.

19 CSB 06

CASEY STATE BANK

305-307 North Central Avenue
P.O. Box 337
Casey, Illinois 62420
(217) 932-2136

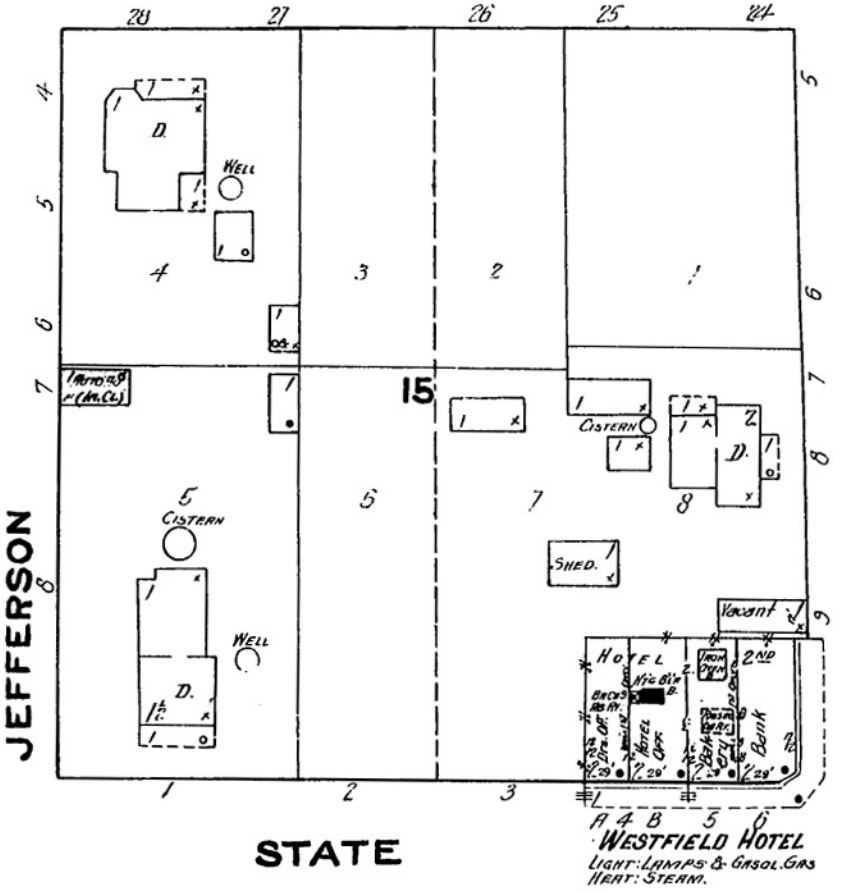
Historic Downtown Walking Tour

Numbers coorespond with maps on the following pages.

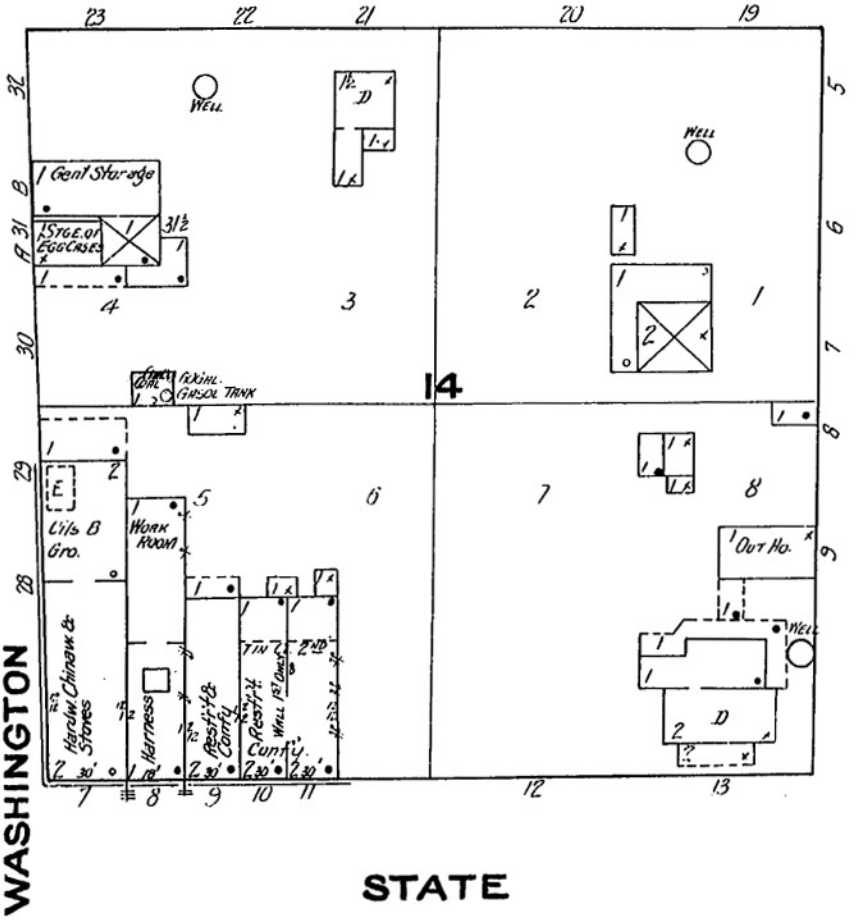
State Street

1. Formerly King's Hotel
4a. Dr. Hall's Office
4b. Westfield Hotel office (owned by Mr. and Mrs. John Parker)
5. Bakery
6. First National Bank (Joe Goble, President)
7. Shuey & Rider, grocery – location of first hotel in Westfield
8. Vet Hofsas, harness
9. Carl Messenger, Oyster Bay Restaurant [first]
10 & 11. Mr. and Mrs. Polard, restaurant (later Bronce Beasley and Mack Sweeney sold Fords and had garage.
13. early Michael York home (built several of first downtown buildings)
14. earlier barber shop, demolished by 1910
15. earlier possible millinery shop, demolished by 1910
18. boarding house, possible location of Houghton's drug and liquor store earlier
20 & 21. Charles E. Bigelow, Bigelow Lumber Co.
25 & 26. Bob Briscoe, poultry shop
27. Ewalt's Dry Goods Store (clothing, etc)
28. vacant, second floor Endsley Hall, 1st Masonic Lodge
29. M.L. Huey Meat Market
30. drug store that became White and Allen Grocery
31. Barber
32. John and Bill Stevens, Hardware (purchased from William Biggs); Biggs and White Opera House second floor
33. John and Bill Stevens, Implement and hardware business (purchased from William Biggs)
34. William Biggs, Post Office – Telephone exchange upstairs owned by Glen and Roy Hall
35. Bennett and Moffett, Westfield Bank – later insurance office
36. Ed Brown, notions store (dime store today)
37. Joe Epperson, furniture store and funeral parlor
38
40 & 41. King's Livery Stable

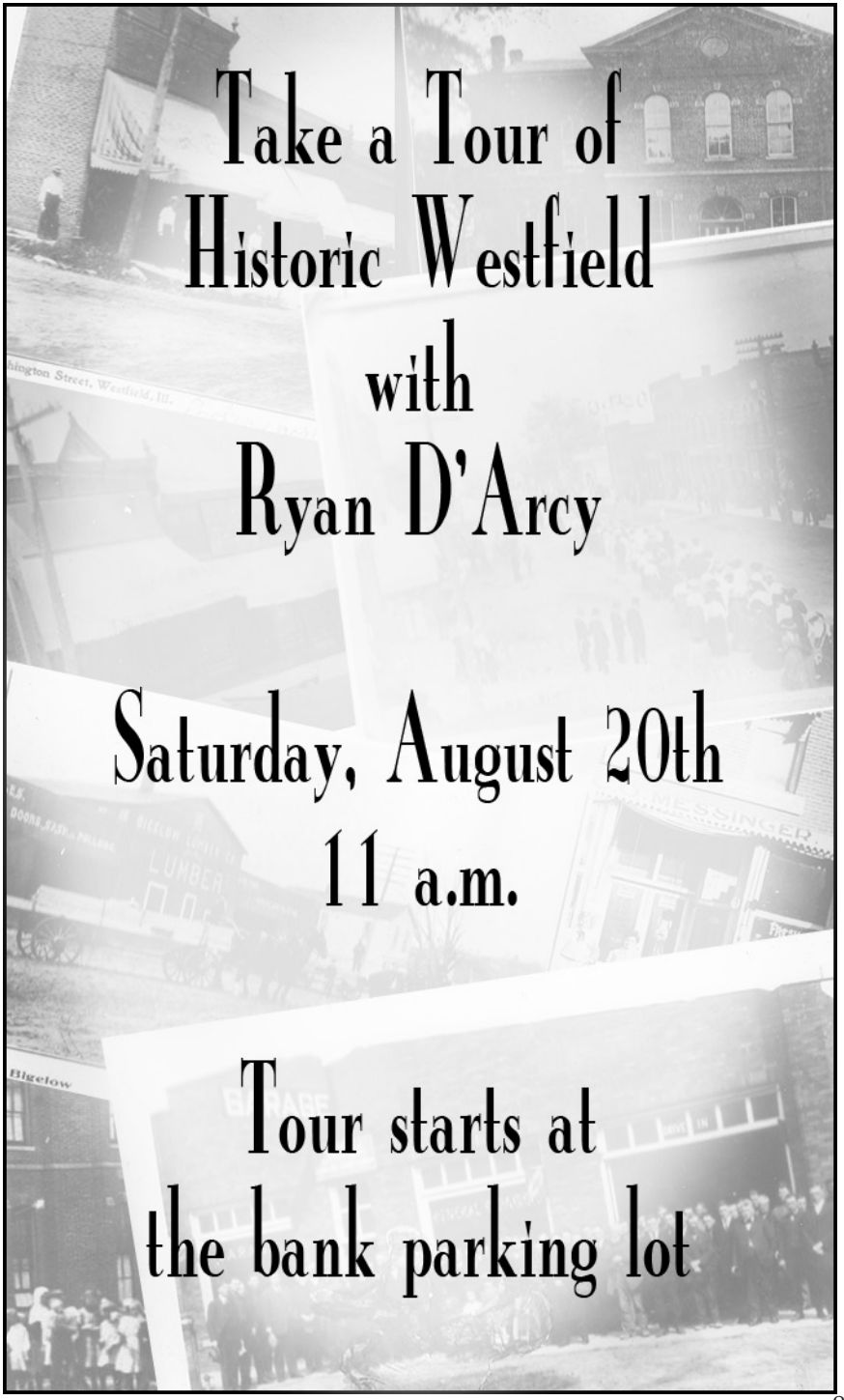
Westfield 1910






23
22
21
20
19
32
31
30
29
28
5
6
7
8
9
WELL
1 Gent Storage
1 Stge. of Egg Cases
31½
D
WELL
4
3
2
1
2
14
Gasoline Tank
Lots B Gro.
Work Room
Harness
Rest'n & Confy
Rest'n & Confy
Tin
Well
Out Ho.
Well
D
5
6
7
8
WASHINGTON
STATE


SHUEY & RIDER
SELL
HARDWARE
QUEENSWARE
GROCERIES
SALT

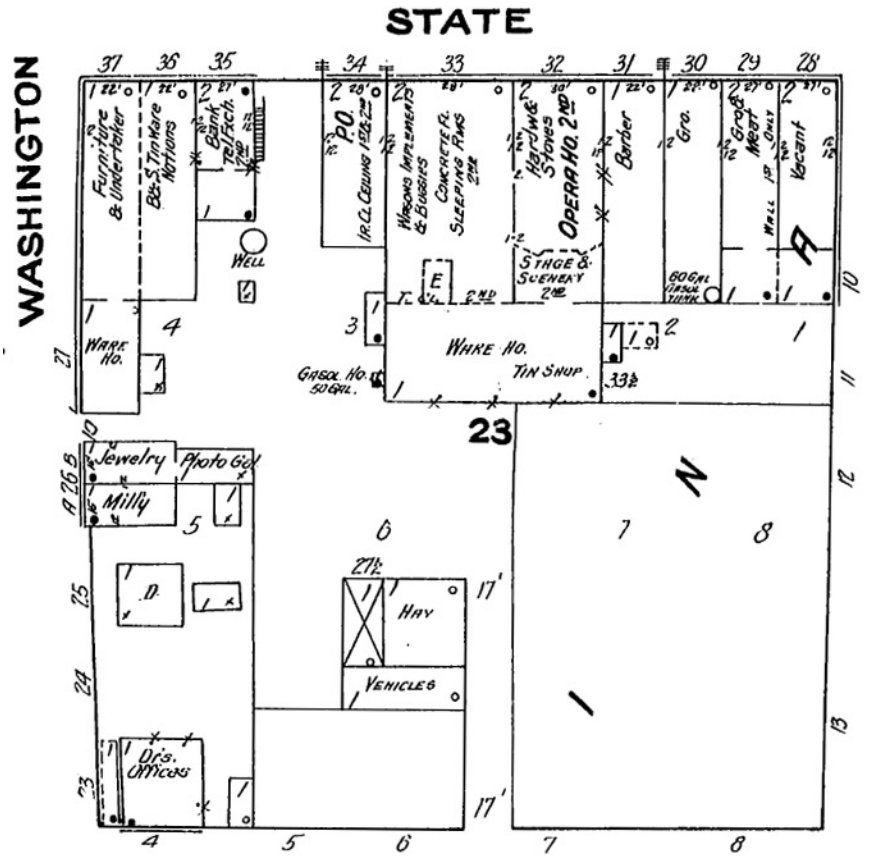

Take a Tour of
Historic Westfield
with
Ryan D'Arcy
Saturday, August 20th
11 a.m.
Tour starts at
the bank parking lot

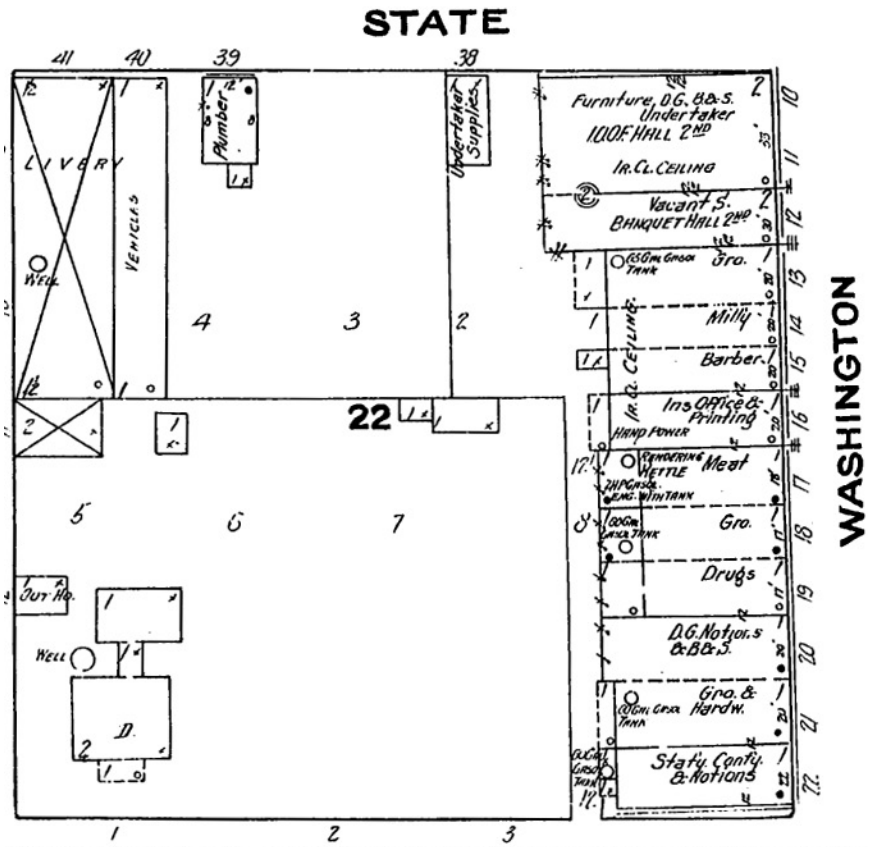
South Washington Street

8. David and Margaret Seebolt Evinger home, then Dr. James and Lucinda Parcel home
9. Early Dr. Parcel's office where Village of Westfield was incorporated, then Dr. Pratt's office, vacant 1910
10 & 11. M.G. Owens, drug store, then Orion and Cephas Goble – Goble and Goble Furniture, then Rider Furniture, IOOF Lodge upstairs
12. Otto and Della Shuey restaurant, then Carl Messenger, Oyster Bay Restaurant [second]
13. Dr. Hinkley office [second]
14. Ida Shuey, millinery
16. James Dawson, editor – Westfield Review previously The Intelligencer
17. Abe Garver, Garver's Meats butcher store
18. Sam Vanscoyk, grocery
19. Dr. Edmund Flagg, drug store
20. George Chittenden, dry goods
21. John Brookhart and wife, grocery
22. Miller girls, then Baker Brothers notions shop (stationary, etc.)
23. Dr. Anderson (originally Dr. Stoltz) office
25. Dr. Hinkley's Office [first]
26a. Mrs. Tobey millinery shop
26b. John Merrick Photography
27 ½. Old horse and mule trading barn

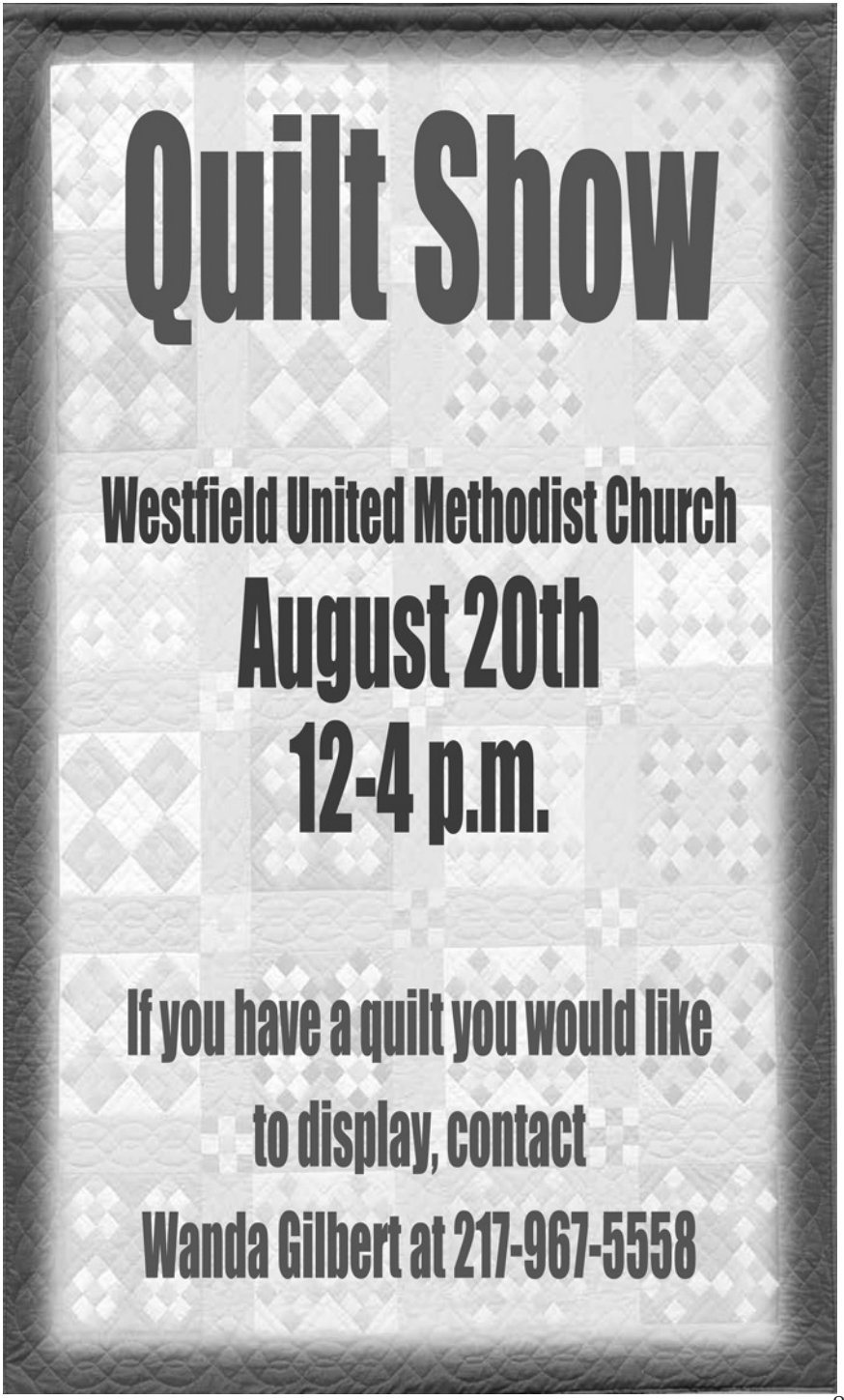



June 5 1910.

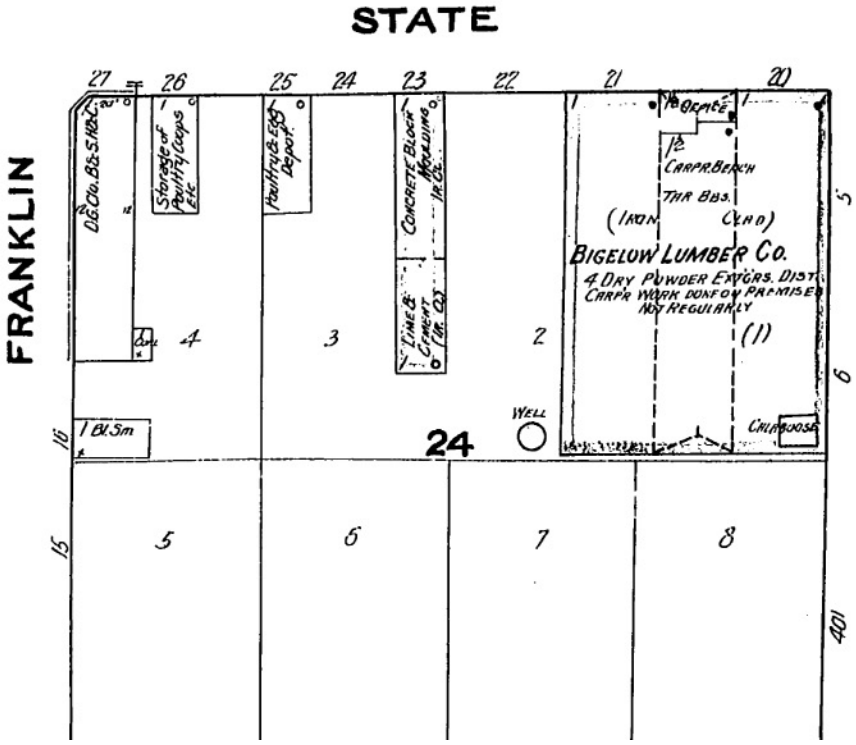

STATE
WASHINGTON
37
36
35
34
33
32
31
30
29
28
Furniture & Undertaker
Bx-S. Tinware Notions
Bank 1st Exch.
P.O.
Hard'ws. Stoves
OPERA HO. 2ND
Barber
Gro.
Groc. Meat
Vacant
WELL
WAKE NO.
WAKE NO.
TIN SHOP
GASOL HO. 50 GAL.
60 GAL. TANK
23
Jewelry
Photo Gal
Milly
HAY
VEHICLES
Dr's. Offices
N


STATE
WASHINGTON
41
40
39
38
LIVERY
VEHICLES
WELL
Plumber
Undertaker Supplies
Furniture, O.G. B.B.S. Undertaker
I.O.O.F. HALL 2ND
IR. CL. CEILING
Vacant S.
BANQUET HALL 2ND
Gro.
Milly
Barber
Ins. Office & Printing
HAND POWER
RENDERING KETTLE
Meat
Gro.
Drugs
D.G. Notions & B&S.
Gro. & Hardw.
Stat'y. Confy. & Notions
4
3
2
22
5
6
7
OUT HO.
WELL
D.
1
2
3




Quilt Show
Westfield United Methodist Church
August 20th
12-4 p.m.
If you have a quilt you would like
to display, contact
Wanda Gilbert at 217-967-5558


BIGELOW LUMBER CO.
DOORS, SASH & MOULDING.
LUMBER


STATE
FRANKLIN
27
26
25
24
23
22
21
20
D.&C.Co. Bds. Shdg.
Storage of Poultry Coops Etc
Poultry & Egg Depot
Concrete Block Moulding Mch.
Line & Cement Mch. Cot
Office
1/2 Carpr. Bench
Thr Bbs.
(Iron)
(Lead)
BIGELOW LUMBER Co.
4 Dry Powder Extgrs. Dist.
Carp'r Work done on Premises Not Regularly
(1)
4
3
2
1 Bl. Sm
24
Well
Chargoose
5
6
7
8
16
15
5
6
401



Westfield Band pictured in front of Merrick Brothers photography studio, 1903

Willison Real Estate, Inc.



JERRY WILLISON
Broker/Owner
Office: (217) 346-2229
Cell: (217) 276-2231
willison@consolidated.net



SHIRLEY WILLISON, e-PRO
Broker
Office: (217) 349-8686
Cell: (217) 276-2232
shirley.willison@yahoo.com



KYLEY WILLISON, e-PRO
Broker/Owner
Office: (217) 346-2229
Cell: (217) 276-3339
willison@consolidated.net



CRAIG WILLISON
Broker
Office: (217) 346-2229
Cell: (217) 218-3170
cgiowil01@msn.com



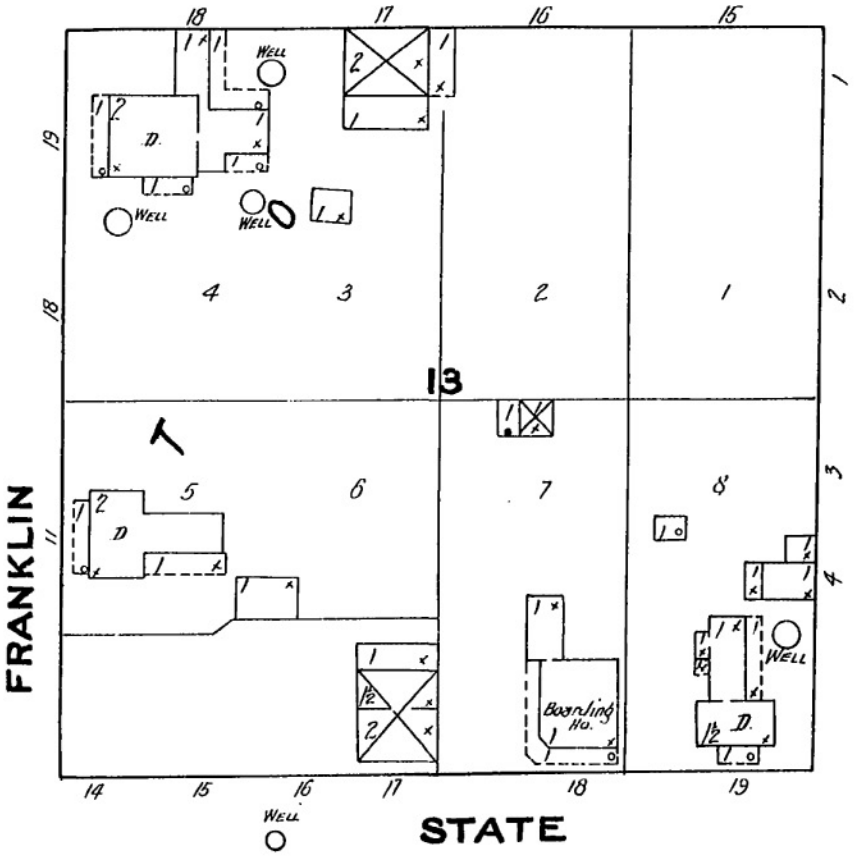
JIM COFFEY
Broker
Office: (217) 349-8686
Cell: (217) 232-8882

Oakland Main Office
18 N. Pike Street
217-346-2229

Ashmore Branch Office
311 W. Ashmore Street
217-349-8686

Visit our website at www.willisonrealestate.com

At Willison's We Work For You


18
17
16
15
19
18
11
1
2
3
4
13
FRANKLIN
STATE
WELL
WELL
WELL
WELL
D.
D
D.
Boarding Ho.
4
3
2
1
5
6
7
8
14
15
16
17
18
19





Westfield College football team, 1900

You're Invited

What: Community Potluck

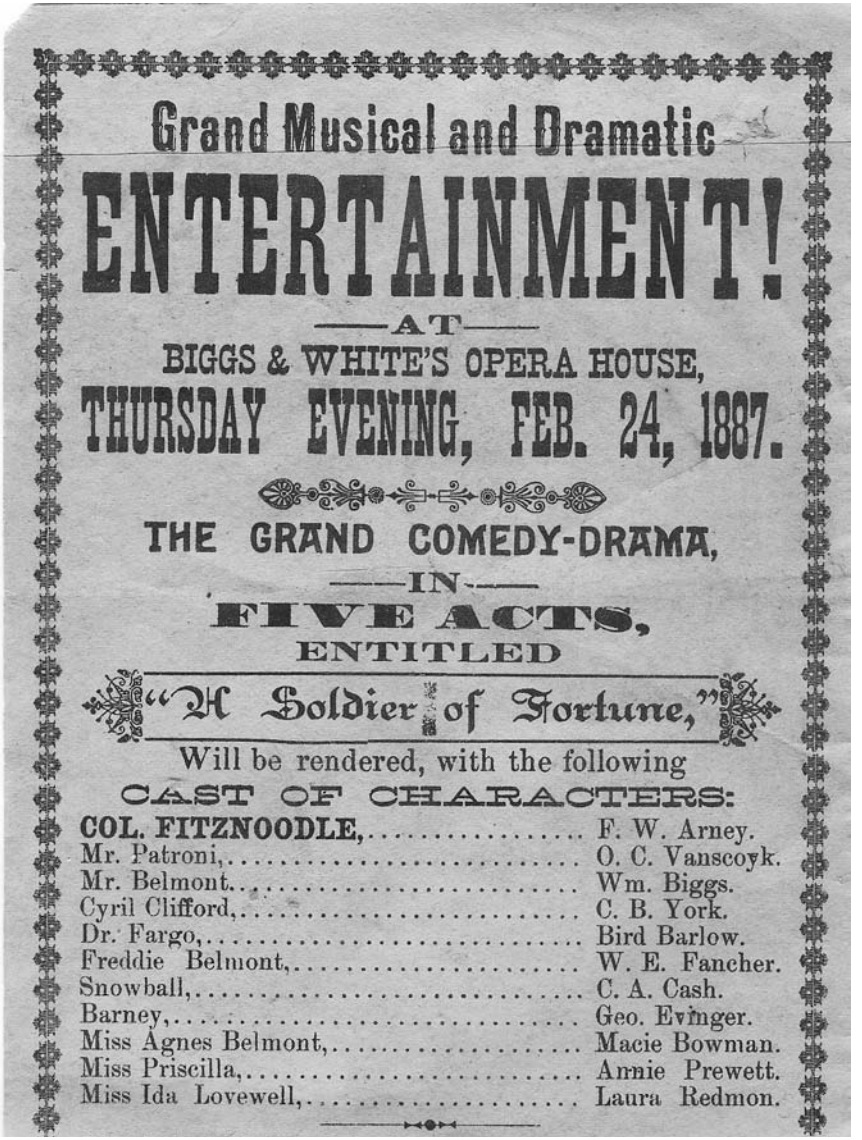
Where: Westfield Park Pavillion

When: Sunday, August 21st – Noon

Please bring a covered dish to share.

Bring your own table service.

Playbill from Biggs & White Opera House



Grand Musical and Dramatic

ENTERTAINMENT!

—AT—

BIGGS & WHITE'S OPERA HOUSE,

THURSDAY EVENING, FEB. 24, 1887.

THE GRAND COMEDY-DRAMA,

—IN—

FIVE ACTS,

ENTITLED

"A Soldier of Fortune,"

Will be rendered, with the following

CAST OF CHARACTERS:

COL. FITZNOODLE,	F. W. Arney.
Mr. Patroni,	O. C. Vanscoyk.
Mr. Belmont,	Wm. Biggs.
Cyril Clifford,	C. B. York.
Dr. Fargo,	Bird Barlow.
Freddie Belmont,	W. E. Fancher.
Snowball,	C. A. Cash.
Barney,	Geo. Evinger.
Miss Agnes Belmont,	Macie Bowman.
Miss Priscilla,	Annie Prewett.
Miss Ida Lovewell,	Laura Redmon.

SYNOPSIS OF SCENERY AND INCIDENTS.

ACT I.

Parlor in Belmont mansion—General introduction of characters—The Colonel recounts his war reminiscences—Patroni, the gentleman from California, plots his future villainy—Ida's terror of his threats—The Colonel and Snowball as pulverizer and paralyzer.

ACT II—Scene 1.

Same as before—Belmont on the verge of bankruptcy—Cyril's despair.

Scene 2.

Library in Belmont mansion—The great robbery at the Belmont mansion.

Scene 3.

Same as Act I—Patroni's hypocritical villainy—The Colonel's grand Lottery prize—Patroni's quarrel with Dr. Fargo—Snowball's life in danger—The Colonel to the rescue.

ACT III—Scene 1.

Interior of Doctor's office—Villainous attempt to blow up Dr. Fargo's office.

Scene 2.

Same as Act I—Fred's remarkable progress in his studies, especially Grammar—Snowball has a tooth drawn "suddint"—A declaration rudely interrupted—The Colonel scalped.

ACT IV—Scene 1.

Grounds surrounding the Belmont mansion—The proposed duel.

Scene 2.

A forest on the Hudson—Serious wounding of the Colonel by Patroni's treachery—Death of the latter by lightning.

ACT V.

The great generosity of the Colonel (the soldier of fortune) discovered and rewarded by Belmont—Reconciliation of Agnes and Dr. Fargo—Happy denouement.

——Music between acts by the——

WESTFIELD ORCHESTRA.

United States Post Office

The first Post Office in Westfield was in a log building near the center of town. Eventually, it was located the W.L. Biggs building that served as the fire hall for many years before moving to the old Westfield Hotel. The new Post Office, built in 1960, was a major improvement to the appearance of the town and made a much better place to work. Prior to this, the Post Office was in Harry Strader had been postmaster for twenty-six years when he retired in 1963.

N.R. Gilbert, Acting Postmaster	Feb. 31, 1963 to Jan. 5, 1967
Noble Lowery, Postmaster	Jan. 6, 1967 to June 28, 1973
Virginia Sweeney, Officer in Charge	June 29, 1973 to Sept. 26, 1973
Irma Jean Hammond, Officer in Charge	Sept. 27, 1973 to April 12, 1974
Irma Jean Hammond, Postmaster	April 13, 1974
Olive Evans, Officer in Charge	
Dennis R. Mumford, Postmaster	March 14, 1998 to Sept. 7, 2002
Deborah Cole, Officer in Charge	Sept. 3, 2002 to April 5, 2003
Bradley W. Parker, Postmaster	April 5, 2003 to present
Olive L. Evans, Officer in Charge	October 31, 2006 to present

The rural routes were consolidated October 28, 1972.

Robert Simmons, Rural Carrier	Jan. 25, 1966 and served over 20 years

Harvey Ring
Matt Ring



Harry C. Strader, Postmaster 1935-1963

Newspapers

Westfield Review

One of the greatest assets to a community is its newspaper. Westfield has been fortunate in having this means of communication since the early days of its existence. A clipping has been found which lists the businesses in Westfield in January 1886 and among the twenty-seven listed is the firm of Zellar and Makepeace, "The Weekly Pantagraph." A few years later the name was changed to "The Intelligencer" and it later became the Westfield Review.

The Review was owned and operated during the late 1800s by James Dawson. In his employ was a young man named Lee A. Weeden, whose history as editor and publisher is given in detail elsewhere in this history. Mr. Weeden retired on July 3, 1941 after 42 years in newspaper work. He was ably assisted for many years by W.F. "Binger" Strader, also by the Weeden sons and daughters, namely, Marie, Thelma, Rex, and Madge, who all gained the experience of news-gathering, typesetting and the full line of publishing a weekly newspaper. The Weeden family kept the Review in opera-



tion for 42 years, later selling to Mr. Williams, Jr. Later owners of the paper were Louise B. Caywood, Tom Comerford, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Hamilton and Mr. Wood, the latter three publishing the Westfield news in conjunction with the Martinsville Planet. Local people who assisted in taking news items for the publishers were Virginia Sweeney, Corwin and Sallie Bennett, Betty Blagg Davis and June Husher.

The Progress

Although not connected with the Westfield Review we wish to record the publishing of a small newspaper called the PROGRESS, a penny weekly published by Mortie Makepeace and printed by his father, S.D. Makepeace, owner of the Ashmore Republican. The copy we possess is a small newsy sheet printed on November 19, 1898. It sold for 1 cent a copy or 50 cents per year. Among the many news items we read:

Street lamps are needed.

There is quite a number of pianos in town for the size of the place.

W.Y. Hays, J.B. Flenner, C.A. Burnap and Ed Pinnell went to Chicago Tuesday. Eigh cars of cattle were shipped from here on Tuesday.

Five cars of stock were shipped from this point on the P.D. & E. last Monday.

Charleston and Mattoon Electric Street Ry. Co. has been granted a franchise, the road to be finished by Jan. 1900

The War Department is going to spend $25,000 testing flying machines.

Albert Russell and Joseph Goble attended the I.O.O.F. grand lodge at Springfield.

Next Thursday the college as remodeled will be dedicated. The orators will include Bishop Weaver, ex-president Klinefelter, Bishop Castle and Dr. Sanderson.

Weddings reported are those of Ulysses Goble and Laura Trozel; Harry Gilbert to Nellie Golliday and J.O. Shuey to Della Myers.

The back page contained personals and school news; birthdays were listed and the social event of a taffy party given by Mabel Dutro for eight of her young friends. The Chicago News Union reports the following and includes a picture of Mortie. "Mortimer Makepeace, publisher of the Westfield, Illinois Progress, died October 14, 1903 after an illness of years of curvature of the spine. He was one of the youngest editors in the state being nineteen years and nine months old. As a lad he assisted his father in the office of the Ashmore Republican owned by his father, S.D. Makepeace. Wishing a paper of his own his father started the Progress for him when hew was thirteen years old. He met with success editing the paper until the time of his death. The Progress was started as a two-column folio, but was increased from time to time until it is now a six-column quarto."

Submission by Beverly Wood to 1981 History of Westfield Illinois and Northwest Clark County

New office of the

Casey Westfield News-Sun

NOW OPEN

16 E. Main in Casey

217-932-2475

Open 9am-1pm M-F

Darlena Reynolds, manager

We welcome your classifieds & news items

√ Anniversaries
√ Weddings
√ Engagements
√ Obituaries
√ College Achievements
√ Military Deployment
√ Work Promotions
√ Club News
√ Awards
√ Class Reunions

We also make copies & send and receive faxes!

Best wishes for a great Homecoming!



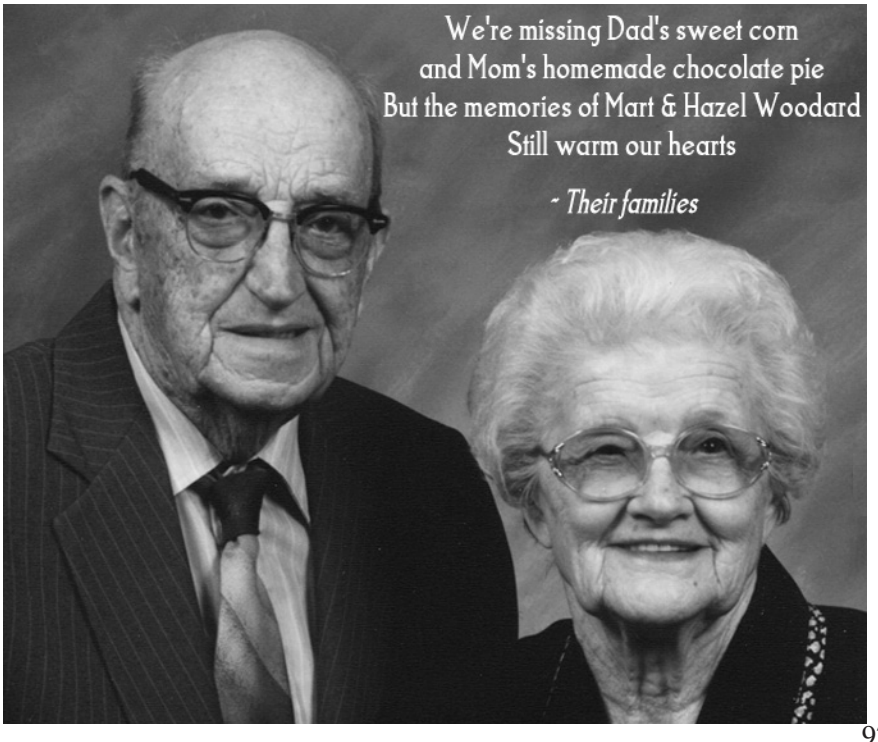
Catherine Edwards, Edna Donovan, Jean Neubin, Wayne Kinchelow, and Rachel Parker in front of the Village Inn in 1964.
Photo Courtesy of Diane McHenry



Pictured at the Stephen Cafe, back left to right: Tut, Bob Stephen, Diane McHenry, Lily Wheeler, Lisa Morgan. Front: Edna Donovan, Ko Stephen.
Photo Courtesy of Diane McHenry



1905 Westfield Regulars baseball team



Burning of Westfield College

By Ida La Roe

Out of the midnight darkness
The clouds rolled thick and black
The thunder roared and the waters poured
In the storm-fiend's awful track
And across the blazing heavens
The lightning flashed and flew
Till the quivering earth forgot her mirth
In the night's appalling hue.

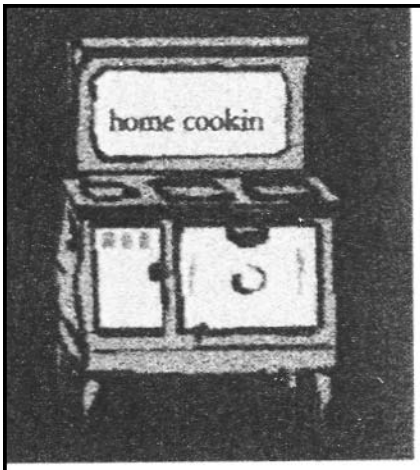
And faster yet and faster
The bolts flew far and near,
And the lightning's flash and the thunder's crash
Filled many a heart with fear.
For somewhere over the prairie
Or yet in the startled town
The wild storm-king would surely bring
Some hapless victim down.

And there 'mid the elements' fury
The dear old college rose,
Full fifty years, thro' hopes and fears,
A light to friends and foes.
Yet no one dreamed of the ruin
That hung o'er the cherished tower.
Till the blinding flash, the terrible crash! –
Alas for the storm-king's power!

Ah sad are the hearts of thousands
Who think of the blackened pile:
And thoughts come fast of days that are past,
We weep and forget to smile.
Farewell dear, dear old college,
By fate you are fallen low:
But the good that's done rolls on and on
As long as the years shall flow.



Ruins of the college building after the 1917 fire



• *Buffets* • *Cat Fish Dinners*

• *We Deliver Close By*

• *Carry Out*

• *Parties by Reservation*

• *Bait*

Millcreek Restaurant

Home Cooking Done Right

Wednesday-Sunday 6 a.m. - 8 p.m. • Bill & Pat Rhoads, Owners
11489 E. Clarksville Rd. • Marshall, IL 62441 • 217-889-2211

Have a great time at this year's Westfield Homecoming Festival!

Keep up-to-date with Westfield happenings by joining the Westfield, Illinois group on Facebook.

Join the Westfield Homecoming Festival group to find out what is being planned for next year's event.