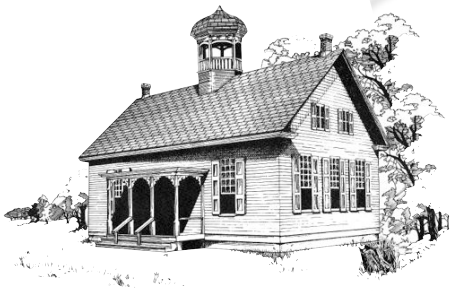


Linwood Historical Society Newsletter

Vol. 32 No. 2 Spring/Summer 2016

Belhaven School Principals 1908 - 2016

In the 108 years of its history Belhaven School has had 12 principals. Eleven are shown here. The missing one, for whom we found no photo, was R. Thomas Jannarone, principal from 1955 to 1958. Early principals from Raleigh Weintrob to George L. Collins were *teaching principals* who taught students in the upper grades in addition to their role as the principal. After World War 2 the increase in school population created the need for a full-time principal and Ken Frisbie, a history teacher in Pleasantville High School, was hired.

NOTE: The actual years for some of the administrators here may not be accurate. If you see errors please let us know so we can make corrections to our records.

Continued Page 2

School Principals Continued

Throughout most of the 1960s there were no principals at Belhaven. Instead head teachers were appointed to 'provide professional leadership.' Mary Risley was the head teacher in 1962-63 and Ralph Schiavo held the position from 1965 to 1971. In 1959 Lambert Reynolds was hired as Linwood's first superintendent of schools. A year or two later Francis Johnson was appointed as an assistant superintendent and he served as the principal of all of the schools. By then there were 4 schools. Crestlea School had been reopened in 1950 and two new schools were opened at Poplar and Seaview avenues in 1961. Belhaven became the school for the upper grades.

In 1971 a new wing was added to Belhaven and it became a middle school for grades 5 to 8. Ralph Schiavo was promoted from head teacher to principal. Francis Johnson was appointed as superintendent when Lambert Reynolds retired. The district now had a principal in each school and a superintendent. In 1986 Ralph Schiavo became superintendent followed by Thomas Baruffi in 2000. The two longest serving administrators were George L. Collins (25 years) and Ralph Schiavo (29 years). If you include his years as head teacher, Schiavo's leadership in the district was 35 years.

Frank Rudnesky ranks third in the number of years as Belhaven's principal and his leadership during the celebration of Belhaven's 100th anniversary in 2008 earned him that seat on the overhang at the original 1908 entrance! Now a new era begins. Linwood has a new superintendent and new principals for Belhaven and Seaview schools who will deal with problems of a decreasing school population. Once more it seems that 'the times they are a-changing.'

1908 Election Issue in Linwood

***The Trenton Evening Times*, January 8th 1908**

THE RIGHT TO VOTE.

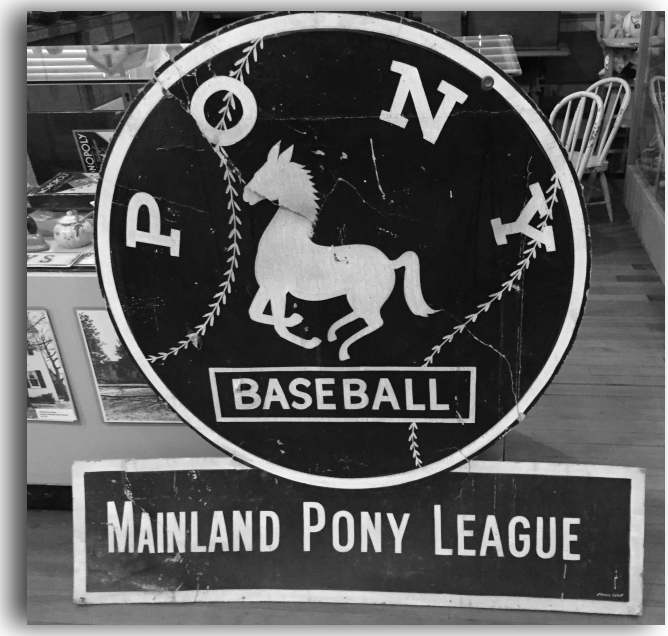
At the election in Linwood, Atlantic County, last November, Curtis Somers received 80 votes for Mayor, and John C. Steelman received 81 votes. Somers contested the election, alleging that one vote had been cast illegally, the election board having accepted the ballot of a man who did not enter the booth, as the law requires.

In the trial before Judge Endicott it was shown that the ballot in question was cast by an invalid who was brought to the polling place in a chair. He was unable to enter the booth, and the members of the election board took the ballot box to him, and his vote was cast without protest from any one.

Judge Endicott decided that the ballot was a valid one; that the constitution gives every man possessing certain qualifications the right of franchise and the Legislature is powerless to pass a law that will deprive him of that right. He declared that Steelman had been elected Mayor of Linwood by a majority of one.

That sounds like a righteous decision. The constitution says that "every male citizen of the United States, of the age of 21 years, who shall have been a resident of this state one year, and of the county in which he claims his vote five months, shall be entitled to vote for all officers who now are or hereafter may be elective by the people."

With that provision and the decision of Judge Endicott in mind, there is room for speculation as to what the Supreme Court will do with our complicated and almost interminable election law, if its constitutionality shall be questioned. It contains restrictions that were never contemplated by the constitution of the State.

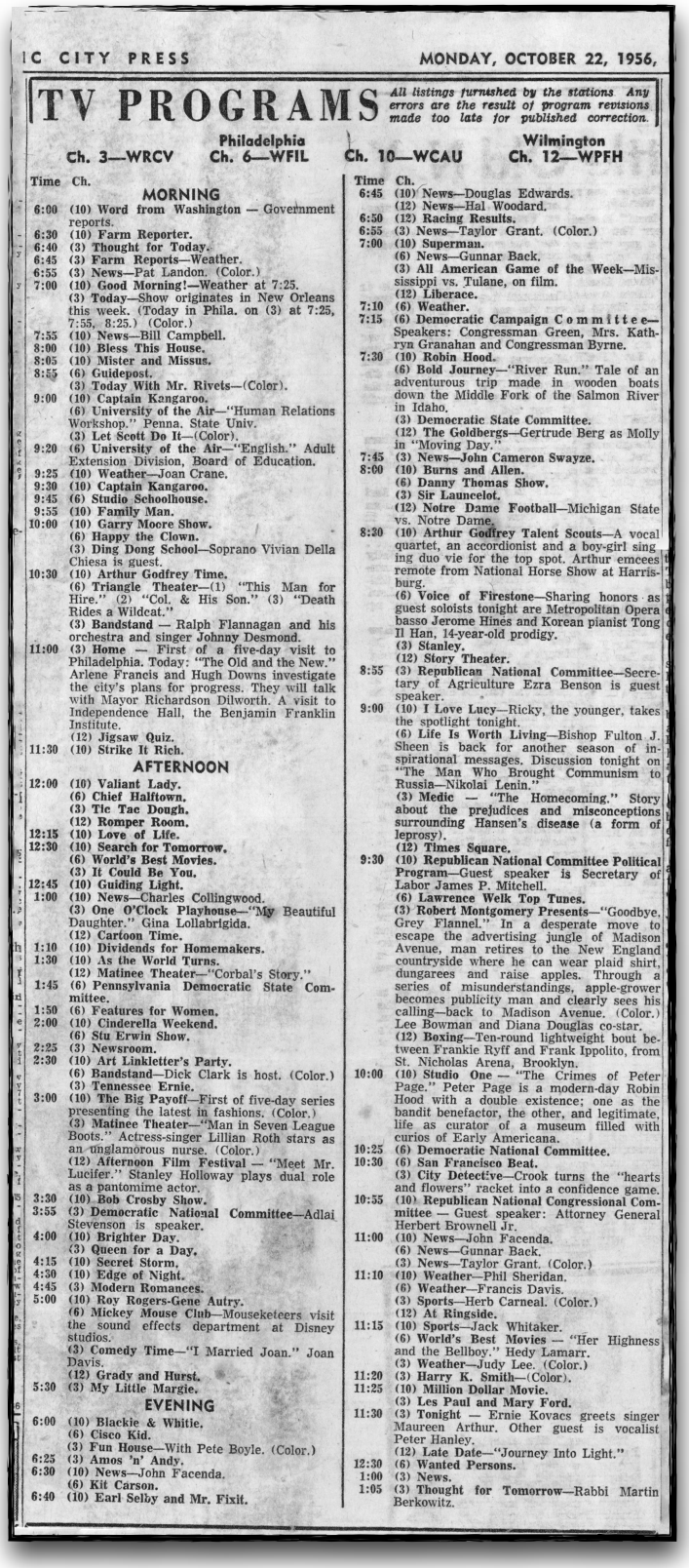


Linwood's Pony League

A few months ago Lynn Wood from Egg Harbor Township came to the museum with this rather large sign about pony league baseball. It appears to have been hidden away in an attic for decades. We tried to learn something about the pony league and it was quite a search before we found someone who knew what it was and had actually played in Linwood's pony league. Gary Robinson, who 'grew up in Linwood.'* explained that the pony league was for kids age 13 to 15 who were too old for little league. "It was just Linwood Pony League," he wrote. "Northfield and Somers Point had their own leagues." The sign is quite large and will fill a good-sized space on our wall. We hope there are others who can tell us something about this league and who will contact us to add more to this interesting piece of history.

***You Know You Grew Up In Linwood* is a popular Facebook discussion group**.

TV Schedule BC — Before Comcast
Programs that made us happy in 1956



C CITY PRESS — MONDAY, OCTOBER 22, 1956,

TV PROGRAMS *All listings furnished by the stations. Any errors are the result of program revisions made too late for published correction.*

Time	Philadelphia Ch. 3—WRCV	Philadelphia Ch. 6—WFIL	Wilmington Ch. 10—WCAU	Wilmington Ch. 12—WPFH
	MORNING			
6:00		(10) Word from Washington — Government reports.		
6:30		(10) Farm Reporter.		
6:40		(3) Thought for Today.		
6:45		(3) Farm Reports—Weather.		
6:55		(3) News—Pat Landon. (Color.)		
7:00		(10) Good Morning!—Weather at 7:25. (3) Today—Show originates in New Orleans this week. (Today in Phila. on (3) at 7:25, 7:55, 8:25.) (Color.)		
7:55		(10) News—Bill Campbell.		
8:00		(10) Bless This House.		
8:05		(10) Mister and Missus.		
8:55		(6) Guidepost. (3) Today With Mr. Rivets—(Color).		
9:00		(10) Captain Kangaroo. (6) University of the Air—"Human Relations Workshop." Penna. State Univ. (3) Let Scott Do It—(Color).		
9:20		(6) University of the Air—"English." Adult Extension Division, Board of Education.		
9:25		(10) Weather—Joan Crane.		
9:30		(10) Captain Kangaroo.		
9:45		(6) Studio Schoolhouse.		
9:55		(10) Family Man.		
10:00		(10) Garry Moore Show. (6) Happy the Clown. (3) Ding Dong School—Soprano Vivian Della Chiesa is guest.		
10:30		(10) Arthur Godfrey Time. (6) Triangle Theater—(1) "This Man for Hire." (2) "Col. & His Son." (3) "Death Rides a Wildcat." (3) Bandstand — Ralph Flannagan and his orchestra and singer Johnny Desmond.		
11:00		(3) Home — First of a five-day visit to Philadelphia. Today: "The Old and the New." Arlene Francis and Hugh Downs investigate the city's plans for progress. They will talk with Mayor Richardson Dilworth. A visit to Independence Hall, the Benjamin Franklin Institute. (12) Jigsaw Quiz.		
11:30		(10) Strike It Rich.		
	AFTERNOON			
12:00		(10) Valiant Lady. (6) Chief Halftown. (3) Tic Tac Dough. (12) Romper Room.		
12:15		(10) Love of Life.		
12:30		(10) Search for Tomorrow. (6) World's Best Movies. (3) It Could Be You.		
12:45		(10) Guiding Light.		
1:00		(10) News—Charles Collingwood. (3) One O'Clock Playhouse—"My Beautiful Daughter." Gina Lollabrigida. (12) Cartoon Time.		
1:10		(10) Dividends for Homemakers.		
1:30		(10) As the World Turns. (12) Matinee Theater—"Corbal's Story."		
1:45		(6) Pennsylvania Democratic State Committee.		
1:50		(6) Features for Women.		
2:00		(10) Cinderella Weekend. (6) Stu Erwin Show.		
2:25		(3) Newsroom.		
2:30		(10) Art Linkletter's Party. (6) Bandstand—Dick Clark is host. (Color.) (3) Tennessee Ernie.		
3:00		(10) The Big Payoff—First of five-day series presenting the latest in fashions. (Color.) (3) Matinee Theater—"Man in Seven League Boots." Actress-singer Lillian Roth stars as an unglamorous nurse. (Color.) (12) Afternoon Film Festival — "Meet Mr. Lucifer." Stanley Holloway plays dual role as a pantomime actor.		
3:30		(10) Bob Crosby Show.		
3:55		(3) Democratic National Committee—Adlai Stevenson is speaker.		
4:00		(10) Brighter Day. (3) Queen for a Day.		
4:15		(10) Secret Storm.		
4:30		(10) Edge of Night.		
4:45		(3) Modern Romances.		
5:00		(10) Roy Rogers-Gene Autry. (6) Mickey Mouse Club—Mouseketeers visit the sound effects department at Disney studios. (3) Comedy Time—"I Married Joan." Joan Davis. (12) Grady and Hurst.		
5:30		(3) My Little Margie.		
	EVENING			
6:00		(10) Blackie & Whitie. (6) Cisco Kid. (3) Fun House—With Pete Boyle. (Color.)		
6:25		(3) Amos 'n' Andy.		
6:30		(10) News—John Facenda. (6) Kit Carson.		
6:40		(10) Earl Selby and Mr. Fixit.		
6:45			(10) News—Douglas Edwards. (12) News—Hal Woodard.	
6:50			(12) Racing Results.	
6:55			(3) News—Taylor Grant. (Color.)	
7:00			(10) Superman. (6) News—Gunnar Back. (3) All American Game of the Week—Mississippi vs. Tulane, on film. (12) Liberace.	
7:10			(6) Weather.	
7:15			(6) Democratic Campaign Committee—Speakers: Congressman Green, Mrs. Kathryn Granahan and Congressman Byrne.	
7:30			(10) Robin Hood. (6) Bold Journey—"River Run." Tale of an adventurous trip made in wooden boats down the Middle Fork of the Salmon River in Idaho. (3) Democratic State Committee. (12) The Goldbergs—Gertrude Berg as Molly in "Moving Day."	
7:45			(3) News—John Cameron Swayze.	
8:00			(10) Burns and Allen. (6) Danny Thomas Show. (3) Sir Launcelot. (12) Notre Dame Football—Michigan State vs. Notre Dame.	
8:20			(10) Arthur Godfrey Talent Scouts—A vocal quartet, an accordionist and a boy-girl singing duo vie for the top spot. Arthur emcees remote from National Horse Show at Harrisburg. (6) Voice of Firestone—Sharing honors as guest soloists tonight are Metropolitan Opera basso Jerome Hines and Korean pianist Tong Il Han, 14-year-old prodigy. (3) Stanley. (12) Story Theater.	
8:55			(3) Republican National Committee—Secretary of Agriculture Ezra Benson is guest speaker.	
9:00			(10) I Love Lucy—Ricky, the younger, takes the spotlight tonight. (6) Life Is Worth Living—Bishop Fulton J. Sheen is back for another season of inspirational messages. Discussion tonight on "The Man Who Brought Communism to Russia—Nikolai Lenin." (3) Medic — "The Homecoming." Story about the prejudices and misconceptions surrounding Hansen's disease (a form of leprosy). (12) Times Square.	
9:30			(10) Republican National Committee Political Program—Guest speaker is Secretary of Labor James P. Mitchell. (6) Lawrence Welk Top Tunes. (3) Robert Montgomery Presents—"Goodbye, Grey Flannel." In a desperate move to escape the advertising jungle of Madison Avenue, man retires to the New England countryside where he can wear plaid shirt, dungarees and raise apples. Through a series of misunderstandings, apple-grower becomes publicity man and clearly sees his calling—back to Madison Avenue. (Color.) Lee Bowman and Diana Douglas co-star. (12) Boxing—Ten-round lightweight bout between Frankie Ryff and Frank Ippolito, from St. Nicholas Arena, Brooklyn.	
10:00			(10) Studio One — "The Crimes of Peter Page." Peter Page is a modern-day Robin Hood with a double existence; one as the bandit benefactor, the other, and legitimate, life as curator of a museum filled with curios of Early Americana.	
10:25			(6) Democratic National Committee.	
10:30			(6) San Francisco Beat. (3) City Detective—Crook turns the "hearts and flowers" racket into a confidence game.	
10:55			(10) Republican National Congressional Committee — Guest speaker: Attorney General Herbert Brownell Jr.	
11:00			(10) News—John Facenda. (6) News—Gunnar Back. (3) News—Taylor Grant. (Color.)	
11:10			(10) Weather—Phil Sheridan. (6) Weather—Francis Davis. (3) Sports—Herb Carneal. (Color.) (12) At Ringside.	
11:15			(10) Sports—Jack Whitaker. (6) World's Best Movies — "Her Highness and the Bellboy." Hedy Lamarr. (3) Weather—Judy Lee. (Color.)	
11:20			(3) Harry K. Smith—(Color).	
11:25			(10) Million Dollar Movie. (3) Les Paul and Mary Ford.	
11:30			(3) Tonight — Ernie Kovacs greets singer Maureen Arthur. Other guest is vocalist Peter Hanley. (12) Late Date—"Journey Into Light."	
12:30			(6) Wanted Persons.	
1:00			(3) News.	
1:05			(3) Thought for Tomorrow—Rabbi Martin Berkowitz.	

2nd Ward Linwood Republican Club Visits Washington DC April 3rd 1950

Craig Hackett donated this photo of ladies of the Republican Club who apparently enjoyed a trip to Washington, DC in 1950. The names written on the back include some of Linwood's most active citizens of the time. It's likely that there are few people today who will recognize them but for the purpose of preserving their names they are listed here. It's also a way to say thank you to these women who did so much for for the town during World War 2 and in the years of growth which followed.

Standing - left to right:

1. Florence James,
2. Phoebe Haines,
3. Unknown,
4. Edna Rentschler,
5. Mrs Scull,
6. Barney ?,
7. Edna Egner,
8. Edith Printz,
9. Mrs Brunger,
10. Anna McKinley,
11. Clara Shockley,
12. Mrs Bullwinkle,
13. Ethel Bird

Sitting- left to right:

1. Marian Buckley [wife of Mayor Buckley],
2. Esther Williamson,
3. Edit Phillips,
4. Grace Woolbert,
5. Dot Dix [wife of postmaster Tom Dix],
6. Carol Scull,
7. Mrs Garrity,
8. Anna Bacehar,
9. Lillie Hines,
10. Ella Nyborg,
11. Harriet Kearsley

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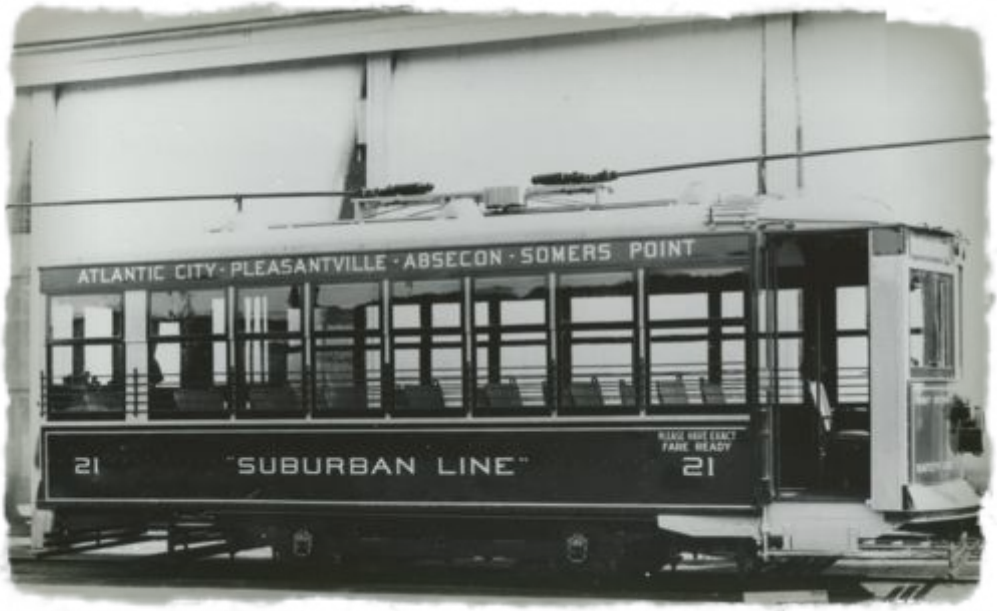
Carolyn Patterson, Editor

Museum Hours: Tuesday 10:00 AM - 12:00 Noon
Also open by appointment—Call 609-927-2892
Leave a phone message with your name & number for a return call

Photogravure: Suburban Trolley Line on Shore Road



Shore Road Suburban Trolley Line

Street car communication has been opened between Pleasantville and Linwood by the Atlantic City and Suburban Trolley Company. The line has been constructed through to Somers Point but traffic has not been started to the latter terminus yet, although the initial step in that direction was in the running of one car to Linwood. This was made an occasion of jubilation from the terminus in this city along the entire length of the Shore Road.

News article from a 1904 Newspaper

The Shore Road has always been a passageway along the mainland coastline. It began from a path through the woods for the Indian and then a dirt road for horses and buggies. By 1900 it was a gravel road connecting the towns of the mainland. It is known as the oldest road in Atlantic County.

In 1902 the newly incorporated Suburban trolley line began to provide passenger service between the towns from Atlantic City to Pleasantville, Absecon and Somers Point. Two early 20th century photos of Shore Road in Linwood show the progress from an old dirt road to a paved road for the 1902 trolley tracks down the center. Both show the telephone and electric poles approved by city council in 1903.

Eventually the Shore Road trolleys were driven out of business by new Shore Fast Line trolleys on the railroad tracks between Atlantic City and Ocean City and later by buses which provided smoother and faster service on Shore Road. This picture of a paved Shore Road after the final set of tracks were removed was taken along the 1700 block by Win Boileau on Aug 23, 1943.