

MANSION NEWS

Photo of Northside City Park c. early 1900s.

Marshfield's oldest park—it was established in 1875 and renamed to Columbia Park in 1915. The city's first water tower was erected in 1892, was known as the standpipe, sat in the center of the park and was dismantled in 1930 after it was deemed unsafe. In 1895 a rumor had been circulating that a man named Jacob Farber had drown himself in the standpipe causing many residents to choose not to drink the city water. Farber had been missing for a number of months and the rumor was proven unfounded when he reappeared later that spring.

Message From NWCHS President Mike Meyers

There is much going on with our organization at this time.

There is always something going on at the Governor William H. Upham home, and this letter is an opportunity to share it all with everyone.

We are very fortunate to have a handful of members who put much effort into making things happen, and the fruit of some of their recent hard work is starting to show. Most obvious is the complete makeover taking place to the outside of the house. Without a doubt, it will be difficult for anyone alive today to admit they never saw the house any color but white, with very little trim painted in green. Through the efforts of some, and the professional advice of the painting company we partnered with, it was determined that the original color of the house was in fact a shade of yellow. A trim is done in an almost purple color. Paint was removed down to the original 1880s wood, and chips taken from the bottom layer. At the same time, our handy woodsman is applying his carpenter skills to fixing various pieces of the house and trim ahead of the painters.

There is much more to do as we can afford it. We are obligated to maintain this building for the entire community to be proud of, and these recent changes are sure to spark the interest of residents and visitors alike.

Which brings me to our next huge priority – growing our membership and soliciting financial support in order to meet our future obligations and guarantee our existence. We are charged not only with the upkeep of Governor Upham's house, but we are constantly accepting donations of historical items preserve for future generations, and to share with visitors.

We have been having difficulty recently with having enough people volunteer to serve as tour guides during the few hours we are open each month. We are in dire need to have members step forward to volunteer a couple hours here and there to inform visitors of our numerous collections and displays, and about various rooms in the house. This is my personal plea for people to come ford to serve in this capacity. I am sure it is something you will enjoy.

Mike Meyers—NWCHS President

INSIDE:

Pg 2—*Meeting Fritz Upham* by Kim Krueger

Pg 3—*Martin Brothers Grocery Stores* by Richard K. Martin

Pg 4—*Jan Thomas Remembers—"The Thomas IGA Supermarket"*

Pg 5—*Improvements to the Upham House and garden* by Tom Ptak

Meeting Fritz Upham *Submitted by Kim Krueger*



Fritz and his niece Monie

Friday, July 31 I found myself in Fort Collins, Colorado, sitting across the dining room table from Frederick 'Fritz' Upham. Fritz, born in 1921, is the second son of the late Governor William H. Upham and has been living in Colorado since the 1950s. This opportunity to meet Mr. Upham came up earlier in July when his niece, Monie Upham, (daughter of Fritz's brother, the late William Upham Jr.), invited me to join her on a visit to her uncle. This was an offer I absolutely could not refuse! After four years of learning about and telling the Upham and Hambright family history, now was a chance to hear it straight from one who lived some of it!

Mr. Upham was happy for the visit and to receive the greetings sent from the Historical Society and from Mayor Chris Meyer. He was also happy to receive a video of a drive down Central Avenue that Matt Pilz had made which started from the roundabout at old HWY 10 and went

up to Hamus Park, then up McMillan St. and over to the Hospital and Clinic and concluded by the Upham House. Much of the city has changed considerably in the years that Mr. Upham has been away!

My visit was a short 2^{1/2} days, but very enjoyable. Mr. Upham told me stories he remembered about growing up in Marshfield; about how his mother, Grace, did not like to cook but did make and send out numerous fruit cakes for Christmas; how when as a young boy he had pneumonia at least 3 times and, being bedridden, how he would wave at his friends from his bedroom window. He also shared about moving to Colorado in 1940 to work with The May Company, which sold clothing and sporting goods. He was skiing on Berthoud Pass December 7, 1941 when Pearl Harbor was bombed. Fritz wanted to join the service and fly as a Navy dive bomber but after failing the eye exam (even after retaking the exam after eating many carrots and drinking carrot juice) he ended up, in a convoluted and ironic way, serving in the Air Force in the Civilian Pilot Training Program! The CPTP, signed into existence in 1938 by Franklin D. Roosevelt, was ostensibly a pilot training program for college students but in reality was a military flight academy, which sought to train 20'000 students a year.*

Fritz served in this capacity from 1942-1944 and then was drafted into the Navy where he worked in a weather station connected to air traffic control at the Alameda Naval Base in Oakland, CA. He also served for one month in the USS Saratoga transport ship which sailed to and from the Orient.

In 1950, following the War, Fritz went to UW-Madison initially for pre-medicine but ended up moving back out to Colorado to work the oil and energy field.

Sadly, I missed meeting Fritz's two daughters, Pam and Amy, but did get to meet his son Rick and his wife, Mary Jo, and Rick's daughter and grandchildren; as well as Fritz' other son Tim and his girlfriend, Patty. It was so nice to meet these folks and not only get some answers to a few of the questions I had milling around in my mind... but I felt like I made some new friends as well!

*http://www.centennialofflight.net/essay/GENERAL_AVIATION/civilian_pilot_training/GA20.htm



Mary Jo & Rick Upham, Monnie Upham, Tim Upham & Patty

DAR Honors the Roddis Sisters and Celebrates its 125th Anniversary

On Saturday, August 29th the Wisconsin Society Daughters of the American Revolution met to rededicate the grave of Wisconsin's only President General: Sarah Roddis Jones and also marked the gravesite of her sister, Augusta Roddis.

Following the ceremony those attending celebrated the National Society Daughters of the American Revolution 125th Anniversary .

Martin Brothers Grocery Stores (1937-1972)

MARTIN'S OPENING FOOD SALE!
WITH COMPLETE FOOD SERVICE 420 S. CENTRAL
PHONE 62 FREE DELIVERY

P'NUT BUTTER 2 Lb. 23c
Pork Chops, lb. 23c | Sugar ... 9 lbs. 49c
Pro. Cheese lb. 25c | Oranges ... doz. 9c

SPECIALS on COFFEE 3 lbs. 43c

FLOUR 49 Lb. \$1.35

| | |
|---------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Pillsbury Flour - 49 lbs. 1.79 | Pillsbury Flour - 24½ lbs. 95c |
| Gold Medal Flour - 49 lbs. 1.89 | Gold Medal Flour - 24½ lbs. 95c |
| Occident Flour - 49 lbs. 1.95 | Occident Flour - 24½ lbs. 99c |

HILLS COFFEE lb. 27 1/2c

| | |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Chase and Sanborn ... lb. 24c | Whole Rice ... 4 lbs. 23c |
| Navy Beans ... 4 lbs. 22c | Brown Sugar ... 4 lbs. 23c |
| Large Prunes ... 2 lbs. 15c | Powdered Sugar ... 4 lbs. 27c |

SPAG. OF MAC. 5 lb. box 31c

BUTTER 81c
Tues. and Wed. Only, 1b.

Bananas, 4 lbs. 23c | Herring ... 65c - 75c

ORANGES 23c
Calif. Large Sweet & Juicy, Doz.

TEXAS SEEDLESS GRAPEFRUIT 5 for 17c

APPLES 98c
Good Eaters and Cookers, Bushel

JONATHAN APPLES ... 5 lbs. 19c

DELICIOUS APPLES 4 lbs. 23c

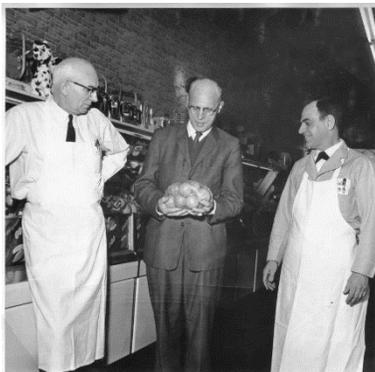
NORTHERN TISSUE roll 5c

| | |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Carrots ... beh. 5c | Extra Large Lettuce ... 2 for 15c |
| Onions ... 3 lbs. 13c | Celery ... 2 for 15c |
| Large Banquet Lemons ... doz. 29c | Bagas ... lb. 3c |

CABBAGE New Hard 3 lbs. 11c

402 S. Central 3/7/1938

Wildwood Park and Zoo, was the first grocery store in Marshfield to have automatic entry doors and fully automated check-out stands with electrically controlled conveyor belts to move groceries along during the check-out process. Herb managed this store with a new partner, Frank Wesley, while Harold continued to manage the downtown Martin's Supermarket.



Frank Wesley (left) and Herb Martin (right)

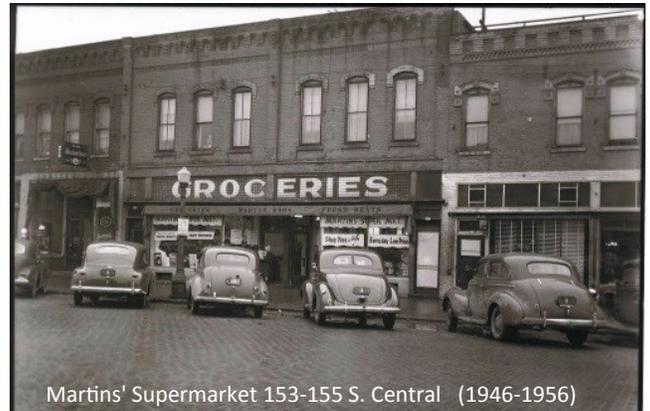
From 1937-1972 brothers Herbert (Herb) and Harold Martin were a part of Marshfield's grocery store history. Their story began in 1937 when they opened a neighborhood grocery store, the East Side Grocery, on the corner of E. Fourth Street and S. Peach Avenue, before moving in March 1938 to a larger store in the former South Side Bakery building located at 420 S. Central Avenue. Eight years later in March 1946 the brothers opened Martin's Supermarket at 153-155 S. Central Avenue and for the next two years owned and operated both stores, closing the store at 420 S. Central Avenue early in 1948.

In November 1953 the brothers opened Marshfield's first supermarket outside the downtown area, at 1502 S. Central Avenue. This new 9,000 square foot supermarket, named Parkway Food Center because of its proximity to Marshfield's

Martin's Supermarket closed in Spring 1956 in advance of the opening of a second Parkway Food Center at 120 N. Central Avenue in April 1957, with Harold as its manager.

For the next 15 years the Martin brothers continued to own and operate the two Parkway Food Centers before selling the business to Angeli Foods of Iron River, Michigan in July 1972.

Submitted by Richard K. Martin, son of Herb Martin



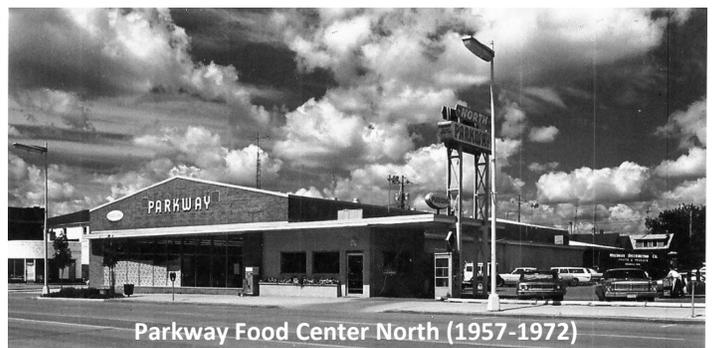
Martins' Supermarket 153-155 S. Central (1946-1956)



Harold Martin (right)



Parkway Food Center South (1953-1972)



Parkway Food Center North (1957-1972)



Gordie Thomas peeking from behind a pile of Easter hams. c.1955

Jan Thomas Remembers

The Thomas IGA Super Market

The Thomas IGA Market was started by Marge & Walt Thomas in 1925—the year that they were married. It was at 1200 Sough Central Ave where the Sports Den is now. The Thomas store was only one of the many Mom and Pop Neighborhood grocery stores in Marshfield. Most neighborhoods had one where the neighbors shopped on a daily basis and sometimes twice a day. I'm sure they all had many tales to tell.

Things were different in those days, a lot of items were shipped in bulk so they needed to be packaged and weighed and priced. Coffee beans were also sold in 1# or 3# bags and they would be ground fresh for the customers and businesses.

Most salesmen came on a weekly basis to take the orders, write them up and send them to their companies; this was all done by hand as there were no computers! Most of the meet was ordered from Swift & Co., Wenzel Farm, and Hertzler's Sausage Co. Groceries were shipped from Capps Co..

My husband, Gordon Thomas, was one of the best butchers in Marshfield in the early 1950s and took great pride in his beautiful meat case. The Thomas Market Anniversary Sale was always the week before Easter and tons of hams were piled up in front of the meat case. The Swift hams and Hillshire hams were the best sellers, and still are today.

The store was open 7 days from 7:00am until 7:00pm. Friday nights the store was open from 7-10. Many farmers would shop on Friday nights and many brought in a 30 dozen case of eggs in exchange for groceries. Once my brother, Jerry, dropped a 30 dozen case of eggs... Boy! What a mess!

The neighborhood ladies would love to bring over treats that they had baked for the help in exchange for a cup of coffee. The city crew and Marshfield Milling drivers also stopped in on a regular basis for coffee and lunch. While the Marshfield Milling semi's were filled with gas the drivers had a coffee break. The Market also had three DX gas pumps as part of their DX station. It really was a friendly store and everyone was like family.

In 1948 when Gordie came back home from the Service, he took over the management of the store. Walt was semi retired but came down every day to have coffee and check on his crew. In 1951 Gordie and I were married, and together we owned and managed the store. We lived in the apartment above the store before building our first home at 1006 South Ash. I helped at the store by checking out groceries, filling shelves and anything else that had to be done. In 1965 Doug Thomas, Gordie's younger brother, joined the ownership. He also became a great butcher and partner.

One of the most popular spots at the store was the candy department up by the check outs. Penny candy was popular with all of the kids, especially the kids from Sacred Heart School, which was across the street. I still run into people who tell me they would come over at recess and buy penny candy. A nickel would go a long way as some things were 2 for a penny.

In 1975 the store had a horrible fire. It burned all Friday night and most of Saturday morning. The store was not considered to be totaled, so that meant it had to be gutted out and then rebuilt that same year. Some modernizing and improvements were made in the rebuilding.

The stories about the Market are many and after the store was sold people still talked about the 'good old days' at the Thomas IGA Super Market. Those Mom and Pop days are no longer around since the big super markets moved in to Marshfield, but the memories are many and still live on!



This Old House

A familiar TV show scene is now occurring at the Governor W.H. Upham House. Have you turned your car from Central Avenue lately and seen a welcome surprise at 212 West Third Street? After much historical research, old paint chip evaluation, and reviewing old photos in our archives, a restoration is currently in process for painting one of Marshfield's oldest houses. Old weakened wood trim and boards are being restored with custom created replica wood furnishings and due to the new paint

color the upper roof cornices now stand out as they did in 1880! The horizontal lapboards contrast well with the painted trim work. New interior phone lines now run under the basement floors to replace many exterior fascia stapled telephone lines that detracted the house's appearance. The rear entry staircase, deck, and disability lift entrance will be restored with improved support for wheelchairs. Many more improvements are going to take place in years to come pending our fundraising efforts.

The North Wood County is also moving from the commonly used "Upham Mansion" name to the National Register of Historic Places name *Governor William H. Upham House*. Even though its moniker has been the "Upham Mansion" for many years, we believe using the official name will help bring the importance of historic preservation in our community.



This Old Garden

Twenty-five years ago our yard and Heritage Rose Garden projects began utilizing volunteer member expert help and financial support. Wood County Master Gardeners have been volunteering on new garden design and plantings. Our latest one has just been started on the walkway main Third Street entry. Some traditional chrysanthemums are now being planted along with spring and summer volunteer transplants to improve and liven up the now exposed entry way. We have much gratitude for the Master Gardeners who work tirelessly on improving the focal points of the yard gardens. The heritage rose garden bloomed well this spring, satisfying hundreds of visitors, even when the house is closed! Japanese Beetles moving to Marshfield because of our warmer winters, have invaded the garden for the first time, however we have recognized them early for proper removal.

What does a North Wood County Historical Society member gain by all these improvements? The pride of belonging to a treasured possession, the honor of serving, the self-respect of accomplishment, and the pleasure of fulfillment. Would not every member want to say this to himself? You can today! Volunteer by donating your time; be financially responsible by giving a donation or continuing membership to our historical society. Thank you!

Tom Ptak Historian, House & Garden Chair, Master Gardener



Circa 1960s

From the Photo Archives

Side walk Sales, Mad Market days—call it what you will, there was a time when Marshfield's merchants took their goods out on the sidewalks which were jam-packed with passers by. There was a festive air and folks from all over the county came to find a good deal.

In the spirit of those days Main Street Marshfield has *Third Thursdays* which runs every month between June through September and features entertainment, local art, music, sidewalk sales, and various other local business promotions. And from 2-7pm the Farmers Market is available in the Pick n' Save parking lot. The final Third Thursday for the 2015 season is September 15th.

You can see more information at Main Street Marshfield's website:
<http://mainstreetmarshfield.com/events/>



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 HISTORY**
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If you would like to be unsubscribed from this letter please contact the office or send us an email.

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| <p align="center">Board of Directors</p> <p>President Mike Meyers</p> <p>Vice President Ken Wood</p> <p>Secretary Jan Thomas</p> <p>Treasuer Laura Ptak</p> <p>Directors Brad Allen MaryAnne Arendt Kim Krueger Tom Stram</p> <p>Past President Lucille (Dolly) Kobs</p> | <p align="center"><u>Upcoming Events:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vintage Footwear Mini exhibit -September—November • Oct. 26th Marshfield Public Library @ 7PM History of Marshfield Airport: Speaker Dan Mauer • <i>November: Decorating the House for Christmas—yes it's that time again! We will need help!</i> |
| <p>Coordinator Kim Krueger</p> <p>Gift Shop Mary Anne Arendt</p> <p>Exhibits Chris Buchanan Dolly Kobs</p> <p>Master Consulting Rosarian Tom Ptak</p> <p>Website Maintenance Matt Pilz</p> | <p align="center">Office Hours: Wednesdays & Thursdays 9:00am-1:00pm</p> <p align="center">Tour Hours: Wednesdays & Saturdays 1:30-4:00pm (Closed Holiday Weekends)</p> <p>Tel. 715-387-3322 Email: uphammansion@frontier.com Web: www.uphammansion.com Facebook Group: www.facebook.com/groups/NWoodCoHistory/</p> |