

ViewPoints



October 2017

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AN OCCASIONAL NEWSLETTER OF THE GRANDVIEW HEIGHTS/MARBLE CLIFF HISTORICAL SOCIETY

New Lifetime Members Have Broad Community Links

New Lifetime members Tim and Tess Galvin bring long-standing community backgrounds to the Society. Tim, a former Grandview Heights City Council member, has lived in the 43212 area code his entire life. Tim's mother was a waitress at the Flame restaurant that stood near the corner of 5th and Grandview Avenues; she had 12 siblings, all but two which lived in the Grandview area. He remembers St. Christopher's church being built, frequenting the Aces carryout on Grandview Ave., and the demolition of the historic school and convent at Our Lady of Victory Catholic Church. Tess' grandmother used to live on Glenn Ave. across from Johnnie's Glenn Ave. Grill, and her two sisters reside in Wyandotte Ave. homes near the Galvins.

Tim and Tess share a strong interest in preserving historic buildings and enjoy living in an Aladdin Company kit home on Wyandotte Ave. The kit for their home was delivered to the original owners via a Broadway Ave. street car. When planning an addition to their home, they engaged an architect active in the University Area Commission (and familiar with historic homes) and followed the Grandview Heights Design Guidelines. Tim is CEO of Brexton Construction, LLC, which has been involved in several historic renovation projects in Columbus.

We welcome Tim and Tess and look forward to their involvement in the Society!



Tim and Tess Galvin

SECRETS, POPCORN, AND PRIZES GH/MCHS Annual Meeting

Grandview Theater & Drafthouse
Sunday, October 22 – 2 p.m. to 4 p.m.

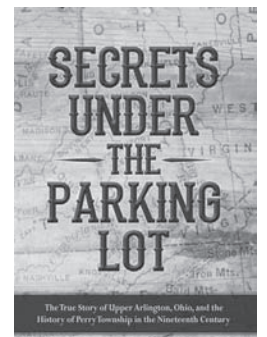
Free Admission, Door Prizes, and Refreshments

This year's Society Annual Meeting has a little bit of everything: secrets, popcorn, and prizes! Attendees will be entertained by Diane Runyon, retired Grandview teacher and author of *Secrets Under The Parking Lot*. She is a member of the Association of Professional Genealogists and the Ulster Foundation in Northern Ireland. Runyon was a teacher for 30 years and was awarded 2011 Ohio History Teacher of the Year. She has continued post graduate studies in early American life at Yale University. As a lifelong historian, Runyon studies the lives of those who have gone before us.

At the meeting, Runyon will reveal what she has found in her research of the Pleasant Litchford family, all freed slaves, who settled in Perry Township (currently Upper Arlington) in 1832 and what happened to the family in 1915. Join us on October 22 and discover the secrets of the Litchford's past and their place in our local Tri-Village history! A short business meeting will precede Runyon's presentation, Society merchandise will be available for sale, and membership applications will be accepted.



Diane Runyon will speak at Annual Meeting.



Runyon's book and discoveries will be featured at Society's Annual Meeting.





Goodale Boulevard: A Bastion for Businesses



Goodale and 1938 Chesapeake and Ohio railroad bridge form southeast entrance to Grandview Heights.

Providing a southeast entrance to Grandview Heights for over 100 years, Goodale Boulevard (Goodale) has been home to a diverse array of businesses, many with amazing longevity.

West Goodale is an extension of Goodale Street in Columbus established in the late 1800s (*“an improved, modern asphalt pavement”*). Goodale’s namesake is Dr. Lincoln Goodale, Franklin County’s first medical doctor, Columbus’ first millionaire, and one of the city’s greatest benefactors. Commercial business on Goodale between the railroad (east end) and Grandview Ave. (west end) thrived with the introduction of a trolley line from downtown Columbus in 1901. The trolley traveled from Goodale Street, down Goodale, up Broadview Ave., and on to Upper Arlington. With the trolley providing easy access, and railroad lines to the east and south for freight, Goodale became a promising location for commercial enterprises.

The type of businesses on Goodale has changed from largely industrial to more service based over the last 100 years. Several oil companies had operations on early Goodale, not surprising since Ohio was the leading producer of crude oil in the United States at the turn of the century, with its first “boom” lasting through the 1920s. Among the heavy industries represented on Goodale in the past are the stalwarts:

- **Oil** (American Refinery Company, 1920s; Accurate Oil Co.; Cities Service Oil Co., 1930s; and Golco Oil Co., 1940s),
- **Steel** (Union Boiler Works, 1920s – boiler repairs, smoke stack and brecthing manufacturing; Goldberg Iron and Steel, Hausman Steel, 1930s),
- **Coal** (Land Coal Co., 1930s).

But the boulevard’s offerings weren’t limited to industry; soap, chandeliers, theatre equipment, tractors and other farm equipment, and mattresses were also sold or manufactured on Goodale at one time in its history.

Food production on Goodale has also existed through the decades with goodies of all types offered for trade and retail sale including:

- **Macaroni, spaghetti, and egg noodles** – Columbus Macaroni Company (1306 Goodale; 1920s)
- **High-quality candies** – Orth-Williams (1051 Goodale; 1920s and 30s); specializing in fancy chocolates. Especially known for their “bitter sweets, consisting of a fancy grade of whipped cream chocolate”.
- **Biscuits** – Loose Wiles Biscuit Co. /Sunshine Biscuits, Inc. (913 Goodale; 1930s through 60s)

Few restaurants have been located on Goodale perhaps due to a lack of residential traffic – the Wel-Cum-Inn (1930s), Pepper Pot (1940s and 50s), and Boulevard Restaurant (1970s) among the exceptions. Currently the Hofbrauhaus, Red Hook Grill, Jason’s Deli, and Eddie George’s Grill 27 offer the most number of restaurants ever located on or just off Goodale at a single time.

Some of the more iconic Goodale businesses are featured in Moment of Time vignettes on our Society’s website including:

- **Krema Nut** (996 Goodale) – Oldest continuously-operating nut company in the United States.
- **Big Bear** (770 Goodale) – Warehouse for the first self-serve supermarket in the Midwest.
- **Smiling Scot** (1266 Goodale) – Showroom with unique collectibles and gifts.

Drop in on our website www.ghmchs.org to read the vignettes and the interesting history of these well-known GH/MC companies. And stay tuned for Part II of *Goodale Boulevard: A Bastion for Businesses* in a future Society new-sletter to learn about the Edwin



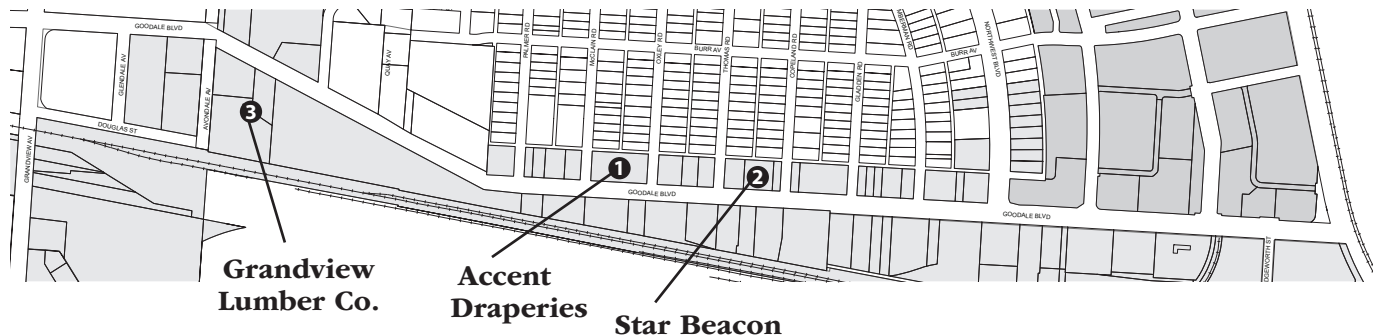
Grandview Yard construction in 2015 on site of former Big Bear warehouse on Goodale.



Poulton Foundry (on Goodale from 1921 to 20XX); Ross-Willoughby (founded by a prominent Columbus businessman and GV resident), and a newcomer eager to establish more history on Goodale, Brexton Construction, LLC.

The history of the following Goodale businesses are highlighted on the next few pages:

1. Accent Draperies
2. Star Beacon
3. Grandview Lumber Co.



Goodale Business Highlight

Accent Draperies

1180 Goodale

Accent Draperies is celebrating its 50th year in business having opened its doors in 1967 on High Street in Columbus. The company was founded by Ken Sheets and Glenn Hamilton who had previously worked together at Aero Draperies. The founders chose the company name so potential customers would see it before “Aero” in the telephone directory. Accent Draperies moved to its current Goodale Boulevard location in 1975.

The business originally focused on draperies for residential customers. With changes in home decorating styles and “big box” stores offering shades and blinds, Accent Draperies has shifted to an approximately 95% commercial client base. Some of the more notable jobs in the company’s history



Founders Ken Sheets (left) and Glenn Hamilton (right) with their first employee Erv Molt (center) who worked at Accent Draperies from 1967 to 1999.



1180 Goodale circa 1960s prior to occupation by Accent Draperies.

have included stage drapes at Grandview High School, wood blinds for the Ohio Statehouse and the courtroom of the Supreme Court of Ohio (at the Moyer Judicial Center), and window coverings for 10 new dormitories at The Ohio State University. When outfitting historic buildings, the company works with designers and architects to ensure window coverings are appropriate for the building’s style and period.

Pat Casbarro, the current President and Owner, has roots in Grandview Heights. His father graduated from Grandview High School and his grandmother used to live on Cambridge Boulevard in Marble Cliff. Casbarro has worked at Accent Draperies for 40 years. The company prides itself on employee retention, exemplified by long-time Grandview resident Wai Chun Tsu who worked there from 1979 through 2013.

The company originally leased space from the 1180 Goodale building owner Art Sheperd. After many offers to purchase the building, Sheperd agreed to sell when he turned 100. Casbarro eventually purchased the building in 2011 when Sheperd turned 99. Prior to Accent Draperies the building housed the Scott Krauss News Agency.

Goodale Business Highlight

Star Beacon Products Co.

1104-1110 Goodale

Originating from a Depression-era medicine and cosmetics company, Star Beacon was founded by Pat Maloney and David D. Schirtzinger in 1936 as a wholesale distributor. The company was first located on Long Street in downtown Columbus; “sundries, supplies, notions, and novelties”^{*} offered at the Long Street location included:

- Star Beacon Coconut Oil Shampoo (60 cents/dozen 3-oz bottles; mixed at store)
- Steel crochet hooks (75 cents/dozen)
- Bromo quinine cold tables (40 cents/bottle)
- Men’s leather belts (\$5.50/dozen)
- “Jap made” foot balls (40 cents/ball)
- Buffalo Bill cap guns (\$4.50/dozen)
- GE 100 W light bulbs (\$1.50/dozen) – one of the few items that included a “Federal Tax”.

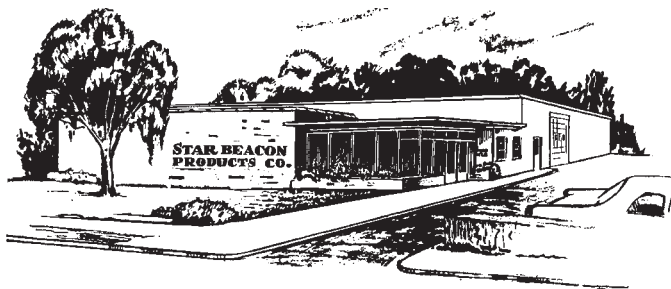
^{*}from Star Beacon “Special Jobber’s Price List”

Star Beacon moved in 1954 to a building built specifically for the company at its current 1104 Goodale location. The store offers an eclectic array of low-cost supplies for schools, arts and crafts, and parties, as well as the occasional novelty holdover from its past.

Family descendants carry on the Star Beacon mantle. Frank Schirtzinger, the great grandson of founder David D. Schirtzinger, worked at the store for many years and took over in 2016 as President, a position both his father (Philip Schirtzinger, 1986 to 2016) and grandfather (David D. Schirtzinger, 1936 to 1986) held. Brian Maloney serves as the day-to-day Operations Manager.



David D. Schirtzinger, former President, working at Star Beacon on Goodale, circa 1970.



1953 Architectural drawing of proposed Star Beacon Goodale building; notice the period round tail lights on the car at the right.

F. Schirtzinger recalls his ancestors reminiscing about the difficult time they had keeping yo-yo’s in stock during the height of the yo-yo craze in the late 1950s/early 1960s, and fishing poles being among the wares at the Goodale location. The Star Beacon building roof, as well as the roofs of other Goodale businesses was the best place to watch City of Columbus’ Fourth of July fireworks in the 1980s and 90s. F. Schirtzinger remembers the roofs being packed with people on fireworks night. With continued downtown development and a change in the firework launch site, however, the view no longer remains.

Star Beacon gained notoriety as one of the last businesses in Columbus to use hand-written paper receipts. The company converted to computer-generated invoices only about two years ago. It has sponsored Grandview youth baseball teams in the past, and customers often include former athletes and coaches from The Ohio State University.

The Maloney/Schirtzinger families look forward to extending Star Beacon’s now 63-year history on Goodale.

Additional historical information on Star Beacon can be found on the Society’s website (Moment in Time): <http://www.gbmchs.org/thisweek/photo-listing23.htm#star>



Long-standing stock, glass fuse plugs, currently for sale at Star Beacon.



Goodale Business Highlight

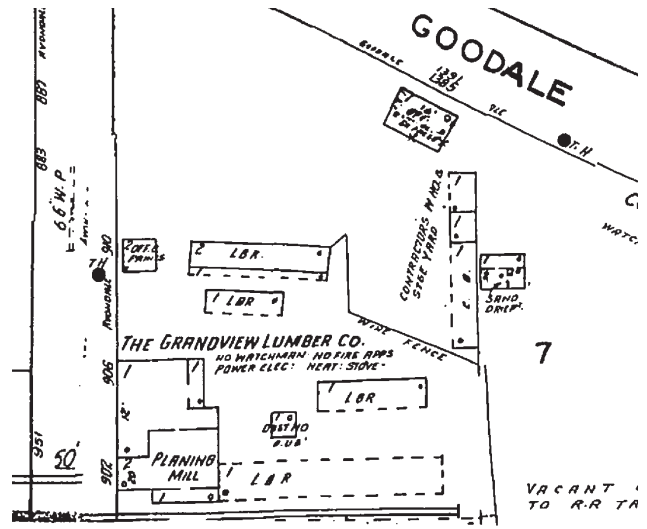
Grandview Lumber Company

1401 Goodale

Grandview Lumber was established in 1904. One of the early investors in the company was George C. Urlin, one of the best known business people in Columbus in the 1900s, and namesake for Urlin Ave. in Grandview Heights. Urlin sold his interest in the company in 1912 to devote his attention to other business pursuits. In 1920, the President of Grandview Lumber was A.W. Reynolds, who also served as an Ohio Adjutant General. At the time, the company was situated on 2 acres of land in the “fast growing section” of southeast Grandview Heights.

A 1937 advertisement in the business magazine *Columbus Today*, noted that Grandview Lumber offered “Special Millwork – Paint – Roofing”, and the slogan “Always at Your Service”.

Grandview Lumber offered customers a booklet of over 80 home design plans, as another service to encourage sales of millwork and lumber. Architectural styles (e.g., Bungalow, Colonial) and features (e.g., shingle, stucco, brick, porches) in the home designs can be seen in many current-day GH/MC homes. The company offered a “Plan Bureau” for home building; staffed by “Men, who for years have specialized in the design of homes of every type. Men, whose thorough knowledge and experience, enables them to produce plans that..are simple and



Grandview Lumber complex included lumber storage and a planing mill.

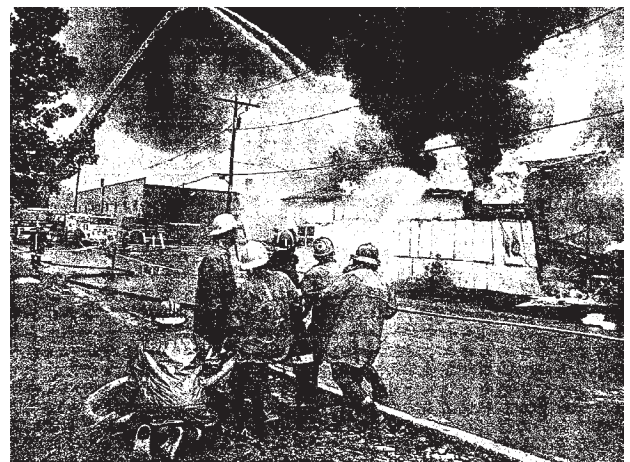
easily understood”. The booklet noted that “Electric lighting in the kitchen is an important item” and encouraged homeowners to include a “built-in telephone cabinet”.

Grandview Lumber was listed in the Columbus Business Directory in 1963. In 1964 the company was purchased by the Columbus-owned Doddington Corporation which already owned four lumber yards in the Columbus area. Changes anticipated at the time were a larger inventory through volume buying offered by the larger parent corporation. The company became a Busy Beaver Building Center in 1971; one of the company’s main structures burned in a two-alarm, \$500,000 fire in 1980.



Design 620-B

This home from Grandview Lumber design booklet featured 6 rooms, one half bath, one full bath, sewing room, and traditional GH/MC home features such as mullioned windows, rounded arch front entrance, and shingle siding.



Firefighters battle 1980 blaze at Busy Beaver Building Center (formerly Grandview Lumber; Columbus Dispatch photo).



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of the Grandview Heights/Marble Cliff Historical Society!

Please complete the information below and send with your check made out to: **GH/MCHS**

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LIFETIME MEMBERSHIP

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- Single \$100
- Couple \$150
- Organization \$500
- Benefactor \$1000

Cold? Snow? Ice? Your Winter Storm Memoirs Wanted!

A planned feature article for our next Society newsletter will be on memorable winter storms that impacted GH/MC communities, businesses, homes, and citizens. We are seeking your memoirs or photos. For example,

- Remember the **Polar Vortex** in January 2014 and its freezing temperatures? How did you keep your house and family warm?
- How about the **Holiday Storm** in December 2004?
- Do you have any photos or interesting stories about **The Great Blizzard** in January 1978?
- Did you attend or have to miss the Ohio State-Michigan football game because of the **Great Thanksgiving Snowstorm** of November 1950?

Please send your stories and photos about these and any other winter weather events to our Society email: ghmchs@gmail.com. Thank you for your help!

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for any interesting article ideas or to discuss photo contributions.



HOLIDAY SALE – Society Publications and Merchandise

(including our famous playing cards for only \$8/deck)

Pre-wrapped for easy gift giving! *Cash and checks only.*

Location: Grandview Heights Public Library lower lobby

Dates/Times: December 9, 10, 11, 16 and 17 during Library hours.

See [Society's Facebook page](#) for any updates.

Contact: Ruthanne James at 614-486-6456 or artraj@att.net

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The Grandview
Heights/Marble Cliff
Historical Society

