



The Ennis building as it appeared pre-1900 (left) with its original façade and in January 1934 (right). Note the bricks still exposed following work done to add display windows.

Making Greensburg famous: *Ennis Restaurant Building*

There is a small building on the square in Greensburg which houses a restaurant that has, in recent history, gained notoriety locally and even nationally as a result of the 1990 hit country song "Dumas Walker" by The Kentucky Headhunters. Lyrics in the song refer to the establishment's menu items which band members used to eat when they were young men.

Adolphus Ennis had bought this building in August 1943 and opened his restaurant. He and his wife, Vera, operated the business until their health prevented it. Their son Paul and his wife, Nellie, then ran the restaurant.

The earlier history of the building is not known by many, but is a significant part of Greensburg's story. Besides the limestone buildings on Old Stone Row, it's the oldest building on the public square.

Constructed in about 1844, this small building housed a law office in its earliest days. A much larger building that stood



Green County Public Library Genealogy
Laura Johnson

on the current site of Longhunters served as county and circuit court offices. That building was sold and demolished in 1931. Its offices were moved to a, then, brand new court house on Court Street. Office space being rented in the Ennis building by merchant and deputy sheriff, J. T. Howard, also became available at that time. The building was being rented out by Claudie Vaughn.

Freeman Faulkner opened a grocery there the following year, in July 1932. The entryway was changed and display windows added on the street level to make a storefront. The store offered a full line of groceries and a lunch counter. Sandwiches were only 5 cents.

Attorney Vernon Shuffett had his office upstairs but moved to the court house in January 1934 shortly after being elected

County Attorney. A watch and jewelry repair shop owned by R. E. Tucker was also upstairs for several years in the 1930s.

The name changed to Faulkner & Wilcoxson by July 1937 when a new partner joined the business. By 1938, J. D. Coffey was there every Thursday to do eye exams. Oddly enough, he also advertised the best prices on tombstones.

The A. Ennis restaurant opened in 1943. The building and business would go up for sale 45 years later in October 1988. By January 1989, it was owned by Martha Scott. By February 1991, the building was owned by Jim Frank, the restaurant was operated by Myrtle Judd, and the name was changed to Judd's Restaurant. The next owners were Bobby and Brenda Woodrome and the name was changed again to Brenda's Place. They ran the establishment for a number of years.

No matter the owner or actual name, people have continued to refer to the restaurant as Ennis' all these years later.

The latest owners and caretakers of the now 176 year old building are Steve D. Curry and Darlene Curry. They took ownership in March 2004, continuing a long tradition of running a friendly restaurant there that may be small in size but sure has a lot of character.



Photo by Walt Gorin

The current owners of the now 176 year old building are Steve D. Curry and Darlene Curry. They took ownership in March 2004.

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Ange Olt, DVM

Greensburg-Green County A proud past — A promising future *Way Back When*

BY CAROL DIAL
SPECIAL TO THE R-H

Jan. 19, 2011

Salt use up - The Green County Road Dept. has already used 3 times as much road salt as was used in recent years.

Feeding thee hungry - Volunteers have stocked the Green County Ministerial Association Food Bank with 8,743 pounds of supplies.

Diaper Derby winner - The winner of money and prizes in the annual Record-Herald Diaper Derby contest is Gerren Creason, born Jan. 10 to Chris and Tina Creason.

Electricity rate increase - The Kentucky Public Service Commission granted East Kentucky Power Co-Operative a \$43 million rate increase.

Jan. 17, 2001

Burley market down - This week's gross sales of 37,684,148 pounds of burley for an average of \$194.63 per hundred pounds, is down \$1.88 from pre-holiday sales.

KY 88 accident - Sereina Davis was injured when her vehicle overturned on icy Hwy. 88.

New police officer - Kenneth Thompson has been hired by the Greensburg Police Department for the third shift.

Basketball princess - Chelsea Sharpe is the 2000-2001 Basketball Princess of GCMS.

Jan. 16, 1991

Record rainfall - The 11.48 inches of precipitation during December was the second highest recorded since December 1887.

Downtown parking problems - The Chamber of Commerce members asked the city to look into parking problems in the downtown area.

Police investigate vandalism - Greensburg Police are investigating the vandalism of several drink machines at local businesses.

Accident claims one life - Sharon Tucker Davenport died Sunday night in a single-vehicle accident in Adair County.

Jan. 15, 1981

A dry year - 1980 was a dry year with

32.91 inches of precipitation recorded. The annual average for Green County is 49.53 inches.

Local businessman retires - Bob Taylor Blakeman, owner/manager of Greensburg Western Auto Store, which he established in 1940, has retired.

Mell, Helen Blaydes - The roads down toward Fry are icy and slick.

Clark chosen - Green County Junior Miss Tammy Clark was chosen second runner-up in competition for state Junior Miss.

Jan. 21, 1971

Farm Supply sold - Patterson Farm Supply has been purchased by Ping Lobb and will be operated as Green County Farm Supply.

Estes campaign leader - Lt. Gov. Wendell H. Ford announced the appointment of Bobby Estes as the Green County Ford for

Governor Committee Chairman.

Returns from Mexico - Mr. and Mrs. Sam Moore have returned home from a 10-day trip to Mexico City.

New fire station - The former State Highway building on East Hodgenville Avenue will be the future home of the fire department.

Jan. 20, 1961

Courthouse addition open - The new addition to the Green County Courthouse is open with offices of the county clerk, county judge and county agent.

Prevent polio outbreak - Ruby Moore, Green County Health Nurse, urges everyone to get a polio shot.

March of Dimes drive - Grade school students collected \$902.63 for the March of Dimes.

Obituaries - Carl R. Kidwell, 58, Tuesday; Willie T. "Jake" Moran, 65, Tuesday.

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