

# Checkers and beer at Bob's



Green County Public Library Genealogy  
Laura Johnson

In October 1929, Robert H. "Bob" Marcum closed a deal with Mr. A. V. Walker to take over ownership of his restaurant and grocery located on the east side of North Main Street, between the Pickett Hotel and the Vaughn's store building on the corner of the square.

Operated under the name Bob's Restaurant, a wide variety of items could be purchased at the bustling little establishment. They offered cold soft drinks, cigars, and tobacco, along with plate lunches, short orders, and ice cream. There was also a full line of groceries to choose from which included milk from Shuffett's Dairy, a local dairy producer.

On a Friday night in March 1932, with standing room only, the first checker tournament ever played in Greensburg was held at Bob's Restaurant. The game of checkers had become so popular that Greensburg formed a team to compete with nearby towns. Players

on the hometown team were Prof. J. H. Sanders, Squire J. Mott Gumm, Avery Shuffett, Bill Sanders, Ralph Vaughn, Ira Ford, and A. S. Cole. After playing well into the night, Greensburg was defeated by Glasgow, 111 to 86.

Another checker tournament played at Bob's Restaurant in March 1933 saw Greensburg defeat Campbellsville, 221 to 179. Local team members were Prof. J. H. Sanders, Bill Sanders, Ralph Vaughn, Dr. W. H. Crawford, Richard McAlister, Vernon Shuffett, Kavo Milby, Bob Marcum, Frank Cantrell, and Henry Woodward.

The sale of beer was legalized nationally in March 1933, even though prohibition did not officially end until December of that year. In Green County, as of April 6th, any establishment already selling soft drinks could also offer beer to their customers.

Taking the opportunity to expand business, a June 1933 advertisement shows Bob's Restaurant selling draft and bottled beer. Outside signage also promoted their beer sales.

A checker tourna-

ment held in March 1934 produced another victory for Greensburg over Campbellsville. Excited spectators at Bob's Restaurant watched them win by a close margin of 10 points. Team members were Avery Shuffett, Bill Sanders, Ralph Vaughn, Dr. Crawford, Vernon Shuffett, Bob Marcum, Henry Woodward, Homer Shuffett, and Dick Gorin.

Bob's Restaurant remained in business until February of 1935. That's when a fire swept through the northeast portion of the public square. Several buildings were destroyed, and if not for the partially fireproof Vaughn building on the corner that helped slow the spread of the blaze, more buildings would have been lost.

There was significant damage to the roof and second floor of the restaurant building, but thanks to quick acting individuals, most

of the contents from the restaurant and upstairs apartment were carried out to safety.

Bob Marcum moved his business to a small building just south of the Chess Motor Co. building on North Main Street but closed permanently a short time later. In August 1935, he purchased Bendetti Restaurant in Lebanon, moving to that town with his family.

Bob's Restaurant in Greensburg was a gathering spot where neighbors shared meals, beer was plentiful, and friendly rivalries unfolded across checkerboards. It reminds us of a lively chapter of Green County's history, when camaraderie, competition, and simple joys brought people together.



This January 1934 photo shows the east side of North Main Street, looking north. Signage for Bob's Restaurant can be seen just past the Vaughn's store building which was on the corner of the square.

### GREEN COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH ANNUAL MEETING

The Green County Board of Health Annual Meeting will be held on Monday, February 9, 2026, at 5:30 PM in the conference room at the health department. The purpose of the meeting is to approve the budget, set the tax rate, and elect officers.

## POWDER MILLS EQUIPMENT ANNUAL ONLINE ONLY CONSIGNMENT AUCTION

Auction Opens February 10, 2026 (8:00 AM CT) and Closes February 14, 2026 (Beginning at 5:00 PM CT)  
Location: 1555 Powder Mills Rd, Magnolia, KY 42757

Inspection Daily (8-5)

Buyer pickup Monday-Friday (8-5) CT (starting Feb. 17)

Accepting Consignments Now thru Feb. 9

For catalog registration, bidding & terms go to:  
[olsonauctions.hibid.com](http://olsonauctions.hibid.com)

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Call Tony Weston @ 270-528-2583  
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## Gospel singing, chili supper, silent auction Jan. 31

The community is invited for a night of food, fun bidding, and worship January 31 at the Summersville Fire Department. The event will start at 6 p.m. ET.

There will be gospel singing featuring Crown of Life and Summersville Nazarene Youth.

A chili supper will be held for \$6 per person and will feature all you can eat chili, cheese, crackers, hot dogs, and a drink.

A silent auction will also be held with items from Victorian House, Mary Kay, Los Agaves, Primos, and lots more.

For more information, contact Kelly Moon at 270-932-1235.

## WKU announces Fall 2025 Dean's, President's Lists

Western Kentucky University has released the honors lists for the fall 2025 semester. Full-time undergraduate students with a semester grade-point average of 3.4 to 3.79 are named to the Dean's List. Students with a GPA of 3.8 to 4.0 are named to the President's List.

Pierce, Shelbi N. Bale.

Local students on the President's List include: Miley L. Constant, Layla M. Judd, Michael A. Tafolla, Aleksander C. Mccarol, Trace A. Dotson, Caden A. Buckles, Alexa E. Garcia, Addison B. Smith.

The entire list can be found at <https://www.wku.edu/mediarelations/deanslist.php> and is searchable.

The Green County Food Pantry is open Thursdays in the new building on First Street

## Ending Hunger Takes Teamwork



Volunteers & Donations Welcome

For more information, including how to volunteer, call or text 270-405-3247  
Let's work together to bring hunger relief to our neighbors in need.

Open Thursdays (except holidays) 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. CT  
Must have driver's license or other proof that you are living in Green County. Income guidelines apply.

Linda Judd, Director

## Green County History Museum

Second floor of Longhunters Coffee & Tea - Greensburg Square

Hours: 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. - Fridays and Saturdays

Admission: \$3



"The museum is a 501(c)3 educationally chartered history museum and all donations are tax deductible!"