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Linwood Historical Society Newsletter

Miss Linwood Has Retired

In 1949 the Linwood Board of Recreation created the selection of a “Queen of Youth” as part of the celebration for the opening of All Wars Memorial Park. The name changed to “Miss Linwood” a few years later and the annual selection continued into the 21st century. In recent years the selection of Miss

Linwood appears to have had less and less interest for contestants and the Recreation Board felt it was time to make a change. The Board will now provide annual scholarship awards to a Linwood boy and a Linwood girl graduating from Mainland Regional High School.



Last Miss Linwood
Ashley Albright 2016

As we say goodbye to a well-established event of 67 years and make room for today’s modern approach, we share the history of Miss Linwood in photographs collected over the years in the museum files. Those who have photos to add to the collection are encouraged to send them to the Historical Society.



Her Royal Highness!



Betty Cordery, Linwood’s first “Queen of Youth” in 1949, crowned her successor Queen Hattie Emma Hughes in 1950. The title Queen of Youth was changed to Miss Linwood in 1958. Helen Thompson who was the last “Queen of Youth” in 1957 crowned her successor Helen Benckert as *Miss Linwood* 1958.

Pictures from over the years are featured in the Photogravure section in this issue. So we say good bye to Miss Linwood, our Queen of Youth over the years, and send good wishes for success to the winners of scholarship awards over the coming decades until issues of the future make the next change. Not that there is anything wrong with that!

Stuber's Store Regaining New Life



A major renovation project is at work on Linwood's historic *Stuber's Store* on Poplar Avenue at the bike path. Old-time Linwood residents are watching with joy. The new owners are working diligently to restore each section of Stuber's original building in preparation for a coffee shop and ice cream store. We will have more information as the work continues and look forward to having our first cup of coffee on opening day. In the meantime this is an attempt to summarize the history of one of the few remaining old 20th century neighborhood corner stores.

Adolph
Stuber

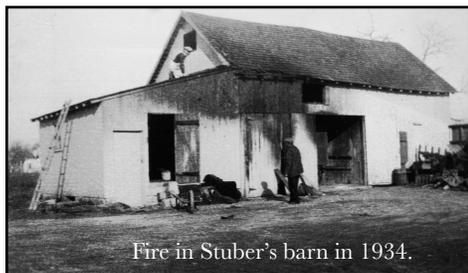
moved his tiny shop on Maple Avenue in 1901 to a new home along the train tracks where they crossed Poplar Avenue. A hundred and sixteen years later the historic old building is being prepared for another chapter. Is there another structure in Linwood remaining today that has such a history? If so, make sure the Historical Society is notified so we can write about it next time.

Stuber's store is quite possibly one of the most historic little neighborhood stores left in the county. It was certainly one of

Linwood's longest operating service to the town. In those early years there were two major grocery stores serving the needs of Linwood residents.



Adolph Stuber and his children in the early days of his new store. Around 1911 he ended the bakery part of his business and the store sold 'general merchandise.' Look carefully and you can see his home next door.



Fire in Stuber's barn in 1934.

Stuber's customers were from the northern section of town and George Hagerthey's Shore Road grocery store served the residents from Belhaven Avenue south to Somers Point.

When the Shore Fast Line trolley system began in 1907, Stuber's nearness to the Maple Avenue station was the place where people could come by horse and buggy and 'park' them in Stuber's barn behind the store while they caught the trolley to shop in Atlantic City. That service ended in 1934 when a fire burned out the barn.

Adolph Stuber was quite a business man and very involved in community affairs that included being a member of the Board of Education and the builder of homes on Poplar Avenue. Adolph's daughter Elsie worked in the store with her father until 1937 when he signed the business over to her. Elsie was an amazing business woman in a time where there weren't many female store owners around and her serious vision problem did not seem to slow her down. She was patient with the kids who stood at the

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Young Elsie Stuber

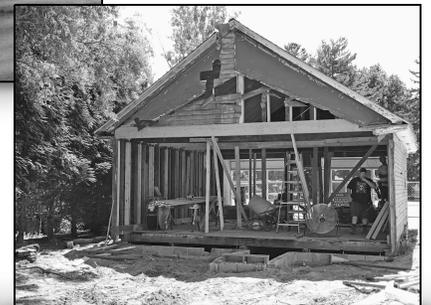
candy case with their nickels in hand trying to decide what they were going to buy. When you wanted to go down to the old Japhet's Creek Bridge to catch crabs and sometimes shrimp, Elsie was always a good source for bait. It was a big deal when Mom sent you to the store for a pound of cookies which were weighed out into a brown paper bag. You could always munch one or two on the way home because the bag was never sealed nor was it weighed when you got back home.

Elsie retired in 1958 and, for the most part, the store continued in the same friendly atmosphere of the Stubers for the rest of the century. The first new owners, the Struse Brothers of New York, were short term operators and in 1962 they sold the store to Hank and Stella Miduski. The store was renamed "Hanks" and it continued as a very popular neighborhood store for the next 12 years.

In 1974 Frank and Ann Byron became the new owners and under the name *Linwood Market* they kept up the needed and friendly place for 22 years. Users of the new bike path built in the late 1970s found the market a perfect stopping point.

In the mid 1990s Frank and Ann sold the store to a short-term owner and had to reclaim the property. In June of 1996 John and Michelle Andrews became the new owners. Seven years later John decided he wanted to return to his carpenter business and the store was on the market again.

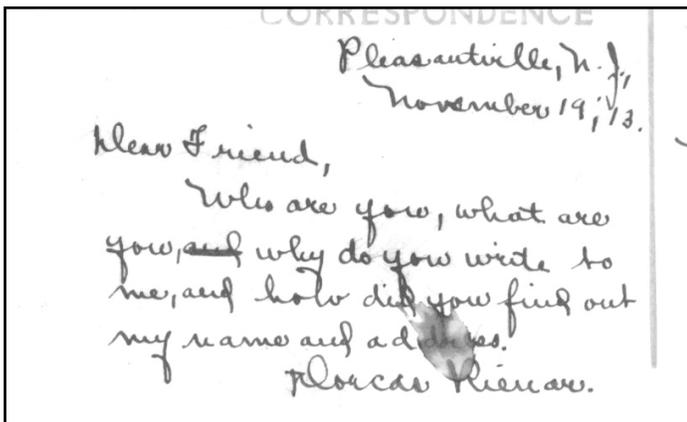
New owners in 2003 kept the store for only 3 years and it went back on the market. In 2006 Harry and Theresa Cohen bought the store and planned big changes. They opened a coffee bar but kept what Harry called the "quick and grab items" that children liked to buy. As time went on the store was redesigned as an eatery under the name of *Elsie's Down the Shore.* In 2015 the business closed leaving the historic old building looking for a new owner. As you can see from these photos, a new owner was found and is working hard. Watch for a follow-up in a future newsletter.



The foundation of the 1930s was found to be unsafe and back sections had to be removed to reconstruct the cellar and support for the building. Windows showing on the side of the original front section will be returned. Keep watching as Stuber's building is restored and be prepared for a grand opening day.



A photograph of the Linwood Market Baseball Team was sold recently on eBay. This couldn't have happened at a more appropriate time. We are looking for information to confirm that it was indeed our Linwood Market. It is not a photo in Bob Hartman's album of Linwood's Little League teams. Is there anyone who can identify the members of this team or tell us what year it is from? If you have any information please contact us at the Historical Society Museum.



A Problem That Annoys Us Is Not New

Are you tired of the never-ending phone calls and email from unknown senders? This 1903 post card shows us this is not just a modern issue. The difference between this approach and what most of us would like to do about it can't be described here but the annoyance has apparently been around for decades.

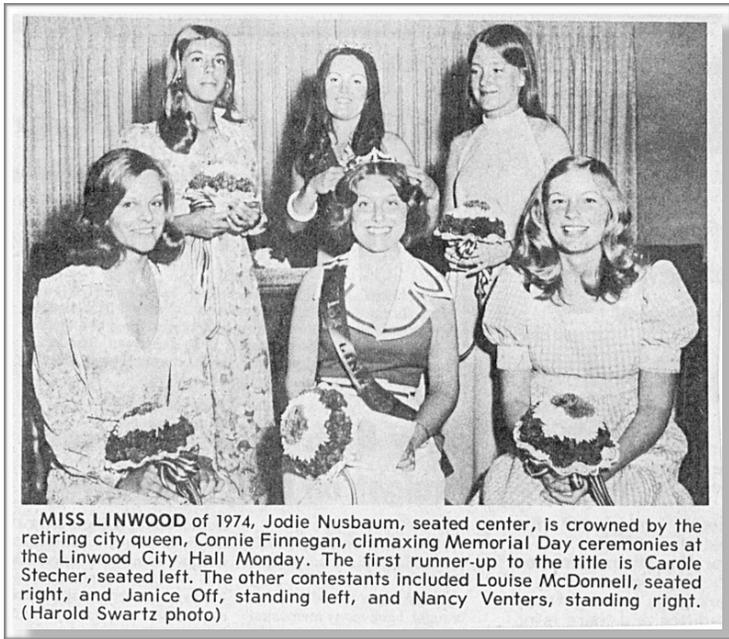
Photogravure: Miss Linwood Scrapbook



Miss Linwood 1961 and 1963



Mayor Vass and Miss Linwood 1981



Miss Linwood 1973 & Miss Linwood 1974



1963 Queen and Courtt



Miss Linwood 1996



Miss Linwood 1997



Miss Linwood 1998



Miss Linwood 1958 on Miss America Pageant Float in AC



Miss Linwood 1977



Miss Linwood 1990



Miss Linwood 1992



Miss Linwood 1969 and Court



Miss Linwood 2004 and her court