(January 11, 1960) The town’s two newspapers have changed hands. The Citizen has been sold to Coleman Harwell, former editor and vice-president of the Nashville Tennessean.

The Putnam County Herald has also been sold to Harwell by its former publisher, William Matthews. Joining Harwell as a partner in the venture is John Mott, the editor of The Citizen.

(January 13, 1960) Tennessee Tech professor D. W. Mattson says they don’t make them like they used to. He’s referring to roads, specifically the road he helped rebuild through Cookeville’s Westside business district in 1930 when he was resident engineer with the State Highway department. It’s still in good shape today.

The road’s foundation was a thick sheet of concrete. Mattson, now chairman of TTU’s engineering department, says most of today’s roadbeds begin with layer of crushed stone. It just doesn’t hold up as well. Broad Street through Westside has been heavily traveled for the past 30 years and shows no signs of wear, he says.

The one exception today is the new interstate highways like the one that’s due to be built past Cookeville in a year or so. He says the new superhighways are using concrete roadbeds and should last for at least 50 years.

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(January 20, 1960) Martin Migliore, a well-known shirt factory operator, has opened a new plant in the old City School building. He’s employing 50. Some 300 interviewed for those jobs. He’s operating out of the old school until the country completes a new facility on South Borden Street here.

(January 27, 1960) A group of TTU students and teachers are training in the use of a new mobile radioisotope laboratory in a training program of the U. S. Atomic Energy Commission through the Oak Ridge Institute of Nuclear Science. It’s the cold war.

(February 10, 1960) Nancy Brown, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Bacon of Cookeville, has a role in the upcoming water pageant at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville this week. She’ll be one of 49 coeds in the annual water show sponsored by the UT Dolphin Club. Bacon is a sophomore education major.

(February 17, 1960) The state is building a new $100,000 Tennessee Highway Department district garage in Cookeville. Presently, state highway crews are operating out of a garage on Elm Street that was built in 1927. Before that, there was a state highway garage on the corner of Walnut and Spring. Today, the district includes state roads in Putnam, Overton, Clay, Jackson, DeKalb and White Counties.

(February 24, 1960) There’s a new car on the market from Germany these days, and it’s not a sleek sports car. The Roberson Motor Co. on East Spring Street has several. Its ad in this week’s newspaper asks...
readers, “Do you want a Volkswagen?” The company says that if it doesn’t have the make and model you want on its lot, it’ll hunt one down for you.

(March 1, 1960) Cookeville Electric Department Superintendent W.R. Holland said this week that the average cost of electricity for homes here last year was .83 cents per kilowatt hour of power. The national average was 2.5 cents per kilowatt hour, he added.

(March 6, 1960) In a closed-door session this week, the Cookeville City Commission has endorsed a new trailer ordinance which could have significant effects on the 250 trailer homes now on lots within the city limits.

The new ordinance forbids single trailers, but instead requires them to be in licensed trailer courts. To be licensed, those courts have to be landscaped and have approved sewage and electrical facilities.

The ordinance has caused quite a stir in the city, and the city commissioners met behind closed doors to approve the new city code.

(March 9, 1960) Putnam School Supt. Eddie Watson told the Putnam County Court this week that the county school system needs another $25,000 to complete the school year. Members of the court say that means that next year’s property tax rate will have to go up to make up the deficit. The court gave the county’s school bus system $1,797 in January to keep buses rolling.

(March 13, 1960) Cookeville General Hospital graduated another 17 student nurses this week, and in a special ceremony at Broad Street Church of Christ, Putnam School Supt. Eddie Watson ‘capped’ the new nurses.

Among them were Mrs. Arvis Lee, Mrs. Joyce Haney, Miss Wyeth McCormick, Miss Myra Sue Taylor and Mrs. Estelle Garrison.

In its weekly “Town Topics” column, the newspaper comments on the state of Cookeville's winter-ruined streets. The city council this week announced that crews have begun filling potholes.

But the newspaper comments that a more systematic routine is needed. It says that city streets have fallen into such disrepair over the winter that each motorist in the city pays an average of $10 a month fixing damage from potholes.

(March 23, 1960) Services were held this week for Lee Gore Sadler, 59, president of Citizens Bank. He died Saturday of a heart attack shortly after eating lunch and going to vote in the city election. He became bank president here in 1954. Previously, he spent 35 years with First American Bank in Nashville.

The Cookeville Masonic Lodge issued 50-year certificates to two of its members this week. Dr. W. A. Howard of Cookeville, and Dr. J. T. Moore of Algood.

(April 12, 1960) Taylor Stout of Gentry was elected to the Putnam County School Board this week. Voters chose the 36-year old over three other candidates to succeed the late Virgil Stanton. Stout’s term expires in July of 1962. He’s the circulation manager for the Putnam County Herald and the Cookeville Citizen.

(April 19, 1960) Editor John Mott wrote in his “Town Topics” column this week that while Cookeville is hardly big enough to be considered a convention town, Tennessee Tech’s presence here is enough to draw many major meetings each year. They include the annual high school coaching clinic, which brings some 600 guests here each July, and the state high school vocational agriculture teachers convention each June. TTU is an asset to the community, Mott concludes.

*At the Putnam Drive-in this week, its Brigitte Bardot “in her frankest role.” She stars in “Love is My Profession.”*
Drought is threatening half of the county's $1 million burley tobacco crop, says county extension agent A. C. Clark. He advises tobacco farmers here to take it easy on the fertilizer and hope for rain.

John Poteet became the new president of the Cookeville Jaycees this week, succeeding outgoing president James Foutch. Other new officers include Loyd Gentry, vice president; Zollie Ferrell, second vice president; Dee Ray Anderson, treasurer, Terry Edgington, secretary; John Oldham and Jack Sells, directors; and G. V. Thomas, state director.

Clara's Restaurant opened in the Thunderbird Motel this week. It seats 148 and is owned by Clara Duggins and her son, Thomas. She's operated restaurants since 1947, starting in Woodbury. She ran a restaurant in McMinnville's Brown Hotel for 10 years and until recently owned a “Clara's” in Sparta.

Pictured on page one in a police-style uniform, wearing a white helmet and asstrice a large motorcycle, is Ralph Maddux, a special courier taking part in the Civil Defense drill, Alert Opal '60. he’s delivering a message to Capshaw Elementary School principal Oliver Bohannon giving instructions on what to do during the simulated national emergency. Other Civil Defense couriers in the drill this week are James Swack, Louis Vinson, Bob Red and David Bryant.

Cookeville's airport has one of the best landing strips in the state, officials say. It will be used here in early June when an air tour by 80 state officials in 20 airplanes arrive here. Gov. Buford Ellington will be among the entourage. The annual air tour is resuming this year after a break for the past few years due to construction at numerous Tennessee airports.

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The 1960 census figures are in and the results are better than officials here feared they would be. Putnam's population only fell from 29,869 residents in 1950 to 29,058 this year, and Cookeville actually gained residents, going from 6,924 residents a decade ago to 7,748 residents this year. But the newspaper’s editorial writer says that losing less than officials expected is not good enough. The newspaper urges a greater push to attract industry here. It cites the example of Rutherford County, which experienced a 30-percent population jump in the last decade after recruiting a number of industries. “Let’s usher in the Soaring Sixties,” suggest an editorial.

Tennessee Tech’s graduation is this Saturday and the college is awarding graduate degrees for the first time ever. Nine will receive Master of Arts degrees. They are: Joyce Greer Cruch of Jamestown, Mildred Wilson Dycus of Red Boiling Springs, Rosemary Rogers Foutch of Cookeville, Rosaland Everett Jones of Albany, KY, Mildred Earl Young Nichols of Cookeville, Duane Llewellyn Patrick of Bradford, Lois Herren Phillips of Silver Point, Eva Shemate Quillen of Cookeville and Cecil Odel Sells of Alpine.

Cookeville is losing a veteran restaurateur to retirement. Clay Storie, who’s turned out popular pies and cakes for Pop and Nora Hudson at the Midway lunchroom for many years here, says this is it, his last season.

The eating spot began its annual summer shutdown this week now that TTU’s students are gone, and Storie says he’ll probably turn the extended vacation into a permanent one. Storie says he imagines he’ll still bake a pie or two, but “I won’t make a daily grind out of it,” he says.

And an ad reminds readers this week that Sam Vaughn’s Restaurant on the Square is still open and turning out Grade A steaks, chickens and lunches even if the town’s population has suffered a drop with the end spring quarter at TTU.
(June 7, 1960) Traffic injuries in Putnam County were up 42 percent in 1960 over the previous year. During 1960, 50 persons were injured in traffic accidents in Putnam County compared with 39 the year before. This year of 1960 saw one fatality here. There were none in 1959. Statewide, there were 298 fatalities in 1960, up 12 percent from the previous year.

Hub Motors on East 10th Street is under new management. Veteran auto dealer Jess Tidwell is in charge of the Volkswagen dealership. An ad in this week’s edition tells readers they can have a new sporty Karmann Ghia for $2,250, a squareback for $2,295 and a new Volkswagen “bug” for $1,585.

Horror fans won’t want to miss the extravaganza advertised at the Princess Theater this week: and his Terrors of the Unknown,” “King Kong Live,” and “The Mummy,” Each includes live acts featuring characters from the films on the theater’s stage. Filmgoers are in for treats. “See girls get their heads cut off on stage. See the Mummy grab slave girls. The lights go out. We can’t advertise what happens next – but wow! You won’t believe your eyes. Girls are advised to bring an escort,” The first “150 humans” in line for each showing will receive free “shrunken heads.” All this for $1.

(June 14, 1960) It’s Flag Day today and for the first time, the new 50-star American flag will be flying. You can buy one from the Cookeville Lions Club. Just call Luke Medley at JA 6-2131 or Hubert Crawford at JA 6-6690.

A tough time is ahead for President Dwight D. Eisenhower, the newspaper noted in an editorial this week. First, Russia’s Nikita Khrushchev got mad and abruptly withdrew an invitation for Eisenhower to visit Moscow for talks. Now Russia has cozied up to Communist China and its leader, Mao Tse-tung.

The two leaders are said to be bent on stirring every possible element against America and its allies. And Ike left for a tour of Japan this week. And radicals there are stirred up against the U.S. and there is talk that Eisenhower may be in physical danger.

(June 17, 1960) The Rev. Hall Barrett, pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Cookeville, was elected moderator of the Synod of the Mid-South of the United Presbyterian Church last week in Maryville. The Synod covers Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Georgia, and parts of North Carolina and Virginia. The New York native has been here for the last ten years.

(June 21, 1960) John Carney, state supervisor of vocational agriculture, told some 300 vo-ag. Teachers at a conference at Tennessee Tech this week that the present surpluses of farm goods across the nation will be gone by the year 1975, according to the latest predictions. By that year, the nation will see far fewer farmers operating bigger farms.

Carney further predicted that unless those fewer farmers are better educated and unless research into more innovative farming techniques is stepped up, 1975 will also be a year in which we eat less steak. He indicated that supply will not be able to keep up with demand. So, Americans in 1975 will be eating more beans and rice unless technology advances, he predicted.

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(June 28, 1960) Forty people have signed up as charter members of a new Moose Lodge in Cookeville, according to Jack Chapman, state membership director for the organization. At the rate it’s going, the group will quickly have the 100 members required to launch a lodge here. Bonnell Nabors is the acting secretary, and Clarence Newman is the acting treasurer for the group.

* The modest ad for the film at the Princess this week says, "Behold! The love story of the ages. Behold!"
The most breathtaking spectacle of all times." It's "Solomon and Sheba," the latest costume saga from Hollywood. It stars Yul Brynner and Gina Lollobrigida.

(June 28, 1960) There was a dental seminar at Hurricane Boat Dock on Center Hill Lake this weekend. Fifty people attended, 14 of them dentists. Speakers there said children should avoid sugary snacks between meals but said that chewing gum is OK as long as you’re not a “chain chewer.” They also urged more communities to join the movement to fluoridate public water supplies. Cookeville’s water is already fluoridated. Baxter’s once was but in not so now.

(July 3, 1960) Defense is not good offense for the Cold War, argues the editorial in this week’s edition. Isolationism is again creeping into the thinking of many of the nation’s leaders.

They’re set on “holding the line” against communist aggression, and now there’s talk of throwing up trade barriers against Japan and its cheap-labor products.

But the editorial argues that the West needs Japan as a Cold War friend and it reminds that in the 1930s, another Upper Cumberland figure warned against isolationism too – Cordell Hull, the Secretary of State who went on to help found the United Nations.

(July 5, 1960) The death toll in auto accidents across the country this Fourth of July weekend was up, but there were no serious accidents in Putnam County and officials say that, all things considered, it was a pretty quite weekend here.

Two cars collided over at Hickory and 6th in Cookeville and one of them went careening into Leonard Crawford’s front yard and struck a tree. No one was hurt seriously.

There was another fender-bender at Dixie and Broad. Both drivers told police that they had the green light.

Meanwhile, a storm Sunday night forced drivers to slow down, say officials. That same storm spawned lighting and burned down a barn. A bolt of lightning also knocked a man off his feet in the Elmoretown community here. Besides being a little shaken up, he was OK.

(July 10, 1960) For the first time in 20 years, a candidate in a local election has declared that he is a Republican and he’s running as such. Walter Warren Shanks, a candidate for sheriff, told the newspaper this week. “I feel we need a two-party system in Putnam County and I am glad to do my part to being a two-party system into reality here.”

In recent years, Shanks said that some Republicans have sought political office, but they’re run as Independents. Shanks was nominated at a mass meeting of Republicans here recently, making him a bona fide party nominee.

(July 12, 1960) Clarence Newman, chairman of the Putnam County Democratic Party, sent a column to the newspaper from Los Angeles, where he’s attending this party’s national convention this week. All the Tennessee delegates are firmly behind Lyndon Baines Johnson as the party’s nominee for president, but he notes that supporters of Sen. John F. Kennedy are working hard on the convention floor and behind the scenes to change the mind of the Tennesseans. Meanwhile, L. A. reminds him of a rat race, says Newman, who describes “cars coming out of various bridges stacked on top of one another on the freeway.”

(July 15, 1960) Gerald Ford, the half brother of Cookeville businessman Leslie (Bud) King, has the support of many Republicans for nomination as Richard Nixon’s running mate in the upcoming presidential elections.

(July 16, 1960) Jere Hargrove, the son of Mr. and Mrs. M. N. Hargrove, has been named Honor Camper of the Week at the Youth Inc. camp near LaVergne. He was chosen over 135 other youths at the camp this week by exhibiting superior camping and craft skills, camp officials say. He also showed strong leadership, they added. He was head of the camp’s Blackhawk Tribe.
At the Putnam Drive-in this week, filmgoers will see “Space monsters abduct Earth women,” according to the ad in this week’s edition. The movie is “The Mysterians.” It’s in color. It’s a Toho Production.

(July 19, 1960) County Judge Jimmy Mosier ended eight years in office here this week in which the county saw a burst of progress.

Honoring him in a resolution, county magistrate Donald Ferrell said that after Mosier’s defeat in the election, he did not do as some would and slacken the pace, but seemed it intensity his efforts for the county.

New factories that built here during Mosier’s tenure in office added 5,000 new jobs here and the county’s population has grown to 35,000. Officials said they expect it to grow to 50,000 in a decade.

(July 19, 1960) One Cookevillian is probably watching the proceedings at the Republican National Convention this year a little closer than many.

Leslie (Bud) King of 1325 East 9th Street has a brother who is in the national spotlight. His brother, Gerald Ford, a congressman from Michigan, is being pushed for the vice-presidential nomination by many at the convention. He'd be Richard Nixon's right-hand man if Nixon beats John F. Kennedy.

King runs an auto parts store in Cookeville.

At the Princess this week, Bridgett Bardot in another racy film, "A Woman Like Satan." It's Bardot in her frankest role," according to the ad.

(July 26, 1960) The seven-week old labor strike at Bowser Briggs ended this week when officials of the plant and of local 1308 of the United Auto Workers Union agreed on a new contract.

Representing the company at the contract signing were plant super-intendent Jim Robeg and plant manager J. H. Nash. Signing for the union were Lloyd Nash, Charlie Beaty, Oplis Flatt and Bedford Jackson.

Under the terms of the new contract, workers in the plant over the next three years will see their pay go from $1.45 an hour to $1.92.

*The owner of a skating rink at Oak Avenue and First Street was arrested twice this weekend by Sheriff Ernest Webster. Both times the charges were disturbing the peace and creating a public nuisance. The sheriff came after neighbors complained that customers of the skating rink were parking their cars all up and down the street, blocking driveways and the road as well. Neighbors also complained about the noise and bottles left littering the roadside near the establishment. The sheriff closed the place down Friday night and arrested the owner. The man reopened the skating rink on Saturday night – and the sheriff closed it down again. It hasn’t reopened since.

(July 26, 1960) The Putnam school budget has undergone severe cuts again this year during the budget-making process. There’s a joke going around the courthouse about it this week, says editor John Mott in his weekly “Town Topics” column. He says the reason that the county magistrates want to keep the old county jail building standing is so it will be available when schools here start to overflow. Students have to be put somewhere, goes the joke.

*Showing this week at the Princess: “Horrors of the Black Museum.”

*Cookeville’s Bobby Greenwood is the new Tennessee Amateur Gold Champion after winning that tournament in Memphis this week. He’s ranked 10th among the nations’ amateurs. The 27-year-old son of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Stanton Greenwood has entered the tournament in Memphis seven times previously. He made it to the finals in 1962. He outplayed 160 others this time to claim the Martin J. Condon trophy cup. He’s now got his sights set on the USGA’s National Amateur title later this year.
(August 2, 1960) Most service station owners in Cookeville raised their rates this week following a meeting here last week of some 30 to 35 service station owners. They agreed to raise the cost of a car wash from $1.50 to $2.00, of lubrication from $1.00 to $1.50. There is no increase planned at this time by service station owners in Baxter, Algood or Monterey.

(August 2, 1960) Tired of opening your mailbox and finding it stuffed with unsolicited mail? Cookeville Postmaster L.K. Mahler suggests you write "REFUSED" on the envelope and hand it back to the postman. After a while, the senders will get the message and take your name off their mailing list, says Mahler. Junk mail is an increasing nuisance, say authorities.

(August 9, 1960) Personal income is rising in Putnam County, according to a new survey released by the University of Tennessee Bureau of Research. The combined income of all Putnam wage-earners in 1950 was $19.3 million. In the last year for which figures are available – 1958 – combined income had risen to more than $27 million. But the survey notes that growth in income was not steady over the period. It fell here for residents during 1951 and 1952, and in the 1953-54 year as well.

(August 16, 1960) It reminded editor John Mot of the excitement in Cookeville when he was a boy and the first airplane passed over the city. Many Cookevillians this week got their first look at a satellite, Echo I, a 100-foot aluminum sphere that was visible for some two hours as it sailed from horizon to horizon across the night sky here.

(August 23, 1960) Putnam School Superintendent Eddie Watson said this week that enrollment shifts could cost some teachers their jobs. Unless enrollment climbs, Baxter Elementary could lose three teachers and Uffelman Elementary could lose one. So far, there are 6,464 students enrolled in Putnam schools for the coming year, including 360 signed up to attend the Tech Campus School. This year’s total is three students more than last year.

(August 23, 1960) Ford Motor Co. officials announced at a banquet here this week that Cookeville's Delman Corp. has become a million dollar supplier of windshield wipers to the auto maker. Since 1949, Ford has increasingly placed larger orders for windshield wipers. This year, orders have topped $1 million.

(August 30, 1960) Putnam County's fair manager, Henry Brewington, estimated that 50,000 people attended the county fair here this week. The only problem that developed in the fair's third year at its new location on South Jefferson Avenue was traffic congestion.

Many said that the county could never use the 45 acres that the county bought there, but Brewington said the fair can easily use that amount of space — and more.

(August 30, 1960) The 34th annual Putnam County Fair drew an estimated 50,000 people over the past few days, and county officials were in for a surprise. The 45-acre site they bought in 1957 - one where people said the county would never see a parking shortage - was filled to capacity each night. Traffic congestion off South Jefferson Avenue was the only complaint heard about this year's fair.

*Meanwhile, the biggest prize-winners in this year's fair were Mr. and Mrs. Bethel Jared of Rt. 1, Baxter. They entered in 40 categories and took home nearly as many ribbons.

Bill Bilyeu takes over as sheriff here this week and he announced who will serve as his deputies.

They include Charles Carter, 27, a salesman for the Roberson Motor Company for the past two years; Dawson Gentry, 36, a former military policeman; and Billy Benson, 25, who is about to graduate from Tennessee Tech and who served with the Air Force military police from 1954-1956.
Bilyeu says he's always wanted to be sheriff since he was a young boy. He remembers going to Monterey with his parents and listening to his grandfather, Alex Weeks, tell about sheriffing at the turn of the century here.

Weeks was sheriff for two terms in Putnam County, the last of which ended in 1910.

One of Bilyeu's first steps as sheriff will be to sponsor an FBI training school one week for area law enforcement officers.

(September 13, 1960) The Cherokee Furniture Manufacturing Co. has outgrown its facility on West Spring Street, and it was announced this week that it is building on a four-acre site just west of the Foutch Meat Packing Plant on Borden Street.

Owned by Morrison Lowe Jr. and Harlan Henry, the plant now employs 20 who make "Davonida" and "Davo" seat-bed combinations.

The newspaper interviewed the teacher at one of the county's one-teacher schools, Carr's Chapel School. The three-room brick schoolhouse near Silver Point serves 23 students this year in eight grades.

Their teacher, Lois Phillips, admits that it keeps her pretty busy. He day goes something like this: She teaches 15 classes of English and reading in the first 2 ½ hours of the morning and then teaches a hour of math, followed by an hour and 15 minutes of social studies lessons to seven classes. On Fridays, she also teaches art and health to all eight grades.

(September 15, 1960) The Cookeville Jaycees recently surveyed residents to see how they feel about public services provided by the city. The results were in this week.

The Jaycees survey found residents here are generally satisfied with all city services except one: The availability of parking spaces in Cookeville's Westside shopping district and on the Square.

Some 41 percent of those surveyed rated public parking provided by the city as "poor."

*Showing this week at the Princess: "The Hustler" with Paul Newman and Jackie Gleason.

(September 13, 1960) Tennessee Tech is putting new emphasis on preparing students for careers in the Space and Nuclear Age, says university president Everett Derryberry.

That's reflected in new faculty at TTU this fall. New instructors include Dr. Cecil Phipps and Dr. William Small in math, Francis Toline in engineering and Dr. William Hart in chemistry.

There were changes in the police force this week. City commissioner Bethel Newport announced that Austin Pea Thompson, son of Baxter school board member J.C. Thompson, is the city's new police chief.

A former Marine and former deputy under Sheriff Ernest Webster, Thompson has been on the city force about seven months.

He's replacing Harvey Higgenbotham, whom Newport said is stepping into a newly-created position on the police force, that of police inspector. Higgenbotham will work primarily with juveniles, said Newport.

(September 20, 1960) Editor John Mott, in his week “Town Topics” column on the editorial page, this week reminded readers of the 1920s when boxing matches were staged regularly across the street from the Depot, and when young boys watched for free by climbing to the roofs of nearby buildings.
*This week at the Princess Theater on Westside: Jerry Lewis (without his former partner, Dean Martin) in “The Bellboy.”

(September 20, 1960) Streets that have been virtually empty these last few weeks and sidewalks that have heard only subdued footsteps sprang back to life this week when Tennessee Tech, a “community within a community,” returned for another quarter. At least 1,000 new freshmen are expected to enroll this week. New and returning students will see a new administration building on the main quad, and construction going on on two new men’s dormitories. Also, there’s a new four-lane boulevard running the length of campus -- a widened Dixie Avenue. Meanwhile, President Everett Derryberry says that TTU is requesting funds this year for a new chemistry and physics building.

(September 27, 1960) Television this week added a new dimension to the presidential election process. A debate between John F. Kennedy and Vice President Richard Nixon was seen by many here. The newspaper, in an editorial, says the televised debate was “a splendid contribution to the political life of a free people.” The newspaper also believes that Kennedy won the debate “hands down” because of his appearance and bearing. He “looked ruddy and eager and his eyes seemed to flash when Nixon was speaking as if he could hardly wait to take that point apart.” Nixon, meanwhile, looked “pale and thin and unhappy most of the time.”

(October 4, 1960) There’s something new on the shelf at your grocer’s this week, according to a full-page ad in this week’s edition: the new 16-ounce six-pack of Pepsi. You get three full glasses of cola in each bottle. Coca-Cola recently came out with a similar six-pack. And both soft drinks are available in a single drink” size, regular and “Hostess-size.”

(October 11, 1960) With Richard Nixon facing John F. Kennedy in the presidential election next month, there’s a lot of partisan politics being discussed here now. One member of the Putnam County Court, J. T. Dunavin of Baxter, left no doubt as to his party preference this week. Sitting on the front row of the commission during its quarterly meeting, the veteran magistrate crossed his legs. He was wearing socks with large, bright donkeys embroidered on them.

(October 18, 1960) A whopper of a Democratic rally is planned for the Square this week. Gov. Buford Ellington and ex-governor Frank Clement are the top speakers. Also on the program are Mrs. Katie Lochheim, special assistant to the national Kennedy-Johnson headquarters; Mrs. Albert Gore (Sr.) and Tennessee Secretary of State Joe C. Carr. Little Jimmy Kickens, the "cold tater boy," will be on hand to provide entertainment. A fish fry precedes the speaking. Tickets are $2.50.

(October 25, 1960) W.M. (Jack) Mann became the city's new mayor here this week. One of his first actions after being sworn in will be to appoint a special committee to study whether Cookeville would fare better under a city council-city manager form of government.

Presently, the city operates under a three-man city commission, which includes the mayor and two officials in charge of specific city operations such as utilities or police and fire departments.

*Students at Tennessee Tech and in the Putnam school system were busy this week writing essays on why they would support Vice President Richard Nixon or Sen. John F. Kennedy for president if they could vote. It’s for a contest sponsored by the town’s two newspapers, the Cookeville Citizen and the Putnam County Herald.

Central High principal Lester King called the contest “a fine exercise in government.” Luke Medley, chairman of the Putnam County Republican Party, and a committee of his fellow party members will judge entries that choose Nixon. Putnam County Democratic Party chairman John Brown and a committee from his party will name the winner from the entries that pick Kennedy.

(November 15, 1960) J. N. McCloud, a member of the Putnam County School Board, said this week that it’s time to start thinking about building a junior high school in Cookeville to relieve overcrowding in
elementary schools in the city. He was speaking to the Park View PTO. So far, it’s just an idea, he stressed. The board hasn’t discussed how to fund such a school or where to put it.

(November 8, 1960) Tennessee Tech’s Dr. C. V. Burner has been named to succeed J. A. Barksdale as dean of faculty. Barksdale has been appointed by the State Department to be an advisor on higher education to the U. S. Mission in the Republic of Turkey. Barksdale was also the director of TTU’s graduate school. Replacing him in that position will be Dr. Charles Keene.

(November 15, 1960) Cookeville officials are vigorously seeking new industries, and one of the things that seals industries on a community is its cultural atmosphere, says Dr. Clement Eyler.

Dr. Eyler told some 100 residents at an organizational meeting of the Tennesse Tech-City of Cookeville Concert Association that attracting industry is a spin-off benefit of a strong cultural program in a community.

The crowd gathered for a banquet in the B&B Restaurant and Eyler reported that there are plans already laid for four concerts here during the coming year. The first, a performance by the famed Karlsrud Chorale, will be the first concert in TTU’s new memorial gymnasium.

Pictured on page one this week was T.W. Kittrell, who recently retired as TTU’s bursar and who has just become the city of Cookeville’s new budget director. He says he’s implementing a new accounting system in city hall.

Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Steve Reeves in “The Last Days of Pompeii.” Also, “Tall Story,” a Joshua Logan musical about “a college girl who just can’t help falling for tall guys.” It stars Anthony Perkins and Jane Fonda.

(November 19, 1960) Connie Haile, a 14-year-old Central High freshman, and Wayne Davis, a 13-year-old Park View eighth-grader, have been named outstanding 4-H Club members of the year in Putnam County. They were among 76 recognized with awards and medals in a recent 4-H banquet here.

*Showing this week at the Putnam Drive-in, "Sex Kittens Go To College." It stars Mijanou Bardot, Mamie Van Doren and Tuesday Weld.

(December 6, 1960) TTU’s head football coach, Wilburn Tucker, has been named the “Coach of the Year” by the Ohio Valley Conference. The Thanksgiving Day announcement came after the TTU Golden Eagles won the 1960 OVC title, beating teams like Louisville 21-7, Arkansas State 17-6, Eastern Kentucky 20-0, and Middle Tennessee State 35-8.

(December 6, 1960) Housing Contractor Dies in Maryville: Roy A. Prichard, contractor for the low rental housing units under construction at Cookeville and Monterey, died at his home in Maryville early Monday following an illness of several weeks.

Funeral services were scheduled for this afternoon at the Methodist church in Maryville.

Dale Bradshaw, executive director of Cookeville housing authority, went to Maryville for the services.

Mr. Prichard had been a frequent visitor to Cookeville since the start of construction on the two projects last spring. The Claude Darwin apartments here and Standing Stone apartments at Monterey are nearing completion.

(December 6, 1960) The Lions Club is in a drive this week to charter a bus to take Cookevillians and TTU students to Orlando, Fla., this month where the Golden Eagles will play the Citadel in the Tangerine Bowl.
Hubert Crawford is chairman of the committee making the arrangements, and the group is also planning to set and man a hospitality tent at the stadium where Eagles fans can get coffee — and fresh orange juice.

TTU head coach Wilburn Tucker will be in fine spirits on the trip down. He’s just been named OVC Coach of the Year.

Algood officials are in talks with the City of Cookeville to buy safe and adequate drinking water from Cookeville’s water plant.

Health officials recently discovered that water from the Algood water treatment plant, built in 1933, is contaminated.

If the talks are successful, Algood will probably tie onto Cookeville’s water system at Highway 70 near the Winona Motel.

(December 13, 1960) Sheriff Bill Bilyeu this week seized a still and 55 gallons of sour mash in the Nash’s Chapel community. The still was deserted and there were no arrest.

*Meanwhile, deputies Charlie Carter and Dawson Gentry this week captured a four-ton tuck loaded with 50 cases of illegal whiskey.

*In his “Town Topics” column, editor John Mott talked this week with Q. X. Johnson, who worked in the city’s first electric department in the second decade of the century. Mott says that if resident today are unhappy with occasional disruptions of service, they ought to be glad they weren’t around in Johnson’s day. Johnson said that the coal-fired plant broke down at least once weekly and that street lights had to be reworked nearly every day.

(December 20, 1960) The vice president of the Tennessee Democratic Women’s Club, Mrs. Carl Brown of Madison, said in a talk here this week that it’s high time that women and men share responsibilities for running the party on a 50-50 basis. She says that for every man named to a position in each precinct, there should be a woman appointed as well.

Increasingly, Cookevillians are looking for every opportunity to bring new industry into Cookeville. This week they’re using a college football game as an industrial recruiter.

The newspaper has printed 3,000 pocket-sized cards about Cookeville and it’s giving them out to TTU Golden Eagles fans to take with them to Orlando, Fla. to the Tangerine Bowl.

The “tangerine cards” which Tech supporters are supposed to hand out to everyone they can, read: “Howdy folks. Come to see us in Cookeville, Tenn., the home of the Tennessee Tech Golden Eagles, where folks are friendly, where industry thrives and where the fish always bite.”

*The Jaycettes report a record number of entries in this year’s Christmas lighting contest. There are 16 entries from Baxter, 34 from Cookeville and 15 from Algood. Project chairperson Mrs. Terry Edgington urges everyone to get out and see the displays.

*Meanwhile, at the Princess this week: “The Subterraneans.” It’s the story of “shocking young rebels, told to the fabulous rhythms of the most modern jazz every7 played.” It stars Leslie Caron, Roddy McDowell and George Peppard. They are also showing Evis in his film “G.I. Blues.”

(December 27, 1960) The town has a bad case of “Tangerine Fever.” The TTU Golden Eagles are going to Orlando, Fla., to play the Citadel in the Tangerine Bowl there nights from now. Gov. Buford Ellington has announced that he is paying the expenses of the TTU marching band and drill team with a special fund available to the governor. The newspaper runs a list of names of every local resident who has bought
tickets for the bowl game. In his weekly “Town Topic” column, editor John Mott writes of the excitement in verse. His column begins, “Twas just after Christmas and all through the town, the fans were packing, Tangerine Bowl bound....”

(December 29, 1960) A feature story in this week’s edition told of a 19-year-old Jackson County youth, Robert Morris, who hasn’t yet learned to drive a car, but who this week soloed in a small airplane at the Putnam County airport.

His tutor is Putnam Airport Manager Hunter Mir, who’s operated the county airport in recent years. Mir has been an aviator for 30 years now.

Morris, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Casper Morris, paid for his lessons from Mir by acting as assistant airport manager in recent months.

At the Princess this week, a different sort of holiday film from Hollywood, Alfred Hitchcock’s new “Psycho.” It start Anthony Perkins, Vera Miles and John Gavin.

1961

(January 7, 1961) Next week they’re swearing in John Fitzgerald Kennedy as the nation’s 35th- and youngest – president. The nation senses it is at a crucial crossroad in its history.

The newspaper’s editorial on the inauguration reflects that feeling. America, it says, faces “millions massed in communist strong-holds, growing more powerful, reaching out with great tentacles.”

The world’s greatest threat today is destruction by the atom bomb, yet the newspaper reasons that freedom is a force more powerful than the atom bomb, and argues that truly wise men will undertake the tricky business of harnessing atomic power for peaceful purposes while spreading freedom across the globe.

No man is in a better position to do that today than the president of the United States. And that, says the editorial, “is why freemen of faith everywhere will be prayerful as John Fitzgerald Kennedy, 43, takes office as the 35th president of the United States of America.”

(January 13, 1961) At least three groups of Cookevillians are planning to be part of the excitement in Washington this week when the nation’s youngest president, John F. Kennedy is inaugurated.

Hubert Bennett, R. L. Bilbrey, Keith Crawford and Bill Malone left early in the week by car. They got to the capital in time to see the swearing in of Vice President Lyndon Johnson. They’re staying at the Raleigh Hotel.

Two more from here are flying from Nashville to Washington at mid-week. Cecil Montgomery and Clarence Newman can be reached at the Statler Hotel while they’re in the capitol.

And a third wave is leaving by car at the end of the week to get there just in time for the ceremonies. They are H. L. (Hackie) Newman, Hubert Crawford, and Bill Phillips. They’ll be staying at the Roosevelt Hotel in Washington.

(March 10, 1961) World War One hero Alvin C. York, who owes $25,000 in back income taxes according to the IRS, got some help from local veterans this week who raised $15,000 to for the Fentress County farmer.

The Citizen, Cookeville, TN
30 May 1961

FIRST JAIL BUILT IN 1857
By the Jaycetters
(The Cookeville Jaycettes are tracing the city’s history, growth and progress as part of the Community Progress Drive).

The first stores in Cookeville were those of Douglass, Moore and Co., Terry and Son, J. W. Crutchcher and J. C. Freeze.

There were no women in town for more than a year and the four young business men mentioned above, all unmarried, kept “Bachelors’ Hall” in a log cabin on the lot just off the square where Dr. Z. T. Hinds later built a home.

A log jail was built in 1857 and was destroyed by fire in October, 1894. This was replaced by a brick building which was later remodeled and was used until 1960 when the modern brick jail was completed.

(June 20, 1961) After nearly 50 years under the city commission form of government, Cookeville switched this week to the city council-city manager style.

(November 16, 1961) “It’s tragic,” said the speaker at this year’s Soil Conservation Service banquet, Carl Fry, the chairman of the State Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Committee.

Fry was talking about the trend towards fewer and fewer family-owned farms these days. Farm people are moving to the cities to find industrial work and new machinery is taking their places in the fields. Rural communities are drying up.

Meanwhile, the US population is growing, meaning there are more and more mouths to feed. Can new technology feed them all? Fry said he’s uncertain.

The highlight of the SCS banquet came after Fry’s talk. SCS officials here awarded the prestigious Master Farmer award to Doug Power for his impressive farming operation.

(November 28, 1961) It looks like it’s going to be one of the best tobacco crops in years – and the prices are the best in years, too, burley growers here say.

The average price at area tobacco barns was $65.91 per 100 pounds.

*High burley prices plus the lowest unemployment in years are causing merchants to et ready for one of their best holiday shopping seasons in years, too. Employment at many area factories is twice what it was this time last year.


(December 5, 1961) The new pastor at the Post Oak and Union Grove Presbyterian Churches is the Rev. Joseph H. Ryu of Korea. He’ll be here for a year before going home to complete his graduate work. He was an undergraduate at Princeton.

He was visited this week by his wife’s father they, Dong Ki Shyn, who as advisor to the former military governor of Korea and later served as South Korea’s ambassador to the Philippines.

During the Korea War he was taken captive and taken to North Korean, where he was taken captive and taken to North Korea, where he managed to escape and make it back to his home, Seoul.

His biggest regret of the war, he says, is that US officials stopped Gen. Douglas McArthur from pushing the communists out of North Korea into China.
(December 8, 1961) Cookeville’s city manager, E. W. Meisenhelder, has proposed the creation of a city beautification committee to help Cookeville look more attractive to newcomers and industrial prospects.

It could come up with ideas like what to do about the city’s aging street signs and rusting civic and church signs, especially those at the entrances to the city.

Meisenhelder suggested. He says Cookeville could follow the lead of other communities and plant rose gardens at the city’s entrances.

(December 14, 1961) It’s soon going to be a lot easier to travel from Carthage to Cookeville. Right now the only way to drive from here to there is to take a section of Highway 70, affectionately known as “The Dip and Twist.”

Not after next year. The new superhighway will be completed from Carthage to Cookeville, bypassing the hills and curves on Highway 70 in the county’s western end.

The Interstate 40 project has been held up lately while crews work to remove damage from a major rockslide in Buffalo Valley. But the route is expected to be open and ready for use by next December.

Meanwhile this week, in a speech at the B & B Restaurant here, Senator Albert Gore (Sr.) told the Lions Club that he is “shocked” that some Americans are opposed to the US stand in the Congo, where the US is backing the government in its fight against secession leaders in the Katanga region of that African nation.

The US has sent troops as part of the United Nation’s effort to keep civil war from breaking out in the Congo. While the UN has not lived up to what Cordell Hull and other US officials envisioned after WWII when they created it, “It’s the best we’ve got,” said Gore.

(December 23, 1961) Mrs. A. N. Taylor, 88, is retiring as the newspaper’s Silver Point correspondent after 13 years in that position. She was the correspondent for Boma for several years before moving to Silver Point.

Interviewed this week, she said Christmas is a lot different from when she was a girl growing up here at the end of the past century.

For one thing, there used to be a lot more emphasis on reading the Bible on Christmas, she said.

Everyone today seems to be too busy on Christmas day to do that.

In her youth, the men spent Christmas day out hunting a rabbit. There were few gifts given, but most kids got fruit and candy in their stockings, treasures they rarely if ever saw during the rest of the year.

There probably wasn’t a Christmas tree in your home if you spent Christmas here in the 1880’s and 1890’s. But most churches had large Christmas trees.

Mrs. Taylor said she likes today’s Christmas too, however. She especially looks forward to all the Christmas lights, carolers and Christmas cards she gets from friends who are far away.

(December 27, 1961) A 1959 TTU graduate from Livingston, James T. Davis, 25, was killed when he ran over a land mine in his Army Jeep in a little-known place called Vietnam this week, making him the first American soldier to die in the growing conflict there.

(December 27, 1961) The Baxter Bugler is giving up his bugle. Charlie Hughes who for the last 36 years has clambered up a pole in his yard and sounded his bugle at dawn, has got a big bell now instead.

Hughes told the newspaper this week that he’s lost too many teeth to play all the notes right on his trumpet. But he can still ring a bell so Baxter won’t be left without its daily wakeup call.
Hughes, who will be 73 on the 13th of this month, first climbed the pole in his yard and played revile at sunup on March 15, 1924. It got a lot of attention. Through the years he was the subject of news reels and newspaper articles. He once even went by train to New York City to perform on national radio.

That was all several years ago, though, and mostly he’s remembered now by the local newspaper, which from time to time does an article on him. And by his immediate neighbors, those within hearing distance of his bell.

1962

(January 1, 1962) The Putnam School Board is getting ready to go before the Putnam County Court next week and ask for $1.5 million to renovate schools in the Putnam school system under a plan recommended by the state.

However, one item conspicuously missing from the board’s package is a new high school recommended by the state for the middle part of the county. The state recommended that Central High be made into a junior high and that a new high school be built in Cookeville for $500,000.

Many parents, and now the newspaper in an editorial this week, are calling for the school board to go ahead and ask the County Court for funds to build the new high school too. They say it’s sorely needed.

Showing this week in the Princess: Audie Murphy in the Western, “Posse From Hell.”

(January 5, 1962) Dr. Charles Trentham, pastor of Knoxville Baptist Church, kicked off Tennessee Tech’s annual Religious Emphasis Week this week with a talk at a banquet in the TTU cafeteria. The topic “Man in Space.” "As man stands trembling on the verge of an invasion into the staggering dimensions of space," as man prepares to go "out yonder where mankind has never ventured," will man lose faith in God? No, answered Dr. Trentham. Rather, as man's universe expands, so will his perception and appreciation of God, he predicted.

*Meanwhile, closer to home this week, a team of Civil Defense officials from across Middle Tennessee was here this week looking at the old Algood rock quarry and at abandoned coal mines in the Monterey area. The sites are being considered for use as fallout shelters in the event that the U. S. suffers an atomic attack by Russia.

(January 9, 1962) The Putnam County Court voted this week to spend $130,000 on an addition to the north side of the Putnam County Courthouse. The new structure will allow all the county, start and federal agricultural offices to be pulled together in a suite in the new wing. That will take the US Agricultural Stabilization and Conservation Service out of the top floor of the old Howard Hospital on Spring Street. The move will in turn allow the Clara Cox Epperson Library to expand into twice the quarters it now occupies in the old hospital and the county’s school offices will gain the entire second floor of the old hospital.

(January 23, 1962) Tennessee Tech has produced an award-winning debate team, the Talking Horses. Under the coaching of Prof. Herman Pinkerton, the Horses have won 33 debates this year and lost only six. The team is composed of Bill Carrington, David King, Bill Ballard and Leonard Crawford Jr.

*Meanwhile, lots of people this year are talking about the 100 anniversary of the civil War and names like Shiloh and Gettysburg are being tossed around this week. Editor John Mott, in his “Town Topics” weekly column, tells of a chat he had this week with Dave Officer, an auto salesman here, whose grandmother, Mary Jane Little, was 12 during the Civil War. She lived near the site of the only military engagement in Putnam County during the Civil War, the Battle of Dug Hill Road in the southeast section of the county. A confederate guerilla shot at a Union cavalry unit and then fled, leading them into an ambush along the Dug Hill Road. There were heavy casualties on the Union side. Mott says that today, there's no marker of any
sort at the site. With all the interest this year in the Civil War, he says it would be a good time to put one up there.

(January 30, 1962) A district Social Security office has been created in Cookeville to serve Putnam and 12 other Upper Cumberland counties. William Alexander will be office manager, authorities say.

Also this week, the first funeral home catering to black residents opened this week in Cookeville. It’s the G. A. Johnson Memorial Chapel at 134 Gibson Street.

It’s named for long-time resident Gilbert Johnson, a Church of Christ minister. The house was the former residence of Lee and America Gibson.

Directors of the new funeral home are McHenry Myers, A. M. White and Ollie Anderson Johnson. They say the new home will operate an ambulance as well.

(February 3, 1962) World War I veterans say they don’t get the same benefits that veterans of WWII and Korea got and they’re trying to do something about it.

They’ve been lobbying with elected officials in Washington and now the Democrats have responded with legislation about to be introduced in the House and Senate.

This week, WWI vets are getting together all over the country to talk about what the Democrats’ bill would do for them. In Cookeville this week, Col. Herbert M. Houston commander of WWI veterans in Tennessee, will speak at the Veterans Memorial Building on the provision of a new act.

(February 10, 1962) Risa Anne Lane, 3, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Al. L. Lane of Shipley Avenue in Cookeville, was named Little Miss Valentine this week by the newspaper in a promotional contest.

She got the most ‘votes’ from shoppers who bought items in her name at stores which sponsored the contest. Each penny spent counted as one vote.

Risa got 496,700 votes. Judy Carol Brown got 409,000 votes. Vvette Terry LaFevre got 340,000 votes and Barbara Brown got 257,000 votes Sharon Steakley got 254,000. In all, there were 64 contestants.

(February 12, 1962) Vice Mayor Bethel Newport has been appointed by the Chamber of Commerce here to help employees of the new Bowser plant make the move to Cookeville. He’s helping them find homes and apartments and is helping them meet school officials and other in the community. Newport said that finding rental space is a problem and appealed to resident with spare space to give him a call at the chamber.

*At the Princess this week, “A strange new experience in shock from the director of “Room at the Tope.” It’s Deborah Kerr in “The Innocents,” the film that asks the question, “Do they ever return to possess the living?” The ad urges filmgoers to see it from the very beginning.

(February 17, 1962) A Cookeville 19-year-old received bruises and a possible fracture of his lower spine this week while he and a group of friends were exploring “Little Thunder Hole” on Buck Mountain.

They were looking for a passage to the bottom of the sinkhole. Nice Crawford found one – and fell 80 feet.

He’s pictured in this week’s edition on page one resting in Cookeville General surrounded by his friends who were with him on the caving expedition: David Smith, Donald Smith, and Robert Williams.

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(February 26, 1962) What should the city do with the rambling two-story old City School building on Broad Street? It’s not been used as a school for ten years now and it’s taken on “a disheveled look in a very obvious spot” in town, says the newspaper in an editorial this week.

The building is still sound, city officials believe. The city council this week began talking about remodeling the building and using it as a new city hall. City hall is now located in a small one-story building on the corner of Broad and Walnut.

* At the Princess this week: “Invasion Quartet,” with Spike Mulligan and three of his pals. It’s billed as “the funniest foursome that ever fouled up De Fuhrer.”

(March 6, 1962) First, the good news: After some of the heaviest rains in years this week, the drops have stopped falling. The bad news? When the drops stopped, the flakes started. They didn't stop until more than 2 1/2 inches of snow had piled up and the roads glazed over. The THP says fender-benders were widespread.

*Meanwhile this week, Aubrey Wilson, president of Civitan International, told an audience here this week about his recent trip to Europe, where Russia and its satellite countries are throwing up what is being called "the Iron Curtain." They are fast closing their borders to the West. Wilson said he took a helicopter tour of the border and flew along mile after mile of barbed wire barriers stretching across the countryside. "It was a terrible sight," he said.

(March 11, 1962) They’re taking the tower clock off the Putnam courthouse. It’s been something of an embarrassment to the county for some time because each face of the clock on the tower shows a different time.

Last year, efforts were made to repair the clock, but lightning strikes and pigeon droppings in the clock’s mechanism soon fouled it up again.

Now, the county is undertaking a $130,000 project to add a new wing on the north side of the courthouse. As part of that renovation, officials have decided to lop off the top of the courthouse – clock tower and all – and leave it flat.

(March 11, 1962) Harold Rippetoe and L. D. Rippetoe are pictured on page one of this week's edition wading out of what appears to be a swamp. They set out on a tractor to cross their Dry Valley farm after heavy rains that dumped 2.84 inches of rain on the county in a 24-hour period. The tractor didn't make it and the pair had to go on foot to nearby Highway 70 to reach dry land. Part of Highway 70 east of Cookeville was under water, too, this week.

(March 13, 1962) The tower clock has been removed from the Putnam Courthouse after efforts to repair it failed.

(March 14, 1962) Spring flooding hit the county's western end hard this week, causing heavy damage to buildings and drowning livestock. County farm agent Roy Luna says baby pigs were swept away in large numbers.

Luna also reports that several freshly-plowed fields were swept clean of topsoil by the floodwaters.
Providing the music for a dance in Tennessee Tech’s Memorial Gymnasium this week is the Bo Diddley Trio. The group’s hits include "Road Runner," "You Can't Judge a Book by Its Cover," and the famous "Bo Diddley."

The group’s namesake describes his group’s unique sound as having a "jungle beat."

(March 17, 1962) Algood principal Clyde McAlpin asked the school board this week to do something about the condition of his school. The school, which has 558 students, is over-crowded and is falling apart, he indicated.

Built in 1922, the school is so crowded now that a balcony room is now a classroom to 35 students. Exposed sewer pipes run through the cafeteria. And the building has been lashed together with a series of cable and rods after a large crack began spreading across the building’s north wall.

The board said it would look into the situation.

(March 20, 1962) The Putnam School Board this week recommended that the local teachers’ pay supplement be increased this year by $100 per teacher. That brings the total of new spending proposed by the board to $130,000.

The Putnam County Court hasn’t had its say on the additional spending yet, but the newspapers says in an editorial that the very fact that the board has asked for new funds and that there is public support for new school spending marks the dawning of a new day for education here.

The editorial praises the ‘new spirit of progress’ here and predicts the end of “overworked prejudices and self-serving” treatment of education here.

(April 6, 1962) American Legion District Commander Hubert Crawford is urging everyone to make a lot of noise this week. To be precise, he wants everyone in the city to ring bells, blow whistles, ring chimes, toot car horns and beat drums at 4 p.m. on April 19.

Crawford explained that they’ll be doing it all over the country. The American Legion is promoting the enthusiastic display of noise to celebrate Paul Revere’s historic ride on the night before the Battle of Lexington and Concord in the American Revolution.

Showing at the Princess this week, “The Mask.” Theater-goers will be issued a free Magic Mystic Mask “to see the movie Thrill of Thrills. Only by looking through the mask will you see and live the terrors of “The Mask,” according to the colorful ad in this week’s edition.

(April 3, 1962) Nathan Morgan, 43, the administrator of Cookeville General Hospital, died this week of a heart attack while on a visit in Georgia.

Board of trustees chairman Richard Mitchell has called an emergency meeting of the board this week to begin looking at applications for a new administrator. Meanwhile, the hospital’s business manager, Mrs. Robbie Cokeley, is acting administrator.

Morgan took the top position at Cookeville General in 1958. He came here after serving for five years as administrator of General Hospital in Huntsville, Ala.

*It's almost Clean-up, Paint-up, Fix-up Week here, or Cu-Pu-Fu Week as the newspaper's headline writer terms it. Sponsored by the Cookeville Jaycees, the week is a concentrated effort to make Cookeville look better.

The city last year won a state Jaycees award for being the "most-improved" community. Arnold Cameron is the general chairman for this year's drive.
City officials have received three petitions with the names of the owners of two businesses, 82 residents and 376 TTU students who urge the city to go ahead and finish the 7th Street 'boulevard' project. A year ago, the city began the project. Today, the route is wider and has sidewalks and lights. It just isn't paved. City officials have been hoping that the state will pitch in and help fund the work since the route borders a state college. No such funding has yet materialized. Now residents, students and businessmen say the dust is getting to be too much.

Four members of the cast of the Monterey High senior play appear in a photo in this week’s edition rehearsing their lines for the play, “The Whole Truth.”

Pictured are Shirley Hawkins, Sue Holman, Jimmy Padgett, and Mike Callahan. Their directors are Mrs. H. W. Roper and Eugene Hunter.

Also appearing in the play are seniors Morris Williams, Joyce King, Johnny Looper, Bobbie McDonald, Bill Whittaker, Cheryl Garrett, Glenn Walker and Betty Miller.

The son of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Thompson of the Algood road is coming home to work. Aron P. Thompson has been an attorney for TVA for the past two years. Now he’s coming home to open a private practice in association with Vernon Neal.

Thompson began his adult work life as a mathematics teacher at Algood High School, teaching from 1952 to 1957. That year he went to UT Law School and graduated in 1959. He was an insurance claims representative before he went to work for TVA.

He and Vernon Neal will operate a law office in the Cox Building here. Thompson announced this week.

Cookevillians can feel a little bit safer today knowing that the city is now linked to the Civil Defense Telephone Network.

A special phone in the district headquarters of the Tennessee Highway Patrol here puts Putnam Civil Defense director Maurice Haste in direct touch with officials of the national air raid center in Marietta, GA, and with the staff of the Tennessee Civil Defense in Nashville.

If we come under nuclear attack from the communist, we’ll get quick instructions from state and federal officials, says Haste.

Meanwhile, the newspaper’s editorial writer notes that a group calling itself the “Freedom Walkers” passed through town this week, walking to the nation’s capital in protest of nuclear testing. The newspaper points out that the protesters are strictly pacifists in the tradition of Gandhi. And the writer comments, “The law protects them, even if they are on the screwy side.”

Starting this week, Monterey residents could no longer reach each other by telephone when they dialed just four digits. Thanks to growth in the town’s phone system and new equipment, they’ll have to dial seven digits to get a Monterey number.

Telephone officials instructed customers in Monterey this week to use an “839” prefix before the four numbers they’ve always used.

Cookeville went to a seven-digit dialing system in May a year ago. Also, 4,000 new telephone directories were mailed out this week to those with telephones in Putnam County. Use them, telephone officials suggest. They’ve been getting many complaints lately from people who haven’t looked in their directory in years and keep getting wrong numbers.
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(May 7, 1962) Signs went up on Cookeville's major streets this week reading "Welcome to Cookeville, No. 1 City in Tennessee."

In smaller print, the signs explained that the city was this year's winner of the Tennessee Department of Commerce's community progress award program.

*Meanwhile this week, Sheriff Bill Bilyeu and his deputies seized another 'still' north of Monterey on the Clarkrange Highway. It was a 200-gallon operation.

Sheriff Bilyeu said that the destruction of the moonshine operation marks the sixth illegal distillery his department has found and put out of business in the last year.

(May 15, 1962) "People expect law enforcement, and we intend to give it to them," said Marion Warren this week when he became Cookeville's new police chief.

He's got the experience to live up to that promise, too. Warren became sheriff here in 1926 when Cookeville was a third the size it is now.

He went on to work with the Tennessee Highway Patrol and became sheriff here again in 1940. After the Japanese and Germans surrendered four years later, Warren became a U. S. Deputy Marshall and moved to Nashville, where he lived and worked until his recent retirement.

He's sold his house in Nashville and is moving back. His family includes his wife, the former Sarah Bilbrey of Algood; a daughter Mrs. Odell Huddleston of Cookeville; and a son, John K. Warren of Nashville.

Looking ahead at his new job, Warren said this week that one of his biggest goals will be to help solve Cookeville's traffic problems.

*Cookevillians were able to turn on their faucets today and see clean water pour out, thanks to a toothpick that was put to an unusual use during an emergency at the city's water plant at the City Lake.

Lightning struck a transformer at the filtration plant yesterday. Without power, the plant's pumps couldn't send water to homes and businesses. A replacement transformer was quickly installed -- but something was still wrong. There was no power.

Then a worker found that an electrical relay in the plant's wiring had also been damaged by the lightning bolt. Temporarily, he was able to restore power to the plant by inserting a toothpick in the relay. The pump motors started humming, and Water Department Supt. Holla Burgess says he thinks they'll keep on working until a new relay arrives by air express from New York City tonight.

(May 19, 1962) The value of farmland in Putnam County has risen 38 percent since 1954, according to the
new Census of Agriculture. And the price land here is selling for is a good deal above the present state average.

Farmland goes for $130 per acre here now on the average as compared to a state average of $94 per acre. Nationally, farmland is selling for an average of $114 per acre.

Observed told the newspaper this week that the reason land sells for higher here is apparently because so little of it sells. Farmers hang onto it longer. And many of them have seen the price of land triple during their lifetime, the newspaper reports

(May 22, 1962) Putnam high school seniors have received 99 awards in graduation ceremonies this week at the county’s five high schools.

Upperman student won the most, 30. Students at Central won 22 awards and students at Monterey took home 17. Algood high school students won 20 and ten awards were issued to students at Darwin High School.

The most unique award went to Shirley Billingsley, the senior at Central High who achieved 13 years of perfect attendance. The extra year comes from the year of primer school he attended prior to the first grade.

His brother, Barnice, got 12 years of perfect attendance in 1956. Among the other awards were the scholarship award, which went to Gwendolyn Ray at Algood; the Balfour Key Award, which was won by Jerry Anderson; and the algebra trophy, which was carried home by James Clayton of Monterey.

*Showing at the Princess: “Twist All Night,” the movie which invites you to “Dig the playgirl sensation of the nation.” Included in the presentation is a short feature film which gives you free twist lessons.

(May 28, 1962) Johnny Jared, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Jared of Buffalo Valley, was runner-up recently in the state VFW marble competition in Gallatin, according to L. K. Mahler, a member of the VFW’s National Youth Committee and a leader of the Cookeville post.

Young Jared will not go on to national competition in Greeneville, Tennessee later this summer.

Hot? It’s ten degrees cooler now up on the Plateau, according to an ad for the Capri Restaurant on Main Street in Cookeville.

The menu includes the fried crab meat patty dinner for $1.20, the six jumbo shrimp dinner for $1.50, the rainbow trout dinner for $1.50 and the 12-ounce T-bone steak dinner for $3.25.

(May 28, 1962) Tennessee Tech’s professor J. M. Henderson is retiring after 42 years of teaching at the college. He came to Tennessee Tech in 1924 when it was known as Tennessee Polytechnical Institute. That year he began the college’s engineering program.

Among the times he recalled this week looking back were the war years, when TPI’s engineering laboratories were in use 24 hours a day as the military rushed to train men and women to work in key technical fields.

Henderson Hall is named in his honor.

Also retiring this week were Dr. Cecil Phipps, a professor mathematics; Miss Anne Grace O’Callaghan, a professor of music; and Dr. Edward Cornelius, a professor of business administration.

(May 29, 1962) Mayor Roy DeBerry, owner of the Junior Military Academy at Bloomington Springs, has purchased 10 acres of the old Baxter Seminary grounds containing the president’s residence, two dormitories and the health house. He paid $25,000 for it.
The seminary, a Methodist-supported school, which boarded and taught high school students in the county's western end for 50 years, closed in 1959. The county has purchased 2 acres of the campus, including its administration building, the scientific building, trades building, gymnasium, heating plant and football field. A portion of those grounds has been turned into Upperman High, honoring the school's president of 37 years, Dr Harry Upperman.

(June 3, 1962) In his “Town Topic” weekly column this week, editor John Mott says the great American pastime, baseball, is dropping in popularity. But he adds that from the activity here, you wouldn’t know it.

Mott noted that this spring and summer, there were more than 22 scheduled games. Park View ballfield alone is home field to more than 300 youths, he said.

At the Princess Theater this week it’s “Chubby Checker in his big new role,” the ads proclaim. Checker stars this week in “Don’t Knock the Twist,” starring Gene Chandler, Vic Dana, Linda Scott, the Carroll Brothers and The Dowells.

(June 19, 1962) The race for governor is heating up, and all three candidates were in Cookeville this week shaking hands and searching for votes.

Incumbent Frank Clement earlier this week officially kicked off his campaign in Gallatin in a speech broadcast by every radio station in the state, including Cookeville’s WHUB.

Following in his wake this week were Chattanooga Mayor Rudy Olgiati and William W. Farris, a Memphis businessman.

*At the Princess Theater this week: “Lad a Dog,” starring Peter Breck and Peggy McCay.

(June 12, 1962) With a banner headline, the newspaper announced this week that Cookeville’s population has passed the ‘magic number’ – 10,000.

Officially, the city’s headcount stands this week at 10,062. that means Cookeville is telling the world that it’s serious about being a growing, progressive city, says the newspaper.

What brought the population over the line was the annexation of six areas where 2,257 residents live. Assistant City Tax Assessor Walter Fitzpatrick completed the census this week to make it official.

The city’s new population figure means that Cookeville is the 25th largest city in Tennessee.

(June 23, 1962) A student in Lagos, Nigeria recently got a spanking because of Cookeville. More specifically, because he couldn’t tell his geography teacher anything about the town when she spun the globe and her finger landed on Cookeville.

Besides a spanking, Joe Kaffo was given the assignment to write to the newspaper here and ask for pen pals so he could learn more about this Cookeville, Tennessee.

“In Lagos,” wrote Kaffo, “young boys and girls, are very much interested to read any book they discover pertaining to Americans and they spend much time in looking at American films.”

In addition to asking for letter, Kaffo invited Cookeville residents – particularly doctors, engineers and technically – skilled person – to visit Lagos.

(July 1, 1962) Editor John Mott this week in his “Town Topics” column says Cookevillians are getting their picnics and fireworks ready for the July 4th holiday, but he says that before WWII, Cookeville did things differently on the Fourth of July.
Pre-war celebrations included large patriotic gatherings on the Courthouse Square. There was food, usually a string band of some sort, and speeches. He recalls one speech in particular.

The main speakers had already finished and Robinson Crusoe Buck of Algood was persuaded to get up on stage. He told what being an American meant to him. His heritage gave him a viewpoint unlike anyone else at the celebration.

Buck was a slave when Abraham Lincoln moved to strike down slavery in the Civil War. Though free, he stayed with his former master for decades afterwards as America healed from the war and grew up.

By the time he spoke on the Courthouse Square, America had already fought one world war and was on the verge of fighting another.

A few days before his impromptu talk, Buck had been in Washington, the guest of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt and Secretary of State Cordell Hull, an Upper Cumberland native. Buck was there because he was the nation’s oldest living black Democrat.

Buck died a few years after his talk on the Square, in 1954 at the age of 109. Not too long before he’d been in the Cookeville Centennial Parade riding a white horse, leading the parade.

(July 7, 1962) Fred Roberson was reelected to a seven-year term on the Cookeville General Hospital board of trustee, this week. He was first appointed in August of 1961 to complete and unexpired term.

Serving with Roberson on the hospital board presently are L. K. Mahler, Arnold Cameron, Marshall Bertram, Mrs. Amy Johnson, Richard Mitchell and Joe Gibson.

*In another appointment this week, the county court reappointed Taylor Stout of Double Springs to a seven-year term on the country school board. There was no opposition. County magistrate Fred Leftwich made the nomination.

(July 17, 1962) Cookeville Police Chief Marion Warren warns motorists that new traffic regulations go into effect this week. No longer can you pass another car on Broad or Cedar Streets. And you can’t park your car at the curb on Broad anymore either. Meanwhile, Staley Avenue is now one-way.

(July 17, 1962) A couple of new city traffic regulations went into effect this week. For instance, you can no longer legally pass a car on Broad or Cedar Avenue. Police Capt. Charlie Campbell and his men were painting double yellow lines down both those streets this week.

“There’s no use in letting cars passing on such narrow, busy streets,” Chief Marion Warren said.

Meanwhile, cars can no longer park in the middle of Broad, Staley or Spring Streets. Until this week, they’ve been allowed to park there, leaving room on either side for traffic to pass. Times are changing.

(July 24, 1962) Telstar is up and working, and worldwide communications have stepped into a new day, says Senator Albert Gore (Sr.).

In his weekly “Capitol Comments” column, Gore talks about the implications of the knobby little metal sphere that the government blasted into space recently. But it will likely be the first series of such satellites, and many of the future high-tech orbs are likely to be private commercial ventures aimed at meeting peacetime needs, he said. A new age has arrived.

(August 5, 1962) Dave Maddux was named president this week of the newly-created United Givers Fund. The group organized on July 24 and elected officers this week.

Officers include R. T. Hargrove of Monterey, first vice-president; Henry Thompson of Algood, 2nd vice president; Mrs. Joe Scott, secretary; and W. B. Carlen, Jr., treasurer.
The group’s first fund drive gets under way this fall with help from 47 area industries and civic organizations.

At the Princess Theater this week: Cary Grant and Doris Day star in “That Touch of Mink.”

(August 11, 1962) “Break-ins hit five firms,” reads the huge banner headline on page one of this week’s edition. The story under it detailed the spree here last night. A total of $85 in cash and $60 in credit cards checks.

The victims were: Jesse’s Market on North Washington, 60 cartons of cigarettes; Bilbrey Brothers Pan Am Service Station on North Willow, $50; Cowan’s Lion Service Station on the Algood Road, $30 in cash; Leo Campbell’s Service Station on North Washington, $5.

Police Chief Marion Warren said the spree is linked to a recent series of break-ins and robberies in Livingston.

“We know they are connected and we are certain who committed them, but we are unable to make any arrests at the moment,” said the chief.

(August 16, 1962) An 18-year-old Livingston youth was the one behind a recent rash of burglaries and auto thefts that were stopped by a concerted effort by Cookeville and Livingston police and the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation. It all started on a dare.

The youth was caught as he fled his father’s store in Livingston when authorities went there to confront him with evidence.

He told them that a friend had bet him he couldn’t steal 10 cars and get away with it. He’d gotten eight. He hid them in area woods. That was after he used them in his burglaries. Having a car allowed him to extend his area of operation to Cookeville.

Cookeville Police Chief Bill Bilyeu said he knew the youth’s identity, but lacked evidence for an arrest. So he acted on tips more than once and staked out potential targets, but the youth eluded police here.

Frustrated authorities decided to confront the youth with what they knew. He confessed. He’d stolen more than $20,000 in goods in 18 break-ins over a six-week period.

(August 21, 1962) John Mott, in his weekly “Town Topics” column, tells a little about the history of the county fair here. The present fair was organized in 1924, with exhibits in and around the courthouse. A carnival midway was set up on the vacant lot next to Borden's Jewelry. The fair grew quickly in the late 1920s and was moved to a site on North Maple three blocks north of Broad. Now it's on the Sparta Road in a new facility and it's growing quickly there too, says Mott.

*The Jaycees are cleaning up the town spring on North Dixie. They're cutting weeds and cleaning up the lot. And the city commission is talking about putting in a water fountain with clean city water and may install benches there too to make it a sort of park.

(August 26, 1962) It was time this week to see which one-teacher schoolhouses here will close and which will open for another school year.

Registration was this week and all schools are required by the state to have at least 20 students to open their doors.

And, as things turned out, a one-teacher school in the Calfkiller survived the cut. It has 26 students. But the Thomas School fell one student short of the required 20 and will close.
Meanwhile, a four-teacher school became a one-teacher school this week when three of four instructors assigned there resigned. Supt. E. H. Watson is looking for three more teachers for the Nash’s Chapel school.

After this week’s registration, there are just two one-teacher schools in Putnam County now. Calfkiller and the Swallows School, a school for blacks.

(August 28, 1962) In its heyday it hosted a series of Tennessee governors like Benton McMillin and Bob Taylor, and dignitaries like U. S. Secretary of State Cordell Hull. More recently, the Sidwell Hotel, located a block south of the Square on Washington Avenue, has rented a few rooms on its second story, and rented space on its ground floor to a used furniture store, and to Ray Swallows who runs a barber shop. Today, the Sidwell is lost to a fire of unknown origin. It burned to the ground during the night. It was built as a wholesale tobacco house in the late 1800s. From 1890 to 1915, it was owned by Alex and Annette Reagan, who called it the Richelieu Hotel. The name was suggested by a boorder who’d been to France, it is said. It was purchased in 1927 by Dr. and Mrs. F. S. Sidwell of Celina and has been operated as the Sidwell Hotel ever since, although owners changed through the years. Judge John Bryan, the Sidwell’s son-in-law, owned it for a time, and it was in the hands of Rastus Huddleston when it burned this week.

(September 2, 1962) A large ad in this weeks’s edition for a national paint company, Gray Seal, carries the picture of a Monterey woman and her son, winners of a trip to Hawaii in a national sweepstakes.

Mrs. R. M. Dillard and her son, John Roy Dillard, are pictured wearing a flower wreath just after they stepped off the plane at Honolulu Airport. Besides being flown to the islands and being put up in a hotel room, they had $250 in cash to spend during their six-day stay.

“A handful of brave men from an incredible flying wedge” in a movie showing at the Princess this week, and its not about football. It’s the ancient Battle of Thermopylae. It’s “The 300 Spartans,” starring Richard Eagan and Sir Ralph Richardson.

(September 4, 1962) There’s an increasing array of electrical appliances available to today’s consumers, and it’s showing in the rise in electric power consumption here. City Electric Dept. Supt. W. R. Holland released figures today which showed that the 3,000 customers of the city utility used 52.2 million kilowatt hours of electrical power in the fiscal year that just closed.

In that same period last year, the city electric department sold only 48.1 million kilowatt hours of electricity to consumers here.

Meanwhile, at the Princess Theater, the “flying wedge” makes a comeback this week not in football, but on the field of battle. Showing at the theater is “The 300 Spartans” with Richard Egan and Sir Ralph Richardson. It purports to tell the story of the Battle of Thermopylae in which “300 brave men form an incredible flying wedge” and, at least for a time, hold off the Persian Empire.

(September 11, 1962) The kids are well-behaved, but their dogs need more schooling in how to cross the street. That was the observation of one of the four members of the new Mother’s Patrol here.

Eleven years ago, Nashville became the first city in the nation to organize a troop of school mothers to patrol school crossing to free regular police officers for other police work.

This year, Cookeville Police Chief Marion Warren sent four mothers to train under Nashville’s program and they were on duty this week for the opening of Putnam schools.

Mrs. Charlie Chaffin is serving Tech Training School, Mrs. R. O. Hogan is at Jere Whitson, Mrs. Robert Allison patrols Capshaw Elementary and Mrs. Bill Allen guards the crossing at Park View.
They get $60 a month for their morning and afternoon stints in the street. They say things have gone well so far, although they admit it was a bit intimidating to step out in front of traffic for the first time they did it.

(September 11, 1962) The fight against polio continues here. This week, the Cookeville Jaycees signed a contract for 25,000 doses of Sabine Oral Polio vaccine and plan to offer it at eight to ten stations to be set up across the county on Oct. 7.

It will cost 25 cents a dose, and is the first of three doses children need to be completely protected against the dreaded disease. Other clinics will be held later in the year, the Jaycees said.

*Police Chief Marion Warren announced the creation of the city's first Mothers Patrol this week. Its four members will relieve regular officers at school crossings at Cookeville High, Jere Whitson, Capshaw and Park View. The four are Mrs. Charles Chaffin, Mrs. R.O. Hogan, Mrs. Robert Allison, and Mrs. Bill Allen.

(September 12, 1962) They closed the Calfkiller School this week when too few students signed up to keep it open under state regulations. It’s the second one-room schoolhouse to close here this year. The Thomas school was closed last week due to insufficient enrollment. That leaves only two other one-room schools in Putnam County, the Burgess School and the Swallows School.

*Showing this week at the Putnam Drive-in: Paul Newman, Joanne Woodward and Sidney Poitier in “Paris Blues.”

(September 18, 1962) Tennessee Tech welcomed a slate of new faculty members to the university for the fall quarter this week. The newspaper ran their photos and biographical briefs on each.

They include: Dr. William Bonner, business education; Hugh Kerr, engineering science; Dr. Richard Diemer, geography; Hix Stubblefield, English; Dr. John Warren, English and Richard Savage, math.

(September 18, 1962) Who will control what sorts of businesses and developments go up next to interchanges when the new superhighway is built through Putnam County?

It’s a question local planners have been asking. This week, the State Planning Commission said cities and towns through which interstates pass control the zoning of interchanges within their corporate limits.

That means that Cookeville has control of three interchanges, and Baxter and Monterey will control one each. Right now, there’s not really much there where the interstate highway is scheduled to go a year or so from now, but businesses are expected to pop up fast after the road bed goes down.

(September 22, 1962) Wearing a black topcoat like a cape, Liberace, along with his manager and members of his seven-piece band, swept into Cookeville’s B&B Cafe this week for lunch after a performance in Knoxville.

(September 25, 1962) The newspaper advises readers to go this week and check out the art at the first annual Benlee Clothesline Art Show north of town at Reba Bacon’s art studio. A member of Tennessee tech’s faculty, Mrs. Bacon has put together a show featuring works by 27 Tennessee artists. It’s well worth the short drive, says the newspaper.

*Showing this week at the Princess: Walt Disney’s “Big Red”.

(October 2, 1962) Imre Kovacs, pastor of the First Hungarian Reformed Church, spoke here this week at an education conference at Tennessee Tech. His church is now based in New York City since the Soviet Red Army put down his native countrymen six years ago in what became known as the Hungarian Revolt.

He spoke here on the value of education, saying that the only way to fight Communism is to educate ourselves about it. Ignore the doctrines and principles of Communism, Kovacs said, because they are false
and misleading. Instead, look at the failures of Communism. The more we learn about it, the more failures, we will see, he said.

At the Princess this week, Leslie Nielsen and Debbie Reynolds in “Tammy and the bachelor.”

(October 2, 1962) The climax of the Park View Elementary Fall Carnival this week was the crowing of the school’s “royalty.”

Patricia Tollet, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Lee W. Tollet, was the school’s princess.

Ann Noble, daughter of Mrs. Lilly Noble, was the school queen.

Dennis Lumpkin, son of Mrs. Lilly Noble, was the school queen.

And Billy Jackson Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. William Lumpkin, wore the king’s crown.

(October 9, 1962) It’s leaving Golden Eagle fans a little stunned. TTU suffered its fourth straight loss on the football field this week, falling to ETSU 26-6.

It’s hard for TTU fans to get used to because the Eagles won or shared the OVC title for four straight years, beginning in 1958. And the picture doesn’t look too good this Saturday when the Eagles play Western Kentucky. The team is rebuilding this year after several star players graduated. Jim Ragland is quarterback this year.

*It was homecoming at Central High School this weekend. Leading the homecoming parade was Homecoming Queen Pam Kin. Her two senior attendants were Deloris Harley and Brenda Maxwell.

To celebrate the occasion, the Central High Cavaliers trounced the Gainesboro Blue Devils 41-18.

In sizing up the win, Central coach Walter Jared singled out the performances of quarterback Carlen Maddux, and end Truman Wilhite. He said outstanding efforts were also made by Bruce Plummer and Jimmy Jo Stamps.

(October 14, 1962) The times they are a ‘changing. The Putnam County Court this week, on a motion by Donald Ferrell, banned spitting tobacco and whittling inside the Putnam Courthouse. It may have gone on for years, but it’s just too messy. The whittlers and spitters will just have to move it outside, said the court members.

And the justices of the peace also approved a suggestion by Squire Robert Thrasher concerning the outside of the courthouse. He said it’s time for all those political posters and billboards on the courthouse lawn to go. The court agreed.

(October 16, 1962) Thirty-three former Tennessee Tech football captains and alternates gathered at the University this week to pay homage to their mentor, R. V. “Putty” Overall. The former head football coach was honored in a surprise banquet at the B & B Café.

Among those there to honor the coach were Emmett Smartt of Nashville, Tennessee Tech’s first football captain back in 1923.

Also on hand to honor the coach were Joe Sills of Nashville, alternate captain of the 1929 squad, and James D. Milton of Winchester, captain of the 1925 Golden Eagle team.

Overall, who is now retired from coaching and now teaches on TTU’s health and physical education staff, coached from 1923 until 1946, and again in 1952 and 1953 when Tennessee Tech went to OVC championship meets.
His record is 95 wins, 91 loses and 17 ties.

(October 23, 1962) The Putnam County Court has banned tobacco spitting and whittling inside the Putnam County Courthouse.

*The Delman Company here is about to begin a new round of hiring after landing a contract with a French corporation to make a product they believe is going to catch on in a big way – the disposable Crickett cigarette lighter.

Under the new contract, Delman has already received orders for several million of the disposable butane cigarette lighters. The market is expected to keep expanding for some time to come.

Delman currently makes automotive windshield wipers.

(October 23, 1962) US Army Major Vernie Tosh retired this week after 20 years in the military, a stint that began during World War II. He served a tour of duty in Korea, and since 1959 has been a professor of military science at TTU. Active in numerous civic groups here, he’s going to serve as assistant to the pastor of First Methodist Church now.

The newspaper’s publisher, Coleman Harwell, is just back from a visit to Washington. He was there during the Cuban Missile Crisis and was admitted to a two-day series of background discussions between senior U.S. officials and the media. He writes in a page one opinion piece this week that the Soviets are going to the brink on the Cuban issue because they’ve “invested” millions of rubles in the tiny communist island nation and they can’t bring themselves to let that investment slip through their fingers. They’ve spent $600,000 alone on missile sites. Then there are Russian troops on the island and they have to be fed and housed and supplied with weapons, something that doesn’t exactly come cheap, says Harwell. They’ve assured America that the missile sites, a rock’s throw away from U.S. shores, won’t be used for offensive purposes. U.S. officials are a little skeptical. They’d rather the Soviets take their missile sites and go home. And it’s all coming to a scary showdown, Harwell indicates.

(October 25, 1962) The Delman plant here has begun a new round of hiring after landing a contract to make disposable Crickett cigarette lighters. Previously, the plant has only produced automotive windshield wipers.

(October 29, 1962) Senator Albert Gore Sr. told a crowd of some 500 on the square here this week that President John F. Kennedy ascended to the ranks of great leaders earlier this month when he faced down the Soviet Union’s Nikita Khruschev in what has become known as the Cuban missile crisis.

“A week ago we were on the brink of the most horrible war mankind has ever known,” said Gore. “It was the biggest blunder Khruschev and the Russians have made since the end of World War Two.”

“Forcing Khruschev to remove missiles from Cuba makes John F. Kennedy a great president,” said Gore.

(November 6, 1962) It’s not officially open yet, but last Sunday afternoon, lots of motorist slipped onto the new interstate to give it a try. It’s paved now from Monterey to Silver Point.

It’s a new way of driving, motorist reported. One told the editor that he drove down from Monterey, and it went so smoothly and quickly that he was past the Baxter exit before he knew it. He had to turn around at Silver Point and come back.

At the Princess Theater this week: Walt Disney’s “Moon Pilot,” with Tom Tryon and Brian Keith.

*The Putnam School Board was forced to close the Burgess School this week when it lost a student, bringing its average daily attendance below the required 20-student mark.

Eleven of the school’s students are going to attend Park View, one ahs decided to go to the Holladay
School, and the others still don’t know where they’re going. The school was one of Putnam County’s last one-teacher schoolhouses.

Two others, Thomas and Calfkiller, rang their school bells for the last time earlier this fall when too few students signed up.

(November 16, 1962) Apparently rabid foxes have attacked people at least three times here this week, the newspaper reports. In the Elmwood community, a woman heard a commotion in her hen house and found a fox eating one of her chickens.

She beat it with a stick and it attacked and bit her. She screamed and a neighboring housewife came running with a gun. She shot the fox but didn’t kill it.

The fox attacked her. She beat it to death with the empty rifle.

In a second incident, a fox walked out of the woods in front of a man and woman who were out for a walk. He threw a rock at the fox to scare it off.

It attacked. They ran for a tree. He made it up and began pulling up the woman. The fox bit her in the legs repeatedly until she was out of range.

Finally, a child was bitten by a family dog that the parents believed was attacked earlier by a fox. The child and the adults are now under going a series of rabies shots. And officials here are considering following Overton county’s lead. It had a similar outbreak of rabies in the fox population there and set a bounty on foxes.

(November 20, 1962) For the second year in a row, Cookeville has been named “Tennessee’s Most Progressive City” by the State Department of Conservation and Commerce. A delegation of Cookeville leaders went to claim the award this week. Among them were Arnold Cameron, chairman of the drive to win this year’s title, along with Mayor Jack Mann and Ed Hooper, president of the Chamber of Commerce.

A large scrap book full of photos and documents detailing the city’s work to win the award will be on public display in city hall this week.

(November 23, 1962) It looks like it’s going to be one of the best tobacco crops in years — and the prices are the best in years too, burley growers here say.

The average price at area tobacco barns was $65.91 per 100 pounds.

High burley prices plus the lowest unemployment in years are causing merchants to get ready for one of their best holiday shopping season in years too. Employment at many area factories is twice what it was this time last year.

Showing at the Princess: “Mein Kampf.” Authentic film. Shocking! The terrifying true story of Hitler’s Reich.”

(November 27, 1962) Four school moms here are about to become meter maids as well. The city police department has been authorized to expand their hours so they can collect from parking meters, give out parking tickets, and relieve city patrolmen of those duties.

The four are Mrs. Albert Allison, Mrs. Carol Allen, Mrs. Faye Chaffin, and Mrs. Edna Stewart, according to Cookeville City manager Ed Little.

(December 4, 1962) Cookeville’s Square is about to become “confusion proof,” says City Manager Ed Little.
City workers this week installed four new traffic signals to replace the ones that have been there for a quarter of a century. And the new ones aren’t on posts stuck out in the street. They hang from overhead wires, notes Little.

And they have little arrows that show drivers which way they should go. The old set was the city’s first traffic lights.

(December 11, 1962) Cookeville’ White Christmas came a couple of weeks early. It started last week when Old Man Winter dropped an inch of snow on Cookeville each day for three days. Then there was a four-day lull during which little snow melted. Yesterday, the bottom fell out of the clouds and another five inches of white stuff piled up.

All schools except the Tech Training School are closed here and the roads are open “but dangerous” says the THP. Lots of autos are stranded on area roadsides and in ditches.

Stuck at home with little to do, many Cookevillians got on the telephone. Soon, it was hard to find an open line, the phone company reports.

Things should be better in a few days, officials said today.

(December 16, 1962) Who will control what sorts of businesses and developments go up next to interchanges when the new superhighway is built through Putnam County?

It’s a question local planners have been asking. This week, the State Planning Commission said cities and towns through which interstates pass control the zoning of interchanges within their corporate limits.

That means that Cookeville has control of three interchanges, and Baxter and Monterey will control one each. Right now, there’s not really much there where the interstate highway is scheduled to go a year or so from now, but businesses are expected to pop up fast after the roadbed goes down.

(December 22, 1962) A TTU graduate from Overton County, Lt. Clark Stults, Jr., was in town visiting friends this week after making international headlines.

He organized the rescue of a US Embassy official and his wife when they were detained after a night of opera in East Berlin, where the infamous Berlin Wall was thrown up the year before.

(December 23, 1962) It was a big year here for giving. The United Givers Fund exceeded its $36,000 goal for the year this week. The Kiwanis annual children’s Christmas dinner was served to 360 kids this year, the most ever.

And over at the Cookeville Fire Department, they’ve collected and repaired more toys for needy children than they can give away, says fire superintendent Tom Watts.

Watts told the newspaper that they’ve given away hundreds of toys this week, but still have more than a thousand left. The only question asked when anyone shows up for a free toy is, “Is it for a boy or girl?”

*Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Walt Disney’s “Babe’s in Toyland,” with Annette Funcecello.

(December 31, 1962) The Putnam School Board is getting ready to go before the Putnam County Court next week and ask for $15 million to renovate schools in the Putnam school system under a plan recommended by the state.

However, one item conspicuously missing from the board’s package is a new high school recommended by the state for the middle part of the county. The state recommended that Central High be made into a junior high and that a new high school be built in Cookeville for $500,000.
Many parents, and now the newspaper in an editorial this week, are calling for the school board to go ahead and ask the County Court for funds to build the new high school too. They say it’s sorely needed.

Showing this week at the Princess; Audie Murphy in the Western, “Posse From Hell.”

1963

(January 8, 1963) Luke Medley became the city’s new mayor this week. He replaced Jack Mann, who he praised for bringing progress to Cookeville such as the new Bowser plant.

Medley pledged that he too would seek to broaden the city's industrial base. He also said he has full confidence in Cookeville's new city manager form of government.

Under it, he cautioned, councilmen have no business becoming involved in the day-to-day workings of city hall. Voters changed that by changing the city's form of government, he noted.

(January 8, 1963) It started in a classroom on the southeast corner of the Darwin High School and spread fast through the six-classroom building. Soon, the wood-framed, brick-veneered building was gutted, leaving 152 black students from Putnam, White and Overton Counties without a school.

It’s going to cost $200,000 to replace the county’s black high school, officials say. They aren’t sure where the money will come from.

*Meanwhile, Putnam School Supt. Eddie Watson and Darwin principal Issac Bohannon have been working with area churches to find classroom space and have arranged to have desks from the old City School, which is now closed, moved to the temporary classrooms.

The Darwin School was built here in the 1930s. The fire not only destroyed the building itself, but it burned up all the school’s records too.

(January 8, 1963) Sheriff Billo Bilyeu says phone calls and letters from mothers and children prompted him to raid 13 businesses here this week and arrest 21 people for operating pinball machines or paying cash to those who win games on them.

*Meanwhile, Tennessee Tech theater director Margery Hargrove urges anyone who can act to try out for TTU’s winter production, Agatha Christie’s “The Unexpected Guest.” Tryouts will be held in the Concert Hall on campus, she says.

(January 10, 1963) The Pentagon has ordered a reorganization of the Tennessee National Guard that could bring a unit of whirly-birds here.

State Adjutant General Van Nunally says it hasn’t been decided whether Cookeville or McMinnville will get a 27-helicopter air cavalry squadron.

If it’s landed here, it could mean pilot training for several young Cookeville men. The aircraft would be based at the Cookeville airport.

Black students from Cookeville’s Darwin School were meeting this week in facilities at the Presbyterian, Methodist and Baptist Churches. The Darwin School has burned to the ground.

Principal Issac Bohannon appealed to the community this week to help the school recover. Textbooks, classics and maps are among some of the items that need to be replaced for the school’s 152 students.
(January 15, 1963) Hugh Bailey, the senior agent with the Internal Revenue Service here since 1954, has resigned that post. The McMinnville native is opening a public accountant's office in the Doctor's building here.

(January 16, 1963) Fire has destroyed the six-classroom Darwin High School where 152 black students from Putnam, Overton and White Counties went to segregated school.

(January 22, 1963) The cost of stamps went up this week – and the public seems to love it. The sale of the new five-cent stamps has skyrocketed to five times the amount of stamps being previously sold, say Post Office officials.

Stamps cost four cents before this week. People were using two 2-cent stamps, or four 1-cent stamps. Now, there's just one stamp to buy when you mail a letter first-class. And the new stamps are selling as fast as they can be printed.

First District magistrate Robert Thrasher became chairman of the Putnam County Court by the flip of a coin this week. He as 20th District magistrate J. T. Dunavin had been candidates in two previous rounds of voting by the county court and, both time, they tied. They agreed to decide the issue by a coin tossed by County Judge Jimmy Mosier.

(January 24, 1963) A record cold wave continues here. For the past two weeks temperatures have been below freezing, and last night, the mercury dropped to minus 15 in Cookeville. Monterey residents are reporting lows of 24 below.

That beats the 1951 record says Cookeville weather observer C. K. Flatt. It only got down to 11 below that winter.

And ice on the roads is causing problems still. Salt, which is only effective at 32 degrees or higher, hasn't been any help. Mail trucks and delivery trucks from Nashville are running late.

The train didn't do much better. This week cold weather snapped a Tennessee Central track at Silver Point right in front of the home of Charles Smith.

Smith says, “I heard a racket and thought the train was a little noisier than usual. When the cars turned over, it really made a fuss.”

Outside cars from a TC train were scattered like toys along a quarter of a mile section of track.

(January 29, 1963) Southern Bell Telephone Co. officials are coming to Cookeville this week for a public presentation explaining the Telstar satellite and other advances in telephone technology.

The new Telstar satellite will make telephone calls between the US and Europe quicker, say Southern Bell officials.

Meanwhile, they'll also tell residents here all about the picture telephone, which in the not so distant future will send a televised picture of the speaker as well as his voice, they say.

*At the Princess this week, it's Elvis in "Follow That Dream."

(February 5, 1963) Rites were held this week for Henry Foster, a retired gasoline distributor and former city commissioner.
Foster, who lived at 67 North Dixie Avenue, retired five years ago after working for 40 years as a distributor for the Gulf Refining Co.

He also served two 3-year terms as the city commissioner of finance and taxation in Cookeville beginning in 1941. Foster was also a member of the original Cookeville Housing Authority Board.

(February 7, 1963) The man who invented the maser spoke to Tennessee Tech students here Wednesday morning in the college’s weekly General Assembly program.

W.C. Bauer, vice president and Tennessee general manager of Southern Bell, told the students that the master instrument in communications of the future will be not electrical wires or microwaves but a beam of light transmitted by the device he invented, the maser.

He said it will soon be used in appliances only now being talked about, such as the push button telephone, “slim” phones with dials in the headset, rapid-dialing phones and cordless telephones.

(February 10, 1963) State Senator Jared Maddux has announced that Putnam County will get a 27-helicopter unit of the Tennessee National Guard soon, and the pilots will be trained at the Putnam Airport.

(February 12, 1963) Cookeville City Manager Ed Little says the city's teen center is temporarily out of business because its' manager has taken a full-time job elsewhere.

Little said it is the sentiment of many here that the center should be reopened, only expanded into a full fledged community center to serve whole families rather than just teens.

*At the Princess this week: "Battle ground," the story of "the guts, gags, glory and a lot of wonderful guys." It's the story of US paratroopers at Bastogne in the Battle of the Bulge.

(February 21, 1963) The number of telephones here has jumped 500 percent since WWII and it takes new subscribers four to six weeks to get phones installed.

Cold fronts that have pounded the area in recent weeks followed by warm spells are being blamed for a flu outbreak here that’s keeping a lot of people home.

That’s where Cookeville General Hospital administrator Robert Pratt is urging people to stay, too. He’s asking residents to limit visits to the hospital to your immediate family in order to slow the spread of the flu here.

High absenteeism is being reported here in schools and in the workplace as well.

Central High senior John Paul McCormick of Algood has been named as a page to serve U.S. Rep. Joe L. Evins in Washington next month.

He was selected last year to serve as a page, but the death of his father prevented him from going.

E.A. Hellerbrand of the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Ala., told Tennessee Tech students this week that the benefits of spending millions to reach the moon in the nation’s space program go far beyond just putting a man on the moon’s surface.

Hellerbrand explained that numerous technological advances are being made to put a man on the moon, and those new discoveries will be finding their way into homes in the coming years in the form of new and better appliances and other consumer goods.
(February 22, 1963) The 14th District Basketball Tournament is this weekend, and the newspaper this week ran a two-page spread of photos of Putnam County's teams.

Among the players for the Monterey boys team this year are Benny Ford, Ricky Norrod, Dallas Stults, Jack Nickens and Billy Madewell. Coach Bob Holloway is also posing with the players.

On the Algood boys team are Lester Prichard, Donny Kimes, Bill Raney and Tillman Prichard.

Upperman's boys team includes J.C. Kelley, Bobby Palmer, Philip Loftis, and David Brewington.

And the boys team for Cookeville Central High includes David Ledbetter, John Stockton, Jerry Killom, David McBroom and Larry Maxwell.

The Monterey girls teams boasts Molly Randolph, Peggy Norrod, Patsy Phillips and Sara Hall. Their coach is Warren Callahan.

On the Algood girls team this year are Mickey Pointer, Kathy Warren, Linda Smith, Carolyn Bilibrey, and Becky McAlpin.

The girls team at Central High includes Gail Hammontree, Joyce Sparks, Wanda Young, Cathy Rodgers, Doris Fowler and Vicky Smith.

(February 26, 1963) It's the 100th anniversary of the Civil War and Cookevillians are looking on with a little envy at McMinnville, where a group of war buffs is celebrating the occasion by rolling a Civil war cannon to the nation's capitol.

Editor John Mott, in his weekly "Town Talk" column, notes that the only battle to speak of in Putnam County was the Battle of Dug Hill Road, a skirmish between Union soldiers and Confederate partisans in the Calfkiller Valley.

Nonetheless, several here are talking of organizing some sort of commemorative event, said Mott.

(February 26, 1963) Legislators are looking over several new proposed bills in Nashville this week, and two are being talked about a lot here. State Senator Jared Maddux and Rep. Vernon Neal say they oppose them both. One would allow voters to decide whether to allow liquor-by-the-drink sales in their town and the second would do away with capital punishment in Tennessee. They say their constituents are against the sale of liquor in any form and that they both believe doing away with the electric chair in Tennessee would only encourage more incidents of violent crime.

(February 28, 1963) The number of telephones here has jumped 500 percent since the end of World War II. The number of people wanting new phone service has jumped so quickly, in fact, that the phone company can’t keep up with it. It now takes new subscribers four to six weeks to get their phones installed.

In 1932, there were 432 phones in operation in Putnam County. By the close of the war in 1944, the county had 915 phones in operation. Today, General Electric has 4,920 customers in Putnam County.

(March 5, 1963) James A. Carlen III, who's now the football line coach for Georgia Tech, is coming home to Cookeville this week to speak at First United Methodist Church on the subject of “Christianity in Athletics.”

The son of Mr. and Mrs. James Carlen of 22 South Elm, was raised and schooled here and is now an active member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.
Showing this week at the Princess: “Seven Brides for Seven Brothers,” with Jane Powell and Howard Keel. It’s filmed in Cinema Scope and ‘blushing’ color, says the ad.

(March 11, 1963) Harold Rippetoe and L. D. Rippetoe are pictured on page one of this week’s edition wading out of what appears to be a swamp. They set out on a tractor to cross their Dry Valley farm after heavy rains that dumped 2.84 inches of rain on the county in a 24-hour period. The tractor didn’t make it and the pair had to go on foot to nearby Highway 70 to reach dry land. Part of Highway 70 east of Cookeville was under water, too, this week.

(March 12, 1963) Some 2,000 high school seniors from the area are gathering on the campus of Tennessee Tech this week for Career Day. Among the speakers they’ll hear from is Pat Haste, the daughter of professor and Mrs. Maurice Haste and a 1961 TTU graduate. She’s now a stewardess with Delta Airlines. Other speakers will be on hand from the fields of chemistry, modeling, pharmacy, and education.

(March 19, 1963) County Judge Jimmy Mosier is asking Gov. Frank Clement to declare Putnam County a disaster area after flooding did an estimated $250,000 in damage to area roads, bridges and culverts.

Maddux says that sections of Highway 135 between Cookeville and Gainesboro are still under water today.

*Showing at the Princess this week: "Battle Hymn," the ad for which says it depicts the true story of Col. Dean Hess, a clergyman turned fighter pilot in WWII.

(March 19, 1963) In his “Town Topics” weekly column, editor John Mott writes that Putnam Road Supervisor Sid Maddux has his work cut out for him repairing the $250,000 in damages to the county’s 2,000 miles of rural roads and bridges from this week’s flood.

Bridges washed out, roads were impassable by mud, and livestock drowned when 1.90 inches of rain fell on the county in a short period of time.

Mott also writes in his column that he had guest this week. Ed Zegarske, better known as the “Ole Goat.” Zegarske was in town visiting with his wife, Shirley, and his daughter, Jan. He set a 100-yard dash for TTU in his earlier days, then went on to become a popular sports announcer for WHUB and the newspaper’s first sports editor. He’s now a pharmacist for Hillsboro Drug Store in Nashville.

(March 21, 1963) Central High announced its honor students for the year. They are, in order of academic ranking, Carolyn Lee, Rose Leigh Bilbrey, Elizabeth Doran and Carlen Maddux.

*Attorney Aron Paul Thompson this week became Algood's first city judge. The part-time position was created by a private action introduced by Rep. Vernon Neal. The new city judge is expected to deal primarily with cases stemming from Algood’s traffic problems.

*Used car lots are vacating the grounds of the old City School this week. City Manager Ed Little says the city is getting ready to put the vacant school and its grounds up for sale.

*A 447-pound electronic machine hurling through outer space this week sent back the first close-up data of Venus to rocket scientists in California. Mariner II, launched by the California Tech Jet Propulsion Lab, sent back word that the 800-degree surface temperature of the planet rules out life there. Next, Mariner II will move on to Mars, the lab's scientists report.
(March 26, 1963) Mrs. Darrell S. Gwynn, sister of Mrs. Frank L. Lewis of Bangham, is visiting here this week after a two-year stay in Turkey working with the American Board of the Congregation Church. The Turks, she says, “love anything American. They are great imitators of our customs and are quick and eager to learn about us.” The American woman, she says, “is a heroine there as long as she doesn’t discuss politics or religion.”

She was one of the aviation industry’s original stewardesses and married a pilot who is now deceased. She’s been serving at a missionary station on the Syrian border of Turkey near a site where the apostle, Paul, once preached.

(March 28, 1963) Lt. Odell Huddleston, an 18-year veteran of the Tennessee Highway Patrol, was named captain of the Cookeville district this week. He replaces Capt. Joe Sanford who retires April 1.

Huddleston is a Cookeville native who has served most of his years with the THP in the Cookeville district.

*President John F. Kennedy has declared Putnam County a disaster area after flooding on March 16 did more than $400,000 in damage to roads and bridges here. The county is now eligible for federal aid.

*Winners were announced this week in the Book Lovers Club’s Putnam County Poetry Contest. Capshaw third grader Preston Presley won first place in his age category with a poem, “My Bicycle,” and Capshaw 8th grader Carol Ray won first in her age group with “Tattle-Tale Wind.”

(April 2, 1963) City Manager Ed Little announced this week that the town dump near the city sewage treatment plant on the Sparta Road has been closed down. He took that step after getting a petition from 43 people who live near the dump.

A new dump has been opened, said Little. It's on the Herbert Ford property further on down the Sparta Road about a mile and a half past the city limits.

*Carlos Gentry has a champion chicken. It laid an egg this week that was three-and-a-quarter inches long and six inches around. Eggs are usually about half that size. He says the chicken's not going into the pot as long as it keep laying those eggs.

(April 11, 1963) A fire may be about to bring about racial integration in Cookeville.

Since the Darwin school, the area's school for blacks, burned, The Putnam School Board has been wrestling with how much to ask from the Putnam County Quarterly Court to rebuild the school. The most they think the court might fund would be a $195,000, three-room building.

Now this week, a group of black parents from the Swallows community met with the school board and told the officials that it is their wish that their children attend white schools.

The board is now looking into small expansions of all schools here so the community's black students can attend the school of their choice.


(April 18, 1963) The city has closed the Cookeville Youth Center on Locust Avenue, and the newspaper reports this week that Sonny Booker, of Double Springs, took city officials to task in an article in the Central High student newspaper, the Charger.

Booker says the closing of the center is a setback to efforts here to fight juvenile delinquency.
About the only recreation spots left for teens in town now are local billiard parlors, says Booker.

City Manager Ed Little says the center was closed after its director resigned and after complaints were received from neighbors about the noise. The problem with the city-run center is that it’s located in a residential area.

Major Luke Medley says the city would like to find a better site and a new director.

(April 30, 1963) This year's Monterey High senior class play is a sports comedy, "Hail the Hunkering Hero," the tale of a hillbilly football hero, Clifford Shnorkle of Gillette Tech.

The cast includes Ray Norman, Yolanda Copeland, Dewey Woolbright, Bernice Wilson, Joyce Matheney Callahan, Carolyn Gentry, Roy South, Jack Nickens, Richard Norman, Larry Nichols, David Adkisson, Mattie Jackson Ellington, Shirley Randolph, Sara Hill, Linda Brown, Linda Key and Molly Randolph.

*And at the Princess this week: Elvis in "It Happened at the World's Fair," with 10 new Elvis songs.

(April 25, 1963) One of the state’s biggest road building projects is under way this week at Monterey. Fifty road workers under three contractors are building the new interstate highway up the mountain.

Due for completion in 1965, the 7.2 million section of Interstate 40, near Monterey, will cost $3.7 million.

To build it, workers have divided Monterey Lake, moved mountains of dirt and cut down acres of timber. The section includes one of the state’s deepest road cuts, one slicing 90 feet into the rocks. The biggest earth moving machinery made is being used in the project.

*Cookevillians got a surprise look at two passengers cars rolling through town on the Tennessee Central’s tracks this week. Passenger service ended here a decade ago.

But this week the president of the TCR, Leo Nielson and six board members rolled through Cookeville in two passenger cars, the first many children here have ever seen.

(May 2, 1963) Because it is the focal point of the region’s highway and rail system, Cookeville has been chosen as one of 554 cities in the nation as "sectional centers" in the U.S. Postal Service's revolutionary zip code system, says Cookeville Postmaster L.K. Mahler.

Mahler said that when the system goes into effect July 1, a five-digit number will be added to all addresses. The first three digits of all mail in this region will be Cookeville's "sectional" numbers. The remaining two numbers will be "zones" which revolve around Cookeville.

*It wasn't just a frost that fell here May 1 -- it was a freeze, says Cookeville weather observer C.K. Flatt. The mercury plunged to 29 degrees and the wind chill pulled temperatures even lower.

Farm agent Roy Luna says tobacco beds have been damaged, and the leaves of many young plants across the county have been scorched.

One of the city's oldest residents, Judge Beecher Huddleston, says he doesn't ever recall a freeze so late in the spring here.

(May 16, 1963) Pictured in the newspaper this week was the first meeting of the Putnam County Court in the new upstairs courtroom of the recently remodeled Putnam Courthouse.
Seen are School Supt. Eddie Watson discussing school programs with the country commissioners, Sheriff Bill Bilyeu, County Judge Jimmy Mosier and Deputy Clerk Carolyn Duke Benson.

*The Baxter Little League released the list of its teams this week. Among them are: Barr’s Hardware, whose members include Mark Herron, Bill Bowman, Jimmy Walker and Hickey Barr.

Citizens Bank, coached by Pennock Maxwell, and whose roster includes Kenneth Maynard, Clarence Carr, Hugh Gentry, Larry Goff and Mickey Boyd – and Nunally’s Drugs, whose members include Michael Dyer, Wayne Hargis, Steve Jones, Walter Shanks, Bobby Lee Fields and Gary Burgess.

(May 16, 1963) The Grand Ole Opry's Archie Campbell will be here this week to host the Rotary Club's talent show, and the 36 high school competitors will be giving it all they've got because of someone else who'll be in the audience as well.

Campbell says he's bringing Nashville talent scouts with him and that the winner of the competition will have the chance to further their careers.

*Several from Putnam County are planning to attend groundbreaking -- or groundblowing -- ceremonies in Nashville for the new Cordell Hull Dam 50 miles west of Cookeville.

President John F. Kennedy is scheduled to be in Nashville's Vanderbilt Stadium to push the button that will by remote control set off the first blast at the dam site.

On the drawing board since 1946, the dam project will make navigation on the Cumberland River possible as far upstream as the Wolf River Dam in Kentucky.

*Showing this week at the Princess: "The Birds." Alfred Hitchcock's nature-run-amok take starring Rod Taylor, Jessica Tandy and Tippi Hedren.

Showing later in the week: "Boccaccio 70," the ad for which says, "To our patrons: We are showing this feature in response to many requests for a foreign film classed as an art picture. This is in English and is recommended for the discriminating adult."

(May 27, 1963) A newcomer to Cookeville, Col. Joseph Thurston of TTU’s military science department, gave his assessment of Cookeville in a speech this week to the Rotary Club.

He said the city has a better climate than Honolulu and its location makes it a planner's dream. It has excellent churches, a good hospital and friendly people.

On the downside, the colonel said the city appears to have grown haphazardly with little attention to zoning.

Schools are badly overcrowded and drivers are frequently discourteous.

But, after living here nine months, Cookeville already feels like home, he added.

*At the Princess: "Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?" with Bette Davis and Joan Crawford. Also, muscleman Steve Reeves stars in "The Slave, Son of Spartacus," and Tom Poston appears in "Zotz."

(May 28, 1963) Stacy Wilhite, a former banker and theater owner here, died of a heart attack in Augusta, Ga., at age 68. He operated the Putnam Drive-in and Princess Theater for several years until selling them in 1960. Last month, he and his wife moved to Belle Meade from Cookeville, where he'd lived all his life.

The theme of graduation ceremonies at Central High this year is "Flights." The schools' 153 graduating seniors will hear comments on "Ground Crew," "Take Off," "Navigating," and "Landing."
Funeral services were held this week for Stacy Wilhite, 68, who died of a heart attack during a visit to Augusta, Ga.

Wilhite was an officer of First National Bank for several years and, until he retired in 1960, was the owner of the Putnam Drive-in and the co-owner of the Princess Theater.

*Showing tonight at the Putnam Drive-in: "Mysterious Island," which is based on the book by Jules Verne.

Teachers attending the annual Tennessee Education Association leadership conference at Tennessee tech were told this week that they ought to feel that taking part in politics is “unsavory.”

TEA official urged the educators that they have a responsibility to their community to get involved in political decisions.

They were also told that today’s educational system needs to become more flexible to deal with Tennessee’s shift from an agricultural to an industrial economy.

*At the Princess this week: Burt Lancaster in “Bird Man of Alcatraz.”

Cookeville Postmaster L.K. Mahler says the numbers 3-8-5-0-1 are something everyone here should commit to their memories -- they're Cookeville's numbers in the nation's new five-digit zip code system, which goes into effect across the US on July 1.

The new system is expected to make the postal service considerably more efficient, said Mahler.

*Editor John Mott, in his weekly "Town Topics" column, notes that Billy Luke, who lives on the Nashville Highway, has ripe tomatoes on his vines weeks ahead of when the rest of the country normally starts picking them.

"I'm guarding them because I don't have enough to go around," says Luke, who declined to share his secret for early produce with Mott.

Tennessee's United Methodist churches, meeting in their annual conference in Cookeville, this week passed a resolution calling for an end to racial barriers in churches and schools.

But, they stressed that racial injustice is a moral issue, not a political one, and said they could not support sit-ins, demonstrations and protest rallies to accomplish racial equality.

*Cookeville City Council this week began deliberating a $562,000 city budget proposed by city finance officer T.W. Kittrell.

It calls for $60,000 in new spending, offset by new revenue from the state's new sales tax, City Manager Ed Little told the council.

*At the Princess this week: Walt Disney's "Lady and the Tramp."

Eight members of Cookeville’s Girl Scout Troop 143 this week went out in style.

They and 20 other young girls joined the Scotts together in 1951, creating first a Brownie unit, and as they got older, a Girl Scout troop. This week, with high school graduation behind them, the girls who grew up together in Scouting, the last eight, went to New York.

Escorting them on their road trip was Mrs. Clarence Stewart. The group saw the bright lights of Broadway, ate in the restaurant of the stars, Downeys, and met stars themselves when they go invited backstage after performances they saw on their tour.
They met Geraldine Paige and Rip Torn and Eugene O’Neal’s “Strange Interlude,” and later met the casts of other plays, including Sid Caesar and Vivian Leigh.

The eight girls of Girl Scout Troop 143 are Pam King, Helen Ann Hooper, Rose Leigh Bilbrey, Cissie Stewart, Ella Gibson, Mille Patton, Pat Loftis and Jenny Rogers.

The trip was Troop 143’s last activity. Afterwards they disbanded and went their separate ways.

(July 10, 1963) County officials have announced the creation of Burgess Falls Road, which will run north from Interstate 40, cross Spring and Broad Streets, and connect with Willow Avenue near TTU.

(July 16, 1963) The Putnam County Court got into a heated discussion this week over whether to issue a beer permit to a legally qualified tavern owner.

Many of the rural magistrates wanted nothing more to do with issuing permits, even though the tavern owner in question met the same requirements that others who now have permits here met.

Magistrate Joe Willeford, who works at the county jail, said, “two thirds of those we put in jail come from the beer joints.”

But county attorney Tom Haile told the officials that if they deny a qualified applicant, he can go to court and be issued a permit there. It happened recently in similar cases in Fentress and Overton County, said Haile.

The officials finally decided to hold the question in committee until October. That’s when they told the sheriff to come back with a report on whether taverns that already have permits are obeying the law.

(July 19, 1963) County Judge Jimmy Mosier and County Road Supervisor Ben Austin this week announced a major new road for the area.

The project will create a new road called Burgess Falls Road. The four-lane route will go north from Interstate 40 and will cross Spring and Broad, tying in with Willow Avenue near Tennessee Tech.

It’s being built in conjunction with the construction of a new industry here. Ox Fibre Brush, which is building a plant in the southeast corner of the intersection of the interstate and the new road. **The site was owned by Bob Lee Maddux.**

Austin and Mosier say that once the first phase of the project is under way road crew will begin work taking the Burgess Falls Road south to the boat dock on Center Hill Lake.

At the Princess this week “Flipper,” the story of a boy and his dolphins. It stars TV’s “Rifleman,” Chuck Connors.

(August 6, 1963) City Manager Ed Little today signed a $2,055 contract with the Haley Wrecking Co. of Nashville to tear down the Old City School here. It’s an unpopular project with many who have fond memories of school days and civic programs in the old building.

But the city needs a new municipal building, say city officials, and it would cost more to remodel the aging structure than it would to build an entirely new building. Right now, the building is being used for storage by the Bowser-Briggs Filtration Division. After the building is razed, the site will be used for off-street parking until city officials can line up financing for the new city hall. The building was erected in 1923.

City officials hope to build a new city hall on the site. They’ve sent off applications for state and federal grants in recent weeks to fund the work.
(August 13, 1963) TVA has announced that next summer it is building a $1.7 million primary substation to boost power to Cookeville and a wide area of the surrounding region.

Cookeville Electric Dept. Supt. W.R. Holland says the station, which will be built in west Cookeville, will have a 100,000-kilowatt capacity.

Cookeville's power load has doubled since 1960, and the upgrade is the third for Cookeville since 1951.

*Several Cookevillians were in Madisonville, Tenn., today to pay their final respects to Estes Kefauver, who died of a heart attack this week.

In 1952 and 1956, Kefauver, Tennessee's senior senator, sought and failed to win the Democratic Party's nomination for president.

He'd won a reputation in his early years for leading Senate investigations into organized crime, and his bid for the presidency stirred considerable interest here, where Kefauver was often a visitor. He had a summer home in McMinnville.

Kefauver, in 1956, did beat Senator John F. Kennedy in gaining the party's vice-presidential nomination, but the ticket lost to Dwight D. Eisenhower and Richard Nixon.

*Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Mothra," the story of the giant moth that destroyed Tokyo and its outlying environs. It's a Toho production released in the US by Columbia Pictures.

(August 27, 1963) Officials here and across the country are alarmed at the growing rate of high school dropouts.

Nationally, 39.6 percent of the students who enter the 9th grade don't finish school. In Putnam County, of the 465 students who entered the 9th grade in 1959, 45 percent failed to complete the 12th grade this year.

The newspaper applauds the work of Putnam attendance officer Goodwin Hardin for trying to keep kids in school. And it cautions those thinking of dropping out that their futures depend upon them finishing high school.

*An editorial in this week's edition urges school leaders and county court members, who hold the purse strings, to work to better equip schools to provide more stimulating classrooms, to implement new vocational programs, and to urge parents to get more involved in their children's education.

Also, the newspaper says finances are a factor in the dropout rate. Many drop out in order to get jobs to help their families pay the bills. The editor says that there's now widespread interest in student loans for college, so why not provide similar loans for students to finish high school as well, he suggests.

*Showing this week at the Princess: "King Kong vs. Godzilla."

(August 31, 1963) The Cookeville Jaycees say the city has become "Tennessee's Hospitality Capital." They're manning their hospitality booth again on Highway 70, plying travelers with free ham and biscuits, coffee, soft drinks and other edibles designed to impress the recipients with Cookeville's down-home friendliness.

And it works, the Jaycees say. Many say they've seen nothing like it — and they say they'll come back again. George Poteet is chairman of the club's project this summer.

(August 31, 1963) James T. Wall has been at home this week visiting his mother, Putnam Chancery Court Clerk and Master Mrs. Neta Wall.
The 1955 TTU graduate served in the Army in Germany for two years and was on the staff of the late Sen. Estes Kefauver for two years. He's spent the last two years in Chile studying the economy of that nation for the U.N. under a Knickerbocker Foundation grant.

Wall says that he learned that imported goods are astronomically high in that country because the government attempts to ensure its citizens buy home-grown or homemade goods and keep their money in Chile.

For example, a Chevrolet made in the U.S. costs a staggering $10,000, said Wall. He rode a Chilean motor scooter, he said. But local services are cheap. A bus ride costs 3 cents. He stayed in a top hotel for $30 per month.

He was concerned about speaking the language when he arrived because his Spanish was "shaky," but he soon found that every high school graduate in the country spoke English. "They were all eager to try out their English on me," he said in an interview this week.

*More than 700 travelers were impressed by Cookeville's hospitality this weekend when they pulled off Highway 70 at a stand on the edge of town and got free ham-and-biscuits and coffee and soft drinks served up by the Jaycees, the Jaycettes, 4-H clubs and Girl Scouts working in shifts.

Volunteers took those interested on short tours of town, too. Most of the tourists said they'd seen nothing like it anywhere in their travels. One man made a special detour back through Cookeville this year because he'd stopped last year when clubs here manned a similar "hospitality station."

(Sept. 10, 1963) Tennessee Tech President Everett Derryberry said this week that the university has added 30 new names to its faculty and administration staff. They include:

-- Dr. Martin Peters, new dean of student services, and Dr. Robert C. Mildram, dean of admissions.

-- Also, new faculty include Dr. James Wattenbarger, music; Dr. Richard Lukas, history; Dr. James Dotson, education; Lottie Farr, English; Graham Kash, English; Whenwon Cho, economics; and Dr. Robert Morton, biology.

*Count Felix Mouton de Villaret of Paris was in town this week inspecting the new Crickett cigarette lighters being made at the Delman Co. plant here.

Cookeville is only one of five cities in the US in which the popular new lighters are being made.

The disposable butane lighters are selling fast.

*Showing at the Princess this week: The 300 Spartans."

(September 17, 1963) Editor John Mott notes in his weekly "Town Topics" column that this week you couldn't drive anywhere in town without getting in a traffic jam, yet most people here are smiling.

That's because the surge in traffic is due to the en masse return of Tennessee Tech students to town. But while the streets are full, so are the town's stores and restaurants. Business is booming again.

*Putnam School Supt. E.H. Watson said this week that he expects a contract to be let on Cookeville's new high school by mid-October and invites the public to come by the Central Office Building in the meantime and see the plans, which were drawn up by Cookeville architect Bruce Draper.

*At the Princess this week: "Dr. No," in which actor Sean Connery brings Ian Fleming's world-famous character, James Bond, to the screen for the first time.
(September 24, 1963) Elaine Fowler, daughter of Dr. and Mrs. Nolan Fowler of Cookeville, displayed considerable academic prowess recently when she scored 150 our of 160 points in the National Merit Scholarship test.

She's ranked 28th in Tennessee and is one of only 13,500 students across the nation who have now made it to the semi-finals in the prestigious scholarship competition. About 97 percent of the semi finalists usually make it to the final level of competition.

*The Tennessee Tech-Cookeville Mutual Concert Association met in the New Way Restaurant here this week to kick-off this year's membership drive.

President Dr. Clement Eyler says that the cultural association already plans at least four events, including a rendition of Shakespeare's "The Taming of the Shrew" this season.

*Showing at the Putnam Drive-in this week: Cliff Richard in "Wonderful to be Young."

(October 1, 1963) A strike at the Southern Furniture Manufacturing Co. in Cookeville has turned violent. A wave of shootings was unleashed on the homes and vehicles of Southern workers still on the job this week.

Sheriff Bill Bilyeu took four striking workers in for questioning at the county jail, but no arrests have yet been made.

Several photos of the shooting damage appear on page one showing bullet-riddled walls of homes and car windows and sides peppered with slug holes.

*Jim Ragland was named OVC Back of the Week this week after leading the Golden Eagles to a tough 7-5 win over Chattanooga last weekend on a rain-slick field.

Ragland connected with 18 of the 15 passes for a gain of 141 yards in the game.

*Showing at the Princess this week: "Hootenanny Hoot," with Johnny Cash and the Brothers Four, Judy Henson, George Hamilton IV, Joe and Eddie, Chris Crosby, the Gateway Trio and Sheb Wooley.

(October 3, 1963) Funeral services were held this week for William B. Uffelman, president of the Bank of Monterey. He was killed in a car wreck on Highway 70 near Crossville this week. Jack Ray, 28, has been named by the bank board to succeed Uffelman.

(October 8, 1963) If you're one of those who missed your chance to take the Sabin oral polio vaccine during when 11 other clinics were held earlier this year, you'll have another chance this week to take the vaccine when it is distributed at the TTU Memorial Gymnasium.

Already, 60 percent of those living in Putnam County have taken the new vaccine. But, the war against polio goes on, and the other 40 percent of Putnam's residents are strongly being urged to go to the next clinic.

*Dr. Clement Eyler, a professor of English and a national authority on basketball rules and regulations, is going on a good-will tour of the Middle East to promote the sport of basketball among the Arabs.

He's been invited to be a 'clinician' on an American Athletic Union instructional tour of Syria, Egypt, Iran, Jordan, Beirut and Lebanon.

*And Amy Vanderbilt, the nation's foremost authority on etiquette, will speak at Tennessee Tech this week. A major crowd is expected.

(October 15, 1963) The Broad Street Church of Christ is moving. The congregation has committed to building a huge new building on South Jefferson Avenue. The auditorium will seat 1,600.
The building, which will begin construction next spring, is being built on seven acres sold to the church by Allison Ensor.

*Boy Scouts in Copeland Jared's Troop 192 are back from a weekend camping outing at Window Cliffs. They include Billy DeBerry, Mike Quillen, Buddy Massa, Steve Goodman, Fulton Jones, Johnny Massa, Herschel Judd, David Bryant, Tim Phipps, Russell Moss, Touch Lamb, Billy Legge, Phil Whitfield, Steve Johns, Mike Mullinax, Steve Jared and Bill Schmidt.

(October 17, 1963) The county is drying up in the grip of a fall drought. It hasn't rained all month and the summer wasn't exactly a wet one.

County farm agent Roy Luna says damage to crops is already running into the thousands of dollars here and there's little change in the weather forecast.

The temperatures all week have been in the mid-80s. Livestock ponds are drying up, virtually no fall seeding has been done because it would be pointless, and forest fires are becoming a problem too.

There have been nine grass and brush fires fought here this week alone. After a killing frost that is likely any day, the fire problem is likely to become more severe as what little greenery there is left turns brown and dry.

(October 24, 1963) A cold front struck this week just in time to give goose bumps to TTU Homecoming Queen Marilyn Hollingsworth of Sparta and her bare-shouldered court as they rolled through the city in the annual parade.

It suddenly got so cold that in Monterey, Hayes Pearson woke up the morning of the parade to find water frozen in his bird bath.

*The theme of homecoming was, "Happiness is Coming Home," and the winning float featured Charlie Brown, Linus and Schroder at the piano.

TTU lost to Murray 28-27 in the cold.

*Andrew Tully, whose syndicated editorial column, "Washington Whirligig" appears in the Cookeville paper, was outraged this week over what they're saying about Jackie Kennedy.

He writes that some lawmakers, opponents of JFK, are making 'pool room cracks' about the nation's lovely young First Lady, complaining about her taking part in "all night parties in foreign lands."

"Since when is dancing a modern dance illegal?" asks Tully. The First Lady is a young woman with young friends, he writes.

(November 5, 1963) Algood Mayor Noble Cody got the bad news in a letter this week. The OshKosh garment plant Algood had been hoping to get won't be coming after all. Algood has been dropped from the list.

The letter from Oshkosh, Wisconsin, told the mayor that after surveying the town's pool of available labor, the company estimated that the town could supply about 80 to 100 workers.

But the plant the company wants to build in Tennessee will need between 200 to 300 workers. Now, they're looking elsewhere.

*After absolutely no rain whatsoever in the entire month of October, the drought is over here.

A slow drizzle has been trickling down all week.
Farm Agent Roy Luna says that after 1.18 inches of soaking rain in the first five days of this month, ponds are still empty and subsoil is still bone dry. But it's a start, he said. (November 12, 1963) It's only been gravelled and road crews are working feverishly to get it black topped before winter sets in December, but already, local drivers can't stay off the new interstate highway.

The latest section between Carthage and the Cumberland County line is nearing completion. The newspaper ran a photo this week of the section near Silver Point showing cars rolling along the hard-packed gravel, just looking it over.

+ It's American Education Week and the newspaper asked teachers for some of the funny things their students have said over the year. Among the students' gems were:

-- Veterinarians are animals who fought in the war.

-- Three communicable diseases are mumps, typhoid and TV.

-- A hobby is something a person enjoys doing that is none of his business.

*At the Princess Theater this week: Rock Hudson, Elizabeth Taylor and James Dean in "Giant."

(November 19, 1963) A Cookeville resident this week became a U.S. citizen.

Aida Martinez de Warren, wife of TTU biology chairman Dr. John Warren, was accompanied by her husband and three children to Nashville where she joined 39 people from 18 other countries in naturalization ceremonies.

Friends of Dr. Richard Johnson of the biology department and his wife gave her a gift when she returned, a framed copy of the U.S. Declaration of Independence, which now hangs on the wall in the Warrens' living room. It replaced the national flag of her native country, Honduras.

*Showing this week at the Princess: Vincent Price in "Twice Told Tales."

(November 22, 1963) Cookeville, Putnam County, the nation and the world are stunned today. President John F. Kennedy lies dead in Dallas. Things are at a standstill. Schools are closed. So are most business. Most people are sitting in front of their televisions watching non-stop coverage of the assassination's aftermath.

In an interdenominational service here today, the Rev. David Meyer, pastor of First Presbyterian Church, said JFK died for "freedom, equality and peace."

Congressman Joe L. Evins said, "His place in history as a great and good president is assured."

(November 26, 1963) The town is deathly still this week. Many are in shock and grief.

Several factories like Acme Boot have shut down altogether for the week, and many others are sending home workers early. The stores that opened at all have sharply abbreviated hours. Burley sales have been cancelled this week and the delivery of mail has slowed to a crawl.

At Tennessee Tech, the big annual ROTC ball has been called off. So has the November term of Circuit court. Judges, lawyers, accused and accusers and just about everyone else is sitting in front of their television sets.

One of the few places where people are gathering this week here is in the churches. Special prayer services are overflowing.
The American flag, whipping around in the wind at the Putnam Courthouse, is only halfway up the pole. It was lowered to half-staff last Friday afternoon, four days ago, and it's stayed there ever since we learned that America's young president, John F. Kennedy, was shot down in Dallas.

(December 3, 1963) For a class project on Nov. 8, students in Miss Ethel Bowman's 8th grade English class at Brotherton wrote letters to the president.

Gary Bowman wrote, "Mr. President, can't little boys like me grow up to be a great man like you?"

The class got a package in the mail on Nov. 22. A letter and photos bearing the personal signature of John F. Kennedy.

Later that day, the class sat in front of the school television set watching the news from Dallas.

Pictured in this week's edition around their teacher and the signed photo of the slain president are Brotherton 8th graders Goldie Dishman, Donna Maxwell, Paul Swallows, Billy Hunter, Ricky Rockwell, Gary Bowman, Johnny Reels, Phyliss Harness, Linda Conley, Patricia Allen, Gary Pryor, Reba Dishman and Miss Bowman.

(December 10, 1963) Just a handful of years ago, fear of polio was high nationally. Then, vaccinations against the crippling disease began across the country. This fall, the latest series of treatments began here and 20,000 lined up at sites across the county in the month of October for shots.

Booster shots were given again here this week. Some 1,600 people failed to show up. Many now feel polio is beaten. A special round of booster shots has been scheduled for next week to give those who missed them a chance to complete their inoculation anyway.

An election has put a new board of aldermen in charge in Monterey. Elected there this week were Robert Cate as mayor and J.E. Walker Jr., A.B. Jackson, A.P. McCrary, and W.H. Wiggins as aldermen.

The race between Frank Pugh and Dave Wilson is still in question. Each got 75 votes.

*Cookeville has applied for a $2.9 million federal grant which, if awarded, will go towards a $5.8 million street improvement project here, says City Manager Bethel Newport.

Newport said that the project would bring improvements to virtually all of Cookeville's 64-miles of streets.

*At the Princess Theater this week, it's Elvis and Ursula Andress in "Fun in Acapulco."

(December 17, 1963) Marine Private First Class Jackie Raines was with the 3rd Marines on Okinawa this week during a massive military exercise called “Big Dipper.” It involved more than 3,000 Marines and U. S. Navy personnel and included amphibious landings and helicopter assaults.

*Cold weather this week -- the mercury didn't get above 30 all weekend and fell as low as 9 degrees at night -- is being blamed on two fires that destroyed homes here this week.

A trailer was gutted in Lynn's Trailer Park on North Jefferson this week after the owner started a small fire under it to thaw out frozen water lines. The fire ignited the mobile home.

And a house fire on West Fourth Street gutted a home there and may have been caused by a faulty heater.

*Showing at the Princess this week: It's Robert Taylor in a tale of ranchers vs. land robbers. It's "Cattle King."

(December 23, 1963) Editor John Mott comments in his weekly “Town Topics” column that children’s toys
have come a long way, especially dolls. “Dolls can now walk, talk and drink milk. If manufacturers continue to bring new renovations to the field, we may see the day when dolls can cook and tidy the house.”

*In the same column, Mott gives a warning to parents who buy their kids Christmas presents like toy soldiers, jacks, Chinese sets and toy cowboys: “Keep your shoes on.”

*A white Christmas hit Cookeville with a one-two punch this week. An Arctic wave roared in and pushed the mercury below freezing all week. Then it snowed six inches.

Most businesses and many plants here already planned to close down Christmas Eve and now, it appears they won't reopen until the first of the year. Roads are icy and treacherous, and it looks like a lot of people will be home for Christmas.

*And in Baxter, they may not only be snowbound, but thirsty too.

Baxter Mayor James E. Austin this week said that a drought earlier this year coupled with recent freezing weather has slowed the flow of water from Baxter's water supply, two springs, to a trickle.

The town's two water tanks are dry and Austin says the town will pump water only once a day. Laundromats are closed and car washes have been told not to wash cars. Homeowners have been cautioned to turn off their water heaters. When they go dry, their heating elements will burn out.

It's the first time since the water system was created in 1938 that Baxter has been in this predicament. Now, the mayor said the biggest worry is fires. There's not enough water to fight one and it's the season when chimneys and heaters here catch fire, he said.

(December 31, 1963) Editor John Mott lists his resolutions for the coming new year. He says he's going to “stop jumping of the car and checking for flat tires every few hundred feet in the city and drive joltingly on as calmly as our city streets will permit.” He says he will also try to “remain quiet this summer when weeds and grass take over our roadsides and vacant lots.”

*Services were held this week for F.U. Foster, head of Tennessee Tech's chemistry department for the last 37 years. He died at home Saturday of a heart attack.

Foster came to Cookeville in 1926 to head the chemistry department and didn't retire until earlier this year.

*Forty four members of the Central High School football team, their coaches and managers are in New Orleans this week for the Sugar Bowl after working hard this fall to fund the trip.

Pictured on the bus enroute to the festivities -- having a 'hootenanny' songfest -- are Steve Flatt, David Ledbetter on guitar, Jere Hargrove on banjo and Chester Bush.

*Also pictured in a page one picture this week is a group of teens who took advantage of this week's six-inch snowfall to build a full-scale Eskimo igloo in their yard.

Out looking over their ice hut are John, Gerald and Dennis Goodwin and Phillip Newman.

*At the Princess this week: Jimmy Stewart and Doris Day in Alfred Hitchcock's "The Man Who Knew Too Much."

1964

(January 61964) Services were held this week for biology professor dr. Williams Down Jr., 68. He had been teaching at TTU since 1957.
A veteran of World War I and World War II, Downs is being buried in Arlington National Cemetery. He was a native of Illinois.

TTU also enrolled its first full-time black student this week. Mrs. Leona Officer, a long-time teacher at Sparta’s Wallace School, the school serving black students in the White County area. Mrs. Officer enrolled to complete her senior year of college in early elementary education.

(January 10 1964) Area tobacco growers, warehouse owners and buyers tell the newspaper they don’t expect much to come from the US Surgeon General’s new report linking lung cancer to smoking.

(January 14, 1964) The U.S. Surgeon General, in a landmark report this week, linked lung cancer to smoking. The reaction among the area tobacco growers, warehouse officials and buyers? They said they didn't expect much to come of it.

Tobacco is Putnam's number one cash crop. It has been for decades. Those interviewed said they don't expect many to take the Surgeon General's warnings seriously.

* Cookeville's ninth snowstorm of the winter swept through this week, closing schools, forcing cancellations and dropping two inches of snow.

The good news, says the newspaper, is that spring is just 65 days away.

(January 21, 1964) The Putnam County Court and the Putnam School Board are into it over a school building program. The newest go-around has left everyone asking when the new high school is going to be built.

Last year, the board won approval to spend $2 million for a new high school and for repairs and renovations to a number of schools here. At the time, the board told the county court that the figures were based on a best "guestimate."

This week, board members came back and told county magistrates that their "guess" fell $530,000 short of completing the work. The court members balked. And the future of the building program is hazy.

* A hail storm whipped across Putnam County this week. Hail and high winds damaged roofs, dropped trees across power lines and left the Monterey Hospital without power for six hours.

Monterey hospital officials said the outage posed no danger to patients and no emergency surgeries were necessary while the lights were out.

(January 28, 1964) Entertainment was in the news in Cookeville this week.

The famed Harlem Magicians basketball team plays their regular rivals, the New York Olympians, in the Tennessee Tech gymnasium this week. Everyone's looking forward to the antics of the Magician's Juggling Joe.

* Later in the week will be the first in the Gadfly Club's heralded Foreign Film Festival series.

First is "The Mouse on the Moon," a British film starring Terry Thomas, who also stars in the second offering, "Make Mine Mink," also a British film.


The festival is being held in the Princess Theater. Season tickets for the film fest are $4.
In the latest go-around between the county court and the school board over the new high school, a special meeting has been called by the court to decide whether to seek a court order to halt work on the school.

Several commissioners are charging that a contract the board issued for the project is illegal.

Meanwhile, County Judge Jimmy Mosier is arguing that building a more “orthodox” school rather than the one planned by the board -- one with cluster classrooms -- would be $200,000 cheaper to build and would cost the county $15,000 less to operate each year.

An historic house at White Plains east of Cookeville has just been renovated by its owners, Mr. and Mrs. Howard Draper.

It’s the site of a home built by Revolutionary War veteran William Quarles, who was headed west to claim land when his wagons broke down here. It snowed, delaying him further. He liked the area and decided to built here, transferring his land grant to what would become Putnam County.

He started a prosperous plantation and built a two-story log home. He was killed four years later in a dispute. His daughter's husband, Steve Burton, bought the farm. (Former Putnam Sheriff Alec Burton is a descendant.)

When the log home burned in 1825, Burton replaced it with a fine two-story frame house. The plantation continued to grow and served as a post office for Putnam, Overton, Clay and parts of White County.

He raised race horses too. Andrew Jackson, a lover of fine horse flesh, was a frequent buyer here. It was Jackson who encouraged Burton to run for Congress to unseat a political enemy of the president. Burton beat the opponent, David Crockett. Crockett subsequently went to Texas where he died at the Alamo.

The Drapers bought the house seven years ago and the renovations have put electrical heat and better plumbing in the structure, which is now bricked in.

City Manager Ed Little complained this week that the city has a major litter problem. It’s become so bad that “the city maintenance crews spend so much time picking up the litter that there’s a little time left for the important jobs like street maintenance.” He encourages Cookevillians to develop more civic pride and keep the beer cans and garbage off the streets.

The Cookeville Jaycees picked the winners of their annual awards this week, and the newspaper used a photo of them on page one. Jack Sells was the Outstanding Young Man of Cookeville. Doyle Burton was the Outstanding Jaycee and Vernon Spicer was named Outstanding Young Farmer.

The Joe Freeman family of 330 East 8th Street have an unusual pet, a brown squirrel their kids fished out of a friend's swimming pool in August.

The children, Karen, 10, and Kevin, 8, were with a friend, Mary Ester DeBerry, when they spotted the half-drowned baby squirrel in the DeBerry pool clinging to a life preserver. It had apparently fallen from its nest in a nearby tree.

The Freeman kids carried it home and began feeding it from a medicine dropper until it got big enough to eat solid foods -- fruit and nuts.

They've learned how to keep the frisky pet busy for hours by giving it nuts to hide. Now, they're finding nuts in the toes of shoes, in pants and coat pockets, under the furniture and on top of cabinets.

The parents let the kids keep the squirrel through the winter on one condition -- that they set it free this spring.
February 18, 1964) Upperman High School officials this week dedicated the school’s new $136,051 gymnasium. A special ceremony preceded Upperman’s final regular season game, a contest against Red Boiling Springs. The basketball court was completed, but there were no bleachers yet so everyone sat or stood in folding chairs for the game. A team of Baxter Junior Military Academy cadets opened the ceremony with the presentation of the flag. Putnam School Superintendent Eddie Watson gave the address and Dr. Harry Upperman, former president of Baxter Seminary, gave the invocation.

J.E. Lane, a retired Tennessee Tech professor of education, told the newspaper this week that the way he lived to turn 80 this week was by learning to set aside worries.

"Life's always been fun for me, I've always enjoyed my friends and love to associate with people,” he said.

Cookeville Elect. Dept. Supt. W.R. Holland said this week that he is studying the possibility of installing modern mercury vapor lights along the city's nine major thoroughfares.

Such lights are only located around Tennessee Tech and along part of the Algood Road at the present. The rest of the city's streetlights only provide marginal lighting and are more costly to run than vapor lights, he said.

Coming to the Cookeville Lanes bowling alley this week is a “for women only” fashion and variety show called “Zing – It’s Spring,” sponsored by DuPont. It features “leading fashion models,” Bob Holiday and those “international dance favorites,” Heller and Helen. For the more highbrow, there’s “society’s music favorite, The Dinney Dinofer Trio” with vocals by Greg Davis. Admission is free. There’ll be door prizes.

The Putnam County Young Democrats Club named new officers this week. They are Charles Vaughn, president; Eugene Jared, vice president; Ben Austin, secretary; and Robert Jared, treasurer. Robert Thrasher is the outgoing president.

*The Putnam County School Board this week sold the old Darwin School property. The county's school for blacks burned earlier in the year and integration has begun here.

The board also sold the old Thomas School, Burgess School and Calfkiller School, each of which closed when enrollment dropped below state approval levels in recent years. Consolidation of the school system is also well under way.

(March 3, 1964) The Executive Committee of the Putnam County Fair Board has changed its mind. It won't resign after all.

The committee is beginning plans for the annual county fair and has decided that it needs to close Fairground Lane. The county court last week overrode the board and said the road would remain a public street.

The committee resigned en masse, saying "It's a slap in our face." But that would mean no county fair this year, or at least one hastily organized by a new group of inexperienced officials. The committee has been persuaded to come back.

Now, the executive committee has decided it will fence in the fairground property, which lies between the Old Sparta Road and Bunker Hill Road. And, it still wants to be close to the road, at least during the annual fair.

*At the Princess Theater this week, it's Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra, Anita Ekberg and Ursula Andress in "4 For Texas."

(March 10, 1964) In a closed-door session, Cookeville City Council this week passed a controversial ‘trailer ordinance’ requiring the city's 250 trailer homes to be moved into licensed trailer courts.
One of Tennessee Tech's greatest basketball players is returning to his alma mater to be head basketball coach.

Just hours after he announced that Johnny Oldham is leaving the post to be head coach for his alma, Western Kentucky, Everett Derryberry announced that Kenney Sidwell is stepping into Oldham's shoes.

Sidwell starred at Tech in the 1958 season when he was named an All-American. He coached high school basketball in Kentucky and then college ball at Belmont in Nashville, where he coached the team to win the Western division of the VSAC this year.

*The Putnam Bar Association this week recommended that judges here begin wearing the official black robes of their office, a new trend in smaller counties now.

They've long worn the robes in big cities in Tennessee for some time now, but only in recent years have judges in smaller counties donned the somber garb.

Five Cookeville businessmen made the joint announcement today that they're running as a "team" for the five seats on Cookeville City Council.

They are Jack Mann, a former mayor; incumbent Robert King, a grocer; incumbent Wheeler Freeman, a fire company owner; Dero Darwin, a merchant; and incumbent Wendell S. "Cotton" Johnson, a laundry owner.

This is the first election since the city's charter change when voters will fill all five seats at once. The city went from a three-man commission to a five-man council in 1961, and that year, elected three councilmen who joined two from the former commission. In 1963, city voters filled those two seats with new councilmen. This year, all five seats are up for election.

*In an extensive editorial, the newspaper laments the nation's loss of Gen. Douglas MacArthur, who died this week at the age of 84.

A World War II veteran, who rose to fame in the Pacific in World War II, MacArthur was removed as commander of American and Allied troops in Korea in the early days of that conflict when he called for atomic bombs to be dropped on China.

His wife is a Murfreesboro native.

One of the biggest areas in the state not served by a state highway got one this week when they cut the ribbon in ceremonies at the intersection of US 127 and new State Route 62.

The new highway runs from Clarkrange to Wartburg. Residents of the area have been trying for 40 years to get a good road to the area, and now expect to see more businesses and homes spring up.

*Television viewers across the nation saw 114 members of the Central High band march and play in the Washington D.C. Cherry Blossom Festival parade this week.

The band's rendition of "Tennessee Waltz" got an especially rousing response from the 200,000 spectators.

The band, number 454 in a 600-unit parade, gave Cookeville a plug too. They carried a huge banner which read, "Cookeville, Hospitality Capital USA."

The new interstate highway nearing completion through Putnam County is not simply a big new road, it's a new kind of road, the newspaper reported this week.

For example, everyone is talking about the series of new signs going up along Interstate 40 this week.
They're huge compared to most other road signs. They're simple. And the letters are huge as well.

And, conspicuous in their absence are stop signs, slow curve signs and slow zone signs.

*Waldo Power, the widely-respected principal of the Tech Campus School for the last 14 years, is resigning at the end of the school year for health reasons.

Dr. Merton J. Turck, chairman of TTU's education department, which operates the school, announced that Collie B. Jared, a member of the Tech Campus School staff since 1953, will be the new principal next fall.

(April 28, 1964) Marion T. Warren announced today that effective July 1, he's hanging up his badge after 38 years as an area lawman.

He's never been defeated in an election.

Warren began his law enforcement career as sheriff here in 1920 at the age of 30, making him the country's youngest sheriff ever. After two terms, he joined the Tennessee Highway Patrol.

In 1940, he became sheriff here for another two terms, then became a U.S. marshal, a job he kept for 17 years. It took him all across the country, transporting prisoners to federal facilities.

He became Cookeville's police chief in 1962.

He says the one incident that stands out in his mind from his career is the time a federal prisoner attacked him and fought for his gun while they were sitting in a car on Peachtree Street in Atlanta during rush hour. Their wrestling match ended when Warren's gun went off and shot the federal prisoner in the stomach.

*Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Gregory Peck, Tony Curtis, Angie Dickinson and Bobby Darrin in "Captain Newman."

(May 6, 1964) Mizell Stanton celebrated his 80th birthday this week on his 350-acre farm in the Gentry community. A traveling salesman who made his rounds on horseback earlier in life, Stanton is a lover of tall tales and yarns.

He's living in the same house he's been in since he was eight years old. He remembers many days farming when he stood in the fields with a team of mules harnessed, waiting for the sun to rise high enough to provide enough light to plow.

*Two persons split the grand prize this week in a promotional contest by Cookeville's merchants designed to draw shoppers to downtown.

Contestants tried to guess how long it would take a 1,000-pound block of ice to melt down to one pound. The ice block was set up on a set of scales on the grounds of the City School and traffic was steady during the contest.

The contest ran from 8 a.m. Thursday until 2:19 p.m. Sunday, when the ice hit the one pound mark. Both Paul Gilreath and Jimmy Daniel accurately guessed the time.

The prize was a trip to the World's Fair in New York. Contest rules said that in case of a tie, a drawing would be held, but the two men decided that rather than risk losing the draw, they'd just split the cash value of the trip.

(May 12, 1964) Cookeville City Council this week voted to spend $100,000 to install one of the most modern street lighting systems in the state.
The new mercury vapor lights put out more than six times the illumination of present street lights for only slightly more of the cost.

The new lights will be put on the Square, on Westside, and along main streets like Jefferson and East 10th.

*Four Peace Corps volunteers told a Tennessee Tech audience this week that they joined the idealistic service organization to see the world and show people in other countries that Americans are not the way Hollywood, or communist propagandists portray them.

They’re on campus this week taking applications for the Peace Corps.

*If you call the Cookeville Police Department this week and a woman answers the phone, don’t assume you just got a wrong number, said City Manager Ed Little today.

The department has hired two women, Beulah Bowman and Allamae Lehman, to work the police desk, answer the phone and dispatch patrol cars, said Little.

(May 12, 1964) Tennessee Tech's new head basketball coach, Kenney Sidwell, has moved to town now with his family, his wife and 6-year-old son, Tommy, the newspaper reported this week.

The 1958 TTU graduate left a remarkable collegiate basketball record behind him and went on to a stellar coaching career. He said one of the things he hopes to accomplish while here is adding UT to Tech's playing schedule.

*John Maddux, son of Sen. Jared Maddux of Cookeville, has been elected president of the recently reactivated Putnam Youth Leadership Council. He's a senior at Central High this year.

Other officers of the youth organization include Upperman's Jack Gill, vice-president; Upperman's Robert Lee Richardson, 2nd vice-president; Monterey High's Brenda Norman, secretary; and Algood High's Sara Judd, treasurer.

*Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Marlon Brando, Trevor Howard and Richard Harris in "Mutiny on the Bounty."

(May 26, 1964) Southern Furniture, the scene of a bitter labor strike since Sept. 9, is in the news again today. It was gutted by a fire that the State Fire Marshal says may very well be arson.

Witnesses say the nighttime blaze began after they heard a muffled explosion. Investigators say they found a series of rags soaked in flammable liquid scattered through the building.

Plant officials put the damage at between $500,000 and $750,000.

The blaze came the same day that plant management received a blow from the National Labor Relations Board, which ruled that the plant had been involved in illegal surveillance of union activity and said the company must reinstate two strikers with full back pay and offer jobs back to all strikers who apply.

The union met last night and more than 100 of the strikers, the majority, said they would seek re-employment with Southern Furniture.

Meanwhile, the arson investigation continues.

(June 2, 1964) New Jaycees officers for the coming year are Leon Burns, president; Eldon Burgess, internal vice president; Doyle Burton, external vice president; James Ford, treasurer; Don Woods, secretary, and James Westerfield, state director.

New Jaycettes officers for the coming year are Shirley Carmack, recording secretary; Sandra Gilley,
president; Gladys Tyson, vice president; Betty Bertram, corresponding secretary; Peggy Garreth, liason chairman; Judy Farley, parliamentarian, Betty Brown, treasurer, and Faye Woods, state director.

(June 12, 1964) Interviewed on her 82nd birthday, Mrs. James Scarlett recalls growing up on the family farm near Gentry.

Saturdays were her favorite day because that was when the family made the five-hour trip by wagon to Cookeville where they met family and friends and got to shop.

She recalls seeing her first car. "That was the funniest thing I ever seen. There were no mules, nothing to pull it. Everybody just wondered how the thing run," she said.

*Showing this week at the Princess: Joan Crawford as an ax murderer in "Straight-Jacket."

(June 26, 1964) Sen. Albert Gore Sr. announced this week that he's coming to Cookeville later in the month in his campaign for re-election, and he's bringing company.

His daughter, Nancy, who just quit her job with the Peace Corps to manage his latest political bid, will be here, too.

Gore faces no major opposition this time.

*At the Princess Theater this week: Jules Verne's "Mysterious Island," with "Superdynamation" special effects. Later in the week it's Burl Ives as a genie bewitching Tony Randall in "The Brass Bottle."

(June 5, 1954) James L. Snelgrove, son of Mr. and Mrs. C.P. Snelgrove, a physics major at Tennessee Tech, walked through the graduation line this week after achieving a singular accomplishment -- he completed his four years with a perfect 4.0 grade average, all A's.

The Cookeville student told the newspaper that he studied at least 30 hours a week outside the classroom, but that he's no "bookworm." He said he maintained an active social life and was involved in sports at school, too.

*More than 500 boys and girls started off their summer vacation by attending a free movie party at the Princess Theater co-sponsored by the theater and the newspaper.

They saw "The Three Stooges in Orbit" and heard live music on stage by the Cookeville trio The Driftwoods.

The top door prize, a new bicycle, was won by 11-year-old Terry Spurlock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Olen Spurlock of Carr Avenue.

*Showing at the Princess on Saturday, "The Three Stooges Meet Hercules."

(July 7, 1964) Gov. Frank Clement spoke to a large crowd at Tennessee Tech this week in a swing through the state in his re-election bid.

Clement said he is for the worker, but is opposed to organized labor, unlike his opponent, Howard Bass, who has been endorsed by labor.

He said he's also for stimulating industrial development, but not at a high cost to the taxpayer, and said if it had been up to him, there would be no Civil Rights Bill, which recently passed in Congress.

A group wearing Bass armbands heckled the governor during his speech, and he halted his prepared comments and said, "Is there a doctor in the audience?"
There are some in the back of the crowd who seem to be in pain, but they won’t know what pain is until the sun sets on Aug. 6 (election day)."

His talk was preceded by performances by country music stars Del Reeves, Grandpa Jones and Stonewall Jackson.

(July 14, 1964) A group of Boy Scouts from Cookeville and Baxter set off this week on a 17-day trip to a national Scout Jamboree in Valley Forge, Pa. They’re also stopping off at the New York World Fair.

The group included assistant Scoutmaster John Stites, his sons, Johnny and Jack, Buddy Massa, Billy and Tommy Deberry, Touch Lamb, Jacky Warren, David Thompson, John Haile, Johnny Massa, Chippy Carlen, Bill McCawley, Billy Legge, Joe Carter, Sammy Cooper, David Draper, Bill Jones and Harold Thompson.

*At the Princess this week, it’s Elvis and Ann Margret in "Viva Las Vegas."

(July 21, 1964) The newspaper printed a nostalgic photo on page one this week of Cookeville's volunteer fire department in 1926, clustered about the city's first fire truck, which was purchased two years earlier.

The 1926 firefighters included nozzleman Walter Smith, captain Jess Foutch, nozzleman Charles Brown, ladderman Austin Lynn, ladderman Winnell Isbell, hoseman Carmel Brown, chief G.W. Alcorn, assistant driver Marvin Taylor, assistant chief Hubert Crawford, captain Tice Robbins, captain Dawson Morgan and driver Bill Chaffin.

The newspaper says that the city was served by the "bucket brigade" system until 1905, when volunteers were organized. They used a series of pushcarts stationed about town to fight fires.

They were reorganized in 1917 and in 1924, under Mayor W.A. Hensley, the city bought its first fire engine. The second wasn't purchased until 1948.

(July 24, 1964) Adrian Bush, Jr. resigned as Putnam County Court Clerk this week after a state audit couldn’t account for $5,810 that should have been there.

County Judge Jimmy Mosier accepted it, and County Attorney Tom Haile hung a sign on the door of Bush’s office which read, “Closed until further notice.”

A special session of the county court has been set to fill the vacant office.

*A sudden summer storm pounded parts of Putnam County this week.

Hardest hit were residents in the Bohannon and Salem communities south of Cookeville. Trees were uprooted, limbs torn off, and tobacco and other crops were laid on the ground.

At the Princess this week: It’s Bob Hope and Anita Ekberg in “Call Me Bwana.”

(August 4, 1964) The many relatives of Jere Whitson were among the 250 gathered on the lawn of the Putnam Courthouse for ceremonies dedicating a plaque to the merchant and civic leader who was a guiding force in the development of early Cookeville.

The plaque was erected next to the bell on the southwest corner of the Square. The bell came from the bell-tower that once dominated the courthouse. Whitson was instrumental in seeing built here before his death in 1928.

The plaque credits Whitson with leading the drive to establish Tennessee Polytechnic Institute here on land he donated for the cause.
Among his relatives present of the ceremony were Chip and Walter Whitson Carlen, W. B. Carlen, Jr., Mrs. John Mitchell, Jean Whitson, Dr. and Mrs. Jere Lowe, Mr. and Mrs. John Dinwiddie, and H. T. Whitson.

*An editorial in this week’s edition cheered the successful lunar landing of the Ranger 7 probe.

The editor says that while some have questioned the $20 billion spent on the space race in five years, new technology and scientific discoveries due to the space program are invaluable.

(August 11, 1964) On a 3-2 vote this week, Cookeville City Council fired City Manager Ed Little, saying he’s overspent the city budget and never produced “workable” plans the city could submit to federal agencies for grant aid.

Little responded that the council was three months late in adopting a budget and when it got around to ti, conceded that it was too tight to meet the city’s fiscal needs, he said that while the council said it would amend it to include more funds, it never did.

No word yet on who the council will hire to replace Little.

At the Princess Theater this week: “They’re surfin’ high & twisting wild & feelin’ wonderful,” say the ad for “For Those Who Think Young.” It stars James Darren and Pamela Tifton.

(August 19, 1964) Sheriff Bill Bilyeu, who chose not to run this year for a third term, leaves office at the end of the month. This week he gave his last report to the public on the activities of his office over the last four years.

Bilyeu reported that since 1960, his men have recovered $50,000 in stolen goods, having solved 65% of all break-ins and thefts reported to his office.

Ed Stamps takes over as sheriff here on Sept. 1.

Interest in softball continues to boom here, says Gertis Carr, who heads the program in Cookeville. He says on several nights, he’s counted 700 or more spectators at games at the Park View softball field.

That softball field was build shortly after WWII when the softball craze got into full swing, says the newspaper. Crowds got so big at the Old City School lot where it was originally played that traffic was sometimes blocked on Spring and Broad.

(August 23, 1964) Robert Pratt, administrator of Cookeville General Hospital since 1962, has resigned that post to take a similar position as head of the Morristown-Hamblen Hospital in East Tennessee.

L. K. Mahler, chairman of the city hospital board, says trustees were well-pleased with Pratt’s work and will begin immediately looking for a replacement.

There’s something in the air here this weekend that says fall is near – footballs.

Walter Jared’s Central High team opens this weekend against York Institute, Bill Holloway’s Monterey Wildcats start their season playing Smithville High, and Frank Medley’s Upperman Bees open against Jackson County High at Gainesboro.

The city’s oldest resident, Mrs. Thomas D. Ford, 97, passed away at her home at 159 South Jefferson this week.

She was born on October 4, 1866
Lightning from a summer thunderstorm damaged several buildings around town this week, including a rental home owned by Cookeville's weather observer himself, C.K. Flatt.

The house at 446 West Stevens was heavily damaged after a bolt of lightning went down a TV antenna and scorched wiring and appliances inside the home while the occupants were away.

Sheriff-elect Ed Stamps this week announced men who will serve as his deputies when he takes office Sept. 1.

They are Solon Maxwell, Hugh Lee Lawhorn, Kenneth Ray, Hubert Carter and Ron Julian.

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The city's oldest resident, Mrs. Thomas D. Ford, 97, passed away at her home at 159 S. Jefferson this week.

She was born Oct. 4, 1866, on Jenkins Creek in Jackson County. She's lived in Cookeville for the last 77 years.

She's survived by two daughters, including Alice Keith Ford, the society editor for the Putnam County Herald and the Cookeville Citizen.

Tennessee Tech has named a series of new department heads this week as it gets ready for a new fall quarter.
Dr. Elmo Dooley is the new head of the TTU biology department. Dr. Thomas Moore is the new business department head, and Thurman Hardin will head the college's mechanical engineering department.

*R.I. Dunn of Monterey has been talking about retiring for a few years now, but he turned 83 this week and he's still a diesel locomotive engineer for the Tennessee Central Railroad. He marked his 60th year with the TC in February.

He started railroading in 1904, when he was hired to fire the locomotive. Three years later he became an engineer and has been one ever since.

He currently rides the rails 100 miles a day, five days a week, hauling freight to and from Crab Orchard, Harriman, Emery Gap and home to Monterey.

His most exciting trip? The day the locomotive's two front wheels skipped the tracks on a downhill grade with a bridge in front of him and 30 cars pushing him from behind. The ground was too rocky to leap from his post so he rode the train across the bridge over a 200-foot chasm to the other side.

(September 17, 1964) With the race in space intensifying, concern has arisen over what would happen if a meteoroid were to strike a US spacecraft in outer space. TTU's Dr. Ray Kinslow, chairman of the university's engineering department, recently won an award from the American Society of Engineering Education for his research into the question using stop-action photos of bullets.

Kinslow says in a 'back to school' article in a special TTU section in this week's issue that meteoroids travel through space at speeds of up to 140,000 miles per hour.

(September 16, 1964) World War I hero Alvin C. York, who killed 25 German soldiers and captured another 132 single-handedly, has died at his Fentress County home.

*At a Democratic rally for the Upper Cumberland region on the Cookeville Square this week, Franklin Delano Roosevelt Jr. urged a massive crowd to support candidate Lyndon Baines Johnson.

His opponent, Barry Goldwater, would destroy TVA, he says. His address moves the crowd. Afterwards, Roosevelt himself is moved by a gift from the Cumberland County delegation: matching bookends made of Crab Orchard stone.

The gift has special meaning because Crab Orchard stone was used in making homes for the Homestead project in Cumberland County, a federal Depression-era project that gave land to farm to destitute families.

The project was often visited by his mother, Eleanor. The gift is a way of saying 'thanks' to the Roosevelts, delegation members explain.

(September 29, 1964) Nancy Henry, interviewed on her 105th birthday, recalls working hard raising a family of 19, spinning wool into cloth and knitting socks for extra spending cash for the family.

Her father was killed by bushwhackers during the Civil War when she was six, and she was raised by the Sanford Stamps family in Brotherton.

+ It was a dark and stormy night here this week when 6.07 inches of rain fell in a 24 hour period in a storm blamed on three car wrecks, two house fires and the washing out of numerous roads and bridges in the area.

Lightning struck two homes on the Nashville Highway, doing minor fire damage.

*Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Peter Sellers and George C. Scott in "Dr. Strangelove," which is subtitled, "How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb."
Charles Matheney II, a member of Monterey Boy Scout Troop 134, has won his Eagle badge and was awarded it in a ceremony there this week.

*It's homecoming this weekend at Central High. A page one picture shows homecoming queen Cindy Birdwell being congratulated by football team captains Howard Swack and Dennis Dyer.

Elected band sponsor this year at the high school was Judy Brown.

*Also pictured in this week's edition is County Judge Jimmy Mosier swearing in two new county magistrates, James Lacy, who will serve the 1st District, and Max Huddleston, who will serve the 12th.

Both were elected in August in special elections to fill vacancies on the county court.

*Showing at the Princess this week: Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr. in "Robin and the 7 Hoods." which also features Bing Crosby.

T.D. Alcorn, a prominent Buffalo Valley merchant and a member of the Putnam County Court for the past 25 years, died this week in a Nashville hospital following a heart attack.

Members of the county court will serve as honorary pallbearers at his services this week.

*The General Telephone Company says a 175-foot tower nearing completion at 214 Freeze St. represents the wave of the future for telecommunications -- microwaves.

They are also looking into the possibility of providing space on the tower for television transmissions.

Tennessee Tech has more than lived up to a 1949 agreement to the county with a recent gift, says County Judge Jimmy Mosier.

TTU President Everett Derryberry said the university, preparing to build a new football stadium, will give the Putnam school system the 5,000-seat metal stadium stands from its old field.

The university has also agreed to let Central High school play its Friday night football games in the new TTU stadium through the year 1968 at no charge.

Mosier says this is more than repayment for the help the Central Athletic Association and the county gave to TTU in 1949, when it built its present football field. They paid half the cost of the stands.

New dormitories are to be built on the site of the present ball field and the county plans to save the metal stands for the day when it builds a new high school here.

Sarah Croff, interviewed this week on her 92nd birthday, said she's worked hard all her life and is resting now.

Her first husband, Walter Yelton, was a farmer, and she talked of spending several half-days taking sweet potatoes up narrow stairs of their house for storage in the attic. She was also responsible for planting and harvesting a 10-acre field of corn.

When her husband died, she worked for two years at the Shanks Hotel in Cookeville until she married lumberman Perry Croff, who died 17 years ago.

The city will get progressively brighter at night over the next two years thanks to a new
$100,000 project by the Cookeville Electric Department.

City crews have begun installing the first of 432 mercury vapor street lights, which cost about the same as regular electric lights, but offer considerably more illumination at a fraction of the operating cost.

Existing lights will be moved to areas the city has annexed but not yet lit.

*Bishop Holliman this week replaced William T. Alexander as district manager of the Cookeville Social Security Administration office here.

Holliman, who has worked for the SSA since 1952, has served in Birmingham and Gasden, Ala., Florence, S.C., and Johnson City.

(November 3, 1964) Lyndon Baines Johnson beat Barry Goldwater by a landslide across the nation, the state and in Putnam County in this week's presidential election.

Nationally, LBJ got 62 percent of the vote and Putnam gave him and his running mate, Hubert Humphrey, 66 percent of the vote.

Across Tennessee, the picture was the same as the state's voters, for the first since 1948, got solidly behind the Democratic ticket from East to West Tennessee.


(November 10, 1964) Cookeville is about to have the lowest electric rates in the nation when a new contract between the city and TVA goes into effect next month.

Seen in a photo on page one this week at the contract signing are Mayor Luke Medley and councilmen Kenneth Dyer, Cotton Johnson, Jack Mann and Bethel Newport, along with City Electric Department Manager W.R. "Chick" Holland.

The city was able to negotiate a deal with TVA on the new rate, which is 20 percent lower than Nashville's because of the city's high average daily residential use -- among the highest in the nation -- and the city's unusually efficient electric delivery system.

Residential use here now is 16 times higher than what it was when the city signed its first contract with TVA in 1944, commercial use is eight times more, and industrial demand is 17 times what it was in 1944.

(November 17, 1964) American Legion Boys State is coming to Tennessee Tech.

For the last 25 years, the hands-on exercise in state government for 500 of the state's best and brightest high school boys has been held each June at Castle Heights Academy in Lebanon.

This year, the school decided it can no longer host the program and Tennessee Tech stepped up to volunteer.

The 26th annual American Legion Boys State will be at TTU in June.

*Editorial page columnist Andrew Tully says this week that President Lyndon Johnson faces a terrible decision in Southeast Asia, where hundreds of U.S. soldiers are currently serving as advisors to the South Vietnamese Army.

The South Vietnamese are being overrun regularly by Viet Cong rebel units, so regularly and so completely that the Joint Chiefs of Staff have told LBJ that South Vietnam cannot hold back the rebels more than two or three months.
Presently, VC are using staging areas across the DMZ in North Vietnam and South Vietnamese troops and their US advisors are not permitted by the rules of conduct to pursue them.

Will LBJ send in more American troops or let South Vietnam fall?

(November 24, 1964) The Putnam County Court this week decided to put the question to area voters: Should the county implement a one-cent sales tax to pay for school projects?

The new high school here is proving far more costly than originally planned, and several other schools are sorely in need of repairs, says County Judge Jimmy Mosier.

Meanwhile, the county would like to take over and operate the subsidized school bus fleet, but it only has 35 vehicles and needs 50 to adequately serve the county, said Mosier.

If the county tried to fund it all with the property tax it would take a whopping increase, he said. So the county magistrates decided to let the voters speak on the issue in an upcoming referendum.

*Two businesses, Delman and Bowser, have bought time on Tennessee Tech's IBM computers to speed up routine functions and track shipping and inventories, work that would take workers hundreds of hours more time to accomplish than the powerful computers.

TTU is about to move its computer facilities into the new engineering building, which is almost completed.

TTU has two IBM 1620 computers which have memory storage capacities of 40,000 bits of data each.

*Cookeville Postmaster L.K. Mahler and his staff were furiously at work this week to get Cookeville's post office ready to become a new "sectional facility" serving 45 area post offices.

Under the new status, the post office here will receive mail twice a day from 'gateway' postal centers in Knoxville, Nashville and Chattanooga, process it, and distribute it to the 45 centers.

(December 1, 1964) Bill Ogletree, 33, an Overton County native, this week replaced State Highway Department veteran Leonard Allen as supervisor of the state highway maintenance division facility headquartered here.

Allen, who has worked for the state highway department for the past 37 years, is being transferred to operate the state highway division in Chattanooga.

Ogletree, a TTU graduate, worked previously at the Cookeville office early in his career before a transfer to another division facility.

*An editorial in this week's edition says that force is the only way to deal with the spread of communist aggression.

It cites survivors of rebel attacks in the Congo, where communist backed rebels are on the move. The survivors, rescued by help from western soldiers, say military intervention was the only thing that saved them.

The newspaper's editorial says that a lesson can be drawn from Vietnam too, where it says negotiations with the communists resulted in the nation being divided into North and South Vietnam.

*Showing at the Princess Theater this week: "How The West Was Won."

(December 8, 1964) Members of the Bangham School PTA think there are many more children in their school's area than actually go to that school, so they recently surveyed homes in the area.
This week, they gave the Putnam school board the results of that survey, which indicate that if the school were modernized, there would be enough students to turn the now three-teacher school into an eight-teacher school.

It's an effort to save the community's school in a time when the county is rapidly consolidating dozens of small schools scattered across the country into a handful of better maintained and equipped facilities.

Board members say it would cost more than $100,000 to modernize the Bangham school, and they say they'll study the idea further.

Most children in the Bangham area attend school in Algood or Cookeville now.

+ Pictured on page one with the news story is Bangham custodian Ewart Norris, feeding a scoop of coal in a potbellied stove to keep one of the three classrooms heated.

With him are Bangham students Connie Loftis, Elizabeth Murphy and Cheryl Gentry -- all wearing sweaters and coats.

Cookeville City Council this week approved plans by Nashville architects Rodgers and Rodgers for a new $500,000 city hall on the site of the old City School. A contract is expected to be awarded in the spring.

(December 12, 1964) Cookeville City Council has approved plans for a new $500,000 city hall building on the grounds of the Old City School on Broad Street.

(December 14, 1964) An 80-room ‘luxury’ motel is being built at Burgess Falls Road and I-40 by the Tennessee Industrial Land and Timber Corp., which formed in 1961 with Jimmy Mosier as its president and Joe Adams as its secretary-treasurer.

The corporation is building a string of such motels, and the one being built here is identical to one being built in Daytona Beach, FL to serve the tourism trade.

TTU dedicated its new computer center this week and named it for Professor D. W. Mattson, the head of the school’s Civil Engineering Department who has been hospitalized recently in failing health.

Mattson joined the faculty in 1931. During World War II when machine parts were severely scarce, he helped keep the dorms open one winter when a boiler broke down.

Mattson removed the replacement part TPI couldn’t buy from a discarded saw mill boiler and installed it himself. He went on to man the boiler, keeping it going all winter despite teaching a full load that term.

More recently, Mattson foresaw the impact that computers would have on engineering and in the classroom in general and was instrumental in getting the university’s first computer system.

(December 25, 1964) When the Tennessee General Assembly gets back together in January, the House of Representatives will get down to the business of electing a House Speaker. Cookeville's Jared Maddux is one of two men in line for that position, which also carries the title of Lt. Governor.

The newspaper's editorial writer says that the other runner, State Rep. Frank Gorrell, would also do a good job, but it sides with Maddux who, it says, is known for even-handedness and leadership abilities.

Winners in the Christmas decorating contest, sponsored jointly by the city's three garden clubs, were pictured on page one this week.

They included Mrs. Martin Medley of 572 Hillwood, seen standing by a red Christmas tree on her front door with her 16-month-old daughter, Holly; and Molly Patton, 19, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J.H.
Patton of 510 North Maple, pictured placing a Della Robia fruit wreath on her parents’ front door.

*Showing at the Princess this week, Bob Hope and Anita Ekberg in "Call Me Bwana."

1965

(January 3, 1965) Putnam farm agent Roy Luna say a team of USDA insect control specialists will be treating a 75-acre area in east Cookeville this week to stop an infestation of White-fringed beetles.

The bugs, which ravish 300 different kinds of crops and a variety of ornamental shrubbery, were discovered here last August.

The area being sprayed to destroy grubs in the soil lies east of North Washington, north of Freeze Street and continues to Cookeville’s eastern city limits.

(January 3, 1965) The Big M Shopping Center on North Washington is expanding this spring to include space for a new food market and appliance store. The new shopping center has already leased its existing space to Velma’s Restaurant, John Broyles Insurance Agency, a men’s clothing store and a coin-operated laundry-mat.

(January 9, 1965) The Cookeville Cavaliers are back from seeing the Orange Bowl in Miami and the excited high school athletes say it was “the best bowl game ever.”

It’s the second year the team has caravanned to see post-season college games. Last year it was the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans.

Team members who went included John McDowell, Charles Nash, Dennis Dyer, Jim Jared, Doug Hudgens, Mark Draper, Buddy King, Jack Stites, Dwain Peterman, Billy Carr, John Maddux and Jerry Bradford.

Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Rock Hudson and Paula Prentiss in “Man’s Favorite Sport,” and its “10,000 biceps meet 5,000 bikinis” in “Muscle Beach Party,” with Frankie Avalon, Annette Funicello and Buddy Hackett.

(January 18, 1965) In major action this week, the Putnam County Quarterly Court voted to spend $106,000 to establish the county’s first publicly-owned school bus system.

For several years previously, the county contracted with individual bus drivers to operate on specific routes and provide their own vehicles and maintenance.

Proponents of the new system noted it would mean entirely new buses instead of the hodge-podge of vehicles now used, and would significantly cut the time children spent riding buses to and from school.

Presently some kids board their bus at 5:30 a.m. and don’t step off it in the afternoons until 5:30 p.m. due to overly long routes.

(January 18, 1965) Showing at the Princess: Steve McQueen and Ann Margaret in “The Cincinnati Kid.”

(February 11, 1965) The city is planning to develop an industrial park this week on Fisk Road on a 34-acre site across from the Bowser Plan after purchasing two tracts of land this week for $50,000.

The land bought from Amy Thompson of Detroit and Herschel Wright of Algood will be improved with sewers, drainage and other amenities as rapidly as possible, says Cookeville Mayor Luke Medley.

James Vaden, a senior at Monterey High School, has been named one of 14,000 National Merit Scholarship finalists, MHS principal Milton Nixon announced this week.
Vaden say he hopes to attend MIT when he graduates from Monterey High this spring.

Showing this week at the Princess: Elvis stars in “Kid Galahad,” and Debbie Reynolds and Harve Presnell star in “The Unsinkable Molly Brown.” Also, Jerry Lewis in “Who’s Minding the Store?”

*James Vaughn, a Monterey High senior, is a finalist in the National Merit Scholarship competition, principal Milton Nixon announced this week.

Vaughn now joins 14,000 other high school students across the nation in the last stage of competition for 1,000 Merit Scholarships.

He's just back from Washington as one of two representatives from Tennessee to the Senate Youth Program.

*At the Princess Theater this week: "Goodbye, Charlie," with Tony Curtis, Pat Boone and Debby Reynolds.

(February 19, 1965) A blanket of spring-like air rolled over the county this week, giving residents welcome relief from winter.

Residents are reporting a tinge of green coming back to yards and flower shoots are beginning to thrust up.

*What are people here watching on television this week?

An ad for Channel 8, WSIX-TV in Nashville, an ABC-affiliate, lists these prime time shows:

Donna Reed, Peyton Place (which airs two nights a week). Stony Burke, the Farmer's Daughter, Lawrence Welk, Wagon Train, the Bing Crosby Show, Ben Casey, McHale's Navy, Ozzie and Harriet and Wyatt Earp.

*Cookeville is one of 27 power systems in TVA's region commended by the federal utility this week for efficiency that keeps the cost to consumers down.

All 27 had rates below the national average. In Cookeville presently, the cost of electricity to residential customers is less than a penny per kilowatt hour of power.

(February 25, 1965) Col. Joseph A. Thornton, a military science professor at Tennessee Tech for the past three years, is ending 20 years of military service at the end of the month.

He saw duty in Northern Ireland and France during World War II and later in Turkey and South Korea.

*Park View United Methodist Church is breaking ground this week on a $65,000 addition, says the Rev. Franklin J. Mraz.

The church is adding a second story and a new sanctuary.

Dedicated in 1959, Rev. Mraz came to Park View four years ago. The church has grown to 130 members now.

*Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "First Men In The Moon," a science fiction thriller based loosely on he work of Jules Verne, and the science fiction potboiler, "The Earth Dies Screaming.

(March 2, 1965) Fire razed the Scrib’s Magnolia Inn and Steakhouse here this week, doing an estimated $50,000 in damage.
George Scribner, who lived in an apartment in the motel complex, says he plans to rebuilt as swiftly as possible.

Charlie Reagan, who delivered mail here for 37 years before retiring, turned 90 this week.

He was one of Putnam’s original six rural mail carriers, starting his first route on horseback in March of 1904.

The other five were Walter Smith, Joe Morgan, Byrum Greenwood, Arthur Johnson and Harford Johnson.

There were no paved roads when he began, and the day of the year he and the other carriers dreaded the most, he said, was the day the Sears and Roebuck catalogs arrived. He couldn’t deliver the weighty books all in one day, but usually scattered it over a week or more, he said.

Reagan also has the distinction of being a surviving veteran of the Spanish American War. He and Boys Band, who spent their summers playing at area county fairs, went en masse to Nashville and signed up in 1898 when war was declared.

Regan spent a year overseas and was discharged in the Philippines.

(March 4, 1965) Robert F. Fisher of Baxter has received the Purple Heart for wounds he received in Da Nang.

A Navy chief warrant officer, Fisher received third-degree burns when a rocket exploded near him during a Viet Cong raid on his base during his fifth month of service in Vietnam.

He's recovering in a military hospital in California, and has told his mother his wants to go back to Vietnam to finish his tour when he's able.

(March 12, 1965) A dozen families that have split with the Mennonite and Amish groups in Snyder County, Penn. over the question of whether men should wear full beards or have shaved upper lips, bought 650 acres of land near Muddy Pond in Overton County this week to create their own religious community there.

A March windstorm swept across western Putnam County this week, doing considerable damage in the Baxter area.

A series of photos on page one tell the store. In one, Floyd Herron and Bob Carr post before a demolished barn pointing to the place where Carr was pinned down by debris.

He was building the new barn for Herron when the wind hit, knocking the structure six feet off its foundation.

James Bruce Jr. stands before the Bethany Church in another picture, looking up at a large cedar tree on the property. Its top is twisted off and in place of foliage is a sheet of tin wrapped around the trunk.

And Marie Carr, owner of the Dipsy Doodle Drive In is seen in a third photo, pointing to a hole in the metal awning. The metal that is supposed to be there was sent flying by the wind and landed 40 feet in the air around a power pole several hundred feet down the Nashville Highway from the restaurant.

*At the Princess this week, "PT 109," with Cliff Robertson as a young John F. Kennedy. The film tells the story of the late president's heroism in the South Pacific in World War II.

(March 15, 1965) A US Army helicopter pilot from Cookeville, Capt. James M. Henderson, has won the Army’s Air Medal for gallantry in combat during the 25 missions he’s just completed in Vietnam.
Capt. Henderson is a pilot with the 57th Aviation Co. and is married to the former Gail Kuykendall. They have two daughters, Sara and Pam.

He is the son of Professor and Mrs. J. M. Henderson.

What's on television this week?


(March 23, 1965) Tennessee Tech is being selected by an increasing number of students from other countries for a higher education, and members of TTU's Cosmopolitan Club this week said they want to give something back to the community.

They're holding an international fair on campus next week featuring dancers from Thailand, colorful dress from places like Greece, India and Hong Kong, and numerous displays and demonstrations.

So far, eight young women have filed papers to seek the title of Miss Putnam County in the upcoming Jaycees beauty pageant, says pageant chairman Harry Jaquess.

They are Margaret Ann Delaney, Marguerite Wolfe, Norma Duke, Donna Lee Spitler, Drusilla Roberts, Karen White and Judy Buford.

* Showing this week at the Princess Theater, "The Disorderly Orderly," with Jerry Lewis.

Showing this week at the Princess this week: James Franciscus and Suzanne Pleshette in “Youngblood Hawke.”

(April 8, 1965) State Senator Jared Maddux this week announced that two state buildings will definitely be built in Cookeville and a third is likely after state budget action this week in Nashville.

Assured are a new Employment Security Office which will be built on a site on Spring Street and a new regional highway patrol head-quarters slated for what used to be the Jim Maddux property near the intersection of Interstate 40 and the Sparta Road.

Maddux said the funding picture also looks good for a new Tennessee National Guard armory to replace the present on Highway 70.

*Showing this week at the Princess: It’s Elvis in “Girl Happy,” with Shelly Fabares, Gary Crosby and Mary Ann Mobley, and “The Lively Set,” with James Darren, Pamela Tiffin and Doug McClure.

(May 12, 1965) Mayor Luke Medley this week cut the ribbon to open the new underpass of Willow Avenue beneath the railroad tracks.

(May 25, 1965) Officials of the region say they're "elated" when Gov. Frank Clements announces in Nashville that one of the nation's giants in the aviation and space industry, the Douglas Aircraft Corp. of California, is opening new plants in Monterey, Sparta and Gainesboro, employing about 50 at each plant in the beginning.

(June 9, 1965) The last graduating class of Tennessee Polytechnic Institute walked across the stage to receive diplomas this week. Following action by the state legislature, the school has been named Tennessee Technological University.
June 10, 1965 Gov. Frank Clement advised 479 delegates to Boys State at TTU this week to “live an ‘up’ life” and be like tea pots, which “do their best when they’re up to their necks in hot water.”

The governor was popular with the boys, but his son, Bob, was an even bigger hit.

A junior at the University of Tennessee, Bob Clement captivated the crowd with the story of his first campaign for public office, the race for president of the UT freshman class.

But it was a joke told by the younger Clement that got the biggest reaction from the crowd – and a big laugh from his father.

He told of a farmer stopped by a state trooper for driving his truck too fast. The trooper asked the farmer, “Don’t you have a governor?” The farmer replied, “No, that’s the fertilizer you’re smelling.”

*Two Putnam men were among the first four recipients of TTU’s new Master of Science degree.

They are Eugene Wiley of Algood and James Lea, Jr. of Cookeville.

They were among 441 graduates in ceremonies at TTU this week.

July 8, 1965 “Theater Cookeville” is making its debut here this summer.

The curtain goes up on first production. “The Curious Savage,” on August 19 and a unique ticket promotion began this week on the sidewalk in front of the new theater.

A stretch of the sidewalk on Broad in front of the former Broad Street Church of Christ has been turned into a “Parisian sidewalk café” were people interested in tickets can get refreshments from costumed “waitresses” and can buy season tickets at the same time.

“Benefactor” tickets for the three-play season are $25 and “patron” tickets are $10.

The former church has lately been known as the Tower Office Building, but was leased by a group of local theater enthusiasts who are at work this week converting the sanctuary into a stage and auditorium.

*At Tennessee Tech this week, bulldozers were busy widening Peachtree Street from 7th to the Industrial Arts building on campus, making it a four-lane route with street lights and a concrete island.

Frank Moss, TTU’s Supt. of Buildings and Grounds, said it is part of the university’s ongoing expansion program, which continues to transform the look of the campus.

*Showing this week at the Princess Theater: “First Men In the Moon,” the H. G. Wells science fiction story, and “Jason and the Argonauts.”

July 20, 1965) In Giessen, Germany this week, James P. Brady, son of Mr. and Mrs. Odus D. Brady, received his Oak Leaf clusters in formal ceremonies promoting him to the rank of major in the US Army.

The Baxter Seminary graduate entered the Army in October of 1953.

Judge Beecher Huddleston and his wife this week marked their 65th wedding anniversary.

Illness prevented a full-scale celebration, but Judge Huddleston, who just spent two weeks in Cookeville General Hospital, was home in time to receive best wishes from friends and family.

He married the former Ruth Hyde of the Poplar Grove community. He himself was raised in Salem community. Judge Huddleston was a farmer and a Justice of the Peace from his district fro several years. He also served 16 years as County Judge.
Showing at the Princess this week: a musical extravaganza, “Get Yourself A College Girl,” starring Nancy Sinatra, Chad Everett and Mary Ann Mobley, along with the musical talents of The Dave Clark Five, Stan Getz and Astrud Gilbert, The Standells, the Jimmy Smith Trio and the Animals.

(July 23, 1965) Frank Conley of Brotherton heard his coon dogs making a racket in the field behind his house this week and when he went out to investigate, found a strange-looking animal surrounded by his hounds. He shot first and identified it later.

It weighed 15 pounds and looked like a possum wearing a shell, he said. His neighbors had relatives from Arkansas knew what it was -- an armadillo.

They're usually found only in Louisiana and Texas so authorities here are convinced the "critter" either hitched a ride on a passing farm vehicle or was dropped off here by somebody.

*Editor John Mott in his weekly "Town Topics" column noted that Brotherton is also the site of the last known bear shootings in Putnam County, although he doesn't mention when that was or who shot it.

Rain, fire alarms and an eclipse stirred up the town this week.

Picnics and outdoor fun across town were rained out by a couple of days of steady rain that ended with a thunderstorm. The storm sent a bolt of lightning to the home of Clarence Newman on Willow Avenue.

That set off Newman's home fire alarm, so firemen at the city fire hall set off the alarm there to call in volunteers. Meanwhile, lightning from the same storm struck the fire hall too, setting off the fire hall's other alarm too.

Later that evening when all the ruckus died down, the clouds parted and many in town were able to see a partial lunar eclipse.


It was built in 1903 by Nashville businessman John P. Williams, Sr., as a place to take his family out of the withering summer heat of the city.

And like so many others, they took the train to Monterey to reach their retreat. In the 1910s and 20s, Monterey was a thriving mecca for city dwellers and boasted a number of fine resort hotels.

The Hemlocks is now in the hands of a third generation of Williams. It’s shared by brothers Hensley Williams, a colonel in the Marine Corps, Overton Williams, comptroller at Vanderbilt University, and Phillip Williams, a businessman in Brownsville.

It’s still used as a summer vacation home and Monterey is still 5 to 10 degrees cooler on the average than Nashville in the summertime.

*Named Fairest of the Fair this week at the Putnam County Fair was Carolyn Boatman, a 17-year-old student at Central High. She’s the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. P. Boatman of Crescent Drive.

She’ll represent Putnam County at the Tennessee Association of Fairs Pageant in Nashville in January.

(September 2, 1965) Construction is due to begin next week in Monterey on a new 18,000-square-foot Douglas Aircraft plant in that town’s new industrial park, which is strategically situated along the new interstate highway and the Tennessee Central Railroad.
Douglas is one of the first to build in the new 100-acre park, half of which was donated to the town by the bank of Monterey and the Monterey Real Estate Co.

Mayor Robert Cates and the staff of city hall are working closely with Douglas officials in the project.

Meanwhile in Cookeville, the state has purchased property on the corner of Spring and Whitney to build a new $65,000 Employment Security building.

That state office has been located for several years in the Shanks Hotel.

(September 2, 1965) The Upper Cumberland’s number-one industry is going untapped, says Dr. Don Wakefield, the newly-named director of the Upper Cumberland Economic Resource Development Center at Tennessee Tech.

*Construction is due to begin next week in Monterey on a new 18,000-square-foot Douglas Aircraft plant in that town’s new industrial park, which is strategically situated along the new interstate highway and the Tennessee Central Railroad.

Douglas is one of the first to build in the new 100-acre park, half of which was donated to the town by the bank of Monterey and the Monterey Real Estate Co.

Mayor Robert Cates and the staff of city hall are working closely with Douglas officials in the project.

*Meanwhile in Cookeville the state has purchased property on the corner of Spring and Whitney to build a new $65,000 Employment Security building.

That state office has been located for several years in the Shanks Hotel.

Dr. Wakefield says the region is being increasingly industrialized and agriculture has already become “weak second.” But the area’s natural beauty and its proximity to large urban areas make it a natural draw to tourists. It’s the coming thing, he predicts.

(September 3, 1965) Tennessee Tech this week will confer its first graduate degrees in history on two students this week, Allen Rushing of Jackson and Margery Hollister Hargrove of Cookeville.

Rushing’s thesis looked at the history and impact of the railroad on his hometown.

Mrs. Hargrove examined the history of Nashville’s Little Theatre from 1920 until 1960. She’s worked periodically in Nashville theatre for the past 15 years and has directed numerous productions in Cookeville.

It’s her conclusion that community theaters are “the only hope for a return of interest in more serious dramas, even controversial and experimental plays.”

(September 16, 1965) Additions to two Tennessee Tech buildings are in line for a $261,000 share of an $800,000 federal Appalachian Regional Commission grant the state announced it is seeking this week.

President Everett Derryberry says that is the ARC funds come through, the university’s biology-agriculture building and its math-physics building will receive major additions.

Other college campuses in Tennessee would also benefit from the ARC grant. Knoxville College would get a new library, as would ETSU, and Tennessean Wesleyan College in Athens would get a new physical sciences building.

Top executives from several states and Canada were in town at the Country Club this week for a testimonial dinner for retiring Delman Corporation comptroller Ed McMahon.
The Ontario native has been Delman’s comptroller here since 1956. He’s a member of St. Thomas Aquinas church and is active in the Lion’s Club in Cookeville.

Showing this week at the Princess Theater: James Stewart in “Shenandoah,” Elvis in “Tickle Me,” and “Circus of Horrors.”

(September 23, 1965) TTU enrollment has hit a record this fall quarter, 5,000 students, as it marks its 50th year.

Those new students will be greeted by several new buildings and renovations as the university wraps up a two-year, $9 million building program.

TTU has built three new classroom buildings and has remodeled others in the push. And, the university has started work on a new football stadium and a new married students’ housing complex.

Showing this week at the Princess: Sean Connery as James Bond in “Dr. No” and “From Russia With Love.”

(September 23, 1965) More than 500 area residents are expected to attend a banquet this week at Tennessee Tech honoring Gov. Frank G. Clement.

The dinner is being hosted by the Upper Cumberland Development Association, which works closely with state officials in bringing new industry into the region.

(September 27, 1965) City Manager Dwain Peterman says the city is once again eligible for federal street aid funds after being struck from Washington’s list for the last two years.

To become eligible for the federal funds again, city officials have had to revise certain codes and ordinances to bring them up to new federal standards.

They previously did not feel the funds were critical enough for the city to fall in step with Washington’s standards, but with city streets falling into disrepair in the last two years, they’ve changed their minds.

Citizens Bank this week gave Tennessee Tech a gift of 425,000 to go toward scholarships.

Citizens Bank President Charles Miller, Jr., said in making the contribution the bank recognizes the value of the university to the community.

TTU, he notes, today has an enrollment of 5,000, twice what it was only a decade ago.

Showing at the Putnam Drive-in” Jerry Lewis is “Who’s Minding the Store,” and the “Where’s the Beach Party” cast goes to the drag strip in “Bikini Beach.”

(October 2, 1965) Cookevillians went to the White House this week with a group of 37 representatives of the Upper Cumberland to say “thanks” to President Lyndon B. Johnson for his sweeping efforts to fight poverty in Appalachia.

They came bearing gifts. Hubert Bennett, chairman of the Upper Cumberland development Association, and other regional leaders gave LBJ a miniature brass coal scuttle, a pair of cufflinks bearing Tennessee’s seal, and a locally-made hooked rug, among other items.

Among the delegates were Cookeville councilman Bethel Newport, banker Charles Miller, Jr., and Sparta Mayor Harold “Mo” Sims.
After a 20-minute meeting with the president, the group dropped in on US Rep. Joe L. Evins, who said of the occasion, “This is like the invasion of the White House by Tennessee for Andrew Jackson’s inauguration.”

Showing this week at the Princess: Richard Burton and Peter O’Toole in “Becket.”

(October 3, 1965) While other American college students across the country are beginning to hold demonstrations against the Vietnam War, TTU’s student newspaper, The Oracle, reports this week that students on campus strongly disagree with the protesters and support US troops involvement in Southeast Asia.

(October 8, 1965) A photo essay on page one this week shows the new high school going up rapidly on Highway 70 east of town.

Probably the most distinctive feature of the new school is the classroom clusters with their winged cupolas, the newspaper comments.

In special ceremonies here this wee, TTU military science instructor Capt. Stanley G. Booth was awarded the Bronze Star for his service in Vietnam last year.

The award was issued to the captain for “meritorious service against hostile forces in South Vietnam.”

Lora B. Huddleston is one of the first women in the nation to receive Social Security benefits under a new program for widows who are 60 or older.

She’s been a teacher at Baxter and Bloomington Springs for the last 32 years.

Previously, widows had to be at least 62 years of age to receive the special Social Security aid.

(October 18, 1965) With college students elsewhere across the country beginning to hold demonstrations against US involvement in Vietnam, and with some fleeing the country to Canada to avoid the military draft, the newspaper this week sought the views of eight student leaders at Tennessee Tech.

All eight said they believe the nation should get behind its army no matter how the government got itself into a war in Southeast Asia, and said they strongly disagree with student protesters on other college campuses.

Carolyn Lee of Cookeville, editor of the campus newspaper, said, “It’s a real shame for students to forget their reason for being on campus.”

The eight, who included Jerry Cantrell and Jim Broyles of Sparta, said they feel their views represent the majority of students on the campus of Tennessee Tech.

Fire this week did $50,000 in damage to the Judd and Swallows general store on main street in Algood.

The flames were confined mostly to the attic of the one-story building. Faulty wiring is suspected.

Showing at the Princess Theater this week, back-to-back musical action: “Go-Go Mania” and “Swingers Paradise.”

(October 19, 1965) Dr. Flaviou’s Smith, faculty chairman of athletics at TTU, tells football fans that there's good news and bad news this week. A shipment of steel girders for the university’s new football stadium has been delayed, the new facility won’t be ready for the present season, and all of this year's games will have to be played on the old field.
The good news, however, is that once the new stadium is completed, it will be "one of the finest non-major college fields in the Southeast," says Smith.

(October 22, 1965) Halloween falls on Sunday this year, and, while some feel they're being hit with a double whammy of trick-or-treaters on both Saturday and Sunday the newspaper says that the holiday has become tame compared to what it was just a decade or so ago.

“The night that once brought fourth an epidemic of misbehavior passed off as ‘youthful exuberance’ now sets mothers going from door to door trailing an army of King Kongs and Beelzebubs with bags gaping for goodies,” the newspaper comments.

Youngsters used to knock over outhouses, uproot mailboxes, let livestock out of pens and let the air out of tires. Now they go door to door in store-bought suits that are stripped with radiant paint so motorist can easily spot them.

Nevertheless, the Sheriff’s Department and city police are on full standby this weekend just in case the good old times haven’t been entirely forgotten.

(October 22, 1965) Dr. Elmo Dooley of TTU’s biology department is conducting tests for the US Air Force to determine how it is that mold can live in the dark in Greenland in temperatures that average minus 20 degrees.

The mold in question has a history.

“My Gal Sal,” a US Army Air Force Flying Fortress, went down on the Greenland Icecap in June of 1942 on the way back from a bombing mission. The crew was recovered. “Sal” was left buried in the deepening snow.

Last year, freak weather conditions on the ice cap uncovered “Sal”, and the wrecked bomber was spotted by US Air Force aviators and later explored by scientists who took samples.

Among the items recovered was a navigator’s sextant in a case which, when opened, was found to be completely filled with mold.

Dooley says if nothing else, the survival of the mold shows that containers need to be packed better since mold can survive at such extremes.

(November 4, 1965) Early risers these past few nights here have had a rare treat, the sight of a 75-million mile comet stretching across Putnam’s predawn sky.

It’s Ikeya-seki, a spectacular comet first sighted by two Japanese astronomers on Sept. 18.

Nobody knows where the comet came from.

Nobody knows where it is going. But for a few more nights, it will light up the nighttime sky, says the newspaper.

Central High chemistry teachers Mrs. Allison Ensor said the comet “is an awesome, inspiring spectacle.”

Johnny Mott, a junior at Central, told the paper he rose early enough to see it and is glad he did. The bright streak in the heavens appeared to be moving in a southerly direction, he said.


Showing this week at the Princess: Jane Fonda and Lee Marvin in the Western Farce, “Cat Ballou.”
Three buddies from Monterey look over a map of Southeast Asia in a page-one photo in this week’s edition. The recent Monterey high graduates have joined the Marines under the “buddy plan” and are just back from training at Camp Lejune.

Next, they will likely go to Vietnam as the military continues rotating troops into and out of that combat zone.

The three are Pvt. Ronald Buckner, who’s assigned to a motor transport unit, and Pfc. Laddie Wilson and Pvt. Billie Riddle, both assigned to a demolition unit.

*In a recent poll, an overwhelming majority of Cookeville Jaycees and members of the Cookeville Rotary Club said they favor control of trailer parks in Cookeville, a hotly-debated issue here at present.

They also say they favor the proposed change in the length of term of country judge from eight to four years.

*Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Peter O’Toole in “Lord Jim.”

A controversial ordinance drafted by Cookeville City Council to control trailers in the city has been rejected by the Cookeville Planning and Zoning Board.

Board chairman I. B. Brooks says he and the panel agree that the placement of more trailers within the city limits should be controlled, but they believe that people who live in trailers on their own property in town should be given special consideration.

They sent the ordinance back to the council for further work.

A federal grant of $139,000 has been awarded to a group of 150 Monterey residents this week who own the Dripping Springs Golf & Recreation Center near Monterey.

The group plans to build a family recreation center just east of town.

Showing at the Princess this week: It’s John, Paul, George and Ringo – the Beatles – in “Help!” The ad says it’s a film about “the colorful adventures of the Fab Four.”

US Senator Ron Bass spoke here this week and said that one of the things on the minds of the most voters he talks to these days is the Vietnam conflict.

“It would be a tragedy for us to withdraw,” said the senator. That would lead to a total takeover by the communists,” he said of the situation in Southeast Asia.

Although some are beginning to publicly question US involvement in the civil war there, most citizens he talks to favor shoring up the government in South Vietnam to prevent a community takeover.

On page one this week was an architect’s drawing of the new State Employment Security complex being built on the corner of Spring and South Whitney.

A $72,420 contract was issued this week to Arnold Lacy & Sons to build the structure, which was designed by R. Bruce Draper.

Residents are responding well to the newspaper’s project this week to compile a special four-page section with season’s greetings from Putnam Countians to all Putnam men fighting in the Vietnam War.
In a page one picture, Mr. and Mrs. Mack Keith of Baxter are signing the special “Christmas card.” Their son, Sgt. Clay Keith, is one of the Putnam soldiers who will receive it. He’s been in Vietnam since July.

Editor Coleman Harwell says in an editorial on the project that he’s surprised at how many here have told him about personal connections to the Vietnam War.

Nearly everyone he’s run across in recent days has mentioned a son, daughter, or other relative serving in the war.

And he says all have voiced support for the war, which US officials say is necessary to keep communist North Vietnam from overrunning its southern neighbor.

Harwell says the situation is the same as in 1938 and 1939 when Adolph Hitler and his Nazi troops were making aggressive moves on their neighbors.

Showing this week at the Princess Theater: “Baby the Rain Must Fall,” with Steve McQueen and Lee Remick. It’s based on the best-selling book.

(December 12, 1965) One of the city’s biggest factories, the Delman Company, has been sold and the new owner is talking about expansion.

Delman Company, has been sold and the new owner is talking about expansion.

Delman, which has made windshield wipers here for the automotive industry since 1955, is now owned by the McCord Corp. of Detroit, which is investigating the purchase of land adjacent to Delman to add onto the existing facility.

Delman also recently became the supplier of a special turn signal device for the Ford Thunderbird, which as a set of three lights on each side of the rear for signaling turns.

Citizens Bank this week announced the retirement of three employees who between them have served the bank for 133 years.

Retiring are Sam Holleman, assistant cashier, Mrs. Nannie Mitchell, teller, and Algood Carlen, the bank’s vice president.

Carlen has been with the bank 50 years. He began in 1916 two years after the bank was established.

(December 24, 1965) Cookeville are likely to again be disappointed this year by a non-White Christmas, the newspapers reports. White Christmases here are rare. In the past 15 years, only three have seen appreciable snow on the ground on Christmas Day. That was in 1963, when four and a half inches fell, 1951 and 1962.

Two Tennessee National Guard planes landed in Saigon on Dec. 17 carrying stacks of special editions of the Cookeville newspaper. The editions, bearing Christmas greetings from thousands of Putnam Countians, are bound for every Putnam serviceman serving this year in Vietnam.

What do kids want for Christmas this year? Letters to Santa tell the story.

Darlene Hickey, 5, asked Santa for a gift for her teacher at Nash’s Chapel School. She wants a doll for herself. Danny Lane, a 3rd grader at Brotherton School, wants a Lincoln Log set and 3rd grader Larry Taylor asked for food and a typewriter.

Young Roger Fuqua asked Santa for a toy TV and toy cash register. Nine-year-old Sam Coward wants a globe and a James Bond 007 Attaché Case. Janice Carter, also 9, asked for clothes for her Barbie and a softball and bat.
Brad McKinnis, 6, wants an American flag, a G. I. Joe and a toy machine gun and six-year-old Steve Flowers asked Santa for a gun and holster set, a badge, and a toy rifle.

And Marcia Mills, a student at the Cedar Hill school, said she’d like to find a toy doll, an Easy Bake oven set and story books under her Christmas tree.

1966

(January 4, 1966) Putnam is one of seven counties in the state to take part in a special program sponsored by the U.S. State Department to familiarize persons in other countries with American life. A teacher from Thailand is staying here for a week in January.

Mrs. Sawat Rathavaraha is the principal of the girls’ school in Thailand’s Nongkhai province. She’s taught since 1951. While in Putnam County, she’ll tour schools, meet with school officials and soak up American educational techniques.

(January 6, 1966) Elections were in the news this week. Up in Monterey, the Monterey Board of Aldermen elected N. K. Matthews to another two-year term as police chief, and W. J. Pugh, Jr., to another term as city recorder.

The board also named Joe Randolph as the town’s “extra-duty policeman.” The other officer on the town police force is Ray Lee Bowman.

And in other elections, local farm implement dealer Joe Scott became the president of the Cookeville Kiwanis this week and Clarence Lancaster was elected first vice president. Marshall Bertram was named second vice president, Joe Baker became third vice president, Bill Davis was named secretary and James Mullinax is the club’s treasurer for the coming year.

(January 9, 1966) Leading the Cookeville Kiwanis Club into another year of civic work here is a new group of officers. They include farm implement dealer Joe Scott, president; Clarence Lancaster, 1st vice president; Marshall Bertram, 2nd vice president; Joe Baker, 3rd vice president; Bill Davis, secretary; James Mullinax, treasurer; and directors Allison Eades, O. T. Estes, Clyde Lambert, Robert Officer, Ray Winningham, Chester Adams.

Meanwhile across town, the Princess Theater this week was showing “Mirage,” with Gregory Peck and Diane Baker, and the Putnam Drive-In lit up the screen with “John Goldfarb Please come Home,” with Shirley McClaine, Peter Ustinov and Richard Crenna.

*1966 was a record year for new construction here, City Clerk Donald Ferrell said this week. The year ended with a total of $4.1 million in new buildings, three times the total from the previous year. Some of those new projects included $425,000 for a new Holiday Inn here; $150,000 for the Rice Motor Inn; $160,000 for Cookeville Nursing Home; $65,000 for an apartment complex built on North Washington by Robert Witt; $53,000 for Universal Plastics; and $35,000 for a branch office on North Washington for First National Bank. Meanwhile, the size of the city itself has grown considerably since 1962, said Ferrell. In 1962, the city limits encompassed 2,260 acres. A series of annexations brought it up to 5,018 acres this year, he said.

(January 10, 1966) Putnam Road Supervisor Ben Austin said this week that he’s going to start testing the use of chemical sprays along Putnam rights-of-way to control the growth of weeds. He’s been using high school students to hand-cut the stuff, but it’s not cost effective, he says. The county has 2,200 miles of rights-of-way to maintain, Austin noted.

(January 11, 1966) The newspaper this week interviewed Albert McClellan, who turned 86 on Christmas Day. The son of Green and Lizzie McClellan, he was raised on a farm near Chestnut Mound in Smith County. His father died when he was 16, and he moved to Cookeville along with several of his family
members. During his lifetime he has worked on farms, on the railroad, in sawmills and stores and in restaurants here. Until 10 years ago, he still had a horse and wagon he used to make deliveries and plow. Today he lives at 624 Carver Avenue. During the interview, he glanced at a show on a color television set nearby and commented, "It's a long way from what we used to have when we made do with fiddles and banjos and pianos for music."

(January 12, 1966) Cookeville native Jimmy Carlen, 32, has become the head football coach for West Virginia University, one of the nation’s youngest heads of a college football program.

He’s been an assistant at Georgia Tech in Atlanta since 1958, and in the last two years has made a name for his impressive record as a defensive coach.

He was one of 100 coaches considered for the position, which reportedly carries a salary of $17,000. He’s the son of Mr. and Mrs. James Carlen, Jr., of South Elm Street, Cookeville.

He played his first football game for Eddie Watson at Central High in 1951 and went on to become the team’s star linebacker.

(January 23, 1966) The Cookeville Planning Commission voted this week to extend the city’s zoning control to a five mile radius beyond the city’s present corporate limits.

State Planner Nick Harris told the city planners, “This is for the protection of Cookeville. Someday your city is going to encompass this area and I encourage you to begin planning now.”

Cookeville had another whopper snow this week, five and a quarter inches. Temperatures got down to eight degrees in the latest winter storm.

The newspaper published a series of photos showing how local residents enjoyed the latest winter visitation.

Janice and Gay Carter are seen putting the final touches on three fully-clothed snow figures in the front yard of their parents home on Buck Mountain Road.

Central High seniors Alice Maddux and Gail Warren are seen in a second photo gathering more ammunition in a snowball fight with friends.

And Central sophomore Becky Holliman is seen stopped beside I-40 on the way up Monterey mountain inspecting huge icicles hanging from the cut in the rocks there.

(January 26, 1966) The Gadfly Club is sponsoring a weekly Foreign Film Festival. For the coming weeks, here are the selections: “That Man From Rio,” from France; “Othello,” from England, “Divorce Italian Style,” from Italy; “Black Orpheus,” from Brazil; “Man Who Wagged His Tail,” from Spain, and “Umbrellas of Cherbourg,” from France. The films will be shown in the Princess Theater.

(February 3, 1966) The nation’s Medicare health system is being set up and Medicare cards went out this week to 10 million elderly Americans.

A page one photo this week showed Bishop Holliman and Clyde Lambert of the Social Security Office here issuing the first card in Cookeville to E. Glenn Myrick.

Myrick, a Pennsylvania native, moved here in 1954 and is now retired. He said Medicare will let him worry less about paying medical expenses and spend more time fishing.

The health car program will touch the lives of practically all Americans over the age of 65.
Mel Sinquefield, the defensive line coach for Vanderbilt University for the past four years, is Tennessee Tech’s new head defensive coach.

The appointment was announced this week by TTU Athletic Director Hooper Eblen and Head Football Coach Wilburn Tucker.

Under Sinquefield’s coaching, Vandy was the national college leader last year in total defense.

* Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Ann Margaret and Michael Parks in “Bus Riley’s Back in Town.”

(February 5, 1966) Water flowed for the first time though the Falling Water Utility District’s ten miles of mains this week as federal inspectors toured the new rural water district and gave it their official approval.

Pictured on page one this week celebrating the event was Cookeville Mayor Luke Medley, seen turning on the faucet behind the home of Bufford Johnson of Rt. 5, Cookeville.

At the other end of the hose in the picture, excitedly watching water flow into a bucket were Johnson’s sons, Ronald, 13, Lloyd, 10 and Williams, 12, all students at Capshaw School.

They’ve gotten attention around the world and now “Sing Out 66,” a group of 130 young clean-cut musicians, is coming to Tennessee Tech’s Memorial Gymnasium for a concert this month, TTU announced this week.

The newspaper says the upbeat group is “the answer to today’s beatniks and draft card burner.”

(February 7, 1966) Three members of the Cookeville Jaycees are included in this year’s edition of “Outstanding Young Men in America.” They’re the administrator of Cookeville General Hospital, Leon Burns Jr., Putnam Circuit Court Clerk Charlie Vaughn and WPTN radio announcer Larry Nunn.

* Meanwhile on the editorial page, the newspaper notes that Americans hate the war in Vietnam as much as they have hated any other war, “but America has never been a quitter.” We must keep on fighting for peace, it says. The French lost Vietnam in 1954 because of dissension among its people. Will the U. S. fall victim, too?

(March 3, 1966) Coal will soon be moving on the Tennessee Central from the Monterey area for the first time since last May when coal trains stopped running when the Clinchfield Coal Co. ceased operations.

The Tennessee Central said at that time there was not enough coal being produced in the area by the remaining coal companies to cover the cost of continuing rail service to those mines.

But this week, the smaller mines signed an agreement to produce 87,000 tons of coal weekly, enough for one coal train to roll each week from the mountain.

Mines still in operation there include Crawford, Lane, Obey City and Double Spur.

In a speech here this week, a Putnam native, Lt. Col. James Foutch Hill, says American troops are winning the war in Vietnam.

Back from a year’s tour in Vietnam and headed back to his family in Virginia, Hill was in town this week to see friends and was interviewed by the newspaper.

He said that American soldiers have proven they are the best in the world, young men with only a year’s training subduing hardened veterans, the Viet Cong.

Hill says that day by day, American troops are taking back areas in South Vietnam long held by the VC.
Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Charleton Heston and Richard Boone in “The War Lord.”

(March 8, 1966) For years you've been able to park your car in downtown Cookeville on Wednesday afternoons without paying the parking meters. That's because just about every store is closed on Wednesday afternoons. But times are changing and Police Chief Dawson Gentry said this week that meters will have to be paid on Wednesday afternoon too, beginning the last week of the month. Some stores downtown are beginning to stay open Wednesday afternoons too and they want the parking spaces regulated, he told the newspaper.

*Showing at the Putnam Drive-in today: Walt Disney's "Old Yeller," with Fess Parker and Dorothy McGuire.

(March 12, 1966) The US Dept. of Agriculture has approved a $139,000 loan for the creation of the Dripping Springs Golf and Recreation Center on a 140-acre tract four miles east of Monterey on Highway 70.

Robert Cate, president of the company building the recreation area, said this week that plans include a $25,000 clubhouse, a golf course, a small lake with a swimming area and picnic facilities.

The development hopes to open by July the 4th and the golf course could be completed by fall, said Cate.

It needs a total of 200 members to sustain operations, and organizers are only about 25 members short of that figure now. A membership costs $100.

Other officers in the company include vice-president Bill Pugh, secretary Cliff Ingram and treasurer Johnny King.

(March 15, 1966) Theatre Cookeville’s latest production, which opens this month, is “The Boy Friend,” a musical. Its cast includes Jan Hearington in the lead as “Polly Browne,” and Gary Lafever as “the boyfriend.” Also in the cast are Ilo Hershiser, Wesley Fox, Mark Draper, Danny Lancaster, Walter Hill Carlen and Billy DeBerry.

(March 17, 1966) After winning top trophies in every major speech competition in Tennessee this year, the Central High speech team is asking for contributions to send it to Miami where it can compete in the Southern Speech Association’s spring meet.

Hamming it up for the camera on page one this week, posing by the roadside with their bags on the ground and their thumbs in the air, are speech team members Buddy Massa, Martha Brown, Gail Warren and Mike Lewis.

*Showing at the Princess this week: “The Hallelujah Trail,” a comic western saga staring Burt Lancaster, and Pamela Tiffin. The ad says it’s the story of “How the West was Fun!”

(March 19, 1966) The governor’s race kicked off this week when John Jay Hooker became the first to leap in. Former governor Buford Ellington says he’s nearly ready to make a formal announcement, but wants to continue across the state talking with voters first.

(March 19, 1966) Ellington was at Tennessee Tech this week for Career Day and his picture was taken with a group of Central High students: Judy Mitchell, Connie Brown, Linda Jane, Teresa Dowell, and Laura Christian.

(March 24, 1966) Fayetteville High School football coach Bucky Pitts has been hired to be the new head football coach of Putnam County’s new high school in Cookeville.

His goals here? Pitts says he plans to (1) “make better men out of boys” and (2) win games.
W. B. Napier Jr., who already operates a supermarket in Lafayette, is opening a new Shop-Ezy market on the Sparta Road here in the Bargain Town Shopping Center. The store will carry a complete line of meats, vegetables and other food items, says Napier.

(March 29, 1966) The Optimist Club here has named its two “Teens of the Month,” Brenda Vermillion, the 17-year-old daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Edwin Vermillion of Monterey, and Merrill Ford, the 17-year-old son of Mrs. Ann Hollars of Monterey.

They are both Monterey High students. Brenda oil paints and plays the autoharp and the organ. She “skips the Beatles” in favor of the classics, says the newspaper. She also writes the “Cat Capers’” column about Monterey High each week for the newspaper. Merrill is on the school’s annual staff and was president of his sophomore class. He hopes to go to Notre Dame next year and major in physical education.

(March 30, 1966) The Tennessee Federation of Women’s Clubs celebrated their Diamond Jubilee this week in a meeting in Cookeville presided over by Mrs. Harry Upperman of Cookeville’s Book Lover’s Club.

Women came to the festivities here from clubs as far away as Tullahoma and Manchester.

Local clubs which helped host the event included the Book Lovers’ Club, the Study Club, the Town and Gown Club, and the Evening Town and Gown Club.

*Showing at the Princess this week: “Never before a spectacular like this,” proclaims the ad for the epic, “The Fall of the Roman Empire,” with Stephen Boyd, Alec Guinness, James Mason and Sophia Loren.

(April 1, 1966) Spring means new construction starts and several project have gotten under way here, including a $250,000 low rental housing complex in Algood being built by the Cookeville Housing Authority.

Housing authority executive director Dero Brown says the nine housing units are being built on the west side of Highway 42 just inside Algood’s town limits.

Also going up soon here on a yet undetermined site will be a new $600,000 mental health complex being built with state and federal funds.

The 25 bed-complex will include in-patient and out-patient mental health care.

Showing this week at the Princess: “Hold On!” with Herman and the Hermits, the new British rock group. The ad says, “You never heard faster beats or seen wilder fun.”

(April 3, 1966) State Senator Jared Maddux has announced plans for a $600,000, 25-bed regional mental health center to be built in Cookeville.

(April 5, 1966) Clifford Ingram, executive director of the LBJ&C, said today that federal funding approval is near for two Head Start child development centers here for children of working low-income mothers. Openings are expected for some 300 youngsters ages 2-6.

Similar centers are expected to be approved for other Upper Cumberland communities too.

(April 9, 1966) A drive to rid the city of house trailers climaxed this week with the city council’s approval of an ordinance severely restricting trailers here.

Under the new city law, the 250 to 300 trailers presently in the city will be inspected for codes violations. Several are expected to be condemned.
Owners of the trailers must also pay an annual fee ranging from $15 to $45 for “parking rights.” City officials say that before the new ordinance, property tax was paid only on the site, not the mobile structure, so they felt they were losing potential city revenue.

No new trailers can be set up in the city. And those that fail to pass inspection cannot be replaced.

*Down in Baxter this week, Emma Sutton turned 90. She was interviewed by the newspaper on her birthday and told of hard times at the turn of the century there when she was a young woman. She earned 50 cents a week cleaning houses. To supplement that income, she made suits for a dollar. A dress went for $2. Money was scarce, she explained. (April 12, 1966)

*Prices today? Piggly Wiggly has a pork roast for 33 cents a pound, fryers for 49 cents a pound, and been steaks for 79 cents a pound. Big K has a 10-ounce bottle of Jergens lotion for $1 and the same size bottle of Mexsana skin cream is for a dollar, too.

(April 12, 1966) Algood residents will begin getting home delivery in June, the U. S. Postal Service announced. But officials stress that mail will only be placed in boxes at the curb, not those mounted at the front door. The new service will affect some 30 businesses and 300 households in Algood.

(April 15, 1966) Cookeville’s Luther Harris was honored in Nashville this week with two awards from the National Rehabilitation Counseling Association in its annual awards banquet. He received the association’s H. B. Cumming’s Award in competition with 8,000 other rehabilitation counselors across the US and a National Counseling Citation, both recognizing his work with the handicapped in the Upper Cumberland.

The 275 attending the banquet in the posh Andrew Jackson Hotel in Nashville heard several testimonials on Harris’ dedication from national officials of the organization.

Anita Gail Vickers of Baxter, a nuclear engineering major at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, is about to become the first woman to ever work in Oak Ridge’s Y-12 nuclear facility.

She’s been selected for the job through UT’s cooperative education program, in which she will take a break from her studies for a year and work in her field of study in the nuclear installation.

(April 16, 1966) The federal Head Start program is preparing to open here, serving 300 Putnam County children in its first year.

Bulldozers are pictured in this week’s edition plowing under turf at Tennessee Tech’s overall Field. In the background of the photo, the grandstands are being dismantled.

The playing field used by Tech for decades is being relocated to make room for a new men’s dormitory complex.

(April 22, 1966) Services were held this week for Sam A. McMurray, partner in the popular McMurray-Roberson store here. He’s been ill for several months and he passed away earlier this week.

He came here from Morganfield, KY, and opened a dry goods store in during the Depression and later thrived. He moved to the Square in 1952 and Fred Robinson soon became his associate. Together they’ve made one of the town’s most prominent department stores.

(April 22, 1966) The federal Head Start program is preparing to open its doors here, serving 300 Putnam children in its first year, say LBJ&C Corporation director Cliff Ingram.

The program for low-income families gives children a structured 8-week course to prepare them for the first grade, he explained.
*Showing this week at the Putnam Drive-In: Glenn Ford and Henry Fonda in the modern-day western, "The Rounders."

(April 26, 1966) Two Tennessee Tech graduates are coming back to campus this week and they're bringing some friends from the Grand Ole Opry with them. Tomorrow is Dottie and Bill West day at TTU.

The now-famous country music stars met at Tennessee Tech as students. She’s a native of McMinnville and was here studying music. He was an engineering major. They shared a love of country music. They married. Three years and two children later they graduated from TTU and in time became country music performers.

This week they’re coming back to TTU for a special day named in their honor. They’ll here and will sing a concert tomorrow night.

Joining them on the stage will be Minnie Pearl, Faron Young and the Harden Trio from the Grand Ole Opry.

(May 1, 1966) Now that soybeans are becoming a hot item for farmers to grow, an effort is under way here to create a market for them here. Farmers who now grow soybeans have to take them to Nashville. But the Putnam Farmers Co-op and the Tennessee Farmers Co-op are making arrangements to build a grain elevator in White County.

And farmers in Putnam County this year are being urged to plant a total of 2,000 acres in soybeans. A big meeting is set for later this week in the Putnam Courthouse to give farmers the low-down on the effort.

(May 3, 1966) Long-time Algood librarian Callie Melton is pictured on page one of this week’s edition with a group of Algood students as she gets the news that her latest literary effort is being published in an upcoming issue of Tennessee Teacher.

With her are Ray Lewis, J. D. Franklin, Donnie Earl Williams, and Joan Loftis.

The fathers of both Lewis and Williams were students under Mrs. Melton at other schools.

Showing at the Princess this week: “That Darned Cat,” with Dean Jones and Doris Day.

(May 3, 1966) They were saying good things about Cookeville in Washington this week.

John L. Sweeney, co-chairman of the Appalachian Regional Commission, told the House Appropriations Committee that the small city in Congressman Joe L. Evins district has remarkable potential for future growth.” He said it is a model of leadership.

He said that Cookeville is the kind of community that the future progress of the Appalachian region depends upon.

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*And farmers in Putnam County this year are being urged to plant a total of 2,000 acres in soybeans. A big meeting is set for later this week in the Putnam Courthouse to give farmers the low-down on the effort.

(May 5, 1966) It is believed to be the first bank heist in Algood’s history, the theft of $500 in silver coins from the branch of Citizen’s Bank this week.
The thieves entered through a hole in the roof of the building and used drills and torches to enter the vault, where the silver coins were in small bags on the floor of the vault.

However, Charles Miller, president of the bank, says the thieves failed to crack the vault safe, which held $8,500.

(May 7, 1966) The State Board of Education has approved a new operating budget for Tennessee Tech that “exceeds $7 million, and increase of 21 percent above last year’s spending level at the university.

That comes in addition to a $10 million capital outlay budget approved for TTU this year. Those dollars bring the total of building funds being spent in the next two years at TTU to $24 million.

President Everett Derryberry said the surge of funding for TTU comes in time for TTU to celebrate its 50th anniversary this year.

(May 10, 1966) Algood’s 647 homes and businesses this week began to receive door-to-door mail delivery. Cookeville’s population has grown to a new official figure of 13,227, according to Cookeville City Manager Dwain Peterson. The last official tally put the town’s population at 7,805 in 1960.

*Something rare happened here this week, a bank break-in. Someone cut a hole in the roof of Citizen's Bank's Algood branch one night this week and then torched their way into the bank's vault. They took $800 in silver coins stacked on the floor, but were unable to cut through the inner vault safe to get at the bulk of the money, $8,500. The safe that saved most of the bank's money is a leftover from the original Bank of Algood, which was in operation here 50 years ago. Law enforcement authorities say the burglary resembled those recently in Crossville and Oneida.

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President Everett Derryberry said the surge of funding for TTU comes in time for TTU to celebrate its 50th anniversary this year.

(May 17, 1966) TTU is celebrating its 50th year with a variety of celebrations this year and the newspaper this week published a special edition looking at the college and its progress.

TTU President Everett Derryberry, the man who presided over the college’s tremendous growth since the war said, “I do not think anyone in 1940 could have envisioned the effects of World War II on us.”

TTU hung on during tight times in the war, but was flooded with students coming to college on the GI bill right after the war and then by a second wave when their children went to school.

In 1940 the college had a plant worth $500,000 operating on a $200,000 budget with 36 instructors and some 760 students.

This year, the plant is worth $30 million, TTU operates on a $7 million budget and has 557 instructors and some 5,000 students.

(May 17, 1966) It’s Ed McCleary Day in Cookeville. McCleary is the manager of the Delman plant here. It announced this week that it was about to undertake a $750,000 expansion that will increase Jobs at the plant from 525 to 700.

The expansion is being financed with a low-interest industrial revenue bond issuance approved by voters in a special referendum here recently.
Delman was purchased by the McCord Corporation, which makes auto parts, last December, McCleary has been with Delman since 1965 and this week was named vice president in charge of McCord facilities in Lebanon, Des Moines, Iowa and Ontario, Canada.

(May 20, 1966) The issue is education, says John Jay Hooker, the Democratic candidate for governor. He’s making the rounds across the state this week and stopped here to campaign. Hooker noted that Tennessee is ranked 45th in the nation in per capita spending on education.

“Every state and every city in the country are locked in fierce competition to get its share of the gross national product,” said the candidate. He called for more spending on education to put Tennessee in the running. While in town Hooker toured TTU and was hosted at a reception at the Thunderbird Motel.

*Among the festivities at Tennessee Tech this week, to celebrate its 50th anniversary, will be something not seen around here very often, a bicycle race. Thirty teams of four riders will compete in the 50-mile bicycle race around the college's main quadrangle.

Each rider will ride as fast and as long as he can before pulling into the "pit" so the next teammate can take over. Bike races are gaining popularity at many Midwestern campuses, but TTU is believed to be the first in this region to sponsor one.

*The Cumberland Presbyterian Church is preparing to dedicate its new building on East 10th Street this Sunday, says Logan Tilghman, its pastor. For its first 100 years, the church was located at the corner of Broad and Madison.

*Elsewhere this week, vice-president Spiro T. Agnew was fanning the flames of the anti-war movement. He said in a speech today that the tens of thousands of anti-war protesters, who demonstrated outside the White House last week were mostly college students "out on a spring lark."

(May 24, 1966) With construction just now beginning on the new Delman plant in north Cookeville, the company that owns Delman, the McCord Corp., announced this week that the plant will be considerably larger than first announced and will employ up to 700 when it opens here.

Originally the plant said it would hire 500 workers tops when the plant gets up to full speed, but now, plans for the factory are zooming up to 125,000 square feet.

McCord officials say they decided that business is so good that the plant would be quickly inadequate and so they decided to nearly double the size of the original plans now.

*Showing this week at the Princess Theatre: Ann Margaret and Michael Parks in “Bus Riley’s Back in Town.”

(May 24, 1966) The issue is education, says John Jay Hooker, the Democratic candidate for governor. He's making the rounds across the state this week and stopped here to campaign. Hooker noted that Tennessee is ranked 45th in the nation in per capita spending on education. "Every state and every city in the country are locked in fierce competition to get its share of the gross national product," said the candidate. He called for more spending on education to put Tennessee in the running. While in town, Hooker toured TTU and was hosted at a reception at the Thunderbird Motel.

(May 31, 1966) A massive new plant is coming to Cookeville, it was announced this week in a ceremony that included a visit by Gov. Frank G. Clement.

Cummins Engines of Columbus, Indiana, the world’s largest producer of diesel engines, has announced it is moving its Fleet guard filter division to a site in Cookeville.
The 130,000-square-foot plant is to be erected on 62 acres just South of I-40 on the Old Sparta Road for a cost of some $2 million.

Fleetguard is expected to bring an annual payroll of $1 million and says it will employ 200 in 1967 and up to 400 by 1970.

*Four professors are retiring from TTU this year, ending 66 years of service to the college between them.

They are Dr. Cecil G. Phipps, a professor of mathematics, Grace B. Callaghan, a professor of music, Dr. Edward Cornelius, professor of business administration, and J. M. Henderson, an engineering professor who has taught at the college for the past 42 years.

Henderson arrived here in the fall of 1942 as America was gearing up for the war effort. He recalls that the war-engineering labs operated 24 hours a day, seven days a week training more than 1,600 men and women for technical jobs in the war effort.

(May 31, 1966) Everett Dyer, a senior engineering major at Tennessee Tech, has been making quite a racket at his home near the county airport, north of the campus. He’s built and tested a ramjet engine for his senior class project.

A ramjet engine has no moving parts, yet produces mechanical movement. It was constructed for him at the Bowser Briggs plant here. His testing of the engine drew several complaints about noise from the women’s dorms on campus.

A Nashville television crew that came to do a piece on Dyer this week had to leave the room when the engine was tested. The roar drove them out. Dyer’s device is not only loud, it’s more efficient that those designed by some professionals. A ramjet produced by a company in England produces a pound of thrust for about $1,000. Dyer’s yields the same work for about $20.

(June 4, 1966) Mrs. Phy Gibson was the subject of the newspaper’s weekly birthday interview. She turned 82 on May 4. Her daughter, Mrs. Hugh Caruthers, threw her a surprise birthday party.

Mrs. Gibson is the great granddaughter of Cookeville’s namesake, Maj. Richard Fielding Cooke, a Revolutionary War veteran who was an early settler here.

Her home is on Proffitt Street where she’s lived for the past 30 years. Her husband died two years ago. He was retired from the Cookeville Police Department, in which he’d served as an officer for 26 years.

(June 5, 1966) There are some changes at our high schools for the coming year, it was announced this week. Milton Nixon, principal of Monterey High for the last 13 years, is leaving for a job next school year with the State Department of Education.

Ex-White County High principal Frank Medley is a leading candidate for the job at MHS, says Putnam School Supt. Eddie Watson.

Meanwhile, the new high school here, Putnam County Sr. High, has a principal. He’s Bill May, former Shelbyville Central High principal. He’s been there for the last 7 years and will now open Putnam’s newest high school.

At the Princess this week: “Dr. Goldfoot and the Bikini Machine,” with Vincent Prince and Frankie Avalon.

(June 10, 1966) A Monterey soldier, Harlan Buckner, is back on duty now after recovering from wounds at the Bien Hoa military hospital.
Buckner, who arrived in Vietnam two days after Christmas, was with a unit that had moved into a new territory to begin a seven-day patrol and he was serving sentry duty when a Viet Cong sniper wounded him three times just before midnight.

He was airlifted out and is now recovered.

*Showing at the Princess this week: Walt Disney’s “The Monkey’s Uncle,” with Annette Funicello and the Beach Boys.

Also starring is “Smiley the Teenaged Chimp.”

(June 14, 1966) Harlan Buckner of Monterey is back in action in Vietnam after being wounded in the leg and ankle by a sniper while on guard duty one night two weeks ago. His unit had just moved that day into a new area of operations and had set up camp for a seven-day stay.

He was wounded at about 11:30 that night on the camp perimeter and flown out by helicopter to a military hospital. He recovered quickly and was sent back to active duty.

And he’ll be getting a lot of company. President Lyndon Baines Johnson announced this week that he’s sending another 100,000 U. S. troops to Vietnam to reopen roads and retake villages held by the Viet Cong.

(June 14, 1966) Cookeville is being looked over this week by groups of Fleetguard executives and their wives. Fleetguard is the company building the massive new plant at Interstate 40. Lusk Stubblefield, a Tennessee Tech graduate, is leading the groups. He’s personnel manager for the new plant.

City leaders are hosting the groups, showing them what Cookeville has to offer and preparing them for small-town living. Officials say the executives are keenly interested in the county's educational system. They are also concerned about the shortage of rental space, since many of them will be renting before buying homes. The influx of new people is expected to have a significant impact on the town, officials say.

*Meanwhile, showing at the Princess this week: "Monkey's Uncle," a Walt Disney film with Annette Funicello, the Beach Boys and "Stanley the Teen-age Chimp."

(June 18, 1966) Dr. Donald Wakefield, a Fentress County native now teaching business administration at the Bowling Green (Ohio) State University, has been named the new executive director of the Upper Cumberland Economic and Resources Development Center, which is headquartered at TTU.

The center provides technical assistance and technical services for city and county officials in 11 area counties.

Odie Hargis of the Okalona Community in Overton County is pictured on page one this week in a 120-year-old steer-drawn cart that will appear in an upcoming movie which he has a part.

Hargis will be seen in the film, “The Whirligig of Life” which was produced recently by the National Educational Television Corp.

The movie was filmed in Grassy Cove and other scenic spots in Cumberland County.

(June 21, 1966) Gov. Frank Clement will be in town this week to dedicate the new $90,000 State Employment security office on Spring Street.

Managing the new 31,150 square-foot facility is W. C. Warren. It will serve eight Upper Cumberland counties.

*Meanwhile, Clement was criticized her by Nashville businessman John Jay Hooker, who’s running for governor.
Hooker says it’s time to put an end to the “single, grasping, power-hungry” political machine represented by Clement.

Hooker says he’s opposed to the idea of a state income tax. The current state budget crisis is due to inequities in the tax system. Fix them, and there’ll be enough revenue to fund state government, he said.

(June 23, 1966) Cookeville’s congressman, Joe L. Evins, writes in his weekly column this week that there is a growing belief among his peers in Washington that the tide has turned in the Vietnam War.

The feeling is that the Viet Cong cannot continue the war after suffering massive losses in recent months, he said. In the days ahead, the VC should be a diminishing threat to US troops seeking them in the jungles, deltas and mountains of Vietnam.

*Meanwhile, Dewayne Lee wrote his grandfather in Cookeville this week that the VC nearly killed him this week, massive losses or not.

Lee, a Marine stationed at Chu Lai, wrote his grandfather, Joe B. Lee of Cookeville, that he had already seen his best friend shot dead beside him earlier this week when he himself came under enemy fire in an ambush.

What saved him from a bullet was a tree that stood directly between the Marine and the sniper, wrote Lee. He afterwards wrote a poem about trees and war, and indicated that he’ll look at trees in a different light from now on.

(June 25, 1966) Gov. Frank Clement was here this week to dedicate the new $90,000 State Employment Security complex on Spring Street.

Clement told the large crowd of residents and local officials that Cookeville should be praised for being a progressive town.

The new complex will serve several surrounding counties.

Clement noted that during his six years in office, the state unemployment rate has fallen from 8.7 to 2.7 percent.

*Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Jack Lemon and Virna Lisis in “How To Murder Your Wife.”

(June 28, 1966) There’s been a lot of talk about inflation sky-rocketing this year, but the Standard Rate and Data Service’s annual report shows that the average consumer here didn’t feel too much of a pinch, says the newspaper. Food was the largest household expense here, with $9.1 million being spent here in the last 12 months as compared to $8.4 million spent on food in the same period the previous year. Take-out food accounted for 27 cents of every dollar spent on food here. One the average, each family in Putnam County spent $1,094 for food last year.

(June 28, 1966) The newspaper’s editorial writer this week says we’ve all grown accustomed to bad news from Vietnam, where the war the public is learning to hate is being waged in the jungles and villages.

And even though the number of critics of the war is growing every day, there’s some good news, says the newspaper.

The political purge now sweeping China makes it more unlikely that the Communist country will sent its troops into the fighting. And we seem to be gaining ground against the Viet Cong rebels. So, the US public should stick behind our fighting men to the end, the newspaper tells readers.
(July 2, 1966) Tennessee Ernie Ford, the Grand Ole Opry personality who’s really hot right now on TV and in music stores, dropped in at Clara’s Restaurant here this week.

He and his family were on their way driving from Nashville to Bristol and stopped in for lunch. They had the catfish dinner. Ford ordered buttermilk to go with his cornbread noted Clara Duggin, the owner and operator.

Ford recently signed a lifetime contract with Capitol Records. He’s the senior recorder for the studio following the recent death of his friend, Nat King Cole.

Ford will be back through in about a week headed for Nashville. He’ll perform there at the Opry. Then he’s off to Honolulu to make a record album.

(July 2, 1966) They came from as far away as Phoenix, AZ and Wilmington, CT to reunion in the Old City School this week. The old faculty and former students got together not long before the building was torn down for a new city hall on Broad.

Former teacher Ray Ward of Fayetteville was there. So were Mary Cummins, E. H. Watson, Leonard Crawford, Ethel Bolen, Mrs. John Holladay and others who once taught at the school.

Former students came too. There were Hattie Ford, Vallie Boatman Brown, Mrs. Beva Ford and Sherrell Webb. In all, more than 100 people who taught in or attended the school as far back as the 1930’s made it back for this week’s gathering.

The City School was no longer used an education facility after 1950, although for several years its auditorium has been used for musical theatrical productions and programs here.

(July 5, 1966) A heat wave has settled in over Putnam County and temperatures has been bumping up against the 100-degree mark this week. Weather observers here say temperatures are running about 5 degrees above normal for this time of year.

The heat wave is being blamed for a three-hour power outage on Sunday. It got so hot that a high-voltage electric line sagged and touched a street light post next to the Putnam Manufacturing Co. Sparks flew and air conditioners all over town were stilled.

*Meanwhile this week over at the Putnam draft board, Mrs. Velma Thompson says the county’s monthly draft quota has again been raised.

Last July, the board calle3d up eight Putnam men for military service. This July, the board will call up 14 men from here, some of which will be flown to Vietnam for duty.

Meanwhile, another 18 Putnam men are to take their pre-induction physicals for military service this month, and several of them will also be heading for Vietnam soon.

(July 5, 1966) Only 23 of the 45 members of the Putnam County Court showed up today for the court’s quarterly meeting. That was not enough to conduct business, says County Judge Jimmy Mosier, and a lot of important county business has been left undone. He’s scheduled a special session of the court for July 18 and he urges more county magistrates to show up then.

A letter to the editor says that many people are saying these days that if an 18-year-old is old enough to fight and maybe die for this country in Vietnam, he’s old enough to vote. Not so, says the letter writer. He says that 18-year-olds are “notoriously restless and discontent if not outright rebellious” and he writes that such is the spirit behind much of the unrest on the nation’s college campuses today.

(July 5, 1966) Tennessee Ernie Ford, the Grand Ole Opry personality who’s really hot right now on TV and in music stores, dropped in at Clara's Restaurant here this week. He and his family were on their way
driving from Nashville to Bristol and stopped in for lunch. They had the catfish dinner. Ford ordered buttermilk to go with his cornbread, noted Clara Duggin, the owner and operator. Ford recently signed a lifetime contract with Capitol Records. He's the senior recorder for the studio, following the recent death of his friend, Nat King Cole. Ford will be back through in about a week, headed for Nashville. He'll perform there at the Opry. Then he's off to Honolulu to make a record album.

(July 6, 1966) City Councilman Kenneth Dyer brought a petition before the council in its meeting this week from homeowners in Deberry Heights and Free Hill subdivisions asking to be annexed by the city.

Dyer explained that residents there have begun to experience severe septic tank problems and want to be annexed in order to gain sewer service. The council took the request for study.

(July 10, 1966) It’s been pretty hot here all week. The mercury has bobbed up around 100 degrees nearly every afternoon. It got so hot that an electrical line near Adams Plastics sagged. Then it touched the light post and grounded out, knocking the power off for most of the rest of the day. Then it got real hot indoors and there’s not a sign of rain.

*At the Putnam Drive-in this week “Crack in the World.” It’s in Technicolor.

(July 12, 1966) Gov. Frank Clement, speaking here at the campaign rally in his bid for a seat on the U.S. Senate, urges the U. S. to stand firm in Vietnam. “It’s a war and we’re in it.” he tells a packed crowd on the Courthouse Square. There’s a heated national debate going on about U. S. involvement in Southeast Asia and about whether the U. S. should send in more troops.

*The weather’s hot, too, this week. Cookeville weather observer C. K. Flatt says that temperatures this week have hovered just short of 100 degrees.

(July 16, 1968) There’s an election coming up in August and the Putnam County Democratic Party ran a full-page ad in this week’s newspaper listing for voters the candidates who have been endorsed by the political party. The state includes Billy G. Smith for sheriff, Jim Brown for tax assessor, Collie B. Jared for school superintendent, and James Whiteaker, Dr. Flavious Smith and Jesse Duncan for seats on the county school board.

(July 19, 1966) This week marked the last meeting for the 13 members of the Putnam County Court who have not sought re-election, and for County Judge Jimmy Mosier, who was not re-elected recently.

Outgoing magistrates, or “Justices of the Peace,” are A. W. Maxwell, who has been on the court for the last 40 years, and O. D. Anderson, Fred Buford, Robert Lynn, Bill Farris, Charlie O. Herrin, L. S. Huddleston, James Lacy, Side McBroom, Dan McDonald, Oral Person, Robert Thrasher and Dow Wallace.

Mosier has been county judge for the past eight years, during which 5,000 new jobs came to the county with new plants and businesses and the county’s population has leapt to 35,000.

*Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Guy Madison as Wyatt Earp in “Gunman of Rio Grande.”

*School officials here were excited this week when the Putnam County Court approved a new $3.4 million country budget for the coming year. That’s because school funding hit a new high of $1.9 million, and no property tax hike was required to fund it. Instead, the new 1-cent sales tax supplied new revenue to aid schools.

(July 19, 1966) Jimmy Mosier was defeated recently in his bid for re-election as Putnam County judge after serving eight years in that office.

This week was his last meeting with the county court. It was a good one for Mosier. The magistrates approved his recommendation that $200,000 be approved for a project to build Cookeville a new community center. The local funds will be combined with federal funds to construct the $548,000 facility.
After the funds were approved, magistrate Donald Ferrell surprised the county judge by recommending that the new building be named after Mosier. Ferrell said that Mosier had guided the county through its greatest period of growth. The county court approved Ferrell's recommendation.

So, the new facility that will soon be going up next to the new high school here will be named the Jimmy Mosier Community Center.

(July 26, 1966) A barn caught on fire beside Highway 70 this week and the flames burned down a nearby telephone pole, cutting all phone service between Cookeville and Nashville for three hours. Raymond Case, commercial manager for GTE, said workmen had to replace about 200 feet of burned cable before service was restored.

*This week at the Princess: Sean Connery as British secret agent 007 in “Thunderball.”

(August 1, 1966) Golfing history was made here this week by an 18-year-old Cookevillian.

Dave Mullinax double-eagled the 580-yard hole number four at the Cookeville Country Club, a five par hole.

According to Golf Digest Magazine in New York, the previous record for a double eagle was 577 yards, says country club golf pro Bobby Nichols.

Witnessing the history strokes were Sam Greenwood and Sandy Stanton, who play on the Central High golf team with Mullinax.

Mullinax says his first swing took the ball 280 years to a point where not only could he not see the hole, he couldn’t even see the flag.

But he told the newspaper this week he’d played the course enough to have “a pretty good idea” where the hole was – and sank the ball with the second shot.

(August 1, 1966) It's an election year, and Putnam County this week saw a parade of big name candidates trolling here for votes. John Jay Hooker stopped on the Square to shake hands with the whittlers and to pose for the newspaper with a pocketknife and a stock of cedar. His wife, Tish, was here too wearing an odd hat, which the newspaper referred to as “chic.” Hooker is running for governor. So is Buford Ellington, who was in this week, too. He spoke, shook hands around the courthouse, and headed on down the road. Gov. Frank Clement drew a big crowd when he spoke this week. It’s his office that Ellington and Hooker are fighting over. Clement is running for U.S. Senate.

(August 2, 1966) They're holding a Republican primary in Putnam County this week, something many said would never happen. And officials are telling voters that what had better not happen is for them to vote in both the Democratic and Republican primaries. It’s illegal, and polls are being closely watched, officials cautioned.

Officials say they realize the change will confuse some voters. They explained that voters are not required to register with a political party like they are in some states, but they are limited to voting in just one primary. If they’re caught voting in both, they face a fine of $50 to $100.

(August 2, 1966) T. Q. “Townie” Smith of 413 North Willow was interviewed by the newspaper on his 84th birthday. The Putnam native told of running a general store at Dodson Branch in Jackson County as a young man. He made a trip by wagon to Cookeville once a week to get supplies. In 1916, he came to Cookeville and worked in the box factory here making crates for egg cases. When he was eight years old, he recalled, he lost two sisters to a fire that would have claimed him too if he’d stayed home as he’d
planned. But he decided to go with a third sister to church that night instead. Since 1950, he said he’s read
the New Testament 111 times, “I get a deeper meaning each time I read it,” he noted.

(August 5, 1966) A new county court is about to be seated in a few weeks and more than half is 45 seats
went to new members. The recent election will bring 25 new faces to the county legislative body.

Among those to serve on the upcoming Putnam County Court are Donald Ferrell, Robert Lowe, Jr.,
Vaughn Howard, Willard Nash, Taylor Rhea, Solon Maxwell, Polk Bilbrey, Pennock Maxwell and Juan
Chapman.

This week at the Princess: Don Knott in “The Ghost and Mr. Chicken.”

(August 6, 1966) Cookeville’s history-making Little League All-Star team was escorted back into town this
week by city police on their way back from the Little League World Series in Savannah, Georgia.

The state Little League Champs lost to the Georgia’s champion team from Decatur, GA 2-1. Cookeville’s
star pitcher, Robert Dalton, who hit a home run earlier in the game, held his opponents through seven
scoreless innings until a home run by the other team brought in two runs.

With Dalton on the team were Bill Hatfield, Mike Hackett, Jerry Davis, Jerry Flatt, Jimmy Lewis, Roger
Daugherty, Lynn Allen and Doug Webb.

(August 7, 1966) A new county court is about to be seated in a few weeks and more than half its 45 seats
went to new members. The recent election will bring 25 new faces to the county legislative body.

Among those to serve on the upcoming Putnam County Court are Donald Ferrell, Robert Lowe Jr., Vaughn
Howard, Willard Nash, Taylor Rhea, Solon Maxwell, Polk Bilbrey, Pennock Maxwell and Juan Chapman.

This week at the Princess: Don Knotts in “The Ghost and Mr. Chicken.”

(August 10, 1966) Algood’s Police Chief Walter Goney and officer Sam McCulley were injured Friday
night when they wrecked the town police car.

The cruiser’s tire blew out during a high-speed chase. They were after a driver who ran the red light in
Algood.

Goney was hospitalized for the weekend and McCulley received slight injuries.

Headed back to school, girls? An ad this week for Frances’ Beauty Shop urges you to get your “Go Go
Coifs” before the school doors open so you’ll fit in with all the other hip students.

(August 12, 1966) Beginning this week, 283 households near Cookeville will have clean, safe running
water flowing from faucets in their homes after FMHA inspectors give the greenlight to start up the new
Double Springs Utility District.

The new district is the third to be served by the city of Cookeville’s water system and it is the largest.

When it begins now, a total of 533 residents living outside Cookeville will be buying its drinking water.

*Putnam County Election Commission chairman Alg Ramsey is going to the Putnam County Commission
this month to ask that the county buy or rent voting machines.

He and other members of the commission decided to go ask for the funds this week as they were counting
ballots from the county’s primaries all by hand.
The process each year keeps the election commission counting well towards dawn the morning after polls close and the commission think it’s time the county switch the mechanized vote-counting.

(August. 16, 1966) George C. Pilliod, president of the Pilliod Cabinet Co., announced this week that he has leased the Baxter Industry Corp. building and plans to open a furniture plant here in the fall. It will make living room furniture. The company is based in Swanton, Ohio. It employs about 250 in its Ohio facility.

(August. 16, 1966) A year ago, the U.S. Joint Chiefs of Staff told the Lyndon Johnson Administration that they could stop North Vietnamese infiltration into South Vietnam with bombs.

Now, they say bombs are not enough.

Now more ground troops are needed.

That’s revealed to readers here this week in the syndicated "Washington Merry Go-Round" column by Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson. The columnists say that LBJ is expected to respond with more troops, and that will mean higher draft calls and more drain on the American economy, they point out.

*In Putnam County this week, the draft board said that the draft call for September is for 11 more young men. And, while they don't have exact figures yet, the October draft call is expected to be the highest since the Korean War in 1953.

(August 19, 1966) On the eve of a new school year here, teachers in the Putnam County Education Association voted 138-95 this week not to go on strike in protest of deep cuts made by the county commission in this year's school budget. Besides other cuts in the budget, proposed by School Supt. Collie B. Jared, a proposed $521 per month pay hike for teachers was trimmed to $150 a month. Many teachers pushed for a strike. But in the vote this week, they decided to begin the school year as normal.

(August 20, 1966) Fowler Shadix, manager of the Big K store here, said he’s been forced to begin prosecuting shoplifters. He’s losing merchandise “hourly,” he said.

Big K won a conviction against one shoplifter this week and has a case pending against another.

Shadix said that shoplifting has become epidemic across the US, with 1 percent of total sales being lost to thieves. The majority of them are juveniles.

(August 23, 1966) Cookeville General Hospital administrator Leon Burns said this week that while the average daily cost hospital care for patients is rising nationally, it has dropped at Cookeville General this past year.

Nationally, it cost a patient an average of $44.48 to stay a day in a hospital. It costs a patient $32.80 to stay a day in Cookeville General this year. A year ago, that figure was $32.93, Burns said.

*Everett Derryberry, president of Tennessee Tech, this week announced a new dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Dr. Donald Caplenor, who’ll succeed Dr. William A. Adams. Dr. Caplenor, who will give the commencement address to summer graduates at TTU this week, has been a professor of biology and director of the division of science and math at Peabody College since 1963. He’s a native of Smith County.

(August 25, 1966) The Rev. Porter Lee Ramsey celebrated his 86th birthday this week and was interviewed by the newspaper. He’s been a Presbyterian pastor here for the last 35 years.

He joined the Cookeville Presbyterian Church in 1921 and was ordained in 1923. He pastured 11 churches in Putnam, Overton and Jackson Counties and was moderator of the Cookeville Presbytery for three years.

His greatest experience, he said, was a revival in Shiloh where there were 28 professions of faith and 18 joined the church that week.
Besides being a full-time minister, he’s also operated a feed store and a grocery store, has farmed, hung wall-paper, and was a custodian at TTU for two years.

(August 30, 1966) Putnam County hosted a visit by three farmers this week. They are Norbert Ramboarison, Charles Randriamanga and Eugene Raobinarison. They’re from Madagascar, and island nation about the size of Texas, located off the southeast coast of Africa. They are touring the area in a UT Extension Service program, learning about U.S. agricultural techniques they might be able to adapt in their country. They noted that although 85 percent of their people are farmers, the officials who run government farm programs are mostly from the cities where they have little hands-on farming experience. Many of the young officials call plants by their Latin names, which leaves farmers on Madagascar scratching their heads, the travelers indicated. So, their government is stepping up programs to better familiarize its agriculture officials with farming.

(September 2, 1966) The Upper Cumberland’s number-one industry is going untapped, says Dr. Don Wakefield, the newly-named director of the Upper Cumberland Economic Resource Development Center at Tennessee Tech.

Dr. Wakefield says the region is being increasingly industrialized and agriculture has already become “weak second.” But the area’s natural beauty and its proximity to large urban areas make it a natural draw to tourists. It’s the coming thing, he predicts.

(September 13, 1966) The newspaper this week devoted two pages to photos of first-graders all decked out in new clothes and scowls (a few grinning) for their first day of school.

Among them were: at Dry Valley, Jimmie Swift, Dannie Boles and Bonnie Long; at Jere Whitson, Glen Alcorn, Susan Farris, Danny Phy, Steven Gaw, Gary Padgett and Erin Randolph.

At Capshaw, Randy Winebarger, David Pitts, Rhonda Eich, Julia Saunders, Lise Ramsey, Sharon Poland, Wanda Cleghorn and Terry Hembree.

At Algood, Peggy Sue Holloway, Kim Qualls, Raymond Bownam, Pam Rigdon, Jimmy Eldridge, Gary Howard and Michael Overstreet.

At Sycamore, Rita Hensley, Yvonne Rice, Pamela Jackson, Scott Parson, Lonnie Brown, James White and Cindy Luffmann.

At Bloomington Springs, Gary Meadows, Wanda Roberts, Jeannette Thomas and Karl Hamlet.

At Baxter, Bennie Brewington, Larry Dalrymple, Chris Gonales, Betty Gardner, Debra Lee, Lisa Hawkins, Jill Case, Andy Martin, and Gary Key.

At Park View, Terry Littrell, Darlene Taylor, Sandra Webb, Ronnie Kirby, Mark Matheny, Billy Soard, Teresa Trisdale, Timmy Franklin, Ronnie King, Jerry Jones and Steve Johnson.

And at Brotherton, Darrell Lanford, Teresa Haney, Johnnie Matheny, Leisa Haney and Steve Swallows.

(September 13, 1966) School registration was this week, and two more rural schools have been closed due to insufficient enrollment, Buffalo Valley and Gentry are the latest in what was once a sprawling system of small rural schoolhouses to close their doors.

And Silver Point, with 27 students signed up, is only seven students away from having to close its doors too.

The school system is consolidating.
The son of Mr. and Mrs. H. D. Hill of Rt. 2, Cookeville, Lt Col., James H. Hill, received the Air Medal this week in ceremonies at Ft. Eustis, VA where he is now stationed.

Not long ago he was a combat pilot in Vietnam where his support of ground troops despite heavy and unrelenting enemy ground fire won him a Bronze Star. Now, he’s added an Air medal to his collection for his performance in Vietnam.

Putnam Sheriff Bill Bilyeu swore 500 Putnam County boys into his Junior Deputy program at the jail Saturday morning. By today, another 250 boys had head about the Junior Deputies and had been sworn in, too. They were all given Junior Deputy cards. The program, said Bilyeu, is designed to help shape character and good citizenship in today’s youths. It’s open to boys ages 6 to 14.

(September 18, 1966) The Illinois Central Railroad is attempting to take over the failing Tennessee Central Railroad by stepping in and paying off millions of dollars in US Treasury bonds defaulted by the TC.

That’s good news and bad news here, says the newspaper in an editorial. It’s good that a financially sound company may take over the shaky line, it says. But reportedly the IC plans to abandon the less-traveled section of the TC rails that stretch from Nashville through Putnam County to Harriman.

Negotiations between the IC and the Treasury Department are being closely watched here.

(September 20, 1966) There were more photos this week of young boys and girls lined up with first-grade teachers as they begin school for the first time.

They included, at Monterey, Sandra Wilson, Betty Lowhorn, Stevie Miller, Michael Farley, Barbara Vaughn, Earl Holloway, Rodney King, Anita Bohannon, Keith Phillips and Terry Looper. At Tech Campus School, Richard Wattenbarger, June Gunn, Terri Shadix, Terry Flatt, Sophia Stamps, John Wallace, David Funk, and Beth Poteet.

At Bangham, Larry Ray Wilmoth, Dennis Phy, and Donna Dillon; at Boiling Springs, Patricia Cole, Janet Sliger, Tony Peek, Gary Woody and Debra Judd; and at Boma, David Lowe, Tony Helms, Patricia Jackson and Deanna Burgess.

At Cedar Hill, Phillip McBroom, Larry Stafford, Steve Rittenberry, Debbie Lambert, Ferral Gately and Sonja Castleman.

*Several Cookevillians received high honors and recognition this week. City Manager Dwain Peterman was named one of the state’s top three “citizen planners” by the Citizens Planning Association. Len K. Mahler was named to the VFW’s National Americanism Committee for 1960-1. The organization promotes education in patriotic matters. And Richard Mitchell, a Cookeville attorney now working in Washington D.C., has been elected president of the Tennessee State Society in Washington. The group is made up of Tennesseans living and working in Washington and includes lawmakers and dignitaries.

(September 20, 1966) A big jump in inflation this year has economic experts concerned. In Putnam County, the cost of living has gone up too. This year, it will cost a family with an after-taxes income of $5,441 an extra $141 to buy the same goods and services as last year. For a family with an after-taxes income of $10,000, it will cost another $260 to make ends meet, according to information from the state.

*It was a good year for burley tobacco – up until now, anyway. The right amount of rain came in the spring, but not too much. The right amount of rain came during the summer growing season. Tobacco leaf all across the county was large and heavy.

The problem now is, the rain and humidity hasn’t let up and farmers need to get into the fields. And for those lucky enough to have some tobacco already up in their barns, it’s been so humid that leaves aren’t curing, but in some cases are staying so moist and heavy that they’re falling off the stalks.
One burley grower said this week, “If it doesn’t stop raining pretty soon, Santa Claus will have to take a different route this year.”

(October 4, 1966) The newspaper recently ran a photo of an old, abandoned church standing in a forest near Monterey, and Monterey groceryman Paul Vaden stepped forward to identify it.

It’s the Buckner Chapel Missionary Baptist Church, he said. It was born in and died with the Depression.

The one-room church in a pine and fir forest on Anderson Road held services in the 1930s by candlelight under a clapboard rood, said Vaden.

Alec Buckner was the first and only pastor for the church. He’s retired now and living in West Alexandria, Ohio.

As the Depression eased up here, membership in the tiny church dropped. Finally, the Buckner Chapel Missionary Baptist Church closed its doors. Today it stands dark and empty in the pines.

(October 8, 1966) Six new area pastors were recognized this week by the Stone Association of Baptists at its annual meeting this week. They and their churches are William J. Powell, First Baptist Church in Monterey; Eugene Schmid of West View Baptist Church; Raymond White of Eastwood Baptist Church; Russell Flatt of Johnson Baptist Church; and Harold Hawkins of Dodson Branch Baptist Church.

(October 11, 1966) Tennessee has five living governor, and they were all on the campus of Tennessee Tech this weekend for Joe E. Evins Day. Congressman Evins and Lt. Governor Jared Maddux were also on hand.

The highlight of the day was a ceremony naming several new buildings on campus after each of the high officials.

Dormitory halls in the university’s new men’s quadrangle were named after former governors Prentice Cooper, Jim McCord, Gordon Browning and Buford Ellington. A hall was also named after Jared Maddux.

Meanwhile, the name of Gov. Frank Clement was bestowed on the university’s newest completed engineering building.

Joe L. Evins Day climaxed with a parade and a free barbecue.

(October 15, 1966) The County Court voted this week to approach the state General Assembly with the idea of putting a state park on the shores of Center Hill Lake. Central to the plan is a proposed outdoor stage to be situated on land owned by Tennessee Tech near the Hurricane Bridge.

County Judge Luke Medley said the stage would be similar to the one that draws thousands of tourists each summer to Cherokee North Carolina’s “Unto These Hills” outdoor pageant. The Center Hill site “is a beautiful location, ideally suited,” said Medley. It fits in with plans to attempt to promote more tourism for the area.

(October 18, 1966) Tennessee Tech’s freshmen established a new record here Friday night. They built and ignited a bonfire that was 45 feet high, 55 feet across and 140 feet around. It was a prelude to TTU’s homecoming game against Western Kentucky.

Cookeville’s Jim Jared organized the freshmen effort. It was a comeback from defeat. Earlier in the week, a gang of upperclassmen located the freshmen’s original bonfire and burned it.

Jared and his crew went back to work and, using lumber from building being torn down on campus, created a bigger bonfire. This time they guarded it around the clock. Thursday night Jared and crew drank six gallons of coffee and gobbled down 20 dozens donuts passing the night away on sentry duty.
The Golden Eagles beat Western Kentucky Saturday in a driving rain, outscoring the Hilltoppers 20 to 14.

(October 25, 1966) Police Chief Dawson Morgan persuaded the city council this week that he needs more manpower. He only had 15 men to keep law and order here. The council funded the hiring of four more officers. The first of the four hired is Billy G. Smith, the chief announced.

Cookeville City Council said this week that the city police can beef up the force to 15 men by adding four more. It’s a move to fight a growing crime rate here. Police Chief Dawson Gentry is beginning interviews and acting city manager Luther Mathis is taking bids on more patrol cars. He’s filing in for City Manager Dwain Peterman, who’s in Nashville after suffering a heart attack recently.

(October 25, 1966) The county’s oldest resident, Egbert H. Hassler, died this week in Master’s Rest Home in Algood at the age of 103 were he’s been a resident for the last five years.

In a recent interview, Hassler remembered his father, Capt. David Larkin Hassler, tell of riding with the Confederate cavalry in the Civil War.

As a youngster, Hassler stood with several thousand spectators on Billy Goat Hill in Cookeville and watched the hanging of the two young Braswell brothers.

As an adult, Hassler became a teacher and helped pioneer education in Byrdstown.

(November 1, 1966) Chief Dawson Gentry says that a new one-way traffic system on North Jefferson and East 10th is about to go into effect to better move the flow of school and work traffic on its way. Affected will be the block on East 10th in front of Cookeville Jr. High between Allen and North Jefferson.

Also, the North Jefferson block south from East 10th to East 9th. The one-way hours are 7:30 to 8:15 each morning and 2:45 to 3:30 each afternoon during the week.

(November 1, 1966) Senator Albert Gore (Sr.) and Senator Ron Bass warned Putnam voters here in a huge rally on the Square this week that Democratic nominee Frank Clement, now serving as Tennessee’s governor, is in danger of losing his race to a Republican. Clement beat Bass in the primary. Now he’s facing Howard Baker in the upcoming general election.

Police are making a traffic change in an effort to smooth out traffic snarls here, Police Chief Dawson Gentry said this week.

From 7:30 to 8:15 a.m. and from 2:45 to 4 p.m. each school day, you can only drive one way – east – on East 10th street from Washington to 7th Street.

And at 7th Street south to the Square, you can only go south on North Jefferson, said Gentry.

School traffic has been jamming up in the Cookeville Junior High area, and Gentry said this is a new system police want to try. Officers will be watching to see if you’re going the right way, he added.

*At the Princess: James Coburn stars in Blake Edward’s “What Did You Do In The War, Daddy?”

(November 6, 1966) It was Tennessee Central Appreciation Day this week in Monterey, the town built by the railroad and town where just about everyone either works for the railroad, or has a family member tied to it one way or another.

The Tennessee Central hasn’t done so well in recent years. The TCR hasn’t had passenger trains for ten years now, and most coal mines in Monterey are closed too.
But TC President William Glenn told the crowd that a number of industries have recently contacted the TC about locating along its road. And a couple coal mines have reopened in the area and area reporting good quality coal coming up out of the ground. Glenn said things are looking up for the TC.


* Monterey Mayor Elmer Parsons asked all the town’s railroad buffs – and there are many – to help establish a railroad museum. Plans for the museum were announced at the town’s Tennessee Central Railroad Appreciation Day last weekend.

The mayor’s asking residents to bring in railroad memorabilia. Meanwhile, TC officials have pledged to move an old station building to Monterey to house the museum. They say they may even create an excursion train to go from the museum up the old Crawford spur and back as an extra treat for those visiting the future museum.

(November 12, 1966) The Delman Company is undertaking a major expansion here, a 71,000-square-foot addition to its plant. The new building will, for the first time, put its plastic molding, plating and other operations under one roof.

The plant, a major industry in Cookeville, makes parts for windshield wipers and other auto parts.

At the Princess Theater this week: “Batman,” the first color film featuring Batman and Robin. There were a series of short serials about the dynamic duo in the 1940s and early 50s. This week’s effort stars Adam West as the Caped Crusader.

(November 13, 1966) It could be very good news – or very bad news – for Putnam County. No one’s really sure what to make of it.

The Illinois Central Railroad this week asked to buy several million dollars in defaulted Tennessee Central bonds that are now in the hands of the US Treasury Department. It could then be in a position to negotiate the sale of TC stock at lower prices and take over the Upper Cumberland’s railroad.

It would be good news if that meant that the Illinois Central would pump new capital into the failing railroad for the first time in 76 years.

The newspaper notes that new leadership within the TC has tried vigorously to reverse the railroad’s slump. For example, its new railroad “piggyback” service has allowed the railroad to reach and serve new freight customers who never before used the railroad.

The newspaper in an editorial urged the US government to closely watch the Illinois Central in its dealings with the region and its railroad.

Showing this week at the Princess, “A Hard Day’s Night,” which stars the Beatles “in their first full-length hilarious action-packed film.”

(November 15, 1966) The State Dept. of Transportation has promised to help the city improve a hazardous intersection here, East 10th and Washington Avenue. DOT engineers say that some form of "channelization" may be the answer, probably a concrete island that will allow traffic on North Washington to flow onto East 10th without stopping. They say they'll have an answer for the city soon.

(November 15, 1966) Baxter Elementary principal Hooper Crawford was pictured on page one this week with a crew from the R & R House Moving Co. They were moving a portable classroom to the school.

It’s the third portable shifted from Capshaw Elementary to Baxter. The Baxter school has a overcrowding problem.
*And Police Chief Bill Bilyeu was in page one photo helping officers move gambling equipment out of a South Madison Avenue pool hall.

Bilyeu and his men were wrapping up a lengthy investigation and raid on nine establishments. The owners of each were charged with being “professional gamblers.”

(November 19, 1966) Tennessee Tech’s night-time football games will soon be a lot brighter. They’re installing the new lighting towers at Overall Field.

Each of six 160-foot towers will have a bank of 72 bulbs. Combined, they will shine a total of 648,000 watts of electricity down on the Golden Eagles and their fans.

But officials say it’ll probably be next season before the team will play a night game on the field. The project won’t be completed until the end of the current season.

At the Princess: “Batman,” with Adam West and Burt Ward.

(November 25, 1966) Burley prices keep going up and up again. This season, tobacco farmers are getting $78 per 100 pounds at the tobacco barn in Sparta.

Meanwhile, the Putnam County Senior High football team wants to go see the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans. The team needs $1,700 for the trip and is planning a fundraiser.

Pictured in this week’s edition making plans for the trip ate team co-captains Jack Stites and Larry Morgan. With them is coach Bucky Pitts.

And at the Princess this week: Tony Curtis, Natalie Wood and Jack Lemmon in “The Great Race.”

(November 26, 1966) The biggest problem facing state legislators when they get back together again in January will be finding ways to meet the increasing needs of Tennessee schools with a minimum of tax increases.

That’s they assessment of Cookeville’s two new state legislators, State Representative-elect James Lacy and State Senator-elect Vernon Neal.

The two say that school systems across Tennessee are having troubles making ends meet and more and more counties are going from systems in which small rural schools are scattered across the county to more tightly consolidated systems that are more affordable to operate.

(November 27, 1966) TTU President Everett Derryberry left an important meeting in Miami this week to return to Cookeville to make the announcement: TTU’s College of Engineering has been accredited by the Engineering Council for Professional Development.

Derryberry calls the development “a thrilling landmark in the history of our university,” one he says which puts TTU among the ranks of the nation’s top engineering schools.

(November 27, 1966) Ralph Prichard is shown in a page one picture this week receiving his promotion to major in the field in Vietnam, where he has served in the US Army since early last year.

Much of Major Prichard’s time has been spent in the field since his tour of duty began in Southeast Asia and he says that while he’ll miss Christmas at home this year, he hopes to be home in Cookeville for Christmas 1967.

(November 29, 1966) The biggest problem facing state legislators when they get back together again in January will be finding ways to meet the increasing needs of Tennessee schools with a minimum of tax increases.
That’s the assessment of Cookeville’s two new state legislators, State Representative-elect James Lacy and State Senator-elect Vernon Neal.

The two say that school systems across Tennessee are having troubles making ends meet and more and more counties are going from systems in which small rural schools are scattered across the county to more tightly consolidated systems that are more affordable to operate.

(November 29, 1966) Burley prices keep going up and up again. This season, tobacco farmer are getting $78 per 100 pounds at the tobacco barn in Sparta.

*Meanwhile, the Putnam County senior high football team wants to go see the Sugar Bowl in New Orleans. The team needs $1,700 for the trip and is planning a fundraiser.

Pictured in this week’s edition making plans for the trip are team co-captains Jack Stites and Larry Morgan. With them is coach Bucky Pitts.

*And at the Princess this week: Tony Curtis, Natalie Wood and Jack Lemmon in “The Great Race.”

*The city and county are considering the joint purchase of 30 acres of land next to Jere Whitson Elementary for a new city recreation area, say Mayor W. S. Johnson and County Judge Luke Medley. Medley says that a federal “Open Spaces” program grant is being sought to help with the purchase and development of the park. Johnson says that presently the only public recreation area in Cookeville is the Park View Park.

(Dec. 6, 1966) Cookeville City Council this week authorized Jimmie Joe Scott of the City Cemetery Board to begin negotiations with TTU officials for the sale of 150 cemetery lots.

TTU is moving graves in the Burnt Stand cemetery on the university's campus to make room for expansion. The cemetery is presently located between TTU’s new football stadium and Dixie Avenue.
(December 10, 1966) There’s another war going on and people from Putnam County are away again halfway around the world at Christmas. The newspaper this week decided to throw a party for the friends of those away in the military.

It asked the families of everyone serving in Vietnam to come. A highlight of the affair will be photo portraits taken of each family. The photos will be published in an upcoming special holiday section that is being sent to each serviceman now in Vietnam.

*A photo ran this week showing the Algood cheerleaders in action. Boosting the morals of the Redskins and their fans this year are cheerleaders Sherri Bowles, Debbie Young, Diane Whittaker, Beverly Harp, Judy Pharris and Wanda Bow.

(December 20, 1966) Shopping for your Christmas dinner? Here’s a look at prices at Food Town this week: Oranges and apples are selling for 19 cents a pound; egg nog costs 69 cents a quart; Folgers coffee is on sale for 69 cents a can; a three-pound canned ham costs $2.69 and hens are selling for 39 cents a pound. Over at the Shop Ezy in Bargain Town, turkey is selling for 39 cents a pound and pumpkin pies are two for 69 cents.

(December 23, 1966) The school board decided this week to go to the Putnam County Court in January and ask for $850,000 to fund an addition at Baxter Elementary, where overcrowding is making it hard to handle the kids, much less teach them.

The project would add 24 classrooms, a library, five special classrooms, a kitchen, cafeteria and offices to the existing elementary school.

At the Princess this week, it’s the story of “killer outlaws—avenging Apaches…and the gunslinger who fought them all.” It’s “Apache Uprising,” starring Rory Calhoun, Corinne Calvert and Lon Cheney.

*Alonzo Huff, interviewed by the newspaper on his 90th birthday, says that as a youth he thought nothing of making the trip to Nashville regularly to go shopping with his parents. They left his home in Granville in a surrey at 4 a.m. and traveled all day. They reached Nashville by 10 p.m. usually. Now Huff makes the trip somewhat quicker in his car. He still drives.

(December 26, 1966) Ten Tennessee National Guardsmen from Cookeville leave in January for six-months of active-duty training. They’ll begin with eight weeks of basic at Ft. Campbell and then move on to assignments elsewhere in the US where they’ll receive specialized training for the remainder of their half-year tour.

These are the first from Cookeville to be called to active duty in some time. They were originally scheduled to be called up 18 months ago, but the Army could find no space available for them at US bases. All available facilities have been used by regular troops undergoing intensive training in preparation for Vietnam. US commitment there is growing.

*At the Princess: “Apache Uprising,” with Rory Calhoun and Lon Chaney. It’s advertised as a tale of “killer outlaws, avenging Apaches, and the gunslinger’s who fought them all!”

(December 29, 1966) Putnam is one of seven counties in the state to take part in a special program sponsored by
The US State Department to familiarize persons in other countries with American life. A teacher from Thailand is staying here for a week in January.

Mrs. Sawat Rathavaraha is the principal of a girl’s school in Thailand’s Nongkhai province. She’s taught since 1951. While in Putnam County she’ll tour schools, meet with school officials and soak up American educational techniques.
(December 31, 1966) W. A. Steakley, who has been in the produce business in Cookeville since 1906, turned 81 this week and the newspaper talked with him about his life.

He began his career working for the Morgan Produce Co. 66 years ago. Twenty years later he went to work for Davidson Mott and 15 years after that he bought his own produce operation and became his own boss.

One of his jobs through the years was to help load produce on the train here, ride with it to New York City, and help unload it there. He was in New York the day the world learned that the Titanic had gone down in the dark, icy, Atlantic.

He remembers Cookeville when there were no concrete sidewalks or refrigerators and he recalls gathering nuts from a grove of chestnut trees where Capshaw Elementary now stands.

1967

(January 3, 1967) The newspaper's editorial writer says the city is looking forward to a very good year. The massive new Fleetguard plant is about to open. So is the new Oxbow Fibre plant. The city's population is expected to top 14,000 by the end of the year and Tennessee Tech's enrollment is expected to hit 6,000 by then. And city officials are expected to have decided what to do about the city's water supply, which has been scarce from time to time this year due to low rainfall. Some are suggesting that the city build a water plant at Center Hill Lake. Others are scoffing at the idea.

(January 10, 1967) The Putnam County Court has taken the advice of Putnam Sheriff Bill Bilyeu and voted to create the Putnam County Beer Board to regulate beer sales here.

(January 19, 1967) Recent changes in the state beer law have created loopholes that are causing counties problems, and the Putnam County Court took Sheriff Bill Bilyeu's advice this week and created the county's first beer board, a three-man panel.

It was a lengthy and sometimes heated discussion. Some argued that creating the beer board to regulate beer sales would simply throw the door wide open here on beer consumption.

But Sheriff Bilyeu said something must be done. He and his deputies have their hands full keeping the peace at private clubs and "beer gardens" and he said regulation is a must.

Bilyeu noted that he was recently in law enforcement in Warren County, which created a beer board.

Taverns and "beer joints" that were problems for the authorities were hauled before the board, which held the threat of suspending their beer permits over their heads if they didn't keep order. It calmed things down there, said Bilyeu, and he said it will work here too.

*Showing at the Princess this week, an Elizabeth Taylor doubleheader, "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," and "Butterfield 8."

(January 22, 1967) Cookeville Jaycees President Harry Jaquess announced this week the club's selections for Young Men of the Year awards.

The organization has selected Leon Burns for club's Distinguished Service Award, Jack Salee for the Young Teacher of the Year award, Marvin Moss for the Young Farmer of the Year award, and Vaughn Howard for the Jaycee of the Year award.

*Meanwhile, showing at the Princess Theater this week: "Blindfold," with Rock Hudson and Claudia Carinale, and "Do Not Disturb," with Doris Day and Rod Taylor.
(January 30, 1967) The Baxter election heated up this week when alderman Howard Alexander announced that he is challenging incumbent James Austin. Austin has been mayor for the past 11 years. The election is in March.

* In his weekly column this week, editor Coleman Harwell said things are looking up for the US in the Vietnam War.

Harwell said reports from Southeast Asia are that US forces are cleaning up Vietcong strongholds in the Delta and have strangled the flow of troops and supplies coming to the south from the north.

He says that some are even saying that victory is near for the US and its ally, South Vietnam.

(February 7, 1967) Cookeville fire officials are warning parents about a doll that was sold here for Christmas. It's a fire waiting to happen.

The dolls were made in Poland and have brightly painted, molded plastic faces. They’re being recalled across the country. They're highly flammable.

The newspaper tested it and found that one of the dolls burst into flames when a cigarette lighter was simply passed near the plastic face.

*Showing at the Princess this week, "Wild Angels," starring Peter Fonda, Nancy Sinatra, Bruce Dern, Diane Ladd, and the members of the Venice, Calif. chapter of Hell's Angels.

(February 16, 1967) Pulitzer Prize-winning author Pearl S. Buck told TTU students this week that there will be no peace in the world until the US and China start talking again.

She was in China for 16 years as a missionary's daughter. She says that today's young Chinese believe communism has failed their country and unrest is rising.

On the Vietnam War, Mrs. Buck says she believes US troops need to remain in place long enough to keep communism out and let the South Vietnamese establish a stable government of their own.

She said she believes the war will be over this year.

(February 20, 1967) The new Cookeville CB Club plans to launch two programs to help the community and travelers.

The radio operators are planning to create a weekend road patrol to aid stranded motorists. The team will drive area roads and when they find drivers with broken-down cars, they'll save them a walk by radioing in for help.

The club also plans to form an emergency radio net to help with communications here during natural disasters and other troubles.

Among the club's members are Al Denham, Jim Tinch, Harold Holladay and Ed Dorman.

*Showing this week at the Putnam Drive-in: "Way Way Out." The movie ad reads, "It began in 1989 when America and Russia sent men and women to live on the moon." The film stars Jerry Lewis and Connie Stevens.
(February 26, 1967) Reporter Charles Denning writes this week of efforts by officers of the US Treasury's Alcohol and Tobacco Tax Division 'revenoors' to stop the flow of moonshine in an 11-county area here.

Agent Charles Carter explains that for every gallon of 'shine' sold, the US government losses $13.50 in tax revenue. It costs moonshiners about a dollar to make a gallon of moonshine, which is sold in "good time houses" here for up to $8 a gallon.

Lost taxes is not the worst of it though, says Carter. The moonshine often contains paint thinner or other solvents to increase the volume. They can cause blindness, paralysis or death. And moonshine often contains lead, which builds up in the drinker's body. It's poisonous too.

Carter said that last year he and other agents in an 11-county area including Putnam County seized and destroyed 13,915 gallons of sour mash and 189 gallons of finished moonshine at 31 stills. They made 36 arrests.

He said that moonshine made in Putnam County has turned up as far away as Detroit.

(March 2, 1967) U.S. Army Major Ralph Prichard of Algood is home from Vietnam for a visit with his wife and family. He's been in Vietnam the last year teaching jungle warfare techniques to the South Vietnamese.

Prichard says Vietnam is a different sort of war than America has ever fought before. Instead of large units situated along fixed fronts, it's more of a 'polka-dot war' with small units scattered across the map.

Action a little closer to home this week reminded residents of north Cookeville that there's a war going on in Southeast Asia.

Pilots of large U.S. Army C-7A Caribou cargo planes have been using the Putnam County Airport as one of several training sites in the state to get ready for service in Vietnam.

Squadrons of the aircraft circle over the airport here from time to time while individual planes dive down, land and take off again from the airport. Small airports across Tennessee are being used in similar exercises.

(March 12, 1967) Cookeville has declared the week of March 13-19 as Johnie J. Wright Week in honor of Putnam's first soldier killed in Vietnam.

(March 13, 1967) Author and world-traveler Grant C. Butler was the speaker this week at Tennessee Tech's public program. He spoke on Africa, where many nations are seeing turbulent times as they emerge from colonialism.

Butler told the students that food and friendship are the keys to guiding troubled African nations to democracy and stability.

The speaker said that northern Africa is under the influence of Egypt's strongman, Gammet Adbel Nasser. Central Africa is where true democracies seem to be emerging and where leaders need western aid to succeed. Butler said. Southern Africa is undergoing racial turmoil, he said.

*At the Princess this week: "Three Bites of the Apple," with David McCallum and Tammy Grimes.

(April 10, 1967) The first applications for the new Food Stamp program, which is expected to replace the government's commodity system, were taken here this week.
(April 23, 1967) Cookeville’s feeder pig sales at People’s Stockyard set a new record this week, $25,000 and 1,804 head of pigs in one day.

(April 29, 1967) Cookeville is lucky, the newspaper notes in an editorial this week. It’s not on Daylight Savings Time. There’s no confusion here over when the sun rises or sets on any day of the year.

There’s a lot of confusion in many US cities. It’s up to each state, and in some states, to individual cities to decide whether Daylight Savings Time will be in effect.

Bus companies and train lines are literally spending a fortune updating schedules and even then, many of them are inaccurate due to the quiltwork of time zones across the land.

One of the television networks reported recently that it spends $1 million a year on videotape so that it can tape its shows and synchronize each broadcast.

The US Senate Commerce Committee began meeting this week to look into the chaotic situation and to try to begin drawing up some sort of standards.

(July 10, 1967) Sheriff Bill Bilyeu brought to Cookeville the county’s first trained police dog, a German shepherd named Rex.

1968

(January 9, 1968) They broke ground this week for another Wesley Foundation center building at 271 East 9th Street. It’s going to be a chapel/theatre complex. It’s being built for $70,405. The Rev. Bob Lewis is the Foundation’s minister.

(January 10, 1968) Mrs. George Carmack of 4th Street in Cookeville was interviewed this week on her 84th birthday. Her crocheting and hooked rugs have been winning quite a few ribbons at the county fairs in recent years.

She learned her craft skills early on, she says, recalling her youth in Overton County’s Oakley community. She moved from her home there in the northern section of the county when she was 16. In 1898 they traveled by wagon to Hilham, in western Overton County. It took all day to cover those few miles, she said.

She married and became a teacher in Overton County. Her family moved to Cookeville in 1925. It was a “sleepy little agricultural community,” she remembers. First Street was bordered by cow pastures. An old hotel stood where the Princess Theater is now (in the southwest corner of the Broad St. and Walnut Ave. Intersection).

(January 16, 1968) Dr. Nicholas Rosenauer, a visiting professor at TTU since October, is interviewed and tells of his father, who served as an officer in the Imperial Russian Army. After the revolution, Rosenauer lived with an uncle who earlier had been the private physician to the last tsar, Nicholas II. He helped survey the railroad through Russia’s Ural Mountains in the 1920s and later became an instructor at the University of Latvia. He’s teaching mechanical engineering at TTU.

*Cookeville officials have announced plans to extend 12th Street to one of the city’s busiest streets, North Washington Avenue.

(January 23, 1968) A bandit wearing dirty coveralls robbed the Algood branch of Citizen’s Bank this week of $1,700 and fled toward Kentucky in a 1956 Chevy.
He’d come into the bank earlier that and talked with a loan officer. The bank official said the man acted suspiciously. The second time he returned, he had a pistol. The investigation continues.

Meanwhile, Don Wade, an assistant football coach at Clemson University for the past 15 years, was named to succeed Wilburn Tucker this week as head football coach for TTU’s Golden Eagles.

A man in his mid 30s strolled into the Algood branch of Citizens Bank this week, pulled out a pistol and took $1,700 from the cashier. He fled with two companions in a ’56 Chevy. He went in the direction of Kentucky. Authorities are on the lookout.

*At the Princess Theater this week: “Love-ins.” The ad promises you’ll “watch the hippies flip out, and the whole wild scene.”

(February 4, 1968) Termites are eating up Putnam Schools. Literally. Termites swarmed through a class at Uffelman Elementary the other day. The same thing happened at Park View where a number of termite nests were located. The gym floor at Baxter Elementary has a hold three inches long where termites ate their fill. There are similar stories coming from a lot of other schools here too.

Putnam School Supt. Eddie Watson told the Putnam County Court about it in January. He’d hoped to get funds to address the problem. The magistrates did nothing. This month Watson says he’s hiring an exterminator if he can find the funds somewhere in his budget. Repairing the damage—no one knows how extensive it is—will have to wait until later, he said this week.

The town is growing rapidly. Sales tax collections went from an annual $27 million to $45 million in the past five years, said Harwell.
He predicted that Cookeville could in fact become the state’s next Gatlinburg. That’s because it’s located in the middle of a region blessed with state parks and popular lakes and other outdoor attractions.

And while they’re thinking about Cookeville, Harwell urged Nashvillians to get involved in the fight to save rail service here. L & N is talking about abandoning its tracks through the Middle Tennessee. That will hurt Nashville too, Harwell noted.

(February 13, 1968) In the “Washington Merry-Go-Round” column, editorial page writers Drew Pearson and Jack Anderson say that Gen. William C. Westmoreland’s policies for U. S. forces in Vietnam are responsible for a loss of confidence by the people of South Vietnam. Saigon and other Vietnamese cities lie in shambles after what is being called the “Tet Offensive.” Meanwhile, they say that Westmoreland has stretched U. S. forces too thinly across the country, relying on “search and destroy” missions in the jungle that allow the enemy to easily withdraw to fight another day. They also blame him for allowing a contingent of Marines to become surrounded at Khe Sahn where they are receiving heavy losses.

(February 18, 1968) Two former Cookeville High classmates have been named winners of prestigious Woodrow Wilson national fellowships in graduate study.

Larry Whiteaker, a 1964 CSH graduate now majoring in history at Tennessee Tech, is the university’s first recipient of the fellowship, which is administered by the Ford Foundation.

Elaine Fowler, who is now studying English at Vanderbilt, also won the honor, officials announced this week.

(February 20, 1968) A cartoon on the newspaper’s editorial page this week shows President Lyndon Baines Johnson with Gen. William C. Wetmoreland crouching in a foxhole surrounded by sandbags. The foxhole is in the bullseye of a target and a flag flying above their position identifies it as the “Khe Sahn.” Johnson says to Westmoreland in the caption, “Reminds you of the Alamo – only it had a roof!” The cartoon refers to a unit of Marines encircled at Khe Sahn in Vietnam. They are coming under intensive shelling around the clock. Many fear it may become another Dien Bien Phu, where the French suffered decimation in Vietnam a few years earlier.

(February 25, 1968) Foreign news correspondent and author Roderick Macleash is coming to town this week to speak in Tennessee Tech’s public program series. He’s the author of the recent best-seller. “The Sun Stood Still.” It’s the story of last year’s six-day Arab-Israeli War.

*At the Princess this week: Vincent Price and Fabian in “Dr. Goldfoot and the Girl Bombs.” It’s the story of the “the girls with the thermonuclear navels.

(February 27, 1968) Dave Maddux, president of the Cookeville Merchants Association, told the city council this week that downtown Cookeville is suffering badly from a lack of parking and that unless something is done, some stores will be closing soon.

The merchants are proposing that the city lease property near the Square for a parking lot. Parking meters would be erected in the lot, and revenue from them would help offset the cost of leasing the land.

Mayor Bobby Davis told the merchants that the council will take a hard look at the proposal.

(February 27, 1968) The biggest aviation order in U. S. history was good news to workers here this week in the McDonnell Douglas aircraft plant in Monterey. American Airlines has ordered $800 million worth of jets from the aircraft manufacturer, and many of the new parts will be made here.

(March 5, 1968) Putnam County Sr. High’s speech and drama team came back from district competition this week at TTU with six first-place trophies.
Team members include Mike Quillen, Mark Draper, Lester Peavyhouse, David Bryant, Suzi Winningham, Rachel Maddux, Joyce Webb, Donna Caplenor, David Frounfelker, Mary Moody King, Bruce Anderson, Keith Bilbrey, Melanie Moore and Dale Loftis.

(March 11, 1968) Once, every small community here had its own school. The closing of two this week leaves the county with six two-teacher schools: Bangham, Bloomington Springs, Cedar Hill, Nash's Chapel, Boma, and Brotherton.

Goodyear Tire & Rubber C. announced today that it plans to open a company-operated store in Cookeville at 120 South Jefferson Avenue. Company officials say that studies show that Cookeville economic growth "has real good potential."

(March 12, 1968) Here’s a look at grocery store prices for March of 1968: At Kroger, you can buy a pork roast for 29 cents a pound, chops for 69 cents a pound, and round steak for 88 cents a pound. Or you can pick up a five-ounce tube of Colgate toothpaste for 58 cents and a three-pack of 12-ounce cans of frozen orange juice for 97 cents. Over at the Green Acres Shop Rite on Burgess Falls Road, you can buy bacon for 65 cents a pound, canned peas for 29 cents a pound and a one-pound bag of chips for 59 cents.

(March 19, 1968) Putnam County Senior High School expects to become accredited by the Southern Association of Schools in the near future after being given the nod by the accreditation committee following an inspection of the school this week.

*And at TTU, area high school seniors at the university’s annual Career Day were told by Marilyn Van Derbur that the keys to success are hard work and clear-cut goals, not physical beauty or natural talent. She’s a former Miss America.

(March 23, 1968) The State Senate has passed a bill to keep the financially failing Tennessee Central Railroad open by appointing a trustee.

(March 26, 1968) Sen. Albert Gore Sr. suggests in his weekly column from Washington that the Vietnam War cannot be won by military action. He tells of testimony before Congress by Gen. David M. Shoup, former commander of the U. S. Marines in Vietnam. Shoup said that should the U. S. press the ground war into North Vietnam, China would be drawn into the war, and the only way to win the war then would be though the use of nuclear weapons.

(March 29, 1968) Who will be the Belle of the Ball at the upcoming spring ball at Central High? In the running are Bonnie Green, Linda Johnson and Mildred Robinson.

*Meanwhile, Central High’s Speech Club embarked on a trip to Miami this week to compete in the Southern Speech Association’s annual meet.

Shown in a page-one photo loading their bags into cars were team members Mike Quillen, Mike Lewis, Zollie Ferrell, Buddy Massa, Gail Warren, Ruth Massey, Richard Frounfelker, Martha Brown and Anne Huddleston.

(April 2, 1968) Two years ago, both the Young Republicans and the Young Democrats organizations faded away on the campus of TTU. Recently, the Young Republican organization revived there. Campus officials say there's no sign of even mild interest on campus in resurrecting the Young Democrats.

(April 9, 1968) According to this week’s edition, the survey by the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists shows that 95 percent of OB-GYN clinics in the nation now offer prescriptions for “the pill” as a form of birth control. Last year along, 1.5 million more women received prescriptions.

*At the Putnam Drive-In this week, Ann Margaret stars in “The Swinger.”
(April 16, 1968) On her 80th birthday, Alpha Lafever is interviewed and tells of being asked by her first grade teacher on the first day of school if she knew how to count to 100. She already knew how to count to 1,000, she replied. She was born in Overton County in 1888 to Joe and Fannie Wright and moved to Putnam County at the age of 6. She attended Lee Seminary school at the time of her encounter with the first grade teacher. She later married a farmer and mail carrier, John Lafever. Today, she has 34 grandchildren and 31 great grandchildren.

(April 23, 1968) Federal, state and county agents teamed up this week to seize one of the largest stills ever found by agents in Putnam County, a 200-gallon operation. Also seized were 3,000 gallons of mash. The still and the mash were dynamited.

(April 30, 1968) The cases of eight Tennessee Tech students were sent to the grand jury this week in General Sessions Court. They were charged with drug possession and the possession of “lewd photos” after a raid by the sheriff and city police on an apartment on Chestnut Avenue in Cookeville. Confiscated in the raid were 10 ounces of marijuana, needles, syringes, a narcotic (paregoric), an assortment of “pep” pills and several decorated marijuana pipes.

(May 7, 1968) Gov. Buford Ellington announced this week plans for “one of the greatest steps forward in the history of the Upper Cumberland region.” He unveiled blueprints for an $8 million park to be called Fall Creek Falls State Park. He said, “It will place our area next to the Great Smokies as a resort area.”

(May 14, 1968) For this year’s Industrial Appreciation Day, Cookeville has landed a truly stellar speaker – Dr. Wernher Von Braun, the mentor of the nation’s space program, which later this summer will put a man on the moon.

In closing days of WWII, Von Braun and a group of German missile scientists frenziedly worked to perfect Hitler’s V2 rocket program at Pennemuende.

Von Braun and his German scientists were recruited to work for the Americans when the war ended, and Von Braun pioneered the US space program.

Today he’s head of the Marshall Space Flight Center in Huntsville, Alabama, where giant rocket boosters strapped to test pads rock the round more and more frequently these days as NASA gets ready for its historic shot to the moon in August.

Roger Lynn Thomas, the son of Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Thomas of Rt. 2 Cookeville, had been in Vietnam two days when his unit of the 101st Airborne went out on patrol. They walked into a Viet Cong ambush.

Thomas, calling his parents a few days later from the hospital, says the next thing he knew, he felt a blow to his head “like a sledge-hammer.”

A bullet pierced his helmet, grazed the side of his head, and came to a resounding stop at the rear wall of his helmet. Eight days later he was back in the field.

(May. 16, 1968) What is believed to be the first yard sale ever held in Cookeville went off without a hitch this week at the Loweland Ave. home of Mrs. Jack Sells.

(May 18, 1968) The Tennessee Central Railroad has begun sales talks with the L&N Railroad to keep rail service in Middle Tennessee.

(May 21, 1968) The Putnam County Grand Jury met this week and issued a report calling an 11 p.m. curfew for all youths under the age of 18 in the country. That could be difficult, say county officials. It would take a private act by the state legislature to give the county court here the authority to impose such a countywide curfew. Cookeville has had a curfew since 1943 – but it’s not enforced. Meanwhile, sheriff Bill Bilyeu says, “We have problems with young kids running around at 2 or 3 o’clock in the morning,” and he urges that something be done here.
(May 26, 1968) Melvin Butler Jr., quit his job as an industrial welder at the Bowser Plant in Cookeville in February of 1966 to join the Army. He found a little bit of home the other day serving in Vietnam, where he’s military construction engineer.

While working at Bower, he made giant aircraft fuel filters.

Walking around the base at Vaungtau the other day, he spotted a big filter that looked familiar. He inspected its metal identification tag. The code letter “C” was stamped on it. It was his mark. He made the filter 3 ½ years earlier in Cookeville.

He wrote his father, Melvin Butler, Sr. at this Popular Grove road home and said, “Dad, it sure made me feel good when I saw it and to know that I built it really helped.”

(May 28, 1968) Power is knocked out in north Cookeville when a group of TTU students toss a chain across a high-voltage line to signal the start of a massive panty raid at the women's dormitories. Hundreds of male students milled around outside the women’s dorms, but before they could steel themselves to storm inside, electrical crews restored power and the lights came back on. The crowd of males dispersed.

(June 4, 1968) Mike Flatt, 20, the son of Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Flatt Jr., is in town again this week recuperating from wounds he received in Vietnam.

He’s pictured in this week’s edition talking with an old high school friends, David Bethel.

Flatt was with a unit of the 101st Airborne that encountered heavy fire near Bon Son. GIs seeking cover triggered three bobby traps made from US 105 mm artillery shells.

“I was luckier than a lot of men in my company,” says Flatt. He was hit in the knee cap and thigh of his left leg and in his right leg by shrapnel.

He’s presently assigned to Ft. Campbell while he’s recovering but he says he could be going back to Vietnam, depending on how quickly his legs heal.

(June 10, 1968) William James “Bill” Ervin, 53, died in Nashville this week following a sudden illness. He was the secretary-treasurer of the Jenkins-Darwin store chain here for several years.

Ervin, a native of Giles County, played basketball for Tennessee Polytech in the 1930s and stayed in Cookeville after graduation.

*Meanwhile, Cookeville has a new attorney, William Arnold Cameron, who graduated from Vanderbilt University’s law school this week. The TTU graduat has worked from the law firm of Maddux, Cameron and Jared each summer while in law school and as of this week he is now an associate of that firm.

Showing at the Princess Theater this week is the film everyone’s talking about, “Bonnie and Clyde,” starring in the story of the outlaw lovers is Faye Dunaway and Warren Beaty. Gene Hackman also stars.

Two died this week in a fire in Cookeville’s old Arlington Hotel, leaving the Shanks Hotel as the last of five large historic hotels originally in Cookeville.

(June 11, 1968) Lt. Col. James P. Brady is home in Cookeville this week after two years in Vietnam as the director of the Deep Water Terminal in Saigon. After a brief stay here, he’s off to John Carroll University in Cleveland, Ohio, where he’ll teach military science and tactics.

Clifford “Buddy” Massa III, son of Mr. and Mrs. Clifford Massa Jr. of Cookeville, is pictured with Richard Nixon in this week’s edition. He’s been working for the former vice-president in his presidential election
bid this spring and summer as a student at Northwestern University in Chicago, site of both party’s national conventions this year. Young Massa says he hopes to be able to work for Nixon in the fall, too.

(June 18, 1968) Throughout the newspaper this week were scattered stories reflecting the community’s progress.

In Algood, Citizens Bank is about to open a new branch office three blocks west of its present branch office there. The new one features a drive-in window.

And over on Dixie Avenue, W. H. Carlen and his wife have opened Towne House Interiors in the former home of pioneer merchant and city father Jere Whitson. They’re selling a line of fine furniture.

And cable television is coming to Cookeville. Martin Medley of the Community Antenna Television System said this week that crews are in the final stage of laying cable for the system.

Subscribers will be able to watch three Chattanooga stations, three Nashville stations, a Bowling Green station and a 24-hour weather channel. The company’s giant antenna is located on Brotherton Mountain.

*In his weekly “Capitol Commentary” column on the newspaper’s editorial page, Sen. Albert Gore Sr. remarks on the prediction made by Gen. William Westmoreland a few days ago when he turned over the command of U. S. forces in Vietnam to his successor. He said that the war “cannot be won in a classic military sense” by U. S. troopers unless the scope of the war is expanded.

The comment set off a furor back home where many are growing weary of the war and are opposed to expanding U. S. involvement. Some, Gore notes, favor the invasion of Cambodia or Laos, or at least the “hot pursuit” of enemy forces into those countries. Others, said Gore, thinks that Chinese air bases should be attached for serving to resupply North Vietnamese and Viet Cong forces in their war against the U. S. This week, President Lyndon Johnson instead chose to seek negotiations with North Vietnam. Gore backs that decision and he says he believes that the American people support it too. It is the only other way to end the war, short of “obliterating” Vietnam, says Gore.

(June 17, 1968) Mrs. Gid Lowe’s kindergarten graduated another class of youngsters this week in special ceremonies that included a visit from the newspaper’s photographer.

Kindergarten graduates pictured in this week’s edition include: Rodger Sahai, Jimmy Reed, Linda Wallace, Debby Pippin, Jeff Khleif, Evie Haile, Rita McClellan, Linda Amonette, Jay Nash, Sybil Huang, Brad James, Lisa Wattenbarger, Kim Helms and Bob Clark.

The Tennessee Central is going broke, but its trustee, A. Battle Rodes, said this week that there’s a chance that at least a portion of the line may be kept open.

Rodes said that the TC is currently in talks with the Illinois Central, which is interested in the section of TC tracks from Crossville to Nashville. Talks continue.

(June 25, 1968) The Howard Johnson Motor Lodge opened this week here at the intersection of I-40 and Highway 70.

(June 28, 1968) Hubert Bennett, a member of the State Democratic Committee, and Clarence Newman, chairman of the Putnam County Democratic Party, will lead a delegation from here to the State Democratic Convention this weekend in Nashville. There’ll be a memorial service during the convention for the late Sen. Robert Kennedy, who died under an assassin’s gun recently. There’ll be a rally, too, with entertainment by Boots Randolph, Dottie West and Grandpa Jones.

(July 2, 1968) Martin Medley, the local manager for the CATV cable television company here, says that workers are fast completing the laying of the 50-mile circuit of cable the company plans to serve initially. He says that residents along the route can come by the company’s office and begin applying for cable
television. It will carry nine stations: The three Nashville stations, two educational channels, three Chattanooga stations, and a local 24-hour time and weather station.

*Town House Interiors opened this week in the historic, stately house once owned by Jere Whitson at 50 North Dixie. The owner of the new business is Walter Hill Carlen. He's purchasing the furniture division of Maddux Hardware, which he formerly managed.

(July 10, 1968) When Margery Hargrove’s production of “Finian’s Rainbow” is presented on the stage of the Putnam County Sr. High next week, there’ll be more than the usual focus on its female lead, 15-year-old Kaul Morgan Fincher. She didn’t know she had the part until four days ago. That’s when TTU student Patsy Perry, who had spent the last several weeks getting ready for the role, was involved in a car wreck that put her in the hospital with minor injuries. The younger actress had tried out for the lead earlier, but Mrs. Hargrove said she wanted someone a little older. Ms Fincher has previously performed in the Wesley Foundation production of “The Diary of Anne Frank” last year.

(July 17, 1968) Jose Garcia, husband of Katherine Goff Garcia, of Cookeville, was three weeks away from ending his tour of duty in Vietnam when the Marine's life was ended by a landmine while he was on patrol.

Two days later, the dog he’d shipped to his 4 1/2-month-old daughter, Marcia, arrived in Cookeville. He’d never seen his daughter.

A native of Puerto Rico, he’d come to Tennessee Tech to study music after a vacationing Cookeville couple told him about TTU’s school of music. He's to be buried in Cookeville City Cemetery.

(July 28, 1968) J. Lee Lamb, the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Walter Lamb of 1117 North Washington Ave., is home from a nine-month stay in France. She studied at a university in southern France. She was amazed when she got off the plane in Nashville and saw the number of autos on the city streets.

“Everyone rode scooters where I’ve been,” she explained.

She was quartered in the villa of a French family with seven other university students. The pace of life there was slower, she said. She was in France during the recent student revolts and riots. The only effect it had on the village where she stayed was that mail service was briefly disrupted and prices shot up for a few days.

(July 30, 1968) Putnam County was declared a federal disaster area this week after a two month drought. That released the owners of 15,000 acres here (about 1,250 farmers) from federal agriculture program restrictions on much they can plant. Meanwhile, UT Extension Agent Roy Luna estimated this week that drought has damaged crops here. Tobacco production is down by 30 percent and corn is down about 25 percent so far this summer.

(August 6, 1968) An art show that opened in the Cookeville Art Center this Sunday brought back a lot of memories for many here. The show was dedicated to Miss Fannie Kuykendall, who taught art to three generations of Upper Cumberland students. The works of many of her former students are in the show.

Businessman Dawson Morgan is showing a painting of Burritt College in Spencer (It was painted from a photo taken just before the building burned in 1906).

Miss Fannie, who lived from 1887 until 1949, taught for a period in Burritt College before moving to Cookeville and opening an art studio in the Old City School. Her former students describe her as “a very aristocratic lady,” and “a self-sustaining, very tight-laced” woman. Most of the paintings painted by Miss Fannie herself were destroyed when her home burned down in 1926, but many at the show said Sunday that her spirit lives on in the works of her students.

(August 13, 1968) An editorial in this week’s edition recounts an incident here in which a group of about 20 teenagers were hanging out on a street corner near Tennessee Tech “for no good reason.” They got in to
an argument with a TTU student, a fight broke out, several other TTU students came to help the first student, and brawl was the result. The incident points to the need for an organized recreational program for youth here. It also shows the need for an increase in the city police force to discourage further unrest. Such behavior by youth can’t be excused, says the newspaper.

(August 20, 1968) Collie B. Jared, chairman of the Putnam County unit of the American Red Cross, said the agency is beginning its third annual drive to collect items for Christmas packages for Putnam County men fighting in Vietnam. The unit’s goal is 200 bags stuffed with items like address books, toothbrush holders, washcloths and nail clippers. The packages are stuffed in bags made of dark red and green cotton cloth. Jared said they can double as ditty bags after the gifts inside are gone.

(August 27, 1968) A special exhibit will be on display in front of Big K in Midtown Plaza here on Labor Day - the bullet sprayed car in which infamous gangsters Bonnie Parker and Clyde Barrow died after being ambushed of officers in 1934, near Arcadia, La. Also on display will be numerous weapons from the arsenal found inside the car after the ambush. Donations will be accepted. They'll go to the Cookeville Fire Department's Children's Toy Fund.

(August 29, 1968) Two more rural schools are closing this school year due to low enrollment, Silver Point, a one-teacher school, and Twin Oak, a two-teacher school. Both had fewer than the 20 students required for them to stay open.

(August 31, 1968) Tonight at midnight, the Tennessee Central Railroad, which breathed new life into Putnam County at the turn of the century, is going out of business. L&N Railroad is taking over its tracks and facilities.

(September 3, 1968) Students from across the county rolled to school this morning aboard 26 buses that are owned and operated for the first time this year by Putnam County. There were hitches.

The fleet was 43 buses short of what was needed to fully service all routes. They’re on order from the factory, but haven’t made it here yet. Buses in service were packed and schools got calls that some kids were skipped.

Nevertheless, schools got off to a start today and Supt. Eddie Watson said there appear to be about 200 more students this year than last year’s enrollment of 6,372.

At the Princess this week, the ad for Rory Calhoun’s latest horse opera advises, “Keep your eyes on the Indians and your finger on the trigger.” The film’s title? “Keep Your Finger on the Trigger.”

(September 3, 1968) An unusual cool snap pushed temperatures down into the lower 50s this weekend, but the cool weather did nothing to relieve the drought here. Weather observer C. K. Flatt reports that the city saw less than 1 ½ inches of rain in all of July. The city lake has dropped and, with students returning this week to Tennessee Tech, residents are asked to curtail their use of water and to hope for rain soon.

(September 10, 1968) A drought has left the city with a water supply expected to last about 10 more days.

Meanwhile, city official are drilling wells near the Old City Lake hoping to supplement the dwindling water supply.

Tennessee Tech students are expected back next week, and city officials say the large student body will further drain the city's water supply.

Emergency measures are being discussed, such as rationing and temporarily shutting down plants that use much water.
Meanwhile, a federal grant application for a water line project is pending in Washington. Federal officials say the city should hear something in 90 days or so. Talk of building a new plant on Center Hill Lake is getting more serious now.

The Putnam County School Board this week elected one of its members, L. A. Allen Jr., as board chairman. In that same meeting, the board discussed selling two recently-closed schools, Twin Oaks and Silver Point. The board decided not to sell the property since both schools are used as voting places.

(September 17, 1968) Jo Sherman, the Monterey native who went on to a career in national radio broadcasting with NBC, is now an authority on men's fashions, according to an article in this week's edition. She's authored a series of articles appearing in Holiday Inn magazine. She recently attended the national conventions of the Democratic and Republican parties for NBC radio. She’s been fashion editor for Nashville magazine for the last five years and also writes fashion articles for two West Indies newspapers. She’s worked at WSM in Nashville and for NBC News in New York as well.

(September 21, 1968) A ski lodge is going up near Crossville called Renegade. Board president H. Von Daugherty says it will be in operation by December. It has its own snow-making machine and a 3,200-foot ski run. Noted skier Dieter Baer will be coming from Europe to manage the ski school at Renegade. Plans are to expand the facility further in 1969 by adding an 18-hole golf course, a swimming pool, and a 6,000-acre hunting range.

(September 22, 1968) Bobby W. Whiteaker, son of Mr. and Mrs. J.B. Whiteaker of Rt. 5 Cookeville, was awarded a Purple Heart in Vietnam this week after being wounded by shrapnel in the shoulder.

Another soldier near him on patrol stepped on a land mine. He's back on duty with the 11th Infantry this week and his wife, Betty Sue Austin Whiteaker, got a letter from him with an essay on the typical combat soldier in Vietnam: he lives in a world of nightly blackouts and boobytraps. He'd give a month's pay for a good night's sleep. On the average, he's an 18-year-old who listens to rock and roll and the sound of howitzers. He's someone who can do the work of two civilians for half the pay of one, says Whiteaker.

(September 24, 1968) Mr. and Mrs. Clyde Goodwin of 443 Hudgens Street in Cookeville got some good news in a telephone call this week from their son, Johnny. They'd received a telegram two days earlier stating that they young Marine private had been wounded in fighting in Vietnam. He called from a hospital in Japan on Monday saying that he’d been injured in the chest but was doing fine and is recovering. He's a 1965 graduate of Central High.

(October 1, 1968) A Tullahoma contractor was picked this week to construct TTU’s new $3.3 million University Center on North Dixie. The four-story building is to be the biggest on the campus and the most modern. It will be completely air-conditioned, university officials note. What TTU will do with the present student union on the main quad has not been decided yet. Officials say it may be used for classrooms or for a library annex.

*Cookeville gets cable television service.

(October 9, 1968) The Cookeville Jaycees have been stressing auto safety as their public service project this year, and this week they set up a free auto safety inspection station on North Washington. Helping man it were Jaycees Jerry Jared and Dan Wheeler. They looked over cars and gave their owners tips on how to make them more safe to drive. Miss Putnam County, Frances Smith, was on hand to greet each driver who participated and to give out soft drinks after each inspection.

(October 13, 1968) Cookeville’s General Telephone Co. is now requiring callers to add the “526” to their phone extension numbers because of an increase in customers and calls.

(October 20, 1968) Residents were notified this week that now is the time to start preparing Christmas packages for loved ones in Vietnam. All items must be sent in boxes made of wood or stout cardboard and
must be wrapped and packed extra tight. Also, tobacco products and any items that are highly flammable, like lighter fluid, are prohibited.

(October 22, 1968) The Tennessee Tech Student Wives Club is seeking clothing, furniture and other contributions to aid the project now under way in Monterey under the direction of Ray Rogers, the federal VISTA worker for that town. It’s designed to aid poverty-stricken residents in the Monterey area and hopes to provide necessities for families there so their children will remain in school. Several Tennessee Tech students in recent weeks have provided manpower for strenuous tasks like digging wells and repairing homes.

(November 5, 1968) Coming to perform for Tennessee Tech’s Homecoming: The Box Tops. They're known for hits like "The Letter," "Neon Rainbow," "Choo Choo Train" and "Cry Like A Baby." The group originated in Memphis. The theme of this year's TTU Homecoming is "Turn on Tech, It's Happening '68."

(Nov. 10, 1968) Putnam’s theaters have adopted the new national ratings code system for movies to keep young people from being exposed to adult themes.

(Nov. 12, 1968) Area residents were startled this week when dishes and lamps rattled all across the city as Cookeville – along with 20 states – was gently rocked by an earthquake. It was centered in Mt. Carmel, IL. Cookeville Police Bill Bilyeu said the police department’s switchboard was flooded with calls. At one hairdresser’s shop here, women in curlers rushed out from under hair dryers in fright and stood in the street until the shaking stopped.

(November 19, 1968) Students in the fourth and fifth grades at the Tech Campus School have the opportunity to enroll in violin, viola or cello classes this year for the first time ever. Carl Gorodetzky of the TTU music faculty is teaching the classes. Among those enrolled so far are Kay Kinslow, Seth Kerr, Melissa Cook, Melinda Lustre, Sam Crawford, Melda Nobels and Charles Mahler.

(November 26, 1968) Tobacco went on sale this week and farmers are busy hauling trailers of the stuff down to Sparta or Carthage. An unusually dry summer cut the overall poundage produced here, say farm officials, but the quality is up.

This year there were about 2,000 farmers raising tobacco. On the average, each harvested about half an acre of the cash crop.

(November 29, 1968) TTU’s Golden Eagles this week exhibited the stingy defense that fans have become accustomed to seeing on the football field in their game against their long-time rivals, MTSU. The final score: 87-3 in favor of TTU. In that Thanksgiving Day game TTU’s Larry Schrieber carried the ball for the touchdown point. It was the first time in six seasons that TTU beat MTSU. TTU brought the Shinny Ninny totem pole that goes to the winner of that annual rivalry back to campus after the game.

(November 30, 1968) Tennessee Tech's new University Center will have a mounted golden eagle on display when it opens next year. Ray Harrison, a 1966 TTU graduate, presented one to TTU President Everett Derryberry this week on behalf of Dr. Harold Meacham of Nashville. Dr. Meacham killed and mounted the bird 40 years ago. It is the second such gift to TTU. The first mounted golden eagle is on display in TTU's new Biology Building.

(December 6, 1968) "Operation Townlift" was proposed to the city council this week by a team of TVA consultants and officials of the Tennessee State Planning Office. The team had been asked by the city to find ways to unify the city's eastern shopping district on the Square and Westside.

By 1988, the plan would place put other municipal buildings in the area of city hall on Broad between the two districts. It would create off-street parking lots for both shopping districts. More trees would be planted along Broad and Spring, the Arcade on the Square would be renovated and major changes would be made to Broad just west of the railroad depot.
It would be rerouted from where it now crosses the train tracks at Cedar ("Malfunction Junction") to swing in a gentle curve further south and west until it ties into Willow. Along its route would be a new downtown park and the new route would be tree-lined. The council is now studying the recommendation.

(December 10, 1968) Carolyn Lee, a Cookevillian studying journalism at the University of Missouri and traveling in Europe this summer, writes in one of her periodic columns from the continent that she narrowly missed being caught up in the invasion of Hungary this week by the Soviet Union.

"I was on my way to Prague by the way of Vienna when they marched in. There is still enough of the country girl in me to make me not quite believe I am really here witnessing such important things taking place.

(December 12, 1968) The Putnam County Herald and Cookeville Citizen newspapers were bought by Harold Martin, who merged them into one daily newspaper.

(December 17, 1968) Two Putnam County men are serving in high military posts, it was reported this week. Brig. Gen. Glynn C. Ellison of Cookeville is being promoted to major general and was named commander of the 30th Armored Division of the Tennessee National Guard. Meanwhile Maj. Gen. Van D. Nunally of Baxter has been named director of a new unit, the Organization for Civil Disturbances. He’s to help the Guard plan how to respond to civil unrest, something on everyone’s minds more and more these days.

*The Baxter Hotel, which was located near the town’s present-day City Hall and once served railroad travelers, has been razed by fire.

(December 23, 1968) GTE’s new four-story building on Madison Avenue is nearing completion, officials said this week. Costing $1.5 million, the new structure will house personnel and long-distance equipment to serve a 22-city area in the Upper Cumberland.

*At the Princess, two new Walt Disney ‘classics,’ “Never a Dull Moment,” with Dick Van Dyke, and “The One and Only Genuine Original Family Band,” with John Davidson.

(December 28, 1968) Officials say that work is to begin next week on a new theater on North Dixie near TTU that will be called the Varsity Cinema.

High winds tore the roof off two buildings that were under construction here this week. They were the new Minnie Pearl Fried Chicken restaurant on the Sparta Road near Interstate 40 and the new Moore Handley store on South Willow near I-40.

Meanwhile, a crane lifting concrete slabs for the new GTE building on Madison Avenue tipped over and dropped its load on two pickup trucks below. No one was injured.

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(January 2 1969) A total of 78 TTU graduates are now working on NASA’s Saturn Apollo space program, including seven Putnam natives. They are Robert Ramsey Jr., Billy J. Bain, Estele Lowe, Francis Maynard, George McKay Jr., Roy Phillips and John P. Jones Jr. according to the newspaper.

(January 5, 1969) Mr. and Mrs. James Farley Jr. of Double Springs received a Bronze Star this week, earned by their only son, James, in Vietnam two years ago. His unit met and engaged a regiment-size unit of the enemy and fierce fighting ensued. Farley, a medic, repeatedly advanced through intense enemy fire to treat and evacuate fallen Americans. Then he was hit with a burst of enemy fire and killed. His mother, Johnnie Louise Farley, learned of his death a month later. She didn’t learn the full details of his heroism and how he died until this week when the medal was presented. When she learned of her son's actions, she said, "That was just the way James was."
January 9, 1969 - Frazier Moss, the fiddling champion of four states, is in the news again here this week. The County Farm Road resident has been invited to perform at the Grand Ole Opry. He’s also slated to record an album in Nashville later this year.

*Showing this week at the Princess Theater: “The Wild Angels,” a motorcycle film with Peter Fonda and Nancy Sinatra. Also, Tommy Steele stars in the musical; “Half a Sixpence.”

January 13, 1969 - The Royal Oak Charcoal Co., one of the nation’s largest producers of charcoal briquettes, according to the newspaper, announced a major expansion here this week. It’s building a new $450,000 facility on a seven-acre site just west of Cookeville on Highway 70. Its present facility is at 635 Spring St. the new operation will employ an additional 50 workers.

February 10, 1969 - After being discharged from Vietnam, Baxter resident Roger Dail Herren has landed a role in Paramount Pictures’ Lerner and Lowe musical, “Paint Your Wagon,” with Lee Marvin and Clint Eastwood.

March 10, 1969 - Baxter Elementary demolition crews this week found in the cornerstone of the old building a time capsule containing a copy of the Putnam County Herald dated August 20, 1923; a Prince Albert tobacco can containing 1917 and 1920 dimes; and a note, signed by school board members, dedicating the school “to God for service to humanity and uplifting the community.”

May 11, 1969 - Fire destroyed the Dipsy Doodle restaurant this week. The county has no volunteer county fire department yet and the city firefighters were not allowed to battle blazes just outside the city limits.

May 25, 1969 - The Cookeville City Council has unveiled a plan for a new $4.2 million water filtration plant at Center Hill Lake that would pump 7.5 million gallons of drinking water a day through 14 miles of 30-inch water pipe.

June 23, 1969 - Memorial Day services have included the dedication of a new ‘eternal flame’ feature at the Veterans Memorial Building on Spring St.

July 16, 1969 - Workers this week tore down the old Tennessee Central passenger depot in Baxter.

September 23, 1969 - The Varsity Twin movie theater has opened on N. Dixie Ave. and features the latest in theater design, a soft brown interior, high lobby, rocking seats and interior ticket sales.

September 30, 1969 - A Hollywood film crew was in town this week looking for Cookeville residents to appear as extras in the Gregory Peck movie based on the novel, The Exile, and which is being filmed in Gainesboro. It’s called “I Walk The Line.”

November 29, 1969 - The head of Rotary International, Joseph A. Hersey of Reading, PA, told the Cookeville Rotary Club this week about his recent trip behind the Iron curtain to communist Czechoslovakia. “It must have been a beautiful country at one time. Now you find people afraid of their own shadows.” They only ones who are happy are people who want someone to take charge of their lives and tell them what to do, he said.

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