

**Greensburg-Green County**  
A proud past —  
A promising future

# Way Back When

BY CAROL DIAL  
SPECIAL TO THE R-H

June 21, 2006

**Property selected** - The Green County Fiscal Court has voted to build the new justice center on selected property on West Court Street. The combined cost of the properties purchased will be \$385,000.

**Fair royalty** - Miss Green County Fair is Emily Larimore. Karly Pegrum was crowned Miss Green County.

**Ordination service** - Gordon Judd and Darrell Smith were ordained as deacons at Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church June 25.

**Farm awards** - The 2006 Cleanest and Greenest Farm Award was received by C.R. Mears. Dairy farmer Jimmy and Ginger Wilcoxson was presented the Best Kept Dairy Farm Award.

**Engine and Tractor Show** - The 10th Annual Russell Creek Antique Gas Engine and Tractor Show, sponsored by Garrison Construction, had participants from several states in competition.

June 19, 1996

**Green County Fair** - Attendees of the Green County Fair were entertained by comedian Jerry Clower on Friday night.

**Hancock signs letter of intent** - Lady Dragons star Tessa Hancock signed a letter of intent to play basketball at St. Catherine's College.

**Students enjoy train ride** - Summersville Elementary School students enjoyed a ride on the train while visiting the Kentucky Railway Museum in New Haven.

**Court approves budget** - The Green County Fiscal Court approved a \$1.8 million county budget that includes a 3 percent pay raise for county employees.

June 19, 1986

**Bank remodel underway** - The old Greensburg Deposit Bank building will undergo a five-six month remodel inside and out.

The current building was constructed in 1935 following a fire that destroyed the northeast section of the Square.

**Anniversaries** - Mr. and Mrs. Tommy VanArsdale celebrated 25 years of marriage. Robert and Ozena Matney were married 30 years.

**In and Around Donansburg, Maurine Whitlow** - We have had a lot of rain in the past month. Sure has made things grow.

**FFA wins** - The Green County Future Farmers of America Parliamentary Procedure team won the state championship. This was the first time a team from the Lake Cumberland area has won the competition.

June 24, 1976

**Cows killed by lightning** - Thurlow farmer Chris Clark lost 24 Holstein dairy cows to lightning when the tree under which they had taken shelter was struck. The herd was valued at \$40,000.

**Old friends reunion** - Tommy Adkins, Exie, and Marcus Floreani, Interlaken, Switzerland, met 31 years ago in Switzerland. They enjoyed a few days together in Green County recently.

**Ebenezer, Valda Russell** - My neighbors are so good to share their garden produce with us. The Russells have enjoyed apples, lettuce and green beans grown by our friends.

June 23, 1966

**Hailstorm hits area** - High winds and hail "the size of hen eggs" hit parts of southern Green County. Crops and many buildings were damaged.

**Fair time** - A parade and auto thrill show will open the Green County Fair Monday night.

**Pierce, Mrs. L. W. Davis** - Hail was two feet deep in a ditch between Pierce and Donansburg. There was still a lot of unmelted hail twenty-four hours later.

**Over the Trails, John H. Ewing, Jr.** - Mr. Earl "Terrapin" Wright had grown his tobacco in the same spot for 30 years.

## Did you know?

Increasing time spent outdoors enjoying nature can positively affect mood and mental health. Generally speaking, outdoor enthusiasts tend to be happier overall. The American Psychological Association says spending time in nature is linked to both cognitive benefits and improvements in mood, mental health and emotional well-being. Both green spaces and blue (aquatic) spaces benefit overall well-being. Several years ago, the University of Derby in the United Kingdom conducted a study titled, "The 30 Days Wild." The study encouraged people to do something

wild once a day for 30 days. Participants shared that their connection to nature and doing things in nature created a significant increase in happiness and health. People who spend more time outside can experience greater self-esteem, less stress, increased memory retention, and more positive body image. Natural environments also lower activity in the rumination area of the brain, decreasing negative, repetitive thoughts. Also, those who are outside more tend to be engaging in physical activities, and exercise directly correlates to better mental health.



Edmonton Manufacturing in Greensburg was located on Hospital Hill.

# Edmonton Manufacturing in Greensburg



Green County Public Library Genealogy  
Laura Johnson

When Edmonton Manufacturing Company announced plans in 1962 to open a garment plant in Greensburg, it marked the beginning of a new industrial chapter for the community. In September it was reported by Jack Elin, president of the firm, that approximately fifty women would be hired for the operation with plans for future growth.

Local interest was immediate and by mid October, around 400 women had applied for work in a garment factory. Applications were taken in the basement of the Deposit Bank.

Operations began that fall in the E. J. Milby Building on Columbia Road, where the first eight women were hired and placed into training. The company, which already owned

plants in Rochester, Indiana, and Edmonton, Kentucky, manufactured uniforms of all kinds and had a strong record of success. Local leaders saw the new plant as a major economic boost and plans soon formed for a permanent facility at the newly developing industrial park near the hospital.

By 1964, Edmonton Manufacturing moved into its new building on the industrial site, joining Clark Casual Furniture as one of the park's earliest anchors. Federal support helped expand utilities to the area, including a water tank built specifically to serve the growing industries. Employment at the Greensburg plant rose to between 80 and 100 workers, producing shirts and pants under the "Topps" brand.

Sears soon became one of the company's largest customers, purchasing uniforms and workwear produced in both Greensburg and Edmonton. Their craftsmanship earned

national recognition in 1969, when Sears awarded Edmonton Manufacturing its Symbol of Excellence for superior product quality. At the time, the Greensburg plant employed 85 workers, while the Edmonton facility employed 225.

Innovation continued into the next decade, including the launch of "Elin Racing Apparel" in 1970. Racing shirts and jumpsuits made in Greensburg were worn by drivers, pit crews, and crash crews at the Indianapolis 500.

In 1997, one of Europe's leading manufacturers of work uniforms and protective apparel named British Faithful Group purchased the parent company. After 35 years in Greensburg, they adopted a new name, Topps Safety Apparel Inc., to reflect a focus on flame resistant safety clothing. The Greensburg plant produced protective garments for fire departments, rescue squads, ambulance services, and electrical workers.

During the company's transition in December 1997, devoted employees were honored, including Lovan Graham, recognized for 35 years of service. Other employees honored were Jewell Hudgins, Debbie Simpson, Madean Judd, and Cindy Davis for 20 years of service. Honored for 10 years of service were Rebecca Handy, Patricia Young, Renita Price, Helen Jewell, and Lola Suratt.

The final chapter came in 2005, when Topps announced it would close the Greensburg plant by October, noting the decision was driven by global economic pressures. Though the doors eventually closed, Edmonton Manufacturing, and later Topps Safety Apparel, made its products with skill and pride. The plant helped to support local families, strengthened the industrial park, and connected Greensburg to customers and industries far beyond Kentucky.

## Gaddis

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The best way to fulfill the farmers's wishes was to let the weeds and briars take over the farmland, to allow the house and barn to go unpainted and eventually rot, and to allow the soil to erode and wash away. In summary, the court declared, "The best way to let the devil have possession of anything is to do nothing."

Nothing is not an option. There's a battle going on for the souls of those you love and you need to do everything in your power to make sure they end up on the winning side, entering that narrow gate, the one that offers abundant life now and eternal life thereafter.

Jesus followed up His warning of end times coldness with these words: "But the one who endures to the end, he will be saved" (Matthew 24:13 NASB). Paul adds "Let us not lose heart in doing good, for in due time we will reap if we do not grow weary" (Galatians 6:9 NASB).

During World War II, a church in Europe suffered severe damage from bombing. As a result of the explosion, a statue of Christ was mangled by having the hands blown off. Rather than the statue being repaired, it remained as is, ex-

cept for the addition of this well-known phrase, "Christ has no hands but yours."

If you find yourself with a case of the blahs, ask God for the tonic of a fresh task. If apathy knocks on your door, send urgency to answer. The "Titanic" has hit an iceberg and we need to get people on lifeboats while there's still time.

Help deliver the message that Christ is our only true hope for both now and evermore.

Rev. Gaddis has been a

pastor for over 35 years. A native Kentuckian, he was born in Owensboro and graduated from the University of Kentucky. He can be reached at [jtoddgaddis@gmail.com](mailto:jtoddgaddis@gmail.com).

### PUBLIC NOTICE

An Industrial Development Authority Meeting will be held on Wednesday, June 17, 2026 at 1:00 p.m. CDT, at the Green County Courthouse, 203 West Court Street, Greensburg, KY 42743.



**Rotary  
Greensburg**



**Cow Days 2026**



**Now Accepting  
Booth Orders**

**Event: Friday and Saturday, September 18th and 19th**

**Where: Greensburg, Kentucky on the Public Square**  
More details at [CowDays.Org](http://CowDays.Org)





To jump to the Cow Days website hover your phone's camera over the QR code and click on the [cowdays.org](http://cowdays.org) link when it pops up. Once at [cowdays.org](http://cowdays.org) click the **Booths** dropdown menu option. You can then choose between **Online**, **Mail-In** or **Hand-In** ordering options.

Note: On mobile devices the menu options appear by touching the 3-line icon in the upper right-hand corner of the display.