Keith's Corner/McGill News

November 8, 2019

Keith's Corner

McGill Drug Store Party

Last week I got a call from Sue Manning, who is managing the McGill Drug store for the WP Museum Board. She told me that a lady was going to visit the place on Sat. November 2, the day I was volunteering. The lady had worked at the drug store in the late 40s and it was her 90th birthday. Sue asked if I knew who it might be. I didn't have any idea. Well, what a surprise. It was Beverly Crawforth, who was raised in McGill and was my next door neighbor on 1st street. What a pleasant surprise. I had seen her only once in the last 70 years, but we connected quickly, as is the case with McGill natives. It is called "that McGill thing".

Beverly is full of life and gets around easily and has more pep than most teenagers. She is a lot of fun to be around. I know that we all would like to be like that at 90.

She didn't have to be coaxed to get behind the counter again. She donned the "soda jerk hat" and got busy. You can see how "professional" she still is, in the way she handles the soda spigot. I more than likely had tasted many of her drinks, ice cream cones and maybe a banana split with a whole banana and all three flavors-vanilla, chocolate, strawberry. One of my favorite drinks was an "Iron Port". Those were the days.



Beverly was brought out from her home in Kaysville, Utah by her son and two daughters.



We filled each other in on all our family history and stories of living in the old town.

The next surprise was for Beverly. Elaine Blackham and Sue Manning brought in a nice birthday cake. It was for Beverly to take back to Utah with her, but she insisted on cutting it and sharing with everyone. Bev and I searched thru several drawers and finally found a knife. I found some Mr. Coffee paper filters to use as plates. Beverly did a great job in cutting the cake and served it in the filters.



We all joined in and sang "Happy Birthday" to her. After the party, Beverly and her children walked around town and visited the Post Office and stores. Then they drove past her old home on 1st street. I can only imagine the memories she was able to remember. She has had a full life and is still living it to the max.

McGill News

Have some good news. The man who is restoring the IOOF Hall is going to be involved with restoring the theater. He told me that he plans to have a new roof soon. The old one has a lot of holes. Last year a tarp was put on, but as per McGill, the wind soon made short work of it. Rudy plans to restore the place and be able to show old movies. He also plans to have live concerts and plays. It will be a great place for the grade school to hold plays and maybe even some old fashioned Christmas parties like we had years ago.

The weather this whole week has been clear, no wind and in the middle to upper 60s. The best ever.

Old Photos



This was taken in the early 59s, not too long after the grassy park was put in. The different points I can see are—the parking lot pipe fence is still there, the large red pipes in front of the fence have been covered up, several railroad rail posts are just inside the main gate, the two rafts are still there, the high board is still there, the change rooms are the old small huts, the rock wall is there just below the tree line, the tow bars are there to do push ups and kips on are still there.

CORRECTION-Last week I talked about the tin cup from Junk Baker. Geraldine wrote me and said it was sterling silver, inscribed on bottom with #526.