

1950

Context:

On June 25, 1950, North Korea, the Democratic People's Republic of Korea, invaded South Korea, the Republic of Korea, and brought about a United Nations' "police action" known as the Korean War. The War lasted until 1953.

The population of Grove City reached 7,411. The population of Pine Township was 2,643. This represented a combined population increase 2,053 of over the 1940 census.

The Grove City Joint Consolidated School Board was established

Note:

On April 13, 1950, the Board of School Directors voted to accept students from Pine, Liberty, Springfield, and Wolf Creek townships. The process of merging Grove City schools with the schools of Pine, Liberty, Springfield, and Wolf Creek townships and forming the Grove City Area School District was begun. The district contained nearly ninety-two square miles.

Each of these areas had schools dating from the early 1800s. In 1834, Pennsylvania had passed a law, "An Act to Establish a General System of Education by Common Schools" that required Philadelphia and every county to establish schools. It provided for the funding of schools, and included provisions for two or more districts to join together to establish and operate schools.

Within Grove City, the original Pine Grove School at the corner of Main and Center Streets was replaced with a brick building in 1875, with additions in 1888 and 1892. Central School was erected in 1901. Lincoln School was completed in 1906. A high school building was completed 1914 on East Main Street; it was remodeled in 1923. Washington School was built in 1927.



In 1954, Grove City Senior High School and (Highland) Elementary was built. It was later remodeled and again remodeled in 2000.

In 2011, a new middle school was opened. This building replaced the old 1914 school building, originally the high school, then the junior high school and finally the middle school.

The Grove City Area Federal Credit Union was chartered in April 1950.

Note:

The Grove City Credit Union was established to serve the employees and families of the Cooper Bessemer Company. It was later expanded to serve the area surrounding Grove City.

This credit union inspired the Mount Vernon Cooper-Bessemer plant employees to start a credit union for their local plant in the spring of 1952.

Grove City College was involved in a major building project.

Note:

This project included building Hopeman Dormitory and the addition of the West Hall to the Mary Anderson Pew dorm.



Hopeman Hall was named after Bertram Hopeman, a former trustee of the College. The building was built as three-story dormitory for men.

1951

Context:

Congress passed the Universal Military Training and Service Act lowering the draft age to 18½ and extending active-duty to 24 months.

Cleveland disc jockey Alan Freed used term "rock 'n' roll".

Bob and Donna McMullen established a soda fountain and bus station at the corner of Broad and Blair Streets.

Note:

The business was expanded to include a taxi service and a travel agency. The travel agency grew and developed into a fulltime travel agency, McMullen Travel and Tours, with business operations in both Grove City and Franklin.

Doug McMullen, McMullen's son, and his wife Linda assumed the business.

In 1951, Cooper-Bessemer's sales reached \$52 million surpassing its World War II high by nearly \$10 million.

Note:

Business was boosted by the Korean War; company shipments were almost solely to markets supported by the war effort, such as the petroleum, aluminum, chemical, and railroad industries.

1952

Context:

Microbiologist Jonas Salk developed a vaccine for polio.

The first hydrogen bomb was detonated by the U.S. in the Marshall Islands (Nov. 1).

Blaine LaVelle Hovis Sr. founded Hovis Trucking Co. in 1952.

Note:

Blaine Hovis was born Aug. 9, 1924, in Pearl, Venango County.

During WW II, he served in the Air Force in the European theatre from 1944-46, flying 33 missions across Nazi-occupied Europe and Germany.

In 1952 Hovis established the Hovis Trucking Company.

On July 1, 1971 Hovis incorporated and became Milk Transport Inc., Grove City, with Blaine Hovis as President and Priscilla Perna as Secretary.

Hovis was involved in community activities including the Grove City United Community Hospital, the Grove City Industrial Development Board, the Grove City Chamber of Commerce Board, and Grove City School Board,

Upon Blaine Hovis retirement, the management of the company was assumed by his daughter Priscella and her husband Lou Perna.

The business continued to operate until 2009.

Grove City Little League Baseball Inc. was incorporated on June 18, 1952.

The Grove City Bowl-O-Drome was registered by Thomas and Arlene R. Marano on July 28, 1952.

Note:

The Bowl-O-Drome has undergone a number of ownership changes.

In 1958-59 then owner John Kuzma relocated the business and built the facility at 540 East Main St. Ext. (PA Rt. 58 East)

Kuzma operated the Bowl-O-Drome until 1971 when he sold it to Thomas & Arlene Marano.

In 1979-80, the building was expanded. Automatic Scoring was installed in 1982 making it the first Bowling Center in Mercer County to install automatic scoring.



In 1983-84, the building was again expanded to include an indoor swimming pool. This facility was used for many years as a health and fitness center.

The Grove City Bowlodrome, Inc. was incorporated on January 1, 1987 with Thomas A. Marano as President and Richard Marano as Treasurer.

In 1990, the Marano's son, Richard, and his wife, Amy, purchased the business. A third addition was made in 1993. In the summer of 1999, a major remodeling was completed adding a second generation of automatic scoring, an automated bumper bowling system, and state of the art synthetic lane surfaces.

1953

Context:

On Jun. 29, the Federal Highway Act authorized the construction of the interstate highway system.

President Dwight D. Eisenhower signed an executive order that ended the paternity deferment for married men.

The name Grove City Nash Co was registered on February 18, 1953 to Fred M. Guitteau and Paul G. Haben.

Herman Loyal Walters registered the name Broad Street Garage.

Note:

The name Broad Street Garage was registered on February 2. The name was amended in 1966.

In c1953, Cooper-Bessemer sold the rights for the development of larger versions of its CB FWL engines to General Electric. (See 1954)

Note:

This sale remained secret because General Electric had decided to enter the locomotive business and did not want to alert General Motors that they were entering the market. At the time, General Motors dominated the locomotive business with over 80 percent of the North American diesel locomotive business.

After World War II GE had supplied the electric traction motors and controls for diesel electric locomotives built and sold in partnership with the American Locomotive Company. GE also built smaller switch engines for export to South American countries. GE's switchers were powered with engines from several diesel engine manufacturers, including Caterpillar, Alco, and Cooper-Bessemer.

In 1959, General Electric officially entered the domestic main line road locomotive business.

In April 30, 1960 letter, Robert Paxton, GE's President, wrote an open letter to the United States railroad industry, introducing the U25B. He stated:

"In the interests of making a more substantial product contribution, we have been carrying on for the past ten years an exhaustive development program, aimed at producing a significantly better road locomotive for the American railroads. The results of this program now make it possible to introduce a locomotive is a 2500-hp four-axle unit, designated as GE Model 25B."

In September 1960, the U25B made its commercial début.

Production of the diesel engine continued in Erie until 1983 when production was transferred to Grove City.



Vita: James C. Rhoades

James Rhoades was in charge of GE's modification and updating program on the CB engines for their use in domestic road use from 1951 until his death in September, 1960.

In 1948, James C. Rhoades began advocating General Electric's entry into manufacturing diesel engines for the locomotive business. He believed, GE could design a more efficient, more reliable and higher powered diesel engine design than those made by General Motors and Alco. Rhoades undertook an extensive investigation of diesel locomotive engine designs from around the world and concluded that the Cooper-Bessemer 4 cycle engine design was the one most suitable for development for GE's entry into the locomotive business.

In 1953, when General Electric acquired the rights to improve and manufacture the Cooper-Bessemer diesel engine, the GE FDL team, working independently from Cooper-Bessemer, began to modify the Cooper-Bessemer V-8 and V-12 engine designs

to achieve significantly higher horsepower per cylinder. Rail testing of the designs began on the Erie Railroad in September 1954.

In 1955, General Electric opened a secret state of the art engine test laboratory at their Erie works. There, the GE's FDL engine designs were refined and tested on the Erie Railroad rolling test lab.

In 1956, as a result of the Erie tests, GE introduced its "Universal" series as a line of export locomotives, with two UD18, 1800 horsepower demonstrators, each powered by GE-modified V-12 Cooper Bessemer engine.

In December 1958, Rhoads wrote a letter in response to a retired senior GE executive who had supported GE's entry into the domestic locomotive business. Rhoads's wrote:

"We have been working on improving the Cooper-Bessemer engine and are running in the laboratory equivalent to 3400 hp on a 16 cylinder engine, and we don't see that this is necessarily the end."

1954

Context:

On May 17, 1954, the Supreme Court declared in *Brown v. Board of Education*, that state laws establishing separate public schools for black and white students were unconstitutional.

Cooper-Bessemer workers went on strike for seven weeks.

Note:

The strike, combined with a nationwide recession, and the U.S. Supreme Court's decision that producers selling gas to interstate pipelines had to submit to the Federal Power Commission's jurisdiction led to financial difficulties for Cooper-Bessemer. Cooper-Bessemer experienced a 38 percent decrease in net sales, their first net loss since 1938. (See 1955)

The Grove City Industrial Development Corporation was chartered on April 27, 1954.

Note:

The Grove City Industrial Development Corporation was formed to promote the business and industrial growth of the area.

Grove City College completed a new Recreation Building and Alumni Hall.

Note:

This new facility provided an activities center for students as well as athletic facilities. It housed two swimming pools, handball courts, an eight-lane bowling alley, a gymnasium, offices, a lounge, and a bookstore.



There was a major renovation of the facility in 1988 – 1989. The renovation included an intramural basketball court with elevated running track, a weightlifting/fitness center, a competitive swimming/diving pool, racquetball courts, and renovations to the handball courts, as well as locker rooms, showers, and offices

The Grove City railroad station as it appeared in 1954.

Note:

The Mobilgas "New Doubled Powered" advertisement in the lower right hand corner indicates that this photograph was likely taken in the mid fifties.



This advertisement was run in newspapers in 1954.

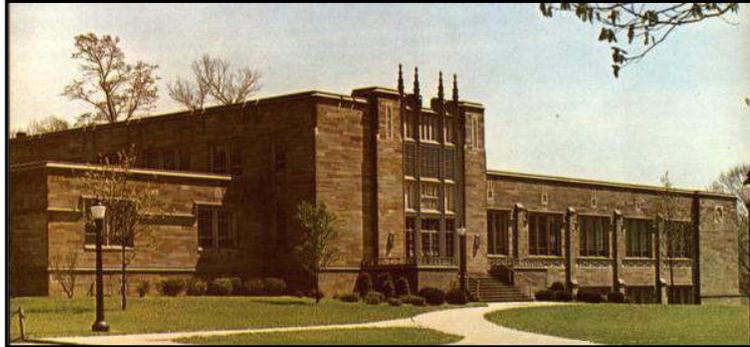


The Richard E. Craft American Legion Post No. 584 was chartered issued in 1954 by the national headquarters of the Legion.

The Henry Buhl Library was completed by Grove City College.

Note:

The library was named in memory of Henry Buhl, Jr., a leading a member of the Board of Trustees of the college from 1898 until his death in 1927. Mr. Buhl had been a merchant and philanthropist from Pittsburgh.

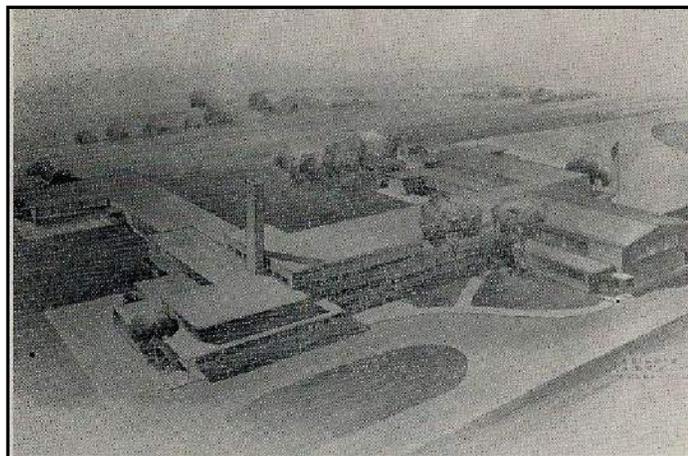


A new Grove City senior high and elementary school was erected.

Note:

The new facility was built on Highland Avenue. It replaced the high school facility on Main Street built in 1913. The Main Street facility became the junior high school.

The new building was dedicated in December, 1954. The wing of the building seen on the left was the elementary wing. The remainder of the building was the senior high.



This building was renovated and enlarged over the years. Improvements included an addition including new science facilities at the rear of the building connecting the two wings.

Context:

Rosa Parks, a black woman, refused sit at the back of a bus, as required by Montgomery, Alabama city ordinance. initiating civil protests and legal action across the nation. The Montgomery bus segregation ordinance was declared unconstitutional.

The Federal Interstate Commerce Commission banned segregation on all interstate trains and buses.

Elvis Presley became first "rock star"

In 1955, the borough council passed an ordinance and created a city manager position.

Note:

This was the second time such a position was created.

After the epidemics of dysentery and typhoid fever in 1914 Grove City had passed an ordinance establishing the position of city manager. At that time, Grove City was the second community in Pennsylvania to have such a position.

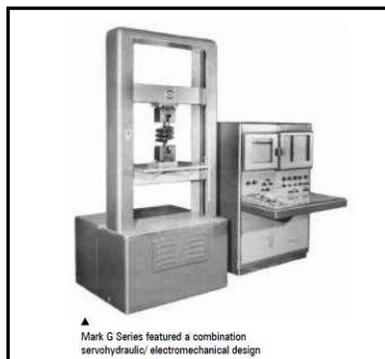
The Arcweld Manufacturing Company moved from Pittsburgh to Grove City and began to manufacture stress-testing equipment.

Note:

Arcweld roots date from the 1930s when the Baldwin-Southwark Corporation worked to develop and grow their testing machine business. The Baldwin-Southwark Corporation produced the Southwark-Emery line of testing machines.

Over the years they were involved in a series of corporate changes.

The name Arcweld Manufacturing Company was registered to W. J. O'Conner and Edith O'Conner in 1947.



In the fifties Arcweld began to manufacture a line of creep and stress testing equipment. In 1957 the new hydraulic motor-driven Mark G servomatic testing equipment was introduced.

Shown is the Mark G Series testing equipment.

Arcweld Manufacturing Company became SATEC in 1962.(See 1962)

In 1968 SATEC Systems Inc., was established as a joint venture company, combining the Baldwin/Sonntag products of Warner & Swasey with the Arcweld products of SATEC.

Steese's Dairy was established.

Note:

Bob Elison Steese bought the Lucas Ice Cream business in Mercer. The business was located on South Diamond Street. He continued to operate the business at that address for three years.

In 1958, he moved the business to Blacktown Road. Steese's operated a walk-up ice cream and milk stand and sold products door to door for several years. The store on Blacktown Road became a traditional summer ice cream shop and restaurant serving area residents for decades.

Over the years the business continued to expand. In the late 1960s, Steese's serviced every school district in the Mercer County.

In 1976, a miniature golf course was opened. In 1979, the stand was moved back 50 ft. on skids. At that time, a hamburger stand was opened and a dining room was added to the front of the facility.

In 1983 another remodeling project was undertaken. The miniature golf facility was closed and a larger dining room was constructed.

Bob Steese continued to operate the business until his death in 1991. At that time, his son, Robert Harold Steese, inherited the business.

In 1995 Steese's celebrated its 40th Anniversary.

Bob Steese continued to operate the business until his death in 2003.



Cooper-Bessemer faced a hostile takeover.

Note:

A private investor named Robert New staged a takeover of Cooper-Bessemer. During the process, the President, Lefebvre, resigned unexpectedly, and Lawrence Williams, the Chairman of the Board's son, became president.

Williams had already served the company in many capacities and had taken early retirement to pursue other interests. He considered his return a temporary one. In an attempt to bring an infusion of young talent to the company, Williams made a number of top management changes, including elevating Eugene L. Miller to chief operating officer.

Due to revitalized demand, sales bounced back in 1956 to a record high of \$61.2 million, but it was becoming increasingly clear that Cooper-Bessemer needed to diversify in order to avoid the cyclical pitfalls of energy-related manufacturing. (See 1960)

In 1957, Eugene L. Miller was elected president. Among other accomplishments, Miller led the company's process of international development and diversification. By 1964, Cooper-Bessemer had formed a British subsidiary, Cooper-Bessemer (U.K.), Ltd., and opened an office in Beirut.

In 1955 the Grove City Fire Department added a new ladder truck to their equipment.

Note:

The 1955 ladder truck designed and built by the Grove City Fire Department and the community in a joint effort.

Fire Station Number One can be seen in the Background.



1956

On March 20, 1956, William E. Hawke registered the name Grove City Hardware Company.

Note:

Hawke operated a hardware store on Broad Street. This hardware store remained in operation into c1990.

Dr. J. Stanley Harker became the fourth President of Grove City College.

Note:

Dr. J. Stanley Harker was a Grove City College alumni and a Presbyterian minister.

The Grove City College website on the college past presidents states:

During his administration, the student body grew from 1,200 to 2,050 and the number of faculty members increased from 80 to 120. The curriculum of the school underwent extensive revision, the number of books in the library more than doubled, and eight buildings and several additions were constructed.

Harker served as President until 1971.

1957

Context:

In defiance of federal law, Arkansas Gov. Orval Rubus used National Guard troops to prevent nine black students from attending a Little Rock High School. In response, President Eisenhower sent in federal troops to enforce compliance with federal law.

The Pine Grove Golf Course was built and opened in 1957 as a nine-hole public golf course.

Note:

On May 31, 1957, the name Pine Grove Public Golf Course was registered by John L. Deitrick.

The course was designed by Deitrick. He operated the course from 1957 until 1977 when his daughter and son-in-law, Betsy and Leonard Chutz, assumed the business.

In the early 1980, the Chutz's added another nine holes.

On May 15, 1992, the Pine Grove Public Golf Course, Inc. was incorporated with Betsy I. Chutz as President, Benjamin L. Chutz as Secretary and Bradley L. Chutz as Treasurer.

The management of Pine Grove has been assumed by the third generation of family ownership, brothers Ben and Brad Chutz.



The Grove City Junior Chamber of Commerce was registered on February 1, 1957.

The National City Bank: Grove City Branch, branch was established on December 12, 23, 1957 at 201 South Broad Street.

Note:

National City Bank was a Cleveland based bank that had been established in 1845. It became one of the ten largest banks in the United States.

The Grove City National City Bank Drive Up, branch established on January 31, 1958 at 802 West Main Street.

National City Bank continued to operate until it was acquired by PNC Financial Services, Pittsburgh, in October 24, 2008.

1958

Context:

Explorer I, the first American satellite, was launched.

The Grove City Community Library, was started by members of the Grove City Junior Woman's Club.

Note:

The Grove City Junior Woman's Club contributed \$800 to start the library. Clubs, businesses and individuals, donated labor, materials, books, and/or money to the library.

The library opened to the public on March 10, 1958.

The library was originally named "The Little Library". The first site for the library was the Karfes Building on Majestic Alley.

In the first week, the library was open, 500 people joined the library, and 100 books were being circulated each day. By the next year, the library had expanded to an adjoining room and had hired a librarian.

In 1966, the library moved to a larger building at 243 South Broad. In 1978, the library became a part of the Pennsylvania State Public Library, qualifying the library for Pennsylvania State funding. In the following years, surrounding townships began to contribute to the library allowing their residents access to all the library services.

In 1981, the library moved to 131 South Broad Street where inter-library loan service was first introduced, and reference service, children's programs and summer reading were all expanded. (See 1986)

Costello Candies, Inc. was established and began manufacturing chocolate candy.

Note:

Costello Candies was incorporated on May 28, 1996 by Joseph Costello, President, and Dorothy M. Costello Secretary.

Costello candies became known as a manufacture of high quality chocolate candy. The Costello's store sold chocolate products and gift items.

Costello's Candies expanded and operated a store in Girard, Ohio as well as Grove City. The Grove City store was located at locations on Broad Street.

Joseph and Dorothy Costello retired in September of 2003 at which time the business was acquired by Daffin's candies of Sharon. Joe Costello was a brother of Jean Daffin, the President and owner of Daffin's Candies.

Howard Fargo bought the C. S. Miller accounting business and opened an accounting firm.

Note:

This firm developed into the McGill, Power, Bell, and Associates LLP accounting firm.

On November 19, 1987, McGill, Power, Bell and Company Consulting Group, Inc. was incorporated to engage in medical administrative consulting services. Ronald Hughes was the President. On March 10, 1995, the name was changed to Hughes Medical Data And Management Systems, Inc.

McGill, Power, Bell, and Associates LLP was registered as a limited liability general partnership on June 12, 1996.

Willow Hills Golf Center was established by Harold Bennett and Rebecca Bennett.

Note:

The facilities included a driving range and a par three nine-hole golf course. It was the first business of its kind in the county combining a Driving Range and 9-Hole executive Par 3 golf course.

Grove City College dedicated Calderwood Hall.

Note:

The building was named in honor of Dr. Alva J. Calderwood, a professor for 53 years and Dean of the College for 35 years. Dr. Calderwood had graduated from Grove City College in 1896, and continued graduate studies at Harvard University.

After graduation, he returned to Grove City College where he was a professor and administrator until his retirement.

Calderwood Hall was razed and replaced in 2003 with the Hall of Arts and Letters



1959

Context:

On January 3, 1959 Alaska become the 49th state.

On August 21, 1959, Hawaii became the 50th states.