

1990

The population of Grove City reached 8,240. The population of Pine Township was 4,193. This represented a combined population increase of 509 over the 1980 census.

The Grove City Area Literacy Council was begun

Note:

The Literacy Council was established to provide adult volunteer tutoring to teach adults and individuals who were not in high school to read.

Richard Leo, a physics professor at Grove City College, was instrumental in establishing the council. On March 13, 1991, the Grove City Area Literacy Council, Inc. was established as a non-profit corporation. The President was Richard Leo and the Vice President was Tom Harrison.

Leo was later awarded Grove City College's Florence McKenzie Campus/Community Award for his work with the Literacy Council.

Grove City initiated Strawberry Days, a community arts festival.

Note:

This event centered on an adjudicated art show and sale. Artisans submitted their work to a selection committee to be considered for inclusion in the festival. The emphasis of the art selection was on fine art and high quality craftwork.

Selected regional and local artists displayed their original artwork on Broad Street in front of various business places. Grove City College Carnegie Building was also used to display artwork. Open grounds next to the Carnegie Building, where the original college campus was located, were used for free entertainment events and food sales by local nonprofit groups. A portable stage was used for the entertainment and tents were used for the concessions and arts and craft displays.

Over the years, the event became a community festival rather than an adjudicated art festival. The event focused upon providing a social activity for the community in the middle of the summer. Concessions and free entertainment remained a major part of the festivities.

When Grove City College began construction of new student living facilities on the "lower campus" property the event was relocated to Memorial Park.



The Ivex Packaging Corporation moved its manufacturing operation from New Castle to Grove City.

Note:

The Ivex Packaging Corporation moved its manufacturing operation to a recently completed commercial building on PA Route 208, 660 Barkeyville Road, east of Grove City.

On March 18, 2002, Alcoa Inc. announced that it had entered into an agreement to acquire the Chicago-based Ivex Packaging Corporation for about \$790 million. The Grove City Ivex plant was purchased by Alcoa Inc. as part of this agreement.

In 2006, Alcoa Reynolds Food Packaging broke ground for a \$1.7 million expansion of the Grove City plant (see 2006).

1991

Context:

On December 8, 1991, the Soviet Union (USSR) dissolved when the leaders of the Russian, Ukrainian, and Belarusian republics signed the Belavezha Accords and formed the Commonwealth of Independent States.

On Jan. 16, Operation Desert Storm, the Gulf War against Iraq, began.

On Apr 6, Iraq officially accepted cease-fire terms ending the war.

In March 1991, the United States Environmental Protection Agency issued a Unilateral Order to Cooper Industries.

Note:

In March 1991, the United States Environmental Protection Agency issued a Unilateral Order to Cooper Industries to install a slurry wall, clay cap, and leachate treatment system at the Osborne dumpsite. Over the years Cooper- Bessemer had used the facilities as an industrial dump. The EPA had determined that Cooper Industries was the primary responsible party for the pollution in the dump.

General Electric agreed to contribute a cash settlement to reimburse EPA for costs relating to their use of the site.

Dr. Jerry H. Combee became the sixth President of Grove City College.

Note:

Dr. Jerry H. Combee had been academic dean at the College.

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

Dr. Combee was instrumental in moving the College into a position of national recognition and prominence through a greatly expanded marketing and public

relations program... he placed a great importance on improved relationships between the College and the community.

He served as President until 1995.

1992

Carbis Walker and Associates opened for business in Grove City.

Note:

Carbis Walker and Associates was begun in New Castle in 1946. Carbis Walker LLC was established as a limited liability partnership in New Castle on April 17, 1995. The name Carbis Walker was registered by Carbis Walker LLC on May 9, 2002.

Carbis Walker focused specifically on certain niche areas including health care, construction & real estate, manufacturing & distribution, and auto dealerships.

Victor Lee established the Main Moon Restaurant at 243 South Broad Street across the street from the Guthrie Theater.

Note:

In the summer of 2001 the expanded business was relocated to 138 South Broad Street, It was renamed Sun Gin, after the owner and his two brothers.

1993

Context:

The release of the Mosaic web browser by NCSA at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign was the turning point that led to the popularization and rapid expansion of the internet.

The Adobe Mining Co., a subsidiary of Adobe Mining Co. ceased operations in March of 1993.

Note:

When is ceased operation Adobe Mining Company abandoned 11,000 areas of unreclaimed land in five western Pennsylvania counties.

Seventy-eight of these sites required backfilling, seeding, water cleanup and/or tree planting. John Stilley, president, of Amerikohl Mining, Inc., formed a partnership with the

Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and three independent insurance companies to reclaim these sites at no cost to the taxpayers saving taxpayers a potential multi-million dollar cost.

Wal-Mart Stores Inc. opened a discount retail store at 1556 West Main Street.

Note:

The Wal-Mart Corporation purchased 12.93 acres of property in Pine Township just outside of Grove City Borough and constructed a freestanding facility and parking lot.

The coming of Wal-Mart was not without controversy. Some nearby residential neighbors and local businesses resisted Wal-Mart's development of the area. In the end Wal-Mart proceeded with developing the land, building a facility and opening a store.



The arrival of Wal-Mart marked in significant change in retail sales and marketing in the area. Local business were forced to revise their business models to compete with the market strategy of Wal-Mart.

The structure was remodeled in 2002.

In 2007, Wal-Mart acquired property in Springfield Township and began to plan for the construction of a new Wal-Mart Superstore.

Grove City Realty opened at 109 South Broad Street.

Note:

Grove City Realty grew to become a key realtor in the area offering real estate services to residential and commercial customers.

Rock Puntureri was the owner and real estate Broker.

The name Grove City Realty was registered by Rocco L. Puntureri on October 6, 1993.



Cooper Bessemer began a major plant renovation project.

Note:

This \$5.5 million project continued through 1999.

The manufacturing facilities were remodeled to handle new production lines. As part of this project large machine foundations were installed to support new equipment. The exterior of the building was also updated.

Operation of the Grove City water plant, 123 West Main Street was begun.

Note:

A new water supply well was drilled bringing the total wells to four. A new state-of-the-art water treatment facility was completed.

1994

The borough built a new electric substation.

Note:

An electrical storm had caused a major power outage.

To address the issue a new substation was built and a second transformer was added. This station provided power at 4,160 volts.

This station served the borough until January 2012 when the transformers were updated as part of a plan to improve the capability of the borough's system and meet the increasing demand for power within the borough. The new station was capable of supplying power at 12,000 volts. As part of this update, the borough began replacing existing power lines and transformers to enable the borough to raise the supply voltage to the 12,000 volt level. The expected date of completion was 2017.

On August 19, 1994, the Grove City Factory Shops (now known as the Premium Outlets at Grove City) opened.

Note:

The Grove City Factory Shops project was developed by Prime Retail of Baltimore, MD and Fru-Con, a private German company. The name Grove City Factory Shops Partnership was registered on March 6, 1995 by Prime Retail LP and Fru-Con Projects Inc.

The development began as \$40,000,000 development in Springfield Township near the I-79 London Exit. At the time of construction, Prime reported that there were 8.1 million people living within a 100-mile radius of the location making the location ideal for a retail center. Major infrastructure improvements were required to supply the necessary water and sewage.



The facility utilized an open street plan and architecture with a Victorian feeling. It incorporated a wetland area into the landscaping.



The Grand Opening festivities featured a weekend of in-store promotions, giveaways, and entertainment. On Thursday evening (August 18), prior to the public opening there was a "sneak preview" charity gala at the outlet center. Proceeds from the ticket sales were donated to local organizations.

On August 19, Prime Retail Inc. opened sixty stores. The grand opening created traffic jams throughout the area. The traffic on the Interstate 79 exit had to be controlled by the Pennsylvania State Police. The stores were an immediate success.



The Factory Shops quickly expanded. On November 18, twelve more stores opened and on October 14, 20 more stores and an eight-restaurant food court opened.

On December 15, 2003, the Grove City Factory Shops Limited Partnership was registered as a limited partnership. On December 17 the Grove City Factory Shops Grp, LLC and the Grove City Factory Shops GP Member, LLC were incorporated.

The name Grove City Factory Shops was changed to Prime Outlets of Grove City.



On August 30, 2010, Simon Property Group, Inc. Group Inc. of Indianapolis, Ind., an upscale mall retail business, acquired the Grove City outlet center. Simon Property Group, Inc. was an S&P 500 company and the largest public U.S. real estate company. At the same time they acquired all 22 outlet shopping center businesses of Prime Outlets Acquisition Company and the "Prime Outlets" centers owned by Prime Outlets Acquisition Co. They had been negotiating the sale since December 8, 2009.

In September 2010, the name was changed to Grove City Premium Outlets.



The Moore Insurance Agency, Inc. was founded in 1994 as a full service independent insurance agency.

1995

Context:

A terrorist bombing of the federal office building in Oklahoma City killed 168 people (April 19) and began a general public concern over domestic terrorism.

Grove City voters approved a referendum permitting liquor sales in two private veterans clubs. (See 2007)

Note:

This began the first legal sales within the borough since Prohibition. Although the county had voted to repeal the prohibition of sales of liquor on November 7, 1933, the sale of liquor in local area was to be determined by local referendum. The borough of Grove City remained dry.

Over the years, clubs in the Grove City area had been investigated and inspected by the state police Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement and charges had been filed. Many clubs in the area skirted the law and served liquor to their membership.

When the Richard E. Craft American Legion Home Corporation filed for a license under the new law it was denied. This matter was taken to the courts and culminated when the Commonwealth Court overturned the Court of Common Pleas in Mercer (December 12, 1996) and cleared the path for its license.

Cooper Industries spun off Cooper Cameron Corporation.

Note:

Cooper Cameron had been incorporated as a wholly-owned subsidiary of Cooper Industries, Inc. in Delaware corporation on November 10, 1994. It operated as such until June 30, 1995,

In July 1995, Cooper Industries spun off Cooper Cameron Corporation as a publicly traded company with a separate management group. The new Cooper Cameron Corporation included the Cooper Industries Grove City operations and the Cameron Iron Works, a leading supplier of oil drilling and production equipment.

Cooper Cameron began to operate as a separate wholly owned subsidiary of Cooper Industries.

By 1994, Cooper Industries had redefined its business model and began reorganizing. Cooper Industries had spun off its Petroleum and Industrial Equipment Group to focus on its electrical products, automotive products and tools & hardware businesses. (See 1999) Spinning off Cooper Cameron was significant step in this reorganizational process.

A Veterans Memorial was constructed in Memorial Park.

Note:

In the 1990s the Grove City Community Roll of Honor recognizing those who served in World War I, World War II, Korea, Vietnam, Panama, Grenada, and Desert Storm was constructed in the park.

The names listed on the Roll of Honor were compiled through the combined efforts of Janes Nulph and the Veterans Groups of Grove City.

Photograph by L. K. Hunsaker.



MARPAC was established.

Note:

MARPAC was established as recycling business to recycle antifreeze and other materials.

On March 13, 1995, the name MARPAC was registered to Christopher R. Packard and Dan W. Martin.

The MARPAC Corporation was incorporated on June 12, 1995 with Dan W. Martin as President. Later that year Packard left and the business continued to operate with Martin as sole owner and President



The business continued to grow entering other related retail businesses.

Grove City College rebuilt the Robert E. Thorne Running Track on the lower campus.

Note:

The existing track was replaced with an all weather running track designed to meet NCAA standards.

Grove City College completed the construction of Memorial Residence Hall.

Note:

The building replaced the original sixty-five year old Memorial Hall built on the lower campus. The existing building was razed and replaced with a new \$5.2 million structure.

The building was built as a memorial to Joseph Newton Pew the first President of the Board of Trustees.



Grove City College President Dr. Jerry H. Combee resigned.

Note:

Neither Combee nor the Grove City College Board of Trustees commented on the resignation. According to a letter written by Combee's attorney the resignation was related to Combee's handling of sexual harassment charges made by one employee against another.

Dan's Total Asphalt Maintenance was established.

Note:

T.A.M. began with an emphasis on sealing residential and commercial asphalt surfaces.

As the company grew it began offering a complete line asphalt maintenance services e.g. asphalt sealing, maintenance, and line striping. The services included high traction custom blend asphalt sealing, cold and hot patching, asphalt repair, as well as multicolor line striping.





In May 1997, Dan's Total Asphalt Maintenance was incorporated with Dan W. Martin as President.

1996

In July, US Investigations Services, Inc. was established as an employee owned company.

Note:

US Investigations Services, Inc. was founded in July of 1996. USIS began as part of an initiative of President Bill Clinton and the 104th Congress to privatize of the investigative branch of the federal Office of Personnel Management (OPM). The company began with an OPM contract to provide security clearance background investigations for more than 95 federal agencies.

The name was selected to reflect the nature of the company's work providing security clearance background investigations under a contract with the federal Office of Personnel Management (OPM).

US Investigations Services, Inc. was to become one of the largest employers in the Grove City area. Over the coming years it underwent an ongoing series of incorporations, mergers, and name changes.

US Investigations Services, Inc. remained the corporate name and brand from 1996 to 2005. In October 1999, the Carlyle Group made an investment in USIS as a minority shareholder. In 2003 Welsh, Carson, Anderson & Stowe (WCAS) paid \$545 million for the firm. The employees got \$500 million, while the Carlyle Group netted \$45 million. Carlyle reinvested \$172 million, along with USIS senior managers. In 2005, US Investigations Services acquired Explore, a premier provider of database insurance technologies and e-government application.

In 2006, US Investigations Services, Inc. was re-branded and its name changed to USIS. It continued as USIS from 2005 to 2009. (See 2007)



Superior Ambulance began operations on November 3, 1996 with two ambulances, one station, and a staff of 10 to serve the Grove City area.

Note:
The first station was a remodeled office trailer.

A new Grove City station was constructed in 1998 at the same location on East Main Street. The Mercer Station was opened in 1999 to provide quicker response to the outlying areas.



In July, Cooper Cameron Vice President and General Manager Mike Cote announced that the Cooper-Bessemer Reciprocating Products Division in Grove City would discontinue development of engines.

Note:
The Grove City facility was to concentrate on the replacement parts, upgrade and remanufacture, and operating a supply center. (See 1999)

On August 26, 1996, the Esposito Automotive Group, Inc. was incorporated with Edward A. Esposito Jr. as President.

Note:
The name Grove City Chevrolet, Buick, Geo was registered on September 23, 1996 by the 104 Esposito Automotive Group Inc.

The Rotary Club began the construction of gardens in Memorial Park.

Note:
The project included a gazebo and surrounding garden area.



Above Photograph by
L. K. Hunsaker.

John H. Moore became the seventh President of Grove City College.

Note:

Dr. John H. Moore had been an administrator and faculty member at George Mason University. Moore held several degrees including an undergraduate degree in chemical engineering, a master's degree in business administration and a doctorate in economics.

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

Moore led the College through its withdrawal from federal student loan programs, which completed the College's break from federal ties. Soon after, Moore helped lead the first public campaign, Change & Commitment. As a result of the \$60 million effort, the Hall of Arts and Letters, Student Activities Center and addition to the Pew Fine Arts Center were constructed.

Earth Sun Moon Trading Co. was begun by Nathan DePew.

Note:

Nathan DePew began designing and selling T-shirts in the basement level of a storefront owned by Snyder's Music and More, a music store, in downtown Grove City. Originally, the shirts were printed out of house.

As the business grew, it specialized in nature themed products and personalized items.

Earth Sun Moon Trading Company, Inc. was incorporated in September of 1997.



Over the years, the company grew into a national and international wholesale supplier recognized for its innovative screen-printed shirts, sweatshirts, and hats. The products are sold nation-wide at sites such as museums, national and state parks and zoos, as well as RV parks and specialty gift shops. It also sells products on line.

In 2000 the business moved into the historic Nemo Bottling facility on North Center Street. In the fall of 2002, they began printing their shirts in house.



At the same time, they began their "University Original" line printing featuring university themed shirts. This line grew into "Ink Pixie", a line specializing in personalized apparel products.

In 2009, Earth Sun Moon by the Inc 500 list as one of the fastest growing small businesses in the United States. In July 2010, ground was broken for a 9,000-square-foot expansion of the facilities. Two houses along Grant Street were razed in Grove City on Wednesday, so a new structure can be raised.



1997

In the November 1997 general election, Lois Foust became the first woman elected to the Grove City Borough Council.

Grove City College dedicated the Albert A. Hopeman, Jr. School of Science, Engineering, and Mathematics.

Note:

The building was named in honor of Albert A. Hopeman, Jr., who served for 44 years on the Grove City College Board of Trustees and as President of the Board from 1972 until his death in 1998.



Hillview Intermediate Center in Grove City received the national Blue Ribbon School of Excellence award.

Note:



The Blue Ribbon Schools Program is the United States government program created to honor outstanding schools.

It is awarded to an individual school for the school's achievements, not to a school district.

The Blue Ribbon award is considered the highest honor an American school can achieve.

In June, the United Community Hospital signed an affiliation agreement with the UPMC Health System.

Note:

This affiliation enabled the Hospital and its affiliates to become part of the much large UPMC network. The scope of medical services was strengthened and expanded through the availability of resources through UPMC.

1998

In 1998, the Grove City celebrated the 200th anniversary of its founding.

Note:

Community activities were scheduled throughout the year.

A book, *Reflections of Our Past: Celebrating 200 Years of Grove City, Pennsylvania*, was written and published. A play, "Upon These Waters", was written and performed by members of the community. On the fourth of July there was a community celebration with a community band performance and fireworks.

The new Covenant Orthodox Presbyterian Church building was completed at 140 East Poplar Street Popular Street.

Note:

The building was designed to recall the simple churches of an earlier time. The design featured simple architectural lines, shaker roof tiles, and white pews.

The ceiling medallion and some of the windows from the original church were incorporated into the new facility.



Grove City College began remodeling Rockwell Hall.

Note:

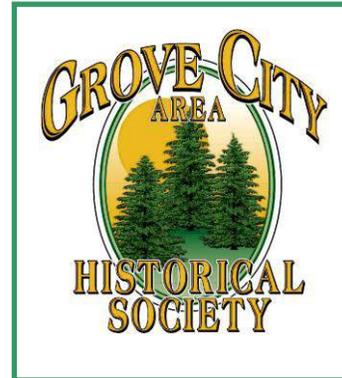
The Rockwell Hall project was a 3.5 million dollar, four phase remodeling project. Included in the project were the installation of an elevator and extensive interior renovations

The Grove City Area Historical Society was established as a non-profit corporation on December 16, 1998

Note:

The Grove City Area Historical Society began with a public meeting in the fall of 1998. The meeting was attended by about 25 people who became the nucleus of the society. A Board of Directors, President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer were elected. Mary M. "Skip" Sample served as the first President and Eleanor M. Covert as the Vice President.

The Articles of Incorporation were prepared by Miff McBride and Richard McGill prepared the documents for non-profit status.



The same year an historic building, the "Travelers Hotel" (See 1893), was offered for sale. Grove City Borough provided the funds for the newly established Historical Society to purchase the building. The society began to move its offices and collections into the building. (See 2000)

Gear Racewear, Inc. was incorporated.

Note:

On December 14, 1998 Gear Racewear, Inc. was incorporated with John M. Ayers as President and John E. Ayers as Vice President.

Gear expanded into three divisions, MotoTees, Gear designs Inc., and Gear Custom Products, Inc. MotoTees became the leading supplier of motocross event merchandise. Gear Designs Inc. specialized in the design and printing of custom t-shirts and awards for the motocross industry. Gear Custom Products became a producer of promotional items including banners, hay bale covers, tents and custom signage.



1999

Context:

Two students at Columbine High School in Littleton, Colorado killed 12 fellow students and 1 teacher, and wounded 23 others (April 20). The shooters were killed. The incident caused national concern about the safety of schools as well as the culture of the American youth.

Cooper Cameron announced it was closing the Grove City plant.

Note:

In mid-July, Cooper Cameron announced the closure of its foundry and associated machining operations in Grove City. The company planned to utilize subcontractors to supply these services.

During 1999, the company had sold its rotating natural gas compressor business to Rolls-Royce PLC with whom it had collaborated with for more than twenty years. Rolls Royce operated facilities in Liverpool, United Kingdom, Hengelo in the Netherlands and Mt. Vernon, Ohio. Later in July, the warehousing and machining operations in Mount Vernon, OH, were also closed.

The Grove City plant and foundry closing was completed in 2000. The closing of the plant ended the 87 year history of the plant that had begun as the Carruthers-Fithian Clutch Co. in 1912.

When Cooper Cameron closed its Grove City operations, their office facilities were sold to USIS.

The factory site and grounds became part of the Keystone Opportunity Zone Program

Grove City High School was remodeled.

Note:

The remodeling project included complete renovation of the facility and the supporting systems. All the classrooms, labs, the library and special instructional rooms were all rebuilt including state-of-the-art technology.

A new entrance and foyer were added as well as an additional gymnasium, a multipurpose room, and a state-of-the-art-auditorium.

