

1903

1953

MIDWAY
Golden Jubilee



Midway, Penna.

June 7 to 14, 1953

The Borough of Midway Welcomes You!

To those of you who are not at present residents of Midway, we extend a hearty welcome. Perhaps you were born in Midway and now reside elsewhere and have come back "home" to enjoy our 50th Anniversary celebration with your old friends in Midway. Possibly you live elsewhere but have been invited to Midway by local friends. It may be that you, having heard about our Midway Golden Jubilee celebration, have come to Midway to see the program that we have to offer, or to visit with old friends.

It matters not—you are welcome. Enjoy with us our Firemen's and Veterans' parades, our Queen of Midway and her Court of Honor contestants, Band Concerts, Street Dances, Scout Activities, special entertainment and events, our store window exhibits, etc. While here, feel that you are one of us.

So, have a good time, enjoy yourself and when your visit is ended, please remember that we want you to hurry back to Midway again, soon.

BOROUGH OF MIDWAY Burgess — Howard E. Brabson

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Vance Aiken, Vice President
Edwin G. Wilson, Treasurer
James V. Russell, Secretary
Leonard Fullerton
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Message from Our Burgess

We of the Borough of Midway, Pennsylvania, extend an open hand of fellowship and welcome to all of you who have come to visit with us, and to help us to enjoy our Fiftieth Anniversary of the incorporation of the Borough of Midway.

This is our Fiftieth Birthday Party — The Midway Golden Jubilee.

While you are here in Midway, please enjoy yourself, and when you return to your home community, tell your many friends of Midway, and please visit with us again.

HOWARD E. BRABSON,
Burgess.



An Expression of Appreciation.... "Thank You"

When a small borough and community the size of Midway undertakes to celebrate the 50th anniversary of its incorporation into a borough and call it the Midway Golden Jubilee, and to fittingly commemorate the deeds of those who played a part in its founding and development, nothing is more important than the willingness of public-spirited citizens to accept individual responsibility and to offer their best co-operation and sacrifice. Of almost equal importance is the willingness of the organized groups to lend the constructive force of combined efforts.

When the preparation period comes to a close and the Midway Golden Jubilee celebration itself is being enjoyed, the two little words, "thank you," sound very small and inadequate.

However, because it is so justly deserved, we members of the Executive committee of the Midway Golden Jubilee take this opportunity and means of sincerely expressing our appreciation to the following:

Our subscribers, whose financial contributions made the Midway Golden Jubilee celebration possible, deserve first thought.

Our committees, which served so loyally; the organizations which sponsored various events and activities, and to all others who helped in any way to help to stage the Midway Golden Jubilee, we extend our thanks.

There are many individuals not mentioned in this program to whom we owe many thanks. Our Midway Golden Jubilee committees worked long and tirelessly. To this loyal group we say, "thank you." Sharing in our grat-

itude is a score of volunteer workers who gave freely of their time. Membership of the churches of Midway, Bulger, and Candor, the Fire Department, Council, V.F.W., School Board, Girl Scouts, Police Department, I. O. O. F., schools, and social groups, all assisted in making our daily programs possible.

Our Queen, "Miss Midway," and her Court of Honor, our patrons and patronesses, the merchants who gave store window space for pictures and antique displays, and those who decorated their storerooms and home fronts so patriotically, and all those who entered our parades and took a part in programs of each day's activities, Homecoming Day, Flag Day, and to all others too numerous to mention who aided in any way in making our Midway Golden Jubilee — 50th anniversary of the incorporation of the Borough of Midway, a success, we sincerely say again, "thank you."

Sincerely yours,

MIDWAY GOLDEN JUBILEE COMMITTEE

H. E. Brabson, General Chairman
J. W. Wallace, Co-chairman
Daniel Stitsel, Secretary
L. G. Bamford, Treasurer
G. L. Williamson
R. E. Sawhill
J. W. Davis
R. E. Dowler
Merille Jones
M. Burchianti

JUBILEE COMMITTEES

Executive Committee — H. E. Brabson, general Chairman; J. W. Wallace, co-chairman; Daniel R. Stitsel, secretary; L. G. Bamford, treasurer; G. L. Williamson, R. E. Sawhill, J. W. Davis, R. E. Dowler, Sr., Merille Jones, M. Burchianti.

Finance Committee — L. G. Bamford, H. E. Brabson, J. W. Wallace, Daniel R. Stitsel, G. L. Williamson, R. E. Sawhill, J. W. Davis, Merille Jones, M. Burchianti, R. E. Dowler, Sr., J. Scott, W. Jordan, A. Holland, W. N. Pyle.

Novelties Committee — John Webber, Willard Wade, Mayo Campbell, John Martin, William Brockman, G. K. Dowler, Velma Jordan, Betty Burchianti, Ila Jones, Mildred Dunbar, Berle Pyle, Winifred Sneddon.

Borough and Street Decorating — M. Burchianti, John Smith, W. N. Pyle, David Carl, Joseph Matchett, Ray Mastic, Hugh Williamson, Albert Brun, Guy McWreath, George Windsheimer, George Haley, Thomas Richards, Sr., Harry Blaine, W. A. Dickson, William Howard, Louis Capuder, Sam Srolowitz, Ralph Ritchie.

Queen Contest (Miss Midway)—L. G. Bamford, Jules DuBois, E. G. Wilson, Dr. Harden Clark, Mabel Brabson, Mary Jane Bell, Louise McCullough, Vance

Aiken, Robert Phillips, Victor Lescovitz.

Brothers Behind the Brush — C. W. Sawhill, Russell Grant, J. W. Wallace, Peter Sergi, William Sergi, Howard Felton, Clyde Peterson, Rene Freville, Charles Parks.

Sisters of the Gay Nineties — Margaret Wallace, Mildred Dunbar, Elsie Robinson, Leah Fuller, Clela Jordan, Stella Lauff, Cora Russell, Mary Jane Fullerton, Mary Donaldson, Dorothy McCarty, Ruby Freeman, Wilma Grant, Lyda Cochran, Irene Lukan, Willa Dowler.

Construction — R. E. Dowler, Hugh Williamson, John Hallman, John Michalka, Paul Lamb, Seymour Davidson, Harry Gehrke, R. A. Dowler, Edmond Lefebvre, Charles Pierrard, James Parkinson, Clarence Parkinson.

Historical — Katherine Bebout, Mrs. Mary Donaldson, Mrs. Violet Davis, Mrs. Lescalette, Mrs. Esther Sawhill, Mr. and Mrs. James Campbell, Mrs. Annie Forester, Mrs. Lizzie Brown, Ann Hurd, Mrs. Sara (Tucker) Butler, Mrs. Anna McDowell, Mr. and Mrs. John Mitchell, Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Rohde, Edward Harley, James Martin, William Cummins, Merille Jones, Mr. and Mrs. John Kraeer, Sr.

Samuel Cochran, farmer and wool grower, settled in Midway in 1843.

Simon Cherry, farmer and stock raiser, native of Ohio, settled in Midway in 1841.

Maj. James Crawford, farmer and stock raiser, settled here in 1810.

Well-known figures in the early life and development in addition to those already mentioned were: William Campbell, father of Anna Campbell McClusky, well known for his ability in settling estates.

OLDEST LIVING RESIDENTS

MRS. ESTHER SAWHILL



Mrs. Esther Ann Sawhill, 94, is the oldest living resident of Midway. She was born in Dudley, England, February 5, 1859. At the age of 11 years she came to America with her parents, John and Mary Jones and other members of her family. The voyage from England to New York took three weeks. She is the last survivor of a family of three brothers and five sisters.

Mrs. Sawhill lived with her family at Elizabeth until her marriage to Franklin Clark Sawhill, January 2, 1876. In August 1877, Mr. and Mrs. Sawhill moved to Midway where she has since resided. She was the mother of ten children, six of whom are still living—four sons and two daughters. She has 14 grandchildren and 39 great-grandchildren and six great-great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Sawhill has been a member of the Methodist church for 70 years. She is frail of body but enjoys talking of the folk she remembers and of years gone by. She makes her home with her daughter, Mrs. Ida Harley.

Some of the other octogenarian residents of the borough are:

MRS. ANNIE McDOWELL

Mrs. Annie Eathorn McDowell, 90, was born September 15, 1862, in Cambon, Cornwall, England, a daughter of William and Mary Eathorn. She came to the United States at the age of five years and has been a resident here ever since.

She and Virgil McDowell were married April 25, 1882, in Midway by the Rev. J. B. Waddell. She had six children, four of whom are living. Mr. McDowell died August 15, 1931.

JAKE ANTEL

Jake Antel, 89, was born December 7, 1863, in Greene county and has been a resident of Midway since 1935. His wife died many years ago, in Greene county.

JACOB ROHDE

Jacob Rohde, 87, eldest son of the late Mr. and Mrs. Conrad Rohde, was born December 10, 1865, in Etna and came to Midway with his parents at the age of three years. He was a coal miner until his retirement 12 years ago. He and his wife, Katherine Elsenheimer Rohde, 79, were married February 18, 1892, and celebrated their 61st wedding anniversary this year. They are members of the Midway Baptist church.

Mr. and Mrs. Rohde have five daughters living and three sons and a daughter deceased.

MRS. JULIETTE GILLIS

Mrs. Juliette Gillis, 86, was born July 10, 1866, in Arsomant, Belgium, a daughter of Francis and Marie Doumont. She and Jules Gillis were married 68 years ago, July 10, in Belgium. They came to the United States 66 years ago, settling in Midway. Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Gillis, three of whom are living. Mr. Gillis died in 1942.

MRS. MARTHA JANE BRABSON

Mrs. Martha Jane Brabson, 86, was born in Pittsburgh, and has been a resident of Midway for the past 50 years. Her husband, Jesse Allan Brabson, died 18 years ago. They had seven children, five of whom are living.

MR. AND MRS. JOSEPH A. MATCHETT

Joseph A. Matchett, Sr., 85, was born May 14, 1867, in Findlay township, Allegheny county, a son of Samuel and Sara McBride Matchett.

Mrs. Blanche Strouss Matchett, 87, was born May 14, 1865, in Beaver county on part of what is now the Raccoon State Park, a daughter of Josiah and Ellen Strouss.

The Matchetts were married July 3, and plan to celebrate their 65th wedding anniversary this year. The wedding took place in Moon, near the site of the Greater Pittsburgh Airport.

Five children were born to Mr. and Mrs. Matchett. Three sons are living and two daughters are deceased.

MR. AND MRS. JOHN MITCHELL

John Mitchell, 83, was born April 12, 1870, at Quincetown, Armstrong county.

Maude Rupert Mitchell, 85, was born April 22, 1868, at Quincetown, and they were married in June of 1893. They came to Midway in 1905, and have resided here since. They have three living children.

MRS. ELIZABETH BROWN



Mrs. Elizabeth Brown, 84, was born April 14, 1869, in Midway in the house presently occupied by the William Davis family, on the Burgettstown road.

She and John Eathorn were married October 14, 1892. Mr. Eathorn died in 1895. She and George J. Brown were married August 10, 1904, and Mr. Brown died in 1927. They had two children, both of whom are living. She resides with her daughter, Mrs. Hitchcock, on Dickson street.

MRS. ANNETTE YOLTON

Mrs. Annette Yolton, 83, was born February 8, 1869, in the village of Candor, a daughter of Milo and Mary Margaret Woodburn Morrison. She and David Kerr Yolton were married in Candor by Dr. J. M. Kerr, who, for many years was pastor of the Raccoon Presbyterian church. They came to Midway about 40 years ago. Mr. and Mrs. Yolton had three children, two of whom are living. Mr. Yolton died in 1923.

MRS. CLOVIS CANONGE

Mrs. Clovis Canonge, 83, was born June 11, 1868, in France and came to the United States 64 years ago. She is a daughter of the late Emile and Madaline Playton. She and Clovis Canonge were married in 1887 in France. Mr. Canonge died February 7, 1929. They had ten children, nine of whom are living.

MRS. VIOLET DAVIS

Mrs. Violet Davis, 82, was born July 3, 1870, in Midway, in a log cabin near where the old Lepro barn now stands. She was a daughter of Luke and Anna Elizabeth Wade. Mrs. Davis has lived in Midway since her birth and has resided in her present home since she was two years of age. She and Isaac Davis were married August 20, 1891. They had six children, all of whom are living. Mr. Davis died January 16, 1934.

WILLIAM CUMMINS

William Cummins, 80, was born February 10, 1873, in Mt. Pleasant township, near Woodrow. He was a blacksmith all his life, having learned the trade when a boy. He still maintains a blacksmith shop, where he builds wagons and shoes horses for nearby farmers. He has resided in Midway for 50 years.

He and Mrs. Cummins had five children, three of whom are living. Mrs. Cummins died June 27, 1940.

GEORGE J. THOMAS

George J. Thomas, 81, was born August 21, 1871, in Hubbard, Ohio. He and Jennie Haley were married July 12, 1909, in Midway. Mr. Thomas has been a resident of Midway since 1908. Prior to his retirement, he was employed as a fire boss in the mines of this area.

MRS. ANNIE FORESTER

Mrs. Annie Lepro Forester, 82, was born September 8, 1870, in Midway. She was born, married, and her children were all born in the same house where she has lived since birth except a short period when the family lived in Indiana. She is a daughter of the late John and Rose Lepro.

She and Hubert C. Forester were married June 11, 1896, in Midway and five children were born to this union, three of whom are living. Mr. Forester died January 28, 1938.

MRS. BERTHA FULLERTON

Mrs. Bertha Swearingen Fullerton, 80, was born November 22, 1872, in Beaver county, near Frankfort Springs, a daughter of Rezin W. and Mary Connell Swearingen. She and Henry Fullerton were married in 1890, in Cumberland, Md. They had four children, three of whom are living. The youngest son, Lloyd, was killed during World War II.

The Fullertons came to Midway in 1922 and operated a hotel for seven years. Mr. Fullerton died in July of 1950.

Couples Married Over 50 Years

Among Midway's oldest residents are a number of couples who have already celebrated their Golden Wedding anniversaries. They are:

Mr. and Mrs. Jacob Rohde, who were married February 18, 1892; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph A. Matchett, Sr., who were married July 3, 1887; Mr. and Mrs. John Kraeer, Sr., who were married October 3, 1895; Mr. and Mrs. Edward F. Harley, who were married May 15, 1899; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Brimmer, who were married December 28, 1898; Mr. and Mrs. James Campbell, who were married June 2, 1897; Mr. and Mrs. John Mitchell, who were married in June, 1893, and Mr. and Mrs. Charles Bish, who were married December 14, 1896.



E. M. Mitchell, 16, in his 1907 Model N Ford, taken June 12, 1912, in St. Johns street. The car formerly belonged to Dr. Moore, who bought a new Model T Ford.

MR. AND MRS. T. C. McLAUGHLIN



T. C. McLaughlin served as postmaster from May 16, 1911 until May 29, 1915. George Powelson served from May 29, 1915 to November 1, 1918, and Thomas McLaughlin again served from November 1, 1918 until August 1919. Mrs. Thomas C. (Tillie) McLaughlin became postmaster August 19, 1919, and served until April 1, 1925.



During the time Mrs. McLaughlin was postmaster, Mrs. Rebecca Campbell served as clerk from 1920 until 1925, when she became postmaster and served until April 1, 1947.

Mrs. A. J. Robinson was acting postmaster until August 9, 1948, when Victor Lescovitz, the present postmaster, became active.

WILLIAM T. KERR



William T. Kerr, well known for his being the founder of National Flag Day, was secretary of the first Midway Borough Council, and served until October, 1904. At present he is a resident of Philadelphia.

According to a recent letter from his son, W. R. Kerr, his father is quite feeble but recalls the early days when he lived in Midway and was active in civic affairs.



Howard Brabson (driving) and Hugh Williamson as they enjoyed a spin at the Burgettstown Fair in 1917.

THE DONALDSON FAMILY

The records of this family are similar to that of any other family during the period of immigration—1770 to 1800.

The original Donaldson pioneers purchased a tract of 440 acres of land near Ft. Beelor in Robinson township in 1779. They were Thomas Donaldson and his wife Jean Thomas Donaldson, who were married in England and then came to Philadelphia. They and their children, John, Richard, Margaret, and James, came from Philadelphia in a stage coach.

Richard never married. He was a veteran of the Revolutionary War and later was Major General of the Militia of Pennsylvania. John and Margaret never married and spent their entire lives on the home farm, which grew from the original 440 acres to about 1000 acres. James married Catherine Richey of near Cross Creek and they built the home on the farm known as the Shaffer farm in 1825. The house is still standing and the farm is owned by Mrs. Mary Donaldson. In 1850 James Donaldson served in the State Legislature, traveling to and from Harrisburg by stage coach and canal boat.

They had seven children. Their son Richard married Agnes Wilson and they built the home on the Candor road now owned and occupied by Mrs. R. M. Don-

aldson, in 1885. Their only son, Richard, died at the age of five years and their only daughter is Mrs. R. M. Donaldson. She married R. M. Donaldson of the Steubenville Pike. Mr. Donaldson was an active member and elder in the Center U. P. church and was the first cashier of the Midway National Bank. He died in 1940. Their only daughter is Mrs. Harry Headley of Emsworth.

THE DICKSON FAMILY

William A. Dickson was born June 5, 1831, in Allegheny county, a son of William and Margaret Glenn Dickson. He grew to manhood on the home farm, and graduated from Duff's Commercial College, Pittsburgh in 1856. He and Elizabeth McBurney were married October 15, 1857. In 1875 he moved his family to a farm in Robinson township, near Midway. He served for several years as an elder in the Center U. P. church.

His son, Robert M. Dickson, married Ina Andrews of Burgettstown and shortly afterwards built the home on Prospect street now the Loraski property.

They were the parents of Elizabeth, the wife of Florian Ewing of Kentucky, William of Midway, and Robert of Houston.



The above picture was taken on Dickson street at the time the new sidewalk was being built. Martha Taylor is standing in the wagon and the horse is being held by James McFarland.

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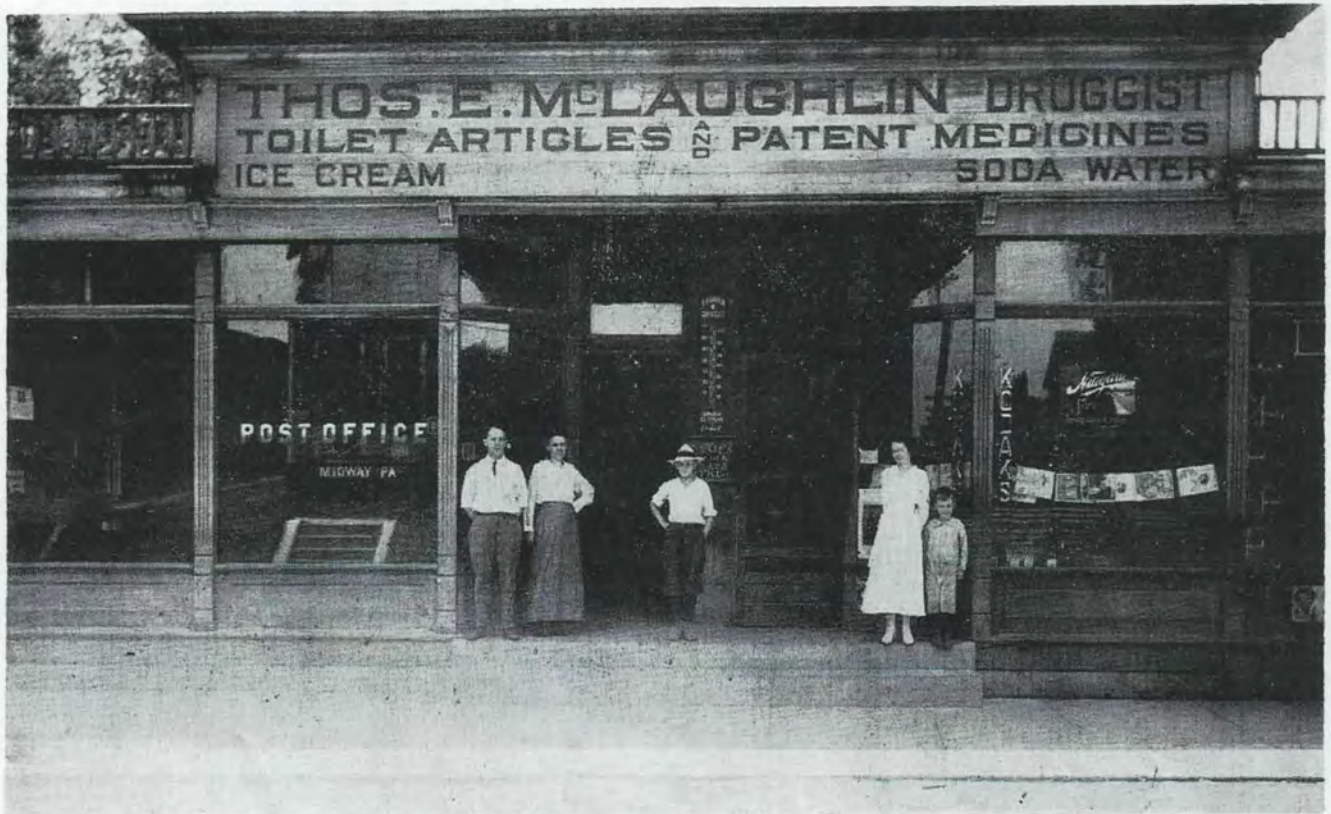
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Midway Postoffice during the term of Thomas McLaughlin as Postmaster. The office stood on the lot on which the John Hallman home now stands.

Rei Bible Class of the Center U. P. Church



Back row (left to right)—Mrs. John George, William Powelson, William Sherwood, George Strain, (unknown), R. M. Dickson. Second row—Mrs. Strain, Mrs. William Barbour, Mrs. R. M. Dickson, Mrs. John Barton, Thomas Weaver. First row—Mrs. Sherwood, Mrs. A. J. Rainey, Mrs. James Wallace, Miss Vine Sprung and Mrs. Robert Dowler.

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McDONALD, PA.

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"In McDonald Over $\frac{1}{3}$ Century"

Phone, McDonald 7411 or 2100

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Compliments of
**Imperial and Ideal
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328 East Lincoln Avenue
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Compliments of
E. B. VEZIE

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Always Good Music
Steak and Chicken Dinners
Beer — Wine — Liquors

Noblestown Road
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CONGRATULATIONS

from

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Compliments of

Midway

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Established 1867

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215 Railroad Street

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Phone, Midway 131

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Phone, Midway 160

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Fresh Meats and Groceries

MIDWAY, PA.

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Compliments of

SHADY LANE

Phone, Midway 173-r-2

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Phone, Midway 9064

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BULGER, PA.

Compliments of

TULLIO'S TAVERN

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Open 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
for wash and grease jobs

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C. C. Osburn, Ph.G.

100 South McDonald Street
McDONALD, PA.

McDONALD RADIO CO.

"The General-Electric Store"

Compliments of
David L. Williams Agency

West Lincoln Avenue
McDONALD, PA.

SHOP
Petrucci's Super Market

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"You'll Be Glad You Did"

Compliments of
LINN BROS.
Lumber and Builders' Supplies
DeVoe Paints and Varnishes
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Phone, Burgettstown 9542

Compliments of
**Burgettstown Post 698
American Legion**

ANNUAL STREET FAIR
June 22 - 27, Inclusive

Compliments of
Burgettstown Enterprise

BURGETTSTOWN, PA.

Compliments of
PENN ELECTRIC CO.
Frigidaire Dealer
McDONALD, PA.

Compliments of
Bob Giles Barber Shop
McDONALD, PA.

Compliments of
AMON HARDWARE CO.
McDonald's Oldest Reliable Hardware
116 South McDonald Street
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Phone, McDonald 3631

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McDONALD, PA.
Phone, McDonald 2143

Compliments of
MASQUELIER'S SERVICE
F O R D
McDONALD, PA.

Compliments of
REFOSCO & PLETERSEK
YOUR AMOCO DEALER
357 East Lincoln Avenue
McDONALD, PA.
Phone, McDonald 2151

Compliments of
Mr. and Mrs. Guy V. Ida
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Compliments of
KIO'S BAR
139 South McDonald Street
McDONALD, PA.

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KRAEER'S GROCERY

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Phone, Midway 28

DICKSON'S
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McDONALD, PA.

Compliments of
Dot and Syl's Restaurant
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Phone, Midway 9069

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CAMPBELL BROS.

AMOCO SERVICE
Tires — Tubes — Accessories
Railroad Street
MIDWAY, PA.
Phone, Midway 50

Compliments of
Pete's Barber Shop

MIDWAY, PA.

Compliments of
JIM BEATTY

Compliments of
A FRIEND

Compliments of
CARL'S GROCERY

CONGRATULATIONS

to

Midway Borough

from

The First National Bank

McDonald, Pa.

THE FOLLOWING FIGURES SHOW THE GROWTH OF THIS BANK
DURING THE PAST FIFTY YEARS

	1903	1953
Total Deposits	\$526,711.00	\$5,852,807.06
Total Resources	709,752.65	6,377,520.91
Capital, Surplus, Undivided Profits, and Reserves	167,848.31	485,845.85

Member Federal Reserve System

Member Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation