

Brimfield

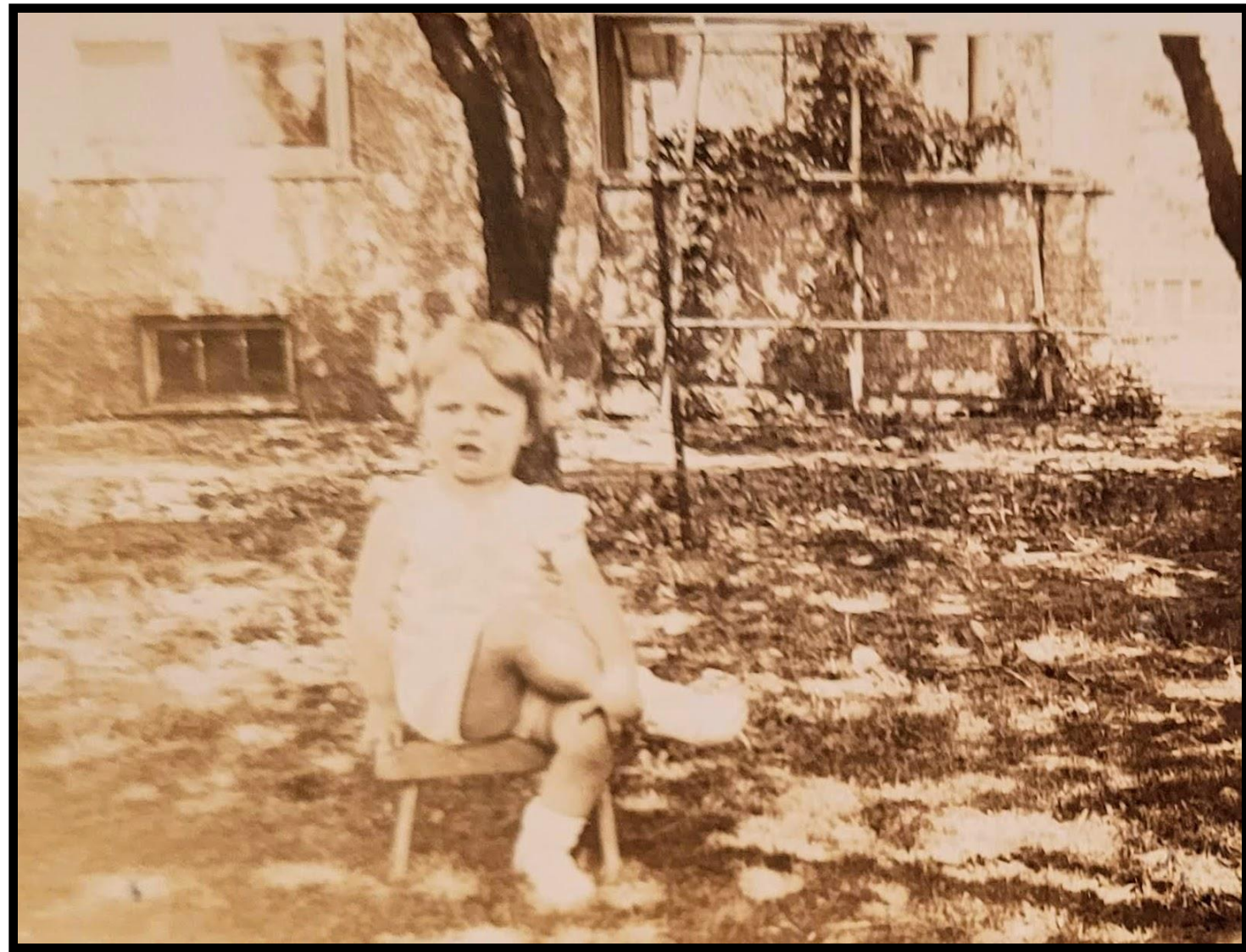
Oral

History

Project



**Beverly England Hopkins
Interviewed 16 March 2023**



Beverly Oct 1933 14 months
Parents: Charles & Lucylle Stevenson
England



1934 Beverly on red chair
from Aunt Lorayne in Victoria,
IL (above and top left)



Photos courtesy of Beverly Hopkins



1948 photo of Beverly England, Abington High School Graduation, just before she reached 16 years of age.

4

575303 AZ

OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
OFFICE OF PRICE ADMINISTRATION

WAR RATION BOOK FOUR

Issued to Beverly R England
(Print first, middle, and last names)

Complete address R R Abington, Illinois

READ BEFORE SIGNING

In accepting this book, I recognize that it remains the property of the United States Government. I will use it only in the manner and for the purposes authorized by the Office of Price Administration.

Void if Altered _____ (Signature)

It is a criminal offense to violate rationing regulations.

OFA Form B-145 16-3557

Photos courtesy of Beverly Hopkins



Beverly England attended SIU Carbondale and met her future husband there. Jimmie Hopkins took this college portrait to Korea.



Beverly England and Jimmie Hopkins marry. August 1952 Abingdon, IL

November, 1952: Jimmie is drafted into army and served in the Korean War.



Hopkins family moved to Brimfield 1961

—X—

Jimmie and Beverly England Hopkins are fairly newcomers to Brimfield. They have lived here for almost two years now. They formerly lived north of Mossville near the Illinois river. Their home towns were Mt Vernon and Abingdon.

The Hopkinses have been married 11 years and have four children. Mark is seven, Paul is five, Karen is three and Janet is one and a half

Mr. Hopkins is employed as an engineer by a heating contractor firm in Peoria. He enjoys fishing and working in his home work shop in spare time. Mrs. Hopkins is a homemaker and enjoys knitting



Union Church Elects Officers At Annual Meeting Jan. 19

The annual meeting of the Union church was held January 19.

The following persons were elected church clerk, Jackie Clark; financial secretary, Henrietta Mosier; treasurer, June Wasson; church school superintendent, Shirlee Keithley; deacons and deaconesses, Mel Burrows, Gerald Higgs, Harley Jones and Bernadine Tucker, continuing in office. Mildred Bostic (73), Virginia McLouth (73), Joe Helms (73), Betty Pacey (74), Jim Hopkins (74), and Mary L. Jensen (74)

Trustees, Roland Hasselbacher, Frank Clark, and Bob Pacey, continuing in office. Don Doering (73), Harley Jones (73), Owen Summer-son (73), Ray Ekhoft (74), Ralph Kingdon (74), E. W. Staley (74), church council members at large, John L. Johnson Jr., James Humphrey, Donna King, and Patricia Lint, education committee, Elna Elmer.

Page 5 of The Princeville Telephone, published in Princeville, Illinois on Thursday, February 6th, 1975

obtained online brimfield.advantage-preservation.com

Brimfield Community Involvement

Women's Association of the Union Church (1969)
Cub Scouts/Boy Scouts
Union Church Deacon
Brimfield Sanitary District Clerk
Ballot for Village Trustee

SPECIMEN OF THE BALLOT
To Be Voted At An Election To Be Held In The Village Of Brimfield
Peoria County, Illinois, On
TUESDAY, APRIL 15, 1969
Polling Place: Brimfield Village Hall
Polls Open From 6 A.M. To 6 P.M.

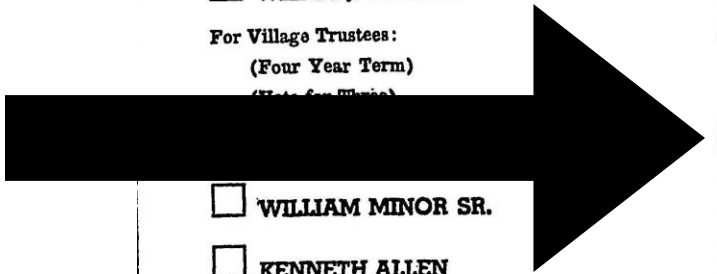
Ed Miller

PROGRESSIVE

- For Village President:
(Four Year Term)
 THOMAS L. MAHER, SR.
- For Village Clerk:
(Four Year Term)
 WILMA J. YOUNG
- For Village Trustees:
(Four Year Term)
(Vote for Three)
 WILLIAM MINOR SR.
 KENNETH ALLEN
- For Directors of Brimfield Library:
(Six Year Term)
(Vote for Three)
 JANA-MAY MINOR
 JUDY A. MAHER
 CHARLOTTE E. FLETCHER

INDEPENDENT

- For Village President:
(Four Year Term)
 NYAL T. CECIL
- For Village Clerk:
(Four Year Term)
 EDWARD E. DUFFY
- For Village Trustees:
(Four Year Term)
(Vote for Three)
 JIMMIE D. HOPKINS
 ROLLAND E. HASSELBACHER
 ROBERT EARL JARM
- For Directors of Brimfield Library:
(Six Year Term)
(Vote for Three)
 CECIL F. JONES
 NANCY R. DUFFY



Page 5 of The Princeville Telephone, published in Princeville, Illinois on Thursday, April 10th, 1969 obtained online brimfield.advantage-preservation.com

Cub Scouts Have First Pack Meet

Cub Scouts Pack 153 held its first pack meeting last Thursday evening. Those receiving their Bobcat pins were Edward Duffy, Joe Boseke, Chris Persefield, Charles Wood, Stephen Shipley Mark Hopkins, Richard Reinhart, Bradley Sloan, Chris Arnold, Jerry Camp, Stephen Short, Russell Tucker, Timothy Tucker, William Pacey, David Engelke, Bruce Wagner, and Gary Baxter.

Those absent were Lawrence Oppé, Thomas Oppé, and William Binuer

The charter was also presented to the troop. The committee's and the leaders were introduced. Rev. Stuckey, institutional head of sponsoring the organization; Daryl Camp, institutional representatives of sponsoring organization, Al Arnold, pack committee chairman, Jim Hopkins, pack treasurer; Nancy Duffy, pack secretary, Don Doering, Jerry Baxter, and Ed Duffy, committeemen; Bob Shipley, cub master; Bob Jarm, assistant Cub master, Mary Ann Jarm, Carol Arnold, Helen Ward, Elaine Baxter, Jean Coan, Wilma Shipley and Beverly Hopkins, den mothers, Bob Krause Mike Doering and Joe Gilling, den chiefs.

Mr Schott and son Robert of Peoria called on Mr and Mrs Grady Fish in the Pacey home last Thursday. Mrs. Irene Gibson of Elmwood and Mrs. Russell Deal of Trivola called on Mrs Grady Fish last week. The girls were classmates in Brimfield high school.

Page 5 of The Princeville Telephone, published in Princeville, Illinois on Thursday, June 24th, 1965 retrieved online brimfield.advantage-preservation.com

CHAPTER 4 - ORDINANCE IN FORCE

This Ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval and publication as provided by law.

PASSED by the BRIMFIELD SANITARY DISTRICT, Peoria County, Illinois, this 5th day of August, 1976

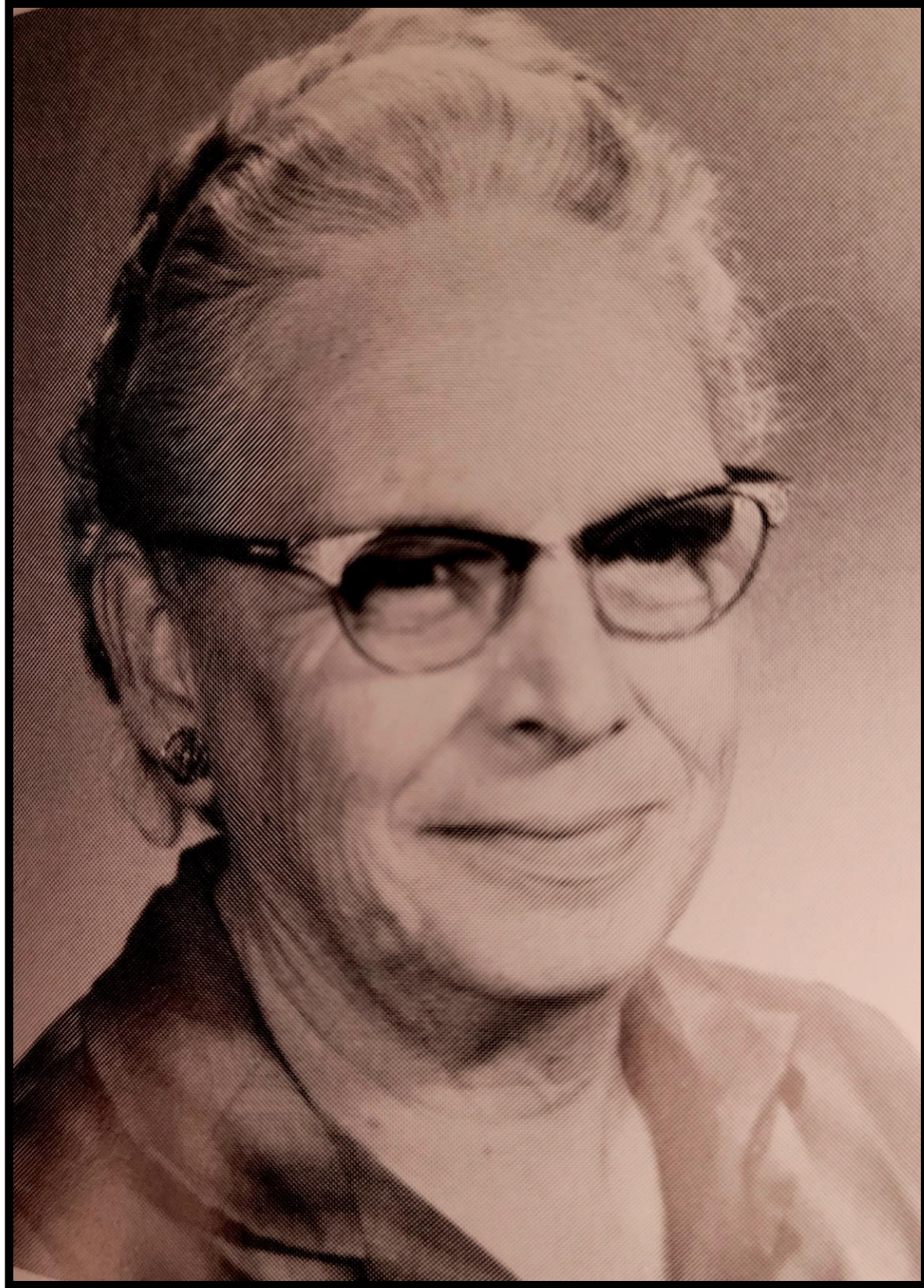
THE BRIMFIELD SANITARY DISTRICT
By: Charles W. Whitmore
Its President

ATTEST
Jimmie D Hopkins
Its Clerk

Passed August 5, 1976
Signed and Approved, August 5, 1976
Recorded August 5, 1976
Published, August 19, 1976

YEA Hopkins, Whitmore, Friling
NAY None

Page 9 of The Telephone, published in Princeville, Illinois on Thursday, August 19th, 1976, retrieved online brimfield.advantage-preservation.com



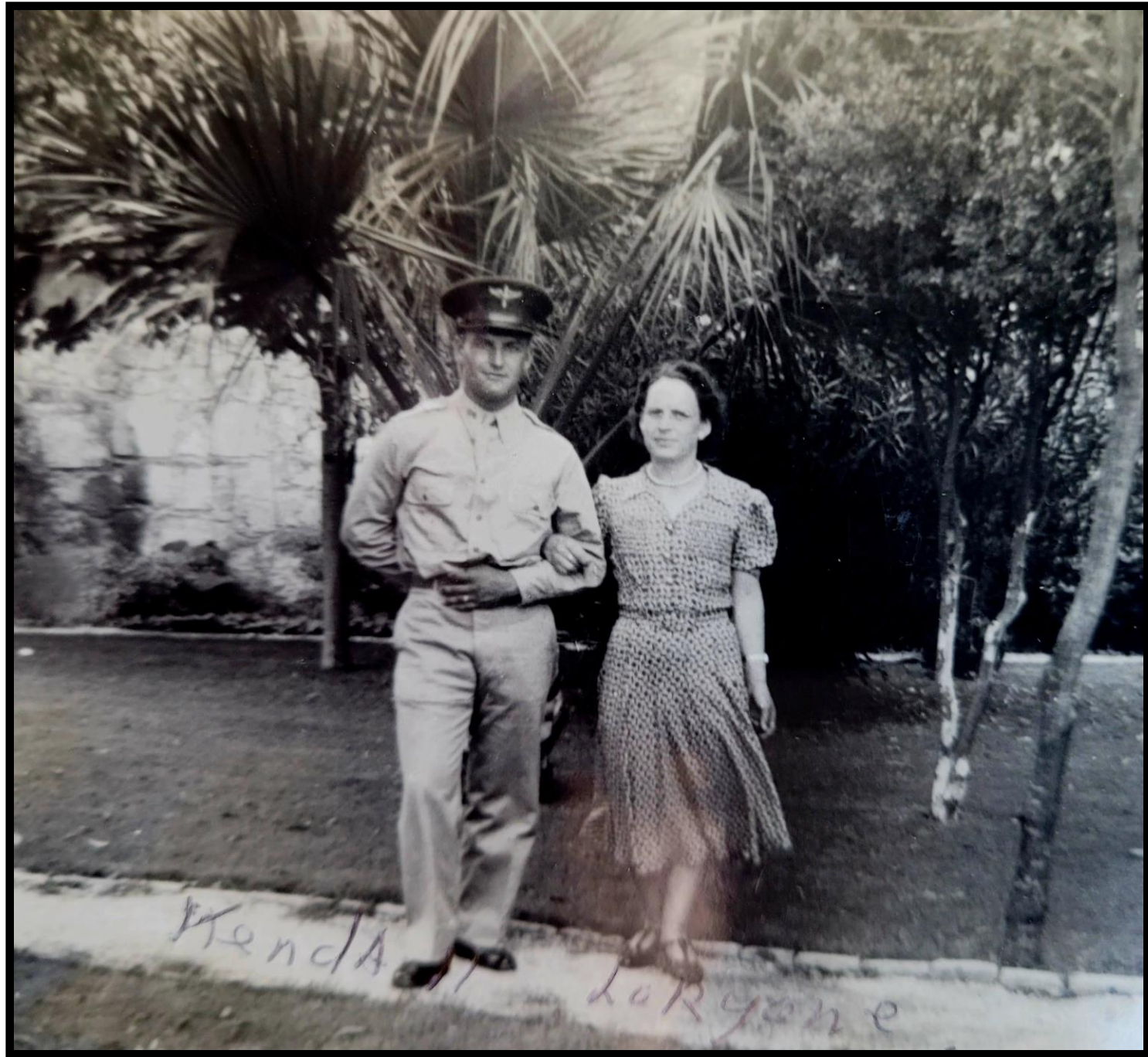
1956 yearbook Spectator Ms
Stevenson, 3rd grade
Probably her 2nd year of teaching.

1973 yearbook Chieftain
Last year teaching before retirement

Ms. Lorayne Stevenson
Graduate of Williamsfield High School
Teacher at Brimfield Grade School
1955-1973
Usually third grade

1964 Chieftain
yearbook. WIU, B.S.;
Iowa State Teacher's
College, Iowa State
Agriculture College,
Drake University 3rd, 4th
grades. Found at
Brimfield Public Library





Top Left: Kendall and Lorayne Stevenson (siblings) in TX c. 1942. Kendall was killed in a training exercise 3 months after this photo. Lorayne worked for Douglas Aircraft in California during the war. Center: Lorayne in work clothes. Bottom right: Lorayne loved to read. c 1942
Photo courtesy of Beverly Hopkins



Douglas C-47 WW2 Museum website Douglas Aircraft, California

Where did Ms. Stevenson live in Brimfield?

-Rented an upstairs apartment in house north of grade school,
2nd house from west

(Doerings lived there, many other families had lived there including the Minor family)
(Torn down now;

-Rented house across street, northwest corner of grade school
233 N. Madison

-Purchased 212 E. Clay Street



212 E. Clay
Photo from Brimfield Area
Historical Society found at
Brimfield Public Library



233 N. Madison
Photo courtesy of Brimfield
Area Historical Society
Found at Brimfield Public Library



“Mrs. Hindle’s house” on Clinton Street across from the grade school.
Now torn down. Rented by several families including Doerings, Mahers (Mart), and Minors.
The look of the house changed over time.

Photos from Brimfield Area Historical Society

Where did the Hopkins family live in Brimfield?

1st house: 333 N Galena,
Large historic home
Beverly's dad Mr. Charlie England
and his grandchildren
Mark, Karen, Paul, Janet Hopkins



Photo courtesy of Beverly Hopkins

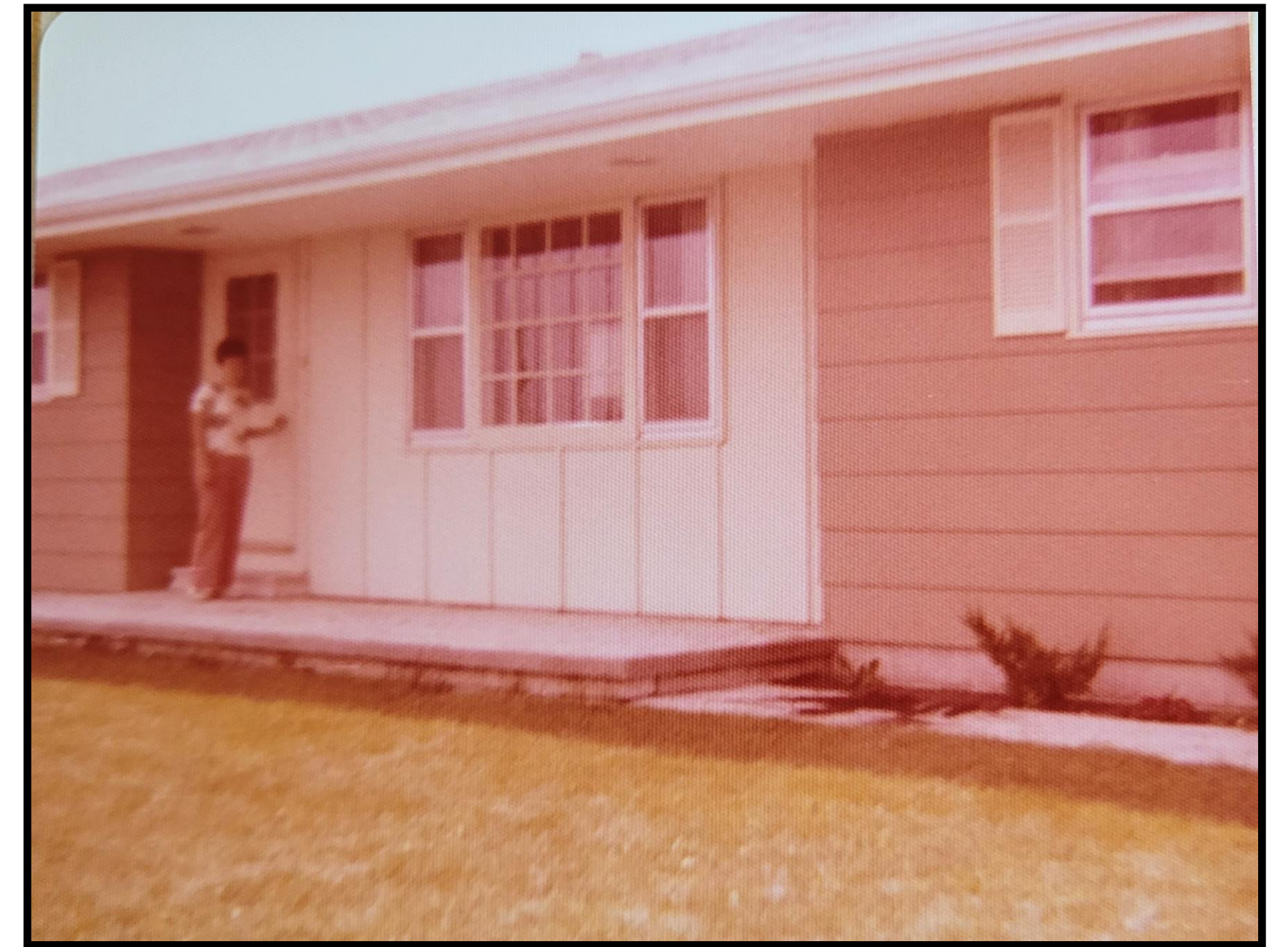


333 N. Galena Avenue
Photo from Brimfield Area Historical Society
Found at Brimfield Public Library

2nd house: 108 E. Illinois, built by Jimmie and Beverly Hopkins



Photo taken by Kim February 2023



Beverly in front of house, summer 1976.
Photo courtesy of Beverly Hopkins

3rd house in the country
13206 N. Brimfield Cemetery Rd
Tornado 1998





Taken Fall 1998 with a note on the back "almost done"
Referring to repairs after the tornado
From south side of house
Photo courtesy of Beverly Hopkins



13206 N. Brimfield Cemetery Road
Taken from the road (front of house)
Photo taken by Kim February 2023

4th house in Brimfield



318 N. Knoxville
Photo by Kim taken 2023



1967 5th grade, Brimfield Chieftain,
found at Brimfield Public Library

Mrs. Hopkins, Brimfield teacher
1966-1994

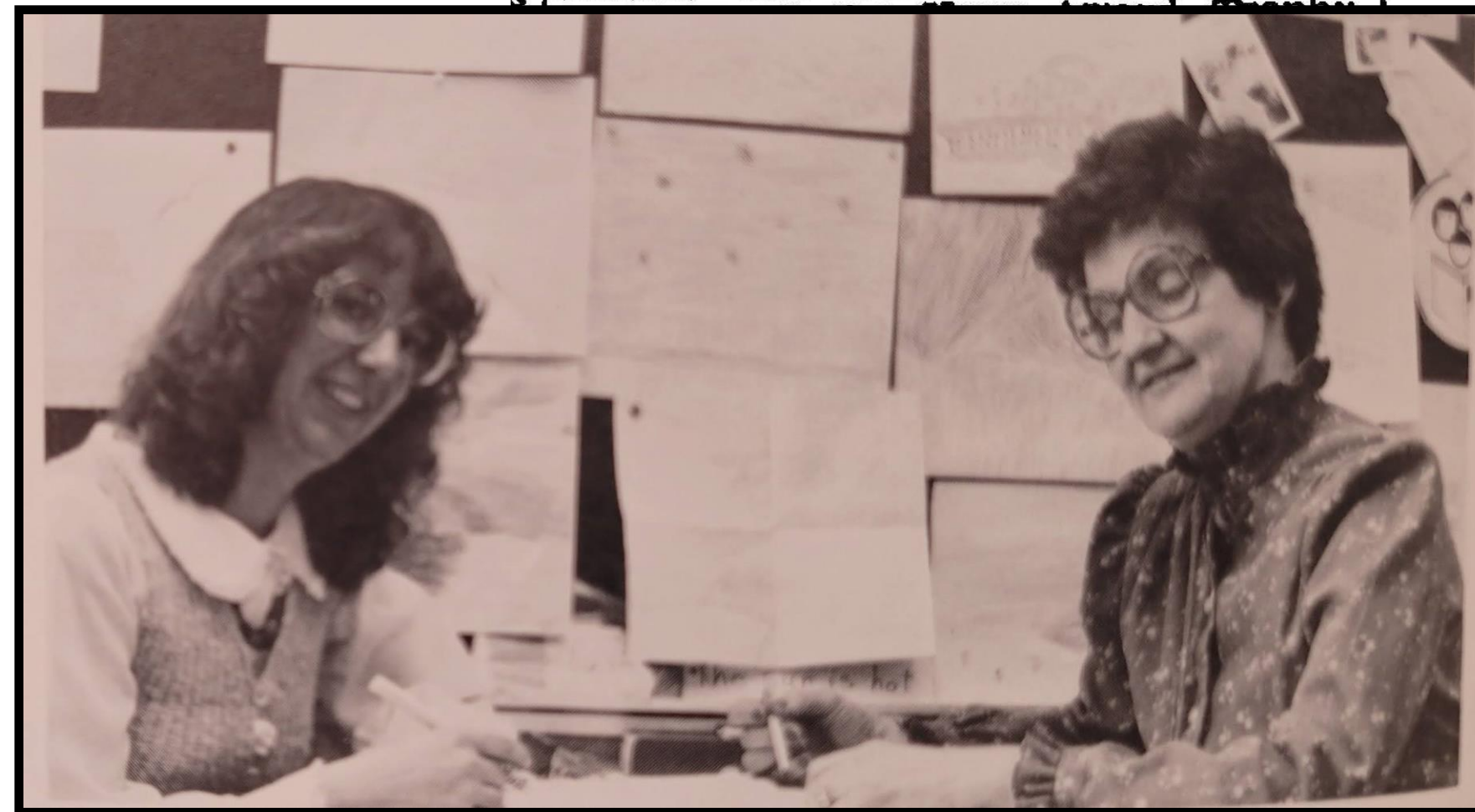
Two Are Selected As Outstanding Grade Teachers

Beverly Hopkins and May Flickinger have been chosen Outstanding Elementary Teachers of America for 1973. Nominated by their principals earlier this year, they were selected for this honor on the basis of their professional and civic achievements.

Outstanding Elementary Teachers of America is an annual awards program honoring distinguished men and women for their exceptional services, achievements and leadership in the field of elementary education. Each year, the biographies of those honored are featured in the awards volume, Outstanding Elementary Teachers of America.

These educators are now eligible to receive the Outstanding Elementary

Page 3 of The Princeville Telephone, published in Princeville, Illinois on Thursday, May 24th, 1973, retrieved online brimfield.advantage-preservation.com



Holly More and Beverly Hopkins
1983 Chieftain yearbook Found at Brimfield Public Library



1993 Chieftain yearbook
found at Brimfield Public Library

“Mrs. Hopkins is teaching fifth grade. She comes from Abingdon, Illinois, where she was graduated from high school. She received her diploma at Southern Illinois University. Previously she has done only substitute work, teaching English II and IV and Speech here second semester of 1964-65. Mrs. Hopkins is a local housewife and mother of four children.”

Page 3 of The Princeville Telephone, published in Princeville, Illinois on Thursday, September 15th, 1966 retrieved online brimfield.advantage-preservation.com

Mrs. Hopkins' Sixth Grade Seeks Million Bottle Caps, Tabs

Our class has fifteen boys and only eight girls. We have a busy schedule studying arithmetic, science, spelling, reading, English, and social studies. Mrs. Hopkins teaches both sections of science and English while Mrs. Cluskey teaches arithmetic and social studies to both groups.

In science we have investigated the field of chemistry and learned how a plant makes food. At present we are studying prehistoric life. Our fossil display is growing rapidly. In addition we are reading from many sources to learn more about this subject. In order to discover how a scientist in this field works, we plan to try reassembling chicken bones.

The whole sixth grade is planning a field trip to the Peoria Journal Star Friday. This is in connection with our reading class where we have been studying about the invention of printing and the importance of this discovery to our lives.

One continuing project is an effort to discover the meaning of 1,000,000. We are collecting bottle caps and pull tabs from soft drink cans. In spite of the best efforts of both classes we have only 21,000 now. At least we are beginning to get some idea how far away a million really is. We'll report on this project from time to time as the year progresses.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS AT

\$17.50 PER DAY

Audrey Arnold

Mary Best

Beverly Hopkins

Kathryn Linn

Darlene Nauman

Kenneth Stuckey

Bernadine Tucker

All Other Salaried Personnel:

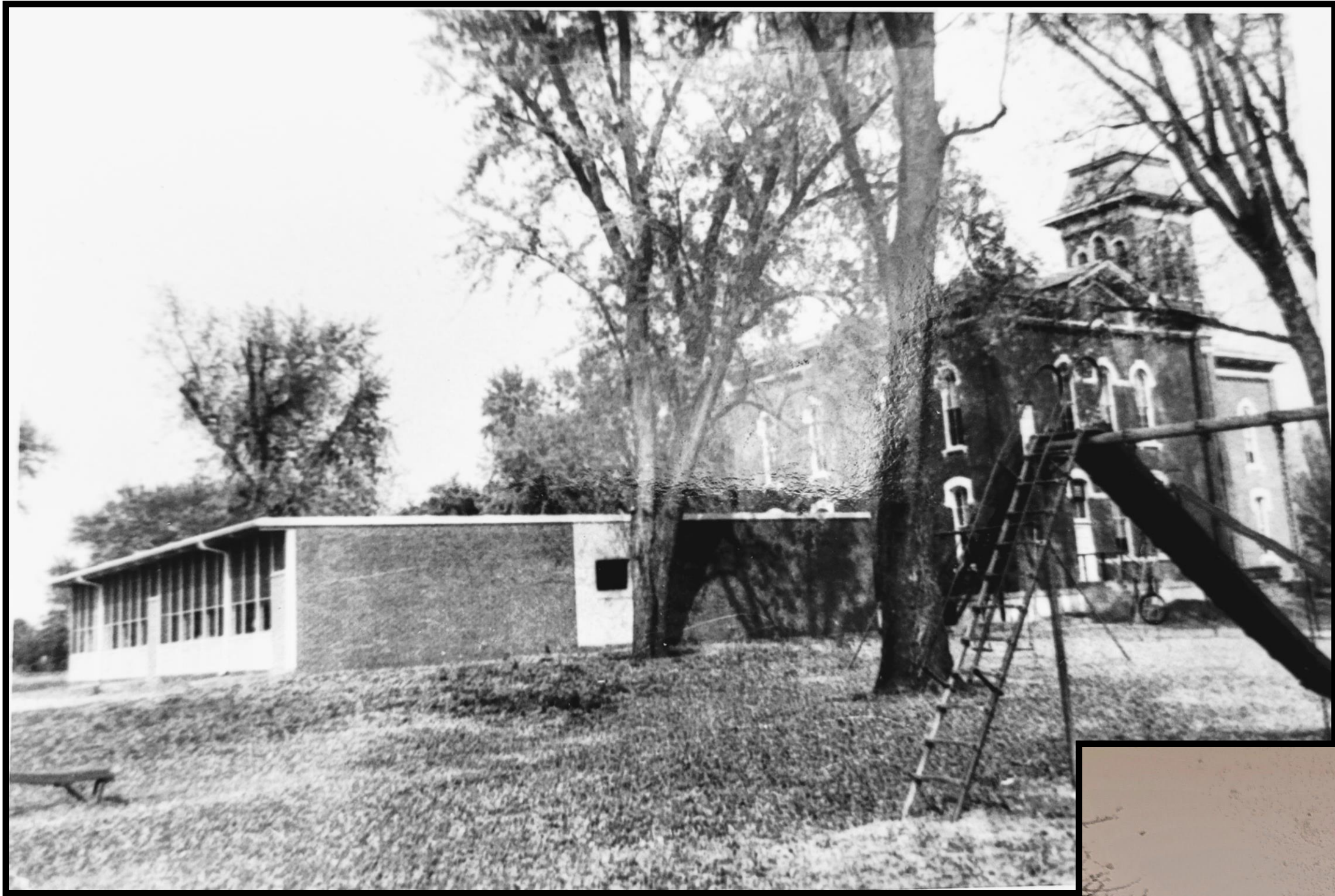
Page 4 of The Princeville Telephone, published in Princeville, Illinois on Thursday, November 18th, 1965.. Retrieved onlinebrimfield.advantage-preservation.com

Mrs. Hopkins Room

With all the excitement over the latest moon trip we have found our present study of astronomy and space very interesting. We held joint sessions of two sixth grade classes to watch the moon walk Friday morning. Since then we have even attempted to write science fiction stories about moon exploration or living in the future, but found our imaginations to be a little earthbound after all.

Page 5 of The Princeville Telephone, published in Princeville, Illinois on Thursday, February 18th, 1971, retrieved online brimfield.advantage-preservation.com

Page 5 of The Princeville Telephone, published in Princeville, Illinois on Thursday, November 12th, 1970, retrieved online brimfield.advantage-preservation.com



Brimfield old grade school in background.
New building west elementary wing built 1956
Circa 1956-1960

Photos courtesy of Brimfield Area Historical Society

Brimfield Grade School Building Changes



Mr. Jensen Welcomes All To Open House

A public school is an "Open House" at all times of the year. We welcome parents and friends of education to visit at any time. By closer cooperation of teacher and the home a better education will be provided for the student. During National Education Week we especially invited everyone to see our school buildings and to meet the staff that operates them.

The Brimfield area has had many changes in educational opportunities in the past year. Our school district has become a member of the Peoria County Special Education Association. This organization is planned to enable a school to give a better education to those students who have special needs which cannot be provided in Brimfield. We are also now a part of the new junior college district. For students who desire education beyond the high school, there will be much better opportunities than have ever been available.

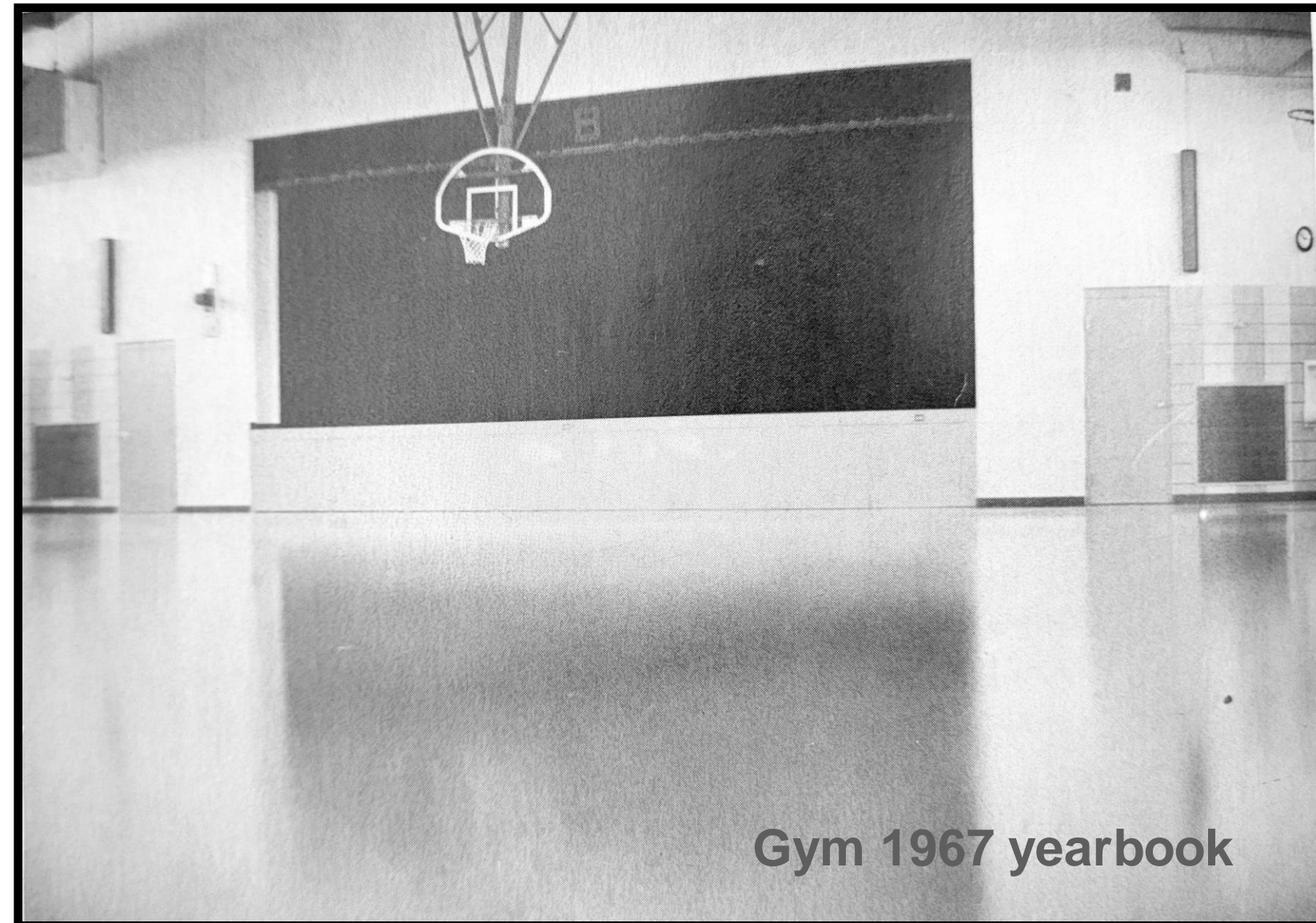
In the Brimfield schools many new facilities for the improvement of education have been added. There are three new class rooms in the school. New physical education shower rooms and locker rooms have been added. In the science laboratory new equipment and supplies will make our science department much better.

We hope to see you at Open House!

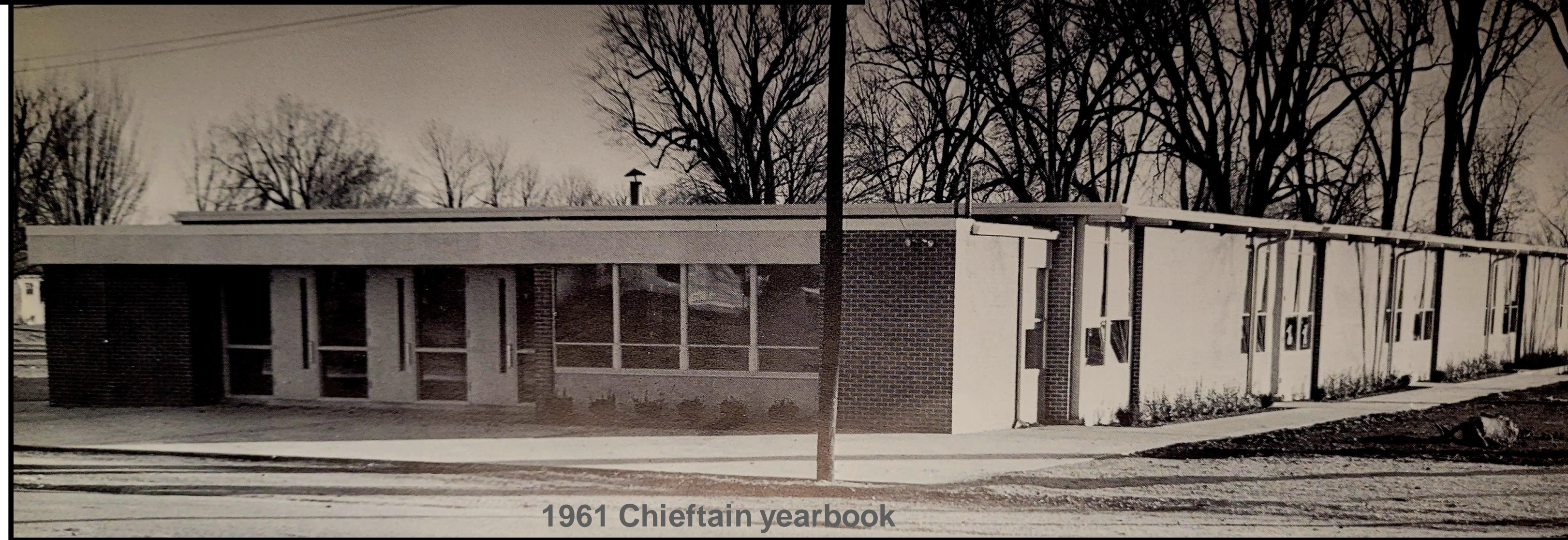
1968 yearbook



Brimfield Grade School



Gym 1967 yearbook



1961 Chieftain yearbook

Brimfield Heating & Air Conditioning Jim Hopkins

BEST WISHES
And good luck,
Here's hoping you'll
continue to do well.

Wishes

1967



**Brimfield
Heating & Air
Conditioning**
Jim Hopkins, Prop.

Page 8 of The Princeville Telephone, published in Princeville, Illinois on Thursday, May 25th, 1967, retrieved online brimfield.advantage-preservation.com

B-J Coin Wash Moves To New Location Here

The B-J Coin Wash in Brimfield, owned and operated by Mr and Mrs. Jim Hopkins, moved to a new location last week end They are now operating across the street from the bank. This new and modern facility, when completed, will be one of the largest such stores in our area outside Peoria There will be 28 regular size washers, 2-25 lb. washers, and 12 dryers. In addition to the laundry equipment, a new service is being added. Two coin-operated dry cleaning machines are being installed along with an automatic steam cabinet for finishing of dry-cleaned clothes. These will be in operation soon, probably within two weeks.

The new store is spacious and bright, completely panelled throughout with cheerful flower accent trim All new lighting has been installed Carpeting will be added in the near future. The store is air-cooled for summer comfort. Off-street parking will be provided at the side of the store with a side door for easy access.

Mrs. Barb Wyman, Mrs. Dorothy Lehman, and Mrs. Verna Johnson have been employed as attendants. One of these people will be on duty at all times.

The Coin Wash is in the building known as the Central Transfer building, which was purchased by Mr. and Mrs Hopkins and has been divided into several interesting businesses. There is a lady barber on one side and a man hairstylist on the opposite side Mrs. Helen Miller operates the barber shop on the north east corner of the building and across the hall is the B-Gay Beauty Shop owned and operated by Bessie Thomas, where Fred Miller is employed. In the office to the rear of the building are two young attorneys at Law, Cordis & Courson. The Coin Wash takes up the west side of the building.

B-J Coin Wash Jimmie & Beverly Hopkins

First location (below): Old Post Office



Left article. Page 5 of The Princeville Telephone, published in Princeville, Illinois on Thursday, May 25th, 1972, retrieved online brimfield.advantage-preservation.com
Photo above Brimfield Area Historical Society



The location of B J Coin Wash
 On Knoxville Street
 Photo to left shows the building
 when Central Transfer was there.

Knoxville Avenue, Brimfield, Ill.

Historical view of businesses
 on south side Rt 150
 Year unknown but Central Transfer
 in this building

Photo courtesy of Mrs. Charolette Fletcher

118 East Knoxville
 Photos taken February 2023 by Kim
 20

