



INTERVIEWS

Sophomore Interviews of
People Growing Up
1945-1970.

Interview With Kathie Albring
by Laura Albring

"I remember being in second hour science class when I heard that he had been killed." Kathie Albring, medical assistant, remembers the day that John F. Kennedy was killed. But, that wasn't the only thing that stuck in her mind. There were many things she remembers from growing up in the 1960s.

One thing that Kathie recalls that while she was in school there weren't many kids that were into drugs and alcohol as they are today. Most people she knew weren't divorced. The fashions she remembers were bell-bottoms, stripes, flowers, and bright prints. She says that fashions are much better now, because she hated that type of clothing. Girls had to wear skirts to school, which led to her to hate to put on a dress today.

Another thing she found was that children could entertain themselves more than they can today. Kathie remembers the big event in her house was the day they received their color television. Kids did more activities outdoors. She liked playing football and baseball with her friends and two brothers. She wishes, though, that she could have had the chance to play sports in school.

Kathie says school wasn't as tough as it is now. Children were more disciplined. Some were expected to behave more than they do now. They had different things to do. One such thing was the worry of a nuclear bomb. Kathie recalls going to someone's house to see a bomb shelter. Girls weren't given as much as a chance as boys in school. The boys had many opportunities to play sports while the only after school activities that girls could do is cheerleading. Most people thought that boys could be anything they wanted to, while girls could only be things such as a nurse or a secretary.

There were also many exciting things that happened and things to do. Music was a big entertainment factor. Her favorite music groups were the Beatles and the Rolling Stones. She also says that medicines are much better now. Her favorite car which was either a Javalin or a Volkswagon.

Kathie enjoyed growing up in the 1960s, but thinks it is better to grow up today. There are more chances for people. When asked what was the best and worst thing of growing up in the 1960s was she said that the best things was all the revolution that was going on. The worst thing was all of the drug use.

INTERVIEW WITH MOM
by Andy Feldpausch

It was late at night. Out watching The Beverly Hill Billies or Andy Griffith on a big television screen was Monica Feldpausch. People were laughing and having all sorts of fun. This is a memory that stood out in Monica

Feldpausch's life. It was a joyous time for her and many other movie watching fans. This was one of the many memories and experiences shared by the people in the 1950s and 1960s.

Another memory in her mind was the family structure. Back then most families were very large. She remembered her family had one bike for nine kids. There wasn't much to do and she said that they had many chores to do. And if their chores weren't done before they had fun, they could expect a good whipping. She said, "It wasn't much fun living with a big family, because everyone was constantly fighting over something like the television or the radio."

School was another topic hidden in the back of her mind. She said, "That school was almost the same as today, but also totally different." She recalls that it was hard because the teachers were stricter than they are today. "There weren't many African Americans in the Catholic school she said, but there were about seventy percent African American in the public school." She recalls this because she had gone to both the Catholic school and the Public school. Sometimes she remembered having to leave the school due to bomb threats from people out in the community, which was scary, not only to her, but to everyone else in the school.

There wasn't too much technology in the '50s and '60s. The only new medical advance she remembered was the cure for Laryngitis. Their family never had a computer and she doesn't remember the first one that came out. She did remember the first electric typewriter she had because she still has it today. These were some of the little new technology improvements made in her times.

Monica believes that her generation was somewhat like it is today, but yet so different. The last question asked to her was "What did you have back then that you wish we had today?" She told me trust, "I wish I could leave my car locked at places and not have to worry about anyone stealing it." This was the one thing she wished we had today that she thought they had back then.

Interview with Bernie Feldpausch by Kacey Feldpausch

Bernie Feldpausch was born in 1949. She was a teenager during the '50s and '60s. She had ten sisters and one brother. They all lived on a chicken farm in Westphalia, Michigan. "Things were very different back when I was a teenager. There were a lot of changes." Along with the rest of her generation, Bernie struggled through the hard times and remembered the good.

One thing that affected many people of Bernie's generation was the assassination of John F. Kennedy. "Quite a few people cried, but it didn't really bother me that much about that sad day. We got out of school at the normal time and listened to the assassination on the radio." In

Bernie's small town of Westphalia, life wasn't affected very much.

Another thing that affected the people growing up in the '50s and '60s was school. "Girls mostly learned how to cook and sew. We didn't have the opportunities that the girls today have." Bernie finished high school, but like most women, she didn't go to college. The woman found a man, married him, and took care of the family. "I took care of my husband and my five kids for a while. When they were all in school, I got a job as a bank teller. I stayed there for quite some time, until I was offered a job as a secretary in a law office." Although she didn't have many opportunities in high school, Bernie was still had a very successful life.

A third thing that Bernie recalled about her generation was that they couldn't wear shorts. "If we wore shorts to school we got in big trouble. The girls usually wore dresses to school and the guys wore pants." They also didn't have a special brand of clothing to wear like teenagers do today. "Most kids wore poodle skirts. We didn't have any certain brands that were cool." Kids today get to wear shorts almost whenever they want to.

Fun in Bernie's generation was pretty much routine. On Friday's everybody went to the game. After the game was a dance. That was basically it. "We didn't go out drinking or take drugs for fun. In fact, if you would have asked us about a drug, we would have thought you meant something that a doctor gave you." That was definitely one of the best things of Bernie's generation.

Although the 1950s and the 1960s was not as up-to-date as today, there are still a lot of similarities. There were problems just like the problems of today. Bernie Feldpausch lived in a great time period. The teenagers today can learn a lot from Bernie's generation. If her generation can make it through the hard times, so can we!!

Interview with Terri Halfman
by Bryan Halfman

"The cool things for guys to wear, were cut off underwear bands. I guess you could say they were a little strange." For Terri Halfman, life was much different growing up in Mears, Michigan. Although different, there were many things she and her friends did that were similar to what we do today.

For Terri, friends were very important. "We would drive around and have things like sleepovers. We spent a lot of time together." She also said that going to basketball games with friends were very fun to do. "We kind of had our own cheering section."

Family life was also a very big part of her life. "I was the oldest of three, and the only girl, so I was not babied. While my brothers would always be fooling around, I would either have to help my mom cook and clean, or else I

would be up in my room reading a book." The activity that she most liked doing with her family, was going on summer vacations. "We would always go every summer to places like California or Florida. My dad would always have the exact amount of miles figured out, and how long it would take us to get there. The trips were very fun when we got to where we were going, but they were also very long and tiring."

When Terri was asked if she remembered any exciting event that happened while she was young, she replied of the time when the Beatles were on Ed Sullivan. "I loved their music, but when my mom walked into the room, she had a fit about the length of their hair." She also remembered Elvis. "I did not like him much. They never showed him below the waist on television."

When Terri was asked how it was growing up in a small town next to Lake Michigan, she said it was neat. "In the summer there would always be a lot of people around, and a lot of things to do. Me and my brothers would walk across the five mile long sand dunes to Lake Michigan. In the winter it was lonely with all the tourists gone with the weather until the next year."

To close, Terri said that she likes the new environment that she lives in now, rather than where she lived before. "I do not live in the middle of a town, and it is not as noisy and crowded in the summer, but I will never forget the times I had growing up in Mears."

Interview with Gene Goerge by Michelle Goerge

Gene Goerge is fifty-two years old and is employed as the department of public works supervisor in Fowler, Michigan. He is also a fire-fighter and on the rescue team. He is married to Agnes (Simon) Goerge, with whom he has two children Gene Jr. and Brett. They also have two sons Todd and Chad, and two daughters Michelle and Jill, from previous marriages. Gene is from a family of eleven, in which he is the youngest and the twin of his sister Janet.

Gene's normal day during the '50s and '60s, was he was up by five-thirty. He would get his chores done, which was milking cows. After milking he would go to school, and when he got home, he would eat supper and then milk cows again.

In school he said there was much more discipline and not as many classes to choose from. The dress code was much different than today's. Girls wore dresses most of the time and boys wore "slacks" and a collared shirt. You never wore T-shirts or shorts to school. During the sixties there were not any "so-called hippies," yet there were people who grew their hair long and had beards.

When he was in school there were four big sports to play. These were baseball, football, track, and basketball. He played in football and basketball.

When people weren't doing their usual jobs which were either working on a farm, working at a factory in Lansing,

or working at a factory in St. Johns, what people did for fun was different than what we do today. He remembers mostly going to play with the neighbors and playing "Bag-tag" in the barn with his friends. He didn't get to watch much T.V. when he was younger, but when he did he remembers a couple shows, The Lone Ranger and The Life of Riley.

During the Korean war he was eight. He remembers when his brother got drafted and when they took him to the airport. During the Vietnam war he was in the armed forces. His company went to Korea.

The most common diseases during this time were, T.B., polio, whooping cough, mumps, and the measles. He remembers one of the new medicines that came out during this time, the Salk vaccine for polio.

He has attended the Most Holy Trinity Catholic Church all of his life and he says that there are many things different now pertaining to the church. The church is more lenient, people don't go to church as much. He used to go on the weekdays and Friday nights. "Kids today would not even think of going to church on a Friday night," he said.

In conclusion Gene talked about some of the best and worst things growing up during the '50s and '60s. The best he says, was the family togetherness, "It was certainly more down to earth." The worst would be that there weren't as many job opportunities.

An Interview of Diane Simmon

By Doug Simmon

Diane Simmon was born in a small house in Portland, Michigan. When she was about three years old her family moved into a large farm house in Pewamo. She went to grammar and middle school at St. Josephs of Pewamo. Then she received her high school diploma from the Pewamo-Westphalia High School.

She recalled life on the farm being hard since she was the oldest child and her younger brothers and sisters were not old enough to help. Most of the chores, such as herding up cattle and feeding calves, were done in bare feet because they couldn't afford boots. The worst job of all, she thought, was following a wagon around in a field picking up rocks.

Even though the work on the farm was never done Diane and her brothers and sisters always found time for recreation. Whatever free time they had she and her seven brothers and sisters got together with their neighbors for a game of softball. On hot summer days all the kids would walk down to the creek that was near their house and go swimming or sit in the shade and fish. When school was called off because of a snow storm they would go sledding down the creek banks. When ever the kids had free time that they could not think of something to do their parents would always find something for them to do that was useful.

"It hit me very hard." Diane had to say this about the assassination of John F. Kennedy. "I remember we were learning about multiplying fractions in the seventh grade when the secretary burst into the room and told us." When this happened and almost everyone in her class broke down into tears. None of the school could concentrate on their studies for the rest of the day.

As you can see children of today and children of yesterday are very different. Without the luxury of video games, computers, and sometimes television children always had some thing to keep them busy. Instead of sitting in front of a television vegetating children would play games or work. If the children could not think of any thing good to do their parents would definitely find them something to do, and if their parents gave them something to do it would not be fun.

An Interview with George Goerge
by Nathan Goerge

"I was in eighth grade. I was called out of class and me and my friend had to go outside and put the flag up half way to show the death of him." This is how my father, George Goerge remembers the assassination of John F. Kennedy. This was one of the most important days in my father's childhood, but it's not the only topic he was asked about.

Another experience my father touched upon while he was growing up, that other people from Fowler could talk about, was the tornado that hit the town of Fowler when my father was a sophomore in high school. In one sentence my dad summed it up by saying "I'll never forget it." He said he was out with his friend, and they were heading to St. Johns when it began to rain, and it started to get really windy so they decided to stop the car and wait to see what happened. It was very dark but they could see a faint glimpse of a house outside the car, and the next time they looked back that way toward that house, it was gone. George then saw a group of people run from the basement of that house and run to the neighbors. After seeing that, he then decided to go home. My dad ended the interesting topic by saying, "It was a crazy night."

In George's social life, I asked him about the regular summer day. He remembers trying to sleep in, and when he woke up, he tried to get out of as much work as possible, but it did not work. He would help on the farm that his father, owned and he would then go to his job down town. After work he would play basketball and baseball, but he most enjoyed hunting and fishing on his free time.

I also asked him about medicine back in his teen years and how much it has improved through the years. He answered the question by talking about his two brothers who died. One of his brothers died from pneumonia, and the other died from a fatal heart condition. He never knew his two

brothers and the severity of their problems but when my father was older, a doctor said in these years, his two brothers would have never died.

George touched upon the topic of whether growing up in the era that he did or growing up in today's life. He chose growing up when he did because he said he could experience what it was like back then and he also could somewhat see what it is like growing up today through his children. Where as if he had chose now to grow up, all he would have had of the past was what his parents told him. He would have not been able to live through it. This way he can have the best of both worlds.

An Interview of Mr. Juddson Bancroft
By Sean Enneking

"Life by the small village of Maple Rapids was a carefree life." Says Juddson Bancroft of Fowler, Michigan. J.D., as he is known to his family and friends, was born in 1948 and has spent his life here in Fowler.

Growing up was easy compared to today's teens. Today teens are pressured to get drunk, smoke pot, and have sex with everybody. School life was pretty much the same as today. "We studied the same courses." Students were placed under a very strict dress code. Girls had to wear dresses and guys had to wear slacks and dress shirts every day. Also today students can drive freely, but when he grew up to drive to school students had to have a signed note from their boss. And a father could not be someone's boss either.

Summertime had days filled with fun. "Me and my brothers would go hunting and fishing along the banks of the Hayworth almost every day. We also played a lot of softball, baseball, football, and just about anything else we could think of doing. Still we spent a lot of our time biking from one house to another along our road looking for boys to come and play a game of ball." This was how J.D. spent his summer vacation.

"I grew up in a family of six. Mom, dad, me, Delbert, Lorraine, and James. We were a close family with a lot of values." These values J.D. places on his children and grandchildren today. "We were the first family to have a television and the second to have a telephone." J.D. and his family grew up watching such shows like Lawrence Welk, Ed Sullivan, and Howdy Dowdy. "Still, even though we had a lot of fun we still had chores. I spent most of my time milking by hand on the farm."

For J.D. serving in the military was an experience he will never forget. "I was sent to Fort Knox, Kentucky for my basic training. Here I studied electronics eight hours a day, five days a week, for eight months. Some of these classes were top secret. We had to go in with empty pockets, not even a pencil," Juddson says with a calm face. "Later I was sent to Fort Monmouth, New Jersey, where I was a

A.I.T. This is just a fancy name for an apprentice. But then during the war in Vietnam I was stationed at Fort Walters, Texas. I never left the country since I am disabled. My knee is all screwed up. So I got lucky and got to stay here."

Growing up for Juddson was a time of experience and constant learning. From serving in the military, to the constant changing in society. "Life was always a challenge."

INTERVIEW WITH TOM O'ROURKE

By Ryan O'Rourke

Tom O'Rourke is a counselor at Fowler High School, and also a history teacher for many years. He was born in 1950 in St. Ignace Michigan. He lived there for many years and moved to Fowler to teach. He is married to Lynn and has four boys. He has relations that have served in WWII and Vietnam. He has held many jobs since he first started working and he seems somewhat interested in politics. There are many things my dad remembers when he was growing up.

My dad was interested in politics. He remembers John F. Kennedy and what he liked about him. He talked about Kennedy's family being showy and classy. Tom can remember the day that he was assassinated, though. "I was sitting next to my friend Steve Goudreau," my dad said. It was a sad day as it was broadcasted over the radio all over the nation. He remembers the people he did not like in politics, such as Richard Nixon. Other groups of people he remembers were the Klu Klux Klan and the Black Panthers. Others sides of politics were wars. Wars he can remember are the Gas Wars, Vietnam, World War II, and the Falkland Wars.

Another thing my dad talked about a lot was sports. He remembers Boston dominating basketball in the 1960's. Two of his favorite sports were basketball and baseball. His idol as a basketball player was his coach. He said, "I liked him because he never got mad and always seemed to make the right decision."

He seemed to know a lot about things that people watched and listened to also, such groups as the Beatles and the Dave Clark 5. He remembers when he was young Elvis becoming a national star then dying. My dad remembers the tie-died clothes and bell-bottoms. Many kids also wore anti-war clothes and the peace symbol was big at this time.

A fourth thing my dad talked about a lot was the big change in money. He remembers that thirty cents an hour was big money for him. The price of cars, houses, and things like candy bars has really gone up. He talked about how his wages were nothing compared to what they are today. "It seems like there is so much more money now," my dad stated as I interviewed him. He talked about the many jobs he has had and how when he was young there were many jobs available for him at a young age.

This was a learning experience because I did not live during this time. I learned that this time is similar to today and teaches the same lessons as today. My dad can remember wars and styles. Money has changed a lot, too. He talked about jobs and how they changed. I think that these years were filled with dramatical changes and can teach people from our generations not to make the same mistakes people did then such as going to Vietnam. "Fun" was Tom's word to describe the years of 1945-1970.

INTERVIEW WITH MOM
by Dan Schmitz

"Growing up in the 1950s, 1960s and 1970s was a very exciting time." During the time Darlene Schmitz and others in her generation were learning about new and different things. "In the '60s the biggest thing that stands out in my memory is the assassination of John F. Kennedy." She was in gym class when she heard the news. Everyone was stunned. It was late in the afternoon.

Another thing she remembers was getting their first television set. It was in a cabinet with an octagon shaped screen. Their family was one of the last in the neighborhood to get one. Most of her friends lived in the town which was ten miles away, so the television was very important to her.

When she went out with her friends they usually went to a drive-in movie. This is where everyone hung out. Any time kids wanted to meet someone, they just went to the drive-in.

Schools were very different. Mom feels that the schools today are much better. Kids are better prepared to face to world today when they graduate, than twenty-five years ago. Back then women married and raised families. Women would have never dreamed of doing some of the things they are doing today.

The 1970s were a very "radical" time. With the hippies, drugs and Woodstock, it was a part of the me generation. You were considered number one, and nothing else mattered. At least that's what many people thought. During this time the Beatles became popular, and the Vietnam War was growing. Many of the men in mom's class were sent to Vietnam and were killed. She feels as many of her generation do that the Vietnam War was fought for no good reason, and many lives were sacrificed because of it.

"Growing up today is much harder than it was back then." Mom feels today with all the peer pressure, drugs, alcohol, lack of respect and violence going on in the world today, youth have many problems each day that they must face. She feels that her generation should be willing to help whenever the need arises.

Interview with Mary Jorae
by Jadine Jorae

Mary Jorae was born in 1944. She had one brother. They lived in Fowler, Michigan, for most of their lives. Being a child in the late '50s and early '60s was much different then it is today. She had many of the responsibilities and chores to do in the family while her mother worked.

One of the many memories my mother remembers growing up is when she was working at a factory in Owosso. A person came in and told of the assassination of John F. Kennedy. My mother remembers it as being a very sad day for everyone and everyone crying. Another memory of growing up is when she was at Houghton Lake for the weekend watching the first person land on the moon.

As a teenager growing up in the early '60s she enjoyed watching TV. Some of the TV shows she enjoyed were Roy Rogers, Gene Autry, and Howdy Doody. One of the best things about these shows that she enjoyed was that there was very little violence, nudity, and obscene language. Also as a girl growing up she remembers going to a Catholic school, and going to church every morning, and also having nuns as teachers. She also remembers only having only two dresses to wear to school for a whole year. My mother did not have a TV until eighth grade and a phone until the end of high school. To make a phone call in the '60s you just picked up and dialed out. To make a long distance call you pushed 0 and had to go through the operator.

There was a number of things that were popular in the '50s and '60s. Some of those things were bobby socks, saddle shoes, skirts, and blouses. And the food that was popular was spaghetti, chicken, potato salad, baked beans, milk shakes, and deluxe hamburgers.

Growing up back then is a quite a bit different then it is today. There is a lot more responsibilities now then there was before. Today there is a lot more peer pressure having to do with drugs, drinking, and smoking. Also people were treated with more respect than

Interview with Ann Schafer
by Jenny Schafer

My grandmother, even though I didn't really know her, was a bit of a rebel. She refused to put her daughters, one of which was my mother, in a uniform. She successfully argued with the school that purchasing the uniforms would cost more money than making clothes. As it turned out my grandmother was just two steps ahead of her time, within a year or two they did away with uniforms. This is just one of the many stories Ann Schafer, my mother, shared with me that occurred during the 1950s and 1960s.

Being young Ann thought that mini skirts were going to be around forever, and that only mothers and grandmothers wore longer skirts. She also remembers an orange sweatshirt she had and how she thought it was the coolest thing. She recalled how older women wore beehives, and how women would go to the beauty shop every week and get their hair done.

Family was also very important in the '50s and '60s. Ann had the typical family a mom, dad, and siblings. Her mother stayed home and did a lot of other work. She made wedding cakes, did crafts, and sewed. She often made money on them. But then in 1966 her mother did go back to work. When I asked Ann what show she thought best represented the way family was in the '50s and '60s she replied the Donna Reed Show. She did admit though that not every family was that clean cut.

Assassinations of people like John Kennedy and Bobby Kennedy and even Martin Luther King are memories Ann won't forget. For her though President Kennedy's wasn't as hurtful as his brother's, because at the time of JFK she wasn't really into politics and she was just distracted about the whole thing. But when Bobby Kennedy was killed she took it more personally because her mother died around the same time and Ann began to wonder what was happening to her country.

Ann feels that people today can benefit from stronger family relationships." We need to return to strong family ties," she said. She feels people have lost communication in a sense and that we need to socialize more with our families and friends.n they are today.

INTERVIEW WITH DONNA SPICER BY JOHN SPICER

I interviewed Donna Spicer my mother. She had a lot to say about the things that happened back then. She also talked a lot about what the differences are between recent times, and back in the 1960s. Donna grew up in a time period that is a lot different than the one today. She grew up in a home that was very strict.

"Growing up in a small community there was a lot less people." Donna made a lot of friends in the small community. "It wasn't always fun, but you had to find things to do. In school we had to wear dresses, no jeans. School was a lot harder back then than it is today. Teachers were a lot stricter back then."

Donna only played basketball and softball. She said that sports now are better than they were back then. The teams they played back then were a lot bigger and better.

"I didn't go to college. My parents didn't have the money for college." She didn't have the money herself, but she had a job in high school. Donna didn't really want to work. She said her grades would fall.

Her parents were strict about her grades. They said they were so important. Donna took some college classes

when she was older. She had the money, but she didn't have the money to go to college back then. She took the classes to get a better job. "Now you have to go to college to get a good job. When I was young, you didn't have to, but you had to have a high school diploma."

"I would have rather went to school now than back then. Kids school nowadays seems like it is easier than it was when I went to school."

Donna said that she would rather grow up nowadays, than when she did. "There is a lot more for kids to do now, and there are more places for kids to go. All the technology now makes it so much easier for kids to do things.

Televisions are a lot easier to afford now. The televisions are a lot better now than they were years ago.

Donna said that the Kennedy assassination was tough to get over. She said that she was sitting in the living room talking to her mom. Her fell into shock also.

"Women back then had to do a lot more work than they do today. The husband had a job so he wasn't there to do the work around the house. So the women had to do mainly all the work around the house. That includes work inside, and outside of the home. It is a lot easier work for women around the house nowadays."

Donna dosen't really know what time she likes better recent times or 1960s. "There is some good things about recent times, but there is also some bad things about this time. One of the best things that there is right know is the television. We had a television, but it was not very good, and it didn't work all the time.

Interview With Pam Pohl by Katie Pohl

Pam Pohl was born and raised in the small village community of Fowler, Michigan. She was born on Febuary 17, 1957, to the proud parents of Clare "Butch" Snyder and Patricia Snyder. Being raised in a family of nine gave her a lot of responsibilities. "I remember having to make large meals and doing lots of wash all the time. We also had to wear a lot of hand-me-downs," recalls Pam. Helping her father deliver gas and oil to houses was a special memory Pam will always treasure. She was allowed to help drag the fuel hose up to the houses. "Sometimes dad would stop in Maple Rapids and buy us all a pop. That was a big treat then. I still remember a lot of the places we delivered gas at."

Playing with all the young kids on the block is something that Pam always enjoyed doing. "I remember how much fun we all would have with the neighbors. We would play ball everyday for six months out of year. There were forty kids in our small neighbor to play with. We all really enjoyed each other and had fun together."

Pam's teenage years ran from playing on the Snyder Oilers softball team to becoming Homecoming queen. "I

remember always being in some kind of practice or another. Some days I wouldn't come home until 9:00 P. M., but I really loved it!" She also served as a mothers helper out in Chicago during the summer. "It was a real experience, totally different from what I knew in Fowler. It made me really appreciate what I had here. I really enjoyed it, though." Pam had an active yet exciting high school years. Playing on the Snyder Oilers gave her a higher level of experience than high school could give her. She liked playing with her sisters and the quality time she could spend with her father as he coached her. "My dad was a real tough coach, but he really put a lot of time and money into the team so we could all have fun playing." The Snyder Oilers brought back a State Championship trophy to the small town of Fowler. All the hard work and dedication paid off.

Even though Pam was very young when John F. Kennedy was assassinated she can still recall what happened. She remembers coming home after school when she was only six years old, and walking into the living room to see her dad crying. They all watched the T.V for days. "They kept repeating the footage day after day. I remember John Jr. saluting his fathers coffin -he was so cute." She claims she was too young to have this event affect her.

Pam feels girls are pushed just as hard as boys are to get good grades and excel in class. "Now more than when I was younger, women will have to go out to find a job to provide for a family with all the single parent homes. There wasn't hardly any divorced families when." She still feels girls are treated as second class citizens, now as well as then.

Now Pam is happily married to Melvin Pohl. She has five wonderful children. Pam is the type of person who helps out in charity events, such as cooking for funerals. She is now a homemaker who takes care of her family and enjoys the luxury of her own home.

Lester Feldpausch
By Lindsay Miller

Lester Feldpausch was born on June 10, 1921, in Clinton County, section twenty-six of Dallas township. He grew up on a farm in Fowler and still remains in this small town today. Some of his hobbies are fishing and woodworking.

He was about eight years old when the Great Depression began. During this time no one had very much money to speak of. Les said, "Many people lost their farms and homes because of missed mortgage payments, and we were lucky to keep our farm and get enough to eat." His family grew most of their own foods like meats, milk and produce and most of it was canned for future use.

Les attended school through the tenth grade. He said, "I was taught by many nuns who were very strict and I only got out what I was willing to put in." After school Les continued to work on the farm until he went into

construction. He got his first job, which was helping to build the bridge over Stoney Creek on Wright Road, in 1939. He was seventeen at the time and was paid fifty cents per hour. With this money Les bought his first car which was a used 1933 Plymouth for ninety- six dollars.

World War II broke out when he was twenty. The war was about nine months old when his draft number came up and since he was already working in construction, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy Seabees which were construction battalion. He served on Guadalcanal in the Solomon Islands of the South Pacific. There they built airfields, roads, and bases for other troops but mostly for the marines. After fourteen months he developed asthma in the humid climate and was given the honorable medical discharge and was sent home. Les said, "The experience of going overseas to fight a war for a twenty year old was almost unbelievable and I wouldn't exchange it for anything." Les and Rose got married just before he had left for the war. During the war Rose worked in a war plant making spark plugs for the U.S. Air Forces.

Les received his first radio in the mid- thirties, which was battery powered because there was no electricity on the farm. His first television came in the late forties after he was married and had a family.

He was helping build I- 96 thru Grand Rapids when he received the news of the President Kennedy's, death and his girlfriend, who is still his wife today, were on a date when they heard the news of Pearl Harbor on the car radio.

Les said, "Society today needs to have loyalty, honesty, and less greed and more patriotism to our flag and country." He also said, "We should avoid racism and respect the civil rights of human beings." The good things he shared were togetherness in families and communities and the worst was the lack of money to buy many of the wants and desires of everyday life. Les said, "I would say our parents, the nuns who taught us, and the beliefs of our church were the many important things that taught us how to get out into the real world and face life."

Les had five children and retired at the age of forty-five. He is now living with his wife Rose in Fowler and spends his winters down in Florida. He likes to spend his quality time with his wife, his children, and his grand children.

An Interview with Loraine Schmitt
By Denise Schmitt

"It was my junior year in college. The dean of women of Aquinas College was on Sabbatical leave and was living in Ireland for about six months. All of the women had to wear dresses or skirts because that was what the dress code at the college was. When the dean left, the women at the school decided to rebel against the dress code and start wearing jeans or other types of pants." For Loraine

Schmitt, a teacher at St. Mary's Catholic School in Westphalia, dress codes and unfairness towards women were dealt with by all. Discrimination aimed at females was not the only memories that Loraine experienced with her own generation.

Being brought up during the 1950s and 1960s, many people did not have certain luxuries people have today. Loraine lived on an eighty acre farm. Her dad owned a cider mill and also was a farmer. Like most other families, her mother did not work outside the home. A television was a luxury her family did not get until she was about ten years of age. When they did finally get a t.v., it was only a black and white television. They purchased a color television years later. Instead of watching television, they listened to the radio. But, her parents did not enjoy the music of that era.

Another encounter that she was able to experience was being able to go to college. During this time it was unthought of that women could go to college. Going to college meant making certain sacrifices. For example, Loraine had to pay her own tuition and room and board. It was a struggle for her to do this because she could only work when she was off from school in the summer. At this time, when she was on break from college, she would work as a secretary. Loraine would make enough money to pay for one semester of tuition. Then she would have to borrow the rest. "I am glad I had a chance to go to college, because being a teacher is what I wanted to do."

Loraine's life has changed drastically since her childhood. Her family of four, is smaller than the one she grew up in. Also, although she does live in a rural area, she does not live on a farm. Now, she and her family do many more things than she could when she lived with her parents. Many more vacations are taken with Loraine's own family. "There is more money to spend because my husband and I have good paying jobs," she explained.

Loraine has lived through good things and bad things during the 1950s and 1960s. Like the assassinations of the Kennedys and Martin Luther King, also the Cuban Missile Crisis were examples of things she experienced. Today though, she says there are still tragedies occurring in the world. She hopes that in the future things possible could change.

Interview with Mary Jo Weber
by Glenn Weber

"As a girl I was expected to do and enjoy doing all the household chores. I was more closely protected by my family than my brothers were." Mary Jo Weber, religious education coordinator for Most Holy Trinity, didn't always think that women were treated fairly. She remembers not have many women's sports. "Women, also, weren't able to take certain jobs that they can today," Mary Jo recalls. Women being

treated differently isn't the only thing that Mary Jo remembers about the time period she grew up in.

Another thing that Mary Jo remembers is her family life. "I had to do the weekly baking, clean bathrooms, vacuum, wash the dishes, and help cook meals and clean up after them." She didn't watch T.V. that much growing up, but every Sunday night the family would watch T.V. together. During junior high, she read an average of a book a day! Mary Jo, also, remembers religion being a big thing in her family. She attended a Catholic school through her eighth grade year.

In addition to family life, Mary Jo recalls the Vietnam War. "When I was young, I wasn't afraid of war, but during college and late high school I was very afraid that people I knew might have to go over to Vietnam, and may not return. Four of my classmates died over there." For Mary Jo, the war was something that if her country thought it was necessary, then she should support it. She thought that the hippies were kind of weird.

Besides thinking back to things that happened with the Vietnam War, Mary Jo also remembers other important events. "I was a junior in high school. Young people were very upset because he was so young and a good speaker." President Kennedy's assassination was something that still sticks in Mary Jo's mind today. She doesn't remember very much about the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. Some of his marches and slogans are what stands out the most to her. Mary Jo remembers thinking to herself, "Things must be pretty bad when people felt they had the right to kill someone because they didn't like what they stood for."

When Mary Jo was asked what time period she liked better she responded, "I guess I prefer living now. I love the options we have and the feeling that each individual can make a difference." She felt that both had its good and bad points. The world didn't move as fast when she was growing up. You, also, didn't receive the opportunities you do now a days, she recalls.

Interview with Karen Armbrustmacher
by Melissa Armbrustmacher

Karen Armbrustmacher is the wife of Clair Armbrustmacher and the mother of four children. She grew up in the sixties, a time in which there were many changes in the world, society, and family life. Today Karen works as a secretary for a building company. I chose to interview her because she grew up in Bakersfield, California, and I thought that it would be interesting to see how people outside of Fowler reacted to certain events and occasions that took place in America at that time.

While taking this interview, I uncovered many new and interesting things about my mother's generation. This generation was one of unrest. There were many demonstrations that took place that Karen only heard about

and didn't participate in. She remembers events such as the assassination of President Kennedy. She recalls sitting in her high school class and hearing it over the loud speaker. She also recalls total silence throughout her classroom.

Karen also talked about the kinds of thing that kids did for fun. She remembers the small get-togethers with her friends once in a while. She said that where she grew up, most of her time was spent with her family and it only on occasion that she spent much time with her friends. Karen also related being with her friends to things that she did in school. She talked about the many sports programs that she was involved in. She was a member of what was called the Girls Athletic Association. This group allowed girls to participate in sports such a basketball, tennis, soccer, and volleyball just to name a few. Sports were very important to her generation. They were held in a very high regard.

When asked if she thought she had more advantages growing up when she did, she said, Yes. We didn't have to worry about locking our doors at night, or being by ourselves without anyone around. Today's teenagers have to worry about much more crime oriented things." The worst part about growing up in the sixties was worrying about the threat of having a nuclear bomb dropped during the cold war. "I remember asking my dad why we didn't build a bomb shelter like all the other families, and he asked me if we really would want to live to see the destruction that it would cause. That was a tough time for me."

Karen shared many memories both good and bad. From the first man landing on the moon to the threat of nuclear war, the time that she grew up in was full of peace and conflict. Our generation should learn from he hard work to the previous ones. We should try to solve conflicts as peacefully as possible and then maybe we will have made a mark for ourselves in time. By listening to her talk, I can only hope that my generation and the future generation to come will learn from their experience and use it in t he present time.

Interview with Dale Thelen By Mindy Thelen

Dale Thelen was born on July 14, 1950. He was born into a family of seven. He has two brothers and two sisters. When he was old enough to go to school his parents sent him to Most Holy Trinity school in Fowler, Michigan. After graduating from eighth grade, he went to move on to a much bigger challenge, high school. He attended Fowler High School for four years and graduated in 1969.

When asked about his days at Fowler High, he said he devoted most of his time working at the local gas station and working on his car. When he wasn't working on his car, he hung out at the snack shop and drove around town. He chose not to participate in sports because work for him was more important. He said that he never got into real trouble

with authority at school or with his parents, but one time, as a young boy, he found himself tied to a tree due to his wandering across the street. One of his favorite movies when he was young was Old Yeller. His favorite subject in school was English and the most influential teacher he said was Mrs. Covert.

After he graduated from high school, he went to work at Fisher Body. He said that more jobs were available right after high school in the '50s and '60s that didn't require college than jobs today. Then in December of 1970 he went into the Navy. While in the Navy he realized how important education was and pushed himself to learn a skilled marketable trade in machine repair. After leaving the Navy in 1972, he pursued training in air conditioning and refrigeration that helped him to further his career and to obtain a job with the state of Michigan. On June 21, 1975, he married Dorothy Arens.

One thing that stood out in his mind living in the 1950s and 1960s was the first time anyone was launched onto the moon. The reason he said this event stood out was because it was around his birthday in the year of 1969. Another, rather sad event, taking place between those years was the death of John F. Kennedy. He was twelve years old when the news of the assassination was brought to the little town of Fowler. He didn't remember where he was exactly, he said he was probably in school, but he does remember the funeral because he was working at his uncle Gene's house.

Right now Dale is happily married and has four children, two boys and two girls. He likes spending time with his family and is involved in a number of activities and groups outside of work, including being the mayor of Fowler and the past commander of the VFW Post 3733. He says that there has been numerous changes from his time to the present, but one of the most dramatic is the computer.

Interview with Nancy Myers By Carrie Schafer

Nancy Myers is a mother, grandmother, wife, and friend who was born in 1940. She lived through many changes that altered her life, as well as the lives of others. She witnessed history in the making right. Here is what she thought about the '40s '50s and '60s as she was growing up.

Nancy remembers the assassination of John F. Kennedy as if it was yesterday. She was in her kitchen ironing when the neighbor kids ran into her kitchen. She recalls that they were very excited that the teacher had sent them home early. She hadn't had a T.V. on so she knew nothing about his death, the girls told her. When she found out she said "I turned the T.V. on and we, everybody in the country I think, sat glued to the T.V. for the next three days."

Another thing she remembers is how differently they dressed back then. "We might have wore jeans to football games," is what she recalled. She said that she and others

always looked nice. They curled their hair, put make-up on and spent a lot of money on clothes. Many of her outfits had matching jewelry. "We looked better than most people, most movie stars look like when they go the Emmies now," she replied.

To support her clothes buying Nancy worked two jobs. One was a job at the dime store. The other was a co-op job for her high school. She doesn't remember baby-sitting that often. She used to watch her nephew, she didn't mind that. She just didn't like to do it.

"Women were treated with more respect I think," is what Nancy remembers about how women were treated. She thought that things were easier back then. The sexes had certain roles. She recalls that women didn't make as much money as the men did. "There are still a lot of injustices between the sexes and I think there always will be," she answered. Some things about how the sexes were treated she wasn't happy about, but that's what you went by.

Nancy said that her mother got pneumonia a lot when she was growing up. So when Nancy was born, and her mother got pneumonia it was no surprise. Nancy said that she lived with her grandmother for about the first six or nine months of her life. There were no antibiotics so there wasn't much the doctors could do for Nancy's mother. Nancy remembers that she almost died. The doctor told her mother that he had a new experimental drug that was probably her only chance. She took it and got better. This new experimental drug was penicillin.

Nancy said that she was glad she grew up when she did. She feels that life is too fast now days. The music and dancing are even fast. She feels sorry for today's youths. And she's glad she raised her family when she did.

Interview with LeAnn Thelen by Nick Thelen

I interviewed LeAnn Thelen and asked her about her life growing up in the 60's and '70s. She told me many things that are different than when she was growing up. She also told me some similarities. I learned a lot of things that I didn't know about her. These are some similarities and differences between growing up now and growing up in the '60s and '70s.

LeAnn was born on July 12, 1955, to Ben and Colleen Heiden of Westphalia. She was the second born of six children. She has three brothers: Steve, who is older than she, Mike, who is the younger than she is, and Jeff, who is the baby of the family. She also has two younger sisters, Pam and Terri. They grew up in a small ranch house about one mile from the P-W high school. Ben worked at Fisher Body and Colleen was a secretary at the high school.

LeAnn's life was the life of a normal teenager of this time. She liked The Beatles and the Rolling Stones. She watched the lunar landing and Ed Sullivan on TV. "We were

the perfect nuclear family. We ate at the dinner table and watched TV together. It's totally different than today," she says. When she got to high school, things changed. A lot of her friends started hanging around town after school. It was fine for the kids who lived in town but she lived a few miles out. "The hardest thing for me was trying to find a ride home from town. None of my friends lived out that way and both of my parents worked. A lot of times I got a ride home from boys that lived in Portland because I lived out that way," LeAnn related.

After her friends started to drive her life changed. "One of my friends was kind of strange. Normally she didn't wear shoes. She didn't like to wear them. And whenever she drove it seemed like we always went in the ditch. One time she was driving and she was trying to tie her shoes. It was the middle of the winter and we went in this ditch filled with snow. Everybody teased her because it was one of the only times that she wore shoes."

Cars were a major part of her teenage life. There was a quarter mile drag strip on Clintonia Road near the high school. Every Friday there were at least ten races. Guys from different towns would come over and everyone would watch the races. Dusters, Novas, and Cutlasses with glass packs were the main cars. "They were very loud and very fast." Parties and movies were also a big weekend attraction.

There were some similarities and differences between growing up now and growing up in the '60s and '70s. Families were slightly larger back then. Many family activities, such as TV and movies are the same. But the life of the teenager has changed drastically. LeAnn says, "The breakdown of the nuclear family is probably the biggest change that I know of."

Interview with Mary Ann Wirth by Sarah Wirth

"It was a quiet afternoon when I was sitting at home, the news was on, and I heard them say that President Kennedy had been shot. My first instinct was; "Who could have done this?" Silence overwhelmed me as my dad-in-law came to visit from the farm outside. He had heard the news himself and in silence went off to work again." To Mary Ann Wirth it was an experience in her life that she would never forget. The shocking news brought a new memory of history into her life.

Schooling back in the '50s, when Mary Ann was a teenager, was a learning experience. "We were taught the basics and only the basics. We didn't have all the extra classes that they have today. Reading, writing, arithmetic, and history were our main classes. Some schools had sewing and cooking classes, but St. Mary's school in Westphalia didn't have those classes. We had nuns there that taught us

and we never, never messed around or talked out loud, or we would be in big trouble at school and at home."

"We had to wear skirts and blouses. Never could we wear jeans! We always had to wear a dress or a skirt. My siblings and I had to walk one mile almost every morning and afternoon, to and from school. When our neighbors drove into town on mornings, they would pick up some of the neighbor children till the car was packed full, and they would drop us off at school. I went to school for twelve years. After school we went out to get a job and it was very hard to find one. I had only two jobs after school until I had my first child."

Mary Ann recalls living at home and her conditions living on a farm wasn't bad at all. She liked living on a farm even though there was a lot of chores to be done. She lived with a big family, so the work was done by all of them and it went by fast. "We couldn't go out until we were sixteen years old. On the weekends we usually went to see movies and we went to movies. We only saw our boyfriends once on the weekends."

Many people had outhouses, but at Mary Ann's home they had a bathroom. "Television back then was much better than now. We had shows like I Love Lucy and The Long Ranger. In The Long Ranger he never killed anyone. We had good shows that didn't have many violent sense in it. Now it's all trash. Television now days influences people, especially teenagers and many times it is not good for our children. We never had to worry about what we watched on TV."

"Being brought up back in the '50s, and '60s, had some disadvantages and advantages. The riots and other rebelling that took place were most of the disadvantages. How the people acted by rebelling and doing drugs was wrong, and I hope kids learn from it. But we were disciplined a lot, we couldn't talk back to our elders, and we were very well-behaved compared to nowadays. I hope kids these days should learn to be respectful to other people."

Interview of Arline Smith
by Jeremy Smith

Her life has been one that has witnessed a great deal of change if not turmoil. There have been assassinations, a near nuclear exchange, great advances in technology, and the formation of equality for all. This was a time when many great but also awful things occurred which affected her generation and all the generations to come.

One of the greatest and most fearful occurrences that had an effect on this generation was this of the Cuban Missile Crisis. The closest in history that the United States and the Soviet Union ever came to the exchange of nuclear weapons and the start of World War III. "I remember how during the time that this was occurring that everyone

was glued to the T.V. hoping and praying that this could be resolved before anything happened to start the war." "Everyone was so happy when they heard that everything had been worked out and there was no exchange of nuclear weapons."

Out of all of these the most traumatic event that occurred during this time was that of the assassination of John F. Kennedy. "I remember that when it happened I was at work the owner came out on to the work floor and had all of the machines shut down." We knew that it had to have been something important to have stopped work but we had never imagined that it was because the president had been shot, everyone seemed to be in shock and then after that there was a flood of crying and questions as to how it happened and why someone would do such a thing." The assassination was a event that affected everyone who lived at that time. There was not a single person in the U.S. who did not feel sorrow on this day.

During her life time there has also been a great abundance of advances in the rights of women. Their every day life changed greatly. More and more women left their homes to be a part of the work force. She was not a part of this because she freely chose to stay home and be a housewife. But she does remember how her friends felt when they enter the work force. Women have gained a wider range of jobs that they can go into. The voice of women in political affairs has greatly increased because of this they have more of a say about what goes on in society.

This has been a time of great change whether for the better or for the worse. This will be remembered as a time when many great things happened but also some of the most moving. This generations accomplishments will always be remembered.

INTERVIEW WITH RON AND LOIS FELDPAUSCH by Nicole Feldpausch

Ron and Lois Feldpausch a couple now in the late '40s share many of the same values. Being devoted Catholics they both share a bond of love toward their views of faith. Both Ron and Lois remember many vivid memories of the '50s and '60s.

When I asked Ron and Lois about their family values they couldn't help but talk about their religion. Each of them can only think of one kid in their class that didn't go to church. In today's society that has drastically changed. To this Ron replied "There really is no leadership out there for kids to be trained in what's right and what's wrong. Maybe there ought to be more prayer in school. It (values) has to start back over again someplace."

The two can both remember their first T.V. Before the T.V. Ron vividly remembers sitting around the radio listening to broadcasts. When Ron looks back he recalls his parents had to go away for the weekend and when they came back they had a television set. Lois believes she was in second or third grade when her family bought their first black and white T.V. I asked Ron and Lois what they were allowed to watch. Ron mentioned that after school he would always watch Howdy Doody and Lois said that she had to watch The Mickey Mouse Club. Lois did say that she got away with watching the T.V. quite a bit after school but when her Dad came home, it always had to be shut off. I questioned Ron and Lois about how it was to have party lines back then. Lois reminisces having eleven to thirteen other families on one line. "Maybe our ring would be three long two short and another house's ring may be two short and one long."

Ron and Lois both agree that politics today are much different than what they used to be. Lois feels that "The president used to have the utmost respect." Now Ron feels that "Our government has gone so corrupt it's following in Russia's footsteps." He proved that his thoughts are in the same path as Lois's when he stated "If you had a president, you at least felt like you could trust him."

Another issue that Ron and Lois feel strongly on is the actions of teens today. Lois can hardly believe how teens brag about getting drunk so often. The pressure for teens to drink in the present time is far greater than it ever used to be. The way Lois feels is that "I don't think we were under pressure to drink." In accordance Ron also felt "Lots of kids drank yet there was never any pressure against anyone else to drink." I asked Ron if he felt his parents were overly strict and he replied "I guess they gave us a lot of freedom but yet they were always strict and everything but yet we always seemed to be happy." Lois added to this that she can remember when teens started to become more rebellious during the "hippy age." "I can remember when you could be driving down the road and kids may be walking right down the middle of the road and they wouldn't get out of the way; you had to drive right around them."

I questioned Lois on her style of dress in high school and she replied, "If you left the house with your skirt below or at your knees you made sure that by the time you got to school that it was rolled up at least two or three times." To this Ron added "I guess you could call them miniskirts." When Ron looked back at his style of dress during high school he told me guys always wore collared shirts and nobody ever wore T-shirts.

Overall from what Ron and Lois told me they felt that the '50s were pretty happy times. The government could be trusted and the president was someone to look up to. As Ron said, "Maybe there ought to be more prayer in school and respect for elders." Then some of the values may get back to the way they used to be.

Interview With Jerri Smrchek
By Tara Smrchek

Jerri Smrchek was born in 1954. She spent her early years in a small mid-Michigan farming community. Jerri remembers many happy times she spent growing up with, things that will always stand out in her life. But she also remembers things that were just a memorable, but more controversial. She went to high school in the late '60s. Things were happening that kids today don't have to deal with as much. Events occurred that were very sad and hard to deal with.

Drinking was never something that her generation did. A bigger issue than drinking was the drugs. As a teenager, Jerri didn't get involved with drugs as some of her classmates did. "It was more common to see someone stoned than it was to see someone drunk." At her school there were cops who were sent in undercover to catch some of the people involved with drugs. Other schools had more drug "busts" and locker checks than her's did. Locker checks occurred. But they didn't check everyone's, just the ones they knew had drugs. "I remember one kid who was getting busted every week." It was mainly the popular kids and the dropouts who were into them pretty heavily. At the time people were trying to get marijuana legalized.

Earlier Jerri had gone to a little one room school house and never had to deal with the racial differences. "There just weren't black people in my life." Around 1966 or 1967 when the riots came to Lansing and Detroit she began to look at black people differently. Then 1968 the housing projects in Lansing opened and the inner-city black kids were brought into her school in large numbers. "They were rough. One of my good friends was assaulted and robbed by a group of black girls that year. The black girls from the projects were mean." Few of the black kids from the projects were nice. She feared them. They carried weapons and knives. The black girls from her neighborhood didn't act that way.

Jerri didn't really get into Vietnam until around 1969. She felt that the situation in Vietnam was a tragedy. "I thought it was an illegal war." She didn't follow it great deal in the news, but she believed that congress never declared war and war was never declared on the United States. "We were just supposed to be advisors over there." But the advisors came back in body bags or maimed and wounded. The draft law was kept and young men were sent to fight. In the late 1960s the news broadcasting involvement with the war became very graphic. A person didn't have to wonder what it was like in Vietnam. People could just turn on the television and there it was. "Once I saw a little Vietnamese girl running down the road naked and crying because her house had been bombed. Another time I saw the assassination of some Viet-Cong. One man was begging for

his life and the officer just walked up to him and shot him. It showed blood and everything." She saw it in her living room thousands of miles away, but to her it as if it were happening right where she was.

The 60s were a period full of excitement and change. Many people's lives were changed drastically because of the event of the time period. The war turned young men into heroes. The Civil Rights and racial integration gave equality to all men. The time was made up of memories of people's lives.

Interview with Jean Koenigsknecht
by Tonya Koenigsknecht

Jean grew up in Fowler on a small farm until she was eleven. Then she and her family decided to move to town. She had three brothers and four sisters. Her family was very Catholic.

Television was a very popular thing back then. Her favorite shows were Hee Haw and Let's Make A Deal. There wasn't time to watch T.V, there was usually always something to do on the farm. They had to feed the cattle and bale hay. The thing that was the worst was to pick up stones in the field.

Back then when people tried to make a long distance phone call had to go through the operator, this took a very long time. Most of the people who owned phones half of the people had a three party line so they had to wait for someone to get off the line so they could make a call themselves.

For fun Jean and her friends would go out roller-skating. Jean's family would also go on family picnics. Their big trip was usually to go to the Free Fair once a year. They could ride on the rides for ten cents. Her parents gave each of the kids a dollar in the morning and at noon they got another. As far as high school things there was a dance once a week at the old theater.

When John F. Kennedy was assassinated Jean and her brothers and sisters had to sit in the living room as a family and watch the whole funeral on T.V. When she first found out, they got everyone out of class to go into the church basement and watch it on T.V. There were a lot of people crying. "I'll never forget that day."

When Jean was growing up, her and her brothers and sisters earned money by picking beans. For every mouse they caught in the barn her dad would give them a penny. The girls usually babysat for twenty-five cents an hour. They didn't get allowance then. They had to earn their money.

Jean had a 11:30 curfew all through high-school years until she was a senior she had 1:00 am curfew. For transportation they rode their bikes or walked. Jean never owned a car until she married to Ken Koenigsknecht.

Jean's opinion on the atomic bomb dropping was " I don't think we should waste all that money to take someone's

life." She also thought the riots were e pretty dumb "You can't get some thing for nothing."

Our parents that grew up in the '50s and '60s had it harder than us kids today. They can teach us lessons and stories that they were taught. If we listen, we can keep these stories alive and pass them down form generation to generation, and others will apperciate what we have today.

Interview with Marsha Koenigsknecht
by Therese Koenigsknecht

Marsha Koenigsknecht grew up like a normal sixties child, except for the person that truly raised her. My Aunt Marsha was raised by her grandmother because of her mother's stroke and health conditions. Marsha fit in with her time, but her values were that of the more conservative type. She was brought into the world to live a more mature life and to take responsibility of her family. A couple years after high school, she married her high school sweetheart, Jim. Together they had two boys, Richard and Scott. Marsha now works as a bookkeeper at the Fowler Clinic and shares the responsibility of caring for her mother, Barb.

Many of the experiences that she remembers involve school. Classrooms were both structured and more relaxed, and the students were more respectful to the teachers and their classmates. Marsha also commented that they did have their share of trouble-makers. She said that women and girls were treated with more respect. Guys opened doors for them, used proper language, and treated them with overall respect. When Marsha was in high school, she recalled only allowed to take a business course or college courses, not both. Lastly, she remembers sports. Football, basketball, baseball, and cheerleading. They had parties, but kids did not drink as much as they do today. She also remembers roller-skating, ice-skating, and hayrides on Friday and Saturday nights.

Fashion and music varied from the '60s to the '90s, but some has come back. She commented that crop tops, blue jeans with tapered legs, flannel shirts, stretch pants and widebelts were in style. Girls during her time wore white lipstick, and ratted or beehive hair. Popular songs around that time were Whose Sorry Now, Where the Boys Are, Sugar Shack, and Patches. Favorite singers were Fabian, Brenda Lee, Frankie Vally, Elvis, and the Four Tops.

Besides having a different social atmosphere, families have changed from her time to our's. Marsha mentioned that she would have rather grown up as she did instead of her kids because it was more relaxed, family oriented, more respectful, and more loving of one's country. She also recalled no one dropping out in high school. If a girl became pregnant, the couple would get married before the child was born.

Marsha not only remembers school life, family, fashion, and music, but the other important events in her life and

others. The Vietnam War, riots in Detroit involving blacks, and President Kennedy's death are events that will stay with her forever. Medical advancements for stroke victims became available by a surgical procedure involving artificial shunts (used as arteries). Cancer was the disease that scared many, also the fear of pregnancy since abstinence was highly believed in. The end of the world and fear of nuclear warfare were two of the many predictions made.

Marsha believes that young people can learn a lot from her generation. Family, loyalty, and not needing alcohol and drugs to fit in are some of the many. She wishes that today's youth could learn to accept people for the way they are.

Interview of Dennis Spitzley
By Dan Spitzley

Dennis Spitzley is a man among men in a time where a true man was hard to find. He's a rock, a sole beacon of light in a time of darkness. Truly a role model, someone not only to base one's life on, but to base a world upon. Being born on January 19, 1954, he has an insight on life that few do.

Dennis has a very interesting view of the way the world was when he was growing up and the way it is now. He feels that as he was growing up, "things seemed a lot bigger." Things were a lot calmer, a lot more laid back. Dennis feels that compared to the world now, and the way it was as he was growing up that we're not headed in the right direction. "The world is losing its conscience." He said when asked about this topic.

Dennis also had a different view of countries as he was growing up. He felt that the major threats to America and the major countries he was raised to hate were Russia, Cuba, and China compared to the countries of Japan and North Korea we hate today.

Another thing Dennis talked about was the assassinations of the time. He said he didn't understand what they actually meant at the time, but noticed more the concerns of the adults around him. It really changed his view of the world and taught him about how the world really worked.

Thirdly, Dennis cited the immense changes in the schools. He feels schools today cover more but lack the discipline he had. "I think the children were better mannered back then, but not necessarily as smart." He commented when asked his feelings about the differences in schooling. He also added that the dress codes in school are quite different. "We weren't allowed to wear jeans." He said when asked what he normally wore to school.

Den lastly talked about the difference in television. He felt that television when he was growing up had higher standards compared to today's unimaginative shows. When asked if he would rather grow then or now with the

technology we have today, he said he would have rather grown up when he did because of all the pressure of getting a job the new technology has brought on.

This man, this walking encyclopedia of the events of the past is truly someone that should be listened to. For through the past we can prevent the mistakes of the future, and this man, truly is the past.

INTERVIEW WITH GARY WEBER

By Vicki Weber

I interviewed Gary Weber. He was born in 1946. School was attended by him in the fifties and sixties. Gary works at Sealed Power in St. Johns. He is my dad. Besides me he has three other daughters. I chose to interview him because of the impact he has on my life and the impact he will continue to have on my life in the future. I wanted to see what teenagers were like when my dad was one. Secondly, I wanted to see if living back then maybe would have been harder or easier.

My dad said that for a lot of people in his time the assassination of John F. Kennedy stands out in their heads. He said that he only vaguely remembers it. "I think the teachers came in and told us, and then we listened to it on the radio. When we got home we watched it on television. This was before we had television in school," he replied.

During his school years he remembers the women's roles being limited. "I remember Nina Waldron being the only woman teacher at school and maybe one other," he remarked. "Women were pretty much limited to chores at the house, such as keeping the house, cooking, cleaning, and taking care of children. And this all held true until families couldn't afford to live on only one income. Then the wife had to go out and find a job," he replied. He also stated that even after the female found a job she was still pretty much held to all the housework she had, too.

Dad remembered some about the Martin Luther King. He said, "this community, being all white, didn't think much of it. In fact, they were almost prejudice against it. I didn't really say much on the topic. The community today has learned to adapt to different races of people a lot better."

My dad was drafted to Vietnam. He had to register for draft in St. Johns. Then they took a Greyhound bus to Detroit for a physical. My dad was sent right back because he had asthma. As the war got worse, he was sent back to Detroit for another physical. This time they told him he'd probably be sent regardless. He then went home again. The third time he went to Detroit, he was packed and ready to go. Another physical was taken this time a different doctor told him there was no way he would be going. I asked my dad if he wanted to go. He said, "Yes, the biggest mistake I ever made was when I started hanging around the wrong crowd and dropped out of school my junior year. This may have

helped me to finish high school." I also asked my dad if he was scared to go and he said, "Definitely."

Here are different things about when my dad was a kid and kids today that my dad pointed out. A lot of kids choose college over religion. My dad said he would have rather grown up today because we receive a lot more. There are more choices now than before. For fun in high school my dad played baseball and football. My dad told me that some of his friends used to call him "Hank A Gary" after a left-handed pitcher because he was a left-handed pitcher. Dad said, "There is more drinking now than when he was a kid, not that there wasn't none then. There was just not as much."

I conclude that my father's life was a lot different than mine. What I consider to be ups and downs in life he may not have considered at all. I learned that life was a lot more challenging back then because there wasn't a lot of technology. We can learn a lot from them. They had do things more for themselves. I wish that today's people had the determination that my dad's time had.

Interview with Thelma Miller
By Jessica Feldpausch

Thelma Miller, my grandmother, is a very interesting woman. She was born on August 3, 1938. She went to St. Johns schools and was raised with thirteen brothers and sisters. Thelma was married to Ernest Miller and together they had five children. Today she lives in St. Johns and works at Federal Mogul for her fortieth year. My grandma has many hobbies and leads a very active life.

My grandmother feels that things today are much different from when she was growing up. She says teenagers have it much better now than what she had it. Her father died when she was young so it was just her mom to raise her /and her siblings. To make extra money she worked at a small snack shop when she was thirteen. She needed the money so she could buy her own school books and other things she needed.

She said that when she was in high school not as many classes were offered as there are today. Her favorite class was physical education (which she took for all four years). She said the style for girls was to have very long and curly hair and the boys all had really short hair cuts. Everyday girls would wear dresses to school, but you could all wear jeans on Fridays.

For family fun, they would all watch a program on T.V. She thinks that television today shows too much sex and violence for children to watch. She would like to see better quality programs back on the T.V so the whole family can watch. Thelma wishes families had more time to be with each other, but sports and other activities take up a lot of people's time. She also wishes she could have been in more sports and things when she was growing up.

Some recreational activities that her and her friends did was go rollerskating every Saturday. She enjoyed doing that very much because it gave her a place to meet new people and socialize with others. That is where she met Ernest Miller, her husband. She did not go to parties or drink and she says not many people did. Compared to when she was growing up she thinks there is a lot more drinking among teenagers.

I asked my grandmother if there was anything that she thinks our generation could learn from hers and she said respect. When she was young, people always showed respect to their parents, and the elderly. Now kids will get in your way, flip you off and are just really rude. More discipline and strictness of parents could teach teenagers today to treat the adults with more respect.

Interview with Mary Jo Thelen

By Tom Thelen

My mom is a great woman. She is a person who would do anything for anybody. She is the type of person I would base my life upon, and I am sure more people would if they knew her. She has two kids and is single. She works at Farm Bureau, which is located in Lansing, and she also does a great job of taking care of the house. She has a lot of good views and opinions, and I would just like to share a couple of them with you.

There is many different opinions on the problems we had in the times that my mother lived in. There was a couple of fears and bad experiences that stand out for my mother during her time. There was a lot of problems, but I am only going to reveal a couple of them. Plus, there have been some good times and some other different social and physical changes she enjoyed.

One of the worst things that happened to my mother and this town was the Vietnam war. This town was really hit hard by the war. A lot of draftees were taken from this town, a lot were close friends. Nobody wanted all these people to go, but nobody had a choice. Some of them did come back safe, but all the lives lost brought a lot of broken hearts to this torn country. This was a terrible experience for the U.S. and nothing good really came of it. "We could have been a little bit more careful, and I think we could have prevented this great disaster," said Mary Jo.

Another bad deal was the assassination of John F. Kennedy. All the people that thought that he was going to be a good president were really devastated. While this killing happened my mother was in study hall. "I could not believe what I was hearing, I guess you could say that it hit me kind of hard for a minute there," said Mary Jo.

My mother liked growing up in a small community, She wanted to take after her good role-modeled mother, Mrs. Kathleen Weber, who lived in Fowler as well, and still does. "In high school we were trained to take care of men by

taking home economic classes and others to help us adapt." A couple of things different about today's life she sees are such things as: "back in my days we didn't have that many choices, even though I was fortunate enough to get a good paying job, but today's women get a lot more choices, such as going to college or getting a good job," said Mary Jo. "Back when I was a kid we didn't have much money and we had to be respectful to get what we did get, but now kids I think get too much. Hopefully things just start changing for the better everywhere."

INTERVIEW WITH JANET KOHAGEN
By Jessica Kohagen

Janet Kohagen is a forty-two year old woman living in the small town of Fowler, Michigan. Her place of employment is at Quality Dairy Food Store in Fowler. She is married and has four children. She was born in 1952 and grew up in a home with five sisters, two of which were twins.

When Janet was growing up she lived in an average home just one mile out of Fowler on Townsend Road. She went to school at Most Holy Trinity. Janet remembers that school back then was very strict and that her teachers were nuns. When I asked Janet if there was less or more drinking then, than there is today she replied, "I think it's about the same, alot of people I hung around with drank." Janet will always remember what the kids had to dress like everyday for school, the girls would where blue skirts and white shirts. The boy's had to where shirts with collars and nobody was allowed to where any type of jeans. She also remembers that everyday before school all of the students had to go to church and the families would go on Sundays also.

I asked Janet what she remembered about the assassination of John F. Kennedy, she replied, "I was only in sixth grade and when your that young you're not very concerned about stuff like that." She remembers that most of the children her age were mainly concerned that they got a day of school off because of the death, one of those students was Janet. Janet doesn't remember ever having any type of bomb drills, only fire drills is what she remembers.

Janet's favorite television shows were Leave It To Beaver and Wagon Train. She remembers that her parents didn't get a color Television until Janet was moved out. I asked Janet if there were many drop-outs in her school she replied, "No, not too many, but there were a couple." When Janet was seventeen she stopped going to school to get married and raise a family. She married Les. Janet said that there were quite a few girls that dropped out of school to get married, but whenever they did the girls would just disappear.

When I asked Janet if she would have rather grown up when she did or today, she said, when she did definitely. Kids are so disrespectful these days. Janet said that kids

today can learn respect, manners, and honesty from the people of her generation.

INTERVIEW WITH DEB SIMON

by Bernard Simon

For Deb Simon growing up in the 1960s and the 1970s was a lot different from now. There weren't many parties but many of the neighbor kids would play softball or basketball during the day and at night they might play hide-and-go-seek. Around this time when Deb was going to school girls had to wear dresses from when she started kindergarten until third grade. The boys would have to wear slacks and a shirt with a collar.

"Growing up at home was different back then than it is now," Deb said. The kids have more freedom now than they had, like being able to go places with their friends and not have to worry about doing their chores. The families were bigger than what they are now. When Deb was growing up she had six sisters and two brothers where now a normal family would have about three or four. Deb said that it was hard for her parents to pay the bills and to buy food for the ten people living there. Her mom made most of their clothes and back then a lot of the kids mothers made them to save money.

They didn't do much traveling because they were a big family and really couldn't afford to take kids traveling, but once in a while her mom and dad might go some where over night. There weren't too many people that really went on vacations where she grew up. Also they didn't go on vacations that much because they had to watch after the farm.

"For girls to grow up many would just get married or get a job," Deb said. A lot of her friends became secretaries at offices.

Deb lived on a farm when she was younger. She would have to do some of the chores with all of her brothers and sisters since they had a fairly good-sized farm back then. Most of the people Deb went to school with lived on a farm or worked on one. When Deb was going to high school, many people would live in town instead of a farm.

When Deb was about twelve her brother Don was coming home from work. One of his friends he worked, with was driving and lost control of the car and his friend was killed and her brother was badly injured with a broken leg and a lost finger. About twenty-five years later they had to amputate his leg from the waist because of problems he was having.

One thing my mom remembered was the assassination of John F. Kennedy. Everyone in her class were shocked and upset many were crying because they thought that he would have been a good president. Deb said no one would had figured that it would have happen to him.

INTERVIEW WITH CATHERINE OWELL
by Brent Rowell

"It all happened during another normal work day. I was listening to the radio when the terrible news came to me. Nobody knew what to think! How could a thing like this happen to John Kennedy? Everyone was let out of work early to go home. I also had the Monday off to watch the funeral on TV." The assassination of John F. Kennedy was an event that has stayed in her memory and probably always will. Memories like this, along with many others, have changed her life in many ways.

Other than JFK, there were many other great events that happened during Catherine's life. Another major person she remembered was Charles Manson. "He was a sick cult leader who should have been killed." Vietnam was a war that Catherine would never forget. She recalled "Many people were confused and angry about Vietnam." She especially remembered it well because of her sister's boyfriend who was shot and killed in battle.

Throughout Catherine's life, the world's technology changed in many ways. She remembers the first man to walk on the moon very clearly. "Many people were anxious to find out what his first words were going to be." As far as she could remember, they always had a phone but didn't get a TV until she was about eight. "It was a huge deal because everyone was getting one and talking about them." She loved watching the Tigers when they were on television. Al Kaline was always her favorite player and her hero. Cathy always had indoor plumbing in her house.

During Catherine's childhood, school took up much of her time. Other than school, work took up a lot of the rest. She remembers doing many jobs outside, either in the barn, field, or garden. Everyday, Cathy had to feed the cattle at night. Some days she even had to feed them in the morning before school. She also recalls driving tractor during the summer for many hours, and pulling weeds in the garden.

During her free time at home, she either watched TV, listened to the radio, or played games with her three sisters and three brothers. If her parents would let them all, they would go over to the neighbors across the street and play ball.

Throughout Catherine's life, she has witnessed many changes and events that affect everyone's lives. Many of these are events that end up in death or war. These changes will stick in her memories and affect her through the rest of her life.

Interview with Phil Tiedt
by Russ Tiedt

Phil Tiedt (my dad) is 54 and was born June 4, 1940. He attended school at Rodney B. Wilson Middle School and

later attended St. Johns High School playing football and track. He is the son of Rudolph and Marie Tiedt, one of three boys, and in 1978 he married Pamela Rossow.

The first question I asked my dad was what assignments, if any, did he remember from his childhood. He said he recalled John F. Kennedy being killed on November 23, 1963, and he said he knew exactly what he was doing at the time. "I was in a parade, much like mister Kennedy, going down Townsend road, sitting in my car listening to the radio. When the news was broadcasted on the radio the car suddenly fell silent and everyone was in shock." Another killing he remembered was that of Robert Kennedy was about to announce that he was going to run for president when he was shot in the kitchen in what Dad thinks was a San Francisco hotel.

Another question I asked him was what he thought when the first person orbited the earth or when people first landed on the moon. He replied "I thought it was quite an accomplishment, but I also thought that for how much money they put into the space program that something ought to happen pretty soon."

The next question I asked him is if he liked school or not and after a long hesitation he said he didn't mind it but there were some things it lacked. I also asked him what he did to pass the time, to which he replied "When I wasn't practicing football and track I went home and did chores." When I asked what he did with friends he said that they would play or just plain fool around. But he also added that one thing he never, ever did was vandalize someone or something because he said "We had more respect and decency for other people than kids today do."

The next question was more of a personal one, but I inquired of him whether or not he messed around or experimented with alcohol. It was with great hesitation that he said he would go out and maybe have one or two beers once in awhile, but he didn't get "plastered" like some of today's teenagers might do.

The final question I asked him is whether he was the type of person to keep up on current events. He said "I rarely ever read the newspaper. Sure there was always one around but I never took the time to read it."

Phil sees morals and respect for elders as the main points that kids today need to work on. He says that there needs to be a higher standard than there is for kids and adults to live together or at least tolerate each other for the most part. This is what this next generation needs to learn.

Interview of Barb Thelen by Mandy Thelen

Barb Thelen is a married women with five kids. She graduated high school in 1971. She was married later that year. After graduating high school, getting married, and

having her first child, Barb started work at Farm Bureau. In 1976, she quit work to finish her family. Recently, Barb has went back to college and is currently looking for a parttime job.

As a child, Barb remembers all the work that had to be done. Barb grew up with eleven kids in her family. She remembers all the kids having to share all the chores. In their house they didn't split the chores by sexes, all the kids worked on the farm and in the house.

High school, for Barb was somewhat different from today. In high school during the '60s there were not very many sports for girls. There were no girls in shop during this time. Barb also remembers that there were only a few guys in home economics. During her high school years, the first man walked on the moon. She remembers sitting at home that night, with her boyfriend Dale, watching the news about this major event. Unlike today's high school parking lot, during the '60s there were not many parents who allowed their kids to drive to school.

As Barb was growing up through the '60s the economy wasn't very bad. She remembers the wages being lower than they are now. Although people made less money, it usually went farther than it does now. During the '60s the prices of items were a lot lower. Back then most kids wore hand-me-downs. Barb remembers almost always having hand-me-downs. As Barb was growing up she received only her basic needs. They usually never had all the extras that kids have today. When Barb was a child, she remembers growing all their own food. They always had a garden planted. They would hunt deer for some meat. Other meat would come from animals off the farm that they would butcher.

As technology progressed, her family received more luxuries. Barb's family owned one vehicle. This was used by her father to go to work. The kids were expected to walk to the farm for chores, and walk if they were to go to a friends house. Her family had a television. There was only one set in the house, unlike most houses today. Her family went without a phone for a while. As time went on they finally got a phone but that is only because her father had his own business at home. When they finally received a phone, they had a party line. A party line, back in the '60s, contained many people. Whenever the phone rang, each house had to listen for their specific ring.

In conclusion of this interview, I have learned about how life was as my mother grew up. I realize all the work they had to do to keep a family and the house running. I also realize we are lucky to be growing up in the '90s.

INTERVIEW WITH CLARE THELEN

By Andy Thelen

Clare M. Thelen was born on March 4, 1953. Clare is married to Janet D. Halfman Thelen. Clare is also the father of three boys. The oldest is Chad S. Thelen; the

middle child is Andy S. Thelen: and the youngest is Christopher S. Thelen. Clare works for General Motors and is a member of the UAW. He graduated from Fowler High School and has lived here ever since. During the time between 1950 and 1970 my father was affected by many things and here are some of them.

On November 22, 1963, when President John F. Kennedy died Clare was ten years old. He doesn't remember much about this event, but he does remember some. He does remember watching some of the broadcasts on T.V. He said that it was something everybody was talking about and he felt bad for the family.

Another major event that occurred was the Vietnam War which began in 1959 and ended in 1975. The year that really affected him was 1971 because that was the year that he turned eighteen. Clare said that he had to go to St. Johns and fill out papers. This was one of the things that was a part of the lottery draft system. The way this system worked was draft officials drew out birthdays. The first birthday drawn would go to war first and the second would go next and so on. Clare's number was 47 but he never had to go to war because they were sending the troops back at that time.

Another major event was the Second Vatican Council became about in the mid 1960s. This is affected Clare because he was a mass server at the time, and they had to learn the whole mass in English. This was so because before this event the mass was said in Latin. Some of the other changes were that the priest started using the altar that faced the people instead of having his back to the audience. Another change was that the church did away with kneeling when people received communion and eventually did away with the communion railing.

The last major event during this time was the way the T.V. affected their families lives. Clare's family had one color T.V. in their house and they didn't get that until the mid 1960s. Some of the ways T.V. is different now than it was back then are the programs shown. Back then the shows were more family oriented. They had lots of comedies and variety shows. A variety show is a show that has skits, singing, and dance routines on it. Some of the popular ones were The Red Skeleton Show, The Carol Burnett Show, The Ed Sullivan Show and The Smothers Brothers Comedy Hour.

These are just some of the major events that occurred during the time of 1950 to 1970. Clare Thelen was not affected by these happenings very drastically but still all these events affected him in one way or another. Clare Thelen was glad to do this interview, and I was glad to interview him.

AN INTERVIEW WITH DENNIS SIMON

by Jeff Simon

Dennis Simon grew up in the 1960s and the 1970s. He was raised on his parents' farm just west of Fowler. Also he attended Fowler High School and graduated in 1972. While he was growing up he witnessed many changes throughout his life. Some of these changes were in politics and entertainment.

During the 1960s there were great changes in the politics in the United States. One change Dennis could remember was the time his brother was drafted for the United States Army to serve in Vietnam. He served for approximately one year. Another memory Dennis had was the Cuban Missile Crisis. It was the closest the United States has ever come to being attacked with nuclear missiles. Dennis said the family would gather around the television to watch the updates on the situation. He also remembered the civil right movements. At the time he didn't understand the reason for the movement since he was so young and lived in a predominantly white community. Dennis said, "The memory I can never forget is probably the assassination of John F. Kennedy." Dennis said he was out in the field working all day but when he came to the house he found everyone staring at the television in disbelief. He didn't completely understand what happened until he heard his mother tell his father about how Kennedy was shot while in a parade in Dallas.

Keeping himself entertained was one of Dennis's many fond memories of his childhood. Now when he looks back he realizes that they did a lot of stupid things. Dennis recalled a time when they would go into the barn and jump off the scaffolding onto a pile of straw shaft. Another thing they did for entertainment was grab onto the tail of the cattle and "ski" behind them. They would always invent new games to play in their spare time. Almost every Sunday the neighborhood children would come over and play baseball in the pasture. Once they were tired of playing baseball they would go and play around in the woods. One thing that Dennis remembered was that there wasn't a variety of things to do like there is today.

Dennis witnessed many changes in the world. Even though some were very insignificant, such as the games they played, some meant life and death, such as the Cuban Missile Crisis. Some changes involved blacks and their civil rights. Eventually, all these changes affected Dennis sometime in his life.

INTERVIEW WITH MY MOTHER, DEBBIE REHMANN

By Jeff Rehmann

"It happened when I was in the sixth grade science class. Kennedy was shot. While watching a science program in class we were interrupted with a news bulletin, my first

thought was: 'Oh another stupid annoucment. It turned out to be that it was an announcement saying that Kennedy had been shot," my mother explained. " Everyone was shocked. The nun left the room to get the principal, and they all watched the tradgic bulletin. It was a day students and many other will never forget."

The assasination of Kennedy was one of the biggest national things that my mom remembers. When the assasination happened, my mother said it was a sad day for many people because not only democrats and catholics liked him, but many republicans took a liking to him, too. My grandfather did not vote for him, but ended up liking him after awhile.

When my mother was growing up, the main entertainment was television. They recieved their first television in 1955. When they were younger, if they were not watching T.V. or at school, they were most likely working out in the chicken coops.

The chicken coops were barns that my grandpa raised chickens in. "Right after school we all had to change our clothes and start picking up eggs in the smelly, dirty coops." My mother said it was hard, tiring, and boring, everyday going out to pick up eggs. "Back then kids usally did some kind of chore everyday after school or in the evening. Now kids just go home a lot of times and sit in front of the T.V." Kids have it much easier today rather than forty years ago.

Other than watching T.V. and working in the coops my mother said that they also did a couple of other things. She liked to play "red rover" when she was really little, and when she got older, people came out with the game of Twister, which at the time many thought it was a really fun game. Another thing that entertained my mom greatly was the band known as the Monkeys. She always adored their sing and music and collected their albums.

My mother has lived for almost forty-three years and has seen many things. Some things were good like at times of playing Twister and listening to the Monkeys. Some things were bad like when people were worrying about the Cuban Missile Crisis and watching Kennedy being shot on T.V. But the most biggest event that stuck out in the minds of my mom and many others was the Kennedy Assination.

Interview with Agatha Epkey

By Pam Thelen

There has been many inventions and changes in society and many activities in 1940-60. I asked Agatha Epkey from Fowler about how the time and period is like. The day is March 5, 1995 and approximate time is about two thirty in the afternoon. Agatha grew up on a farm and lived a happy life. She is now sixty-six. She was brought up in the thirties and forties and many important events happen during her life.

One thing Agatha remembered a little about is many protests in the sixties. She was out on the farm. The biggest thing that affected her about the Korean War was Dr. Tom Dooley. She remembers all the tremendous and wonderful things he did to save the people. That really stuck in her mind during her life.

Another thing Agatha remembers is the television. It was a fun invention. It was very different then stations were all black and white. Basically there was appropriate programs on. "Some of the things that are on television now are not fit for kids to see." They also had a lot of other entertainment. She remembers people watched a lot of movies. Agatha does not remember any movies she watched. She did not watch movies that often.

Besides the television Agatha remembers having skating parties. They also went down to the creek on Sundays and built bon fires and had weenie roasts. She remembered it as being a blast. They was a lot of parties, too. Agatha was a good girl and her "group" stayed away from kids who drank. She never drank. She says, "You can tell the man whose loses by the company he chooses."

In addition to what Agatha learned in the sixties she also believes that there were a couple of advantages that her daughter had. When her daughters were growing up, she wished she could have as many field trips and little advantages that they had. They are now more classes that could have been offered. Back then there were more required classes to take. Women have now different variety.

Another thing that was very important to Agatha was the assassination of John F. Kennedy played an important part in growing up. It was very serious matter to talk about. She was ironing at the time she cried and could not believe it. Even now thinking about it hurts. She does'nt understand how anybody could ever do that. She remembers the television and when he was shot. It showed the whole film. His wife holding him crying. Her family's perspective of the assassination of JFK she thought that everybody thought alike. How can this happen in our own country? In a sense as the government he was a tremendous image and did a lot of wonderful things . One thing that stands out in Agatha's mind even today that JFK said is: "Ask not what your county can do for you but what can you do for your country."