

B PRESS.

O. S. M. ...

THURSDAY, JUNE 11, 1908.

\$1.00 PER ANNUM.

DEKALB COUNTY
LINE 4 PRIMARY

Vote by Districts for
Offices in Cases
of Opposition.

At an election in Dekalb county Thursday, much interest was manifested. The election over the state was also exciting, and is covered on another page.

Published last is given below of the vote for the county officers when opposition was had. The race for governor and congress is also given. In the county Capt. Milledge received 1984 votes for prison commissioner; P. E. Dawson 311, K. R. Foster 92, J. E. Mercer 85, Wiley Williams 844.

Some of the other total votes in the county were as follows: L. S. Room for judge 2759; W. S. Howard for solicitor 2759; J. R. George for ordinary 2825; B. F. Burgess clerk 2817; O. A. Morris for sheriff 2809; C. S. Mercer for surveyor 2782; R. E. Jones for coroner 2812.

In Dekalb county Hoke Smith got a majority over Joe. M. Brown for governor of 127, the small majority being a surprise to most of the people.

Capt. Milledge received a good vote over the county and state for prison commissioner but ran short of the proper vote to nominate. Livingston carried Dekalb, and won the seat again.

Hons. C. M. Tindler and Hooper Alexander were returned to the legislature, defeating Mr. S. A. Morris. Mr. C. E. Childs was re-elected tax receiver over his opponents, Messrs. Jas. E. Shumate and W. J. Williams.

Mr. E. O. Reagan won over Mr. T. R. Floyd, the present tax collector, and Mr. J. M. Lethwisch. Mr. D. C. Thompson was re-elected treasurer over his four opponents, J. J. Almond, C. H. Talley, G. H. Jones and J. A. Wright.

The other county officers were re-elected without opposition.

Bridges Unsafe.

Warning to the Public: The East Fair bridge, near Dahlgreen station is dangerous to cross; also the Star-glass road bridge over South river near Cedar Grove is in bad condition. Caused from the recent heavy rains. The people are warned not to cross them until they are fixed.
L. J. FURMAN,
Contr. of Roads.

Business School Scholarship.

The Press has a scholarship in a leading business school for sale. Any one intending to secure a business school training would do well to set the Press.

FROM ROCK CHAPEL

Death Sunday Last of Mrs. Mandy Chupp.
Misses Ina, Stella and May Weeks spent Saturday and Sunday with relatives in Decatur.

Several from here went to the singing at Decatur last Sunday.
Miss W. M. Walthrop spent the week-end with relatives at East Lake.

Don't forget about our picnic at Rockbridge Friday, June 26.

Mr. Weyman Mitchell of Texas is visiting his parents, Mr. and Mrs. D. Mitchell.

Miss Key Ragsdale is on the sick list this week.

After many weeks' of suffering, Mrs. Mandy Chupp died Sunday morning, June 7. Mrs. Chupp had been ill for several weeks, and her death had been expected for some time; yet when the end came it was a severe shock to her many friends and relatives. Mrs. Chupp was 65 years old. Besides her husband and daughter Mrs. Annie MacClendon, she leaves one brother and one sister. Her funeral was conducted by Rev. Dr. Quillen and her remains were tenderly laid to rest in the cemetery at this place Monday afternoon, June 8. We extend our sympathy to the dear ones who will miss her so much.

A Potential Optimist.

Edwin P. Ansley believes in the potential optimism of doing things and exemplifies it in the doing.

It is the gospel of accomplishment needed now to pour back into the arteries of this land and business. To the man mooning and moaning over dull times we cannot look, but to the man who puts his shoulder to the wheel and pushes the harder when adversity is near, we must turn.

Mr. Ansley belongs to the latter school, the class of men that have made Atlanta a great and rich city—that type of hustling, pushing optimist whose lives are brimming with the doctrine of push.

The man's big faith in the future of this city and the state, his unbounding belief in the soundness of our prosperity, is shown in his great plans for Ansley Park. His faith speaks eloquently in the payment of \$278,000 for the interest of his associates. That he cannot and will not fail, is sure.

It is upon the brains and heart and faith and work of such men that the hope of the city rests—those whose faces are set steadfastly toward greater things, even in the hours when less courageous men falter.

The people of Atlanta will stamp back of Edwin P. Ansley in his work.—Atlanta Georgian.

PORAVILLE DOINGS.

College Students Returning for Vacation.

There is, almost as much talk about the governor's election now as before—so we haven't peace yet. Miss Lois Braswell, of Villa Rica, is visiting her grandfather at this place.

Miss Pearl Johnson stopped over today or so, with friends here last week. She was on her way home from Piedmont College.

Miss Clifford Alnundy attended the commencement exercises at Democrat last week.

Mr. Todd McElroy has returned home from Kentucky, where he has been visiting his sister, Mrs. Kerr. Miss Josie Shuler, of Elmore, S. C., was the guest of Miss Susie Chesnut last week.

Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Miller, of Atlanta, visited their parents at this place Saturday and Sunday. Miss Tern Stewart, who has been attending school at Piedmont College, has returned home to spend her vacation.

Rev. S. A. Patterson, of South Carolina, is visiting Mrs. P. B. Patterson at this place. He preached an interesting sermon at the Presbyterian church last Sunday. Mrs. Light, of Cumming, is visiting her son, Mr. T. W. Light, of this place.

Several students of Piedmont College spent a day with Miss Clifford Alnundy at this place. They were on route to Jacksonville.

Miss Clara McPhoy, of Inwood College, is the expected guest of Mrs. J. G. McElroy, of this place. Her many friends here will be glad to know she will probably spend her vacation here.

Card of Thanks.

Editor Dekalb Press: I desire through your paper to express my thanks to the people of Dekalb county for again endorsing my candidacy for clerk superior court, and I also avail myself of this opportunity to pledge myself to discharge the duties of this office to the best of my ability in the future as I have in the past. Very respectfully,
B. F. Burgess.

Pea Ridge Grist Mill.

The Pea Ridge Grist Mill has been overhauled and is again ready for grinding corn every Thursday. Your patronage solicited.

Official Consolidated Returns of Dekalb County State and County Primary Held on June 4, 1908

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--------------|------------|---------------|------------------|-------------|------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|-----------|------------|---------------|------------|--------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| Joe M. Brown | Hoke Smith | Jas L. Mayson | Hooper Alexander | O M Candler | S A Morris | O R Gibbs | J E Shumate | W J Williams | T R Floyd | E O Reagan | J M Lethwisch | G H Talley | D G Thompson | N J Almond | G H Jones | J A Wright |
|--------------|------------|---------------|------------------|-------------|------------|-----------|-------------|--------------|-----------|------------|---------------|------------|--------------|------------|-----------|------------|

FROM MACEDONIA.

Mrs. Whatley, of Atlanta, Buried Sunday.
Mr. and Mrs. Ed Burgess visited Mr. B. B. Bishop and family Sunday.

Miss Jennie Sue Kirby was the guest of Misses Jennie and Marie Miller Saturday night and Sunday.

Mr. George Hicks and family, of Stone Mountain, visited Mr. Argo and family Saturday night and Sunday.

Mr. Bob Goddard and family, of Beckn, visited at Mr. Argo's Sunday.

The singing at Mr. W. T. Miller's Saturday night was enjoyed by all present.

Mr. Robertson, has returned from his home in Atlanta after spending the week-end at his home here.

Mr. and Mrs. W. T. Miller, of Stone Mountain, visited Mr. Argo and family Saturday night and Sunday.

Mr. and Mrs. Ed Burgess visited Mr. B. B. Bishop and family Sunday.

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preached at last Saturday at 11 o'clock.

of Ganes daughter, week.

two children Reswell on day.

Mrs. W. W. learn that her home.

with or Mrs. A. D.

of Mrs. W. W. learn that her home.

with or Mrs. A. D.

of Mrs. W. W. learn that her home.

with or Mrs. A. D.

of Mrs. W. W. learn that her home.

Subject File: *Dep. copy*
Rehab. Co. Community
also known as Pea

Pea Ridge is a community on the south part of Tucker from Lawrenceville Highway along Cooledge Road to North Druid Hills, Burnt Creek and north to the Railroad. It was a series of farms, including the 250 acre R.F.Sams Truck Farm on Montreal Road and the Honea dairy farm on Montreal Road. One of its few paved roads Lawrenceville Highway connected to Tucker to Atlanta and Decatur and Lawrenceville. Pea Ridge was home to HELLO WORLD gas station and general store. HELLO WORLD was a landmark; a traveler could take a Greyhound Bus from Decatur with a ticket to Pea Ridge and get off at HELLO WORLD. It was torn down in 1961. At the corner of Frazier Road was the Crown Station owned by Joe Haralson in the 1930s. Rehoboth Baptist Church would dam up the creek under Frazier Road and hold baptisms. Rehoboth Presbyterian is a part of the Pea Ridge Community. Haralson's Gulf was a big part of the community for many years. It served as Pea Ridge's city hall and Nathan Haralson was the "Mayor". The Rehoboth Pharmacy was across the street. In 1982, the Gulf oil company pulled out of Pea Ridge and the station closed.

MEET THE MAYOR OF PEA RIDGE: NATHAN HARALSON

Raise your hand if you know where Pea Ridge is! Well, according to the Mayor, Pea Ridge is the name of that part of South Tucker, straddling Lawrenceville Highway along the Continental Divide, that runs from Cooleedge Road down Sargent's Hill to North Druid Hills, south to Burnt Fork Creek and north to the Seaboard (CSX) Railroad. Nowadays, it's known for fine churches and comfortable neighborhoods, but it was once a notable farming community with a few famous landmarks and an identity all its own.

Nathan Haralson has been the Unofficial Mayor of Pea Ridge for well over forty years. He was elected to the post by democratic vote, with signs and everything...



Nathan & Sarah Haralson at the Roast..

Nathan Haralson has been the Unofficial Mayor of Pea Ridge for well over forty years. He was elected to the post by democratic vote, with signs and everything, but some political opponent demanded a recount, since it seemed that many of Nathan's votes came from Floral Hills. (You know...the big cemetery on the old Johns' homeplace?)

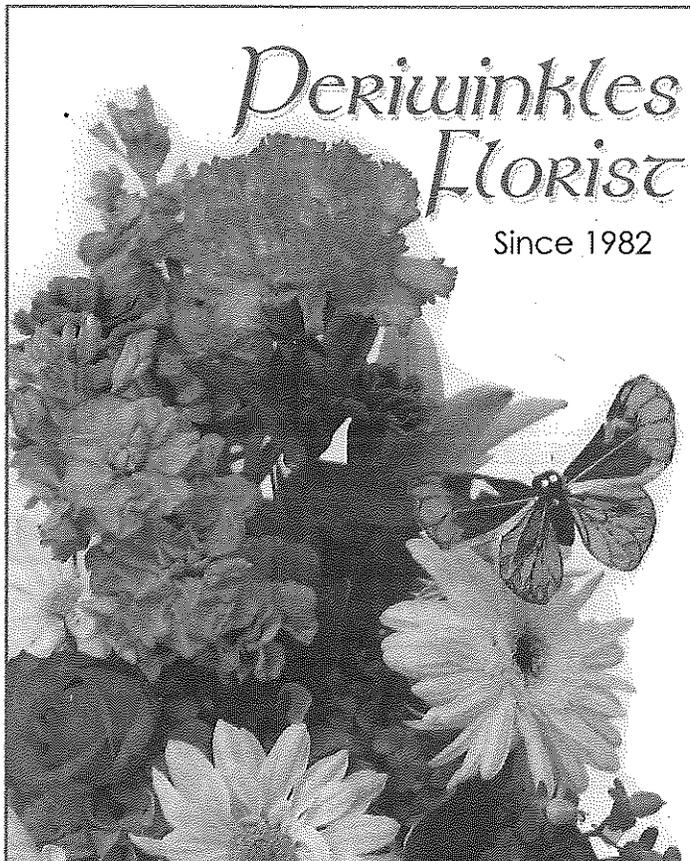
Born on May 15, 1928, Nathan is a Pea Ridge native, born in a house on

Lawrenceville Highway where Dr. Vanderyt's office now stands. He was the son of John B. and Bertha Mae Hopkins Haralson and spent his early years on Frazier and Montreal Roads. His father was an auto mechanic as a young man, and a cabinet maker later in life. His Grandfather, Joe B. Haralson, owned the Crown gas station on the corner at Frazier Road in the mid-1930's, when the attendant filled your tank with a hand pump. Nathan had two brothers. Tragically, Freddie died of leukemia at the age of eighteen. Belvin (also known as C.B. or "Cool Breeze") remained Nathan's closest friend.

Up the highway at Montreal Road stood the home of Ebb Chewning and the Crown station's competition, the Hello World gas station and general store. You could get gas, groceries, fish bait and all the gossip you could stand at Hello World. It got its name from the cheerful greeting that began a popular radio show in the '20's. Over time, the station became a landmark, somewhat like Marietta's Big Chicken. A motorist could find his way to anyplace if he started at Hello World. You could catch a Greyhound bus in Decatur or Atlanta with a ticket that stated Pea Ridge as your destination, and you'd wind up at Hello World. Texaco oil company took over the property in 1961 and tore down the famous Hello World. The Batteries Plus store now stands on that site.

When Nathan Haralson was growing up, Pea Ridge was a series of farms. From the modern and efficient 250-acre truck farm of R.F. Sams on Montreal Road to Bruce Honea's dairy farm across from today's Northlake Medical Center, Pea Ridge provided food for all of DeKalb County. One of the few paved roads in the area, Lawrenceville Highway was a major artery that connected Tucker to the cities of Decatur and Atlanta.

As a child, Nathan worked as hard as he played. He plowed with a mule and cut grass to pay for his Boy Scout uniform. He and Cool Breeze and their friends



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looked forward to the weekend each year when the congregation from Rehoboth Baptist Church would dam up the creek under Frazier Road for their baptism service. The creek would then become a broad, deep swimming hole that they could enjoy before the deacons broke up the dam until next year. His father had one of the first radios in Pea Ridge, and the family enjoyed listening to the popular programs on WSB.

Nathan attended Rehoboth School, then graduated from Clarkston High School. He immediately began to seek his own way in life, working as a stock-boy at Sears & Roebuck on Ponce de Leon Avenue before moving on to Davison's Department store on Peachtree Street.

At the first opportunity, Nathan joined the Navy and got to cruise the globe on the largest aircraft carrier of its day. From Hawaii, he toured the Far East, then sailed through the Suez Canal to North Africa, onto Greece and Turkey, and down through the ports of Europe.

When he came back to Pea Ridge in 1950, Nathan

went to work at a Gulf gas station belonging to the father and son, Waymon Yon, Sr. and Jr. Soon he met the Love of his Life, Sarah Flowers, at a service at Midway Baptist Church. They married on December 8, 1951. "I got the best woman...and the best in-laws...in the world," he claimed proudly. She was a Methodist and he was Baptist, so they compromised and joined Rehoboth Presbyterian where they enjoyed a long membership.



Nathan in the Navy
1946 - 1949

With his father's help as a co-signer, Nathan went to the Bank of Tucker on Main Street to secure a \$100.00 note. The banker, Mr. Reid Cofer, said, "Son, don't let your Daddy have to pay this back." With the one hundred dollars, Nathan and Sarah paid the preacher for their wedding, paid one month's rent on their garage apartment on Montreal Road, made a down payment on dining room furniture, and enjoyed a two-night honeymoon in the posh Briarcliff Hotel on Ponce de Leon Avenue.

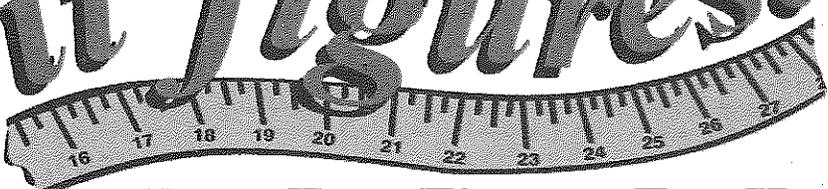
While Nathan was making \$45.00 a week at the Gulf Station, Sarah began a long career at the Hartford Insurance Company in Atlanta. The young couple was able to pay back the loan very quickly.

In 1958, with help from long-time customer and

continued on page 48



it figures!





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Mayor of Pea Ridge (continued from page 47)

friend, Parks Chewning, Nathan was able to take over the gas station. On the basis of a handshake, he leased the Gulf Station next-door to Rehoboth Elementary School from Waymon Yon, Jr. for 32 years.

On February 17, 1959, Sarah and Nathan became the parents of their only child, Patti Lynn. The family moved into a new house on Anderson Place off Frazier Road, and as their child grew, so did their lives in Pea Ridge.

Haralson's Gulf station became an essential part of the community. Nathan offered full-service auto repair, and the shop, with its pot-bellied stove in the back, became a center for Pea Ridge politics, gossip and fellowship. Nathan had a police-band CB radio and was quick to lend a hand at the scene of an accident. He'd make "house calls" to work on the cars of elderly Pea Riders, or leave home in the middle of the night to help someone whose car had broken down. The cheap gas station across the street was selling gas for a penny less than Nathan could buy it wholesale, but his customers came back to him everytime.

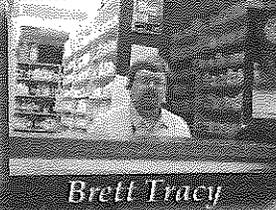
With the Rehobeth Elementary School right next-door, mothers placed their trust in Nathan, telling their kids to go over to the station to wait for their rides home. A whole generation of high-school boys worked

continued on next page

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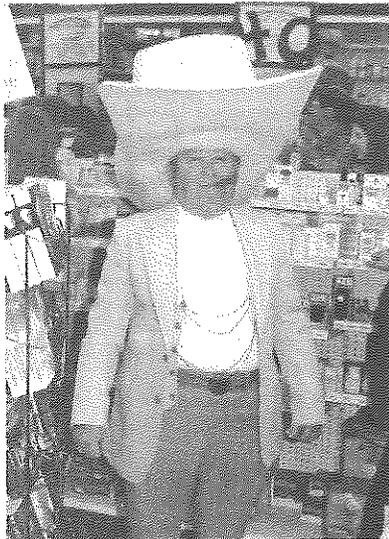
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for Nathan during the summers, and over the years, the sons of those boys came to work there too. With his quick wit and his heart of gold, Nathan *became* the Mayor of Pea Ridge, and the gas station was everyone's City Hall.

According to Cousin Ruby Nell Bennett, who made her native neighborhood famous in her books, tapes and comedy routines, Pea Ridge changed when I-285 was built in the mid-60's, splitting Montreal Road and dividing the community into North Pea Ridge and South Pea Ridge, depending on what side of the Perimeter you were standing on. The farms gave way to subdivisions and more people came. The newcomers called the place Rehoboth after the most prominent church in the area, and before too long, only the old-timers called it Pea Ridge anymore.

But Nathan's love for his hometown grew with the community. He was a benevolent Mayor. His constituents, when they weren't hanging out at the station, gathered at the Rehobeth Pharmacy across the street. His duties



"Boss Hogg" at Rehobeth Pharmacy

included assessing fines, never to be collected, for a variety of silly infractions that no one took seriously anyway. In the '70's folks began calling him "Boss Hogg" after the character in "The Dukes of Hazzard" TV series. Nathan, with his rather round figure, was never seen without an unlit cigar stub in his mouth as he swaggered around Pea Ridge. He was perfect for the part. For special occasions, he wore a tan three-piece suit with gold chains, Western boots and a costume cowboy hat almost four feet across.

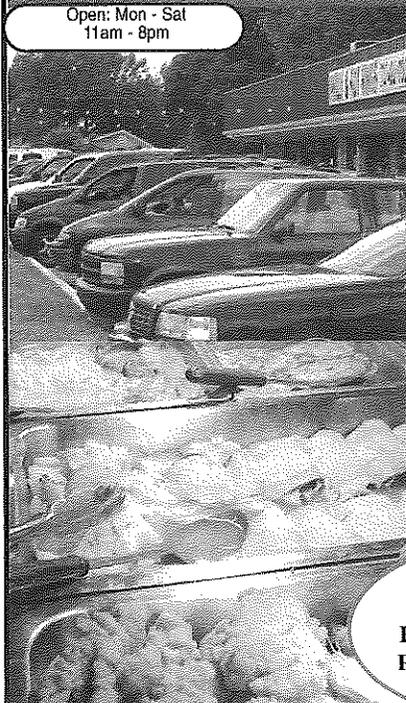
In the '70's folks began calling him "Boss Hogg" after the character in "The Dukes of Hazzard"

But the days of Haralson's Gulf came to a close when the oil company pulled out of Pea Ridge. The community was stricken with the news. The Pea Ridge Booster Club, led by Shirley Wilson and Russell and Sandy Richardson, hosted a "Roast" for Nathan at the Rehoboth Elementary School auditorium on Saturday, May 15th, 1982. It was also Nathan's 54th birthday.

continued on page 51



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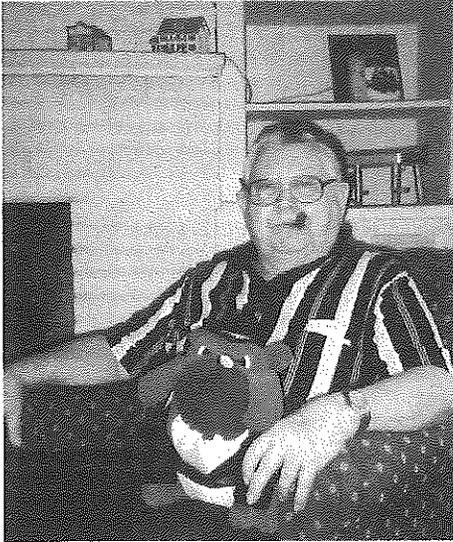
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Nathan and his cigar-chompin' bulldog

Almost 400 Pea Ridgers turned out to enjoy skits, speeches, an Elvis impersonator, belly dancers, and the chance to see Nathan get a cream pie in the face. Then there were three tables full of food and a birthday cake. With Sarah, their daughter Patti, Cool Breeze and his wife, Dot, by

his side at the Roasting Table, Nathan was overwhelmed by the response from the community. "I don't have much money, but I'm the richest man in Pea Ridge", he said that night.

Afterwards, he tried going to work for another gas station, but he quickly learned that few proprietors shared his view of customer service and dedication. Soon,

continued on page 52






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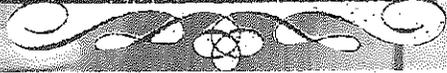
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Mayor of Pea Ridge (continued from page 51)

Herbert Wilson suggested that he build a garage behind his house on Anderson Place. Next thing he knew, the concrete slab was poured and the materials were delivered from Cofer Brothers. Wilson and two friends built Nathan's garage in seventeen hours. For the next ten years, he worked on the cars of his friends and neighbors in Pea Ridge in his backyard.

But sad days were coming. His brother, Belvin, aka Cool Breeze, passed away in 1989, and his own health took a downward turn. Then Sarah became ill in 1994, and he and Patti cared for her until her death the following year.

Today, Nathan is retired from his backyard shop. Patti lives with him in the house on Anderson Place, along with a black Lab named Missy and a long-haired gray cat named Mattie. His best buddies these days are his nephew, Jimmy Flowers and his wife, Connie, who have helped him in many ways. He's collected hundreds of pieces of memorabilia of his long-time NASCAR hero, the late Dale Earnhardt. He now supports Dale, Jr., and never misses a race. Next year, he'll receive his Fifty-Year apron from the Tucker Masonic Lodge. He keeps in touch with old friends at their regular morning coffee club at Mrs. Winner's in Pea Ridge, and continues to make new friends wherever he goes.

continued on next page

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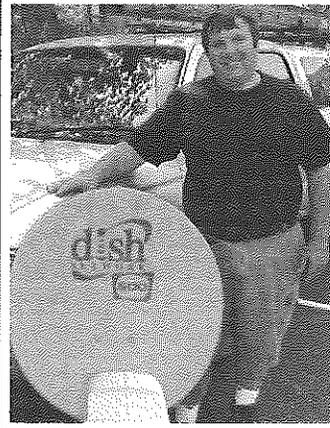
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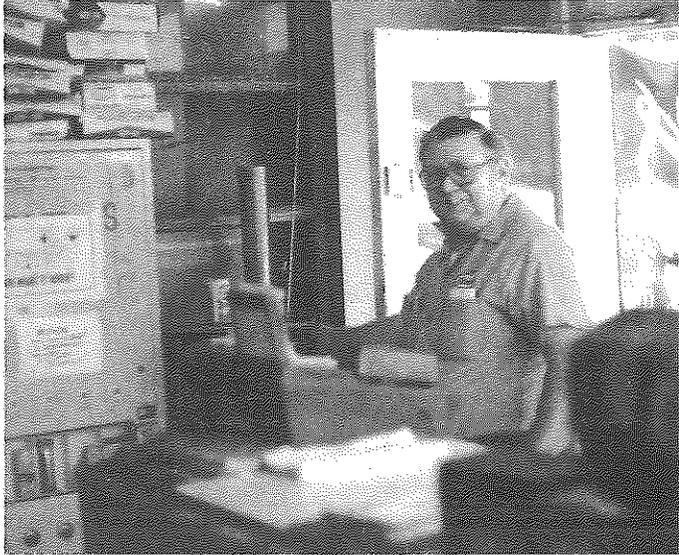
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Nathan Haralson remains a resource for Pea Ridge legends and lore. He's proud of his many photo albums, newspaper clippings and items of interest, such as his Greyhound bus ticket, dated July 1946, that took him from Decatur to Pea Ridge back in the old days. All of his friends and neighbors, including Cousin Ruby Nell, proclaim him the Mayor of Pea Ridge for life.

—by Trish England

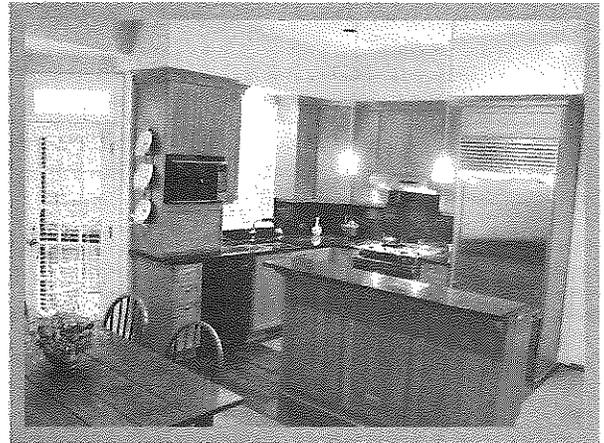


Nathan's last day at Haralson's Gulf Station

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