

## **Star City (Randall) School**

### **Morgan District, Monongalia County**

#### **Local History**

**John Chapman  
Mary Grimes  
Yvonne Quinet  
Elsie Glisan  
Eliza Bracey  
Ada Skiles**

#### **Teachers, 1922**

[NOTE: This a transcription of a typewritten, photocopied document in the archives of the Town of Star City. Transcriptionist's notes and comments are indicated in brackets]

### **STAR CITY**

This little volume was written to preserve for the future a few historical facts which otherwise would be forgotten.

The pupils, parents, and patrons who generously gave their assistance deserve the grateful thanks of the writers.

In a quiet, but not secluded part of Monongalia County is the incorporated town of Star City. There are two buildings on the school grounds. One has two school rooms, the other four rooms. Both are brick buildings.

About 1905, a few enterprising businessmen, seeing the possibilities of the glass industry, organized the Star Glass Company. The name of this thriving little town and thus the school come from the name of this glass company.

It is situated in the extreme northwestern part of Morgan District. The sub-district number is thirteen. It is bounded on the north by Yeager's Run, on the east by Van Voorhis Road leading to Morgantown, on the south by Burris' Run, and on the west by the Monongahela River.

The principal thoroughfare is the road leading from the famous Scott's Run mining territory to Morgantown. The section leading through Star City is known as "Station Street". This is an improved road, having a width of fourteen feet and a thickness of nine inches. This is further strengthened with hard paving bricks which are four inches thick. It should be as durable as the old Roman military highways. [Station Street later became University Avenue]

The village was included in the famous region known as the "Flatts" which extended from the present city limits of Morgantown to the ridge south of West Run and the Monongahela River.

The first near settlement was made by Thomas Decker and others at the mouth of the stream that now bears his name.

At the time General Forbes was marching on Fort Duquesne, hardy pioneers were making their way across the Allegheny Mountains into the region of Morgan District and attempting to plant a settlement at the point of land between the Monongahela River and Decker's Creek. This was a place in which the seed of civilization had not been sown and whose forests teemed with dusky savages. Autumn frosts had tinged with gold and crimson the matured foliage, ere these adventurers had reached the place which they chose as their abode. After reaching this place, the work of building houses was begun.

An improvised camp furnished them with shelter until spring. Before the work of home building had properly begun, the red warriors of the forest swooped down upon them and destroyed their settlement.

Early stories relate that the destroying band was composed of Mingo and Delawares. The same story tells that one of the settlers escaped and hurried to the Red Stone Fort (now Brownsville, Pennsylvania). He told the news to Captain Paul, whose garrison seems to have been too weak to pursue the savages. The captain dispatched a runner to Fort Pitt to give the information to Captain Gibson. He in person set out at a rapid rate with thirty heavily-armed men to hunt this band of assassins.

After traveling almost a day and night, they failed to find the guilty parties and the search was abandoned. However, they struck a trail which led them into the vicinity of what is now Steubenville, Ohio. Here they came upon a band of seven Mingo who were gathered around a campfire. A fight ensued and Captain Gibson, with one stroke of his sword, cut off the head of Little Eagle, the Chief.

Two of the warriors were killed in the fight and the remaining four escaped into the wilderness and carried the news to Indian towns on the Scioto. It is told that when an exchange of prisoners was made in 1763 that a number of whites had been killed by burning at the stake to avenge the death of Little Eagle.

Whether these Indians were the ones that destroyed the Decker's Creek settlement or not will never be known. The incident does reveal an avenging spirit in the Indians who once roamed the Morgan District.

Scanty records reveal that the destroying band was intent upon revenge for the death of their comrades. They afterwards told of the slaying of their comrades by

a “pale face” with a “long knife”. The Virginia militiamen were afterwards called “Long Knives” by the Indians. This was caused by the men carrying sabers or swords.

A careful search fails to find anything further that can be based as facts concerning Thomas Decker and his followers. One report says that he met his death by jumping into a den of rattlesnakes. Another says that he threw his scythe over the fence to cut some grass for his horse and was bitten to death. The latter incident can be given little credence for the advent of the scythe came later into the community. It was also early to cut grass.

The next step of the civilization in this general community seems to have been made by a rebellious element, namely deserters from Fort Pitt in the persons of William Childers, Joseph Lindsey, and John and Samuel Pringle who seem at an early date to have passed through this vicinity as trappers in the employ of John Sampson who build his cabin where Clarksburg now stands.

Early in the summer of 1778, a large body of Indians appeared in the vicinity of Fort Cobun, not far from the present site of Morgantown. The Indians hid themselves on each side of the path and fired on the whites who were unaware of their presence. John Woodfin, who was riding, had his hip shattered by a rifle ball which also killed his horse. He readily fell a victim to savage cruelty. Jacob Miller was shot through the body and was soon captured and scalped. The others reached Fort Cobun in safety. The Indians hung around in the woods for a while and the fort was soon a smoldering mass of ruins. The remainder of the settlers escaped to Fort Kerns. Various stories are told of this incident. William Haymond, Jr reports that he was at the fort while it was on fire. Miller and Woodfin were in the field of Miller’s place where they were tending corn. While on their way back, they were attacked by the Indians. Haymond reports that he saw them carry two men back to the fort. Their hands and feet were tied together and poles run through them. He reports a good remembrance of the scene.

Mrs. Matilda Hall, a granddaughter of Thomas Miller, reported that Thomas Miller was plowing and had set his gun down and an Indian crept up and shot Miller, who ran into the woods but was soon overtaken and scalped.

Miller had left the fort with his son, Thomas Miller Jr, who escaped to the woods and hid in a pile of brush and could not be found by the Indians. Woodfin raised a yell when he witnessed the scalping of Miller and they turned back. Woodfin thus escaped.

Captain O.P. Joliffe says, “Thomas Miller and two of his children were attacked by the Indians. To secure him, they allowed the children to escape. Miller was caught, tomahawked, and scalped. They propped his body against a beech tree which is said to be still standing and bears Miller’s initials and the date of his death.”

In 1773, Colonel John Evans was in command of a company at Old Station Spring on the west side of the Monongahela River opposite Morgantown. A coward in the company was on trial. A pretended Indian attack was made by four or five men in the company. They were merely trying to have some fun. He broke and ran back to the settlement and gave an alarm that a large body of Indians had killed all the settlers in the fort. The settlers on the west side of the river crossed over to the east side at various points and sought refuge within the forts. Margaret Dent, alone when she heard the news, left the house and went to the river on horseback. She found no one to take her across. She swam her horse to the other side in the night and hastened to the home of her father, Colonel John Evans, who lived on the Flatts.

The following forts were erected in the immediate vicinity. Fort Morgan was built where Woodburn Hall now stands and was named in honor of Zackquill Morgan, who had taken out a Settlement Right in this community. It was built around 1768.

Fort Burris was built by and named in honor of John Burris, who took out a Settlement Right in this community prior to the erection of the fort. It was built about 1770 and was located near the residence of James Koontz. A few local history-loving citizens on the Flatts have taken steps to mark by a suitable stone for this site of the first house on the Flatts.

The following is a copy of the Settlement Right which was given to the early settlers of this section by various companies.

*We, the undersigned Commissioners for adjudging claims to unpatented lands in the County of Monongalia, Yohogania, and Ohio do certify that \_\_\_\_\_ is entitled to 400 acres of land in \_\_\_\_\_ County, on the Monongahela River, in right of residence to include improvements made thereon in the year \_\_\_\_\_. Given under our hands at \_\_\_\_\_ this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ in the \_\_\_\_\_ year of the Commonwealth.*

Attest \_\_\_\_\_ Clerk  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Commissioner  
Commissioner

In the year 1794 occurred the Whiskey Rebellion. It started in the Western part of Pennsylvania and was caused by a few distillers who refused to pay a tax which the federal government had lately levied. An extract from a letter follows:

*“The insurgents gave been quite outrageous and have done much mischief. Here we have been quiet until a few days ago, when thirty men blacked, came in the night of the 9<sup>th</sup> inst. and surrounded the house of the Collector of this County, but*

*the man escaping and advertising that he had resigned, they went away peaceably. Three days later at our Court, a number of men, mostly from Pennsylvania, came to Morgantown in the evening and beat up for proselytes, but were in a few minutes driven out of town. Yesterday, they were to have returned, with a stronger party, but did not. N.B. Morgantown is composed mostly of Virginians and Native Americans."*

There was some farming here in 1776. The pioneers of Morgan District came here at this early date, erected any kind of pole or log cabin in which to live. Their dwellings were built near some spring or running brook, where they would be sure of a constant supply of running water. The dwelling also served to hold their right of settlement which they had previously secured. The first thing to be done by a settler was to clear a spot of land on which to build a cabin. Another piece of land was to be cleared for a garden. Afterwards, a larger piece of land was cleared on which corn was planted. Flax was also one of the necessary products, as clothing was made chiefly from this fiber. The underbrush was grubbed and the large timber was felled with an ax. Some trees were girdled and left for firewood. The trees felled were cut in lengths, rolled together, and burned. At first this was done by the settler himself. Later it was done through "log rollings". All the men within the radius of six or seven miles, came with oxen or horses to assist in the log rolling and the heaping of the brush. After the clearing was burned over and the field was plowed, the principal crop of their day was planted. It was Indian corn.

Among the very early important families of this community there may be mentioned Zackquill Morgan for whom the Morgan District was named. There was David Morgan, the Indian fighter. Another was Colonel John Evans with whom George Washington visited when he was looking at a canal route to connect the Potomac and Monongahela Rivers. Other early residents were David Veach, Michael Kerns, Alexander Parker, Jonathan Cobun, and Samuel Owens. Later residents who are still remembered by elder citizens are named below.

Alfred Yeager acquired the farm on which the Town of Star City was built. He, with a tenant by the name of Kaizy, lived on and operated the farm for many years. Their dwelling was near the site of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad Station.

The Haltermans were direct descendants of the Morgan and Burris families. Others were the Krepps, Jacobs, Anderson, and Koontz families. They were prosperous farmers and have descendants who still live in the vicinity.

A few of the newer families should be mentioned. W.T. Boyers formerly owned the farm on which the town was built. E.E. Shriver operated a planing mill for a number of years. F.C. Shriver is now connected with the Monongahela Supply Company. D.S. Brewer is a real estate dealer. Louis Kauffeld is a glass manufacturer and real estate dealer. He now manages the Star Glass Company.

Joseph Maple is a former merchant. A.E. Hoffman operates a bus line between Star City and Morgantown. M.C. Lemley was a teacher and a farmer. J.B. Russell and R.C. McKinley were well-known residents.

Louis Kauffeld, Stanley Kizinski, Salvatore Audia, J.H. Deussenberry, B.E. Harris, William Shay, John Beznor, and William Koch are some of the prominent men who continue to live here. Joseph Keener, B.F. Riley, and Hugh Gelston are also included in this group.

Among the local women who have been active in church, Sunday School, social, and civic affairs are Mesdames Lemley, Keener, Smith, Fox, Kauffeld, Williard, McCloskey, Jones, and Keach.

William Lewellyn and J. Herbert Drake served in the Spanish American War.

During the World War [World War I], the following men offered their services to their country:

Anderson, ?	Kauffeld, Ralph
Blosser, Arlie	Lee, Herbert
Booth, William	Lee, James
Brewer, Lindsey	Logan, William
Clark, Asa	Long, David
Clark, Ned	Lorentz, Boyd
Davis, Charles	McShaffery, Frank
Davis, George	Osterbloom, Charles
Davis, Philip	Osterbloom, Thomas
Dixon, Arthur	Ricob, Fred
Deussenberry, Carl	Ricob, John
Downs, Russell	Sarver, Harry
Eaverson, Clarence	Schwartz, Joseph
Fisher, John	Shaffer, Dowling
Fox, Arlie	Shay, Edward
Gelston, James	Shay, James
Gruey, Stephen	Shriver, Hersel
Higgins, John	Shriver, Plummer
Howenstein, Elmer	Swick, Lindsey
Howenstein, Herbert	White, Arthur
Jacobs, George	Williams, Hobart
Johnston, John	Williams, Russell
Jones, Clyde	Williard, John
Kauffeld, Howard	

Arthur Dixon made the supreme sacrifice. He was killed in action defending the Western Front in France. George Jacobs died in camp. He contracted the influenza which developed into pneumonia.

There are four principal church groups in Star City. Methodist Episcopal, Methodist Protestant, Catholic, and followers of the later Pastor Russell, commonly called "Russellites", however there is only one church building which belongs to the Methodist Episcopal Church. It was built in 1916. Among the pastors who have served the church are E.J. Heller 1916-1918, C.B. Meredith 1918-1920, Rev. Wymer 1920-1921, and Rev. Newton 1921-1922. Among the leaders founding the Methodist Episcopal may be mentioned, George Stiles, Flora Anderson, Mrs. Joseph Keener, and Mrs. West.

The Methodist Protestant Sunday School was organized about 1907 and had been active almost continuously since. It meets in the older schoolhouse. The first pastor was H.B. Stewart 1909-1912, then Rev. Eaton 1912-1915. Rev. Rorke has preached occasionally since that time. Methodist Protestant workers include Mr. and Mrs. C. Lemley, Mrs. Fox, and Mrs. Corbly Williard.

The Russellites have held Bible Study in the old schoolhouse at various times during the last ten to fifteen years. Among the followers of Pastor Russell are J.H. Deussenberry, B.F. Riley, George Jacobs, D.S. Brewer, A.E. Hoffman, and their families.

Calvin Smith, Mr. Calvert, Mrs. Clarence West, and Mrs. Lee are important Sunday School workers.

The Catholics have no church building but teach their religious faith to their children in their homes under the direction of a competent leader. They go to Morgantown for worship purposes.

The first public school in Star City was established in 1905. The first school building was a two room, brick veneer structure. At first, only one room was used as the attendance was insufficient for two classrooms. The school has grown so rapidly that in 1920, a modern four room brick building was erected at a cost of \$40,000.00 to help take care of the youths of Star City. It was erected under the direction of George C. Joliffe. The school board was John E. Selby, President; J.P. Burbridge, Commissioner; J.N. McMillan, Commissioner; and William H. Gorman, Secretary.

The following is a list of the teachers and the date of their terms:

1905-06	Gorman, James G
1906-07	Hall, Clark B
1907-08	Guseman, Virginia
1908-09	Hall, Clark B
1909-10	Headley, Arthur
1910-11	Hunter, Edwin G (Principal)
1910-11	Gorman, Margaret
1911-12	Hunter, Edwin G (Principal)

1911-12	Hall, Mrs.
1912-13	McNemar, Helen (Principal)
1912-13	Cordray, Sardis N (Principal)
1912-13	Chapman, John
1913-14	Hunter, Edwin G (Principal)
1913-14	Chapman, Mayme P
1914-15	Hunter, Edwin G (Principal)
1914-15	Chapman, Mayme P
1915-16	Hunter, Edwin G (Principal)
1915-16	(McClung) Sayre, Clara
1916-17	Chapman, John (Principal)
1916-17	Sayre, Clara
1917-18	Rader, J.H. (Principal)
1917-18	Chapman, Mayme P
1918-19	Wilt, Twila D (Principal)
1918-19	Smith, Goldie Shriver
1919-20	Chapman, John (Principal)
1919-20	Chapman, Mayme P
1919-20	Smith, Goldie Shriver
1919-20	Bucklew, Ruth Gross
1920-21	Chapman, John (Principal)
1920-21	Ramsey, Mrs. F.B.
1920-21	Smith, Goldie Shriver
1920-21	Glisan, Elsie
1921-22	Chapman, John (Principal)
1921-22	Grimes, Mary
1921-22	Smith, Goldie Shriver (died)
1921-22	(Kendall) Quinet, Yvonne
1921-22	Bracey, Eliza
1921-22	Skiles, Ada
1921-22	Glisan, Elsie

Asa Clark is the only pupil of this school who became a teacher. He taught one term and is now working on an A B Degree in the West Virginia University. Hugh Stansberry is a minister of the gospel. Clark Lemley and Marion Kizinski are studying medicine in the West Virginia University.

The present school board is composed of the following, John E. Selby, President; Dayton P. Runner, Commissioner; Jonah N. McMillan, Commissioner; and William Henry Gorman, Secretary.

The current school enrollment is presented by the following schoolroom enrollment:



**Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grades**-John Chapman, the teacher, was educated in the rural schools of Barbour County, Philippi High School, Mountain State Business College, and the West Virginia University.

<b>Pupil</b>	<b>Grade</b>	<b>Pupil</b>	<b>Grade</b>
Audia, Angeline	6	McCloskey, Francis	7
Audia, John	8	McCloskey, Harry	8
Beal, Irene	7	Morone, Joe	6
Beal, Mary	7	Olferio, John	6
Chiora, Louie	6	Peters, Mattie	6
Clark, Ray	7	Price, Austin	8
Davis, Frank	6	Prout, Hilda	7
Deusenberry, Melissa	6	Prout, Sarah	6
Dolen, Earnest	8	Shaffer, Fulton	6
Dolen, Garnet	5	Webster, Charles	6
Drake, James	6	Wigham, John	8
Galusky, James	6	Williams, John	7
Galusky, Josephine	6	Yandalla, Anna	7
Gelston, Jean	6	Yandalla, Mary	7
Harris, Pauline	7	Zanotti, Dominick	7
Hoffman, Roy	8	Zanotti, Kate	7
Jervis, Stella	6		

**Fourth and Fifth Grades**-Mary Grimes, the teacher, was educated in the public schools of Uniontown, Pennsylvania. She graduated 1915 from the Uniontown High School. She taught Haddenville 1916-1918, New Salem 1918-1921, and Star City 1921-1922.

<b>Pupil</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Pupil</b>	<b>Age</b>
Aquanta, Sam	15	Nestor, Hazel	14
Biafore, John	12	Olivario, Flora	14
Binnocio, Anna	14	Pandulick, Jennie	12
Derigo, Leroy	14	Pongratz, Josef	12
Deusenberry, Nora	11	Pongratz, Marie	10
Dolen, Marie	12	Prout, Alberta	11
Galusky, Katherine	13	Rose, Anna	11
Harris, Marie	12	Rose, Flossie	16
Harris, Virginia	10	Rowe, Dallas	13
Hennessee, Minnie	11	Rowe, Mildred	14
Hewitt, Fred	12	Simpson, Irene	13
Higgins, Thelma	13	Smith, Anna Mary	12
Hoffman, Edna Mae	13	Smith, Delphia	12
Jasper, Genevieve	12	Tropa, Anna	14
Jones, Elizabeth	15	Webster, Ruth	13
King, Jesse	15	White, Earle	15
Kizinski, Alexander	13	White, Opal	12

Martin, Donie	18	Williams, Roy	15
Martin, Lena	15	Wurzell, Elizabeth	10
McCloskey, Edna	12		

**Third Grade-**Yvonne Quinet, the teacher, was educated in the public schools of Ohio and Pennsylvania. She graduated from the McClellandtown High School. She studied violin in the West Virginia University. She taught in Masontown, Pennsylvania 1920-1921 and Star City 1921-1922.

<b>Pupil</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Pupil</b>	<b>Age</b>
Anderson, David	9	Maurer, Violet	7
Aquanta, Carrie	11	Nicholson, Archie	15
Audia, Flora	10	Nicholson, Mary	13
Binnocio, Tony	11	Olivario, Frank	12
Bitonti, Bessie	14	Paris, Johnny	13
Booth, James	9	Paris, Sam	16
Bromisso, Lizzie	11	Powell, Roy	11
Chiodo, Joe	13	Prout, James	8
Chiora, Rosie	11	Rayner, Rosanna	10
Deusenberry, Anna	9	Riley, Stanley	9
Fox, Hazel	10	Rose, Mary	10
Galusky, Charles	10	Rosenberger, Mary	16
Harris, Glen	10	Rowe, Genevieve	10
Hennessee, Harry	8	Shay, William	10
Higgins, George	10	Smir, Carl	10
Hoffman, Agnes	8	Tropa, Joe	10
Jarvis, Josephine	10	Valentine, Sophia	12
Jeffries, Elizabeth	11	Wapichooski, Louis	8
Jasper, Robert	9	Wapichooski, Victor	9
Jones, Susan	9	White, Edith	9
Lopaz, Patsy	13	Williams, Ruth	12
Mauer, Leona	7	Yandalla, Gust	7

**Third Grade-**Ada Skiles, the teacher, was educated in the public schools of Connellsville, Pennsylvania and Sabraton. She graduated from the Morgantown High School. She taught in Star City 1921-1922.

<b>Pupil</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Pupil</b>	<b>Age</b>
Beckman, Edna	10	Lemasters, Opal	9
Biafore, Antonette	10	Lopaz, Billie	11
Bitonti, Johnny	12	Markow, Mary	10
Bitonti, Russ	14	McCloskey, Pearl	10
Bromisso, Flora	9	McCloskey, Virginia	10
Burnette, Katherine	9	McCluskey, Eleanor	9
Deusenberry, Voltrine	6	Meliga, Annie	10
Galusky, Agnes	9	Nicholson, Glen	11

Gelston, Annabelle	9	Nicholson, Margaret	9
Hewett, Paul	10	Pannier, Carmen	10
Higgins, Ethel	9	Paris, Frankie	11
Hildebrand, Leonard	10	Paris, Katie	
Jasper, Lillian	8	Smith, Wilbert	9
Josewick, Robert	10	Smir, Anna May	10
Kerens, Howard	10	Wallet, Harry	10
King, Olive	10		

**First Grade**-Eliza Bracey, the teacher, was educated in the public schools of Monongahela City, Pennsylvania. She is a graduate of the Morgantown High School and the Fairmont State Normal School. She taught in Star City 1921-1922.

<b>Pupil</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Pupil</b>	<b>Age</b>
Audia, Rose	7	Loria, Leonard	7
Barberic, Annie	12	Marko, Mary	8
Binnocio, Paul	8	Martin, Earl	8
Binnocio, Rose	9	Martin, Zoie	10
Bitonti, Josie	7	McCloskey, Margarette	7
Bitonti, Sam	9	Morone, Josephine	7
Bromisso, Katie	8	Nestor, Virginia	8
Burnette, Catherine	7	Nicholson, Margaret	8
Chiodo, Frankie	10	Olivario, Lourie	7
Chiodo, Geminicas	8	Olivario, Rosie	7
Chiora, Angeline	9	Pannier, Carmen	7
Cimmino, Christie	7	Parker, Pansy	8
Coustain, Dominic	8	Perry, Joe	7
Derigo, Edna	8	Rayner, Olive	7
Fife, William	6	Smith, Lester	13
Gelston, Annabelle	7	Smith, Wilbert	8
Girard, Raymond	7	Travis, Florence	8
Guthrie, Hilda	8	Tropa, Virginia	7
Handley, Guy	7	Turner, Dorothea	7
Harris, Joseph	8	Valentine, Nellie	7
Kerens, Virginia	12	Webster, Herbert	7
Kerns, Howard	9	Williams, Era	10

**First Grade**-Elsie Glisan, the teacher, was educated in the public schools of Markleysburg, Pennsylvania. She graduated from the Morgantown High School, Class of 1917 and attended the West Virginia University. She taught 1918-1919 in Blacksville and 1921-1922 in Star City.

<b>Pupil</b>	<b>Age</b>	<b>Pupil</b>	<b>Age</b>
Anderson, Ralph	6	Lopaz, Peter	6
Audia, Rose	8	Martin, Richard	6

Barberic, Frank	8	McCloskey, June	6
Barberic, John	7	Nestor, Hattie	7
Biafore, Dominick	6	Olivariom Dorothea	6
Bromisso, Katie	7	Olivario, Louris	7
Bromisso, Tony	6	Paugh, Bernardine	7
Burnette, Florence	6	Paugh, Luvona	6
Chiora, Mary	6	Pendulick, Charlie	7
Coustain, Elizabeth	7	Petaim, Frankie	8
Coustante, Dominick	7	Petaim, John	11
Coustante, Rosie	6	Petaim, Tony	6
Fife, William	6	Petaim, Tony	15
Guthrie, Ethel	6	Pongratz, Katherine	6
Handley, Guy	7	Rayner, Olive	6
Harris, Joseph	7	Rosenberger, Berdie	6
Hopnax, Alex	8	Russell, Bernard	6
Jervise, John	7	Smir, Peter	6
Jones, James	6	Terante, James	6
Kapsudia, Louie	6	Tropa, Sam	6
Kitchence, Mary	8	Valentine, Stanley	8
Lanzo, Mickie	6	Weinberger, Ethel	6
Lemasters, Vergie	7	Williams, Thomas	6

Present Star City School

**Parents**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Native</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Native</b>
Anderson, Charles	WV	King, Richard	WV
Anderson, Harry	WV	Lemasters, Clarence	WV
Aquanta, ?	Italy	Lopaz, Tony	Italy
Audia, Salvatore	Italy	Lydia, Clyde	WV
Barberic, Sam	Italy	Markov, Rok	Austria
Beal, Robert	PA	Martin, Richard	WV
Biafore, John	Italy	Mauer, Herman	OH
Binnocio, John	Italy	Mauer, R.C.	IN
Bitonti, Louis	Italy	McCloskey, Harry	PA
Booth, George	PA	McCloskey, M.E.	WV
Bromisso, Peter	PA	McCloskey, Mile	PA
Bromisso, Tony	Italy	McCloskey, Sam	PA
Burnette, Robert	OH	Morone, Joe	Italy
Capoogie, Louie	Italy	Nestor, Clarence	WV
Chiodo, Dominick	Italy	Nicholson, William	PA
Chiora, Lorenzo	Italy	Olivario, Joe	Italy
Chomin, Alex	Poland	Olivario, Sam	Italy
Cimona, Joe	Italy	Pannier, Martha	France
Clark, Mary E.	WV	Paris, Tony	Italy
Constante, Joe	Italy	Perry, Catherine	Italy

Davis, Ada	PA	Peters, James	VA
Derigo, Joe	Italy	Pongratz, Carl	Turkey
Deusenberry, James	WV	Powell, Oliver	KY
Deusenberry, John	PA	Prece, George	MD
Deusenberry, Sanford	PA	Prout, Arthur	MD
Dolen, John	WV	Rayner, Frank	PA
Duggan, William	WV	Regie, Sam	Italy
Fife, William	Ireland	Pendulick, Charles	Italy
Fox, Jesse	WV	Richards, Ernie	Wales
Frant, James	PA	Riley, Henry	VA
Galusky, Joe	Poland	Rose, Joe	Austria
Gelston, Hugh	Ireland	Rowe, Emory	WV
Gerard, Edward	PA	Russell, Elsworth	PA
Guthrie, John	WV	Shaffer, William	WV
Harris, B.F.	PA	Shay, William	PA
Harris, Furman	PA	Smir, Peter	PA
Hennessee, Harry	PA	Tropa, Dominick	Italy
Hewett, Charles	WV	Valentine, Stanley	Lithuania
Higgins, Harry	WV	Valentine, William	Lithuania
Hildenbrand, Peter	PA	Walley, Zerry	Italy
Hoffman, A.E.	WV	Webster, Charles	WV
Jeffers, George	WV	Weinberger, Elfriedo	Germany
Jasper, Richard	WV	White, Queen	WV
Jervise, James	Russia	Williams, George	England
Jones, Clyde	WV	Williams, Joseph	WV
Joswick, Richard	PA	Yandalla, Gust	Czechoslovakia
Kerns, Peter	PA	Zanotti, Victor	Italy
Ketchenoe, Sam	Czechoslovakia		

The following is a partial list of graduates from the eighth grade:

Anderson, Albert	Deusenberry, Marie
Anderson, Marie	Dolen, Garnet
Anderson, Martha	Finnell, Violet
Audia, John	Furman, Lela
Broyles, Nellie	Hoffman, Roy
Brewer, Jennie	Jacobs, Annie
Brewer, Lula	Kizinski, Antonette
Clark, Ada	Lemasters, Rancel
Clark, Amy	McCloskey, Harry
Clark, Asa	Price, Austin
Davis, Julia	Shaffer, Dempsey
Deusenberry, Frances	Shay, John
Deusenberry, Jacob	

The Star City School is fairly well-supplied with a good set of maps, a globe, primary material for the primary graders, an organ, a victrola, and a number of books in the library. There is a movement now to purchase a piano for the school.

There is a well-finished basement in the new building. This space is to be utilized for manual training and physical education. There is also a system of inside sanitary toilets, a good playground with young maple trees, and a 200 foot well which furnishes drinking water.

Star City is a typical glass manufacturing town. It has three plants. The Star Glass Company is one of the largest of its kind in this country. It has burned to the ground three times and has lately been rebuilt of steel and concrete throughout. It manufactures lamp chimneys and shades exclusively. It was first built in 1905. The other two glass plants turn out tableware and novelties.

The following grocery and general stores are located here. Salvatore Audia deals in groceries and notions. Barnes and Bitonti are general merchants. Harry Higgins has the post office and also operates a grocery store. Hanly and Wilkins have a grocery and also operate the river ferry. Besides the above-named business places, these also have confectionaries in connection with the sale and repair of automobile accessories: Hill Top Garage [located where the Wow Factory now sits], Shay and Harris, Palace Garage, and Howard Kauffeld.

The following men have served as postmasters in Star City: E.E. Shriver, F.C. Shirver, Mr. Hall, and Harry Higgins, who is the present postmaster.

Early settling of this community is only a repetition of that which has been carried on by the pioneers of all other new communities in this country. The new arrivals first chose their location near a good spring of water. The work of house building then began. The trees which were cut down in order to make room for the house were utilized in the building. The house usually consisted of three sides with the front covered with the skins of animals. The fire was built outside for cooking. As autumn approached, this shed gave away to a more comfortable building. There was usually one room used for cooking, eating, sleeping, and the entertainment of visitors, who were rare. The chimney was commonly called "cat and clay" and was built with sticks laid up with clay.

The furniture was all handmade. Three legged stools served as chairs. A hewn slab with four legs was used as a table. Beds were made by boring holes in the wall and pieces of wood were laid on inserted pegs and a leg for a post. Upon the wood framework were stretched the skins of animals. Animal skins also served as covers for the bed.

Farming was of a very crude type. The trees were cut down and burned. The owner grubbed and piled the brush. The trees were cut into lengths. Neighbors

were invited in for a log rolling. The jug was passed around often and the majority partook freely. They thought that the contents made them stronger and the work easier.

The principal crop was Indian corn. It may be said with certainty that the Indians taught the early settlers how to raise a good crop of corn by placing a fish in each hill. The names "Johnny cake" and "pone" as used by the early settlers belonged to the Indians.

In pioneer days, every family practically lived unto itself. The father and sons did the work of building the house and outbuildings. They cleared the land and cultivated the crops and harvested and thrashed them by hand. The mother and daughters did the housekeeping including the spinning, weaving, and making clothing for the entire family.

Neighbors were few and far between. Visiting was rare except on special occasions such as a house raising, a husking bee, and apple parings which were always followed by a dance for the younger folks. The older people amused themselves by relating weird stories of the past or chanting old tunes. All enjoyed life, for everybody, in a general way, was on an equality.

Perhaps a most notable change has been made in clothing. The early settlers dressed in loosely-woven clothing of the homespun type. A cap or hat was made from the skin of an animal. Moccasins were made of the same material. No one complained of changing styles, as they were rarely made. The rapid growth of population and the advent of machinery has revolutionized these former conditions.

The schoolmaster boarded among the pupils, usually a week at a time. The teacher agreed to teach for a certain sum of money and his board which was divided among the patrons.

The pastor was another important person in the community. He usually appeared in the older settlements at least once a month. He spent the night in the neighborhood and preached Sunday afternoon and night.

Travelers were always given a hearty welcome, free lodging, and royal entertainment such as they were able to provide. The hosts received in this way the news from distant places.

The leading books were the Bible, Pilgrim's Progress, and a book of songs. It can be said that the first book was well-read and studied so that it was made part of their lives.

Pewter dishes, wooden bowls, and trays furnished the kitchen. Homemade rugs or mats, rude ornaments made of shells, and homespun bed clothing were the

usual furnishings of the primitive home. If an article was needed, the men made it. In the same sections today there are many modern conveniences including gas, running water, electric lights, motor washers, and vacuum cleaners for the busy housewife. Many labor-saving devices reduce the farmer's labor.

John W. Deusenberry, a local citizen, was married twice. The first wife had ten children and the second wife mothered seven children. All are living today. [Mr. Deusenberry was the first "special policeman" appointed by the new town. A photo of him is on display in city hall, donated by his youngest son, Douglas]

Names of the children:

Simon	July 29, 1882	Rosia	April 22, 1903
J.H.	September 21, 1884	Jacob	March 27, 1905
Bessie	October 6, 1886	Pauline	October 19, 1907
Frank	November 22, 1888	Nora	August 8, 1910
Sanford	August 11, 1890	Anna	February 29, 1912
James	August 6, 1892	Emma	January 24, 1916
Lulu	November 13, 1894	Logan	October 24, 1919
Bryan	March 16, 1897	Douglas	February 8, 1922
Daisy	August 26, 1899		

The following men have served as Superintendents of Morgan District, which is the Star City School.

- William Henry Gorman, who is an experienced teacher, served one year 1908-1909.
- J.D. May served in 1911-1912.
- W.E. Tomblyn, who was educated in the public schools of Upshur County and Wesleyan College, was working in 1913-1915.
- E. Wayne Coffindaffer, born in Lewis County and reared on a farm, attended the schools of Harrison County. He attended Salem College, graduated from the Fairmont State Normal School in 1911, and received a degree of Bachelor Science in Agriculture from the West Virginia University in 1916. He was an assistant critic teacher in 1910-1911. In 1911-1912 he was principal of the Enterprise Graded School in Harrison County. He was District Superintendent of Morgan District Schools in 1915-1917. He was also County Agricultural Agent of Russell County, Virginia in 1917-1919. He received a Master's Degree from the West Virginia University in 1922.
- Oliver Shurtleff was the District Superintendent during the last half of 1916-1917. He was a graduate of the Fairmont State Normal School and was attending the West Virginia University at that time.

The following is a typed addendum that was obviously added much later, as indicated by the dates.



**Star City (Randall) School  
Morgan District, Monongalia County**

**Teachers**

The source of information as to the name of the teacher and the date of teaching have been ascertained as indicated by the following abbreviations:

BM Board of Education Minutes  
CO Check Order  
LH Local History of 1922  
OL Office List of Superintendents  
SR Self Report

1931-32	CO	Allman, Dorothea	1907-08	LH	Guseman, Virginia
1924-25	OL	Boydenovich, Mary	1911-12	LH	Hall, Mrs.
1925-30	CO	"	1906-07	LH	Hall, Clark
1921-22	LH	Bracey, Eliza	1907-08	BM	"
1919-20	LH	Bucklew, Ruth	1908-09	BM	Headley, Arthur
1912-13	BM	Chapman, John	1908-09	BM	Hunter, Erwin G
1915-17	BM	"	1910-12	BM	"
1919-22	SR	"	1913-14	BM	"
1923-24	OL	"	1914-15	OL	"
1924-25	SR	"	1909-10	BM	Knapp, Mary
1925-33	CO	"	1925-31	CO	Kryder, Beulah
1913-14	BM	Chapman, Mayme	1911-12	SR	Marple, Margaret
1914-15	OL	"	1909-11	SR	Martin, Joseph W
1917-18	BM	"	1927-33	CO	Maxwell, Katherine
1919-20	SR	"	1912-13	BM	McNemar, Helen
1922-25	OL	"	1924-25	OL	Murphy, Irene
1925-33	CO	"	1925-33	CO	"
1922-25	OL	Chittum, Mary Dille	1925-26	CO	Orr, Mary M.
1923-25	OL	Clark, Ella Henry	1922-24	OL	Quinet, Yvonne
1926-33	CO	Clayton, Mable	1917-18	LH	Rader, J.H.
1931-33	CO	Davies, Virginia	1919-20	LH	Ramsey, Mrs. F.B.
1927-28	CO	Dye, Winifred	1928-29	CO	Riley, Alvaretta
1929-30	CO	"	1915-17	BM	Sayre, Clara
1920-22	LH	Glisan, Elsie	1930-31	CO	Shepherd, Harriett
1922-23	OL	"	1922-24	OL	Shiflett, Eugene E.
1905-06	SR	Gorman, James G.	1924-25	OL	Shoup, Louise
1924-25	OL	Gorman, William H.	1925-27	CO	"
1923-25	OL	Green, Lulu	1921-22	SR	Skiles, Ada
1925-27	CO	"	1919-20	SR	Smith, Goldie
1921-22	LH	Grimes, Mary	1931-33	CO	Tropf, Anna M
1906-07	BM	Guseman, Gladys	1918-19	LH	Wilt, Twila

### Star City School 1933-59

1934-39	Anderson, Hannah	1955-56	King, Mildred
1954-55	Barnett, Paula	1958-59	"
1954-57	Belt, MaryAnn	1953-59	Kramer, Allen M. *
1933-36	Chapman, John *	1948-59	Ludwig, Edythe R
1936-37	Chesrown, Harold *	1933-58	Maxwell, Katherine
1940-42	Chisler, Doris	1945-50	McQueen, Virginia
1933-36	Droppeleman, Irene	1950-52	Nisbett, Shirley
1952-54	Evans, Mildred	1937-53	Price, Vivien *
1941-45	Guthrie, Madeline	1936-37	Rexroad, Beulah
1935-39	Hancock, Mildred	1938-40	Rush, Thelma
1953-57	Heenan, Kathryn	1950-54	Spencer, Burneil
1949-51	Horstman, Rose	1956-59	Sypolt, Mary Ann
1939-40	Hutchinson, Blanche	1940-43	Walker, Nella
1937-41	Iden, Nellie	1935-36	Wildman, Mary
1957-58	Jackson, June	1958-59	Williamson, Dora
1942-53	Jamison, Elizabeth	1933-34	Wilson, Helen
1933-35	Jones, Dorothy	1934-38	Woodhall, Frances
1958-59	Kassender, Patricia	1944-45	Wright, Mrs. Glenn

\*Principal

### Star City (Negro) School 1933-37

1933-37 Hereford, Goldie

### Stewart's Run School 1933-35

1933-34 Rogers, Homer

1934-35 Eliason, Howard

### Stony Point School 1934-36

1934-36 Stiles, John