

MEYER HARDWARE STORE 1935

**421 E. Mitchell Street
Petoskey, Emmet County, Michigan**

Meyer Hardware Celebrates 75 Years

FEIOSKEY NEWS REVIEW
AUGUST 5, 2010

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PETOSKEY EVENING NEWS, PETOSKEY MICHIGAN

TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 1935

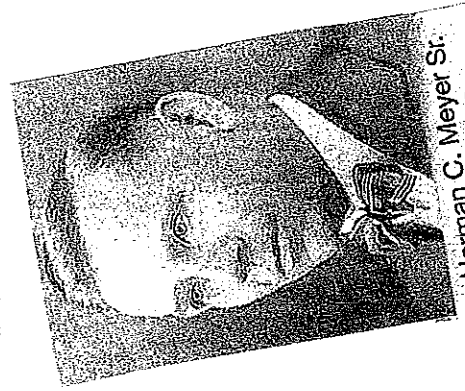
**First
ad from
1935!**

ANNOUNCING
THE OPENING OF THE NEW

Meyer Hardware

421 E. MITCHELL ST. • PETOSKEY, MI
FRIDAY AND SATURDAY, APRIL 5 AND 6 • PHONE 86

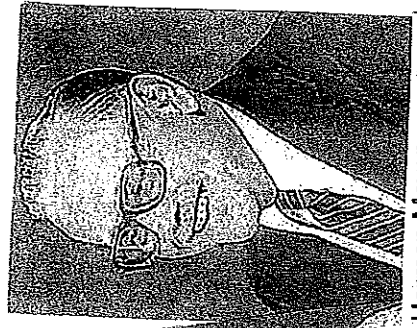
NORTHERN MICHIGAN'S FIRST LARGE HARDWARE STORE FEATURING A COMPLETE LINE FOR BOTH TOWN AND RURAL RESIDENTS, FARM MACHINERY AND EQUIPMENT. THE MEYER HARDWARE WILL FILL YOUR EVERY NEED. WE SPECIALIZE IN FARM MACHINERY, TOOLS, FARM HARDWARE, HARNESES AND GENERAL HARDWARE AND PAINTS. ALL HIGH QUALITY AND PRICED TO SELL.



Herman C. Meyer Sr.
1935-1956



Hazel and Herman Meyer
1956-1978



David and Dale Meyer
1978-present



David and Dale Meyer
1978-present

MEYER TO OPEN HARDWARE STORE

STRUCTURE IS COMPLETED AND STOCK IS INSTALLED FOR START FRIDAY.

The new Meyer Hardware will open for business Friday morning with a complete line of general hardware, household appliances and farming implements. It was announced today by Herman C. Meyer. Mr. Meyer has spent his life in the hardware business in Northern Michigan. Located at Alden and Rapid City for seven

years, he then spent 21 years in the hardware business at Boyne Falls. Last October he purchased the site of the old Cushman House Annex and started construction of a one story brick building. With Mr. Meyer in direct charge and Preston Feather in an advisory capacity, the store was built during the winter with Ernest Priebe and Warner Wheaton doing a great deal of the construction. The building is 114 feet deep and has 85 feet frontage on Mitchell Street, divided into three stores. On the corner of Mitchell street and the park will be the general hardware store. The household appliances will be in the next store with the third for rent. Special flooring was laid in show windows by the Michigan Maple Block Company. The ceiling is of steel in a modernistic design. Shelves line the wall with display cases and tables in the center of the room which is 107 feet deep. The

basement will be used for the heavy farm machinery and equipment and for repair work. An elevator was installed at the rear of the store to provide means for moving the heavy machinery. Connected with Mr. Meyer in the store will be Charles Stolt who will specialize in the heavy farm machinery and implements and Ransom Upton, who will serve as clerk. The stock for the hardware store was purchased through Archie Upton, representative of the Michigan Hardware Company. Refrigerators, radios, washing machines and other items were purchased through Fred Laubengeyer, of the Mortley Brothers Company. The building has provoked many favorable comments from residents of Petoskey. It occupies a corner that was an eyesore since the fire which destroyed the Cushman House Annex several years ago.

Meyer Hardware 75th anniversary celebration

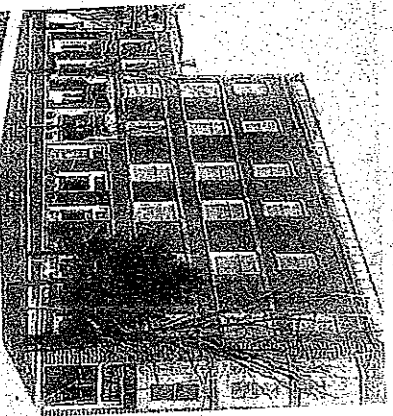
Saturday, July 31
4:00 to 6:00 p.m.

3 Drawings
4:30, 5:00 & 5:30

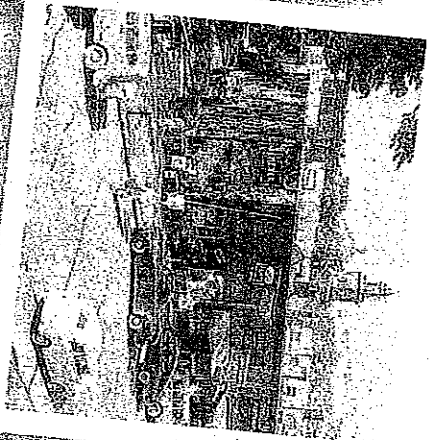
Shopping Sprees worth
a total of \$7,500

Donations will be accepted for
MANNNA & Brother Dan's
Food Pantry.

Cushman Annex



Early 1900's



Early 1940's



Restored Exterior

Today

Meyer Hardware Stands the Test of Time
Petoskey News Review
August 13, 2010

Meyer Hardware stands the test of time

For any retailer, these are hard times. But for one local business, overcoming challenges is what keeps the doors open — for the last 75 years.

Congratulations, Meyer Ace Hardware. Your 75 years as a downtown Petoskey fixture have seen a lot of changes. Yet there you are, year in and year out, plain or shine.

Herman Carl Meyer Sr. opened the business in downtown Petoskey in 1935. David Meyer and twin brother, Dale, represent the third generation of the Meyer family to own the hardware.

The business's formula for success has stayed fairly consistent through the years, David said in a recent Petoskey News-Review story, "Our business was always built on customer service, being able to help the customers with their projects."

The Meyer twins' grandfather, Herman Sr., ran a business in Boyne Falls which involved a hardware/general store, funeral undertaking and the local post office — prior to starting the Petoskey store in 1935. The lumbering industry which had driven Boyne Falls' local economy was on the decline at that time, David Meyer said, and his grandfather sensed that tourist trade would help Petoskey to grow.

When Herman Meyer Sr. died in 1956, his son and daughter-in-law, Herman C. Jr. and Hazel, took over the hardware. Dale and David acquired the operation from them in 1978.

Through the years, the Meyer operation expanded to fill more of the storefront as customers know it today. The hardware moved a location in Harbor Springs around 1983, with that store moving to its current site in 2001. The Meyers also opened a second Petoskey location on U.S. 101 North — which specializes in lawn and garden equipment — in 1989.



Twin brothers David (left) and Dale Meyer stand in front of downtown Petoskey's anchor store, Meyer Hardware.

Forty people call David and Dale their boss. Following in their parents' footsteps, both Meyers are ac-

tive in their communities: Dale has served several stints as city mayor and on the downtown development board and David

... thank you Meyer Hardware, for sticking with us into your diamond anniversary years. You're the epitome of what we call a fixture in the Northern Michigan community.

also served on the city planning commission and the parking committee. Their mother, Hazel, was Petoskey's first female school board president and Herman C. Jr. served on city council. David, his father and grandfather all served on the local Salvation Army advisory board, making for 60 consecutive years of service. In addition, David and Dale's parents were deeply involved with the Petoskey United Methodist Church their whole lives.

A lot of people thought Meyer Hardware would buckle under the pressure of invading "big box" stores south of town, which competed directly with all the things Meyer has offered its customers for decades: All the things but one, the Meyer twins will argue — and that's service.

Two people who didn't have a doubt about Meyer Hardware's survival are David and Dale. Their vision not only has helped their business through tough times, but also has served Petoskey in its own trials and tribulations as the store remains an anchor for downtown shopping.

So, thank you Meyer Hardware, for sticking with us into your diamond anniversary years. You're the epitome of what we call a fixture in the Northern Michigan community.

NEWS-REVIEW/FILE PHOTO

'Our View' represents the opinion of the News-Review Editorial Board:

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