

## **PRINCESS THEATER**

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN

<http://www.ajlambert.com>

The Princess Theatre was a favorite Cookeville attraction to meet friends and watch a movie. It was in operation from 1935 to the late 1970's and was located at the corner of West Broad and Church where Regions Bank stands today.

**Source:** Putnam County, Tennessee, 1850-1970 by Mary Jean DeLozier, pp. 216,

The movie industry began releasing “talkies” in 1927, and owner Edwin C. Reeves installed sound equipment in the Strand in 1930. The first machines were defective, dialogue was often garbled, and sound projectors constantly broke down. Most customers did not complain, however. They were pleased if they could understand only a few words.

In 1934 Mid-State Theatre Company, Stacey D. Wilhite, president; Hugh S. Hargis, vice-president; and Edwin C. Reeves, secretary, began construction of the Princess Theatre on the site of a former hotel in West Side. The new cinema opened 1 October 1935 with the movie “ginger,” starring Ginger Rogers. Admission was twenty-five and ten cents, and there were four features weekly: a Monday-Tuesday film, a Wednesday show, and a Thursday-Friday movie (when the “big” pictures came to Cookeville). A double-feature of westerns usually played on Saturdays, when the theater opened at eleven and movies ran continuously until nearly midnight. A popper stood outside the cinema, and boys sold five and ten cent bags of corn to patrons and passersby.

**Leisure Time Activities:** While much social life in Putnam County continued to revolve around churches, residents of the county, with their new cars and more leisure time, found it possible to “get out and go” as never before. Great numbers went to the movies, in their heyday in the forties and fifties.

Throughout the nation during the war, gasoline shortages had discouraged travel and customers had walked to local movie houses to watch “heroic” United Nations forces rout German tanks and shoot down “Jap” fighter planes. After the war veterans and their sweethearts queued outside movie houses or jammed drive-ins to forget the fighting – or to relive the “glory.” On Saturday afternoons children filled the theaters to see cartoons, serials, and Westerns and to gorge popcorn and Powerhouse candy bars. Fans worshipped the stars – James Cagney and Humphrey Bogart, tough good-guys; Van Johnson, June Allyson, and Doris Day, clean kids; and subtly sexy Deborah Kerr and Lauren Bacall-to name only a few. Musicals featured Betty Grable’s famous legs, Bing Crosby’s crooning, and the emotional white blues singing style and gyrations of Elvis Presley broke box office records.

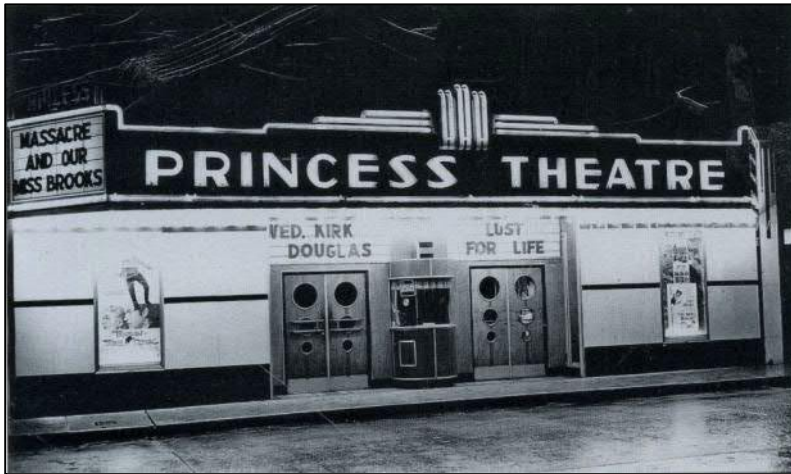
Local exhibitors and movie house chains opened new cinemas in small towns and drive-in theaters in former pastures. Though facilities were often poor and equipment inferior, they made large profits until the mid-fifties, when television and other forms of entertainment closed many of them.

The movie business also flourished in Putnam County. In Cookeville the Princess and Strand movie houses broke attendance records. William T. Sewell built the State Theatre in Baxter (which burned, however, in the early fifties and never reopened). Algood’s Victoria Theatre and the Majestic in Monterey opened nightly to eager audiences. In the late 1940s Benton Young opened a small open-air theater west of Cookeville on Highway 70N. In 1952 Stacey Wilhite and Young built a new drive-in, the 278-car Putnam Drive-in Theatre, nearby, and Young closed the former facility.

The Gadfly Book Club, cooperating with Leon DeLozier, president of Highland Enterprises, Incorporated, which had purchased the Princess and Putnam Drive-in theater in 1961, sponsored an art and foreign film series. Ann Burns headed the club project which offered seven highly-acclaimed motion pictures each season. Promotion of the series was time-consuming, however, and the Gadflies discontinued the project after four years. While foreign films had proven commercially unsuccessful in the community at the time, in 1968 DeLozier built the Varsity Cinema near the University and brought many films of artistic merit to the new theater. (In the 1970s DeLozier would open the Highland Twin Cinema south of Cookeville).

At the onset of the sixties, the 528 blacks in Putnam County constitutes only 1.8 percent of the populations. Most lived in segregated neighborhoods in Algood and Cookeville. As elsewhere in the South, racial segregation was almost complete. Blacks could not stay in Putnam County motels or eat in local restaurants. They sat in the balcony at the Princess Theatre.

(Pictured: This photograph of the Princess Theater taken at night depicts the architecture and lighting of



this favorite Cookeville venue. Stacy Wilhite, Hugh Hargis, and Edwin C. Reeves opened doors to the public in 1935, Leon DeLozier bought the Princess in 1961 and operated it for almost 20 years. It was located at the corner of West Broad Street and Church Avenue in Putnam County, Tennessee. **Source:** Images of America: Cookeville and Putnam County by Friends of the Cookeville History Museum, pg. 26).



(Pictured: This is a picture of a weekend crowd at the Princess Theatre. It was the place to meet friends and watch a movie. The lobby had a popcorn machine, soft-drink dispenser, and glass cabinets displaying candy. Occasionally the theater was used for cultural events. **Source:** Images of America: Cookeville and Putnam County by Friends of the Cookeville History Museum, pg. 26).

**Source:** Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN:

### **AT THE PRINCESS THEATER THIS WEEK**

(February 15, 1935) Stacy Wilhite, president of the Mid-State Theater Co., announces plans for a stately, new semi-Gothic moving picture house on Broad Street in Cookeville which will become the Princess Theater. The facility's plans feature a spacious lobby and foyer, 750 seats and a 'tilt' floor. It opens in September with its first film, Will Rogers in 'Doubting Thomas.' Tickets are a quarter for an adults and a dime for children.

(June 11, 1935) Miss Ruby Witherton has opened a studio here this summer teaching drama, speech, public speaking and dance to area children.

Dancing will include 'comedy' dancing as well as tap, 'musical,' ballet and 'Spanish' dancing.

The courses will climax at the end of the summer on the stage of the new Princess Theater, which has agreed to slate its grand opening to coincide with Miss Witherton's graduation ceremonies.

(September 24, 1935) There's a new moving picture house in town, the Princess Theater. It's opening with a lot of popular films.

First on the great silver screen this week is "Ginger," with Jane Withers and Jackie Searl, "plus two good cartoons in natural color." Admission is 10 cents.

In the nights to come, the Princess will reel out "Bank Night," "Doubting Thomas" with Will Rogers, "Dawn Rider" with John Wayne, "Top Hat" with Fred Astaire and Ginger Rogers, and "Curly Top," with Shirley Temple. Start saving up your dimes.

(October 3, 1935) With much fanfare, the new Princess Theater opened on Westside this week.

The Rev. Hugh Goodpasture, speaking to a packed house on the opening night, said the area's residents congratulate the new theater's owners, the Mid State Theater Co., on erecting such a fine building.

The interior is plush maroon and gold throughout. The line to get in formed early and grew long fast.

The opening film, "Doubting Thomas," starred Will Rogers as the husband of a stage-struck woman angling to become a star.

Admission was 25 cents for adults and a dime for children.

(October 24, 1935) At the Princess Theater this week: "Bonnie Scotland," starring Stan Laurel and Oliver Hardy. If you go to the matinee, you can see the 70-minute film for a dime. It'll cost you a quarter for a night-time showing.

(February 27, 1936) Princess Theater manager E.C. Reeves announced that his patrons on Wednesday night will be treated to a special show. In addition to the regular movie, they'll also hear Nashville radio station WSM's "Salute to Cookeville" over the theater's "vitaphone."

(April 30, 1936) Coming to the Princess Theater this week for a three-day run: Eddie Cantor's musical extravaganza, "Strike Me Pink." A million and a half dollars have been spent on the lavish production, which features Ethel Merman, Sally Eilers, Parkyakarkus and William Frawley along with "a glorious new array of Goldwyn Girls."

Cantor plays a timid tailor whose secret passion is to become a night club singer. He takes a mail-order self-help course ("Man or Mouse, Which are YOU?") and inherits a large amusement park. He is soon confronted by a gang of slot machine racketeers who have pressured each previous owner into using their machines. Make your plans now to attend.

(June 18, 1936) Coming to the Princess Theater: The "Chicago Follies," a live vaudeville show presented by Col. Ches Davies. It features "Ted Harris and his Rhythm Aristocrats," "The Skating Trio," blues singer Anita Muth and "Bobby Bedford, the Silver-Voiced Tenor." There'll also be a two-reel musical comedy and a cartoon on the screen. The show opens with a midnight showing Sunday night here.

(August 20, 1936) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Gene Autry in "The Singing Cowboy" and Warner Orland in "Charlie Chan at the Circus."

(September 26, 1936) Showing this week at the Princess Theater on Westside: Gary Cooper and Jean Arthur in "Mr. Deeds Goes to Town." Also, John Wayne in "Oregon Trail."

(October 1, 1936) Showing at the Princess this week: Cary Grant and Jean Hawlow in "Suzy."

(October 22, 1936) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: John Wayne in "Winds of the Wasteland" and a brief sportscast by Grantland Rice. Admission is 25 cents for adults and a dime for children.

(November 5, 1936) Harry Snodgrass, "the original king of the ivories" and "generally acknowledged to be the greatest of all piano players," will appear at the Princess Theater Monday and Tuesday for matinee and evening performances. His is quite a success story. The newspaper says Harry was "plunged into the world of forgotten men" by a felony conviction and a long prison sentence. From prison, he "won the hearts of the entire nation playing from behind prison walls on the radio."

(November 12, 1936) If you're not one of those going to the big game in Nashville but want some entertainment, stop by the Princess Theater Saturday afternoon and see "Buck the Wonder Dog" in "The Country Beyond," with Rochell Hudson and Paul Kelly.

It's a tale about "the Mounties in their biggest manhunt," says the ad. Tickets are 30 cents for adults and a dime for kids.

(November 19, 1936) A double treat is in store for the audience at the Princess Theater this week. For the price of a single ticket they'll see "Little Miss Nobody," with Jane Withers.

The show will be preceded by a live stage performance by "Calvert," a "well-known magician," according to the newspaper.

(December 31, 1936) What's showing at the Princess Theater the week of Christmas? "When Ladies Meet," with Greer Garson, Joan Crawford and Robert Taylor' "Sheriff of Tombstone," with Roy Rogers; and Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour in "Caught in the Draft."

(January 14, 1937) Showing at the Princess this week: Gary Cooper and Jean Arthur as Wild Bill Hickok and Calamity Jane in Cecil B. DeMille's "The Plainsman."

(February 4, 1937) Showing this week at the Princess Theater is "College Holiday," a comedy with George Burns, Gracie Allen, Ben Blue and Mary Boland.

(February 12, 1937) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "The Gorgeous Hussy," with Joan Crawford, Robert Taylor and Lionel Barrymore.

(April 15, 1937) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Git Along Little Doggies," with Gene Autry.

(April 22, 1937) Showing at the Princess Theatre this week: Marlene Dietrich, Charles Boyer and Basil Rathbone in "The Garden of Allah."

(July 29, 1937) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: William Boyd as Hopalong Cassidy in "Trail Dust."

(November 25, 1937) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Tarzan Escapes," the first Tarzan film in two years and it's another talkie, according to the newspaper. It stars Johnny Weissmuller.

(November 30, 1938) Gene Autry, the singing cowboy of film and radio fame, stopped by the home of Princess Theater manager E.C. Reeves here on a trip from Nashville to Knoxville this week. The word got out that he was in town and several residents decided to "drop in" on Reeves and meet the star.

Autry's horse, "champion," passed through town earlier unnoticed in an unmarked van.

(January 26, 1939) Showing at the Princess this week, "Dawn Patrol," with Errol Flynn. That film is followed later in the week by, "Just Around the Corner," with Shirley Temple.

(March 30, 1939) Smiley Burnett is coming to the stage of the Princess Theater this week and the place is expected to be packed.

Burnett, better known as 'Frog,' has appeared in several movies as Gene Autry's sidekick. He has the unusual talent of being able to lower his voice from tenor to bass in mid-sentence, something he does at least once a picture.

He's touring the South with a comedy troupe this month. After his live performance, the Princess will show his latest motion picture, "Charlie Chan in Honolulu."

(February 21, 1940) When Princess Theater moviegoers see "In Old Monterey" this week on the silver screen they'll see some familiar faces.

All the film stars Gene Autry, who was here on Jan. 26, 1938, with his horse, Champion; Smiley Burnette, who was here the following year; and Saire and Sallie, a popular WSM Radio "hillbilly gossip team" who were here several times in recent years.

(March 21, 1940) Meanwhile, it's quite a picture, according to the ad for this week's movie at the Princess Theater. It's "weird and wondrous beyond your most daring dreams." It's "big beyond words, dramatic beyond belief." And it's "magnificent beyond compare." It's "The Hunchback of Notre Dame," with Charles Laughton as the bell ringer. Admission is 30 cents.

(April 5, 1940) Margaret Mitchel's "Gone With the Wind" has opened in the Princess Theater for a five-day run and the house is packed to capacity for every showing.

(June 12, 1940) Showing at the Princess this week: Gene Autry and Smiley Burnett in "Back in the Saddle Again."

(October 3, 1940) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Comedian Jack Benny in "Buck Benny Rides Again," with Andy Devine and Ellen Drew. (September 25, 1940) For the first time in its history, Tennessee Polytech's first chapel assembly of the year has been broadcast on radio. Cookeville's new station WHUB, carried the assembly live this week.



The show featured all 745 TPI students singing "America," the campus choir singing "Now Let Heaven and Earth Adore Thee," and Cumberland Presbyterian minister G.C. McIlwain gave the invocation.

After an address by acting TPI president A.W. Smith, the school's cheerleaders for the year -- Dorothy Glisson and Virginia Fritts -- were introduced to the student body, and the radio audience.

WHUB plans to do other broadcasts of TPI chapel assemblies during the year, says station owner Luke Medley.

(October 24, 1940) A special motion picture at the Princess for Halloween: "The killer diller of all horror movies," "Frankenstein." The Princess cautions that the Boris Karloff chiller "is not a film for the weak-hearted."

(January 16, 1941) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Singing cowboy Gene Autry stars in "Carolina Moon." It also features Smiley Burnett, Jimmy Lewis and the Texas Cowboys and June Story.

(February 12, 1941) While you're out, you might want to catch a moving picture. Over at the Princess this week they're showing "the wonder picture of all times." It's "The Thief of Bagdad," with Conrad Veidt

and Sabu. Coming next week: "Spring Parade," with Deanna Durbin. It's a real treat for Denna Durbin fans because "for the first time in her three-year screen career," the actress will do her "specialty dance" on the silver screen.

(March 20, 1941) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Roy Rogers and Gabby Hayes in "Border Legion," and the first installment of the new serial thriller, "King of the Royal Mounted."

(April 10, 1941) "Gone With the Wind," which showed here last summer to big crowds at big prices, is back this week at the Princess Theater, which stresses that prices are more reasonable this time around.

Last summer the price of admission was set by the studios. This week, you can see the Margaret Mitchell saga for 40 cents if you're an adult, and 25 cents if you're a child.

Also showing at the Princess: Cesar Romero as the Cisco Kid in "Romance on the Rio Grande."



(May 8, 1941) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Johnny Weissmuller in "Tarzan Finds A Son." Later this week: "Lil Abner."

(May 22, 1941) Showing this week at the Princess: "The Wild Man of Borneo," starring Donald Meek and Bonita Granville. Also showing James Stewart and Paulette Goddard in "Pot 'O God" and a new March of Time feature entitled "Australia at War."

(May 24, 1941) Showing at the Princess theater this week: James Stewart and Paulette Goddard in "Pot of Gold," Frank Morgan and Billie Burke in "Wild Man of Borneo," and Kenneth Roberts in "Captain Caution."

(May 29, 1941) At the Princess this week, Fred Allen and Jack Benny star in "Love Thy Neighbor," and Roy Rogers takes to the screen on Saturday in the film, "In Old Cheyenne," which will be accompanied by a Looneytune, a two-reel Three Stooges feature, and the 19th chapter of "King of the Royal Mounted."

(June 5, 1941) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Guy Kibbee and Bobs Watson in "Scattergood Pulls the String," and James Stewart and Hedy Lamarr in "Come Live with Me." Later in the week, the Range Busters star in "West of Pinto Basin."

(June 12, 1941) Showing at the Princess this week: Gene Autry and Smiley Burnett in "Back in the Saddle Again."

(June 26, 1941) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Tobacco Road," with Gene Tierney and Marjorie Rambeau.

(July 17, 1941) Showing this week at the Princess: "Devil Dogs of the Air," with James Cagney and Pat O'Brien. Also, the 6th chapter of "The Green Hornet Strikes Again."

(August 7, 1941) Showing this week at the Princess: Tex Ritter in "Rolling Home for Texas," and the 7<sup>th</sup> chapter of the exciting serial thriller, "Mysterious Dr. Satan."

(August 14, 1941) At the Princess this week: "The Lady Eye," with Barbara Stanwyck and Henry Fonda.

(August 21, 1941) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Tall, Dark and Handsome," with Caesar Romero and Virginia Gilmore.

(October 16, 1941) The movie down at the Princess this Saturday night won't be the usual shoot-em up. It's "Harvest for Tomorrow," a film about farming in New England.

It's being presented by the county extension office in cooperation with the theater to educate the public on the danger of America's vanishing topsoil.

The film which will air for four showings Saturday, tells how topsoil is created, how it's being lost due to poor farming practices and how fertility can be restored to the soil.

(December 4, 1941) Showing at the Princess this week: "Sergeant York," with Gary Cooper and Walter Brennan.

(December 25, 1941) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour in "Caught in the Draft."

(June 25, 1942) The war has created a tire rubber shortage and a drive is on to round up old tires. As part of that drive, children who bring an old tire to the Princess Theater this week will get in free for a Saturday afternoon matinee.

Showing are Hopalong Cassidy in "Stick to Your Guns," a Popeye cartoon and the 10<sup>th</sup> chapter of "Dick Tracy vs. Crime."

(July 23, 1942) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: "What's Cooking," starring the Andrew Sisters.

(September 24, 1942) Showing at the Princess this week: "Woman of the Year," with Spencer Tracy and Katherine Hepburn.

(October 2, 1942) Showing this week at the Princess: It's Rita Hayworth and Victor Mature in "My Gal Sal."

(November 5, 1942) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Ann Sheridan and Ronald Regan in "Juke Girl."

(December 2, 1942) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Dorothy Lamour and William Holden, along with Jimmy Dorsey and his orchestra, in "The Fleet's In." Also, Conrad Veidt and Ann Ayers in "Nazi Agent." Also, Gary Cooper in "Sergeant York."

(December 23, 1942) Showing that the Princess Theater this week: Walt Disney's full-length animated feature, "Dumbo." Later this week, it's "Eagle Squadron" With Robert Stack, Eddie Albert and Nigel Bruce.

(December 24, 1942) At the Princess this week; "The Woman They Almost Lynched," with John Lund, Brian Donley and Audrey Totter. Also, a "Sportlight" feature and a cartoon.

(January 28, 1943) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Bela Lugosi and the East Side Kids in "Spooks Run Wild."

(February 26, 1943) At the Princess today: "Wake Island," starring Robert Preston, Brian Donleavy and "hundreds of our boys." The ad notes that "You'll want to see it at least twice."

(February 27, 1943) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Bud Abbott and Lou Costello in "Buck Privates," plus an Our Gang comedy and the second chapter of "The Adventures of Smiling Jack."

(March 16, 1943) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "A Yank at Eaton," with Mickey Rooney, Ian Hunter and Alan Mowbry.

(March 25, 1943) Showing this week at the Princess: The Ritz Brothers in "Behind the 8 Ball," and Red Skelton, Ann Southern and Dan Dailey in "Panama Hatties."

(April 14, 1943) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Secret Agent of Japan," with Preston Foster and Lynn Bari.

(April 24, 1943) Back by popular demand at the Princess this week: "To the Shores of Tripoli," with John Payne, Randolph Scott and Maureen O'Hara.

(May 28, 1943) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Bing Crosby, Dorothy Lamour and Bob Hope in Road to Morocco.

(July 8, 1943) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Red Skelton, Ann Rutherford and George Bancroft in "Whistling Dixie."

(July 15, 1943) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Gene Autry and Smiley "Frog" Burnette in "Boots and Saddles."

(Sept. 18, 1943) Showing at the Princess this week: Roy Rogers and Gabby Hayes in "Days of Jesse James." Later in the week, it's John Hall as "Kit Carson."

(November 1943) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "So Proudly We Hail," with Claudette Colbert and Veronica Lake.

(February 18, 1944) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: George Sanders, Anna Sten and Ward Bond in "They Came to Blow Up America."

(April 20, 1944) Showing this week at the Princess: "Dangerous Blondes," starring Evelyn Keyes and Ann Savage. Later this week, Joan Crawford and Fred MacMurray star in "Above Suspicion."

(April 27, 1944) At the Princess Theater this week: "Hoosier Holiday," the film that features radio favorites like George Hay ("The Solemn Old Judge of WSM Radio"), the Hoosier Hotshots and the Great Gilderstern. Also showing is the 9<sup>th</sup> chapter of "Secret Service in Darkest Africa."



(May 3, 1945) At the Princess this week, "Rainbow Island", "Tiger Fangs", "Our Hearts Were Young and Gay", "Dark Mountain" and "The Very Thought of You."

(September 20, 1945) At the Princess this week, "Code of the Prairie," with Smiley (Frog) Burnette and Sunset Carson.

(January 15, 1946) This week at the Princess: "Guns and Guitars," with Gene Autry and his sidekick, "Frog." Also showing, the second chapter of "The Monster and the Ape."

(January 24, 1946) Showing at the Princess this week: Barbara Stanwyck and Dennis Morgan in "Christmas in Connecticut."

(July 11, 1946) At the Princess this week: "Lost Weekend," with Ray Milland and Jane Wyman. Later in the week it's Bing Crosby, Bob Hope and Dorothy Lamour in "Road to Utopia."

(October 10, 1946) Showing at the Princess Theater this week; "California Gold Rush," with Wild Bill Elliot and "Little Bear."

Also, "The Dark Corner," with Lucille Ball, William Bendix and Eddie Heywood and His Orchestra.



(November 28, 1946) Country western fans can still hear some tunes despite the cancellation of the 'opry' here this week. The Princess Theater is showing "Singing on the Trail," the latest singing cowboy opry, starring The Hoosier Hotshots and "Big Boy" Williams.

(December 24, 1946) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Will Bill Ellito and 'Little Beaver' in "Sun Valley Cyclone," plus tenth chapter of the WWII cliffhanger, "Jungle Raiders."

(February 6, 1947) Showing this week at the Princess: Van Johnson and Lucille Ball in "Easy to Wed."

(March 17, 1950) Showing this week at the Princess Theater, Leo Gorcey and the Bowery Boys in "Feuding Fools."

(February 7, 1951) Showing at the Princess this week: Walt Disney's "Bambi." It's in "TechniColor."

(February 12, 1951) At the Princess this week, "My Friend Irma Goes West," with Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis

(November 27, 1952) Showing this week at the Princess: "The Winning Team," with Doris Day, Frank Lovejoy and Ronald Regan.

(April 2, 1953) Princess Theater operator E.C. Reeves says it's an historic for Cookeville. It's the first time that a motion picture has been held for a full week at a theater here. The film? "The Greatest Show on Earth." The circus drama won five academy awards this week, including best film. It stars Charlton Heston, Cornel Wilde, James Stewart, Betty Hutton, Dorothy Lamour, and the Ringling Barnum Bailey Circus. The film stretches over two hours and 40 minutes.

(April 30, 1953) Showing this week at the Princess: "Apache War Smoke," with Gilbert Roland and bobby (Little Beaver) Blake. Also, there's a cartoon and the first chapter of the serial; "Son of Geronimo."

(June 4, 1953) At the Princess Theater this week: Marlon Brando in James Michener's epic of the US Army's occupation of Japan, "Sayonara." It also features James Gardner, Ricardo Montalban, Red Buttons, and Japanese star Miko Taka.

(August 27, 1953) At the Princess this week: "Blue Canadian Rockies," with Gene Autry, 'Champ' (Gene's horse), Pat Buttram and the Cass County Boys.

(September 24, 1953) At the Princess: "Cat People," with Simone Simon.

(October 19, 1953) Showing this week at the Princess: Tony Curtis and Janet Leigh in "Houdini," also, Gordon McCrae in "Desert Song."

(January 21, 1954) At the Princess this week: Johnny Weissmuller stars in "Valley of the Headhunters." Also, there's a two-reel comedy and the 9th chapter of the serial, "The Adventures of Captain Kidd."

(February 4, 1954) This week at the Princess: It's Kirby Grant and Chinook the Wonder Dog in "Yukon Vengeance." Also, there's the 13th chapter of "The Adventures of Captain Kidd."

(June 5, 1954) At the Princess this week: Robert Stack and Joan Taylor in the horse opera, "War Paint."

(June 17, 1954) At the Princess this week: It's Robert Ryan in 'a tale of fish and fury in Alaskan Waters.' It's "Alaska Seas."

(July 1, 1954) At the Princess Theater this week, where "the new panoramic screen is now installed:" "The Last Posse," with Broderick Crawford, Monte Blue and John Derek, "The Stand at Apache River," with Steven McNally and Julia Adams.

(July 8, 1954) Showing at the Princess this week: Walt Disney's "Rob Roy, the Highland Rogue," a tale of daring-do, filmed in the Scottish Highlands.

(August 5, 1954) At the Princess Theater this week: Victor Mature in "The Veils of Baghdad," and John Derek and Walter Brennan in "Sea of Lost Ships."

(August 14, 1954) The Princess Theater announced this week that it's new giant panoramic screen is now installed. Showing on the big screen there this week are "East of Sumatra," with Jeff Chandler, and "She Couldn't Say No," with Robert Mitchum and Jean Simmons.

(August 26, 1954) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Randolph Scott in "Thunder Over the Plains."

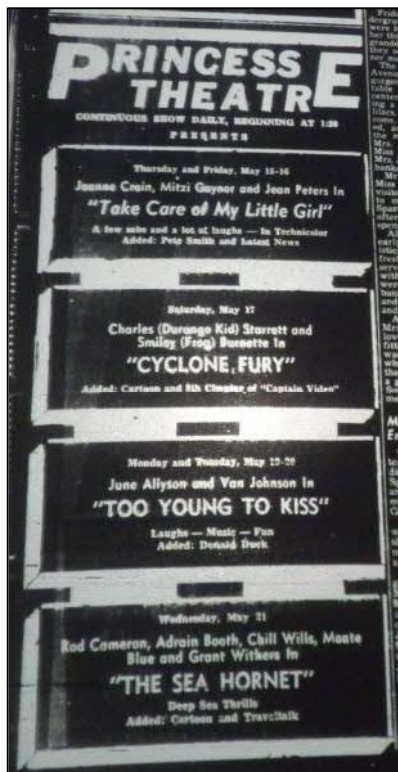
(September 9, 1954) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Ronald Reagan, Steve Forrest and Dewey March in "Prisoner of War." The ad says it's "Shocking! Red atrocities exposed!"

(October 7, 1954) Showing at the Princess this week: "Out of Baghdad's mystic past thunders the adventure of all the ages." It's "The Golden Blade," with Rock Hudson and Piper Laurie.

(October 11, 1954) At the Princess Theater this week, it's "Johnny Weissmuller against the cannibals" in "Jungle Man Eaters." It co-stars "Tamba the Talented Chimp."

(October 21, 1954) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: "Hell's Half Acre," a film set in Honolulu, "the city of sin where death comes swift and silent." It stars Wendell Corey, Evelyn Keys and Elsa Lanchester.

(November 13, 1954) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Marilyn Monroe, Betty Grable and Lauren Bacall star in "How To Mary A Millionaire." Tickets are 50 cents for adults and 25 cents for children.



(December 9, 1954) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Magnificent Obsession," with Rock Hudson and Jane Wyman. It's based on the best selling book by Lloyd C. Douglas, who also wrote the bestseller, The Robe.

(February 17, 1955) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: "Secret of the Incas," with Charlton Heston, Robert Young and Yma Sumac.

(March 17, 1955) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: "Take Care of My Little Girl", "Cyclone Fury", "Too Young to Kiss" & "The Sea Hornet."

(August 18, 1955) There's a lot of excitement around town over the movie coming to the Princess Theater this week, "Davy Crockett, King of the Wild Frontier." An article in this week's edition says that Walt Disney stuck "rigidly to historical dates and events" in telling the tale. It shows Davy grinning down a bear, fighting a Creek Indian chief, Redsticks, walking in to Congress in deerskin attire and making a last stand at the Alamo.

The film stars newcomer Fess Parker, a native of Ft. Worth, Texas. Its theme song, "Ballad of Davy Crockett," is climbing to the top of the Hit Parade, and a national Davy Crockett craze is beginning to take shape.

(September 2, 1955) At the Princess Theater this week, where, according to an advertisement, "Friendliness is a habit and courtesy a watchword." You can see Randolph Scott and Forrest Tucker in "Rage at Dawn," a horse opera. Or, catch Gordon Scott and Vera Miles in the latest Lord-of-the-Apes saga, "Tarzan's Hidden Jungle."

(September 12, 1955) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Tony Curtis and Gloria DeHaven in "So This Is Paris," a tale of sailors on leave. It boasts "Nine hit tunes," and is filmed in Technicolor.

(September 25, 1955) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Jeff Chandler and Jack Palance in "Signs of the Pagan," the colorful story of Attila the Hun.

(October 3, 1955) Showing this week at the Princess: Stewart Granger and Elizabeth Taylor in "Beau Brummell."

(October 31, 1955) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: a "midnight Halloween show" with Richard Green, Boris Karloff and Lon Chaney. It's the Universal-International film, "The Black Castle." The ad for the film warns, "Danger lurks in every darkened corner."

(November 12, 1955) Showing at the Princess this week: John Wayne in "The Sands of Iwo Jima."

(December 19, 1955) Here's a look at films showing at the Princess this week for the holiday season: "The Life and Time of Sigmund Romberg." Described as "a must for music lover." Then there's Jane Russell, Richard Egan and Gilbert Roland in "Underwater," an adventure film boasting dazzling special effects and "breathtaking photography, an adventure in movie-making, a story of love, larceny and sunken treasure."

(January 19, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "The Prodigal," the lurid ad for which reads, "He left his father's house for the fleshpots of sin-ridden Damascus."

(January 26, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater here: Paulette Goddard and Jean Pierre in "Charge of the Lancers."

(January 30, 1956) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: It's Jack Webb in the "roaring, blazing twenties jazz story," "Pete Kelly Blues."

(January 31, 1956) Showing at the Princess this week: "Sea Chase," with John Wayne and Lana Turner.

(February 6, 1956) Showing at the Princess this week, Jack Webb as jazz trumpeter Pete Kelly in the film that recreates the Roaring '20s and the Jazz era, "Pete Kelly's Blues." Janet Leigh and Edmond O'Brien also star.

(February 6, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "The Shepherd of the Hills," with John Wayne, Betty Field, and Harry Carey.

(February 11, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Claudette Colbert and Barry Sullivan in "Texas Lady," and Randolph Scott is "long, and lethal, and he's riding for revenge" in "Tall in Saddle."

(February 19, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess: "A woman upholds the tradition of freedom of the press" in "Taxes Lady," with Claudette Colbert and Barry Sullivan.

(February 27, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess: "Battle Taxi," which focuses on the exploits of the Korean War's helicopter pilots. It stars Sterling Hayden. The ad says it's a "roaring salute to the pinwheel pilots."

(February 28, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess: "Abbott and Costello Meet the Mummy."

(March 11, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "One of the most talked about films of the year," says the ad for "Trial," with Glenn Ford and Dorothy McGuire.

(March 19, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess: "Tennessee's Partner," starring John Payne, Rhonda Fleming and Ronald Reagan.

(March 20, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Bad for Each Other," with Charleton Heston and Lizbeth Scott. The ad says, "The startling truth of the unknown knifer behind the surgeon's mask."

(April 8, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess: "Gentlemen Marry Brunettes," with Jane Russell and Jeanne Carr.

(April 16, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess: John Wayne and Veda Ralston in "The Fighting Kentuckian."

(April 23, 1956) At the Princess this week, John Wayne and Vera Ralston in "The Fighting Kentuckian." At the Putnam Drive-in it's Johnny Weissmuller in "Cannibal Attack."

(April 24, 1956) Showing at the Princess this week, it's the Hoosier Hotshots in "Sing Me A Song of Texas."

(April 29, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "The Lost Command," the story on Jim Bowie and Davy Crockett at the Alamo, starring Sterling Hayden. Also, "The Lone Ranger." It's his first full length feature film. It stars Clayton Moore as the man in the mask and Jay Silverheels as his faithful Indian companion, Tonto.

(May 3, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess: "The Night Holds Terror," with Vince Edwards, John Cassavettes and Hildy Parks as "young punks with guns who mean business." Later in the week, a double feature, "Teen Age Crime Wave" and "Three Bad Sisters."

(May 7, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess: "Teen Age Crime Wave" and "Three Bad Sisters."

(May 14, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Alfred Hitchcock's dark comedy, "The Trouble With Harry," starring Ed Gwen, John Forsyth and Shirley McLaine.

(May 28, 1956) Showing at the Princess this week: "Marty," an Academy Award winner with Ernest Borgnine. Another award winner, "The Egyptian," with Edward Purdom and Victor Mature, shows later in the week.

(June 7, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater, a doubleheader: Johnny Weissmuller in "Devil Goddess," a film advertised as "Pagan rites and weird rituals in a new jungle adventure;" and the story of a 'new outlaw queen,' "Bell Starr's Daughter," starring Rod Cameron and Ruth Roman.

(June 11, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Ransom," with Glenn Ford, Donna Reed and Leslie Nielsen.

(June 14, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Uranium Boom," with Dennis Morgan. The ad says it's about "battling for a deadly treasure that can control the world."

(June 28, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Robert Taylor as "Billy The Kid."

(June 10, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: It's "terror and mystery in the Berlin underground" with Gregory Peck and Rita Gam in "Night People."

(June 16, 1956) Showing at the Princess this week, William Holden and Kim Novak in the film based on the Pulitzer Prize winning novel, "Picnic."

(June 27, 1956) At the Princess Theater this week: "Battle Stations," which the ad says is "the flattop story that tops them all." It stars John Lund, Richard Boone and William Bendix and was filmed aboard the wooden-decked USS Princeton, a WWII-vintage aircraft carrier.

(July 5, 1956) At the Princess this week, it's Steve Allen, Donna Reed and Gene Krupa in "The Benny Goodman Story."

(July 20, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Anything Goes," with Bing Crosby, hooper Donald O'Connor and Misty Gaynor. The ad says it's the "go-go-go musical of the year."

(August 6, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Cornell Wilde and Jane Russell in "Hot Blood."

(August 16, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "The Bottom of the Bottle," which the ad says is a look at "The West of today...ranch society and border towns." It stars Van Johnson, Joseph Cotton and Ruth Roman.

At the Putnam Drive-in this week: Charlton Heston and Jane Wyman in "Lucy Gallant," a potboiler about Texas oil, money and men.

(September 10, 1956) At the Princess this week: James Stewart and Doris Day in "The Man Who Knew Too Much." Also, John Derek and Paul Douglas in "The Leather Saint."

(September 14, 1956) Showing at the Princess this week: "The Last Frontier," which, according to the ads, is "a primitive adventure in the great westward push" starring Victor Mature, Guy Madison and Robert Preston.

(September 27, 1956) At the Princess this week: Dean Martin and Jerry Lewis "grinning and funning and making the Old West wild with laughter" in "Pardners." It also stars Vic Morrow and Agnes Moorehead.

(October 4, 1956) At the Princess this week: "The Maverick Queen," a horse opera with Barbara Stanwyck and Barry Sullivan.

(October 22, 1956) At the Princess Theater this week: "A super spectacular," says the ad. It's "Trapeze," with Burt Lancaster, Tony Curtis and Gina Lollobrigida.

(October 25, 1956) At the Princess this week: John Agar and Leo G. Carroll in "Tarantula," the story of a 100-foot-tall spider that tramples a mid-sized city near you.

(November 29, 1956) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Spy Chasers," with the Bowery Boys.

(December 22, 1956) At the Princess this week, dinosaurs are on the loose in "The Animal World."

(January 19, 1958) Showing at the Princess this week: "April Love," with Pat Boone and Shirley Jones.

(February 3, 1958) The Princess Theater is showing "The Brains from Planet Arous," with John Agar, Robert Fuller and Joyce Meadows. The ad says it's "science fiction's most astounding story."

Not astounded yet? There's more. Also at the Princess this week is "Teenage Monster," with Anne Gwynne and Stuart Wade. The ad warns: "Man, beat or demon? He is wild, wanton and weird."

(May 1, 1958) At the Princess this week: "The Deep Six," about which the theater ad says, "Here it is. The men, the mission, the picture that rocks the theater with glory." Faced with living up to that description are actors Alan Ladd, Kennan Wynn and James Whitmore.

(June 18, 1958) Meanwhile, teenagers have other things on their minds, like the new movie showing this week at the Princess: "I Was A Teenage Frankenstein."

(July 1, 1958) At the Princess Theater, Paul Newman stars as "the strange teenage desperado known as Billy the Kid" in "The Left-Handed Gun."

(July 5, 1958) At the Princess this week: "The Invisible Boy." It stars Richard Eyer and "Robbie the Robot." It's the story of 'science monsters who are against mankind.

(July 28, 1958) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Dragstrip Riot", with Gary Clarke and Fay Wray. Also showing "Cool and Crazy," the story of "seven savage punks on a weekend binge of violence."

(August 19, 1958) War, westerns and teenagers were the themes at the movies this week here. At the Princess you could watch "Jet Attack" or "Suicide Battalion," or see today's troubled teens in "Carnival Rock" and "Teenage Thunder," or you could see bad guys get their due in "Badlands of Montana" or "The Law and Jake Wade."

(August 25, 1958) Showing at the Princess this week: "Rockabilly Baby," starring Virginia Field and Douglas Kennedy.

(September 11, 1958) Showing at the Princess this week: Tab Hunter stars as "the young rebel who didn't fit, and didn't try...a kid who couldn't wait for his war." The film is called, "Lafayette Escadrille," Hollywood's account of American fliers who fought for France before the US entered WWI. It also stars "that scorching new beauty from France, Etchika Choureau."

(October 13, 1958) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "No Time for Sergeants," starring Andy Griffin and Nick Adams.

(November 5, 1958) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "The fiery drama that shook the world" It's Eugene O'Neill's "Desire Under the Elms," with Sophia Loren, Anthony Perkins and Burl Ives. Also showing, John Wayne in "Jet Pilot."

(November 17, 1958) At the Princess this week: "The Fly," with Al Heison and Vincent Price, also, "Space Master X-7."

(December 5, 1958) The first child born to residents of the city's new Perry Morgan Homes subsidized housing complex arrived this week at Cookeville General Hospital. Lori Jean Oswald was born on Dec. 2 to Mr. and Mrs. Handley C. Oswald. He's a Tennessee Tech student and is employed at the Princess Theater. Lori brings the population of Perry Morgan Homes to more than 200.

(June 7, 1960)

Horror fans won't want to miss the extravaganza advertised at the Princess Theater this week: and his Terrors of the Unknown," "King Kong Live," and "The Mummy," Each includes live acts featuring characters from the films on the theater's stage. Filmgoers are in for treats. "See girls get their heads cut off on stage. See the Mummy grab slave girls. The lights go out. We can't advertise what happens next – but wow! You won't believe your eyes. Girls are advised to bring an escort," The first "150 humans" in line for each showing will receive free "shrunk heads." All this for \$1.

(September 15, 1960) Showing this week at the Princess: "The Hustler" with Paul Newman and Jackie Gleason.

(September 20, 1960) This week at the Princess Theater on Westside: Jerry Lewis (without his former partner, Dean Martin) in "The Bellboy."

(December 20, 1960) At the Princess this week: "The Subterraneans." It's the story of "shocking young rebels, told to the fabulous rhythms of the most modern jazz every7 played." It stars Leslie Caron, Roddy McDowell and George Peppard. They are also showing Elvis in his film "G.I. Blues."

(November 28, 1961) Showing at the Princess: "Mein Kampf." The ad says, "The real thing. Authentic film. Shocking! The terrifying true story of Hitler's Recich."

(February 12, 1962) At the Princess this week, "A strange new experience in shock from the director of "Room at the Tope." It's Deborah Kerr in "The Innocents," the film that asks the question, "Do they ever return to possess the living?" The ad urges filmgoers to see it from the very beginning.

(February 26, 1962) At the Princess this week: "Invasion Quartet," with Spike Mulligan and three of his pals. It's billed as "the funniest foursome that ever fouled up De Fuhrer."

(April 6, 1962) Showing at the Princess this week, "The Mask." Theater-goers will be issued a free Magic Mystic Mask "to see the movie Thrill of Thrills. Only by looking through the mask will you see and live the terrors of "The Mask," according to the colorful ad in this week's edition.

(May 22, 1962) Showing at the Princess: "Twist All Night," the movie which invites you to "Dig the playgirl sensation of the nation." Included in the presentation is a short feature film which gives you free twist lessons.

(June 3, 1962) At the Princess Theater this week it's "Chubby Checker in his big new role," the ads proclaim. Checker stars this week in "Don't Knock the Twist," starring Gene Chandler, Vic Dana, Linda Scott, the Carroll Brothers and The Dowells.

(June 19, 1962) At the Princess Theater this week: "Lad a Dog," starring Peter Breck and Peggy McCay.

(August 5, 1962) At the Princess Theater this week: Cary Grant and Doris Day star in "That Touch of Mink."

(September 2, 1962) "A handful of brave men from an incredible flying wedge" in a movie showing at the Princess this week, and its not about football. It's the ancient Battle of Thermopylac. It's "The 300 Spartans," starring Richard Egan and Sir Ralph Richardson.

(September 4, 1962) Meanwhile, at the Princess Theater, the "flying wedge" makes a comeback this week not in football, but on the field of battle. Showing at the theater is "The 300 Spartans" with Richard Egan and Sir Ralph Richardson. It purports to tell the story of the Battle of Thermopylae in which "300 brave men form an incredible flying wedge" and, at least for a time, hold off the Persian Empire.

(September 25, 1962) Showing this week at the Princess: Walt Disney's "Big Red".

(November 6, 1962) At the Princess Theater this week: Walt Disney's "Moon Pilot," with Tom Tryon and Brian Keith.

(December 23, 1962) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Walt Disney's "Babe's in Toyland," with Annette Funcecello.

(December 31, 1962) Showing this week at the Princess; Audie Murphy in the Western, "Posse From Hell."

(January 29, 1963) At the Princess this week, it's Elvis in "Follow That Dream."

(February 12, 1963) At the Princess this week: "Battle ground," the story of "the guts, gags, glory and a lot of wonderful guys." It's the story of US paratroopers at Bastogne in the Battle of the Bulge.

(March 19, 1963) Showing at the Princess this week: "Battle Hymn," the ad for which says it depicts the true story of Col. Dean Hess, a clergyman turned fighter pilot in WWII.

(April 11, 1963) Showing at the Princess this week: "The Robe," starring Richard Burton, Jean Simmons and Victor Mature. Later this week: "Sodom and Gomorrah."

(April 30, 1963) And at the Princess this week: Elvis in "It Happened at the World's Fair," with 10 new Elvis songs.

(May 16, 1963) Showing this week at the Princess: "The Birds." Alfred Hitchcock's nature-run-amok take starring Rod Taylor, Jessica Tandy and Tippi Hedren.

(May 27, 1963) At the Princess: "Whatever Happened to Baby Jane?" with Bette Davis and Joan Crawford. Also, muscleman Steve Reeves stars in "The Slave, Son of Spartacus," and Tom Poston appears in "Zotz."

(June 2, 1963) Showing tonight at the Putnam Drive-in: "Mysterious Island," which is based on the book by Jules Verne.

(June 11, 1963) At the Princess this week: Burt Lancaster in "Bird Man of Alcatraz."

(June 21, 1963) At the Princess this week: Walt Disney's "Lady and the Tramp."

(July 19, 1963) At the Princess this week "Flipper," the story of a boy and his dolphins. It stars TV's "Rifleman," Chuck Connors.

(August 13, 1963) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Mothra," the story of the giant moth that destroyed Tokyo and its outlying environs. It's a Toho production released in the US by Columbia Pictures.

(August 27, 1963) Showing this week at the Princess: "King Kong vs. Godzilla."

(Sept. 10, 1963) Showing at the Princess this week: The 300 Spartans."

(September 17, 1963) At the Princess this week: "Dr. No," in which actor Sean Connery brings Ian Fleming's world-famous character, James Bond, to the screen for the first time.

(October 1, 1963) Showing at the Princess this week: "Hootenanny Hoot," with Johnny Cash and the Brothers Four, Judy Henson, George Hamilton IV, Joe and Eddie, Chris Crosby, the Gateway Trio and Sheb Wooley.

(November 12, 1963) At the Princess Theater this week: Rock Hudson, Elizabeth Taylor and James Dean in "Giant."

(November 19, 1963) Showing this week at the Princess: Vincent Price in "Twice Told Tales."

(December 10, 1963) At the Princess Theater this week, it's Elvis and Ursula Andress in "Fun in Acapulco."

(December 17, 1963) Showing at the Princess this week: It's Robert Taylor in a tale of ranchers vs. land robbers. It's "Cattle King."

(December 31, 1963) At the Princess this week: Jimmy Stewart and Doris Day in Alfred Hitchcock's "The Man Who Knew Too Much."



(January 28, 1964) Later in the week will be the first in the Gadfly Club's heralded Foreign Film Festival series.

First is "The Mouse on the Moon," a British film starring Terry Thomas, who also stars in the second offering, "Make Mine Mink," also a British film.

The series continues with another British movie, "Tale of Two Cities," starring Dirk Bogarde. Next is Sir Laurence Olivier in "Richard III," followed by the French film, "La Belle Americaine, with Colette Brosset.

The festival is being held in the Princess Theater. Season tickets for the film fest are \$4.

(March 3, 1964) At the Princess Theater this week, it's Dean Martin, Frank Sinatra, Anita Ekberg and Ursula Andress in "4 For Texas."

(April 28, 1964) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Gregory Peck, Tony Curtis, Angie Dickinson and Bobby Darrin in "Captain Newman."

(May 12, 1964) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Marlon Brando, Trevor Howard and Richard Harris in "Mutiny on the Bounty."

(June 12, 1964) Showing this week at the Princess: Joan Crawford as an ax murderess in "Straight-Jacket."

(June 26, 1964) At the Princess Theater this week: Jules Verne's "Mysterious Island," with "Superdynamation" special effects. Later in the week it's Burl Ives as a genie bewitching Tony Randall in "The Brass Bottle."

(June 5, 1964) More than 500 boys and girls started off their summer vacation by attending a free movie party at the Princess Theater co-sponsored by the theater and the newspaper.

They saw "The Three Stooges in Orbit" and heard live music on stage by the Cookeville trio The Driftwoods.

The top door prize, a new bicycle, was won by 11-year-old Terry Spurlock, son of Mr. and Mrs. Olen Spurlock of Carr Avenue.

\*Showing at the Princess on Saturday, "The Three Stooges Meet Hercules."

(July 14, 1964) At the Princess this week, it's Elvis and Ann Margret in "Viva Las Vegas."

(July 24, 1964) At the Princess this week: It's Bob Hope and Anita Ekberg in "Call Me Bwana."

(August 11, 1964) At the Princess Theater this week: "They're surfin' high & twisting wild & feelin' wonderful," say the ad for "For Those Who Think Young." It stars James Darren and Pamela Tifton.

(September 29, 1964) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Peter Sellers and George C. Scott in "Dr. Strangelove," which is subtitled, "How I Learned to Stop Worrying and Love the Bomb."

(October 6, 1964) Showing at the Princess this week: Frank Sinatra, Dean Martin and Sammy Davis Jr. in "Robin and the 7 Hoods." which also features Bing Crosby.

(November 3, 1964) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Alfred Hitchcock's "Marnie," with Tippi Hedren and Sean Connery, and "South Pacific," with John Kerr and Mitzi Gaynor.

(December 1, 1964) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: "How The West Was Won."

(January 9, 1965) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Rock Hudson and Paula Prentiss in "Man's Favorite Sport," and its "10,000 biceps meet 5,000 bikinis" in "Muscle Beach Party," with Frankie Avalon, Annette Funicello and Buddy Hackett.

(January 18, 1965) Showing at the Princess: Steve McQueen and Ann Margaret in "The Cincinnati Kid."

(February 11, 1965) Showing this week at the Princess: Elvis stars in "Kid Galahad," and Debbie Reynolds and Harve Presnell star in "The Unsinkable Molly Brown." Also, Jerry Lewis in "Who's Minding the Store?"

(February 11, 1965) At the Princess Theater this week: "Goodbye, Charlie," with Tony Curtis, Pat Boone and Debby Reynolds.

(February 25, 1965) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "First Men In The Moon," a science fiction thriller based loosely on the work of Jules Verne, and the science fiction potboiler, "The Earth Dies Screaming."

(March 12, 1965) At the Princess this week, "PT 109," with Cliff Robertson as a young John F. Kennedy. The film tells the story of the late president's heroism in the South Pacific in World War II.

(March 15, 1965) Showing this week at the Princess this week: James Franciscus and Suzanne Pleshette in "Youngblood Hawke."

(April 8, 1965) Showing this week at the Princess: It's Elvis in "Girl Happy," with Shelly Fabares, Gary Crosby and Mary Ann Mobley, and "The Lively Set," with James Darren, Pamela Tiffin and Doug McClure.

(July 8, 1965) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "First Men In the Moon," the H. G. Wells science fiction story, and "Jason and the Argonauts."

(July 20, 1965) Showing at the Princess this week: a musical extravaganza, "Get Yourself A College Girl," starring Nancy Sinatra, Chad Everett and Mary Ann Mobley, along with the musical talents of The Dave Clark Five, Stan Getz and Astrud Gilbert, The Standells, the Jimmy Smith Trio and the Animals.

(September 16, 1965) Showing this weeks at the Princess Theater: James Stewart in "Shenandoah," Elvis in "Tickle Me," and "Circus of Horrors."

(September 23, 1965) Showing this week at the Princess: Sean Connery as James Bond in "Dr. No" and "From Russia With Love."

(October 2, 1965) Showing this week at the Princess: Richard Burton and Peter O'Toole in "Becket."

(October 18, 1965) Showing at the Princess Theater this week, back-to-back musical action: "Go-Go Mania" and "Swingers Paradise."

(November 4, 1965) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Peter O' Toole in "Lord Jim."

(November 18, 1965) Showing at the Princess this week: It's John, Paul, George and Ringo – the Beatles – in "Help!" The ad says it's a film about "the colorful adventures of the Fab Four."

(December 5, 1965) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "Baby the Rain Must Fall," with Steve McQueen and Lee Remick. It's based on the best-selling book.

(January 9, 1966) The Princess Theater this week was showing "Mirage," with Gregory Peck and Diane Baker, and the Putnam Drive-In lit up the screen with "John Goldfarb Please come Home," with Shirley McClaine, Peter Ustinov and Richard Crenna.

(January 26, 1966) The Gadfly Club is sponsoring a weekly Foreign Film Festival. For the coming weeks, here are the selections: "That Man From Rio," from France; "Othello," from England, "Divorce Italian Style," from Italy; "Black Orpheus," from Brazil; "Man Who Wagged His Tail," from Spain, and "Umbrellas of Cherbourg," from France. The films will be shown in the Princess Theater.

(February 3, 1966) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Ann Margaret and Michael Parks in "Bus Riley's Back in Town."

(March 3, 1966) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Charlton Heston and Richard Boone in "The War Lord."

(March 17, 1966) Showing at the Princess this week: "The Hallelujah Trail," a comic western saga starring Burt Lancaster, and Pamela Tiffin. The ad says it's the story of "How the West was Fun!"

(March 30, 1966) Showing at the Princess this week: "Never before a spectacular like this," proclaims the ad for the epic, "The Fall of the Roman Empire," with Stephen Boyd, Alec Guinness, James Mason and Sophia Loren.

(April 1, 1966) Showing this week at the Princess: "Hold On!" with Herman and the Hermits, the new British rock group. The ad says, "You never heard faster beats or seen wilder fun."

(May 3, 1966) Showing at the Princess this week: "That Darned Cat," with Dean Jones and Doris Day.

(May 24, 1966) Showing this week at the Princess Theatre: Ann Margaret and Michael Parks in "Bus Riley's Back in Town."

(June 5, 1966) At the Princess this week: "Dr. Goldfoot and the Bikini Machine," with Vincent Prince and Frankie Avalon.

(June 10, 1966) Showing at the Princess this week: Walt Disney's "The Monkey's Uncle," with Annette Funicello and the Beach Boys.

Also starring is "Smiley the Teenaged Chimp."

(June 25, 1966) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Jack Lemon and Virna Lisis in "How To Murder Your Wife."

(July 19, 1966) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Guy Madison as Wyatt Earp in "Gunman of Rio Grande."

(July 26, 1966) This week at the Princess: Sean Connery as British secret agent 007 in "Thunderball."

(August 5, 1966) This week at the Princess: Don Knott in "The Ghost and Mr. Chicken."

(November 1, 1966) At the Princess: James Coburn stars in Blake Edward's "What Did You Do In The War, Daddy?"

(November 6, 1966) At the Princess: Charlton Heston in "The Agony and the Ecstasy," the Hollywood tribute to Michelangelo.

(November 13, 1966) Showing this week at the Princess, "A Hard Day's Night," which stars the Beatles "in their first full-length hilarious action-packed film."

(November 19, 1966) At the Princess: "Batman," with Adam West and Burt Ward.

(November 25, 1966) And at the Princess this week: Tony Curtis, Natalie Wood and Jack Lemmon in "The Great Race."

(December 23, 1966) At the Princess this week, it's the story of "killer outlaws---avenging Apaches...and the gunslinger who fought them all." It's "Apache Uprising," starring Rory Calhoun, Corinne Calvert and Lon Cheney.

(January 19, 1967) Showing at the Princess this week, an Elizabeth Taylor doubleheader, "Cat on a Hot Tin Roof," and "Butterfield 8."

(January 22, 1967) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: "Blindfold," with Rock Hudson and Claudia Carinale, and "Do Not Disturb," with Doris Day and Rod Taylor.

(February 7, 1967) Showing at the Princess this week, "Wild Angels," starring Peter Fonda, Nancy Sinatra, Bruce Dern, Diane Ladd, and the members of the Venice, Calif. chapter of Hell's Angels.

(March 13, 1967) At the Princess this week: "Three Bites of the Apple," with David McCallum and Tammy Grimes.

(January 10, 1968) Mrs. George Carmack of 4<sup>th</sup> Street in Cookeville was interviewed this week on her 84<sup>th</sup> birthday. Her crocheting and hooked rugs have been winning quite a few ribbons at the county fairs in recent years.

She learned her craft skills early on, she says, recalling her youth in Overton County's Oakley community. She moved from her home there in the northern section of the county when she was 16. In 1898 they traveled by wagon to Hilham, in western Overton County. It took all day to cover those few miles, she said.

She married and became a teacher in Overton County. Her family moved to Cookeville in 1925. It was a "sleepy little agricultural community," she remembers. First Street was bordered by cow pastures. An old hotel stood where the Princess Theater is now (in the southwest corner of the Broad St. and Walnut Ave. Intersection).

(January 23, 1968) At the Princess Theater this week: "Love-ins." The ad promises you'll "watch the hippies flip out, and the whole wild scene."

(February 25, 1968) At the Princess this week: Vincent Price and Fabian in "Dr. Goldfoot and the Girl Bombs." It's the story of the "the girls with the thermonuclear navels."

(June 10, 1968) Showing at the Princess Theater this week is the film everyone's talking about, "Bonnie and Clyde," starring in the story of the outlaw lovers is Faye Dunaway and Warren Beaty. Gene Hackman also stars.

(September 3, 1968) At the Princess this week, the ad for Rory Calhoun's latest horse opera advises, "Keep your eyes on the Indians and your finger on the trigger." The firm's title? "Keep Your Finger on the Trigger."

(December 23, 1968) At the Princess, two new Walt Disney 'classics,' "Never a Dull Moment," with Dick Van Dyke, and "The One and Only Genuine Original Family Band," with John Davidson.

(January 9, 1969) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: "The Wild Angels," a motorcycle film with Peter Fonda and Nancy Sinatra. Also, Tommy Steel stars in the musical; "Half a Sixpence."

(October 5, 1970) Opening at the Princess Theater this week was "I Walk The Line," a movie filmed in the Gainesboro and Cookeville area and starring Gregory Peck and Tuesday Weld.

(October 9, 1970) Showing this week at the Princess; "The Magic Garden of Stanley Sweetheart."

(December 30, 1971) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: James Franciscus and Kim Hunter in "Beneath the Planet of the Apes."

(February 26, 1972) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Tom Laughlin as the counterculture hero, "Billy Jack."

(June 22, 1972) For those who like their film action on a big scale, the Princess Theater this week is showing "Destroy All Monsters," the Japanese movie in which "Godzilla devastates Moscow, Rodan Attacks New York, Mandra mangles London and Mothra smashes Peking,"

(July 28, 1972) At the Princess this week: "Concert for Bangladesh," a rock concert billed as the "concert of the decade." Among the dozen of top performers are George Harrison and Bob Dylan.

(April 27, 1973) Showing at the Princess Theater this week: Robert Redford in the mountain man saga, "Jeremiah Johnson."

(June 13, 1973) At the Princess this week: "Battle for the Planet of the Apes," with Roddy McDowell.

(June 23, 1973) The U.S. Supreme Court issued a landmark ruling on pornography this week, but it's not seen as having much effect on the kind of movies shown here. The court ruled that the "local community standard" is to be used in each community in determining whether material is obscene. Leon DeLozier, owner of the three theaters here – the Varsity, the Princess and the Putnam Drive-in – says he's never shown any hard-core porn films and so the new court ruling won't be tested here.

(July 22, 1973) At the Princess this week Jeff Bridges and Valerie Perrine in "The Last American Hero."

(September 17, 1973) At the Princess this week: The latest James Bond extravaganza, "Live and Let Die." It stars Roger Moore.

(September 25, 1973) Showing at the Princess this week: Clint Eastwood in "High Plains Drifter" and Vincent Price in "Dr. Phibes Rises Again."

(October 5, 1973) At the Princess this week: Burt Reynolds in "The Man Who Loved Cat Dancing," a western.

(November 23, 1973) Showing this week at the Princess: Vincent Price in "Twice Told Tales."

(November 28, 1973) Showing at the Princess this week: "Godspell," a musical.

(December 7, 1973) Showing at the Princess this week: "Blacula," with William Marshall and Pam Grier.

(February 20, 1974) Showing at the Princess this week: It's Barbara Streisand and Robert Redford in "The Way We Were."

(March 20, 1974) At the Princess this week: A film by a little-known filmmaker, George Lucas, "American Graffiti.

(October 9, 1974) At the Princess this week: The "spaghetti western" "My Name is Nobody," with Henry Fonda and Terrence Hill.

(September 27, 1975) Showing at the Princess for one night only: "Elvis on Tour," rated G.

(October 2, 1975) Showing this week at the Princess: Roy Scheider, Richard Dreyfuss and Robert Shaw in Steven Spielberg's "Jaws."

(January 28, 1976) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Robert Redford and Barbara Streisand in "The Way We Were."

(February 6, 1976) Showing this week at the Princess Theater: Burt Reynolds in "W. W. & the Dixie Dance Kings."

(February 16, 1976) At the Princess Theater this week: John Wayne and Katherine Hepburn in "Rooster Cogburn."

(March 12, 1976) Showing this week at the Princess: Burt Reynolds and Catherine Deneuve in "Hustle," with Eddie Albert and Eileen Brennan.

(April 21, 1976) Showing this week at the Princess: Franco Zeffirelli's "Romeo and Juliet."

(June 4, 1976) Showing at the Princess this week: "Ode to Billy Joe" starring Robbie Benson.

(August 5, 1978) The Princess Theater, a landmark of Cookeville's Westside shopping district since 1935, showed its final film, "Jesse James," starring Tyrone Power and Henry Fonda.

(July 30, 1979) Standing in a vacant lot that was until recently the here, officials of Citizens Bank this week held groundbreaking ceremonies on their new two-story, \$3.5 million bank. The Broad Street property is the site of the original Citizens Bank building.

Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:

March 24, 1938

'PINE RIDGE FOLLIES' MAIN ATTRACTION AT PRINCESS TUESDAY:

"The Pine Ridge Follies," featuring the original Lum and Abner Pine Ridge Silver Cornet Band is to be the big stage attraction at the Princess Tuesday of the week.

This is the finest stage show to play Cookeville, coming direct to this city from an engagement in the larger cities where it has played to large houses. The cast consists of fourteen talented members each of whom has a style all their own. Their show is unique and runs with a smoothness that marks it as a big time act.

The show was produced by the famous Arkansas radio comedians, Lum and Abner, and even though they could not appear in the stage show in person because of their radio work, they have given it the endorsement of their name.

"This is a stage show you can't go wrong by seeing. Its got everything, Music, girls, fun and frolic. The Silver Cornet Band is one of the most unique bands you have ever heard, having a style all its own that you will enjoy," the management states.

The feature with this stage show is "Thoroughbreds Don't Cry," starring Judy Garland, the little girl who made such a hit in "Broadway Melody of '38," Mickey Rooney and Ronnie Sinclair. There are stage shows both evening and night.

Putnam County Herald, Cookeville, TN:

April 24, 1952

#### HOME TOWN MOVIES BEING MADE HERE:

Dixie Film Production, of Florence, AL, in cooperation with local business firms, is this week filming a 50-minute movie of Cookeville, a picture showing the everyday life of Cookeville, showing our schools, churches, civic clubs, Tennessee Tech, street scenes, local business firms, etc.

After the film is completed, according to the producers, it will be shown at the Princess Theatre for three days, may 12, 13, and 14.

The filming will continue most of this week, weather permitting, so keep your best smile on, because you might get in the picture.

#### Lorelle (Chote) Livesay Obt.

**COOKEVILLE** -- Lorelle Chote Livesay, age 92, died March 29, 2011, at NHC in Cookeville.

She was born Aug. 4, 1918, in Putnam County, Tennessee. Her parents were Taylor and Viola Wright Chote.



**Mrs. Livesay**

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by brothers, Herman, Pete and Herbert Chote and sister, Edna Chote Ford.

Mrs. Livesay attended Cookeville City School and graduated from Cookeville Central High School in 1937. She married W.D. "Bill" Livesay and their union lasted for 54 years until his death in 1992.

**Mrs. Livesay began her career with Princess Theater in 1952, retiring in 1984.** During those 32 years, she participated in the opening of the Varsity and Highland Rim Theaters. Her involvement with the public through many generations led to her being known affectionately as "The Ticket Lady." In 1930, she became a member of First United Methodist Church in Cookeville. During that span of 81 years, she fulfilled various responsibilities. She and her husband Bill were founding members of the Fellowship Sunday School Class, known today at the Hall Bible Class and sponsored Methodist Youth Fellowship. Mrs. Livesay also served on the Worship Committee as the Altar-Flowers Coordinator for 30 years.

Mrs. Livesay is survived by one daughter, Virginia Carole Dysart and her fiancé, Paul McLendon; nieces, Wanda L. Jared, Anne L. Rose, Judi L. Nash, Kaye C. Bowman, Jane C. Bowman and Peggy C. Graves; nephew Randy Chote, and sister-in-law Willene Chote.

Family will receive friends Friday, April 1, from 12 noon until 2 p.m. at Hooper-Huddleston & Horner Funeral Home and Saturday, April 2, 9 a.m. to beginning of 10 a.m. service at First United Methodist Church. Interment will follow in Crest Lawn Memorial Cemetery.

Rev. Max Mayo and Rev. Drew Shelley will officiate.

Pallbearers will be Tom Batey, Ken Bowman, Ray Clements, Vickie Fredabeil, Walter Fitzpatrick, Neil Hollman, Ed Jared and Dan Maxwell.

Honorary pallbearers will be Hill Carlen, Leon DeLozier, Dewey and Carrie Lu Dodson, Dr. and Mrs.

Charlie Joe Hobdy, Dave Thomas and Marvin Smotherman.

Memorial gifts may be made to First United Methodist Church, 165 E. Broad St., Cookeville, TN 38501.

Hooper-Huddleston & Horner Funeral Home is in charge of arrangements (931) 526-6111.

You may share your thoughts and memories at [www.hhhfunerals.com](http://www.hhhfunerals.com).

Herald Citizen Newspaper, Cookeville, TN: Thursday, 31 March 2011



### **PRESERVING OUR HISTORY**

Richard Ballard of Universal Art and Frame Shop recently donated a picture of the Princess Movie Theatre to the Putnam County Archives. The Princess Movie Theatre, originally located on West Broad Street at the corner of Church Avenue, opened in 1935 and closed in 1978. It was a popular venue for more than 40 years. The Putnam County Archives is asking for any old pictures of public places, drug stores, gas stations, businesses, fairgrounds, schools, churches, post offices from all communities in the county, old bridges, barns, family farms and social events to be shared with the public. If you have an old framed family photo this is at least 75 years old, you can donate it to the archives. Call (931) 520-0042 for more information.

Herald-Citizen, Cookeville, TN: 24 January 2011, Front Page.

\*See more about the History of Putnam County, TN at: <http://www.ajlambert.com>