

# Hordville Store Has Birthday

A special birthday party in Hordville last Friday and Saturday marked the 20th anniversary of Gil's Market, owned by Mr. and Mrs. Merlin Guilford.

A native of Marquette, Merlin started in the grocery business in Marquette in 1939. About six years later he moved to Central City where he worked in a

grocery store from 1946 to 1957.

In 1957, he took over the Hordville store owned by Martin McConnell. The building on the west side of Hordville's Main Street has served as a store since 1906. It started as a general merchandise store.

The first years of operation by the Guilfords included the buying of produce including

chickens, eggs and cream.

This part of the business was dropped when the store was remodeled and the sales area expanded around 1963.

An important part of the Gil's Market service is meat processing and the operation of as many as 200 lockers.

Mrs. Guilford, the former Nadine Rodewald of Central City, assists her husband in the operation of the store.

In addition to providing the groceries for the Hordville area, Merlin serves as the chairman of the Hordville Village Board. He is a past commander of the Hordville American Legion Post. He also served on the Hordville School Board.

In his spare time, Merlin enjoys a round of golf on the Valley View or other area golf courses.

The Guilford children have all helped in the operation of the Market.

Carla is now Mrs. Randy Fowler. They have one child, Misti Jo, and make their home in Hordville.

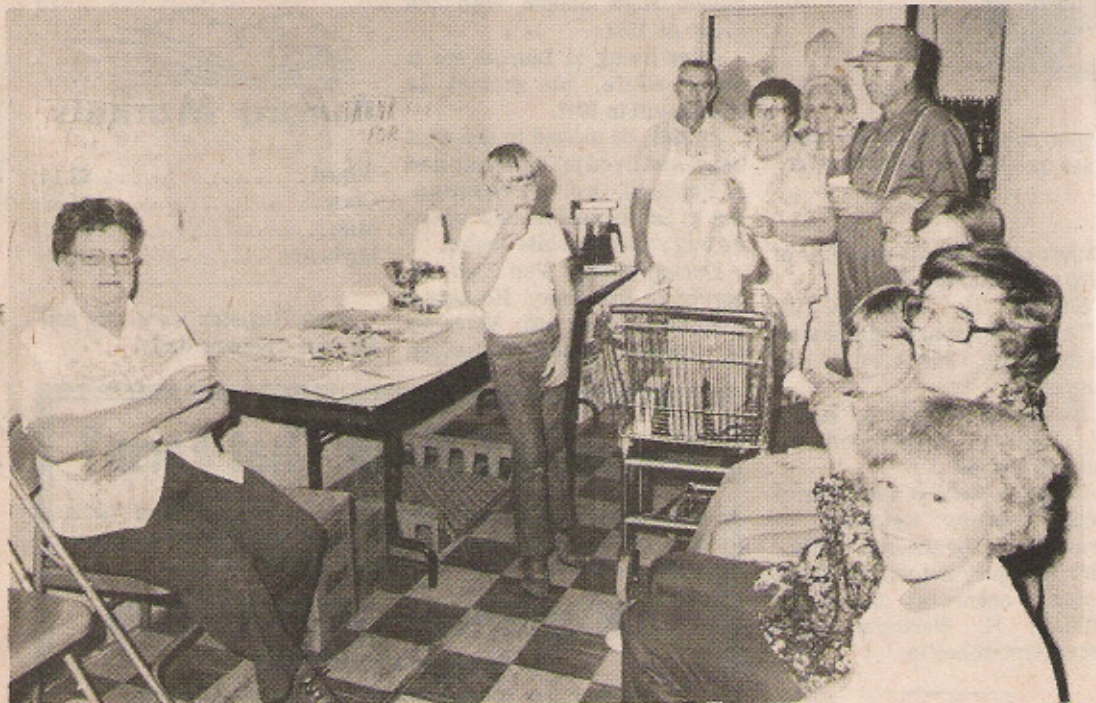
Myla is a student in Rockmont College in Denver.

Kevin and Ko Ann are both freshmen in Hordville High School. They are twins.

Others who help in the Market are Mrs. Harold Blase, Rodney Blase and Julie Ortegren.

The Mel's Market is supplied by General Wholesale of Norfolk.

The Friday and Saturday celebration included coffee and a variety of sandwiches, cookies and donuts for everybody that stopped at the store.



GIL'S MARKET IN HORDVILLE observed their 20th year of service last week with many area residents stopping in to offer their thanks and congratulations. Mr. and Mrs. Merlin Guilford, upper right, the store owners served coffee, cookies and sandwiches and had a guest book for the event. —

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