The Franksville Veterinary Clinic

The Franksville Veterinary Clinic originated with Dr. Fred J. Fitchen in 1915. Dr. Fitchen worked out of the building located behind his home at 10220 Highway K, until 1953.

In June of 1954, Dr. and Mrs. Willard Lynn purchased the home at 10203 Highway K, and opened the Franksville Veterinary Clinic treating 90% large animal and 10% small animals. After a fire destroyed their original clinic, they built the present Franksville Veterinary Clinic in 1961.

In July of 1967, Dr. and Mrs. John Fritsche, came to the Franksville Community, purchasing the clinic from the Lynn’s. At the present date, Dr. Fritsche and his associate, Dr. Mary K. Urhausen, treat 30% large and 70% small animals.

Meissner’s Fruit & Vegetable Barn

The barn in the background of this picture, built around 1900, is now Meissners’ Fruit and Vegetable Barn. In 1943 Gus Meissner moved the barn across the street by horse-power from this site behind the homestead owned by Dr. George Baker (now owned by Tom Zimmerman) to its present foundation.
One of Franksville's more unique businesses, Meissners' Fruit and Vegetable Barn, has a history almost as old as the village itself.

Although the present business is only eight years old, Glenn Meissner's father, Gus, entered the produce business back in 1907. Produce marketing in those days meant not only long hours of farm work for Gus Meissner, but also rising at 2 a.m. to drive fresh produce to the Milwaukee market in horse-drawn lumber wagons over muddy roads.

In 1928, with the advent of modern farming equipment, Gus Meissner changed his interests to collecting and shipping produce by truck from Franksville to market points across the country. Glenn later took over his father's business after returning from military service in World War II.

While the Meissner place continued to be a crossing point for semi-loads of fresh fruit and vegetables, many people came to buy the cabbage, potatoes, watermelons, etc. from the warehouse when available. Then around 1948 Glenn's wife, Agnes, and his mother, Martha, began to operate a small fruit stand at the roadside on Hwy. K during the summer months. However, raising three daughters soon took priority over the fruit stand for Agnes, and the stand was closed.

In 1965 two of Glenn and Agnes' daughters, Julie and Nancy, wanted a way to earn money for tuition to Lutheran High, so their dad set them up with a wagon full of homegrown vegetables at the roadside, again on Hwy. K. The umbrella-shaded wagon produce business was well received by passers-by, and Glenn gradually developed a new side interest, the retail produce business. In 1967 the summer hobby became a full-time business, offering farm-fresh fruit and vegetables to the public year 'round, with the store being housed in a large barn-warehouse.

Even the barn itself is part of Franksville's ancient history. The barn was built in the early 1900's. It is pictured where it first stood, in the background of the home of Dr. George Baker, whose homestead on Hwy. K is now owned by the Tom Zimmerman family. This barn was purchased by Gus Meissner in 1943 and was moved across the street to its present foundation by horse-power. It took three days to move the barn, which now shelters the fruit and vegetable business of the Glenn Meissner family.

As it has always been, the little produce market is still a family business. Glenn manages the wholesale selling and does the buying while his wife, Agnes, and sister, Millie, handle the retail clerking with help from his three daughters, especially 15 year old Peggy. The "pro" at the business, though, is Glenn's mother, Martha, who at 87 has been in the produce business for over 65 years. "Grandma" is always on hand to give advice to customers and package the eggs, strawberries, and manage other odds'n'ends. She says, "Keeping so busy keeps me young."

Meissners' fruit and vegetable market, housed in the quaint old barn with rustic antiques hanging from the walls, frequented by many old-timers, brings back a nostalgic touch of Franksville's past.

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**Krizan's Well & Pump Service**

For John and Ronald Krizan of Krizan's Well Drilling & Pump Service, your well is more than "just a hole in the ground." In fact, they believe a good water supply is the most important necessity in the home. And they have been helping to insure the existence of these good water supplies to your homes and farms for 30 years.

Yes, the Krizan name was first placed on the Franksville roster of businesses 30 years ago in 1945 when John Krizan, Sr. began to drill wells along with the help of Fred Bartel and a drilling rig that had to be pulled by a truck and whose boom had to be pushed up by two or more men using two-by-sixes. John and Fred drilled together for a few years