

**MATHESON MUSEUM, INC.**  
**ORAL HISTORY PROGRAM**

**Interviewee: Elmo Beville**  
**Interviewer: Ray Jones**  
**Transcriber: Ruth C. Marston**

**April 24, 2000**

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J: My name is Ray Jones. I am interviewing Elmo Beville for the Oral History Program at the Matheson Historical Center on April 24, 2000, in Gainesville, Florida. Mr. Beville, for the record, would you please give us your full name and date of birth.

B: My name is Elmo Earl Beville, and I was born January 11, 1922.

J: Also for the record, would you state that you give the Matheson Historical Center permission to use the information gathered in this interview.

B: Certainly. I do give my permission.

J: We should begin by telling us about your family origin in general and how the Beville's came to Gainesville.

B: From what I've seen in some of the Beville books about the family, they came down, I think, originally from Virginia into South Carolina and Georgia and then migrated to Gainesville. I am reasonably they came in here before the Civil War because I've seen in some of the books in about the 1860's they had a 1000 acre farm out here on the west side of Gainesville and they had a town house when they wanted to come into town to spend some time.

J: In one of the books which you kindly lent me, they had a statement that Steven Pierce and Lavina Beville came to Gainesville in 1851 because of an inheritance of 4000 acres from his grandmother, Mary Mills Pierce. Does that seem fairly reasonable to you?

B: That's pretty close to what I was thinking.

J: I know that there are now three books which cover portions of the Beville family history. Is there anything that you want to say about this very well documented family that has had historical background from England and so on? I believe you were also connected with the Huguenots and, of course, an old family in the United States. Is there anything you'd like to add to that?

B: I don't much that I can add except that I really don't go back too far in the 1800's. My father was born and raised out here on the farm, and he left home and came to Gainesville when he was 12 years old. We have not been as close to the Beville family as I have my mother's family, the Deen family. I know that they came down from Georgia. Actually, it's the only place I know really well outside of Baxley, Georgia.

J: Did they own land as the Beville family did?

B: Not nearly as much. My grandfather on that side was a timber man.

J: Please let me interrupt because I want to ask you this. You were born here in Gainesville?

B: Yes.

J: Would you tell us something about your grandparents and your parents and how they figured into all this.

B: I never knew my grandfathers on the Beville side of the family. My father and some of his brothers and sisters – Uncle Art, Uncle John, Aunt Gladys, and Aunt Ruth – I did know them, but I was just a young child when \_\_\_\_\_.

J: What about your parents? You mentioned that your father was the fire chief. Would you tell us more about your mother and your father.

B: My father was fire chief here from January 1, 1922, until 1952, at which time he retired. My mother was Connie Deen (Constance Jeannette Deen) and lived over on the northeast side of town, at 809 E. Church Street, which was just across the street from Martin Douglas and just east of the Hill's family home. They had, I think, 11 children in the family, and my grandmother took two of her sister's children when the sister died and raised them. They were Johnson's. We've been a close-knit family on that side of the family, much closer than on the Beville side.

J: Where did you and your parents first live in Gainesville?

B: Well, I was born in '22, and I don't know where I was born. I think it was in the old family home at 809 E. Church Street. But I remember in 1925 or 1926 – I was just 3 or 4 years old at the time – my dad and mother were building our house on Franklin Street. I don't remember the number. I remember going over there and playing when they put up the joists about two and a half feet off the ground, and walking those joists. My grandmother died in '28 or '29 and I think we moved up to the big family home then, and that was where I was raised. That's where I remember most of it.

One funny thing to me was one morning when I was about six or seven, I found myself walking down Franklin Street going to my grandmother's and I woke up. I was walking in my sleep! I slept on the little screened porch in the summertime. We didn't have air conditioning in those days and mother would let me sleep out there. I evidently opened something and got out and it scared the living daylights out of me. I woke up and here I am walking down the street. After I went back home, Momma jumped up when I started beating on the door, and she gave me a talking to. I said, "Momma, I can't help it. I was walking in my sleep."

J: What other things do you remember about Gainesville when you were young? How was it laid out or is there anything particularly important to you?

B: Well, as far as being laid out, I don't think I would have any recollection of that until I got to be 10 or 11 years old. I started delivering the *Gainesville Sun*, and I had a route that was the southeast quadrant of Gainesville. I started at University Avenue and went south. Main Street went east and went out all the way to the Jewish cemetery out there above Waldo Road. I \_\_\_\_\_ . Then when I got to about the 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> grade, I started riding my bicycle to school. Professor Buchholz and Pop Golden were the two big dogs. Professor Buchholz was the principal. I think I went over there in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade. I went to Finley and I went to Kirby-Smith for 1<sup>st</sup> grade to I think the 6<sup>th</sup> grade, and I don't know where I jumped from there. There wasn't a junior high school at that time that I remember. I remember riding across town and where the parking for the 720 Building.

J: What do you remember about the Square?

B: The Square had trees down University Avenue and all around, and it was all shady and had brick streets. Now we've got only one street that I am aware of, and that's the old Virginia Avenue down there where Louis' Hamburgers is. That's the only brick street I know of that's still in use.

Talking about the Square, my grandfather one time went down to get some clothes and I think he was going to the bank. He stopped at a place on the north side of the Square and got everything and went to the bank and got his business done and came out to the auto, got his clothes and put them in the back of the car and went home. He looked around and decided that this wasn't his Ford. So he got back in the car and went back down there, and the space was still empty and his car was parked next to it. He just put his stuff in his car and backed out and drove off and went back home.

J: The Fords looked alike.

B: Yes. You know what old Henry Ford said, "You can have any color you want as long as it's black."

J: You gave us the schools that you attended. What high school did you go to?

B: Buchholz High School.

J: Who were your friends growing up, especially during that later period in high school?

B: That's funny that you ask that, because my wife told me just before you got here that you all ought to be talking to Billy Willis, too. Billy and I were childhood friends, and we're still friends to this day. Billy was raised in a house directly south of the recreational hall over on The Boulevard, so all he had to do to get to me was come up one block and one block north on Franklin Street, and I would go vice versa. We traipsed back and forth together. We've

been close, close friends. We still fish together. We go to our Has Beens together. Are you familiar with the Has Beens?

J: I've familiar with the Over The Hill group but have never heard of the Has Beens. Tell me about it.

B: The Has Beens is a male group that meets up at the \_\_\_\_\_, a place just this side of Alachua. It's a little eating place on the right just after you cross under the overpass. We meet once a month on the first Tuesday of every month. We have between 65 and 75 people at those breakfasts every month. My cousin, Bobby Deen, who was Postmaster here, and is living in Boca Raton, comes, and I know we have some people who come almost every month from Orange Park. It's a good group of fellows.

J: Who can belong?

B: Anybody who graduated from Gainesville High School. I think they've let some of the people in who graduated from P.K. Yonge but it started out as just a G.H.S. group. The ladies have a group but they don't have near as many people come to theirs, but they have about three picnics in the back yard of different people every year.

J: What other friends did you have?

B: Well, let me think. Paul Johnson and Richard \_\_\_\_\_sman. His daddy was a sign painter. Lucian Gray, who lived on my paper route down on S.E. 7<sup>th</sup> Street on 4<sup>th</sup> Avenue, a house on the southwest portion of that block.

The funny thing to me when I was growing up was that my brother was six years ahead of me and he had, I'd bet you, ten fellows in our neighborhood who all played together, and there wasn't a soul my and Billy's age. There were just the two of us. Later there was Earl Taylor, who was several years younger than Billy and I – Billy and I are both 78. His daddy owned the Texaco place down there on So. Main St. at \_\_\_\_\_ Avenue. Right next to him was Calvin Goodwin. Calvin's daddy, I think, was at the University. He's somewhere out in Texas now. He came out to one of our reunions, and we're getting ready to have another one. They started in 1990 with the 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary, and this is going to be our 60<sup>th</sup>.

J: Congratulations!

B: We've still got some people who look up to us.

J: Could you tell me about social activities you and your friends engaged in when you were in high school?

B: The greatest in the world! They had the Women's Club right across the street from the high

school and Angus Parrot (?) had a sound system. He had big old speakers, and he used to put on dances in there. The Little Women (the daughters of the ladies in the Women's Club) put on dances there all the time. At one time there was a place that we thought was closer to being for 12<sup>th</sup> graders. Thrasher's Drug Store was right across the street east of our school and at the end of that block – this place burned down about 4 or 5 months ago, down by where the old bus station was by the railroad tracks – well, there used to be some kind of a little – I don't know how to explain it because they served folks – we used to go down there and dance a good bit.

Lucian Gray's daddy had a big old barn for his equipment. This came along later, after I was out of high school. It was out there just past Earl Power's parcel on Newnan's Lake as you turn back to the left. It was across the road there. We used to dance out there a lot. That was one of the places I enjoyed the most. I met my wife there after I got back from service. I met her down at the dance. Zero Mazo's sister came over to me and said, "Elmo, if you want a good dancer, you want to dance with that girl." I've danced with her 52 years now!

J: Tell me what you remember about Depression time in Gainesville.

B: The single thing that stuck in my mind is that they used to have high school guys on some kind of a baseball team down in the parking lot east of Kirby-Smith, back there between Roper Ave. and the school. I used to go down there. My grandmother in the summertime when sugar cane came in, would slice me up sugar cane and put up a little bag of it, and I would go out when I was 10 years old.

One time down there one of the boys came up to me and said, "You want to buy a baseball?" I looked at it and it looked almost brand new and it was a good baseball, not just a 10¢ Store baseball. I asked, "How much do you want for it?" He said, "A nickel." I said, "Hold on. Let me run to the house." I went home and said, "Ma, can I have a nickel? I got a chance to buy a baseball." She said, "Son, I don't have a nickel." I've never forgotten that.

J: They were hard times, weren't they?

B: There were some hard times. Yes, sir. I think really we were better off than a lot of people because there were \_\_\_\_\_ making maybe \$150 or \$175 or \$200, but it was a hard time. I guess it has made me watch my pennies. I still don't waste money if I can help it.

J: Did it have some of the same effect of many of your friends who went through the same experience?

B: Yes. I'll tell you about another experience. Paul \_\_\_\_\_ was another one of my friends. Paul's mother ran a boarding house on Washington Street, which is now N.W. 15<sup>th</sup> St., a short walk off \_\_\_\_\_. Back in probably about 1937 or 1938,

they were having a dance somewhere. It was 50¢ stag or \_\_\_\_\_. Paul and I didn't have but 50¢ between us. He said, "Well, why don't you dress up as a girl and I'll take you to the dance for 50¢," and we went. Of course, everybody recognized us but they did let us in. We've laughed at that so much. Paul always says, "Yes, that was my date that night."

J: Oh, that was something! Let me ask you when you were married and to whom? Did the University attract you at all?

B: Yes, I came home from service February 14, 1946, and I hitchhiked home from California and I beat the bus time, by the way. I got home and by this time my mother had moved over above the fire station on N.W. 10<sup>th</sup> Street \_\_\_\_\_ and had a little apartment, and Mother and Dad were in the apartment. I came home and my Aunt Hazel had married George Deen, my mother's brother, and they were living in the big house over on Church Street, and they let me come over and live there. I didn't have anywhere to eat but I had a place to live and they were good to me. I didn't feel like it was up to them to feed me.

When I got home, I was looking for a job. The first thing I did was to borrow Mother's lady's bicycle, got me \_\_\_\_\_ route out west of \_\_\_\_\_. At that time there was an afternoon paper so I could do things for about two or three hours in the afternoon. One day the phone rang and the gentleman (pause) -

\_\_\_\_\_ I was in \_\_\_\_\_ Mississippi. They sent for me to report to the mess hall Saturday morning. I went down there and they had about 400 people there. I said, "What's going on?" They said, "You're going to take a test." I had only about one semester of high school hours. I didn't have any \_\_\_\_\_, and out of that 400 people, they picked 75 people who passed it and then chose 3 of us to go to Vanderbilt University to be trained as \_\_\_\_\_ engineers. I reported to Vanderbilt where I took two quarters of work and then I told them I had reached my maximum altitude and wanted to go back to the Air Force. Out of that six months, I transferred 42 hours at the University of Florida.

J: I'm a graduate of Vanderbilt..

B: Are you really?

J: Yes.

B: Well, I'll be darned. \_\_\_\_\_ Hall. When we first saw that, we thought That was Kiss 'em. I was in Room 157. They had big rooms and then they had little rooms to sleep in. Anyway, I got 42 hours of work. That's why I got out of college in 2 ½ years. I started in June of '46 and graduated in June '4\_\_\_\_.

J: You mentioned after you came back from service, you met your wife. Tell me about your wife, who she is, and I think you've already said how you met her.

B: She was Evelyn Curry, and she was raised out here south of town in a little place called Fleming. She lost her daddy when she was a little tiny girl, and she was raised by her stepfather, William D. Anderson. She had just graduated from school and come here to go to work. She was working at Woolworth's. She started out in the \_\_\_\_\_ business. She worked up there a while. We got married in '47 and she worked until she was pregnant with my oldest daughter, who was born in September, 1950. After that she didn't work any more. By then I was doing fairly well in the insurance business.

We built a house in 1952. After Mindy was born, we got pregnant again and she was going to deliver in June of '53, so we started a house in March of '52. I was doing the carpentry work myself. I had just gotten the frame done and was putting the roof on. I was hauling shingles up and she was pregnant about four or five months. But she had been working \_\_\_\_\_ for several years after \_\_\_\_\_ for the city of Gainesville in the Clerk's Office. We were up there on the roof. I didn't want her lifting but one shingle at a time and up drove her boss. We came down and visited with him, and he said, "Evelyn, would you come back and work for me until I can find somebody to do your job? I can't find anybody that can do the job like you can." Evelyn said, "I can't do that. I'd like to have more clothes than I've got, and that's more than we can afford." He thought about it for a minute and said, "If I gave you \$50 to buy some work clothes with and raised your salary \$5 or \$10 a week, would you think about that?" She said, "Yes. I'll call you in a few days." We talked about it and talked about it. She said, "We've got Mindy." I said, "Well, I think my mother would keep Mindy for you." He said it might be two weeks or maybe four weeks. It turned out that she went out and bought her clothes and went to work for about three weeks and he hired somebody else and she came back home. That was the last she worked.

J: Can you talk about some of the problems of starting a business in Gainesville right after World War II? You started your own agency?

B: Sure. I was the only agent. They'd never had an agent in Gainesville. I had a very good General Agent. A General Agent is like a General Manager of this area. He had all the towns around, but he was in Jacksonville. He spent a lot of time with me, for which I was really appreciative. When he'd come down, I might have an appointment and he taught me. \_\_\_\_\_ I can't think of the guy's name but he was a dear friend of my dad's and was an attorney. I found the letter in some of my stuff just the other day that he had written to my daddy and it was the nicest letter I've ever read in my life. Nobody has ever said that much nice about me before that. It was easy for me. I worked at it, no doubt about that, but the first five or ten years I probably worked four nights a week until ten or eleven o'clock. There were a lot of

people I could hit nights that I couldn't see in the daytime. It was a very successful thing. I think it's like any business. If you open a business at ten o'clock in the morning until noon and then go play golf, it's not going to be a very easy thing to be successful. But I started like the old farmer says, I worked from ten to ten. You know what that means!

J: It was sort of a boom time, wasn't it?

B: Yes, there were a lot of people coming back from service, a lot of veterans out at the University. I sold a good bit of insurance out at the University. At that time there was a company called \_\_\_\_\_. They were a company from up north somewhere, and they strictly sold seniors in college, and they did a good job. The hardest thing was that they loaned you the money for the first year's premium and then if the guy didn't get as good as they wanted and they lost the insurance. I am a big believer in term insurance and I always have been. If you're starting a business, what you need to do is to put your money into the business. You don't need to put it into a savings account \_\_\_\_\_, and I sold a lot of term insurance and then went back three or four years later when the guy had a successful business and he had more money and then we would change that term insurance to something else. I look back on it as a good time. I just had a great time.

J: I know that you were on the board of the Junior Chamber of Commerce. Would you give us an account of some of the things you did. What other organizations did you belong to during the time of developing your business and as a mature member of the business community?

B: I think right after I got through with the Jaycees. You had to get out of that at 35. That was in '56 or '57. I was President of the LUFA, Life Underwriters Association. I was President of the CFU Association and President of the University of Florida Alumni Association. That's when they had county units rather than just one big one for the whole United States, as they have now. But I was President of that and enjoyed all of them, the Jaycees particularly. I think the Jaycees are one of the best organizations that a young man can get into. They *do* things. I was in Tampa one time when I was President of Jaycees back in '55 or '56 and we went down there to the parade that they have in February. I noticed all these chairs lining the curbs so the car couldn't get out in the street, but they were \_\_\_\_\_ those chairs. I thought, "Holy mackerel, when the University of Florida Homecoming comes along, wouldn't that be great if we could put chairs out there." Well, I came back home and got the club together. We couldn't get the chair thing going, but they did manage to put up those bleachers that they used to put up there just this side of the \_\_\_\_\_ on 13<sup>th</sup> Street. They put up bleachers there and we would charge \_\_\_\_\_ and made some money on that kind of thing.

Then another time I got the wild idea of selling Christmas trees. I had done this about two years running with a friend of mine, Billy \_\_\_\_\_, so for two years I sold them in front of \_\_\_\_\_ filling station. Then after that there used to be a drug

store on 13<sup>th</sup> St. at 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue. The guy who owned it lived up there on 39<sup>th</sup> Avenue right there just as the creek turned. He was on the south side of the street. One day he called me and asked, "How would you like to sell Christmas trees this year alongside my pharmacy there on 13<sup>th</sup> St.?" He said, "If you're interested in a 50-50 deal, I've got the \_\_\_\_\_." I said, "It's a deal," so I sold some trees there for two or three years. Then I got the idea about doing the same thing for the club. Boy, I'll tell you the Jaycees have made a doggone ton of money out of that project. It was \_\_\_\_\_. You used to think you could go buy trees \_\_\_\_\_.

A funny thing happened when I was selling those trees I got one little bundle of trees, and I usually put my trees out when I was \_\_\_\_\_, and I got the bundle of trees out and I was pricing them. I always just put cross-pieces as stands for them, but there was one little old tree there that had one piece going that way and one piece going this way and it had a big hole in one side. Sometimes I had to cut off the bottom limbs to put them on the stands, so I just took those limbs, got me a drill, and put them in that straggly looking tree, and made a pretty tree out of it. A lady came in there. She walked in on the lot and she said, "That's the tree I want." I moved it into her car for her and in about 30 minutes she called the guy in the store. He called me and I went in and she said, "Mister, I bought a tree from you and the limbs are falling off of it." I asked if she could bring it back down and she said, "No, I can't lift it." "Tell me where you live," I said, "I'll come out." I went out there and stuck it back in the hole I had made. She said, "That's fine." I didn't have any idea the thing would fall out.

J: You had a satisfied customer?

B: Oh yes, particularly with my going out there. It was somewhere there north of 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue and N.W. 13<sup>th</sup> Street – back in there. Anyway, it was a good distance.

J: Mr. Beville, you're a well-known member of the business community. Is there anything that you would like to say about the development of business in general in Gainesville or about insurance in particular?

B: As far as the business world goes, when I first started I was working out of my house. I had a little office put on the end of the house and you didn't have to go through the house to get to the office, like I have here. I built it that way. I was working so much. I wasn't in the Chamber of Commerce. I think I joined that thing one year. I was hustling too hard in that first ten or fifteen years that I didn't have much time for business things. When the life insurance business got going a little better, I felt like I was with business people in the Jaycees and the Life Underwriters and we had some good life insurance agents. Chester Gates was one of the finest men I've known in the business. We had a lot of good people in the life insurance business and we all worked together. If I needed a New England Life policy or an Equitable form, Jim gave it to me – no problem. If he wanted something, if somebody moved in here and he got hold of it and needed to change to a Lincoln policy, I

would give him the forms, and it worked out really well. Chester was the same way. We had several good life insurance men. I thought if I could do that good, I would be happy. I was pretty successful. I've never had to put my taxes off or anything like that. I ordinarily had enough money to pay the taxes. I've always tried to pay as I go. '

J: Would you say it's a much more competitive field now than when you started?

B: Yes, it has gotten really competitive and there are not as many companies as there used to be. Everybody is buying up companies. My company has bought up about three or four other companies. We bought Aetna Life Insurance. Of course, that's not the medical, just the life insurance. We bought Cigna, and two or three or four more. I bet we've bought six or eight companies in the past ten years. It's not as competitive as it used to be. I mean we have maybe eight or ten companies and we have one rate. Anyway, it's a good business. I've enjoyed it.

J: And you see a big future for it, also?

B: Yes, I think that they are doing some good things in the life insurance business. They've got policies now where you can put your money in it and invest it in stocks. Universal Life's policy. They've got term insurance that's just getting cheaper. It's never been this cheap before. It's competitive but in my company's case, we're not near as what I would call. We've got a hundred billion dollars of assets, and we're a big company, but it just doesn't seem to me like that we've got the comradeship that we had back in the 50's and 60's and 70's and 80's. It seems like all the companies are looking for just nothing but money and if you look at companies like Prudential, they went from a mutual company to a stock company and there are innumerable ones that did it. We did it. We were not a mutual company. We've never been a mutual company. We've always been a stock company. There's a lot of companies that were mutual and are now going stock. It's purely the money.

J: What organizations do you currently belong to? Anything in particular?

B: No, not really. About the only thing that I'm doing now is working three or four days a week on life insurance and I do some volunteer work in the Small Claims Court. I'm a mediator in Small Claims Court. I've been that since three years ago last January. I believe that's when I started. Other than that, I don't think I'm in any other organizations. Of course, I'm 78 years old.

J: Well, you consider yourself semi-retired?

B: Retired.

J: Any particular hobbies you are developing?

B: Well, I bought an air boat back in 1974 and I air boat fish down at Cedar Key, and I have enjoyed that. Evelyn and I have been traveling in a travel trailer since 1957, and we're on our fifth or sixth trailer, I think. We do have a 25 foot travel trailer and my air boat.

J: Whereabouts do you travel normally?

B: Year before last, we took the two children and the two grandchildren and Evelyn and myself, and we went to the Grand Canyon. The year before that – I think that was about '97 – I had told everybody in the family that I was going to Washington, D.C., to see the Smithsonian. If they wanted to go along, they were welcome to go, but I was going to be the one to say we're going to pick up and move. I wanted to stay there until I had seen all of the Smithsonian I could stand. So the six of us went up there. Back in 1990, 1991, and 1993, 1994, or 1995, we made four or five trips up to Nashville, Tennessee, to Opryland. On those trips we took the smallest one. He was about seven or eight or something like that. He's 12 now. He wasn't but three or four, but I know he had to ride the little tiny things that they have up there. We went up often and he loved that place.

J: Could you tell me some more about your children – their names and so on – and your grandchildren.

B: I've got two daughters. Mindy Maureen Beville (LeBlanc now) and she was born in 1950 (September 14<sup>th</sup>) and Melody Gene Beville Ward. We named her Gene and spelled it that way for my father who was Eugene Franklin Beville, Sr. My brother was a Junior. Melody's here in town. She teaches up in Lawtey. Mindy is teaching up in Greenville, South Carolina. Her husband is with Alltel and they've been moving him around every two years, and it looks like they're going to continue to do that.

Mindy's got a little 12-year old son and Melody has a 19-year old. I took the two of them in December of '99, and we went out to Honolulu. We got out there about four days early, and we piddled around in Honolulu for four days and then we got on the *U.S.S. Constellation*, the aircraft carrier, and they brought us back for a 5-day cruise back to San Diego. Then we got back on the airplane and came home. We had a great time on that trip. It cost us \$100 apiece, not counting the round-trip air fare to fly out there. That was almost \$2,000. For the 5-day cruise, it cost just \$100 apiece.

J: Who sponsored it?

B: You had to have somebody on the ship sponsor you. The one that sponsored us was Billy Russell. Billy's dad and mother both passed away in the last few years, and we have kept in touch with Billy. He called us in '97 and asked us if we would like to do that. Evelyn said, "I'm not going to fly." So I said I would take the boys. She said, "Fine, go." Earl had a paint store over on N.E. 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue. There's a pawn shop there just off of Main Street, east on 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue and it's the second or third store. There's a furniture store on the corner, a

hamburger stand, and then that pawn shop. He owned the little paint business in there. \_\_\_\_\_ . We had a great time. Got to shoot 50 caliber machine guns.

J: Let me ask one final question – a very general one. What changes in Gainesville or in Alachua County have affected you the most, either business-wise or as a person?

B: Well, I think it helped me business-wise because it was a lot more people moving in. I think that would be as far as the business goes. But we've formed some great friendships with people that moved down here. We've got a couple that came down from Pennsylvania. They moved in next door to us in the old house, and now they've moved out here and they're over here about eight blocks down. We're still close together, and we've become real good friends with them. There have been some nice people move into Gainesville.

J: So the development of the population and the many people coming from lots of new places that have really affected you both business-wise and personally.

B: Yes.

J: Mr. Beville, thank you so much for this interview. Any final word that you want to say?

B: No, I don't think so. I'll answer anything you want to know.

J: I think I've asked all the basic questions. If you think of something else, please let me know. I can always come back.

B: Thank you.