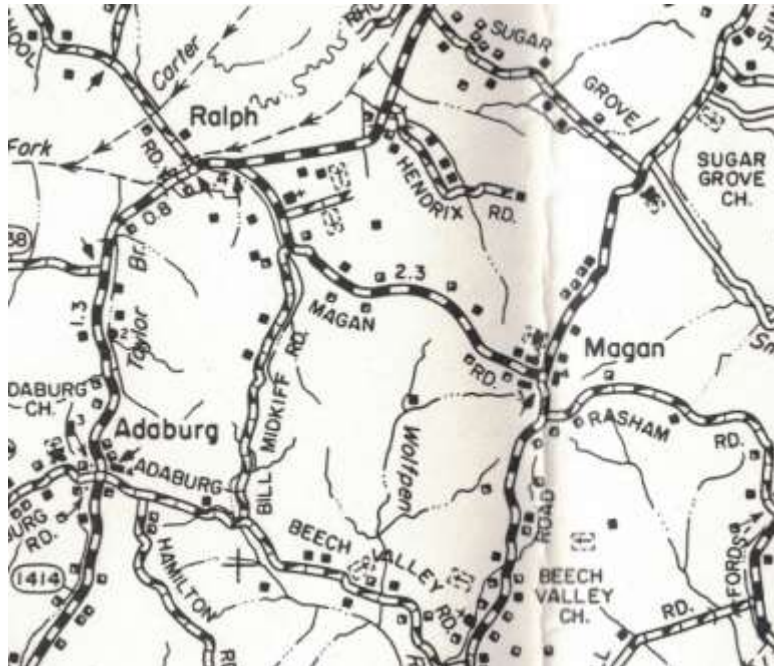


Magan, Ky.

By Jerry Long
c.2025



Magan neighborhood – 1979 map of Ohio County, KY



Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY, Wednesday, 13 October 1880, p.3:

—A new post-office called "Magan," has been established at Magan's store, in this county. It was much needed and will be a great convenience to a large number of people that heretofore have had no postal facilities at all. The mail is carried to it by the contractor of the Hartford and Pellville line.

Magan also called Magan's Station / Magan Station



**U.S. Appointments of Postmasters, 1832-1971
Magan, Ohio County, KY:**

postmaster	appointed
Hiram R. Kirk	8 September 1880
Decius McNorris	19 January 1883
Hiram R. Kirk	29 October 1883
Ishmeal T. Hendricks	20 November 1889
Joel H. Roach	17 July 1890
Jeff D. Ralph	7 February 1894
Joel H. Roach	17 May 1898
Eli H. Morgan	21 January 1901
Fines D. Baughn	28 December 1903
Irving L. Denton	23 February 1907

Magan post office discontinued, 31 May 1910,
mail sent to Fordsville post office



Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY, Wednesday, 25 June 1884, p.1:

Magan Notes

June 18th, 1884.

Editor Herald:

A new church and school house will be erected here soon. The town is improving morally, religiously and educationally. We have two Sabbath schools in progress, one at Beech Valley and one at Belmont school house, both conducted by J. F. Manker.

Business is increasing here, R. P. Magan has a dry goods and grocery store, John Storms a grocery and produce store. Mr. Magan is erecting a large tobacco house with the view of purchasing next season. J. F. Manker is running a blacksmith shop and is doing all kinds of work in that line.

When the new mail contract begins we will have daily mails, which will be, quite an improvement to the place.

VULCAN



**“Map of Ohio County, Kentucky”,
published in 1886 by Jno. J. McHenry, Hartford, KY.**



The double line to the right of the word, Magan, is the Sunnydale Road and the double line above Magan is the Magan - Ralph Road that ends at Highway 1414.



Hartford Herald, Hartford, KY, Wednesday, 26 June 1895, p.3:

A Correction.

I see in your paper that I am announced to preach the dedication sermon at Magan fifth Sunday in June. This announcement was made without consulting me. I have agreed to be there first Sunday in July, I was committed to the New Panther Creek brethren to dedicate their church the fifth Sunday in June. This church is on the road from Bell's Run to Whitesville near South Panther Creek. So I will join Rev. J. T. Taylor, pastor, the fifth Sunday in dedicating New Panther Creek, and will aid Elder Henry Birch, pastor, in dedicating the Baptist Church at Magan the first Sunday in July,

B. F. JENKINS.



Hartford Republican, Hartford, KY, Friday, 20 September 1895, p.2:

Dedication at Magan.

Pleasant Hill Baptist Church will be dedicated on the fifth Sunday in September. Come come all and bring well filled baskets and pocket books. Rev. B. F. Jenkins, assisted by Rev. H. D. Burch, will preach the dedicatory sermon.

J. E. COLEMAN. Com.

Note – the dedication was on Sunday, 29 September 1895.



**Kentucky Gazetteer and Business Directory For 1895-1896,
R. L. Polk & Co. & A. C. Danser, Detroit, MI & Louisville, KY, 1895:**

MAGAN. Ohio county 14 miles north of Hartford, the county seat and 4 from Deanfield, its shipping point. Bank at Fordsville, 5 miles distant. Population, 60. J. D. Ralph, postmaster.

Gray, J. M., blacksmith.
Ralph, J. D., General Store.
Roach, Joel H., physician.
Westerfield, Isaac, physician.



Ohio County Messenger, Hartford, KY, Wednesday, 29 September 2004, p.3:



Wildwood Flower is the center of Magan
[formerly W. V. Midkiff & Son general store; in the 1980's the building
was transformed into a music-dance hall on Saturdays; also served as a
community center; in recent years the building was owned by Elvis
Doolin]



**Markley's Memories: Stories and photographs about a farm
family growing up in Ohio County, Kentucky, Markley Midkiff
Freer (Utica, KY: McDowell Publications, 2008) pp.23-24 & 27-28:**

... The Midkiff family [Walter Valva & wife, Esther Midkiff] had operated a country store in Magan during the 1920's. I heard Manny say calico would sell for five cents a yard. Sometimes a man would buy a whole bolt of material and the wife and all the girls would have dresses alike. The country store was a busy place on Saturdays when people would drive their buggy or wagon to the store to shop and get their corn ground into meal or food for the livestock. Ladies would bring their eggs in large baskets to the store to trade or barter for staple foods like coffee, sugar, or flour. This was a time for people to socialize and find out the news in the community.

Valva remembers going up to Poppa's store at Magan. He said they sold a long roll of bologna hung from the ceiling, and a huge chunk of cheese that would be sliced for sandwiches. Lots of crackers and sardines were sold too. Nothing was prepackaged. Pappy would haul in big blocks of ice for the ice chest full of soda pop like Coca-Cola, grape, or orange. It was from this same store in Magan that I later had my first strawberry pop as a child. I have some of the old store ledger books, and although I wasn't born at the time they had an account at the Magan country store. I recognize the names of people I knew as a little girl...

...After his wife died [1925], Poppa sold the store in Magan and moved to the farm...

...Poppa didn't do much farming after I was big enough to remember; he was a merchant. He operated the M. V. Midkiff and Son grocery store. It was built a few hundred yards from my childhood home, and it gave him something to do after he had gotten too old to farm with my father. Besides selling groceries at the store, our family sold feed, kerosene, paint, nails, medicines, work gloves, coal buckets, galvanized tubs, household items, matches from a metal barrel, mousetraps, and thread. For a nickel a child could get a Nehi soda pop from the kerosene refrigerator, chewing gum, or a candy bar from the showcase. At Christmas time, we would carry special items such as chocolate drops, orange slices, and Christmas mix hard candies. My daddy would go to Owensboro and bring home lugs of grapes, English walnuts, and oranges from a produce warehouse to sell in our store. I remember the stalks of bananas that hung from the ceiling. Cookies, candy, "sody" or white crackers, and red skin peanuts came in sacks or barrels and were sold by the pound. These items were weighed on a white Hobart scale set up on the counter above the money drawer. Another scale was used to weigh the heavier items such as sacks of feed, nails from the kegs, and sugar. Packages were wrapped in brown paper sacks and tied up with white string. There was a big drum of kerosene and we sold gasoline from a pump outside the store. I can remember pumping gas at eighteen cents a gallon!



Walter and Esther Midkiff in Magan, KY. The general store in the left background was built by him and others in 1911. It is presently known as "The Wildwood Flower."



Walter V. Midkiff sitting on his grocery store porch. Picture on left – Louise and Markley weigh themselves on the scales located on the right. Note the Royal Crown cola sign featuring the Midkiff and Son name above the store.

[Note by Jerry Long: The author of Markley's Memories, Markley Midkiff Freer (1936-) grew up in the Magan community. She was the daughter of Heber Oran Midkiff ((1895-1967) & Della Greer (1896-1989) and granddaughter of Walter Valva Midkiff (1873-1952) & Esther Moseley (1875-1925). Several generations of the Midkiff family had resided in the Magan neighborhood. Markley's fourth great-grandfather, Benjamin Midkiff (c1770-1834), settled in the area about 1815.]



"Bluegrass Breakdown", by J. D. Wilkes, 9 January 2018
Oxford American (<https://oxfordamerican.org/>)

Not far from Bill Monroe's Homeplace is the best little secret in Ohio County and, in my humble opinion, one of the great treasures in all of Kentucky. In fact, there wasn't one detail about my outing to the Wildwood Flower square dance that wasn't beautiful, timeless, and dreamlike. Even the circuitous journey to Magan was glorious. Past several rolling hills and forests I wove, then a hard left at a burned-down fire station, and soon I was scratchin' gravel down a clump road that cut through a cornfield. Over the seams of Sulphur Run Bridge I bumped as the setting sun bathed the farmland in amber. I took a long, deep breath and tried to snap off as many rolls of mental film as I could. This was truly Kentucky at its best. And had it not been for the kindly lady who had given me directions over the phone, I would have never found it.

I knew I had arrived as soon as I rounded that final half mile into what seemed to be another old ghost town. Magan could easily be the backdrop for Little House on the Prairie, as it once was a stagecoach stop between Hallsville [sic, should be Hawesville] and Morgantown, Kentucky. Founded by Joshua Magan in the nineteenth century, the village formerly boasted its own school, tobacco warehouse, and blacksmith forge. (It never had a post office, though, and as a result it is not on any map.) Despite a few dilapidated buildings, the town is filled with life and music. Former sheriff Elvis Doolin has made sure of that. His red and white general store sits atop a green hill,

waving Old Glory, sporting yards of patriotic bunting, and looking like a Mississippi paddle-wheeler run aground. That's where I saw the band of old-timers loading in. I could tell this was going to be good.

Elvis and several of his eleven siblings help run this former-general-store-turned-square-dance-hall. The place was built in the early 1900s, but Doolin added on two extra wings in the eighties. This allows for the scores of folks who dance here. Red hand-lettered signage above the stage popped against the stark white walls. WELCOME TO THE WILDWOOD FLOWER!! it heralded. Feed sacks and flags, antique tobacco advertisements, and framed scenes of American Indians ran from corner to corner.

The musicians set up under an overhang that forms a makeshift band shell. No one in the group looked to be under seventy years old, but the dancers ranged from nine to ninety. (It must be mentioned that a fair number of young people attend this event. This is an encouraging sign.) The Doolin family have been putting on a family-friendly square dance here for the past twenty years, always packing the place with folks who love good music, live dancing, home cooking, and a fine value. Although I was an outsider, I was immediately met with enthusiasm.

"Everybody comes to have a good time," Elvis told me. "For four dollars you can get a show, have a dance, get you a hamburger and a Coke—where else can you do that?"

Mr. Doolin, who looks to be in his late forties, took his place center stage in front of his band. He smacked his pair of spoons together to get the rhythm going. That's when Bobby Robinson and Floyd Stewart jumped in on guitar, Martin Cecil picked the mandolin, Butch Edge slapped the doghouse bass, and John Lanham sawed the fiddle. Mr. Lanham is somewhat of a legend in these parts, as he is carrying on a tradition set by his grandfather and his father, Lawrence Lanham, author of the local tune "Whistlin' Rufus"—John's grandfather and grandson bookend five generations of Ohio County fiddlers. So I felt honored when Doolin invited me to sit in on banjo. This would be my first time playing a square dance. The dance floor filled to capacity with all ages and skill sets. The band was tight, especially with Butch Edge smacking out time on an entirely acoustic upright bass. I was mesmerized by the hypnotic rhythms of the old-time tunes, scooting boots, rustling bodies, and murmured conversations. Somebody's shoes even came equipped with metal taps on the heels (later revealed as tacked-on bottle caps), combining with the rest to create a beautiful cacophony of community spirit. It was like stepping back in time a hundred years.

Hours later, as the band wound down, I was treated to some free hamburgers for my journey back to the Jackson Purchase. Elvis's sisters Crecia Brown and Charlotte Owens could not have been nicer. Mr. Doolin has even given me his blessing to spread the word about the Wildwood Flower (sometimes you need to ask permission for these kinds of things, just in case they think you're trying to exploit or make fun of them).

Therefore, he and I both encourage everyone to make a summertime visit to Magan—a ghost town with more culture and heart than any "living" town I can think of. Call 270-775-5606 and ask for Elvis.

[Note by Jerry Long: Joshua Magan, who is named in the article as the founder of Magan is Joshua Allen Magan (1846-1905), who rests in the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church Cemetery in Magan. He was a farmer and merchant in the Magan neighborhood. He is listed in the 1850, 1860, 1870, 1880 and 1900 federal censuses of Ohio County, KY. He was a native of Virginia. He came to Kentucky from Bedford County, VA with his parents, James Magan & Martha Wade, and the family of an uncle, Hudson Magan & his wife, Nancy Wade, during 1845-1847. They settled in

Daviess County, KY for a short time and during 1848-1849 made their home in the Ralph community in Ohio County, KY.]



Unidentified store in Magan; picture was taken in 2014 by Michelle Mattingly



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Sunday, 13 June 1982, p.1C:

Deputy on Duty

By Karen Owen, Messenger-Inquirer

Elvis Doolin had two long-range goals when he was a teenager. At age 23, he has met them both.

The boyish-faced, soft-spoken Doolin became a self-made businessman at 18. and an Ohio County deputy sheriff 4 ½ years later.

"When I was going to high school there were two things I really wanted to do" – run a business and become a law enforcement officer, Doolin said recently in front of the grocery store he co-owns in Magan.

When Doolin was a senior in high school, he bought the lot where his store now stands on the Magan-Ralph Road off Kentucky 1414, about eight miles from Fordsville. He made the purchase with money he saved from raising tobacco and tending a neighbor's cattle, then mortgaged the land to finance construction of Doolin's Grocery.

Doolin said he, his father and a friend did most of the construction work themselves. By the time Doolin graduated from high school in 1977, Doolin's Grocery was open for business.

The store was the hub of activity in Magan on a recent weekday afternoon.

The handful of houses and churches there seemed deserted, but at Doolin's, adults loitered in the shady interior, escaping the humidity that hung heavy over the town like a damp washrag over the face. Their conversation all but drowned out the radio crooning country music as children streamed in and out to sample the store's new soft ice cream.

Doolin said he didn't know a thing about the grocery business when he started. "I had to learn as I worked," he said.

Determined to be successful, the young businessman started working from 7 a.m. to 11 or 12 each night, six days a week

"Anything I do, if I can't do it right, I don't want to do it at all," Doolin said.

Every move Doolin makes, every word he says, seems deliberate, intentional and carefully thought-out.

His caution seems to have paid off. The store – which offers everything from fertilizer to pork-and-beans, tobacco balers to soft drinks is now worth about \$50,000, Doolin said.

He juggled his store chores around criminal justice classes at Kentucky Wesleyan College for a semester last year, but he decided to leave school last winter when Sheriff-elect Bobby Martin offered him a position as deputy.

Doolin sold half his establishment to his sister, Garnett, and her husband. Keith Beatty, after he became a deputy, but he is never away from the store for long. Mrs. Beatty said.

"The days he gets off (from the sheriff's office), he's back over here talking to people," she said.

"I love both jobs." Doolin said. The grocery provides him with a healthy income, and the Sheriff's Department gives him a chance to "help people with their problems."

His two careers leave him little time to indulge his passions for square dancing and coon hunting.

He is on call with the Ohio County Sheriff's Department around the clock. seven days a week, and is responsible for protecting a wide section of northern Ohio County from Pleasant Ridge to Olaton. He has racked up as many as 60 hours a week working for the county. Doolin said.

When he's not patrolling or answering complaints, he is busy unloading deliveries at his grocery store or doing the necessary bookkeeping there.

His law enforcement duties haven't hurt business at the grocery, Mrs. Beatty said.

Neighbors and friends often drop by the store "to see if he's feeling all right or if he's had a bad night (on duty)," Mrs. Beatty said.

All the attention embarrasses him, she said.

Customers may be worried about Doolin because of Magan's reputation. The town "has a pretty bad name because a lot of bad things have happened there, but it's sort of been home all my life." said Doolin.

The deputy can point out the scenes of a plane crash. a fatal house fire, and three grisly murders, all of which took place in the last two years and within an eight-mile radius of his store.

Most of the cases he has handled so far have not been so dramatic. Doolin said. His workload consists mainly of thefts. family disturbances, and reports of prowlers.

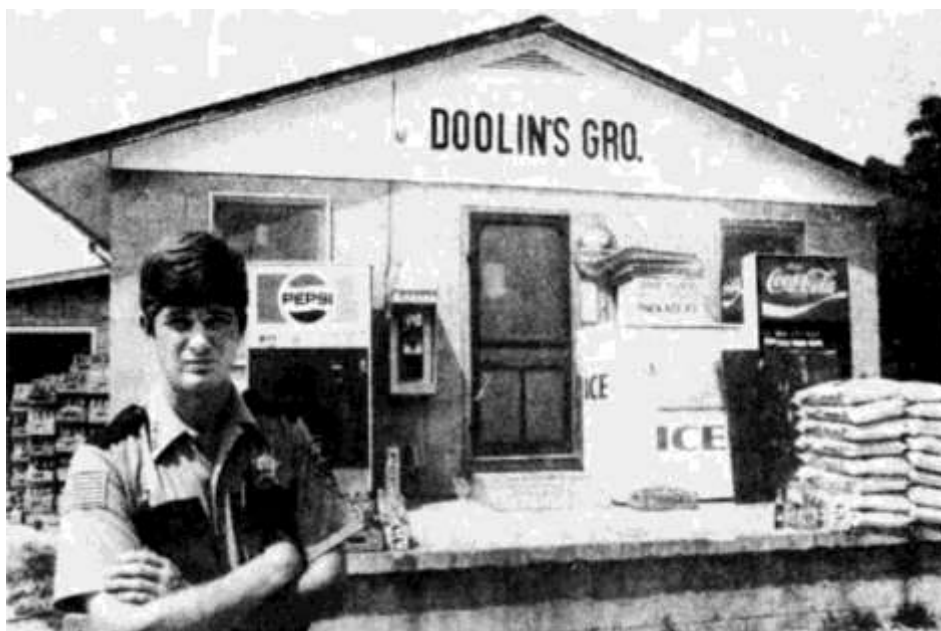
"I haven't been in it long enough to run up on a lot of bad things yet.. When the phone rings at night. I just know it's going to be something bad," he said.

Mild-mannered and always polite. Doolin seems as if he would be a pushover as a law officer, but "I have to be firm when I put that uniform on." he said.

"There are times I'm scared deep inside." he admitted. At 5 feet 6 inches tall, he realizes that burly criminals might not take him seriously.

Doolin's boss said he isn't worried about the slender deputy's ability to do the job. Doolin and his family "mind their own business, but they fear nobody, from the Old Man Doolin's father, Ted on down.

They just don't take any abuse." They Sheriff Martin said.



This grocery store in Ohio County provides Elvis Doolin with a healthy income while his job as deputy allows him to 'help people with their problems.' [two other pictures in article]



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Sunday, 27 March 1994, p.1C:

'If I didn't like it, I wouldn't be here'

Ohio County sheriff's first few months on job,
haven't been easy, but Doolin has no regrets

By Tracy L. McQueen, Messenger-Inquirer

HARTFORD – During his first few months in office, Elvis Doolin has seen enough violence and tragedy to fill an entire term as sheriff of this county.

Doolin was sworn in as sheriff Nov. 12, a Friday. That weekend, a Narrows man was shot and killed in his home.

In January, two more men in different parts of the county were shot to death. Three women were killed in a tragic accident on the Green River Parkway, and the driver of the other vehicle was charged with murder.

In February, a traffic accident in Rosine left one woman dead. A young man was charged with murder.

Things got so bad, there were rumors Doolin planned to resign.

He said those rumors are unfounded. Although his term has been turbulent, Doolin said he has no regrets about becoming sheriff.

"Even though we've had all these bad happenings, I still manage to hold my head up and be happy with my job," he said. "I find it sometimes to be a very depressing job. You deal with so many problems, all kinds of problems.

"But if I didn't like it, I wouldn't be here."

Doolin, 34, is pure country. On Friday nights, he likes to play the spoons with bluegrass musicians at the Ole Barn Jamboree in Rosine.

He's described by friends as a soft-spoken, kind-hearted man who rarely raises his voice - even when dealing with confrontational suspects.

"He's very easygoing," former Sheriff Jim Wheeler said. "He likes people. He does his best to help everybody he can."

Although many of his friends were surprised he chose this line of work, Doolin said his personality fits law enforcement.

"If you'll talk with people right and respect them, usually they'll respect you," Doolin said. "You have to be forceful with some."

Doolin is one of 12 children born to Ted and Ida Doolin, who live in northern Ohio County.

"When I was going to school, there were two things I wanted to do," he said. "I wanted to own my own business, and I wanted to be a police officer."

He built Doolin's Grocery in Magan during his senior year at Fordsville High School. A month after he graduated in 1977, he opened the store. He still owns it.

It was another few years before he became a sheriff's deputy.

Doolin worked as a sheriff's deputy almost 12 years before he was elected sheriff. He was the chief deputy under Wheeler.

He considered joining the Kentucky State Police, but decided he didn't want to leave Ohio County and Magan, the tiny community where he was born and still lives.

Willie Patton, 91, lives a little more than a mile from Doolin.

"I've known him since the day he was born," Patton said. "You can't beat him. He's the finest boy you've ever seen."

But he said Doolin does have one shortcoming.

"I always told him he had one little problem - that he was a Republican," said Patton, an active Democrat. "But I support him 100 percent."

Doolin also has the support of county officials. Judge-Executive Dudley Cooper said he has been very impressed with Doolin.

"If he wasn't put to the test right off the bat, who was?"

But Cooper said Doolin's attitude has not waned.

"His approach is just refreshing, always," Cooper said. "He's very sensitive to the needs of the people. He's so kind and caring.

"I think the county is so fortunate to have him."



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Saturday, 27 September 2003, p.3B:

OHIO COUNTY: MAGAN JAMBOREE

First-ever community fest to include offbeat events

By David Blackburn, Messenger-Inquirer

The cause is solemn. Some of the fund-raising for it will be anything but.

The first Magan Jamboree will include some offbeat events during the daylong festival today to raise money for its church and the community cemetery.

In addition to typical small-town festival fare like food booths, a dog show and baby pageants, the Jamboree will have a chicken show, cow-calling contest and "pageant" to determine the ugliest leg.

"They're for fun," said Charlotte Owens of Fordsville, an organizer and former Magan resident, of events planned in order to make the Jamboree unique.

"There's probably about five or six of these," she said Friday.

The Jamboree is being organized by the community and by the family of Owens and her brother, Ohio County Sheriff Elvis Doolin.

About two months ago, Doolin noted that the other towns in the area have their own festival, Owens said.

"He said, 'Why not have a Magan Jamboree?' Everybody in the community said, 'That's a good idea,'" Owens said.

"We'd been aiming to do something like this for some time," Doolin said of helping the Pleasant Hill Baptist Church and the Magan Cemetery beside it. Both are near the Doolin's Grocery that he owns.

"We're trying to involve all of the community," he said. "Most of the people up in this area have people buried up here in this cemetery."

Proceeds from the food booths, cake walk and most contests will go to the church, Owens said.

Among the standard festival events, which last all day, are arts-and-crafts booths, wagon and horse rides, muzzleloader demonstrations, face painting and a fish pond for children.

But starting about 11 a.m., some of the contests stray off the beaten path.

The prettiest and ugliest chicken will be judged. The Ugly Leg Contest will feature categories for men and women.

Contestants in homemade Native American outfits can get in the Indian prince and princess or the "old squaw" contests.

Two pigs will be greased up and turned loose for children to chase.

People can demonstrate their favorite technique for summoning their hogs or cows.

The day will end with a square dance in the town's community center, known as the "Wildwood Flower," at Magan and Sunnydale roads.

Music will be provided by John Lanham and Friends, a Knottsville-based square dance band.

If the weather is uncooperative, more events might be moved to the Wildwood Flower or other buildings near Doolin's Grocery, Doolin said.

"In case of rain, I guess we'll go on with whatever we can," he said.



Messenger-Inquirer, Owensboro, KY, Friday, 16 January 2015, pp.1C & 3C:

Former sheriff shutting down Doolin's Grocery

By Suzi Bartholomy, Messenger-Inquirer

Thirty-seven years ago, a 17-year-old student at Fordsville High School spent his life savings on a tract of land on Magan Road in Ohio County. He had earned the money working for farmers in the area since he was a young teen.

"I bought the land for \$800 and borrowed \$19,000 from the bank and built this store before graduating high school," Elvis Doolin said last week while standing at the entrance of Doolin's Grocery in Magan.

Over the years, Doolin's has been more than a grocery. It has been a gathering place for music and friendship.

On Jan. 9, a small group of people who are regulars to the store were drinking coffee and talking as they do most days of the week. On that Friday though, there were fewer smiles.

The store is not just a place to get a bologna sandwich and a 6-ounce bottle of Coke. It also provides the 300-plus residents of the Magan community an opportunity to share news.

But the news wasn't good that day. Doolin said the store would be closing within a week or two.

"It's sad," he said. "There has been a store in Magan since the 1800s."

"When I was a little kid there were two things I wanted to do — have my own business and be in law enforcement, and I've done both," Doolin said.

Doolin, 54, was sheriff of Ohio County for 17 years. He was not re-elected in 2010. He also was an Ohio County deputy for 12 years before becoming sheriff.

Lincoln Midkiff, who is more than 90 years old, drops by the grocery almost every day. "People come in for coffee and news, but you never go hungry at Doolin's," he said.

On that particular Friday, Doolin's sisters, Crecia Brown, Garnett Beatty and Charlotte Owens, had set out a table of pastries for their customers.

In better times, the store sold a full line of groceries and at a building across the store parking lot, Doolin sold feed and fertilizer.

"One season I sold 900 tons of fertilizer," Doolin said.

At one time, almost everyone in the area bought their groceries from his store, Doolin said.

Larry "Boom Boom" Sutherland, who lives down the road from the store, has made Doolin's a part of his life. His nickname doesn't appear to match his quiet demeanor.

"I got the name because I worked with dynamite in the coal mines," Sutherland said.

"I come in twice a day," Sutherland said. "I don't know what I'm going to do now."

"Elvis has been a mighty good friend," he said.

Bobby Helm didn't look any happier than Sutherland. "I've been coming in here every day since 1981," Helm said.

"If he doesn't come in, we find out what's wrong," said Brown, who has worked at the store for 30 years.

Music has been as popular as bologna sandwiches at Doolin's.

In warm weather, neighborhood musicians played on the store's porch. In the winter, they would gather around the wood-burning stove at the back of the store, Doolin said.

"Sometimes we'd be here to 1 a.m.," he said.

Doolin is a well-known for his spoon playing. He's played at the Jerusalem Ridge Bluegrass Celebration with the Magan Square Dancers.

"Elvis played spoons at my mother's funeral," Rea Greer said. "My mom and dad loved Elvis as much as me," she said.

And it didn't matter that he was a Republican, she said.

Once a week, Patty and Bill Smith drive from Owensboro to Magan for a bologna sandwich, chips and a Coke.

On Friday, they were keeping warm next to the wood burner having their weekly sandwich.

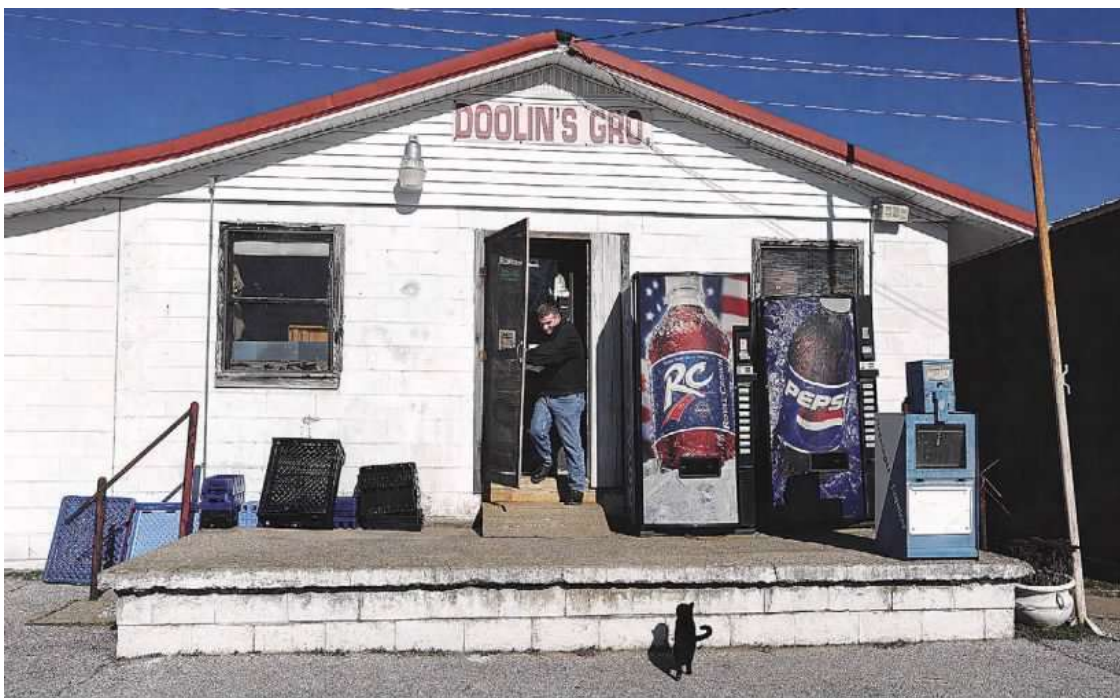
"We learn a lot from these folks," Bill Smith said. "Their arthritis gives better weather reports than the TV."

Doolin has another store in Pleasant Ridge that will remain open. It keeps busy, he said.

"No one was interested in keeping this one open," he said. "I don't think anyone could make a living at it."

"I think Elvis closing the store is going to open people's eyes," said Jean Doolin, the widow of Elvis' brother Scotty.

"They're going to wish they had come in more often," she said.



Elvis Doolin leaves Doolin's Grocery, the store in Magan he had built before he graduated high school, on Jan. 9 to go work at his other grocery store in Pleasant Ridge. The Magan store will be closing in a week or two, Doolin said on that day.



Larry Sutherland, left, and Bobby Helm talk on Jan. 9 while sitting at Doolin's Grocery in Magan. Both of the men said they visit the local grocery store almost every day. The store is going to close soon, said owner Elvis Doolin. Sutherland said, "I hate to see it close." He has been going to the store for 15 years. Helm said he has been coming Doolin's Grocery every day except for Sundays since 1981, which is 34 years. "It's really to mess up by routine," Helm said.



Elvis Doolin, back right, owner of Doolin's Grocery in Magan, was featured in the Messenger-Inquirer on June, 13, 1982. The piece shares Doolin's story about becoming a self-made businessman at 18, and then an Ohio County deputy sheriff 41 years later. Doolin said on Jan. 9 that the store will be closing in one to two weeks.



Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Magan, KY, in 1967 ([Ohio County Times-News](#), Hartford, KY, 27 January 2000)



Pleasant Hill Baptist Church, Magan, KY

