

inside of the lid to reveal the likes of Shirley Temple, or some other current movie star), 5 cents, two sticks of "Blony" bubble gum (a brand highly favored by the young set at the time), 1 cent apiece, AND, a copy of what was then known as The Plainfield Courier-News, three cents. All this bounty, mind you, for one thin dime!

The Breyer's ice cream cones sold at the corner store were special too. I've not seen them duplicated since. The ice cream itself was somehow pre-formed into a cone shape, thus making for a perfect fit into the waiting "sugar" or "waffle" cone, so that it was less apt to topple out. A little white saucer with green rim held an ever-present, ever-waiting pile of CHOCOLATE JIGGERS, or "jimmies", or whatever you wished to call them. Since the pre-formed ice cream had a large flat-topped surface, it would pick up a wondrous amount of the chocolate jiggers, all to be savored, walking back up the street toward home of a hot summer day, being careful, of course, to keep deftly turning the cone as you licked, so as not to lose a melting drop. It was an art form!

Mrs. Paul always had on one of those well-worn brown cardigan sweaters that shopkeepers always seemed to wear in those days. She was a pleasant, grey-haired lady. A loaf of "Staff" or "Bond" bread sold there then cost 11 cents. If you ordered a pint of ice cream, or on a really big day, a quart, of hand-packed Breyer's, it was so tantalizing to watch Mrs. Paul open the rubber-rimmed lid of the tub of your chosen flavor, and to see and smell the beautiful steam as it escaped the deep, stainless steel container while she dug deep with her sturdy scoop!

The corner store was always open till 11 P. M. each night! Often, as a special treat after my parents and I had gone for a drive to cool off on a summer night, we would stop in at the corner store, and my father would buy the ingredients necessary to make a "from scratch" ice cream soda. (Club soda, chocolate syrup, and the ice cream). You also added milk. They would pack any combination of ice cream you wanted, and I can even remember that for a while I was on a kick of lemon ice packed with chocolate ice cream. I'd stop on my way home from school, asking for the two flavors together in a ONE-HALF PINT container! I think it cost 20 cents, and they willingly obliged!

At that time, and for many years, a great many of the stores in Fanwood center were owned by H. Clay Friedrichs, a prominent realtor who also had his offices in the location near the corner store, later in that spot, where Burgdorff's is now.