

Naming Revere Middle School

In deciding on a name for the new junior high school, they “considered outstanding community leaders or things of historical significance locally”. Among some discussed names were Hale Family (early family of Bath), Oviatt Family (early family of Richfield), Roy Pugh (first superintendent), Frank Pixley (Richfield native who was journalist and a playwright), Bafeild (combination of Bath-Richfield), etc.

On May 19, 1959, the district selected Frank Pixley Junior High. After months of receiving “considerable objection to the name”, the school board rescinded the name decision on October 8, 1959.

On November 23, 1959, Eastview Junior High was selected. An interesting name choice considering the building views south and not east.

On December 2, 1986, the board accepted a petition from the community to change the name from Eastview Middle School to Revere Middle School.

On March 17, 1987, the board officially changed the name to Revere Middle School effective August 1, 1987.

Revere School Board Minutes—5/19/1959

53. Mr. Jackson moved that the new school be named the Frank Pixley Jr. High.
Mrs. Cauffield seconded the motion and the vote is as follows:
AYES: Baumgardner, Wyatt, Cauffield, Jackson
Mr. Rand - no vote. Motion carried

Revere School Board Minutes—10/8/1959

105. Mr. Jackson moved the adoption of the following resolution:
Whereas; having received considerable objection to the name of Frank Pixley for the new Junior High School, therefore:
Be it resolved by the Bath-Richfield Board of Education that motion number 53 of the 1959 minutes, naming the new school, be rescinded.
Mrs. Wyatt seconded the resolution, vote as follows:
AYES: Baumgardner, Wyatt, Rand, Jackson
NAYS: None Motion carried

Revere School Board Minutes—11/23/1959

120. Mrs. Cauffield moved that the new building be named Eastview Junior High.
Mr. Rand seconded the motion, vote as follows:
AYES: Baumgardner, Wyatt, Cauffield, Rand, Jackson
NAYS: None Motion carried

Revere School Board Minutes—12/2/1986

Concerns Of The Public:

A petition was presented to the Board requesting that the name of Eastview Middle School be changed to Revere Middle School.

Revere School Board Minutes—3/17/1987

Eastview Middle School Name Change:

Res. 75-87 Moved by Mr. Butler, seconded by Mrs. Sabitsch to approve the change of the official name of the middle school from Eastview Middle School to Revere Middle School effective August 1, 1987.

Discussion held.

Roll Call: Aye - Butler, Sabitsch, Hanke, Krosky
Nay - Grow

Motion carried.

Naming Revere Middle School

Akron Beacon Journal—4/19/1959

Name Not Too Far Off

Bath-Richfield Board of Education members were discussing possible names for a proposed junior high school.

They noted many school districts are selecting names of outstanding community leaders or things of historical significance locally. The board finally decided to let students in the present schools—Revere High, Hillcrest, Bath and Richfield Elementary—offer suggestions.

Board President Paul Baumgardner recalled with a grin one recommendation when the school district became consolidated. "Somebody said we ought to combine Bath and Richfield by calling the new district 'Bafeld.' Sometimes it might even be appropriate!"

Akron Beacon Journal—12/12/1959

Which Way?

THE NEW junior high school in the Bath-Richfield School district, which was to have been named Pixley School—until patrons' protests forced the Board of Education to change its mind—has been renamed Eastview School.

Somebody should buy that board a compass.

The school faces south!

CARPETBAGGER

EDITOR'S NOTE: But the view is toward the east.

Akron Beacon Journal—10/9/1959

'Round About Us

Pixley Jr. High Name Is Vetoed

BATH-RICHFIELD — The new junior high under construction here is a school without a name. The Board of Education Thursday night acknowledged community dissonance over selection of a name and rescinded its five-month-old choice, Frank Pixley Junior High.

Board Member James S. Jackson explained that much criticism had been leveled at the choice, endangering passage of a \$180,000 bond issue on the Fall ballot. The bond issue is designed to finish the new school, started with a previously approved \$750,000 bond issue.

Akron Beacon Journal—3/18/1987

Revere's Eastview will get new name

The Revere school board Tuesday approved changing the name of Eastview Middle School to Revere Middle School.

More than 100 parents had petitioned for the change, saying they wanted a name that associated the school with the district.

A survey of Eastview students showed that more than 70 percent favored the change.

Naming Revere Middle School: Frank Pixley

On May 19, 1959, the district selected Frank Pixley Junior High. After months of re-ceiving “considerable objection to the name”, the school board recinded the name decision on October 8, 1959.

Frank Pixley was born in Richfield on November 21, 1867 and graduated from Richfield High School at the age of 15 years old. He graduated from Buchtel College (now University of Akron) with a degree in philosophy and became a teacher. From 1887 to 1890 he taught history and English at Buchtel before becoming a journalist. He was editor of *The Akron City Times* and *The Akron Daily Telegram*, then in 1892 became managing editor of the *The Chicago Mail*, and in 1899 was editor of *The Chicago-Times-Herald*.

Meanwhile he had been writing plays and had *The Carpetbagger* produced in Toledo in 1896. He began a successful working relationship with composer Gustav Luders. Their first collaboration to be staged was *The Burgomaster* (1900), which they followed with *King Dodo* (1902). That same year, Pixley and Luders' *The Prince Of Pilsen* was staged in Boston before going on to Broadway. In addition to revivals on Broadway, a touring company took the show around the country and it was also seen in London and Paris.

About 1902 the people of Richfield were proudly boasting that Frank Pixley was a native of the town, for the musical comedy, *The Prince of Pilsen* was then having its successful run in New York, Boston, Paris and London where it was given 160 times.

Among Pixley's other works were *Woodland* and *The So-Gun* (both 1904), *The Grand Mogul* (1906), *Marcelle* (1908), *The Gypsy* (1912), *The Return Of Eve*, *Taming A Tartar* and *Doctor Doolittle* (all 1914), *A Social Call* and *Apollo* (both 1915). In many respects Pixley and Luders showed ideas that were ahead of their time. Similarities are evident between *The Prince Of Pilsen* and Sigmund Romberg and Dorothy Donnelly's later *The Student Prince* (1924), and between *The Burgomaster* and Kurt Weill and Maxwell Anderson's *Knickerbocker Holiday* (1938).

Among honors and awards Pixley received were an honorary degree from Buchtel, his alma mater, and the Order of Christ in Portugal; an inveterate traveller, he was also a member of the Royal Geographical Society, London. In mid-December 1919, Pixley was on a steamship when he suffered a fall. Complications set in and he died suddenly on December 31, 1919 in San Diego, California. Under the terms of wills left by Pixley and his wife, Isabel, who died 10 years later, the Frank Pixley Memorial Fund was established at the University of Akron, providing scholarships for students of literature and music.



- Frank Pixley Biography: [ALLMUSIC](#) and [Richfield Historical Society](#) and [University of Akron](#)

Naming Revere Middle School: Frank Pixley

Akron Beacon Journal—10/10/1929

PIXLEY BEQUEST GOES TO COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS

Students Of Drama To Be Aided By Playwright's Fortune

HOSPITAL IS REMEMBERED

Akron university's legacy from the estate of Mrs. Isabel MacRoy Pixley is to be used to establish scholarships for deserving students attending Buchtel college of liberal arts, it was revealed today with announcement of complete details of the Pixley will.

A Beacon Journal special dispatch from Los Angeles also discloses that the widow of Frank Pixley, famous playwright and former Buchtel college instructor, leaves \$5,000 to the Children's hospital and Mary Day Nursery of Akron.

The university bequest, first estimated at \$195,000 will amount to approximately \$38,000, examination of the will shows. Aside from the \$100,000 given by John R. Buchtel in 1883 for a perpetual endowment fund, this still is the largest single gift ever made to Buchtel college or Akron university.

Over All Others

Mrs. Pixley's will provides that a bequest of \$50,000 to Akron university shall take precedence over all other bequests. She then devises other legacies in the amount of \$112,000 and provides that after they are taken care of, the residue of the estate shall also go to the arts college of the local university.

As the estate is valued at approximately \$200,000 this should mean about \$38,000 to add to the \$50,000 specifically given the Akron institution.

The will expresses Mrs. Pixley's desire that the funds be invested by the university board of directors and that the net income be used for the establishment of scholarships toward the maintenance and education of deserving students attending the liberal-arts college.

Akron Beacon Journal—7/9/1913

LITTLE WAD OF GUM GAVE FORMER AKRON MAN START

Washington Correspondent Tells How Frank Pixley, Famous Playwright, Received Money With Which to Get Foothold in His Favorite Profession.

Fred C. Kelly, Washington correspondent and writer of short stories about his people in the Capital is responsible for the following one about Frank Pixley, noted playwright and former Akron man. Pixley used to handle a pencil for the old Akron Sunday Gazette. Later he wrote the "Prince of Pilsen," and a few other big musical plays which brought him in a mint of money.

Here's what Kelly says about him: "Frank Pixley is a man who has accumulated wealth by writing musical comedies. Any person who goes to the theater oftener than once a year has seen a number of musical shows by Frank Pixley. And I think that a little bit of an inconsequential wad of chewing gum gave Pixley his start!

"Pixley used to work on the editorial staff of a newspaper at Akron, and even then he had an idea that he could write stuff for the stage. But how was he going to do it? He didn't feel like sitting down and dashing off the stuff for a musical comedy at the end of a hard day's work on a newspaper. If he just had time to take a few weeks or months off and do nothing but write what his fancy dictated he knew he could put the stuff across in nice shape. But he couldn't afford to take those few free-lancing weeks. He couldn't afford to do anything but hang on to his job so long as it continued to provide him with three reasonably substantial meals a day.

"He stuck to the routine, and he might be sticking to it yet, except for the little wad of chewing gum already mentioned in the opening stanza.

"A number of little fishes live in Akron and they contain fish, or at least they did then. One afternoon a fisherman went out in a red scow to fish for croppies. For a long time they didn't bite worth a solitary continental and he simply wore out his bait, casting into various likely-looking holes. At last, toward sundown, they began to take hold and bite, and right when the man seemed to have located a whole young seminary of fish, his bait gave out. He yearned to catch just one more before he pulled the heavy red scow back to the dock. But he hadn't so much as a piece of red fannel about him to put on the hook. He sat and chewed a wad of gum in his mouth trying to think of something to use for bait. Ah, ha! Why not try the chewing gum itself? He did so. And would you believe it, the fish fairly began to elbow each other to get at that hook. The man caught more fish in the next half hour than he would have caught if he had been merely telling lies about his afternoon sport."

"He went into Akron with his fine catch and told of his lucky hunch in battling with chewing gum. The little incident was discussed about the streets and in due course percolated to the newspaper office, where Frank Pixley worked.

"Pixley was correspondent for the New York Sun, which in those days was always on the lookout for just such odd little stories as that, and he wired it briefly to that paper. As it happened he mentioned the kind of chewing gum it was. It was a gum made by W. J. White, who was then in the early process of becoming the chewing gum king of the world.

"From the New York Sun the little item was copied into hundreds of other papers, and White's gum got about a million dollars' worth of free advertising. Naturally, White was tickled nearly to death. The news story made people talk about his gum as no gum had ever been talked about before, and the tide of success was turned in his favor more rapidly than he had ever hoped for. He sent to Akron to find out who was responsible for mentioning his gum in the papers.

"In response to several requests, Pixley journeyed to Cleveland to see White. He explained that he was not entitled to any gratitude, that, in fact, if it had occurred to him that he was giving the gum a lot of free advertising he probably would not have mentioned what kind it was.

"White insisted that he wouldn't rest right until he was permitted to make Pixley some kind of a nice little present.

"No, I won't do that," said Pixley, "but if you have fallen in love



Akron Beacon Journal—1/2/1920

Frank Pixley, Famous Akron Newspaperman, Dies In West

Frank S. Pixley, former Akron newspaper man, is dead at San Diego, Cal. News of his death became known in Akron today. Mr. Pixley was one of the best known newspaper men in the country and years ago became famous in theatrical circles as the writer of the Prince of Pilsen, Burgomaster and several other musical comedies that netted millions for the producers.

Mr. Pixley's career in the newspaper and literary field and also the theatrical world attracted wide attention. He was a great traveler, having made several world tours.

Mr. Pixley was born in West Richfield near Akron. When a young man he came to Akron and graduated from Buchtel college. He then engaged in newspaper work here for

a number of years. It was here that his writings attracted the attention of Bill Nye, the famous humorist. It was here that Nye and Pixley first met. The two became fast friends. Thru Nye's suggestion Pixley went to Chicago, where he immediately leaped into great fame as a newspaper man. It was in Chicago that Pixley wrote the Prince of Pilsen.

In recent years he had been living at San Diego, trying to recover his broken health. He had accumulated a large fortune. His death occurred Tuesday. Mr. Pixley was 55 years old. The funeral was held at San Diego today. Mr. Pixley is survived by one brother, O. C. Pixley of Chicago, and Mrs. Tibbitts, a sister, wife of Mr. E. C. Tibbitts, manager of the advertising department of the Goodrich company of this city.

The Prince of Pilsen

The New Musical Comedy

Tale of the Seashell	50
Didn't Know Exactly What to Do	50
The Message of the Violet	50
The Widow (Trio)	50
Pictures in the Smoke	50
Keep It Dark	50
When You At Last Are Mine	50
How Far a Girl Should Go	50
Artie	50
Season at the Shore	50
White Lies	50
Fall In	50
American Girl (Song of the Cities)	50
Heidelberg (Stein Song)	50
INSTRUMENTAL	
SELECTION	50 WALTZ
MARCH	50 LANCERS
TALE OF THE SEASHELL, Two-Step	50
VOCAL SCORE, 2500	GENS
FALL IN MARCH 50c	

Lyrics By

Music By

Frank Pixley

Gustav Luders

M. WITMARK & SONS
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