

Fashionette Beauty Shop

117 West Butler Street

Gotlieb Schaaff conducted a blacksmith shop here in the 1890s.



Information obtained from: *Fort Recovery Businesses Then & Now: 225 years of Adventure!* By Helen LeFevre (2016)

"History In the Making" by Cora Pearson, Girl Scout Gold Award 2026



Ranly Buggies

In 1916 the Ranly Brothers located the Twentieth Century Storm Buggy Company here, moving from St. Henry. The brothers were Sebastian and Chris Ranly. They advertised, "Each vehicle is perfect in quality and workmanship before it leaves the factory." In 1921 it was renamed Ranly Brothers and along with buggies, they did blacksmithing, repainted buggies and autos, and did general rework and upholstery. Looking to improve on their buggy, Sebastian streamlined the front of the buggy.

By 1930 when automobiles were taking over and buggies not needed, they made tops for the early model cars. Chris Ranly started working just in the upholstery business. Joe and Sebastian Ranly remained at the shop as blacksmiths.

From 1957-1964 sons Harold and Carl continued the "most modern and complete" upholstery business in this building. The Ranlys also sold Sherwin Williams paints and varnishes and had gas pumps out front. The Ranlys conducted a business in Fort Recovery for 48 years. The Ranly Brothers often mused about several cars that stopped in for gas one day. The first one filled up and pointed to the last one and said he would pay, the second one said the same, when the last one came the car sped past. That only happens once!

Fred Leuthold had general repair and implements in the blacksmith area.

In the 1960s Rich Wood started Rich & Ginny's Variety Store which dealt in furniture. Then, until 1985 Clarence Westgerdes used the

Information obtained from: *Fort Recovery Businesses Then & Now: 225 years of Adventure!* By Helen LeFevre (2016)

"History In the Making" by Cora Pearson, Girl Scout Gold Award 2026

building for storage for his flooring and cabinet business located on 49 South. In 1985-87 Rick and Lisa Kaup used the east front side for a video rental store before they moved the Video Shack to North Wayne Street. Chuck and Lisa Westgerdes used the west front and back of the building for Westgerdes Flooring. They moved into their store on North Wayne after that.

In 1987 Chuck and Connie Kaiser completely remodeled the building and Connie began the FashionEtte Beauty Shop while next door Dale Thobe and then Lisa Lennartz had driving schools. Today the east side is still used as a beauty shop with Chris and Cheryl Schoen, owners. Magic Touch Massage with Patty Borgerding continues to operate in the west office.



Ranly Brothers

Information obtained from: *Fort Recovery Businesses Then & Now: 225 years of Adventure!* By Helen LeFevre (2016)

"History In the Making" by Cora Pearson, Girl Scout Gold Award 2026



FashionEtte & Magic Touch Massage

Information obtained from: *Fort Recovery Businesses Then & Now: 225 years of Adventure!* By Helen LeFevre (2016)

“History In the Making” by Cora Pearson, Girl Scout Gold Award 2026