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Showing postings 1 - 7 of 7 in the thread: Thursday was always shopping night in Willimantic.

Posting: Thursday was always shopping night in Willimantic Poster: William Brainard Date: 1 October 2006 8:11 PM	Posting 1
It used to be quite the thing; shopping at W.T. Grants and Woolworth's till 9:pm. And all the supermarkets stayed open till 9; Barkers was different; they closed at 10:pm. I'll never forget going to Benny's on Thursday nights for our Eskimo fans and bikes and red wagons. Although for my 9th birthday I got a blue service wagon with wooden rails from Benny's. And to Friendlies for a big beef cheeseburger and coffee frappe. Or Pizza House for a grinder or small pizza pie. They were open til 2:am.	
Posting: Re: Thursday was always shopping night in Willimantic Poster: Francis Sellars Date: 2 October 2006 12:29 AM	Posting 2
Bill, They were the good old days. Being able to walk at night on main st and not fearing anything. Thursday night on main st was a night that you saw all your friends and neighbors and chatted with them. Not so today,you might be taking your life in your hands downtown.	
Posting: Re: Thursday was always shopping night in Willimantic Poster: John Tormey Date: 3 October 2006 5:06 PM	Posting 3
Bringing it all back! As an A&P worker (corner of Valley and Church St.) after WHS school we stayed open til 9 on Thursdays. We called it "Farmers' Night." These big farm guys from Willington, Lebanon, Mansfield, Coventry and Chaplin would come in on Thursday nights and drop big bucks on canned foods and lots of other stuff, which we'd load out in many, many shopping carts to their pickup trucks. As I recall, it was only these these great guys who would tip us for the assistance.	
Posting: Re: Thursday was always shopping night in Willimantic Poster: Dagmar Noll Date: 4 October 2006 6:24 AM	Posting 4
Mr. Brainard - What are eskimo fans? Whitey - While I am cautious when I'm out at night in Willimantic, I honestly don't think my life is in any significant danger. If I'm with one or two others, I don't even think of it. It's /really/ not that bad here. Dagmar	
Posting: Re: Thursday was always shopping night in Willimantic Poster: William Brainard Date: 4 October 2006 8:27 AM	Posting 5
Eskimo was the brand name. They were oscillating table top electric fans for under \$10.	
Posting: Re: Thursday was always shopping night in Willimantic Poster: Ada Kerachsky Albright Date: 4 October 2006 11:06 AM	Posting 6
It was nice having the stores open until 9 pm on Thursdays. Of course, the other side of that was that I babysat my younger siblings longer on Thursdays because my parents did not get home from work until after nine. Do you remember that for a while in July and August, stores closed on Wednesday afternoons? In those days, the Sunday blue laws were still in effect, so stores (not groceries) were closed on Sundays.	
Posting: Re: Thursday was always shopping night in Willimantic Poster: Steve Starger Date: 6 October 2006 1:49 PM	Posting 7
I used to work in my father's store (Mac's United Cigar) late on Thursday nights in high school, even though it was a "school night." The store was my after-school job in high school. I remember during the Joe Taborski-Arthur Columbe killing spree that the "beat" cop, "Red" Vertefeuille, would spend some time in the store toward closing time, hanging in the back just in case. That was a scary time for sure.	