

The Newcomer

Volume 27, Issue One
Winter 2021 \$3.00

A publication of the Newton County Historical Society, Inc.
Newton County: Indiana's Youngest County

Inside this issue

- *Whatever Happened To Sunbonnet Sue?*
- *Goodland Homes Built by Early Settlers*
- *Brook Community Breakfast Opens in Old Bank of Brook Building*
- *Hancock's Variety Store in Morocco*
- *The Roselawn Methodist Church*
- *Newton County Home Ec Chorus*
- *Salt: Tim Myers*
- *St. Augusta Catholic Church in Lake Village*
- *Community State Bank Celebrates 90th Year*
- *Zoborosky-Hayworth Family*

Whatever Happened to Sunbonnet Sue?

By Beth Bassett

An inquiry from Carol Guertin of Tulsa, OK, sent our president, Kay Babcock and me on a search for an artifact each of us had encountered at one time in our lives, but as the saying goes, "out of sight - out of mind."

Carol was searching for a photograph of a mosaic that her grandfather, Tony Cassini had created for Henry A. Reinhart in 1929 for the Nu-Joy Restaurant. I recalled seeing it at the Nu-Joy but was not sure where within the remodeled A. J. Kent home. I knew that John Yost had written about the 1945 fire at the Nu-Joy's original location, where our Resource Center is located today in Kentland, at the corner of U.S. 24 and 4th Street and thought that would be a good place to start my research.

Kay went to our Resource Center to look at the menus, post cards, matchbook covers, and other artifacts donated to us over the years from the restaurant. She found on the cover of one of the menus a drawing of Sunbonnet Sue. Kay shared a photograph of the cover with me and Carol - both of us were ecstatic over this find.

However, Kay was not finished yet. She visited the old Nu-Joy site, today the operation center for the Kentland Bank's holding company, KenBanCorp, visiting with President Kirby Drey. He had a photograph of Sunbonnet Sue, who greeted visitors upon entering the restaurant at the east entrance. Unfortunately, she cannot be seen today as she was covered when renovations were made after the Nu-Joy changed ownership.

In response to Carol viewing this photo she wrote:

"OMG! I can't thank you enough!! WOW!! You are all miracle workers. Simply amazing!"

My response to the photo: "The hunt is on! What a story!"

Do you remember Sunbonnet Sue? I did. Over the years she may have been covered with a floor mat or rug for safety reasons during inclement weather. Carol also shared an article written by Jack Alkire of the *Lafayette Journal and Courier* written for the 50th anniversary of the Nu-Joy in 1979. The article related many historical facts about the Nu-Joy as well as her story.

Sunbonnet Sue's Origin

Alkire's article told us that the round symbol with a profile of a girl in a sunbonnet is of mosaic tile inlaid in the terrazzo floor of the Nu-Joy. It was made by Cassini Tile and Terrazzo Company of Lafayette back in the early 1930s.

"Don Cassini, a second-generation member of the Cassini family stated, "We have a girl in a sunbonnet just like that on the side of the building here," Cassini said. He said the works of mosaic art were put together by an uncle and his late father presented them to customers he liked.

"If Dad didn't particularly care for you, there was no way you could get the girl in the sunbonnet." Cassini said his father was a Nu-Joy fan and often talked about the restaurant."

The menu cover with Sunbonnet Sue tells us that it was an artist's drawing of the actual cornerstone presently located in the floor of the east entrance. So, Sue survived the 1945 fire and was relocated in 1945 to the new location. Mr. Cassini may have supervised the second installation. As you can see in the photo of the mosaic the dates of the Nu-Joy's existence are included. These would not have been part of the original.

Kentland historian, Dean Ford, remembers playing in the rubble of the Nu-Joy fire in 1945 which was next to the Newton County Jail where he lived as a child, his father was the sheriff at that time. He recalled the basement of the structure was still in place and used as a hobo hideaway during the day. He also remembered white tiles all over the ground - supposing it was from the flooring of the old Nu-Joy.

Continued on page 3 >



The mosaic known as "Sunbonnet Sue" was on the floor in the east entrance of the Nu-Joy. Dates and the outside rings were added when re-installed from the old location.

President's Thoughts

By Kay Babcock

"Well . . . you go down this road until you see a blue house and you turn left and go past the old red barn and then it is the third house."

... Or ...

"Oh! Right, you are looking for the Bramble house, its on down this street on the corner."

Is this how you give directions? Course, the barn may be gone or you are giving directions to someone who never heard of a Bramble. So you continue on giving directions, naming landmarks and hoping something familiar will pop up and eventually you get them where they need be.

Speaking of directions ... Are you a map reader? I love maps, old and new. Places I've been or someplace I've never - but would like to, such as my city map of London. When I use a paper map, I need the map turned the direction we are going so, if we were heading south, I might have the map turned upside down. Most maps, by the way indicate the top as north - its up to you to figure out the other directions.

I hope the general use of GPS does not take away the joy of looking at a map and seeing the little towns around where you are going, or the lake just over there, or a cemetery you might want to stop and visit. I fear it will become a lost art, have you tried to find a state map lately? What used to be everywhere for free are now hard to find and often expensive.

Even if you are not going anywhere, sit down with a map and get lost on a journey you were not planning to take. Oh, the sights you will see.

As we continue to traverse our way through the Covid-19 pandemic, I hope you all have had your vaccines? In greeting someone today "How are you doing?" has been replaced with: "Had your shot yet?" We wear our masks and fuss about them, but it is better to be safe than sorry. Take care of yourself and you will help take care of others.

On to business. We are not ready to fully open the Resource Center, or start having meetings, however, we all are hoping it can happen soon. A few volunteers are going in to research things or to work on things. So, before you pull out that map to find us in Kentland, give us a call at 219-474-6944 after 11 a.m. CST on Monday, Thursday or Friday to be sure we are there.

There are a few things continuing to happen. Barb Wilfong and her committee continue to work on a mural on the east side of the Resource Center. There are many decisions to be made about what to or not to include. David Truby and Rich Miller have been busy with a few renovations at the cen-

ter to enable more display area for our numerous Newton County artifacts. We sure appreciate their talents and abilities.

2021 has started out like an accident waiting to happen and set on repeat. Whoever would have thought people demonstrating at our nation's capital would be termed by some as domestic terrorism; our presidential election would dominate the media long after the November results and that branding of products would change to be less offen-

sive to others. Common sense seems to have taken a holiday. Mother Nature thought she would throw a party to celebrate and make her presence known across the nation to wake us all up. It is a strange time we are living in - adapt, be well, take care of yourself, and help others when you can.

PS: I have heard of a new GPS for elders - it not only tells you where to go, but why you need to go there!

Historian's Corner

170 Years of Farm Ownership by *Newton County Historian Diana Elijah*

I told our *Newcomer* editor that I was working on a Hoosier Homestead Award for my farm in Jackson Twp. She said write about that experience.

Wm. R. Handley was my husband, Paul Elijah's great grandfather on his grandmother's side. I have all the documents, which include land grants, deeds and abstracts I need except I haven't been able to find last set from the 1031 Exchange I did to own the farm. But I was a good girl and had them recorded which was good.

William R. received land grants as payment for serving in the War of 1812. The first one was on August 1, 1851, of 160 acres. Next 40 acres on the south side of 100E, where my house and farm buildings stand. Other land grants he held were 80 acres where Bud and Judy Schultz live, that he later sold; 40 acres in McClellan Twp. in Section 32 on September 1, 1851 as well as a 10-acre parcel in section 27 in July 1852. The 40 acres just east of me were leased to the Wabash and Erie Canal which he purchased on June 8, 1877.

He was listed as being a cabinetmaker and family have told me he purchased a steam sawmill and had it shipped to Logansport, then skidded it here on the ice in winter. This mill sawed wood for the first stick-built house in Jackson Twp. probably owned by Ransom Elijah. That house is now gone but Walter and Edna (Elijah) Sullivan lived there as I remember.

Wm R.'s daughter Isabell married Frank Elijah and they moved California. When Wm. R. died in 1888, three of his children lived out of state creating a delay in the settlement of the estate. His widow wanted to move to Morocco so finally the Judge summoned all family together. Isabell and Frank bought the farm. From the abstract it looks like they moved to the farm in early 1900s. Their children were Elsie, Ruth (Peggy), Mar-kin, Virgil, Oveida and Kinder.

Frank died suddenly in 1925, then Mar-kin "Mike" and his wife, Ann bought the farm. Isabell died in 1933. Mark and Ann's children were Paul, Kenneth "Spud", Darrel, Patricia. Mar-kin died 1968 his wife lived there until her death 1993. Paul managed the farm for the heirs until his death in 1997. When Darrel took over management in 2005 he wanted to sell the farm. I could not bear to see a land grant with so much history possibly be sold to a corporate group who could care less about the land. I already owned one-fourth of the farm and by exchanging the 100 acres Paul and I had purchased an agreement was made with the heirs and so here I am today! I am happy to say that my children will own 160 acres of the original farmland.

If you want to do a Homestead farm go to www.IN.gov/isda to find forms need and to begin the process for apply for a Hoosier Homestead award. It is quite labor intensive, but well worth the effort.



Read more about the Zoborosky-Hayworth farm in Jackson Township elsewhere in this edition who were recently awarded a 100 year and 150 year Homestead award in 2020. Above members of the Hayworth family accept the award from the Indiana State Dept. of Ag.

Continued from page 1 >

It seems that every time the subject of the Nu-Joy is brought to my attention, new facts are uncovered. Alkire's article, the writings of John J. Yost, Dean Ford's photographs and memories as well as newspaper articles from the *Newton County Enterprise*, I was able to compile a more vivid picture of the history of this Newton County and Kentland landmark.

"There is no place to have a skating rink and no hall in which to dance, therefore the devil is losing ground." - *Newton County News*, 1885

McCray's Livery Barn

The original building, located on the northwest corner U.S. 41 (4th Street) and U.S. 24 we knew as the Nu-Joy, was owned by W. T. McCray, and used as a livery barn. This was prior to 1916 when Henry A. "H.A." Reinhart and Will Simons purchased the building.

The Nu-Joy Skating Rink and Dance Hall

Despite the aforementioned observance of the *Newton County News*, 37 years later Reinhart and Simon's business evolved over the next decade into the entertainment venue for the area.

In 1921 they converted it to a skating rink and dance hall. Accounts from the fire in 1945 indicate that the original livery barn was simply upgraded at this time to accommodate the rink and dance floor. In 1922, they held a contest to name the business. Teresa Reed submitted the name Nu-Joy. Her idea came from a bottle of Nu-Jol, a patent medicine laxative she spotted in her medicine cabinet. She won \$100 worth of tickets. What a prize for the time as the entry fee for young ladies to the rink/dance hall was 15 cents. She was able to get in free over 660 times!

The 1920 Census records show Teresa Reed living on Goss Street in Kentland with her parents of Irish descent, Leo and Anna and siblings William and Maurice. Her occupation showed that she was a stenographer for H. A. Reinhart, who sponsored the contest. By 1940, Teresa was managing the local license branch and living with her brother Leo, an interior decorator, and her nephew, Bill.

From the *Newton County Enterprise*, March 1922: "A crowd of about 400 attended the dance given at the Nu-Joy Monday night. The music was furnished by the Seattle Harmony Kings, a traveling orchestra of seven pieces, which came up to the best expectations and furnished modern music in all its syncopated variations and exaggerated effects. The crowd was highly pleased, and the orchestra proved a great treat to the dancing public."

Other famous bands performed at the



Dean Ford contributed possibly the first photograph of the Nu-Joy located at U. S. 41 and Hwy. 24, circa 1929, after the remodel of the Nu-Joy Skating Rink to create the restaurant. Note the round signs in front of the pumps for Sinclair Gasoline. Dean is the administrator of the facebook page "I live/ed in Kentland", you will find photos and conversations about Kentland and the community there. Thank you so much Dean for preserving SO MUCH history!

dance hall, including Tommy Dorsey.

An article about the 1945 fire in the *Kentland Democrat* stated that the Nu-Joy Skating Rink and Dance hall was used for the St. Joseph Parish bazaars in 1922, 23 and 24, and was then closed until 1929.

By 1929, the success of the automobile and the highway system convinced Reinhart that a lunchroom and filling station would be a more profitable business.

**Progressive Entrepreneurs:
Reinhart and Simons**

The announcement of the modern lunchroom and filling station came in January 1929. The Nu-Joy corner was dubbed the busiest corner in the state and the upgrade

of the present business was assured to be a first-class improvement on the site. The newly formed corporation, Nu-Joy, Inc. hailed C. L. Simons, president and Mrs. Clara Reinhart as secretary.

The Greyhound Lines announced that they would use the site as a regular stopping place for the buses, and it was for this reason that the lunchroom was made large enough to feed nearly 100 customers at a time.

The *Enterprise* also reported at the same time in addition to the regular table and lunch counter service, a quick lunch service will be installed in the southeast corner, with windows opening on both the south and east, where light lunches may be obtained from the outside, innovative for the times.

A modern heating plant was installed, and the interior of the building was entirely refinished and suitably decorated. An abundance of windows were also part of the remodeling plans. Local architect John A. Bruck prepared the plans for the project and supervised the construction. It was at this time that the Cassini Tile and Terrazzo Company would have been hired for the flooring, and the addition of Sunbonnet Sue.

Definite plans for the filling station were not in place at the time of the article, but it stated that six pumps were planned, three on the east and three on the south. In March 1929, installation of the filling station was progressing nicely. The three pumps along the east side were installed and gasoline being dispensed. With the completion of U.S. 24, the State Highway Department staked



The society now owns the above bottle of NuJol found after a search on Etsy.com.

Continued on page 4 >

4 The Newcomer

< Continued from page 4

off the corner making the intersection extra wide therefore changing the location of the pumps on the south side, delaying the final completion of the job.

The opening of the Nu-Joy service station and restaurant was in April 1929. The *Enterprise* account of the Saturday event depicted the management as “Santa Claus all day, passing out ice cream, pop, candy and coffee to the throngs of visitors who came to inspect the new and modern restaurant equipment and fixtures. Convenience and comfort for the patrons has been the uppermost thought in the arrangement of the interior and from the favorable comments voiced by those who have visited the Nu-Joy, it is evident that the result has been all that could be anticipated.”

In the spring of 1931, the garage was added to the north end of the building and after prohibition, a cocktail lounge was added, part of the remodeling that began in December 1932. This venture was completed by Memorial Day of 1933, just in time for the anticipated added traffic of the 1933 World’s Fair at Chicago, aka the Century of Progress. In 1936, the Nu-Joy was leased to the Interstate Company of Chicago, who operated it until 1945. From 1942-45, the manager was Mr. Harold Holmberg. In 1941, a new banquet room was added as well as a parking lot on the west side at an expense of \$15,000.

The popularity of the Nu-Joy became known nationally. Reinhart and Simon’s forward thinking of remodeling, updating and adding services at the right times brought much success to the duo. Will Simon passed away in 1930, but his wife Clara remained a part of the on-going operations as did their daughter Sue for many years. Perhaps the mosaic was named for their daughter. Census records show us that H.A. Reinhart worked as a telegrapher and railroad agent in 1940.

For fifteen years the Nu-Joy Restaurant thrived at the corner of U.S. 24 and U.S. 41.

The 1945 Fire

In September 1945, the worst fire in Kentland since the Lee Garage fire in 1933 destroyed the entire structure of the Nu-Joy. Yost wrote that George Goldenstein, a member of the Kentland Volunteer Fire Department recalled having been called several times to handle small kitchen fires over the years to the Nu-Joy. Goldenstein said, “The kitchen was in the southwest portion of the building. When I saw smoke coming out of the north end of the building, I knew it was not limited to the kitchen.” Goldenstein and other firemen got on the roof of the building to fight the blaze, but when fire started to break through the roof in numerous places, they abandoned the roof.

Goldenstein also stated that the fire

spread rapidly through the attic of the building, aided by the fact that there was still straw in the attic leftover from the building’s days as a livery stable. “We were throwing water to beat hell, but there was really no chance. Before long the building was burning from all angles. The building then began to collapse in sections. There was really nothing to be done but to keep it from spreading to other buildings. He also recalled that after the flames subsided, people began carrying off the liquor from the bar area. The garage on the north end only had slight damage, as it was constructed of concrete block.

The loss of the fire was estimated at \$100,000, about 1.5 million dollars in today’s values. H. A. Reinhart and his sons owned the Nu-Joy at the time, said they would rebuild a new and improved restaurant as soon as possible. It was announced immediately that the Nu-Joy would reopen temporarily in the former A. J. Kent Estate.

The Kent Estate

In April 1936, it was announced that Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Reinhart had purchased the Kent Estate comprised of a 57-acre tract for \$13,000. At the time of the purchase Mr. Reinhart informed the public that he intended to raise poultry and hogs, the barn there being adequate for this purpose. Mr. and Mrs. Peter Kline would reside there and care for the premises.

The *Enterprise* reported, “The southwest corner of the newly purchased property, known locally as “Kent’s Pasture,” will be subdivided into town lots, and a new addition to the town opened. This has been a problem in Kentland for a number of years, and Mr. Reinhart is to be commended for paving the way to a new and modern residential section. It is planned to erect a bridge on east Dunlap Street, to make the new subdivision accessible by automobile.”

This new subdivision was in place by



These postcards of the Nu-Joy were colorized and the artist eliminated the water tower and signage (above). This may have been after the remodel that began in 1931 and completed in 1933. A much cleaner facade. The postcard below is of the interior, also possibly after the remodel in 1933. It may be a view from the southeast entrance into the dining area. Dean Ford Collection.



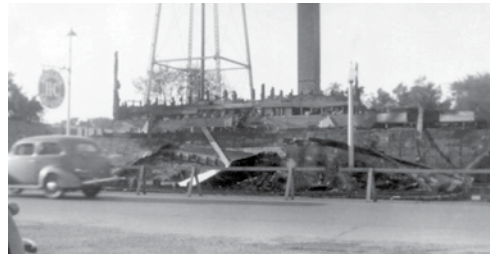
1938 and named the H. A. Reinhart Addition.

A postcard of the Nu-Joy Hotel dated 1943 indicates that Kent's home was remodeled into a hotel. Just when this occurred is yet to be determined. Your stay would cost \$1.25 to \$2.00, which included a tub or shower bath. The hotel boasted a large lobby, telephone booth, spacious porches, beautiful grounds with lakes and trees, with free parking. The \$2.00 rooms have a free garage.

So, it is now clear why the Reinharts chose the A.J. Kent estate as the temporary location for their restaurant - they already owned it.

Was it luck, connections or just good business sense that placed Reinhart in the right place at the right time. With the decision to construct the 41-bypass around Kentland, once again Reinhart's instincts had paid off. Imagine the relief he felt when it was definite that the road was to be built. In 1954, he officially announced that the Nu-Joy's permanent home was at the Nu-Joy Hotel, along the newly constructed U.S. 41.

By the end of 1954, the new U.S. 41

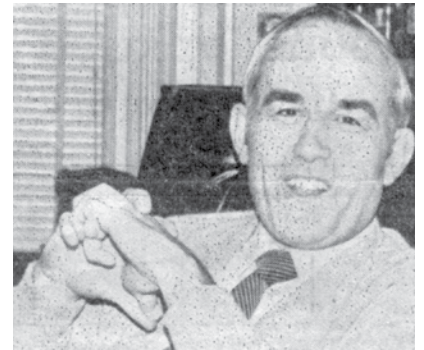


Images above of the largest fire in Kentland since 1933, the Nu-Joy burned in September, 1945. The iconic building was a total loss; the restaurant relocated to the A.J. Kent Estate shortly after the fire.

by-passes in Kentland, Morocco and Lake Village were complete, re-routing the traffic away from the nucleus of these communities.

The Nu-Joy's reputation would once again be known far and wide through-out the nation as a place to stop for its fine dining.

> Continued on page 6



Leonard Lovell, above, his wife Cathy and his mother Eva Lovell took over the Nu-Joy in 1977, following the death of Henry "Hickey" Reinhart. He was Lovell's uncle and Eva's brother.

Celebrating 50 Years

The 1979 menu left, depicts the logo for the Nu-Joy - Sunbonnet Sue in the center. Clockwise the line drawings depict the buildings and dates - 1933, the first renovation; 1945, the disastrous fire; 1954, the renovation of A. J. Kent Estate to present structure (1979); 1945, transferral to the old A. J. Kent Estate after the fire; 1929, the year the Nu-Joy was formally opened.

In 1979 the Nu-Joy celebrated its Golden Anniversary. The motto on the front of this menu read: "Where Good Food and Hospitality are a Tradition."

6 The Newcomer

> Continued from page 5

By the late 1960s I-65 opened and pulled away much of the traffic that made the Nu-Joy a major stopping point for north and southbound travelers. However, the Nu-Joy was a place where Newton County people gathered, sitting on green stools at counters, eating pie, drinking coffee, talking politics and kids and the weather.

Businesses had meetings in their small banquet rooms. Friends would greet each other in the lounge, farmers would sit and discuss crops and families would celebrate special occasions or enjoy a Sunday dinner after church.

In the background you could hear the faint echo of dishes being stacked and glasses tinkling as they were carried off by busy waitresses, dressed in their black and white uniforms. The gift shop offered a variety of items and mementos to those passing through the Nu-Joy doors.

In the big-band era, the restaurant was a regular stop for the touring busses of Wayne King, Guy Lombardo, and Tommy Dorsey. Amelia Earhart dined at the Nu-Joy. John Dillinger's funeral cortege traveling from Chicago to Indianapolis stopped for lunch.

In October 1994, the doors were closed and locked the final time. Bob Funk who purchased the restaurant in 1988 had moved out of town and discovered on a return trip to Kentland there was not enough staff to keep it open. The decision to close it was not an easy one, as Bob grew up in Kentland and was aware of the significance of the place to the community. However, by the end of October all the contents were sold in a public auction.



Nu-Joy 50th Anniversary souvenirs such as this coffee cup, matchbooks and buttons are on display at the society's Resource Center.



This horse, complete with tack came from the Nu-Joy gift shop

Sunbonnet Sue may be the last remaining remnant of the original Nu-Joy, although covered when new owners purchased and remodeled to their convenience. The current owners KenBanCorp have kept the lunch counter and stools as their lunch area for

their employees.

Sue's history has been uncovered thanks to an internet inquiry and the perseverance of two historians. Perhaps one day she, too, will see the light of day.



Top, left inset - the Nu-Joy sign; the Nu-Joy, circa 1960s-70s; bottom, interior dining room. Lunch counters are on the back, right.



Tie A Yellow Ribbon ...

Left, Guy Lambardo and owner "Hickey" Reinhart in 1973, pose in front of a yellow ribbon tied on a Nu-Joy tree, a symbol of support for Americans held hostage in Iran at that time.



Above right, the lunch counter and stools remain part of the fixtures for KenBanCorp. Above, the old A.J. Kent-Nu-Joy and new KenBanCorp building in 2021.

Goodland Homes Built by Early Newton County Settlers

By Beth Bassett and Kay Babcock

We receive numerous inquiries about old homes in Newton County, many of them coming from people who have recently purchased them. We find some history in the pages of our local history books and in family histories. Local columns written in the county newspapers may also contain tid-bits of information.

Putting a timeline on land ownership is possible by looking through Land Transfer Records at the Newton County Courthouse. Those records do not record when homes/structures were erected on the properties, however.

It was an item in the “The History of the Town of Goodland and Grant Township, Newton County, Indiana, 1861-2014,” that spurred my interest in Goodland homes. I enlisted the help of fellow “rabbit hole” explorer Kay Babcock, who drove around the town verifying whether the houses were still standing in 2021, address of each location, and possible past occupants.

In this book there was also a newspaper article written by Lewis Alter, date unknown, who was born in Goodland in 1851, then settled in Jasper County. It provides a look at the Goodland area before the town was developed.

Lewis A. Alter, One of Our Earliest Pioneers Writes Some Interesting Facts

“Mr. Lewis Alter, who was born in 1851, gives us some early data on the early days of this community. He writes:

“I have been asked to tell something about the history of Grant Township where I was born early in 1851.

“As there was a small grove of oak and hickory growing on the bank of a small creek out on the prairie, (north of where Goodland now stands), it naturally attracted the attention of the early pioneers. One of these was Joseph Smith, a brother-in-law of John Lyons. His son, Joseph Smith, Jr., married Esther Alter, daughter of the Reverend John Alter, early in 1848. This is about the first authentic date I have. John Alter’s boys had settled on a creek three miles east of Smiths two years before this. A preacher named Kimberlin settled near there shortly after this.

“Then L. Seward lived near here awhile. His son, Charles, died of a brain fever. Early in the 50’s David Creek came here and bought up a good tract of land just north of where Goodland now is. He had a family of three boys and two girls. Just before coming here he had married the widow Wilson who had a family of four boys and two girls. They had some money and bought a lot of land adjoining Creek lands. Later, one of the Creek boys married one of the Wilson girls, thus uniting the families still closer. John Wood married one of the girls. Later he was the first postmaster in Remington. He afterwards moved to Medaryville and practiced medicine. He was found dead one wintry night on the frozen roads.

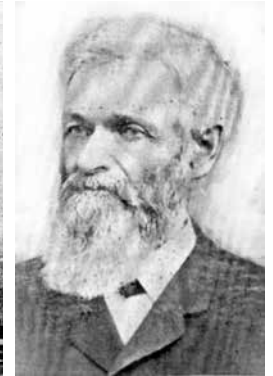
“Blake Wilson and Huffman Keen ran the first threshing machine in this part of the country. It was the old “ground hog” pattern. David Creek built a good frame house on the west bank of the creek



Simonin home standing in 2021; located 5586 E. U.S. 24.

opposite where the Goodland cemetery now is. It was torn down by William Keen, who purchased the farm. The next oldest house in the country is the one built by Blake Wilson, one-half mile east of town, now owned by William T. Cory. This was built about 1862. Not long after that David Creek built the house just east of town, now owned by Mrs. Simonin. After his wife died, he moved to town where I last visited him.”

The Wickwire Home | 302 N. Newton Street



Built circa 1881 is no longer standing. Right, N.C. Wickwire

Newton C. Wickwire was born in Connecticut on August 30, 1818. In 1873 he came to Newton County and bought 160 acres of land one mile east of Goodland where he lived until 1881. At that time he moved into Goodland and remained there until his death on June 29, 1905. A Republican, Mr. Wickwire cast his first Presidential vote for Harrison.

Mr. Wickwire was the father of twelve children. He first married Hannah Dayton in 1840 and they had four sons: Clark, George, Henry and Marshall. After Hannah died in March of 1850, he married Elizabeth Crandall in August of the following year. Five children were born to them: Frances, Chester W., Ida Elnora, Clara and an infant daughter who died unnamed. Following Elizabeth’s death in 1869, he married Margaret Liscom, of New Hampshire, in 1870. To this marriage three children were born: Nellie, Frederick and Dora, but Nellie and Frederick died while young. Margaret died when Dora was born in 1879. In 1881, Mr. Wickwire took a fourth wife, Emily Irene Reed, of Connecticut, and this wife survived him.

The Bales Home | 205 N. Newton Street

George O. Bales (1871-1934) and several of his cousins became associated with Isaac Colburn’s Lumber Company in 1893. He became a partner of that company in 1903. In 1921 Colburn and Bales sold a half interest to the Wallace Brothers. In 1926, the lumber yard was bought as Bales Lumber Co., with George O. Bales, President. The business progressed through the decades until 1999 when it closed.



Home built 1924, standing 2021.

Paul Weishaar House | 118 N. Newton St.

Paul Weishaar was born in Prussia on June 29, 1826, where he learned the trade of stone mason and came to America in 1846 with 40 cents in his pocket, not speaking English. He pawned his watch for funds to pay board and find employment. In 1853 he returned to his native land for his parents, Georg and Johanna, brother Joseph, Crescenzia and son, Martin. En-route over he was shipwrecked remaining for 118 days on the water. The first boat was near its destination when it was wrecked and he was picked up with other survivors and returned to within a few hundred miles of New York, where he again boarded an eastbound boat for Germany. On their return the family resided in Glendale, Hamilton County, Ohio on May 28, 1854. Paul married Catherine Wenner on August 5, 1855 at St. Paul’s Catholic Church, Cincinnati. In 1861 he settled on a farm in Iroquois Township, Newton County, where he owned 670 acres *Continued on page 8 >*

8 The Newcomer

Continued from page 7 > of land, located six miles north of Goodland,



Home built circa 1892, standing 2021.

Newton County Loan & Savings Association and was director in the First National Bank. He was a member of S.S. Peter and Paul's Catholic Church, which he helped found and which was dedicated to him in 1903. Paul Weishaar retired on March 1, 1892 and moved to North Newton Street in Goodland, where he resided until his death. He developed pneumonia and died January 30, 1913. His wife, Catherine died December 24, 1898. Both are buried in Mt. Calvary Cemetery, Goodland. Paul was the father of twelve children: Martin (1845-1928); Lizzie (died as an infant); Paul (1858-1949); Anna (1860-1915); Elizabeth (1862-1944); George (1864-1938); Frank (1866-1940); Mary Katherine (1869-1936); Clara (1871-1961); Emma (1874-1959); Matilda (Tillie) (1874-1967) and Rosetta (1880-1897).

Dr. Jesse Bond House | 126 N. James Street

Dr. J. W. Bond, a dentist, grew up in Remington, where he worked until 1892, when he entered the Ohio College of Dental Surgery. He completed three years and came to Goodland in 1895. He opened his Goodland office in the Jacobs building, and later offices in Brook and Remington, later abandoning the Brook office. He married A. Velma Clymer and they had three children, Keever C., Rezina A. and Willo Jean.



Above, home built in 1885, standing 2021; right, Dr. Jesse Bond.

Glasgo D. Clymer | 314 E. Jasper Street

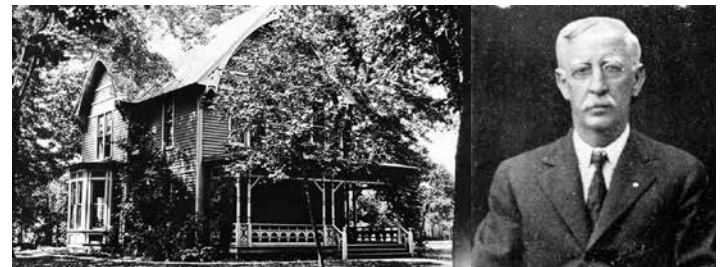
Glasgo D. Clymer was a native of Marshall County, Indiana and was born December 10, 1862. He and his father came to Goodland in 1884 and purchased the Bringham Bros. Drug Store which he managed until 1890 when their business was sold to Dr. Milton L.



Left, home built 1900, right G. D. Clymer.

Humston. He went to California shortly after and spent nearly four years developing a fruit farm. He, afterwards, returned to Indiana and in the summer of 1900 built one of the finest residences in the county on East Jasper Street. He and his wife Dora had two boys, Howard and Robert, and four girls, Philena, Dorothea, Josephine, and Lois. He was an agent for the American Central Life Insurance Co. and made a creditable record in the insurance business.

John Lawson Cooke House | 115 W. Jasper Street



Left, home built 1900 by Elizah Hunter, standing 2021; right, J.L. Cooke. Later, the Crane Funeral Home owned by Gordon and Lucille Crane.

John Lawson Cooke, son of Jacob L. Cooke and Martha Potter Cooke, was born near Bedford, Lawrence County, Indiana on October 14, 1857. He remained with his parents until the age of seventeen. His early education was obtained in the common schools of Lawrence County and the graded school of Goodland, Indiana. John had a thorough business education and became a member of the Indiana Pharmaceutical Association. In 1875 he became a clerk and student in the drugstore of Dr. J.A. Lovett at Fowler, where he remained for two years and then came to Goodland in the fall of 1876. He was employed in the Burgess Drug Store as a pharmacist and worked there for twenty years. John Lawson was married to Lydia Allen of Brookston, Indiana in 1888. Four children were born to this union: Raymond of Chicago, Pauline, Lawson and John of Goodland, Indiana. The Burgess Drug Store was sold in 1901 to Constable and Pierce, where John continued his services until 1906 when he started in business for himself, known as John L. Cooke, the Druggist. He was active in the business until his death on June 27, 1926. His two sons, Lawson and John, both registered pharmacists, were in the same location for more than fifty years.

Thomas J. Gray House | 109 W. Jasper Street

Thomas J. Gray, the son of Daniel and Lydia (Myrtle) Gray, pioneers of Steuben County, New York, a Justice of the Peace and county commissioner, was the second of ten children. His parents came to Grant Township and settled on a farm one and one-half miles from Goodland, moving into the town of Goodland in March of 1881. He engaged in farming until he came to Indiana in 1868 with his parents. He and his wife Cornelia had one child, Clara, who died in 1881. In 1870, Mr. Gray engaged in the hardware business in Goodland with Ports Wilson. He was elected as the Town treasurer in 1879 and served in this office for twenty years. His wife was prominent in church and social circles and was the organist for the First Presbyterian Church



Gray home built circa 1880s, standing 2021; right, T. J. Gray.

for a number of years. A Republican, Mr. Gray cast his first Presidential vote for Abraham Lincoln. He also served as Trustee and church treasurer of the Presbyterian Church for many years. In 1889, Mr. Gray sold a half interest in the hardware business to Charles Edward Burgess.

William Stewart House | 129 N. Newton Street

William J. Stewart was born on October 19, 1859 in Chillicothe, Ohio. His family came to Jasper County in 1870 and moved to Goodland in 1883 where he was employed by C.W. Hartley for 14 years. In 1897, he left Hartley's to become a member of the newly organized Goodland Steam Tile Company. He kept constantly increasing his stock in the company until the last years of its existence when he held a two-thirds interest. He also operated the Stewart Ice Plant, creating a lake named Stewart Lake. The ice plant office was located just south of the lake on the southeast corner at Mill and Benton Streets. In 1894, he purchased a farm of 240 acres adjoining the corporation on the southeast. On this he planted 65,000 tiles and erected a large brick barn. He was stockholder of the Western Indiana Telephone Company and had much to do with the building of the toll line and exchanges belonging to them.



Top, home built 1898, standing 2021; bottom, Stewart's Ice Plant circa 1916.

In 1885 he married Miss Ada M. Hoover, daughter of John and Harriet (Smith) Hoover. In 1898 he built a handsome residence on Newton Street. He was treasurer of the school board for six years, was president of the town board and in many ways advanced the standards of municipal service and improvements.

Sheldon House | 119 W. Union Street



Built 1890, top, perhaps Silas holding a stallion, center, Minnie and Kate, bottom, in 2014.

Silas and Kate (Murray) Sheldon's children were Edith, James, Francis, Mary Ann, Harriet, Delia, Noreen, Katherine, and Minnie, who was the telephone operator in Goodland for many years.

Silas had stallions used for stud service. Katherine had a rooming and boarding house serving meals to traveling people, businessmen, doctors and their wives, people employed in Goodland and railroad workers. The Sheldon House not only had a reputation of delicious food and wonderful times but was also known for its owners many acts of kindness to people in need and love to many, as well as family. Their home on Union Street was later bought and remodeled and is the Gerts Funeral Home in Goodland.

James Carney House | 110 E. Jasper Street

In 1847 James E. Carney was born in Mechias, Maine. He learned the shoemaker's trade and came to Goodland in 1869. He left in 1871 but returned with his family in 1873. The years of 1877 and 1878 were spent in California, from whence he again returned to Goodland. Mr. Carney enlisted in the war in Co. F. 138th Ind. Vol. May 2, 1864 and served in the Army of the Cumberland and was discharged September 30th. He re-enlisted in the war in Co. A. 11th Inf. U. S. Regulars January 1865, served in the Department of Texas and discharged June 1866.



Top, home built 1896, bottom, 1919 known as the Dowell home.

In 1896 he built a fine brick residence on the corner of the residence on Union Street and U.S. 24 and in 1898 built a brick business room on Union Street. Mr. Carney's son, Willard, was one of the Class of 1895, the first commissioned class of the Goodland High School. Mr. Carney was a progressive citizen who helped to carry forward the improvements in Goodland and was one of its best citizens.

Peter Brook House | 502 S. Newton Street

Built in 1875 for Peter Brook and his family. Peter Brook, a son of Gottlieb and Magdalene (Linkowski) Bruch, was born in Eastern Germany, October 15, 1851. A leather worker and upholsterer, he worked along these lines after coming to the United States in 1872. Learning of an opening in Goodland, he came from Mokence, Illinois in 1874. Here he established a harness manufacturing, repair and sales business, employing Charles Dunkel, also a native of Germany, as an expert repairman. He bought out the business of John Carver. Soon he added farming implements, carriages, buggies and wagons to his stock and other accessories for the farm trade.



Top left, home built 1875, standing 2021; right Brooks' Harness Shop; bottom left Peter Brook; a wagon sold by Brook.

“... And you're still the same; I caught up with you yesterday. Moving game to game; No one standing in your way
“Turning on the charm; Long enough to get you by, You're still the same; You still aim high.” – Bob Seger

Former 1901-1932 Bank of Brook Building Still Looks the Same in 2021

By Beth Bassett

I was given the opportunity to step back into time with Eric and Elizabeth Phegley as they shared the history of their building and business, Brook Community Breakfast. The couple have restored what was first referred to as the Rich (J.D.) and Stonehill (Philip) business building located at 127 West Main Street in Brook.

Banks in Brook

Carol Light's research in the “Brook, Iroquois, and Washington Township Sesquicentennial Collection, 1856-2006”, revealed much of the early history of banking in Brook. She wrote that as early as 1893 a bank by the name of Bank of Brook was established operated by Messrs. Lyons, Turner and Esson. It was located at 111 West Main Street. The other bank, named the Citizen's Bank, opened where the present-day Wash-O-Quois Museum is located, started by J. D. Rich and Philip Stonehill in 1898. To read more about ownership of these buildings and history of banking in Brook, I recommend looking into a copy of the aforementioned book.

Construction of the Rich and Stonehill Building

A news item in the May 3, 1901 edition of the *Brook Reporter* stated, “Work on the Rich and Stonehill new brick business building will commence as soon as the present building is removed.”

Light's research tells us that a boarding house, owned by Mrs. Wm. Sunderland occupied the lot. The home would be moved by the new lot owner, J. D. Rich in 1901 to 208 North Street in Brook.

Rich and Stonehill were partners in the Citizen's Bank which operated from February 1898-1902. In the May 10, 1901, a *Reporter* article stated that Philip Stonehill purchased the Turner lot adjoining the Turner Hardware store on the west, and the Rich and Stonehill brick (building) will be extended

over the lot making another business room. The brick building will be the largest so far erected in town, being 70x90, and will contain three business rooms.”

In 1901, Stonehill retired from business, leaving Rich as the sole proprietor.

Newspaper notes tell us that by May 31, 1901 building had begun; on June 21, the excavating for the cellar; and in July 1901, the laying of the foundation. During this time, ads continued to appear in the *Reporter* for the Citizen's Bank.

In the October 25, 1901 *Brook Reporter*, “The Citizen's Bank was moved into its new quarters Saturday, (Oct. 19). The new room is one of the finest banking rooms in the country. It was quite a job to remove the nine-ton safe from the old vault and place it in the new, and it took some pretty hard work with block and tackle.” A block and tackle system is two or more pulleys with rope or cable threaded between them to lift heavy loads.

By 1902, J.D. Rich had sold the lot and new building to Jack Esson, who then sold title to The Bank of Brook, owners Esson, John Bennett Lyons and George Turner.

In May of 1902, an article stated, “The Bank of Brook has torn out the partition in the banking room and enlarged it considerably and improving the interior in other ways.” This may have been when the teller cages were added. If you stand in the building today and imagine it being two rooms instead of one, there would not have been very much room for a growing banking business.

The bank's name would change in 1924 to the State Bank of Brook, and to Community State Bank in 1932, but it would remain at 127 W. Main until 1963, when a new building was constructed at 224 W. Main. You will find the history of the Community State Bank elsewhere in this edition.

The Renovations Begin

Eric and Liz are true believers in preserving history. Their hard work and deter-



Eric and Elizabeth Phegley, owners of Brook Community Breakfast, Brook.

mination to bring the interior of 127 W. Main back to its original beauty took about a year-and-a-half. When they stripped away the many years of floor coverings, they found beautiful maple hardwood floors. The floor revealed obvious signs of repetitive use by patrons of the bank traversing from the entrance to the teller windows, these locations still clearly visible by depressions in the floor. The tin ceiling is original and was returned to pristine condition; the heating radiators used throughout the century remain the heating source in 2021.

After removing original plaster that surrounded the vault area of the bank, brick walls were revealed. Eric told me they were 20" thick. Of course, they were, this was the vault area. The entire vault area has two compartments. At one time each had their own access via vault doors. The largest area has built-in shelving that are sturdy enough to hold gold bars; the smaller area can be seen from the front of the bank, where the 9-ton New Mosler Corliss Bank Safe was placed in 1901 and remains there today. The west wall was built around the old vault, so this was likely the last portion of the building to be completed. Eric has exposed the anchors for the rods that are in place that brace the walls of the vault – a true testament to the strong bones of this building.

Their added collection of authentic advertising signs and business memorabilia, relevant to the Brook community along with photographs from past eras of the town are hung on the original plaster walls. Each photograph with its own story.

Eric and Liz approached the resurrection of 127 West Main Street with respect for its history and an obligation to preserve as much of the interior features as possible. Mission accomplished I would say. They have added furnishings that reflect the era of the



Directors of the Bank of Brook pose in front of their building, pre-1911. Lr, Amos Agate, W. E. Harry, John Haynes, Thorpe Beagley, Bennett Lyons, Ben Lowe, John B. Lyons, Chas. Lyons.

old bank, but the feature item is a handmade table in the center of the dining area. It was made from a walnut tree that stood in his brother's yard. The logo for Brook Community Breakfast with their motto: "Breakfast You Can Bank On", designed by Liz's father is displayed at the table's center.

The façade of the building is how it appeared in 1902. The window glass is modern, but the view of Main Street is fantastic. You can almost hear the clip-clop of horses' hooves and the whining of the Model-T as they clamored east and west down Main Street.

Grand Opening

Gregory Myers of the *Newton County Enterprise* wrote a feature article when the café opened in September, 2019. It gives a prospective of the business from the owners, Eric and Liz Phegley:

"BROOK - When Eric and Elizabeth Phegley purchased the building at 127 W. Main Street in downtown Brook several years ago, they had no idea that one day they would be starting up a small breakfast café, called Brook Community Breakfast.

Eric said, "When we originally bought the property, it was an apartment building, we had owned it for about five years when we

lost some tenants and decided to do a major remodel on it. I had a feeling that the building had a tin ceiling and when I discovered it, I knew what we needed to do."

"He came back home and convinced me into opening a breakfast place," laughed Elizabeth.

"With a vision in mind, it took a year and a half to completely finish the remodeling, and the end product maybe even better than the original vision.

"With the tin ceiling gleaming down from the top, the exposed brick with vintage memorabilia hanging on the walls, the resurfaced original hardwood floors, and the belt-driven ceiling fans, the atmosphere is vintage industrial atmosphere unique to downtown Brook.

"We have had some patrons that have told us that this is something they would see in Chicago and not something they would expect to see in Brook," said Elizabeth.

"Most of the remodeling work was done by Eric, who owns a construction company with the help of many friends and family. However, Eric is also the main cook for the café that offers a full breakfast menu that features omelets, skillet, daily fresh doughnuts, and cinnamon rolls, biscuits and gravy made from scratch, and the house specialty called "The Vault" - which is a take on the building formerly being the home to the Bank of Brook and the Community State Bank. Another unique twist to the menu is smoked sausage in different menu items.

"That is how we came up with our name of Brook Community Breakfast instead of Brook Community Bank, and the vault is visible inside along with a couple of very old safes," added Eric. "This building has so much history, we want to recreate a photo that was taken out front of the building in 1920 when it was the Bank of Brook to

show that 100 years later the building is still being used just in a different capacity. It also added to the making of our slogan 'Breakfast You Can Bank On.' We are the owners, but we will be working here each day it is open, that is how small businesses can really make it when the owners are involved."

"The couple wanted to open a breakfast spot for several reasons including family ties to the area, Eric's love of cooking breakfast, and to bring some more life to downtown Brook.

"I have always done the breakfast cooking and it is what I like to cook," added Eric.

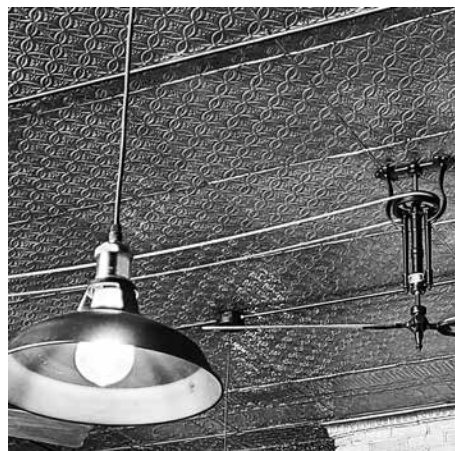
"Plus, we try to buy most of our stuff from local places including our meat which comes from the Brook Locker. Everything is cooked to order to make sure everything is at its freshest."

"For Elizabeth, her great grandparents used to own Brown's General Store in Foresman. Her parents bought it and ran it for a few years before selling it.

"My father grew up in this area, so while we do live in Rensselaer, we do have family history here."

"For now, the couple will focus on the breakfast side but adding lunch is not out of the question at some point in the future.

Continued on page 12 >



Left, the original plaster wall displays photographs of a bygone era of the Brook community. Center, the ornate tin ceiling is seen throughout the dining area; Period-style ceiling fans and lighting were added, reflecting the industrial age of the 1900s. Right, the shot-gun style of the building was common in many businesses throughout Newton County. This may be one of the last shotgun styles buildings of the 1900s still in use today in Newton County that showcases and utilizes the majority of the original design and décor of the era.

12 The Newcomer

> Continued from page 11

"It is not a matter of if we will add lunch it's a matter of when," said Eric.

"Brook Community Breakfast is open Tuesday through Saturday from 5 a.m. to 1 p.m. and on Sundays from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"We just want to give a special thanks to all of our family and friends who have helped us so much to get to this point," added Eric. "I also think people need to remember to support their small local businesses, especially during a time like this."

Updates 2021: They now have a full-time cook, David, and Eric only cooks on the weekends; they now open at 6 a.m.

A Bit About Vaults

In the photo on the right, exposed brick surrounds the front part of the vault area that holds a safe.

Vaults were built as custom orders. The vault is usually the first aspect of a new bank building to be designed and built. The manufacturing process begins with the design of the vault, and the rest of the bank is built around it. The vault manufacturer consults with the customer to determine factors such as the total vault size, desired shape, and location of the door.

Bank vaults are typically made with steel-reinforced concrete. This material was not substantially different from that used in construction work. It relied on its immense thickness for strength. An ordinary vault from the middle of the 20th century might have been 18 in (45.72 cm) thick and was quite heavy and difficult to remove or remodel around.

A Bit About the New New Mosler Corliss Bank Safe

The style of safe seen on the right at Brook Community Breakfast is known as a cannon-ball safe. The outer rim of the interior of the safe is decorated with gold leaf. It gets its name from its unique round shape and sturdy design. These safes were so well constructed that they were considered to be robber-proof and so impenetrable that it could even withstand an explosion.

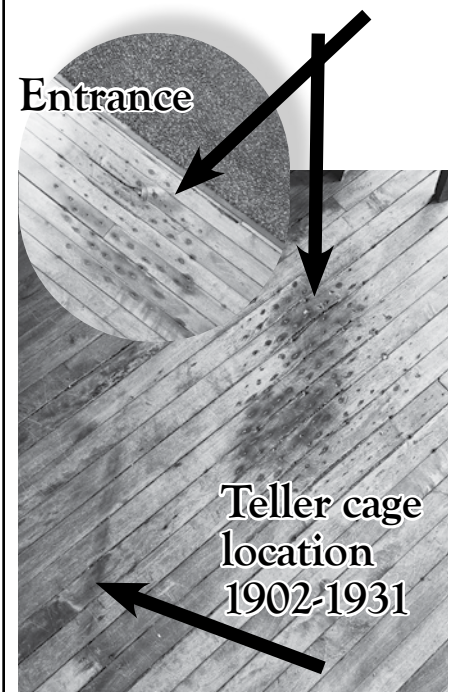
On the outside of the safe door is a combination lock which opens the safe. The mechanism for this lock was located on the core of the door (metal box in photo on right). After the door was unlocked, a crank would turn the inner core to open the door to the deposit area of the safe.

Safes were often elaborately decorated with golden paint and hand-jeweling since they were usually displayed in banks for all patrons to see. This was to reassure the depositors that their money was "safe" inside the latest locking mechanism at the time. This may explain the location of the vault at Brook Community Breakfast.

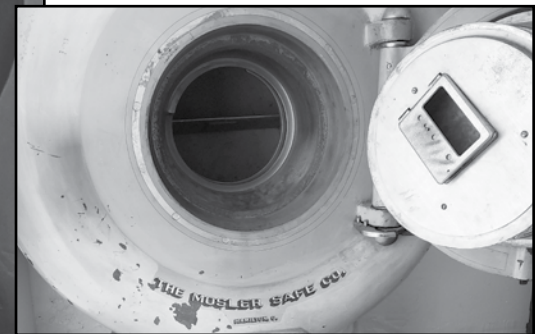
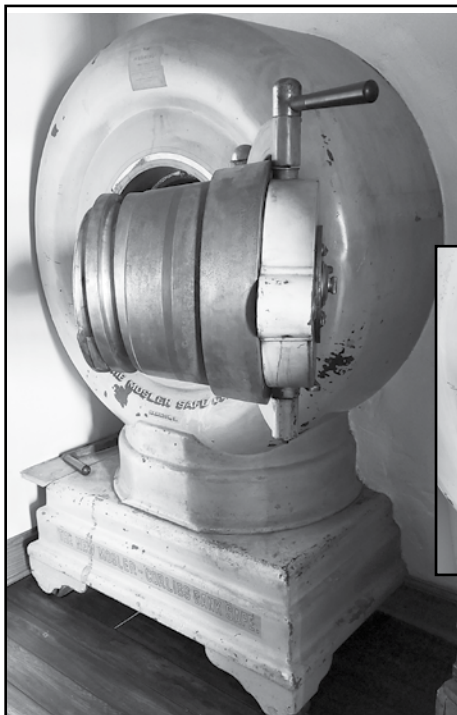
The Corliss Safe Company was founded in 1878 by William Corliss, an industrialist with a background not in lock and safe making but in steam engine construction. His grand vision and financial wherewithal made Corliss Safe an instant success. The Corliss signature design



The consistent flow of traffic into the Bank of Brook left depressions in the floors, shown here at the entrance and in front of where the teller cage was located, indicated by the long dark mark..



What looks like holes and the dark area are markings left from previous renovations in an attempt to level out the floor. Filler was used and then stapled down. Phegley removed the staples but left the depressions as they were, as he feels it is part of the history of the building, and wants to share this with his customers.



offered no corners, edges, rivets, or welds for criminals to exploit. Information about the vault and safe were results of internet searches.

I encourage everyone to stop by and discover a bit of the building history - oh, stay for breakfast too! Special thanks to Eric and Liz for their help with this article. Research sources: "Brook, Iroquois and Washington Township Sesquicentennial Collection, 1856-2006"; *The Brook Reporter*, 1900-1902; *Newton County Enterprise*, September 2019; Wikipedia.

Hancock's Variety Store and Funeral Home of Morocco

By Beth Bassett

The publication of a full-page ad in the *Morocco Courier* on September 28, 1950, announcing a grand remodeling sale for Hancock's Variety Store was a milestone in the history of the pioneer Morocco firm. It was published in the September 28, 1950 edition of the *Morocco Courier*, along with an article about the history of the store. By 1950 it was operated by Tom Hancock, son of V. H. Hancock who established the store in 1915.

I have many fond memories of this store from my childhood which spanned from between the 1960s-70s. The penny candy bins that surrounded the cash registers; the long aisles of tables and shelves holding all types of household goods; the center aisles where you found office supplies; the toy department in the back; the clothing departments on the east side of the building. Along that east wall was also an entrance to the funeral home, which to a small child was very inviting, yet scary all at the same time. How many remember ducking behind those curtains to peek into the darkness behind them? I think I took about five steps and then exited stage right, quickly.

Tom Hancock's son, Tom, recently posted a photograph, published here of his father and employees in front of the variety store. It is possible that it was taken at the time of this remodeling sale. I had saved a copy of the above-mentioned article many years ago for later consideration in the *Newcomer*, and this photo reminded me of that article. Here is the history it reveals.

"The present operation (1950) can well be classed as a junior department store, offering to the busy shoppers an opportunity to purchase practically all of their needs, with the exception of groceries, under one roof.

"In scanning the files of the *Courier* for the year 1940, we came across the following news story, which we consider appropriate for this occasion:

"This year marks the 25th Anniversary of one of Morocco's leading business enterprises - Hancock's Variety Store.

"V. (Victor) H. Hancock came to Morocco in 1915 and established a small business in a room only 12.5 feet wide. It was on the site of their present store, and about one-fourth as large. For many years, the business was known as The Annex.

"In 1918 it became evident that such cramped quarters were far too inadequate for a growing concern, then only three years old. In that year, Mr. Hancock acquired the space next door to The Annex, then occupied by *The Courier*. The latter moved one door west, forcing the bakery next to it still farther down the street.



This photograph appeared on Tom Hancock, Jr.'s facebook page. Hancock's Variety Store is located on the north side of State Street, left. Front to back on that side of the street you will see Castongia's John Deere, selling Frigidare and DeLaval products, then Hancock's Variety Store and Funeral Home (brick). Across the street you will see the *Morocco Courier* location, (rectangle sign above doors). This photo is circa 1940s and may be a Memorial Day parade.

"Also, in 1918 a grocery department was added to the business, and it was not until 1928 that "The Annex" became strictly a variety store. In that year, the store became a member of the Ben Franklin chain of home-owned store and has the distinction of being one of the first to join forces with this nationally known organization.

"From 1915 to 1930 Mr. Hancock was in partnership with W. J. Wright, and the furniture and funeral business were carried on in connection with the variety store next door. Then in 1933, three years after the partnership was dissolved, the furniture was removed, and the building which had served as space for furniture display was remodeled

to become a funeral chapel.

"As far as can be determined, there are now only four concerns in Morocco older than Hancock's store and still operating under the same name they held when Mr. Hancock established his business. These are Alex Cassell, Peoples Drug Store, Julius Cohen, and Martin's Hardware. In celebration of their anniversary, Hancock's are staging a gigantic sale - the largest in their history."

In articles published in the "Morocco Sesquicentennial Collection, 2002," we have a more defined timeline for the store.

Louis. F. Porter occupied the room east of the *Courier* office beginning in 1890. He conducted his

Continued on page 14 >



Left, Harold and Ethel Purdy, Opal Dowty, Tom Hancock. Note the BFL logo on window banners? That stood for Ben Franklin League. Also note the hats for \$1.98 on the left. This may have been taken the same time the *Courier* article appeared, September, 1950.

14 The Newcomer

> Continued from page 13

undertaking, furniture, notions, and jewelry business there until 1914 when he sold the business to J. H. Knickerbocker. He remained in business there until mid-1915 when he sold his interests to W. J. Wright of Rensselaer. Knickerbocker moved from the Rice farm prior to its destruction in a tornado to Sullivan, Illinois.

About the same time, Elmer Rust and Ernest Russell rented one of the rooms next to Knickerbocker when Mr. Ahern, owner of Neher's, decided not to open his business there. Rust and Russell stocked it with clothing, furnishings, shoes, and groceries and became known as the Annex.

Wright announced that the furniture and racket (variety) store would be under the supervision of his brother-in-law Victor H. Hancock, an experienced store man from Kansas, Missouri. W. J. Wright's sister, Florence was Hancock's wife. Wright would devote his attentions to the undertaking business and had purchased a brand-new automobile hearse.

By 1918 a shuffling of business locations on what was known as "the *Courier* block" allocated Hancock more space, expanding his store. It was at this time he added groceries.

A 1928 *Courier* article states "the W. J. Wright store is closing out their grocery business this week to engage in the variety business on a large scale. This began the alignment with the Ben Franklin chain, who did not allow groceries to be handled with their variety goods.

The *Courier* office relocated in 1936 across the street, to its final location, Mr. Wright then acquired the old *Courier* office and the location east of that, George Flowers' Bakery and incorporated into the variety store, retaining the name of Annex.

By 1930 Hancock was sole proprietor of the store and the funeral business. By 1950, we know that Victor's son Tom was operating both businesses and retained ownership until the 1980s.

Tom Hancock and his wife Eleanor retired to Florida by the early 1970s. In the 1980s the business burned and was the final chapter of Morocco's beloved "dime store." The exact time that he retired and sold the Funeral Home and Variety Store is unknown, perhaps at the same time. A hint may be that Pat Cardwell and his family arrived in the Morocco community in 1973 assuming the duties of local funeral home director.

We've published the
Newcomer Since 1994
- Catch up with old editions
at our website:
www.ingenweb.org/innewton

Roselawn Methodist Church History

The Roselawn Methodist Church was organized in 1882. In 2021, they will celebrate 140 years in the community. In 1982, Lydia Atkinson, the Lincoln Township correspondent for the *Morocco Courier* wrote about the early history of the church. This detailed account of the church's beginnings reveals much history and is reprinted below:

Roselawn Methodist Church Marking 100th

By Lydia Atkinson

The Roselawn United Methodist Church will, on July 31 and August 1 of this year celebrate its 100th birthday. The following is a brief history of the church. Special thanks to Miss Wilma Massie who compiled the data for the history.

Ten-year-old Clara Boyle was staying with the country store owner's wife on that cold wintery day in 1882 when two strangers appeared and asked about lodging accommodations. The storeowner had gone by horse and wagon to Momence to replenish his stock.

The store was situated in a vast area of rangeland which had been divided in 1872. Lincoln Township was formed, and a Mr. Aaron Wilson became the first trustee.

The strangers were Lon Craig and Orlando Rose. They had purchased a tract of land that was to be Roselawn where they would have a store employing 14 clerks.

Their store was across the street from what is now the B and C Cycle Shop. (1982).

The founders realized that a town was not at its best without a church and Lot 1, Block 6 was set aside for a church. Residents were invited to a meeting in a schoolhouse on the north-west corner of Ind. 10 and Ind. 55 to plan and organize a church.

The church was known as the Roselawn Society of Chicago District of German Conference of the Methodist Episcopal Church of Newton County in the state of Indiana.

Contributions of money, lumber and labor were pledged. Timber was donated by local residents. Loads of timber donated were taken to the sawmill and converted into lumber. This lumber was used for a major part of the church building which is still being used with the addition of a foundation.

J. R. Mulder was the first Sunday school superintendent. The first pastor was Civil War veteran Rev. Charles C. Ball.

At that time oyster stew suppers were given in homes to raise money for the church. The congregation was ashamed of Rev. Ball's appearance and so the proceeds of the suppers were earmarked for a new suit for him. However, when Rev. Ball was given the money, he bought calves with it, thinking that was better use of the money.

The unmarried girls made aprons to wear at the oyster stew suppers. They also made matching bow ties to their aprons and were sealed in an envelope. The young men would select an envelope and match the tie to the corresponding apron and treat the girl wearing it to the \$1 oyster stew supper.

Other fund-raising included box socials and pie sales by the Ladies Aid group. These ladies would pick wild berries added to their baked pies and sold them to raise money for the church.

The first musical instrument in the church was a reed organ, paid for with money earned at a fund-raising supper.

During the early years of the church, rows of hitching posts graced the north side of the lot and eight or ten wagons or buggies were often hitched there on Sunday morning.

On August 4, 1957, the church celebrated its 75th anniversary with an all-day celebration. At that time the church was on a circuit with Tefft and Kniman and was known as the Kankakee Valley Parish. The Rev. Duane Hutchinson was the pastor. A carry-in dinner was held out-of-doors as was the program. Mr. and Mrs. Milford Bingham, Lake Village, loaned the church their organ for the occasion. Shirley Cox presided at the organ and Myrl Hanley played the piano. Music was furnished by the Newton County Chorus, a former pastor and his wife and Miss Wilma Massie. Instrumental music was furnished by Phillip and Clifford Cox, Lana Korth (Wheatley) and Joanne Bruechet (Swart).

Three of the children who attended the original Sunday School 75 years earlier were at the program. They were Miss Maggie Mulder, daughter of the first Sunday School superintendent; Miss Clara Boyle, who was mentioned at the beginning of this story and the daughter of one of the original trustees, and William Florer.

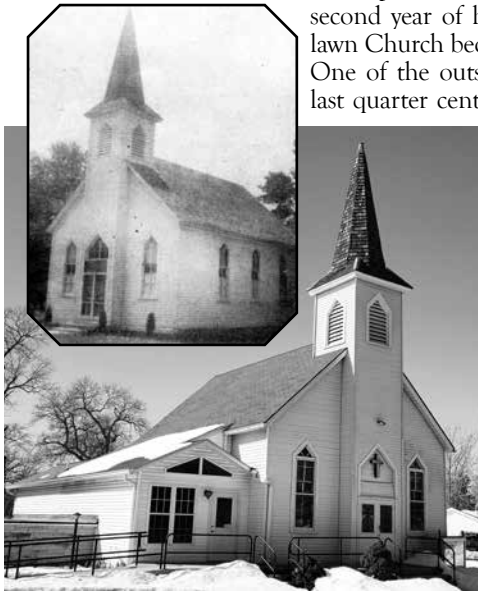
The Mulder home was located where the Bob and Carol Brown home and B and C Cycle Shop is now located. The Boyle home was located where the Albert and Carol Hanley home is now.

The Rev. Harold Bell Wright, Michigan City, and a recent guest pastor at the church served two terms as pastor of the church.

During his ministry, a Sunday school attendance contest was held, and the reward was a ride in his airplane. The Sunday school had almost perfect attendance during that period.

In 1967, the Roselawn-Tefft-Kniman Circuit was changed to the Roselawn-Mt. Ayr Circuit.

The Rev. Dennis Morros has been pastor since 1976 and during the second year of his ministry, the Roselawn Church became a charge by itself. One of the outstanding events in the last quarter century of the church history was Operation Farm Project which evolved when the church decided to start a God's Acre program to raise money for a building program.



Inset: early photo; bottom, church in 2021.

On May 10, 1959, trustees Walt Mak, Robert Hanley, Darrell Korth, the late Ray Cox, Harold Severs and James Fork signed a lease with Pembroke Farm owners Mr. and Mrs. Emmett LaRue, Rensselaer, for the 125-acre farm on the

Jasper-Newton County Line.

Six days later the project began with the buzzing of 19 farm tractors. Some of those participating in the event were John and Peter Knapp, the late Clyde Hanley, Max Korth, Theron Coates, Jr., Theron Coates, Sr., Len Mak, Jack Severs, Frank Albright, Darrell and Don Korth, Walt Mak, Bobby Hanley, Lloyd Nordstrom, John Robbins, Donnie Mauck, Tim Cox, Darry Korth and Denny Severs. Farm manager was Bob Hanley.

There were donations of money, soybeans and seed corn, fertilizer and gasoline and diesel fuel. Some of those donating were Jim Hockney, Al Johnson, the Villanovas, Roy and Bunny Granger, the Robert Hanleys, the Harold Severs, the Walt Maks, Mount Miller, Herman Knapp, Bill Korth and Art Walstra.

A kitchen and dining room were set up in the basement of the Walt Mak home and the WSCS prepared food there and workers were brought in in relays to the feast of fried chicken, noodles, buttered corn, spinach, green beans, cole slaw, mashed potatoes and gravy, hot rolls and homemade butter, jam, pickles, cake, pie, tea, and coffee.

When Emmet LaRue passed away, he left his half of the farm to the church.

In 1959, the trustees received permission to go ahead with building plans and work on the educational unit began. When it was time to paint one of the painters was William Florer, one of the first youths to attend the church when it began in 1882. He was in his mid-nineties. While several of the trustees had been attending a meeting to get permission to go ahead with the building. Jack Severs, with his bulldozer, was at the church site and had everything ready for the contractors to start laying block when the trustees returned with permission to build.

Operation Farm Project has continued but now the farm is rented out.

Easter breakfasts cooked and served by the men of the church following the Easter Sunrise service were begun as well as the practice of having Easter lilies on the chancel rail.

The sanctuary has been re-modeled. The roof and steeple were re-shingled. The church has been painted and resided and a lighted cross was placed on the front of the church in 1980.

A Children's Methodist Youth Fellowship was organized in 1980 under the leadership of Charles and Loretta Hamilton and assisted by their two sons. The children earn all the money they spend for recreation and for food baskets for less fortunate families. Their project this year is to help the missions.

A special addition to the Sunday School has been the Toddlers Classes which has had the best attendance of any class since Sunday School began.

A food pantry has been organized where food is collected for the needy.

Mrs. Marilyn Anthony, Lafayette, recently donated a console organ.

The kitchen was remodeled this year.

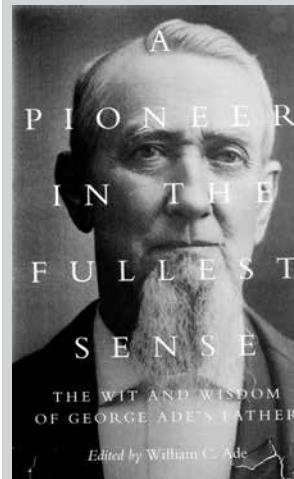
A past pastor, the Rev. W.D. Archibald, recalled that the church was one of those numerous small churches called Ladies Aid Churches where the Ladies Aids earned the money to support the church. It is no longer the custom.

That the church is still standing, alive and thriving is a tribute to the builders and to those past Aid Ladies and to the present congregation and pastor, church officials said.

The church will have a centennial carnival on July 31 with an old-time square dance exhibit, music by Kenny Stone and the Kin Folks, Sparky the Clown, a cake walks, games, food and beverages. The Newton County Homemakers Chorus will sing.

New Newton County History Book Available ...

**A Pioneer In The Fullest Sense
The Wit and Wisdom of George Ade's Father**



Edited by William C. Ade
Ade Royalties & Publishing

"A Pioneer in the Fullest Sense" chronicles the life and times of John Ade, the father of George Ade, one of America's greatest playwrights and humorists. Written largely by John himself with contributions from his son George and also editor and great-great-grandson William C. Ade, this volume offers a rare and entertaining glimpse into life on the Indiana prairie in the 1800s; everything from busting the sod upon which to build a new town to establishing a county government to sending local sons off to fight in the Civil War to surviving the brutality of winter on the frontier; these and many more stories are told through the eyes of John Ade, an immigrant, a patriarch, a community leader . . . a true self-made man whose wit and wisdom will serve as an inspiration to anyone wishing to understand what it was like to settle the Indiana prairie and build not just a new town, but a uniquely American life.

\$49.95

Depending upon where you purchase your copy, proceeds will be dedicated to the Newton County Historical Society or The George Ade Preservation Committee. Pick up or mail.

Newton County Historical Society | 219-474-6944
make checks payable to:

Newton County Historical Society;
add \$6 shipping and mail to:
P. O. Box 303, Kentland, Indiana 47951

Brook-Iroquois-Washington Public Library | 219-275-2471
make check payable to:

George Ade Historic Preservation Commission
for shipping add \$6 and mail to:
P. O. Box 155, Brook, Indiana 47922

Pages of the Past

Excerpts taken from the Newton County Enterprise Winter, 1921 | By Janet Miller

Newton County

January Meeting of County Commissioners. At the January meeting of the County Board of Commissioners at the Court House, Monday, George H. Hillis presented his credentials as commissioner from the third district to succeed himself and drew the seat at the foot of the table, the members of the board taking their place according to seniority. In the reorganization of the Board, Sumner H. Dickinson was elected president, Mr. Dickinson and Jephtha Staton, being the hold-over members. R. R. Cummings was reappointed as county attorney.

Inauguration of Governor McCray Kentland Citizen Becomes

Chief Executive of Indiana Monday

Warren T. McCray became the twentieth Governor of Indiana at an impressive inaugural ceremony held at the State House in Indianapolis on Monday morning at 11 o'clock (January 10).

One of the largest crowds that ever gathered at the State House was assembled to witness the ceremonies and included a number from this place. In addition to the members of Gov. McCray's family, there were present Mrs. Frank A. Comparet, the Rev. Charles L. Harper, Mr. and Mrs. James D. Conklin, Mr. and Mrs. Charles A. Rinard and Miss Virginia Rinard, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Lowe, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Roe, Mrs. James W. White, Miss Fern Ale, Amos D. Morris, S. S. Davis, Rev. N. V. Andrews, D.S. Fletcher, Otis Galey, John Lowe, Fred Friedline, E.W. Towers and William D. Littlejohn, besides friends of Gov. McCray's from other parts of the county.

The Newton County delegation were given seats near the speaker's stand, and opposite was a reserved section for members of the Indiana Society of Chicago. Members of the Senate and House, Judges of the Supreme and Appellate Courts, state officers and visitors from all over Indiana crowded the large corridor to its capacity. The inaugural ceremony was presided over by Governor Goodrich, who made a brief address in laying down the reins of government. (*Much more to this article.*)

New Column: "SPORT WORLD"

Season 1921, by Joe Fletcher

Headlines only-more information available.

- Kentland American Legion Defeated, Lose First Game of the Season to Goodland Legion, Thursday evening; Lose Tuesday Game to Goodland Legion by a Score of 16-10;
- Blue and White Win Over Goodland, Local High School Trims Goodland by only Two Point Margin, Players for Goodland: Rider, Adams, Stack, Marshino, and Wash-

burn, Players for Kentland: Harper, Stichnoth, Strole, Staton and Dieter;

- High School Quintet Trounces Fowler Five. Game Played at Fowler Saturday Evening Results in 20-5 Victory for the Blue and White;
- Kentland High School Defeats Raub 39-5;
- Kentland American Legion Walloped by Donovan Thursday Here, Illinois Quintet Too Fast for Local Legion-Defeated 42-6-Local players: Rankin, Arnold, Hassett, Sprowl, Couch;
- Brook A. A. Defeats American Legion, Long too Fast for Local Boys, Runs in 16 points for Brook. Brook players: Bupp, Long, L. Staton, Lyons, Carroll, Herriman, Ekstrom;
- Kentland-Ambia Contest Results in Fast Game, Local Blue and White Squad Stage Fastest Game Ever Played on Kentland Floor. 16-12 Victory for Kentland;
- Girls Win! The High School Girls' Basketball Five won over the Ambia five by a score of 8-3. This game was played as a curtain raiser to the Kentland-Ambia contest Friday night.

Kentland

Mr. and Mrs. McCray Given Reception. The members and friends of the Presbyterian Church tendered Mr. and Mrs. McCray and family a farewell reception Sunday evening. It was prearranged that the congregation meet at the close of the evening church service and go to the McCray home to formally to bid the McCrays farewell before their departure for Indianapolis to become the first citizens of Indiana.

Ora Hedrick Post, American Legion, have located their headquarters in the southwest basement room of the Court House. The walls have been decorated and the room furnished with tables and chairs, and the boys will now have commodious and comfortable quarters.

Dr. E. S. Hess has sold a half interest in his rendering plant north of town, to R. F. Heaton of Scircleville, Ind. The plant will still be operated under the name Kentland Reduction Co. by Messrs. Hess and Heaton. The many friends of Mr. and Mrs. Heaton are glad to learn of their return to Kentland.

Emory Towers has been made secretary-treasurer of the Newton County Stone Company and will have this work this coming year in addition to the increased amount of work that will be thrown on him by reason of W. T. McCray's absence at the state capital. Mr. Towers will be Mr. McCray's personal representative here in all the latter's business affairs. He has served in the capacity of private secretary to Mr. McCray the past two years, and as a consequence is ultimately familiar with all the details of the cattle, farming and other affairs Mr. McCray is interested in, and is singularly

competent to take over the work of his superior. Mr. Towers will continue his office in the rear of the Discount and Deposit Bank.

Mt. Ayr

Miss Lucy Harris, a teacher in the Mt. Ayr School and Mr. Burt Johnston surprised their many friends by being married on December 30th. They have rented the Charley Bengston property just east of the depot where they will be at home to their friends in the near future.

On Sunday afternoon two autos, both Fords, collided at the corner southeast of town. A Mr. Cris of Star City and Lemona Hickman of Goodland were driving. Both cars were badly damaged and both drivers showed carelessness in not looking at the road ahead when approaching the corner. It was lucky no one was hurt and only the cars were damaged.

Mr. and Mrs. Jake Hostetler left Monday for Hanter, Louisiana, where Mr. Hostetler has a position on a dredge boat.

News from Northern Newton

Dr. C. M. Rice took his youngest son, Kilton, to a hospital in Chicago Sunday evening. The boy was injured seriously by a fall on the head a few days previous.

Michaels of Kniman has moved his family and lives in the I. N. Best property on the south side, vacated by Charles Burton recently. Mr. Michaels will have charge of the Babcock elevator here in the future.

Got Her Baby. Thayer Woman

Lowers Infant From Window in Suitcase

Chicago-January 14. Because she said she was told that her infant daughter could not be removed from a hospital here until a bill for medical attention had been paid, Mrs. Leonard V. Brooke, of Thayer, Indiana, lowered the child in a suitcase from a second story window of the institution to a relative waiting below. Mrs. Brooke said she had offered to pay part of the bill but did not have enough money to discharge the obligation in full. Physicians attending the infant, however, denied that payment in full was required before the infant could be removed from the hospital. The child was operated on for a defective spine.

Brook

Mr. and Mrs. J. D. Rich left on Tuesday for Indianapolis where Mr. Rich will take up his duties as Representative from the district in the state legislature. Mr. Rich goes with the confidence of the people back of him. They believe that he will do his best to represent them in a fair and wise way.

Hon. John B. Lyons Named Messenger Goes to Washington as Conveyor of Indiana's Electoral Vote

Indianapolis, Jan. 12 - John B. Lyons, Brook,

Ind. Representative of Tenth congressional district in the Indiana electoral college, was elected Monday to serve as special messenger to carry the official confirmation to Washington. The vote of the electoral college officially confirms President-elect Warren G. Harding's majority so far as Indiana is concerned. At his own expense Mr. Lyons offered to take two more members of the college with him to Washington as an honorary committee. John Barbazette, Terre Haute, and Lee B. Nusbaum, Richmond, were selected to accompany him.

Miss Caroline Kemp of Brook was buried in Fairlawn Cemetery Sunday afternoon. Deceased was an aunt of Eugene Murphy.

Goodland

Attorney A. D. Babcock of Goodland has been presented with a camp axe that was found on the battlefield of Tippecanoe. This axe was evidently one that either belonged to the Indians or one of Gen. Harrison's men. The Goodland museum has grown very rapidly in the last year. Mr. Babcock is still looking for arrow points, and anyone having any, and do not care for them, he would be pleased to receive them.

Country Home Burned. Sunday Morning Fire Destroys Home of William Bennett

The dwelling house on the farm of Frank Dietrick, across the road from the Neary schoolhouse on the south Goodland road, was burned to the ground at an early hour Sunday morning. William Bennett and family lived in the house and managed to save a good portion of their household goods. The origin of the fire is unknown.

Old Court Room Key. Now Reposes in the Babcock Museum in Goodland

While looking through an old desk in the Court House a few days ago Sheriff Gardner and Clerk Hosier, dug up a key to the old court room. Knowing Mr. Babcock was a practicing attorney in the old court house and was making a collection of "prehistoric" curios, they presented the key to him, and Auditor J. G. Davis made an affidavit as to it being genuine. Mr. Babcock has informed us that he has filed away the key and affidavit and a statement as to how it came into his possession, and in the

future, it will form a part of the greatest museum on earth.

**McClellan Township
Willis C. Davis and Wife Murdered
Horrible Tragedy Occurred
in McClellan Township Friday Morning**

Willis C. Davis, prominent farmer and assessor of McClellan Township, and his wife were murdered, and their home destroyed by fire to cover the crime, at an early hour on Friday morning of last week. The fire was discovered about six o'clock in the morning by their son, Ralph Davis, who lives on the same farm about a half mile distance. Mr. Davis gave the alarm and the neighbors hurried to the scene. Immediate search was begun for Mr. and Mrs. Davis, and their charred bodies were found lying side by side on a set of bed springs in the cellar, supposedly falling through with the bed as the floor burned away. The investigation is still in progress.

News from Colfax Community Center

The Colfax school has been very successful in serving hot lunches every day. The children are divided into five groups and each group brings enough for the entire school one day each week. The domestic science does the cooking and even the boys take part in the dish washing.

The boys have procured a coach to teach them the fundamentals of basketball and it is quite probable that Colfax will develop a team before spring.

Morocco Twelfth Annual Spelling Contest to be held at Public School

Building in Morocco Saturday, March 19

The county high school contest will be held in the high school assembly room of the Morocco building. A good program will be given during the periods of intermission when the spellers are permitted to rest. Rev. Elvin Daniels, pastor of the Christian Church of Monticello will be the pronouncer.



Newton County Home Economics Chorus

October 1954 Newton County Enterprise

The Newton County Home Economics chorus is an active group. They are called upon frequently to entertain at various functions over the county. They sang at the annual achievement day held at Kentland High School gym early this month. Members of the organization are first row, left to right: Mrs. Verne Longwith, Mrs. Winona Owenby and Mrs. Charles Burnside. Row two: Florence Bokma, Merle Hanley, and Rhoda Kuster. Row three: Mrs. Lloyd Blankenbaker, Mrs. Glenn Arbuckle, Mrs. John Robbins, and Mildred Ross. Row four: Mrs. Lillian Floyd, Mrs. Hurley Beasy, Mrs. Elaine Patterson and Mrs. Dorothy Arbuckle. Row five: Mrs. Ora Cooper, Gretta Lintner and Mrs. William Mauck. Top row: Mrs. Walter Brunton, Mrs. Clay Baird and Mrs. Wesley Rheude. (Baumer photo).

Do You Know?

By Janet Miller - Answers on page 18

Newton County has five incorporated towns. Can you name who founded each town and what year they were founded? Which town is the oldest?

1. Brook
2. Goodland
3. Kentland
4. Morocco
5. Mt. Ayer

History of the St. Augusta Church in Lake Village

Written by Edwin Jarvis, 2020
Submitted by Melodie Barone

St. Augusta Church was dedicated on October 23, 1977, by then Bishop Raymond Gallagher after an extensive renovation that took three years to complete. Located on a piece of land donated by Ray and Clare Churchill back in 1947, it was the result of the efforts of many people, most notably Father Charles Scholl's pastorate, which lasted from 1957 to 1970, which created a parish with 50 households at his retirement at age 83.

In 1970, Father William Higi became administrator, commuting from Lafayette to Lake Village every weekend. He was assisted with CCD development by Sister Mary Jane Francis. By 1974, the doubling of the size of the original St. Augusta was begun, and by 1977, St. Augusta had 147 households.

Originally, in 1910, the Adolph Yott family had engaged Goodland's priest, Father Ignatius Zirker, for occasional home Masses at Lake Village. After a year, he was replaced by Father Henry Hoerstman from Lowell, who celebrated Mass monthly. In 1915, a former schoolhouse was purchased and remodeled into St. Agnes Church. A 1916 First Communion photo shows 13 children from four families with Father Hoerstman. When Father Charles Scholl was the next pastor at Lowell, he said Mass at St. Agnes every other week. Unfortunately, St. Agnes Church did not survive the 1920s. The property was sold to the Lake Village Grange.

The Church returned to Lake Village in 1940, thanks to Father John Woods, who was then pastor of St. Theresa of Shelby. Sts. Augusta was his mission church. First mass were in the homes, and then eventually in the Lake Village School Gymnasium. With the land donated in 1947, construction began on St. Augusta, Father Woods continued "Mass in the gym" until 1957. However, progress on the building project was extremely slow.

On June 16, 1957, Father Charles Scholl returned to Lake Village as the first resident Catholic pastor of Lake Village. He found St. Augusta in disrepair. "Thirty-eight broken windowpanes, a leaky roof, a boarded-up door, water in the basement, and evidence that the building had served for some time as a bird sanctuary" were written in his notes at the time. Father Scholl went to work, getting things in useable condition. Using leftover furniture from other churches, only the tabernacle was new. The tabernacle is still in use today.

Father Scholl was 70 years old when he was assigned to St. Augusta, and worked until his retirement 13 years later, when Father



St. Augusta Church in Lake Village is located along S.R. 10, just east of the junction with U.S. 41.

Higi took over. He had set the foundation for St. Augusta Church.

Father Higi's productive tenure as administrator of St. Augusta flourished with his installation as the fifth Bishop of the Diocese of Lafayette in Indiana in 1984. He promptly assigned his longtime friend, Father Donald Gross, to be the second resident pastor. Father Gross purchased a nearby property for a rectory and additional church acreage, and the church continued to grow in size. Father Gross was succeeded by Father Michael Burchick in 1991, then Father Joseph Bruetsch arrived next, who was replaced by Father Michael McKinley in 1993.

Father McKinley hired a new secretary, (Sandi McCabe), established a new parish finance council, and began some needed interior ceiling and wall renovations. His successful pastorate lasted until 1997, when he was replaced by Father Ambrose Ziegler, who continued with some further renovations, notably an outdoor lighted announcement sign that was purchased by the Ladies' Guild.

Father John Cummings took over in the year 2000 and took the interior improvements literally to another level with a raised sanctuary and new custom furnishings thanks to more Ladies Guild fundraising. Bishop Higi dedicated the new alter on June 22, 2001. Bishop Higi remained as shepherd of the Diocese of Lafayette in Indiana for well over two decades, eventually being replaced by Bishop Timothy Doherty in 2010.

Benedictine Father Stephen Snoich began his pastorate in 2004. During his tenure the church roof was redone, and a new organ was installed. He remained until his health failed in 2012. Parishioners literally had to help him with a health crisis during Mass, as he was so dedicated to serving others. Parish secretary Sandi McCabe amazingly managed to find fill-in priests every weekend until help arrived in March 2013, when Father David

Hellman was assigned to serve both St. Augusta and St. Cecilia in DeMotte. Father Don Gross, now retired, assisted Father Dave every weekend with an early Mass at St. Augusta during his tenure as shared pastor.

During Father Dave's pastorate, parish secretary Sandi suddenly passed away in December 2014, and it was Father Don Gross who was invaluable in helping to "reboot" the parish office. A new secretary, Donna Prange, was hired by Father Dave in early 2015.

In July 2016, Father Martin Sandhage was assigned as full-time resident pastor of St. Augusta Church, and during his tenure major foundational repairs were made to the rectory and upgrades to the heating and air conditioning systems were made. Many replaces of the large windows on the north end of the church was also completed.

Father Mike McKinney, the first missionary pastor assigned to serve the combined Lake Village, DeMotte, Wheatfield pastorate, began his assignment in August 2020. He is assisted by Deacon Joe VanSchopen and many dedicated parishioners.

Answers to Do You Know?

By Janet Miller - Questions on Page 17

1. The town of Brook as we know it today was founded in 1866 by S. H. Benjamin.
2. The town of Goodland was founded in 1861 by William and Timothy Foster.
3. The town of Kentland was founded in 1860 by A. J. Kent.
4. The town of Morocco was founded in 1851 by John Murphey. Morocco is the oldest town.
5. The town of Mt. Ayr was founded in 1882 by Lewis Marion.

Salt: Tim Myers

by Jeff Manes | Originally published in June 2010

"Anyone who wants to be a can't-hack-it party-waist who wears their mamma's bra, raise their hand." (Everybody raises his hand). – From the film, "The Sandlot".

While flipping through Billy Watson's first edition Baseball Encyclopedia around 1970, I stumbled upon the fact that hall of famer Edgar "Sam" Rice of the Washington Senators was born in Morocco. I couldn't wait to tell my buddy, Tim Myers, who grew up in Morocco.

Today, Myers, 52, lives in the town I grew up in – Lake Village. He married a Lake Village girl, Cheryl Read, 25 years ago. They have raised four kids. Myers owns and operates the IGA supermarket in Roselawn.

Luke Appling's nickname?

"Old Aches and Pains," he said.

Bucky Dent's real first name?

"Russell."

During the mid and late '60s, the Chicago White Sox had a left-handed starting pitcher who would often pinch-hit because the Pale Hose offense was so anemic during that time frame.

"Gary Peters (yawn)."

Tim, you're still the best.

"When I was 3 or 4 years old, I started listening to Sox games on the radio with my dad. I remember hearing names like Nellie Fox and Yogi Berra and wondered what a fox and a bear had to do with baseball. That's when Dad had the Royal Blue Store in Morocco."

Tell me about the Royal Blue.

"Dad started working there in the late '40s; he bought the place in '55. It was next to the old M-O-R-O-K-O theater. I remember seeing a show there in the early 60s. I guess it was a happening place in the '50s."

Was your dad born in Morocco?

"No, A. D. (Tim often refers to his father, Allen, by his first and middle initials) was born in Crescent City, Illinois, near Watseka. He lived in Sheldon, Illinois, until he was about six."

"When my grandparents moved to Morocco, Dad had to take the first grade over. He said he didn't mind flunking because he didn't know any of the Morocco kids, and his brother was a year younger, so he got to be in his class."

That worked out nice.

"All good things come to an end."

What do you mean?

"Uncle Ernie flunked first grade, too."

Oh, well, they had one year together.

"When Dad was a junior, his fam-

ily moved to Kentland. He ended up being valedictorian of his class at A. J. Kent High School."

Not bad for a kid who failed first grade. Other early memories of Morocco?

"Jimmy Daddow had a cool place in downtown Morocco across the street from the Royal Blue. Jimmy was a saddle maker. Because of that, he had what was basically a fake horse. It did have real horsehair, a mane and a tail. At one time he probably fit saddles on it. A. D. would take me over to Jimmy's and set me up on Daddow's dapple."

Dapple; it must have been a gray "horse" with spots.

"Yeah, I think it was. I don't know much about horses."

Me either, I just like words.

"Jimmy had all kinds of neat items piled up all over the place but, because of the leather, it had a really unique, good smell. When I walk into a leather shop today, it reminds me somewhat of Jimmy's store, but it's not the same."

Sounds like something from another era.

"Jeff, I think Jimmy had been plying his trade since like World War I. I'd guess he was born in the 1890s. Anyway, while sitting up high on Daddow's dapple, I could read old hand-written signs that Jimmy had hung up on the walls. They'd say things like: "Absolutely No Credit!" or "Don't Spit On The Floor!" His store had a wooden floor. Daddow also sold steel traps, Redwing boots, shotgun shells, clay pigeons and all kinds of oddities."

Sandlot baseball.

"If you wanted to get a game started, you could always round up a number of kids just by riding your bike around Morocco. I feel bad for kids today."

Why?

"Because they didn't get to grow up in that '50s and '60s kind of atmosphere. Nowadays, most kids fiddle around with video games all day and night; they do a lot more things alone."

Yeah, I always had my mitt hanging from the handlebars of my bike during the summer. In the winter, we'd play hockey in the bayous of the Kankakee River.

"Jeff, at Jimmy Skinner's wake last month, I asked his brothers what happened to all of those T-shirts he had. Every day, Jimmy would show up at our ball games with a different plain, white T-shirt."

So?



Tim poses in front of a photo that was taken at the Morocco Royal Blue in the mid 1950s. Pictured on the left is his Dad, Allen then Mary Catherine Porter, Roger LaCosse, and Little Oscar, who was there on a promotional visit from Oscar Mayer meat company. The Oscar Mayer wiener mobile was parked outside!

"One day, he'd have No. 14 written on it with a black marker. He'd also have 'Banks' scrawled on the back of it. That day, his batting stance would emulate Ernie Banks. The next day, he'd be wearing a T-shirt with No. 26 on it and 'Williams' written on the back. Jimmy would bat left-handed that day and hit his spit with this bat while waiting in the on-deck circle, just like Billy Williams used to do. And the day after that, he'd wear No. 18 and crouch over the plate like Glenn Beckert. Jimmy was funny like that."

Sam Rice finished his 20-year career with a lifetime batting average of .322 and also amassed 2,987 hits. He was born in 1890 and died in 1974. Sometime during the 1980s the baseball complex in Morocco was named after him.

While trying out for the major leagues, Rice's wife, two children, siblings, parents, and family hired man all were killed by a tornado near the state line southwest of Morocco.

Tim Myers was an assistant baseball coach at North Newton for several years but gave it up this year so he could watch his son, Trace, play college baseball.

Community State Bank Celebrates 90 Years in the Brook Community

By Beth Bassett

In 2015, the Community State Bank underwent a major remodeling, which included adding space and updating the drive-through service. The locally owned bank has seen many changes throughout its lifetime, such as the location, the employees, directors, and adapting to the way their industry does business in general. But one constant has remained is that it is an integral part of the growth and prosperity of Brook and the community. In 2021, they are celebrating their 90th year.

Before I go any further, I urge you to look up the historical articles superbly written by Carol (Lawrence) Light in the 2006 publication of the history of "Brook, Indiana, Washington and Iroquois Township, A Sesquicentennial Collection." She did a tremendous job detailing the lives and activities of the town's founding fathers, which included members of her family, the Lyons and Lawrence families. The historical information I have compiled here came from her writings and information gleaned from other articles in the book.

The First Banks

Two banks appeared in 1893, the first called Bank of Brook, was owned and operated by Jack Esson, John Bennett Lyons and Gerald Turner. It was located in the west side of the building on Lot 5 of the Warr Addition, on the south side of Main Street, the third building west of Ward Plumbing and Heating today. The other bank, named the Citizen's Bank, opened in the present-day Wash-O-Quois Museum, and was started by J. D. Rich and Philip Stonehill in 1897. In 1901, it moved to their new building on 127 W. Main Street, on Lot 9 of the Warr Addition, the first building east of Hershman's Hardware on Main Street.

In 1895, Brook's newspaper, *The Up To Date*, printed an article about the businesses in the town at the time:

"Bank of Brook. In the fall of 1893, it was deemed necessary to establish a bank, and Messrs. Lyons, Turner and Esson opened to a general banking business, which has proved a great benefit to the businessmen as well as the farmers. There is plenty of capital behind this institution to enable the people to borrow all that is needed to carry them through a close time. They have a time lock safe and all the modern bank improvements. We find (Fred) Duffy Lyons in action in the capacity of cashier." Duffy Lyons was a son of John Bennett Lyons, Sr.

In 1901, the partnership of Rich and Stonehill broke up, resulting in the sale of the Museum and Citizen's Bank building.

In 1902, Jack Esson purchased the for-

mer Citizen's Bank building at 127 W. Main, and he along with partners Lyons and Turner moved the Bank of Brook to that location. It would remain here until 1930.

In 1907, Esson died, and in 1908, George Turner sold out his shares to the Bank of Brook. This left the ownership to Esson's heir, his daughter Ida, and her husband John Lawrence along with John Bennett Lyons, Sr. The day-to-day running of the bank was left to Lyon's son, John Bennett, Jr. The Bank of Brook became an integral part of the community, working with the local businesses, farmers, and residents to prosper and grow over the years. In 1924, the bank became the State Bank of Brook.

Hard Times

However, in the 1920s, when grain prices began to fall off, Fred "Duffy" Lyons, a partner in the Lyons, Rich, and Light Grain Company, began speculating on the grain market to cover his debts. He also borrowed money from the bank, working through his brother John Bennett, Jr., to the point that it ran the State Bank of Brook out of money, creating the necessity to close the bank in 1930.

Prior to the closing, however, John Bennett Sr., and John Lawrence did everything they could to prevent the closing of the bank. On December 17, 1930, the two met with a

bank examiner in Rensselaer to discuss their situation. The examiner told them that they could probably survive if they obtained a loan from a larger bank. The two set off for Chicago the next day to meet with bankers there. They were told that they could get a loan, however, they felt that it would simply be a stop-gap measure, and that it would be wiser to close the bank immediately.

Can you imagine the discussion on the way home between Lyons and Lawrence? Both were well-respected and active community members, with the bank being the hub of not only their lives, but the businesses, farmers, and residents. The board of directors were immediately called to a meeting upon their arrival back in town, and it was decided that they would close the doors the next day, December 19, 1930.

This sudden closure did prevent a run on the bank, but it left everyone who held deposits there, including the owners and employees of the bank, no access to them. The depositors were left with only the cash they had on hand.

Before matters were settled several years later, all the depositor's monies were returned at the cost of the fortunes of John Bennett Lyons, Sr., Ida and Jack Lawrence. John Bennett Lyons, Sr., was never blamed for the problems that his sons created. The



The bank reproduced the neon sign that hung on the building of the bank at 127 W. Main for many years, shown below. Today it hangs inside the lobby of the bank in Brook.



community remembered that because of him, Brook was a better place to live. Dressed in his swallow tailcoat, he was kindly, dignified man, known to all as "Dad." Lyons was instrumental in turning McKinley Park, property purchased by his father from the canal company, into a park and having a Civil War monument erected there, and he instigated the construction of the mausoleum in Riverside Cemetery, where he was laid to rest in November 1932. His sons "Duffy" and John Bennett, Jr., left town and did not return until they were interred at Riverside Cemetery in the mausoleum. In the end, all the land holdings of the Lyons and Lawrence families passed into receivership of the State Bank of Brook.

On January 2, 1931, an edition of *The Up To Date* published an article commending John Bennett Lyons, Sr., for his contribution to the community. In another item mentioned that plans were underway to organize a new bank in town. In the weeks that followed the closing in 1930, several Brook businessmen travelled to Chicago and talked with local bankers there to determine if a new bank could be opened in Brook.

Arrangements were made so that on January 31, 1931, Luther Lyons, the son of John Bennett Lyons, Sr.'s brother Aaron Lyons, was named receiver, or trustee, of the State Bank of Brook. Luther was the father of Ruth Lyons, who had recently married John Lawrence's son, Harry. Luther Lyons was the Lyons of Lyons and Hershman Hardware in Brook. Harry Lawrence, son of Ida and John

Lawrence was asked to return to his community and help organize the new bank. He was living in Ohio with his wife, the daughter of Luther Lyons, Ruth, and working for the National Cash Register Company.

On March 4, 1931, the first stockholders meeting was held in the library basement and 47 residents pledged \$30,000 to purchase stock to form a new bank. The former location of the State Bank of Brook at 127 W. Main Street was rented with the option to purchase in two years. Harry was asked to stay and run the bank.

His abilities to do this were limited, so he tutored under a family friend, Monroe Tubbs, who was the cashier at the bank in Cross Plains, WI. Harry followed him around for a week, noting how he handled transactions. In later years, Harry considered that week his banking school training

A New Legacy

The Community State Bank opened the doors in April 1931, under the leadership of Harry Lawrence. He would remain as president of the bank until his death in 1977.

In 1963, the bank had outgrown its building and a new building was erected across the street at 224 W. Main Street. Harry Lawrence was an integral part of the design of the new bank, fashioning it after the bank he trained in at Cross Plains, WI. In 1977, a new addition was added, and as well as more parking space. In 2014, upgrading and remodeling began once again, completed in 2015.

Banking transactions in 2021 are often

instantaneous - funds are withdrawn immediately from the accounts; loan applications are almost as quick. Not too many years ago once you wrote a check for purchases it would take a few days for it to clear the bank. At one time, counter checks were available in the bank lobby for customers to fill out for withdrawals. Before ink pens were available - checks written in pencil were accepted as legal tender by the bank.

Community State Bank celebrates its 90th year and continues to thrive as an integral part of the community, adapting to the every-changing technology for their customers and employees as well. The bank's tenacity is driven by the heart of their business - their customers who continue to support and depend upon their hometown bank.



Harry and Ruth (Lyons) Lawrence.



Harry Lawrence and his daughter Carol.



Top photo dated 2015, bottom 2021 of the Community State Bank in Brook.

Home Is Where Your Story Begins

George Zoborosky/Hayworth Families of Jackson Township by Nancy (Hayworth) Moore

The George Zoborosky Family

In late June of 1855 the ship "Rudolph" left Hamburg Germany, arriving in New York in late July. Listed as passengers were a "Jon Zaborowski" and Benjamin Geive", both from Geniewkowo in the Gnesen area of Posen Prussia (now Poland).

This record seems to indicate that that John Zoborosky and Benjamin Geesa came to the area to look the place over before moving with the family.

On April, 1858 the ship "Doctor Barth" left Hamburg Germany and arrived in New York on May 20, 1858. The passenger list included: John Zoborosky age 36 yrs. 2 mos.; Anna Zoborosky age 36 yrs. 3 mos.; Michael Zoborosky age 24 yrs. 6 mos.; Marianna Zoborosky age 20 yrs. 5 mos.; Emilie Zoborosky age 18 yrs. 8 mos.; Martin Zoborosky age 16 yrs. 9 mos.; Joseph Zoborosky age 14 yrs. 1 mo.; George Zoborosky age 8 yrs.; John Zoborosky age 6 yrs. 2 mos.; Augusta age 2 yrs. 2 mos.; Joseph Zoborosky 56 yrs. 3 mos.; Wilhelmina Zoborosky 56 yrs. 9 mos.; Christof Plath 33 yrs. 4 mos.; Anna Plath 25 yrs. 7 mos.

All list their home as being Giniewkowo, Prussia. John (1806 -1889) and Anna (1806 -1884) not only brought all nine of their chil-

dren with them but also John's mother and father. Joseph (1780-1873) and his wife Wilhelminea and their son-in-law Christopher Plath, husband of Anna Michalina "Malinda" Zoborosky.

The family lived in a log cabin in Jackson Twp. in Newton County. The cabin was located east of my house in the woods. George married his brother Michael's widow Minerva (McCullough) Zoborosky (daughter of Solomon and Hanna McCullough) on Oct 19, 1867, 13 months after the death of his brother Michael. Michael and Minerva had two sons William and Walter. George and Minerva had nine children. As the family grew, they built the first part of my house, then built two more sections later. Dick Zoborosky told us that when Ben his brother was a baby (born in Sept 20, 1880) they moved into the new home.

The Zoboroskys built a dance hall called the Nighthawk. It was located on Meridian Road north of their home. My brother Dan and Ruth Ellen Hayworth built their home next to the location of the Nighthawk. Different musicians came and played; our great uncle, Randy Lade was one of the families. Our mother Nina Lade came and listened to her

Uncle Randy play. She met our father there, Jim Hayworth and they married in March of 1940.

The Hayworth Family

My grandparents, Clarence "Jake" and Hazel (Wright) Hayworth lived in Beaver Township. Their son Jim, my father, was born in 1910 on the Zoborosky farm on 350E and Meridian Road.

My father's family came from Haworth, England. The name of Henry de-Haworth appears in the charter in 1250. The family broke away from the church and came to America. In 1699, George Haworth came to Philadelphia with several other Quakers. The family migrated to Cass Co, Indiana, then to Newton County.

The Haworth name was changed when a teacher told the children that they should spell their name like it sounds--so part of the children in the family is Haworth and the others Hayworth.

My grandfather Jake Hayworth farmed and went to Michigan annually and bought fruit each year to sell in Morocco. My dad, grandfather, and brother Dan did custom livestock hauling of cattle to Chicago Stock Yards and later to Joliet, Illinois stockyards.



Left, George and Minerva Zoborosky family, Oct. 20, 1904: Left to right, upstairs, front porch, daughters Henrietta Harrison, Minnie, Nettie, Vada Wright and May Thomas; downstairs porch, daughter, Iva Evva, Florence Wright, Vada's daughter, holding Lloyd Thomas, May's son); in front of porch, George, Minerva, Hazel Wright, (Vada's daughter), Oakley Harrison, Henrietta's daughter; left of porch, left to right, son, John, Martin Wright, (Vada's son), son Dick, Maynard Wright, (Vada's son), son Ben, Linc Wright, (Vada's husband), Dewey Wright, (Vada's son), son Charlie and Irvin Thomas, May's husband. Right, January of 1920 on the south porch of the family home. In this picture front l-r: Evva, Minerva, Nettie, Minnie and Dick; back, l-r: Charlie, John, May, Ben, and Henrietta Zoborosky.

Besides farming, my parents fed about 200 head of cattle. In his retirement years he had 27 head of Belgian horses. Growing up as kids we helped with feeding cattle and general farming. We had a large garden and raised turkeys and chickens. We were never able to say we were bored!

In December 1949 my parents, my two brothers and I moved in with our great-great uncle Dick Zoborosky. I was seven, Jim five, and Dan three. It was quite a change for Dick who never married.

In the spring of 1950, my parents put in a bathroom and running water. Dick passed away in 1958 and my parents bought the farm from the remaining sisters.

My brother Jim and his wife Carol have one son, Jim Jr. Danny and his wife Ruth Elan Blaney have three children Janet, Dan, and Jonathon. My children are Dennis Shedrow and Cindy Willey. My husband Lester has twin sons, Terry, and Andy.

After my brother Jim graduated from high school, he went to Purdue and received a degree as an Ag teacher and was drafted and went to Vietnam. My brother Danny graduated from high school and joined the National Guards, took an Ag course at Purdue and went into farming with our parents.

After graduating from high school, I worked, then married and moved away for several years. My ex-husband and I bought 1.5 acres from my parents with our two children Dennis and Cindy Shedrow, we built a house in 1977. We sold the house in 1984 after we divorced.

After our parents retired, my brother Dan farmed. Our father died in December 1984 and Danny died in a truck accident in May 1988. Our mother passed away in May 1998. My brother Jim and his son Jim Jr. cash rent the farm. Jim lives in Monticello, Indiana, on Lake Shafer with his wife Carol and son Jim.

Eventually, I bought the house and some acreage with my husband Lester "Terry" Moore who is from Warrick County, Indiana, live in the house. It took us a year to remodel the house. My daughter and her husband, Cindy and Kevan Willey and granddaughter Kayla bought six acres and built a house just north of our home. My brother Danny's son Dan and his wife Jennifer, and two sons Daniel Bradley and Jaxson built a house on

the property also. So, we have seven, eight and nine generations living on the original Zoborosky farm.

Double Cousins

Information on the Zoborosky family was given to me by my double cousin Don Thomas of Walkerton, Indiana, son of Lloyd Thomas, son of May (Zoborosky) Thomas, daughter of George Zoborosky who is the son of John Zoborosky, son of Joseph.

Nancy (Hayworth) Moore is the daughter of James (Haworth) Hayworth, son of Hazel Wright (Haworth) Hayworth, daughter of Nevada Zoborosky Wright, daughter of George Zoborosky son of John Zoborosky, son of Joseph.

Photos provided by Scott Shedrow and Cindy (Shedrow) Willey



John Zoborosky in the winter of 1943 with his dog in the barnyard of the farm.



Can you spot young Danny and Jimmy Hayworth in the turkey lot on the farm?



Jim and Nina Hayworth with their first self-propelled combine used on the farm in 1965. This is an Allis-Chalmers.

**Zoborosky-Hayworth Farm Recognized
With Dual 100 and 150 Year Homestead Awards in 2020**



Above, Four generations of the Hayworth family stand before the award signs in front of the Zoborosky-Hayworth homesite and farm on S. Meridian in Jackson Township in 2020. Back, l-r: Dennis, Nancy, Amanda, Shelley, Terry, front, Violette, Olivia. Right, Kayla, Cindy, Kevan, Jim, Carol; right, back, Daniel, Scott, and Darrin.



Morocco Bridge Club photo recently appeared on the facebook page Morocco Indiana Old Photo Page. Circa 1950s: front, left to right Mrs. Heyer, Evelyn (Hayworth) Russell, Gartha (Hanger) Clark, Martha Lontz; back left to right, Ethel (Graves) Lyons, Eleanor (Lyons) Hancock, Wilma (Hanger) Robinson, Alice Garrard and Delora Purkey. Original photo from Tom Hancock, Jr.


The Newcomer

A publication of the Newton County Historical Society, Inc.
Post Office Box 303, Kentland, Indiana 47951
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PRESORT STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT
NUMBER 27
BROOK, IN 47922

Mission Statement: It is the hope of the volunteers and members of the Newton County Historical Society will bring together those people interested in the history of Newton County, and will promote an understanding and appreciation for the people and community of Newton County through research, preservation, restoration, education and publications. (c) 2020 Newton County Historical Society. All rights reserved.

The Newcomer is a publication of the Newton County Historical Society, Inc. A 501(3)c approved organization. Send membership dues/inquiries to: PO Box 303, Kentland, Indiana 47951; 219-474-6944 - newtonhs@ffni.com; Officers of the Newton County Historical Society: President, Kay Babcock, Goodland; Vice President, Russ Collins, Kentland; Secretary, Susie Johnson, Brook; Treasurer, Judy Wirtz, Kentland; Member at Large, Sig Boezeman, DeMotte, County Historian, Diana Elijah, Morocco; Ex-Officio, Bernie Murphy, Kentland. Resource Center located at 310 East Seymour Street, Kentland, Indiana. Printing by Rensselaer PRINTCO.

 Historical Newton In