

The Newcomer

Volume 23, Issue Two
Spring 2017 \$3.00

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

In this issue

*Life On The Home Front -
The Civil War Era*

The 1860 Newton County Census

1875 County Statistics

*Development of Roads and
Road Petitions*

The Myers Family

Salt: Flip Phelps

*The Clark Family of Brook
and the Chicago Cubs*

Old Photographs of Morocco



Get your Havana Cigars at
Bela Kent's store in Kentland
Kentland Gazette, Feb. 8, 1883.

This edition covers the era in Newton County from 1860-1900. Local newspapers and published history books were utilized for articles and advertisements as the above to depict the lives of those residing here during that time.

Life On The Home Front - The Civil War Era

by Beth Bassett

"In writing history, the task must necessarily depend on records made at the time the events transpired, and from the memory of those living and more or less actively interested in the vital events of the period." John Higgins, 1916.

John Higgins was set to the task of writing the history of Newton County published in the "History of Jasper and Newton Counties, 1916", which I referenced for this article. Higgins served in the Civil War as the drummer boy of Company B, Indiana 51st Regiment, the complete company comprised of Newton County recruits. Upon his return from the war, he remained in Kentland, first learning the tinner's trade; he served as the County recorder for two terms, and then became a partner in the law and insurance business. An account of his interesting life and times can be found in the Spring 2002 edition of the *Newcomer*.

The County at the Outbreak of the War

Newton County was not yet one year old, when on April 12, 1861, the flag of the Union fell at Fort Sumter, Charleston Harbor, South Carolina. Intense indignation greeted the first blast from the guns of the South. The North answered the summons, and mustered for war. Newton County stood ready to do her part and active preparations for the conflict were immediately begun.

In those days, Kentland had but only eighteen buildings and a framed courthouse. Its religious services and schools were held in the half second story of a building used for a tin shop below. Brook had but nine buildings which included the old schoolhouse where today stands the public library. Morocco had twelve buildings and the town of Goodland had just been placed on the map of the county under the name of Tivoli.

The First War Meeting

"The first war meeting in the county was held at Kentland, in the first week of May, 1861. The drummer boy, John Higgins, had been presented with a real army drum by Dr. E. B. Collins and Samuel Bramble, in lieu of the dish pan used for the marchers. John Reynolds and Samuel Yeoman were the fifers, and the way they produced the martial strains of "Yankee Doodle" and the "Campbells are Coming," at this meeting and others that followed, and later in the field and at the camp at the front, was enough to put down the whole Confederacy. But it did not, nor was it accomplished, until after more than four years of battles, hardships and privations, more than 500,000 lives on both sides had been sacrificed and inexpressible suffering had been experienced in camp and vacant firesides."

It was at this meeting that it was decided to organize a full company of volunteers in response to President Lincoln's second call for 82,000 additional volunteers on May 3, 1861; the company mustered under the third call of July 5, 1861, which was for 400,000 volunteers and for three years. The work of enlisting a full company was too slow for some fifty or sixty impatient patriots, who hurried away to join other companies nearly ready for action. The Seventh to the Fortieth regiments rendezvoused at different cities in the state. Many of the Newton County boys could not, or would not wait for the home company, and left to join some of these regiments.

In the summer of 1861 the work of enlistments went on. War meetings were held in every schoolhouse in the county. One was held at the "Collins" schoolhouse on the border of Beaver Lake. "the music of the fife and drum mingled with the rippling waters of the lake and the loud calls of the thousands of wild ducks and geese hovering about, seemed to applaud and endorse the cause for which the people were assembled and bid its young recruits God-speed," wrote Higgins.

Dr. Erasmus Burns Collins, is mentioned throughout Higgins' writings as a leader and prominent speaker in recruiting volunteers in the county. He is listed in Jackson Township in the 1860 Census, and I cannot find his connection to the county, but he was a physician, and served as the 51st Regimental Surgeon throughout the entire war. A son, born in 1865, was named Alexander Kent, so there may have been a connection through the Kent family. However, in an article that appeared in the *Newton County Chronotype* on November 28, 1861, we find: "Dr. E. B. Collins of this place, has been appointed Surgeon of the 51st regiment, by Col. Streight, stationed at Indianapolis. The doctor is well-skilled as a surgeon, and will fill his position with honor to himself and creditably to the government."

< Continued on page 2 >

2 The Newcomer

< Continued from page 1 >

Higgins' reference to the "Collins" schoolhouse, may have been a term of endearment used by Higgins pertaining to leadership shown by Dr. Collins. There isn't any record of a Collins schoolhouse in any of our townships, although it is quite possible there was at one time or another.

In the fall of 1861, Company B had nearly reached its full complement of 100 men, which were mostly boys, averaging in age about 18.5 years. They met at the schoolhouse in Brook on October 12, 1861, for the final organization and election of officers and to discuss preparations for departure to the front. The women and girls of Brook and vicinity provided a huge dinner for them. At the time of Higgins' writing, fifty-five years after this dinner, only a few of the ladies who prepared the meal were alive. He listed them: Polly Lyons, Mrs. John B. Lyons, Mrs. John Lowe, Mrs. Ann Hawkins, Mrs. Finley Shaefer, Mrs. Mary Meredith, Mrs. Harve Thomas, Mrs. James Lowe, Mrs. Ephraim Ham, and Mrs. Aaron Lyons.

Off For The Front

"On November 5, 1861, Company B departed to join their regiment, taking the afternoon train in Kentland. It seemed every man, woman and child was at the depot to see them off, and it was no merry leaving-taking. Second Lieut. A. H. Wonder was assigned the duty of drilling the company. He was a young German, with a military education, and enforced strict discipline. He was immediately dubbed "Stubin Swist." Capt. D. A. McHolland took rank as "Old He," and John B. Lyons, after his promotion to hospital steward, was known as "Old Jersey," not withstanding that he was only 18 years of age."

Dark Days in Newton County

The *Newton County Chronotype* made its debut on September 26, 1861, making it the first newspaper in Newton County. It carries page after page of war news, covering crucial battles, bringing the news of the front to Newton County. Within its columns letters from soldiers and officers appeared periodically giving a more personal touch to the war news. Here was also printed the details of critical battles, and names of the wounded or killed serving their country.

Higgins wrote, "These were the darkest days of the war in Newton County. Dispatches from the front were read with feverish eagerness. The long list of the killed and wounded was anxiously scanned for some familiar loved name. The passer-by, along the highways, was met at the gate by some mother or wife with eager, questioning look, asking for news from the seat of war. The towns of Brook, Morocco and Kentland had but a



Left-right: Johnny Higgins, drummer boy; center, Higgins, veteran; John Ade, early age.

few able bodied men left. Tivoli, (Goodland), in those days, and its few inhabitants were under the care of William Foster and David Creek. The latter had four sons in the Union ranks, one of whom was killed in battle before Richmond, Virginia."

Morton's Call To Defend Indiana

Higgins continues, "From 1863 on, the enlistments became more scattering. Details from companies in the field came home for recruits and a number of boys returned with them, and in the summer of 1863, when it seemed that no more men could be spared, Governor Morton's call for troops to repel the invasion of the rebel General Morgan, who had crossed the Ohio River from Kentucky into Indiana was heard. In response Newton County, in less than twenty-four hours, had mustered nearly 100 men for the defense of the state. John Ade rode all night on July 9th of that year, like Paul Revere of Revolutionary fame, and on the 11th, the company departed for Indianapolis.

"Capt. H. K. Warren, a returned veteran, was in command, and John Ade, first lieutenant. The Company, however, was never sworn into service. Missing connections at Reynolds, they proceeded to Logansport, where they remained all night. The next day they received word from Indianapolis that no more troops were required to be present, but to return home and maintain their own organizations. This company was composed of businessmen and farmers all past the military age. They kept up their organization until after the close of the war, as Home Guards. The roll of this company was not preserved."

The Home Guard

"And there were other soldiers, God bless them! - composed of both men and women. They could not bear arms, but they bore the brunt and burden of the trials and hardships at home. They were known as the Soldiers Aid Society, organized in April, 1863. Kentland, by reason of being the only railroad town in the county, was designated the general headquarters and depot of sup-

plies. Auxiliary committees were active in all parts of the county, caring for the sick and destitute families of the soldiers in the field and in collecting and forwarding to the front needed articles not on the Government ration list, such as potatoes, onions, kraut, pickles, lint bandages, reading matter, cordials and medicines. These needy supplies did much to bring back the spark of life almost gone from some poor soldier.

"They had frequent meetings spending whole days in providing lints and bandages and ways and means for relieving suffering. It is remembered that Mary Ann Root proposed to knit a pair of stockings for every soldier from Newton County, her only condition being that the yarn furnished her should be smooth and soft.

"Mrs. J. W. Bartholomew of Morocco, gave a lot of onions. It was all that she had to give at the time, but was donated willingly and did the soldiers more good than a bushel of pies. Instances of this kind were too numerous to mention, but these many acts of kindness went far to prove the worth and self-denial of these grand women of Civil War times in Newton County, and while their names are recorded in the book of eternal life, yet for the benefit of future generations, they should be recorded here. As nearly as can be ascertained from incomplete records, this society was ably supported and its membership was as follows:

"Mrs. A. J. Kent, President; Mrs. Amanda Bramble, Vice President; Sarah A. Peacock, Secretary; Mrs. John Ade, Treasurer; Mrs. Jane Bissel, Miss Agnes Kent and Miss Harriet Peacock, Executive Committee.

"E. L. Urmston, S. A. Bramble, William Ross, Oscar Phelps, John Whitaker, A. J. Kent, Andrew Hess, Sarah Hess, Frances C. and Sarah Lowe, John Peacock, Rebecca Dodson, William Perry and wife, C. Rettinger, Matilda Jones, George Herriman, Bluford Light and wife, Mrs. Hosier, Eph Bridgeman, G. W. McCray, Ezra B. Jones, David Hess, Betsey Hess, Mary Ann Root, John Lyons,

Dempsey Johnson, John F. Johnson, William Littlejohn, John Martin, Joshua Ponsler, Mrs. Beabout, Mrs. Thompson, Alonzo Skinner, Philip Earl, Edgar Hawkins, Jane Archibald, J. B. West, Eliza Griffith, Jacob Kenoyer, Joshua Timmons, Joseph Timmons, Ezekiel Whiteman and their wives, Sally Deardurff, John Murphey, William Coovert, Josiah and Hannah Smith, David Creek, William Foster, Madison Collins, Blake and Amanda Wilson, Levi Bridgeman, Daniel Deardurff, William Saylor, W. T. Maxwell, J. T. Bartholomew, Silas Johnson and wife, Thomas Peck and wife, William Archibald and wife, Nancy Murphy, James Kay and wife, Doctor Caldwell, Sarah Gleason, David Pulver, George White, Amos White, Asher Wilcox, Mary A. Wishard, Carry Hopkins; and numerous young girls who were unmarried, but deserving of mention.”

John Ade

Higgins wrote that he felt it was necessary to mention specific events and individuals so that future generations would be told of their stories. I appreciate thinking of us, as without his writings names listed in this article may have not been brought to light in association with the Civil War days of Newton County. The newspapers during that time also detailed the many trips that John Ade made into the south. Higgins included this recognition:

“No military history of Newton County can be complete without mention of the valuable services of John Ade, rendered to Newton County’s soldier boys while they were offering their lives for the unity of states; because of his many acts of humanity in visiting the sick soldiers in the field and hospital, supplying them with comforts from home, and bringing back the dead for home burial whenever possible, he was the Morton of Newton County, in the Civil War.

“His trips to the South with Governor Morton’s pass was often perilous, yet he never faltered. Wherever the boys could be reached he went when necessary. He was held in honored esteem by the soldier boys of Newton and in recognition of his services and comforting sympathy, he was elected an honorary member of McHolland post, Grand Army of the Republic, No. 102, at Kentland, on May 6, 1889 – a distinction seldom conferred and which he appreciated up to the day of his death.”

Want to know more? Recommended sources: John Ade’s “Newton County, 1856-1911;” Hartpence’s “History of the 51st Indiana Regiment; Past issues of the Newcomer: in-depth articles appear periodically written by historians John Yost and Kyle Conrad. These can be accessed at our web site: www.ingenweb.org/innewton.

Women and the Civil War

By Beth Bassett

The Civil War brought an unexpected intrusion of outside events into the lives of women. Lincoln’s call for troops caused great excitement – hundreds of local men flooded to recruiters to volunteer for service. John Higgins wrote that Newton County’s total number of enlistments up to the close of the war was 402 – nearly half of its population (men). According to the official reports, the Newton County recruits were mostly boys, averaging the age of 18½ years.

Most women were employed in their home. Childcare, cleaning, laundry, cooking, sewing, gardening, tending the smaller livestock. If they worked outside the home it was within the realm of the domestic sphere – sewing and household servants. Single or widowed women were teachers, until they married, which meant abandoning their position. Men’s work included planting and harvesting crops, raising livestock, factory or trade occupations and politics.

In the rural, Newton County communities, women responded to the domestic problems created by enlistments with the same kind of neighborhood extended-kin support they used before the war. Some women took in washing, they plowed fields, chopped wood, and other traditionally male tasks.

The state had the Ladies Aid Society, which held “Sanitary Fairs,” where leading families produced plays, pageants and other public entertainments to raise money for the soldiers. Women provided patriotic songs, speeches and poems at rallies, encouraging recruitment and public support. They attended ceremonies marking departures of their men for the front and often presenting a flag made by local women to their troops. They also welcomed home returning troops and provided food for these ceremonies.

Newton County had the Soldier’s Aid Society. Both men and women were members, however, women held the officer’s positions. The men served as the home guard for the county, providing protection and general assistance to households of soldier’s families in the county. The women focused on extending aid to the families of soldiers, managing the soldier relief fund which provided money appropriated by the State Legislature. A total of \$4,088.50 of the \$4,387.44 approved by the Legislature was given to families in need in Newton County.

The women made bandages, clothing, writing paper, and food; they knitted socks and made blankets that were shipped individually or to a group of soldiers by train to the troops and/or military hospitals.

They wrote letters, sometimes daily, to their husbands and family members in the service. The letters included news about their families, neighbors and community happenings. They often managed their farms and homes through these communications, as their husbands or sons write back, suggesting the selling of livestock, or giving the name of a neighbor or businessman to help with certain tasks. The men would also include news from other soldiers from their area, sending along “thanks from the boys,” for the food items and newsy notes.

The impact of the role of women during the war contributed largely to the beginning of what would be known as the suffrage movement. Most wanted to save what had existed before the war – not challenge the gender status quo. But many women became committed to the same cultural and ideological values shared by their men. Their exposure and acceptance in the public realm opened the door for a small group of women in west-central Indiana to push for greater women’s rights, especially the right to vote.



Ladies Auxiliary of the GAR, circa 1908. Mrs. Rachael (Daniel) Graves is pictured back row, fifth from the right. Her daughter, Mildred Merle Graves is second from the left in the back row. Front, in the dark printed dress is Mrs. Aseneath (Samuel) Thomas. The arrow points to Mrs. Mary (Jacob) Hosier. *First published in the Winter 2000 Newcomer.*

President's Thoughts

By Kay Babcock

January brought the news of the passing of a society president, Yvonne Kay, and more recently, member Lois Norris. There wasn't a meeting that month - one never knows about Indiana winter weather.

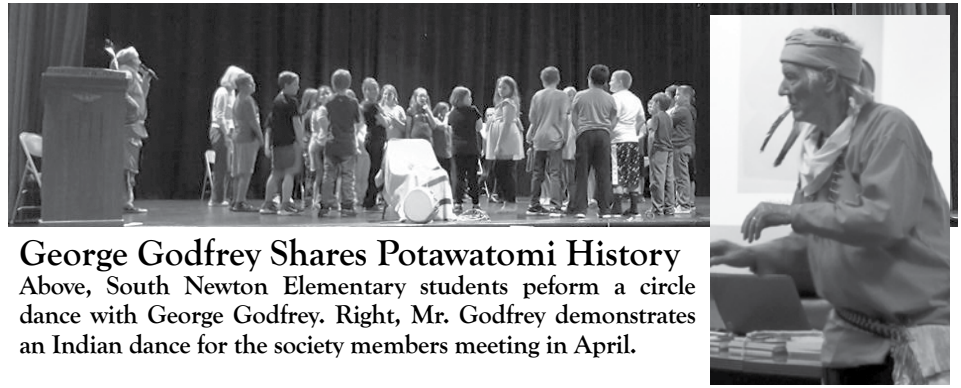
In February, Larry Lyons presented the program on the Indiana Bicentennial Torch Relay, he showed the video "Everlasting Light - The Story of Indiana's Bicentennial Torch Relay." It depicts the 3200 mile journey of the torch as it crossed the 92 Indiana counties. The relay began in Corydon, our first state capital and ended in Indianapolis on the Statehouse grounds. Larry and Becky spent man hours, drove many miles, and gave endless hours to put together the volunteers and route for Newton County. We thank them for their work.

In March, we were to see the documentary entitled "We are Indiana, Who We Are, and How Did We Become Hoosiers," a Bicentennial Legacy Project by author Candy Yurcak. Alas we were brought down by technology and could not view it, but it was shown at the May meeting. Jeff Manes stepped up and entertained us with memories of the happenings and people of Newton County - thanks again Jeff!

Rich Miller had a great program lined up for April. The guest speaker was George Godfrey, the great-great grandson of Watchekee, a Potawatomi princess. In the afternoon, the program was given to the South Newton fourth grade classes. Mr. Godfrey shared Indian words with the students and had them do a circle dance. At the evening meeting he told us of the life of his Grandmother, the Potawatomi and the moving of the Indians to the West.

We often have pictures donated to us without identification. This is a problem, because we are not able to put them away to be easily located for future reference. We encourage photo donations with identification please!

"Trixie", a featured comic strip in the Sunday paper reminded me of this when she was concerned about her pictures that are "in the cloud." So many of us take photos and never print them - will future generations know where and when the photos were taken, and who is in them? Take time to help preserve your family history by adding names, dates and locations to your photos.

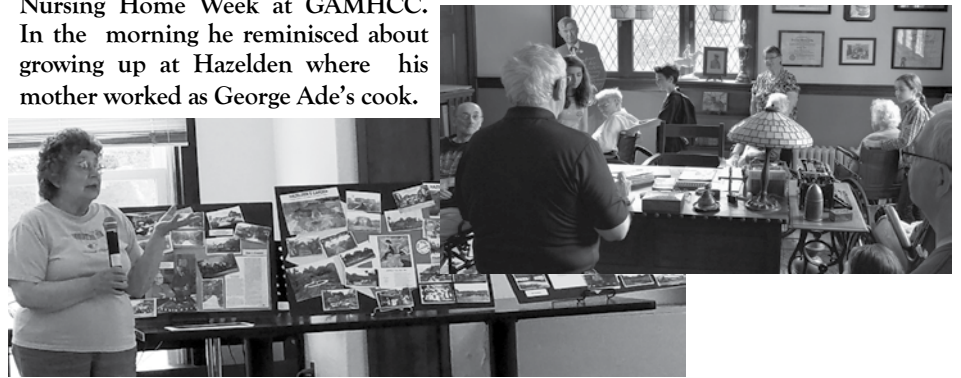


George Godfrey Shares Potawatomi History
Above, South Newton Elementary students perform a circle dance with George Godfrey. Right, Mr. Godfrey demonstrates an Indian dance for the society members meeting in April.

Lyons Share Hazelden History at George Ade Memorial Health Care Center

Below, left, Becky Lyons talked about Ella McCray, George Ade's sister; right, Larry Lyons led a tour of Ade's home, Hazelden, in the afternoon during the celebration of National Nursing Home Week at GAMHCC.

In the morning he reminisced about growing up at Hazelden where his mother worked as George Ade's cook.



Tom "Coyote" Larson Talks To SN 4th Grade

In these photos, South Newton fourth grade classes examined Tom Larson's fur and pelt collection while he answered questions about how he hunted and trapped them.



New Window Display at Resource Center

Larry Boezeman has loaned us his duck boat that he discovered while travelling through Wisconsin years ago. The condition of the boat required total restoration. The re-inforced bottom allowed hunters to sit, lay down or stand while shooting. This type of boat would have been used on Newton County's rivers during the mid to late 1800s. Special thanks to Sig, Marcia and Lynn Boezeman for setting up this fantastic window display.



Newton County Enterprise, May 16, 1901

J.D. Sink Recalls the Transforming of the Beaver Lake Swamp Region

By John D. Sink

"Editor *Enterprise*: In November 1865 in company with W.S. Lawrey, I first visited the Kankakee Valley and Beaver Lake Country. Kankakee City was the nearest railroad station at that time from which to reach the lake, and the sloughs and much of the prairie between Kankakee and Momence were very soft and almost impassable.

"Leroy Payne furnished us transportation from Kankakee City to the lake for \$12. Beaver Lake at that time was a large body of water and Beaver Lake Ditch was a small affair compared to its present size. Deer, geese, and ducks were very plentiful. We made a short stay and learned but little of the country, but returned in 1866 and stayed until the last of December.

"There were only a few settlers at that time. I think not more than one family in the territory comprised in what is now Lincoln Township. William Burton, James Halleck and John Jenkins lived on the Lake Ditch. Burton on section 21, Halleck and Jenkins on section 16, Abraham Snyder and Mrs. Gleason lived on section 17. The marshes were filled with water and tall grass, and there was at that time plenty of fairly good oak lumber in the flats.

"The late A.M. Boyle, with his then young wife, lived on Blue Grass Creek just below Blue Grass Landing, and was engaged in the cattle business; the next house east was at Thayer's Landing, and the next east was the Ditton place. The roads were wet and dry weather roads; in the wet times the ridge road was necessarily traveled and in the fall the marsh roads were passable.

"In October 1867, I returned to the marshes and built the house near the river where Silas Sink lived, and in 1868 moved to Lake Township and in April 1871, moved into what is now Lincoln Township. At that time, there were three other families living in the township. The country was wild, the marshes wet, and the flats as they were called, were beds of quick sand and a stranger had to be very careful where he left the traveled roads. The residents were like all pioneers, hospitable and happy.

"The introduction of the driven well by the late Albert M. Boyle and the Young brothers revolutionized the health of the inhabitants of the swamp by giving them plenty of pure healthy water to drink, and cases of fever and ague where they had those wells became very few; and even the stock did better with pure water to drink. Herding cattle was the leading industry in those years, and the tramping and pasturing of the marshes appeared to make them dryer and more solid.

If one were to take a stranger around over this country today and show him the island that was under water in July 1869, and point out where the water of the Kankakee River flowed at that time, he would be considered at least an exaggerator. The land where Mann Spidler is building a fine house now, was not at that time an inch above the water in the river, as I recollect it.

"Lincoln Township was organized the first Monday in September 1872 and at the elections following in October and November, there were eight votes cast, the elections being held in Hiram Goodwin's house on Section 18. There being Aaron Wilson, inspector, H. Goodwin and Hugh Williamson, Judges, L. Richardson and John Layman, Clerks and R. Kay, C.W. Forbes and myself, voters, and if my memory is not at fault, some of the members of that board were candidates voted for and elected to office. Wilson was elected trustee and Williamson, Justice of the Peace, and I think Goodwin was elected constable, although I may be mistaken about that.

"I remember very well Williamson objected to being elected Justice for the reason that he could not write, but he was overcome by being told that Lake Township's Chief Justice didn't know "B" from an ox cart. The organization of Lincoln Township was hastened by a certain supervisor who lived on the south side of the lake trying to compel us to go over there to work out our road tax, and the only way out of it was to have a township of our own, without roads and no supervisor to domineer over us. And so we organized Lincoln Township.

"We had things handy in those days. Momence was the nearest post office, and the mail was carried there from Kankakee on horseback once a day. If you wanted a few boards or a barrel of salt you could get it at Kankakee, but not nearer, although I believe you could buy a barrel of salt at Momence by paying the hauling. The nearest doctor was at Morocco or Momence, and then he could not come in the nighttime.

"No store nearer than Momence, nor blacksmith shop, and the telephone was not in order. There may have been a church at Momence, I believe there was. From the big ditch to Anne there was one succession of ridges and marshes, with now and then a small settlement miles apart.

"A trip to Kentland then was more than a trip to Indianapolis is today, but at each term of court all the clothes suitable at all to wear away from home were in Kentland, worn by someone, for the early settlers of the north end were hale fellows, and not stuck

up about their clothes. There is one fellow in these parts who has resided here 33 years and has never been to Kentland, because, as he says, there has never been a suit here small enough for him that was suitable to wear to court.

"Most of the men that lived here in the '60s and are living yet, were in Roselawn week before last to pay the last sad tribute

Continued on page 6 >

Pittsburgh, Cincinnati & St. Louis Railway.			
Condensed Time Card.—Columbus & State Line Division.			
NOV. 30, 1874.			
GOING WEST.			
	No. 6	No. 10	
Pittsburgh,	1.30 a. m.	7.50 a. m.	
Columbus,	10.05 "	8.40 p. m.	
Urbana,	12.11 p. m.	8.35 "	
Piqua,	1.39 "	6.10 "	
Bradford Junction,	2.00 "	6.40 "	
Union City,	3.15 "	10.23 "	
Ridgeville,	3.53 "	11.03 "	
Hartford,	4.53 "	12.05 a. m.	
Marion,	5.45 "	12.58 "	
Bunker Hill,	6.02 "	2.00 "	
Logansport,	7.33 "	3.30 "	
Reynolds,	"	9.15 "	
State Line,	"	10.50 "	
GOING EAST.			
	No. 5	No. 7	
State Line,	6.55 p. m.		
Reynolds,	8.45 "		
Logansport,	8.35 a. m.	3.30 p. m.	
Bunker Hill,	9.09 "	4.00 "	
Marion,	10.30 "	5.15 "	
Hartford,	11.12 "	6.07 "	
Ridgeville,	12.15 p. m.	7.04 "	
Union City,	12.51 "	7.40 "	
Bradford Junction,	1.50 "	8.45 "	
Piqua,	2.52 p. m.	9.13 "	
Urbana,	3.52 "	10.11 "	
Columbus,	6.00 "	11.55 "	
Pittsburgh,	2.20 a. m.	7.23 a. m.	
No. 10 leaves Bradford Daily, except Sunday, and will arrive in State Line daily, except Monday, and in Chicago at 8.00 A. M. daily. All other trains run daily, except Sunday. Nos. 5, 6, and 7 have no Chicago connection.			
Richmond & Chicago Division.			
GOING NORTH.			
	No. 8	No. 10	
Cincinnati—Leave	7.30 a. m.	7.50 p. m.	
Richmond—Arrive	10.30 "	10.10 "	
Hagerstown "	11.16 "	10.52 "	
New Castle, "	11.50 "	11.21 "	
Anderson, "	1.10 p. m.	12.08 a. m.	
Kokomo, "	3.00 "	1.55 "	
Logansport, "	4.00 "	3.10 "	
Crown Point, "	7.20 "	6.20 "	
Chicago, "	9.00 "	8.00 "	
GOING SOUTH.			
	No. 1	No. 3	
Chicago—Leave	7.50 "	8.50 "	
Crown Point, Arr.	9.40 "	10.40 "	
Logansport, "	12.45 a. m.	1.00 p. m.	
Kokomo, "	2.00 "	2.30 "	
Anderson, "	3.42 "	4.11 "	
New Castle, "	4.28 "	5.08 "	
Hagerstown, "	5.08 "	5.38 "	
Richmond, "	5.50 "	6.20 "	
Cincinnati, "	9.00 "	9.45 "	
No. 10 leaves Richmond daily. No. 1 will leave Chicago daily. All other Trains run daily, except Sunday.			
W. L. O'BRIEN, Gen'l Pass'g & Ticket Agt.			
Trains pass Kentland as follows:			
GOING EAST.	Mail and Express	GOING WEST.	
7 08 P. M.		10 28 A. M.	
4 50 A. M.	Accommodation	5 03 P. M.	
6 58 A. M.	Through Frt	9 23 P. M.	
J. W. RITCHIE, Agent.			

Railroad schedule from the Kentland Gazette, 1874.

6 The Newcomer

> Continued from page 5

to their old-time friend and fellow citizen, A.M. Boyle. Of all the men who lived in Lake Township in 1865, Abraham Snyder and Henry and Isam Burton are all that I can call to mind that are now living.

"To hear the early settler tell of the game seen in those days sounds like fiction, but the largest bird killing story told is that of W. and Isaac Kight killing 140 swan one afternoon in the Black Marsh, and of the latter, killing 24 mallard ducks at one shot, and quite a number that were winged escaped in the tall grass. In those days, there was only one crossing of the Black Marsh in Newton County, and at times that was not safe crossing, for the Black Marsh contained as veritable black backs as did the lake and there have been several tragedies necessary to purifying the moral air. Lurkey shot his man at the head of the lake ditch. Baum and Bushionbeery killed Shafer, thus breaking up the home of thieves and murderers. Jones shot Mardel in self-defense and Prosecutor Thompson of that day made life a merry journey for the crew of toughs engaged in that spree.

"During the years 1871-2-3 and 4, which were dry years, many people settled in the marsh country and invested their holdings in swamp lands, and when the wet seasons came from '75 to '83 there was a great many miles of ditches dug, and once the drainage was well started it continued, and is still continuing and in many places tile is being laid with the best of results.

"The growth of the country has been slow but steady. The large ranches have tended to retard the settlement by permanent settlers, but they have aided greatly in the drainage of the wetlands, and where water had stood continuously since the flood until recently, the finest crops of corn are now grown, and the farmers can cultivate their lands earlier and better, and the well-drained marshes grow the finest quality of blue grass grown in northern Indiana.

"The day is not far distant when Beaver Lake region will maintain as dense a population as any part of the country. It is demonstrated beyond doubt that the sand ridges and flats formerly considered worthless are better adapted to raising fruit of all kinds than any other lands in the country.

"While fruit trees may not live as long on the highest lands, they mature quickly and bear a fine quality of fruit much younger than upon heavier lands. This country may not be called a first-class agricultural district, yet is capable of sustaining as many people of the class that will raise all kinds of fruit and vegetable as any section in northern Indiana, and if it should prove that the soil is well adapted to sugar beet culture it may develop much more rapidly in the future than in the past.

"The last third of a century has marked wonderful changes in the marshes, but the next 10 or 15 years may make great developments in the way of improvement. Today you may see thousands of acres of plowed fields where 35 years ago water had stood since the flood. In Lincoln Township where in 1872 there were eight men entitled to vote, now there are more than 200.

"There are two thriving towns with seven general stores, each carrying a general stock of goods and each doing a fair business. Lands have advanced in price from \$15 to \$40. Under the present sugar beet excitement owners have taken their lands out of the market entirely."

The 1860 Census of Newton County

The U.S. has taken a census of its population every ten years since 1790. The eighth U. S. Census was scheduled for the year 1860, the year Indiana's youngest county was organized - Newton.

Enumerators of the 1860 census were instructed to record the names of every person in the household. Added to this, enumerators were presented with printed instructions, which account for the greater degree of accuracy compared with earlier censuses. Enumerators were asked to include the following categories in the census: name; age as of the census day; sex; color; birthplace; occupation of persons over age fifteen; value of real estate; whether married within the previous year; whether deaf, dumb, blind, insane, a pauper, or a convict; whether able to read or speak English; and whether the person attended school within the previous year. No relationships were shown between members of a household. The categories allowed Congress to determine persons residing in the United States for collection of taxes and the appropriation of seats in the House of Representatives.

Few, if any, records reveal as many details about individuals and families as do the U.S. federal censuses. They are "snapshots" of Americans that depict where and how they were living at particular periods in the past. Because of this, the census is often the best starting point for genealogical research after home sources have been exhausted.

You may view the 1860 census at our website www.ingenweb.org/innewton or a more complete version at ancestry.com.

Beaver Township

Occupations	Farmers (58); Cooper (2); Basket maker: Mary McGee, Jacob Wishan; Laborers (6); Merchant (1): Grocer: Andrew Young; Shoemaker: Clayburn Purkey; Wagon maker: L. H. Bartholomew, Sylvester Bimesholtz; Carpenter (5); Blacksmith (1); Teaming Round (1); Carpenter & Joiner (1); Miller & Lawyer (1); Preacher; Silas Johnson, ?Coffinberry; Physician: Charles Triplett, Thomas Peck; Constable: E. Atkinson; School Teacher: Margaret McCollough, Elvera McCollough, Rachel Elijah, William Aton, Dayworker: Marian Coon; Housekeeper (1); Hired Girl: Eliza Purkey; County Sheriff: Elijah Shriver.
Twins	Age 4: Azance and Elonzo Bridgeman, parents Samuel & Elvira Bridgeman; Age 3: Sarah Jane and Charles Sutton and Age 6: Rachel and John Sutton, parents John & Mary Sutton.
Widow	Sally Deardurff - occupation: farming.

Iroquois Township

Occupations	Farmers (66); School Teacher: Martha Philip; Carpenter (5); Preacher: David Dunham, Samuel Benjamin; Grocer: James Stacey; Wagon maker: E. Hann; Physician: Wm. Rutledge, D. A. Webster; Merchant: S. W. Lyons, A. Lyons; Blacksmith (2); Plasterer: W. Jones; Monthly Laborer (6); Cattle Herder: Jacob Parr; Mechanic: M. Mead; Tailor: Samuel McConnhey.
Twins	Age 2: William and Thomas James/living with Clifton family; Age 19: Lematin and Malvine Denton, parent Matilda Denton.
Widow	Matilda Denton.
Orphans	Manitila Brakey/living with Bury family; Louisa Alexander, living with Linch family.

Jefferson Township

Occupations	Farmers (54); Hired by month (3); Carpenter (1); Lumber dealer: Sylvester Root; Land Agent: O. Buckingham; Cooper (2); Laborer (3); Grocer: Gerich; Blacksmith (3); Section Master on Railroad: M. I. Lallusburry; Millwright: James Pence; Prairie Breaker: A. Shilling; Farming Agent: Thomas Smith; Needlework: Mary Clark; Merchant/Clerk: John Peacock, William Ross; County Recorder: John Ade.
Widows	Mary Anderson, Sarah Denny, Anna Anderson, Harriet Meyers, John Smith.

Lake Township

Occupations	Farmers (23); Laborer (5); Roofer & Thrasher: Morgan; Rafter: Arthur Odle; Blacksmith: Hall; Hunter & Trapper: Enoch Wade, Samuel Jones; Musician: John Wade; School Teacher: Elvina Galespie; Cattle Herder: Danford Dexter, Charles Moffitt; Shoe & Boot maker: Thomas Edmondson; Spiritual Preacher: Joan Karns; Carpenter (2); Basket maker: Daniel Moffitt.
Widows	Charles Prue, John Schoub, Nancy Hall.
Notes	Grass Widow*: Charlotte Galespie, Margaret Purrs. Bound Boy**: Nathaniel Force in Cowgill family, Charles Barker (age 5), in Stacy family.

*Grass Widow: a woman whose husband is away often or for a prolonged period. A woman who is divorced or separated from her husband.

**Bound Boy: A son was "bound out" by his father, his widowed mother, or his guardian to give him training in some craft or trade, or to relieve the parent from the expense of feeding and clothing him during his mid-childhood.

About the Census: The U.S. has taken a census of its population every ten years since 1790. The most recent census available to us at present is the 1940 census, due to a 72-year privacy restriction. While the questions in U.S. census records varied from year to year and in state censuses, from state to state, you can find information like names of other household members, ages, birthplaces, residence, occupation, immigration and citizenship details, marriage information, military service and more. The 1890 census was largely destroyed in a fire.

Township Populations	1860	1870	1880	1890 Includes Towns	1900 Includes Towns
Beaver	501	637	898	1052	1600
Jackson	412	766	795	947	913
Iroquois	434	619	818	1003	1590
Jefferson	304	1606	1964	1875	1816
Lake	173	378	593	462	489
Washington	536	983	1106	1016	994
Grant	-	699	1508	1624	1716
Colfax	-	-	150	128	271
Lincoln	-	-	181	518	760
McClellan				178	299

Source: "History of Jasper and Newton Counties, 1916," page 202.

First Town Census

1870: Kentland, 802; 1880: Goodland, 620; 1890: Morocco: 397; 1900: Brook, 677; 1910: Mt. Ayr: 231. Source: "History of Jasper and Newton Counties, 1916," page 202.

Jackson Township

Occupations:	Farmers (64); Lawyer/Steam Mill: Ransom Elijah; Blacksmith (2); Cattle Raiser (1).
Widows:	Marguerite Bassett, Amica Crum; Margaret Wooden.
Notes:	Murdered: David Handley, by Samuel Brandon.

Washington Township

Occupations:	Farmers (96); Carpenter (3); Stone Mason: Henry Kramer; Laborer (1); Preacher: Geo. Elakehons, Frederick Kenoyer, Jacob Kenoyer, George Meyers.
Twins:	Age 8: Oscar and Amos Davis, parents Jasper & Mary Davis; Age 8: William and Creddice Ellis, parents Duncan and Letitia Ellis; Age 8: Sarah and Thomas Eldridge, parents Wm. & Ellen Eldridge.
Widow:	Nancy Fried
Orphan:	Marguerite Thompson

Do You Know?

By Janet Miller

Answers on page 19

1. Where was Weldon's Corner?
2. What was the Ak-ki-ki?
3. Kentland, at one time, was the home of the Greyhound Post House located on old US 41. Where in Kentland was the Greyhound bus stop prior to the building of the Post House?
4. What Newton County author wrote the juvenile novel, "Andy's Dan'l Boone Rifle"?
5. What does the term "grass widow" refer to as recorded in the 1860 Census?

Newton County Census Records, Cemetery Transcriptions, Marriage and Death Indexes can all be found on our website:
www.ingenweb.org/innewton

Pages of the Past

Submitted by Beth Bassett, Newton County Chronotype 1861, Newton County Union and Gazette 1867; Kentland Gazette 1874, 1875; Newton County News, 1881, 1882

November 21, 1861,

Newton County Chronotype

To Persons Abroad

"To those persons abroad who may have the opportunity of seeing our paper, and who are desirous of making a change in their location, we offer the following remarks on the advantages of Newton County, being a summary of facts of which they will ascertain the truth in every particular should they visit this section of Indiana."

It's Growth and Population

"The growth of the county since its organization, has been so remarkable as to indicate to the most casual observer that some substantial basis of prosperity is contained in its limits. The fact is, that for once a railroad has opened to a settlement, improvement, and market, a section of the country the finest in the world, and which will never retrograde. A country which was very sparsely settled heretofore, from the very fact that no market was afforded the farmer nearer than Lafayette. The old settlers of this county have been compelled to make a three days' trip to Lafayette with their grain, which of course netted them but a small amount; and the want of a market also prevented them from getting such farming utensils, and farm necessities, as they can now receive by railroad at little expense. In two years' time may be claimed the increase of nearly all the population of the county, which is upwards of three thousand."

Size of the County and Character of the Soil

"Newton County contains 401 square miles, with Lake County on the north, Benton County on the south, Jasper County on the east, and Iroquois County, in Illinois, on the west. Its breadth from east to west is between 13 and 14 miles. Its length from north to south is 30 miles. In this respect, the county is not in as good a shape as it might be; but a few years will undoubtedly obviate this by some change in its boundaries which will make it more uniform in length and breadth."

"Nearly all the land in the county is tillable, and the largest portion of it will exceed in fertility the soil in any other section of Indiana. It is well adapted to grains of all kinds and produces an extraordinary yield. Thousands of bushels of corn yet remain in the cribs and granaries of our farmers, the growth of the past year. The balance of the timber land is scattered through the county at intervals of two or three miles, with fine prairie between. Nearly every settler can therefore

purchase a prairie farm with sufficient timber on his own land or near him to satisfy all his wants for fuel, fencing, etc."

It's Market

"With the Logansport, Peoria and Burlington Railroad running through the county from east to west, the residents of the county have a market unequaled. The grain raised here can be shipped direct to Toledo, and from there to New York. Lumber for building purposes can be got from Chicago at very reasonable rates. Our merchants can get their goods direct from Cincinnati in a few days' time. Our mail arrangements are excellent; and we can, in fact, consider ourselves as in close connection with all Christendom."

The County Seat

"Considerable strife has prevailed in the location of the county seat at the extreme end of the county at Kent Station. In this State, at least one-third of the county seats are located at one end of the county, at a railroad or river point, where the people have made their market. Under all circumstances, Kent Station will retain its great element of growth and prosperity as the market for a large section of the country. Its facilities of trade are increasing every day, and its merchants and businessmen are becoming more and more prepared to supply all the wants of the residents of the country around them."

"According to a statement published a few weeks since in our paper, about 150,000 bushels of grain were taken in at the warehouses in this place during the past year. If corn was worth 25 cents per bushel, this amount would have been doubled. The trade of our place during the same time has amounted to over \$125,000. It looks almost incredible to a stranger, that a little village of 300 inhabitants should transact such a large amount of trade; but figures never lie, and we can show them that this statement is not an exaggeration."

"One of our citizens, Mr. A. J. Kent, has advanced his means in building and improving the place to a large extent. Town lots in Kent are held at a very reasonable price, and some on long time. A man of industry, and with steady habits, can come here and do well. He can purchase himself a lot, build on it, and in one or two years find that he has a snug little property, worth double what it cost him. Our hotel, is worth of all the encomiums we have pronounced upon it, and it has undoubtedly brought hundreds of persons here who would not have come otherwise. It is large enough to accommodate persons with

families until such time as they can build, at as low rates as they could live anywhere at a private boarding house."

Health of the Country

"As regards healthfulness we can truly say that no other portion of the Western Country can surpass this in respect to invariable good health. The prairie wind may prove in winter time, to those unused to it, very severe. In Summer and Fall, however, nothing can equal the luxury of a fresh prairie breeze. It serves to carry off all miasma, and has a bracing, exhilarating effect upon all who are subjected to its influence."

A Sporting Country

"This country affords an abundance of game, and well repays the sportsman who seeks it. Deer, ducks, prairie chickens, quails, pigeons, squirrels, geese, cranes, etc., can be procured in immense quantity for the seeking. At least 50 sporting gentlemen from Indianapolis, Lafayette, and other places have visited this section during the past month, and have returned home laden with the spoils of the chase."

Summary

"We can safely conclude by urging the poor man to come here. He will find in the county good land which he can purchase at a reasonable price as will enable him to make a good start in life."

"Property will be worth in five years' triple what it is now. To those who are able to have fine farms, a prettier or healthier location could never be found, than is the whole northern portion of Newton County. This country with cultivation and improvements could be made a perfect paradise."

December 5, 1867 - Newton

County Union and Gazette

Trip to the Lake

"Four of our citizens went on a gaming expedition to Beaver Lake last week. They left here on Wednesday, and returned on Saturday. The results were: one duck, 25 cents; three brants, 50 cents each, \$1.50; Total \$1.75."

"Per Contra (expenses): One team for four days at \$3 per day, \$12.00; Expenses by two large cats, which ate the duck, 25 cents; two brants which fell in the lake and never got, 50 cents each, \$1.00; Total \$13.25."

"So it will be seen that going gaming at the lake wasn't profitable that trip. The party consoles themselves with the belief, however, that they scared all the game, except two deer, which usually run towards the Kankakee River, down this way, and that it will be more

Pages of the Past

Submitted by Beth Bassett, Newton County Chronotype 1861, Newton County Union and Gazette 1867; Kentland Gazette 1874, 1875; Newton County News, 1881, 1882

convenient for those who can kill on the wing. May they have better luck next time."

April 30, 1874 - Kentland Gazette

Letter From Lake

"Lincoln, April 6, 1874.

"Editor of Gazette:

"I propose with your permission to indict a letter upon your readers for which they will not care a cent. Having business at Kentland and at points on the road thereto, we embraced the opportunity to "swing around the circle," last week. We like to travel. By our honored sire, who once ventured to the opposite side of his county to a militia drill, we were assured that "thar's a great 'eal to be larnt by travelin.'" And hence we travel, frequently. Early on Monday morning of last week, we pointed for Morocco, and despite bad roads, we soon reached Scottsville, near "the ditch," where we beheld the philosophic 'Squire Jenkins' countenance, peaceful as a tranquil summer sky. Engaged in propping up Scott's store-building was 'C. J.', itemizer for the Gazette at this point, who informed us that he was suffering severely from "declamation of the brain" - induced doubtless by the mental strain to produce his recent poetic tribute to "Scotts new store."

"This place, Scottsville, is located exactly at the center of the country ten miles around it, and transacts an immense business in posts, jews-harps, tobacco, chewing-gum and fish-hooks. It is only noted for not having been the birthplace of Gov. Hendricks, though this distinction is also claimed by many other places. We passed on without stopping (this is a temperance place, we don't drink anyway), and without any accidents

worthy to be noted, eventually drew up reins at the single hotel populous Morocco. This is the oldest town in the county, and its present population, is largely composed of its early settlers. There was an unwonted stir in the place - two men on the street, and a boy chasing a shoat down an alley. At the hotel, a bounteous repast was soon forthcoming, to which we paid our respects handsomely, and having paid for the same like an honest man, we "leaned out."

"While in route from Morocco to Kentland, we passed through a very fine, well-cultivated farming region. The generally creditable appearance of the dwellings and yards, was evidence to us of the industry and thrift of the farm.

"In due time we arrived at Kentland, the county seat and metropolis of Newton. We were right "in town" now, and spent quite a portion of our stay in "seeing the sights." Kentland has some very fine business buildings and fine residences, but the town is so well sprinkled with old, black, rickety buildings of various kinds, that its general appearance is very much marred. We were most attracted by your very excellent school building, and Prof. Niesz, whom we met, is one of the very best educators in this part of the State; and he has given your school an excellent and extended reputation.

"Next morning, we started for home, and arrived there safe, sound and sober. We found the usual quantity of game. Come out! (signed) MYSTES."

April 8, 1875 - Kentland Gazette

Goodland

"We took a trip to Goodland on last

Tuesday and found the area as lively as ever. On the road up, we noticed teams to the right of us, teams to the left of us and teams all around us, busily engaged turning up the soil preparatory to sowing oats and flax seed. "Arriving our destination, we called on Bro. Winegarden, of the Reporter, and found all hands busy setting type. Mr. W. reported business good and seemed as happy as a man in his primitive state.

"After spending a few moments there, we called upon Mr. Chas. Streight, and found him in the same clever gentleman as in the days of "item gathering." He has a good stock of goods and seems to be selling them rapidly.

"From here we went to Nasby's headquarters and found Mr. Ports Wilson busy waiting on customers, yet ready to chat with a friend and render his stay pleasant. Mr. W. has a good stock of drugs and notions and reports trade very fair for the season.

"At the New York store we found Mr. Mosher looking after the outside interests, while Mr. Orvis and the boys (the gentlemanly clerks, we mean) were inside measuring calico and such to numerous customers.

"Parker Bro. and Little are selling agricultural implements at low figures, and their stock is very extensive.

"Mr. Blake Wilson has bought the Patterson corner - houses, lot and all.

"Mr. R. C. Currens met us on the street after a friendly shake, ordered the Gazette for twelve more moons.

"Mr. Foster informed us that a survey was being or soon would be made preparatory

Continued on page 10 >

NAMES OF TOWNSHIPS.	Number of Horses	Number of Mules	Number of Cattle	Number of Sheep	Number of Hogs	Acres of Wheat	Acres of Corn	Acres of Oats	Acres of Meadow	Acres of Pasture	Bushels of Wheat	Bushels of Corn	Bushels of Rye	Bushels of Oats	Bushels of Potatoes	Bushels Grass Seeds	Bushels of Flax Seed	Bushels of Fruit	Tons of Hay	Pounds Bulk Pork	Pounds of Lard	Gallons of Vinegar	Gal. Sorghum Molasses	Number of Pianos	Melodeons & Organs	No. Sewing Machines
Iroquois,	721	38	963	132	1429	2299	5920	3393	2906	1321	3159	123065	186	29451	1330	189	1995	43650	6340	195	6041	8	215	126	3	64
Jackson,	622	142	2133	342	869	600	4084	1331	1498	1424	4563	156959	81	24590	553	201	166	2352	3007	195	6041	8	126	5	50	
Lake,	276	28	1634	20	406	10	2166	250	336	2039	70	46690	81	3798	1013	994	17	3236	17	3236	17	3236	17	159	1	25
Beaver,	531	38	1835	395	2240	240	2590	812	851	1455	1825	116145	907	14408	894	73	530	2973	2606	885	3497	176	477	4	60	
Washington,	892	67	1985	181	1554	629	7117	1782	1340	3215	4145	207040	907	85645	368	323	1572	29440	4320	30	515	40	7	5	76	
Jefferson,	741	128	1791	253	1712	1142	9953	1984	967	1698	10949	427400	907	56796	223	1147	1058	15675	1970	20	260	80	40	7	5	76
McClelland,	107	10	438	161	1147	400	1147	70	228	165	22819	7850	33627	10	35	20	1397	200	260	20	260	80	40	7	5	76
Grant,	713	77	942	1230	750	493	7747	983	910	1204	14524	448450	33627	10	35	20	1397	200	260	20	260	80	40	7	5	76
Colfax,	54	7	715	12	74	400	400	31	41	395	1300	1300	1300	1300	1300	1300	1300	1300	1300	1300	1300	1300	1300	1300	1300	1300
Lincoln,	70		1119		49		289												75							
Kentland,	136	4	91		142																					
Total,	4863	539	13646	2565	9386	5413	41413	10636	9077	12916	39235	1557738	1174	248315	4381	503	2375	5392	16446	98045	22428	214	1612	22	63	593

Newton County statistics, June 1875, reprinted from the Kentland Gazette.

Pages of the Past

Submitted by Beth Bassett, Newton County Chronotype 1861, Newton County Union and Gazette 1867; Kentland Gazette 1874, 1875; Newton County News, 1881, 1882

Continued from page 9 >

to grading the streets, as also for the purpose of incorporation.

"Mr. Jo. Cones was on the jump, fixing up for the new bank to be opened there at once by Spinney and Cones.

"Messrs. Burgess and Savage were behind the counter busy waiting upon customers. Burgess has a good stock of drugs, books, wall paper, etc., and is driving a good trade.

"Rev. Mr. Reed, of Chicago, is holding meeting at Mills' Hall, with a good attendance nightly. The meetings will be protracted throughout the week and over Sunday.

"From what we could learn in the seventy-five minutes we remained in town, we concluded that our Goodland correspondent, in his strictures on the use and sale of liquor in that pleasant village, did injustice of the town and some of its citizens. How pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity, and how unpleasant it is to have village and neighborhood bickering. Better far it thy brother sin in thy sight to go to him in a spirit of kindness and secretly entreat him to sin no more.

December 1, 1881 -
Newton County News
 Julian

"Weather pleasant.

"Corn husking nearly done.

"Farmers seem to enjoy a walk upon terra-firma once more as it is so much more pleasant in the cornfield.

"Our blacksmith is having all the work he can do at present, and is obliged to call in help.

"Mr. George Sapp, formerly of this place, was visiting at his parents, last Sabbath. George is fat and robust and somewhat resembles a city chap.

"Ben Smoot was in Kentland last week, attending to some important business, and during his absence his little boy came close to his death by the kick of a horse, but we understand he is recovering.

"Joseph Penwright, whose wedding we had the pleasure of noting lately, came to near finding a watery grave one day last week. It seems as though he arose early in the morning and went out to get a pail of water and as he stepped upon the edge of the well the old curbing gave way, the well caved in and he was lowered into the water. When found he was lying about halfway between the well and house in an unconscious state. Dr. Caldwell was immediately summoned and found Joe in a critical condition, but at last accounts his permanent recovery is hopeful.

"Bro. Sebring preached an excellent sermon to a large audience at Salem on Sunday last.

"We understand that there was quite a sensation in the city last Friday, created by the assumed authority of Mr. Dunlap in not opening the mail immediately upon its arrival. The mail carrier seems to think if anybody should be in a great hurry for his supper it is he who had walked twenty miles and carried the mail sack upon his back. We can't blame him if he should offer up a few broken remarks on such occasions, for no doubt he was hungry and did not much desire to wait

long for the distribution of the mail.

"No card playing this week. Dock Ulrey is getting hungry for a turkey and no doubt will stir up something for amusement next week. Dock must surely have met with success while canvassing over the Life of Garfield, as we notice he got a package through the mail with twenty-five stamps upon it.

"First social hop of the season at Morris Thomas' next Thursday eve.

"The surveyors of the new railroad surveyed from Rensselaer to this place last week. The road will go if present indications have anything to do it, just south of where the city

Hardware, Stoves
 And Wagon Stocks,
KENNEDY & KETCHAM
 (Successors to William Kennedy)
MOROCCO, IND.,
 Keep a full and complete stock of
 everything in the Hardware line.
 Manufacturing and Repairing of
TINWARE, &C.,
 promptly done by JOHN HIGGINS,
 whose ability in that line is well
 known.
 Also a full stock of
DRUGS and BOOKS,
 Don't fail to give them a call. tf

Kennedy and Ketcham ad, Newton County News, September 7, 1882.

Pages of the Past

Submitted by Beth Bassett, Newton County Chronotype 1861, Newton County Union and Gazette 1867; Kentland Gazette 1874, 1875; Newton County News, 1881, 1882

is now, crossing the river southwest of here and then angling northeast toward Rensselaer."

Brook

"Weather is growing cooler.

"Preaching every two weeks.

"First 'freeze-up' last Saturday.

"The sudden rising of the river prevents crossing here at present.

"Husking is very unpleasant on account of the recent rains and much mud.

"Thomas Conn, Martin Eavens and William Hawkins started for the southwest last Monday on a hunting and trapping expedition.

"No doubt that many of the people of Newton County, formerly knew, and were acquainted with A. G. Board, one of the first settlers of the county, and formerly a resident of our town and, who, some five or six years ago was our mail carrier, after which service he moved to Gopher Co., Nebraska. And no doubt his old friends will meet the news of his death with surprise and sorrow.

"Literary Society at No. 5 Saturday evening. Come out. (signed) RIO.

April 13, 1882 - Kentland Gazette

Morocco

"We were at Morocco last Saturday, and found the citizens of that thriving town alive to their own interests in business matters. The firm of Graves and Johnson is doing a good business in the dry goods and grocery line.

"Mr. Ed Partlow, the harness maker, is crowding business lively. He told us that he had been working on orders for some months, which speaks well for his trade.

"The firm of Enslin and Patrick is alive to trade and doing a rushing business in dry goods and groceries.

"Mr. Nick Simons is still in the drug trade, and claims trade fair.

"Will Kennedy, the hardware man, is still sending to the country lots of his wares.

"G. W. Bemenderfer is the furniture and undertaking business with a good stock and lively trade.

"The drug store of Kennedy and Ketcham is doing a thriving business, with Ketcham at the helm; things must move, as he understands his business thoroughly.

"Mr. Isaac Timmons has opened up a hotel in the old Deardurff stand where he is prepared to take of the hungry and weary.

"Uncle Ward Anderson is still running the post office for Uncle Sam, and his better

half is supplying the hungry with food and the weary with rest at the Anderson House.

"Will Darroch is dealing out the law to all those who want anything in that line, and can give those in need of legal advice what is best for them.

"Last, but not least, is the dry goods and grocery establishment of Joseph Kennedy, which is well filled with goods and doing a big trade. Mr. Geo. Murphey is the head clerk and was so crowded with trade that he scarcely had time to speak with us.

"Morocco is a good business point with a fine country surrounding it, and its people are clever as you want to get among."

August 18, 1882 - Kentland Gazette Lincoln Township

"Lincoln Township is still on the boom.

"The new houses in Thayer are progressing finely.

"Large quantities of hay is being made in Lincoln at present.

"Boyle and Goff have just completed an elevator 40 by 60 feet in Rose Lawn, and are now prepared to handle all kinds of grain and hay. Mr. James White of Cincinnati was the architect.

"Keller, Craig and Co., are building an elevator in Rose Lawn. Max Ahlgrim is the builder; they are building it under their new lumber shed and will set it out on the railroad when completed.

"Mr. Wright's new building is ready to occupy.

"Mr. Chas. Harrington, Rose Lawn's pleasant and affable druggist, will take a life partner in a few days.

"Several families have settled in Rose Lawn lately and its population is increasing very rapidly by immigration and Lou Craig is of the opinion the natural increase will be very considerable this season.

"A glass ball shooting tournament in the Lawn last Saturday; about 200 shootists were present.

"Mr. Wesley Freeman has sold his black marsh farm of 16,000 acres to Allen Gregory of Chicago, for \$15,000 cash. Mr. Freeman will return to Canada and engage in the mercantile business. (signed) HUB.

August 24, 1882- Newton County News

Pilot Grove

"Roads a little bad.

"The grade on the new railroad is almost completed.

"John Hack, the man who has the con-

tract for grading our RR is a first-class man. All who have dealt with him will testify to his integrity.

"A. J. Kitt and H. Parker, passed through our little village a few days ago. They stopped a few minutes, set up the cigars and asked to be remembered on election day. Mr. Kitt is not a very large man, but good judges say he is well muscled and will win on the home stretch. (signed) NERO."

Brick Yard, Washington Township

"Weather is cool - so are Republicans.

"Roads are muddy on account of much rain.

"Our kiln which is to burn tile will soon be completed. Four brick layers are at work at it.

"Uncle Charley Nevill, father-in-law of Philip Bonebrake is visiting at Philip's residence at present. He is a solid old Democrat.

"The Republican of this county seem to have no issue with the democrats and so they squabble among themselves and find fault with democrats who take rides with stalwart Republicans like S. P. Conner.

"We know of one Republican who agrees with Mr. Demotte's ideas on the River and Harbor bill, but this man is a contractor of public works and tries to hire men to work for nothing and board themselves.

I. W. Bemenderfer,
Morocco, Ind.,
—dealer in—
Furniture,
Coffins and
Trimmings,
—AND—
BURIAL ROBES.
MIRRORS,
Picture Frames,
Fancy Brackets.
Domestic Sewing Machines,
And all goods in my line.
Repairing a specialty.

Bemenderfer Furniture ad, Newton County News, June 27, 1882.

Historian's Corner Gardening - By Diana Elijah Newton County Historian

Upon receiving my assignment for this Newcomer I went to Wikipedia and found 19 pages of information, there is not danger of me writing that much!

As living conditions improved about 10,000 years ago, private or community enclosures evolved, so the beginning of household gardens.

During World War II, the famous Victory vegetable gardens help feed the country.

I asked several people about gardening, and one common practice is that of saving, drying and sharing seeds which began with ancestors, remains in place today.

I have several now large old evergreens in front of my house that were propagated by my mother over forty years ago. I told a landscaper about this, and he remarked that propagating evergreens was not an easy thing to do. Mother took slips of stems, stuck them in the ground under a grape arbor, placed a mason jar over them - making sure there was moisture and filtered light. We were on a low budget at the time, so the gift of these evergreens was very much welcome!

Other Shared Memories

Grandma Bramble's Garden

by Kay Babcock

My Grandpa and Grandma Bramble's garden in Remington was a place of wonderment for me. My parents never really had a garden; I suppose we were the receivers of the bounty from my grandmas.

I thought the garden was huge, to my small person, I guess it was. Their backyard was not as big as the garden. And the backyard was filled with flower beds.

It was a garden of the usual vegetables: radishes, cucumbers, green onions, lettuce, (remember wilted lettuce made with onions and crisp bacon drippings in the dressing), green beans, peas, peppers, sweet corn, and probably other things I didn't think I wanted to eat.

The bounty was canned - jar after jar. I remember walking down the street to bor-



Our president, Kay Babcock, in her grandmother's garden.

row the "kraut" shredder and being told to be very careful carrying it home because it was sharp. My grandma stuffed small green peppers with shredded cabbage, then into a jar filled with brine. I loved them so much; it was a treat to be able to go get a jar later from the shelf. And her dill pickles were better than any we can buy now. Or is it that just my memory playing tricks on me?

The garden always had flowers - balsam, (I thought this was very regal), marigolds and zinnias, others that I have forgotten. I thought they were so pretty and smelled so good, but I never remember my Grandma picking a bouquet to bring into the house.

Along the side of the house was a row of poppies, it was often my job to pick the head so they wouldn't spread the seeds. It was watering the the garden once and thought it was great fun to knock off the ants on the peony buds. Oh mercy, did I get scolded! I was told in no uncertain terms not to do that again, if the ants weren't there, the buds wouldn't open.

Picking Watermelons

by Cynthia J. (Blann) Petri

Watermelons, cantaloupe, sweet corn, tomatoes, pumpkins are just a few of the items my Dad, George Blann was known for growing and selling. He sold to area grocery stores and we had a roadside farm stand.

I have many fond memories of this time. Although, at the time, I really didn't appreciate having to do all the work of picking, loading, and selling all this produce. However, it taught me a lot about dealing with people and handling money. While there are many stories I could relate, my focus here is on the watermelon fields and adventures in picking



Cindy (left), and Brenda Blann sharing a moment in their Dad's watermelon patch.

and loading them.

Most people chill their melons and slice them before eating. I never realized this until I went to college! We always ate them warm and not sliced! Some of this "eating" took place in the field. This would occur in the process of loading to the truck.

When picking and loading watermelons, it was customary to occasionally "accidentally" drop one! The melons were placed in piles for loading onto the truck. Many times the melons were tossed to one another to get them in these piles. During this process, the accidental dropping would occur. Of course

it would break and everyone in the field at the time would eat the "heart" or center of the melon. It wasn't chilled or sliced! It was sweet! We loved it!

Of course my Dad knew it generally wasn't an "accident." He was ok with it. He sometimes ate with us.

Spring Means a Renewal of Life and Grandmother's Tradition

By Eleanor Bailey

Spring's arrival means that when the snow is gone, I can follow my grandmother's tradition of watching the different plants start to emerge from the deep sleep of winter.

In the 1940s and 1950s we would visit my Bailey grandparents who lived in Morocco, Indiana. When we were ready to leave, Grandma would always take us on a tour around the house. She would point out to us each flower and plant and tell us which friend or neighbor had given her a start of each one.

Grandpa would sometimes take one of us by the hand and go into the gladiola garden on the back of the property. He had been a gladiola hybridizer and grower for many years.

In the 1930s he had shipped plants by mail order and on the train. I now have a yard in Lafayette and my neighbors have given me plants to start my own flower garden. Spring is a chance to renew Grandmother's tradition.

Eclectic Collection & Memories

by Beth Bassett

I am an eclectic collector of perennial flowers - acquired over the years from friends and family members. Memories and recollections of these individuals flood back to me when their color and fragrances waft through the yard - and when I am pulling out the overwhelming growths of Creeping Charlie and his cousin Chickweed in early spring.

I am certain this hobby had its beginnings when I would follow my mother around our yard as a child and together we would admire the foliage and she would tell me their names and where the flowers originated. Several of the perennials were taken from the Zoborosky homestead as well as the roadsides and family members.

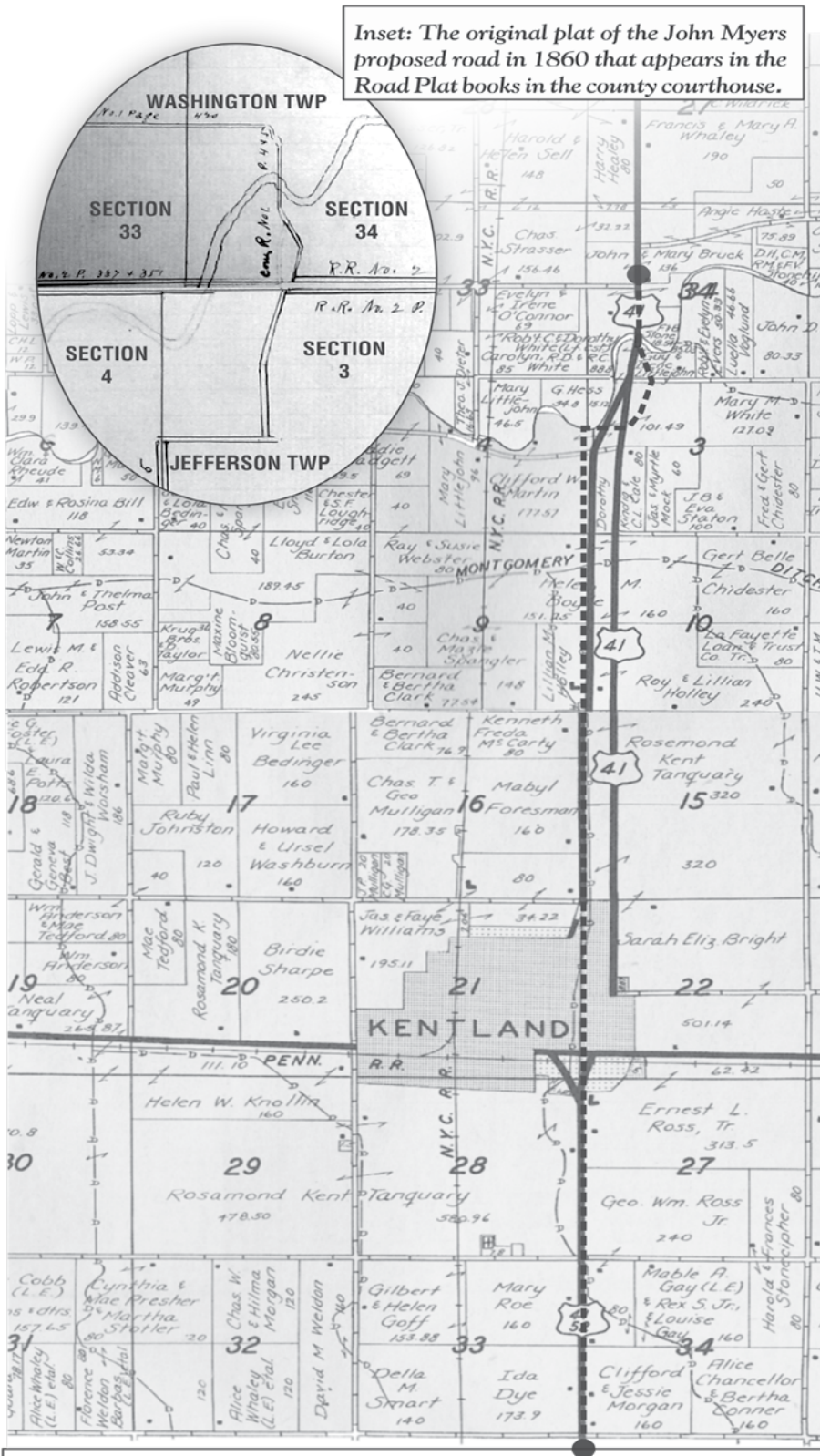
My collection started with cuttings from her plants: Quince Bush; rhubarb; Peach trees; Iris; poppies; lillies; and a yellow rose bush.

Isabelle Anderson shared her Hosta plants; Joan Clark, her Japanese Iris; my sister Shirley's evergreens frame my yard.

When I moved into my home, the yard was graced with age-tested lilac bushes and a snowball bush, as well as a lovely row of peonies that faithfully return each year. It would be wonderful to know the histories of these plantings - a story I may never be able to share.

Development of Newton County Roads and Road Petitions

by Beth Bassett



Inset: The original plat of the John Myers proposed road in 1860 that appears in the Road Plat books in the county courthouse.

The proposed route of John Myers' petition in 1860, which was the second order of business for the newly organized Newton County Board of Commissioners is shown on this 1958 plat map of Jefferson and Washington Townships.

The dirt and mud paths used as Indian trails that crisscrossed our lands evolved into roadways through the mid-1800s – the modern movement of building wooden roads, aka plank roads, began to boom at the same time as the railroad progressed into our area.

In 1852, general State laws were passed for the formation of companies to construct macadamized roads. In 1865, a state law was passed that special taxes might be levied to build these gravel roads. In 1877, a state law authorized the county commissioners to lay out and oversee the construction of new and existing roads.

Constructing plank roads consisted of laying planks over the roadways on a log foundation in various lengths, most were 8 feet long with a width of up to 12 feet. Maintenance involved digging ditches on each side to drain the water and keep mud from accumulating under and over the planks.

Historians have written about Beaver Lake's corduroy road utilized by the horse thieves that connected the land to Bogus Island in their 'hey day.' It is feasible that plank roads appeared in a variety of areas, however, I was unable to discover any official county documentation of plank road construction connecting towns and townships.

Constructing Macadamized and/or gravel roads became the standard for new and improving roads in Newton County by the 1900s. Named after its Scottish inventor, John Loudon MacAdam, macadamized roads consisted of a multilayered surface of crushed stone: the largest stones, about the size of an adult human skull, at the bottom, then another layer about the size of an adult fist, then a top layer of stones no larger than can go into an adult mouth. Whether these standards were utilized on all roads is not documented. Of the petitions I examined, some asked for macadamized, others for gravel road construction.

But the new surfaced roads stunned everyone. Farmers instantly realized that on a macadamized road their horses worked far less hard, and that indeed a two-horse team could pull a wagon needing a four or six-horse team on ordinary dirt roads. A macadamized road drained well on rainy days and never turned to mud, and the steel wagon-wheel rims and steel shoes of the horses compacted the top layer of small stones into a hard, more or less even surface that stayed in place wonderfully well.

Roads began to be located after the settlement of the county in 1860. Usually the roads were located on established lines, such as section or quarter section lines. The

Continued on page 14 >

14 The Newcomer

< Continued from page 13

process of creating new roads begins with the creation of a petition proposing the roadway, signed by a minimal number freeholders – or those who own the land where the proposed road will be located.

The petition is then submitted to the Board of Commissioners, who first review the proposed roadway and validate the signatures of the petition. If the petition is accepted, the commissioners appoint non-interested freeholders as road viewers who examine the area and proposed route of the new or change to an existing road. The findings of the road viewers and acceptance of their report by the commissioners begins the discussion of cost and funding the proposed route. Contracts are then awarded and the work begins.

On April 21, 1860, Newton County was officially organized with the swearing in of the newly elected officials. They set the date of the following Monday, April 23, 1860, as the first meeting where business of the county could be presented before the Board of Commissioners. Information regarding these meetings can be found in the Commissioner Record Books, 1860-1867, located in the county courthouse. On pages 3-5, you will find the record of the first official Newton County road petition. Obviously, roads existed here prior to 1860, recorded in the Jasper County Commissioner Record books.

The first order of business on April 23rd was the creation of Jefferson Township from Washington Township. The second business was that of a signed road petition presented by John Myers and twelve others for the location of a county road “commencing where the Morocco Road intersects the State Road north of the Iroquois River in T28R9W; thence south through the lands of Allen and Roberts, to a stake some 15 rods from said river; thence SE to a bluff; thence across said river; thence SE through the lands of Hugh Warren to a slough and across; thence SW to the grass land; thence due south to the County Road through the land of Amos Clark; thence due west to the County Road to the section line; thence South on said line between the lands of Shutt and Anderson, through the lands of Amos White and A. J. Kent to the (Benton) County line.” (See diagram, page 13.)

The road was approved and eventually constructed. The plat of the road was found in the Road Plat book also found at the county courthouse. Today, this road is known as US 41. It would have begun in Washington Township where CR1150S intersects with US 41, going south through Jefferson Township to the Benton County line, which today is CR1800S.

Travel on these early roads were confined to single lanes, and in the spring, would usually be impassable. Articles and letters appeared

in the local papers over the years discussing the condition of the roads, opinions as to their locations as well as the type of roads to be constructed.

Kentland Gazette, June 11, 1874

“The condition of the roads in this Township is truly deplorable. On last Monday morning a lady equestrian suddenly realized that a “mud-hole” west of Mr. S. Myers’s had no bottom; she gallantly alighted backwards and her horse then conceived the right idea of extricating itself from the mire, the result was the lady found herself underneath the rearing plunging horse dragging her into the mud until it reached her head and here only the most strenuous efforts prevented her death by strangulation for in that plight a short time under mire and water would have caused death. When she arose finally from her uncoveted position the condition of her Sunday go-to-meeting clothes would doubtless have made the Township Trustee think a bridge necessary in that lane. Her clothes especially the article with wings, ladies call hats, looked as it had been drawn through seven “mud-holes.” The bruise and effect of the crushing weight of the horse will render her unfit for the duties of the school-room for a time. Trustee please take notice; the roads are in a ruinous condition.” Note: the township may be Washington or Jefferson.

Kentland Gazette, March 30, 1876

“The very bad condition of the roads with this winter brings up the questions – Can gravel roads be built? We have been informed by men of good judgement – farmers that live between here and Morocco – that there is a gravel bed of forty acres and that the land can be bought for seven or eight hundred dollars. Now if this be true (and it can be learned by investigation) a company should be organized at once to put in operation an enterprise that will be of so much benefit to the county and town. Farmers, businessmen and all other citizens will take stock in an enterprise of this kind. The gravel is located about halfway between here and Morocco. Let the work begin there and build both ways. If there cannot be more than six miles built this year, it would serve to push the work to completion the following year.”

The gravel bed would be utilized for the road with farmers working together on its construction. Local lore tells that in later years the pit created from the removal of the gravel became a favorite swimming hole.

Kentland Gazette, April 13, 1876

The appearance of the above editorial regarding a road between Morocco and Kentland gave way to a response by Kentland businessman Sylvester Root. He wrote of his encounter with plank roads that extended between Independence and Pine Village, explaining

that the first repairs since its inception 15-20 years prior were made in 1875. He therefore felt that Newton County should pursue the building of such roads and mentioned this example:

“If we have any doubts as to the feasibility or practicability of making roads in this way, it is a well-known fact to every observer of our roads here in town that previous to three years ago there was a short piece of road running south from the railroad and between Kent’s warehouse and Root’s lumber yard lot, (his business), where every season numerous teams with empty wagons were accustomed to getting stuck and stalled, notwithstanding every year an immense amount of labor was extended in repairing the above street. Three years ago (1873), about two-thirds of this short piece of street was covered with over 16 feet of culled lumber and about six inches of dirt thrown upon it – and from that day to this it has been the best piece of road we have in town and is likely to be until the next Centennial year comes if there is the proper amount of dirt kept upon the plank – and there has not been any labor expended on it since it was first repaired in this way. Now, my suggestion is that a certain amount of our roads, both in town and out of town be experimented on in this way – if you are disposed to call it an experiment – although I do not.”

Mr. Root writes about the cost of labor and materials needed for these plank roads, venturing on to say that “it is the cheapest road, by more than one-half that can be built for a good, permanent road. The road would never have any ruts and the mud would never be deeper than the depth of the dirt placed on the plank.”

In 1895-1900, many roads were constructed and improved. A massive road building effort petitioned by Jennie Conrad in 1901 included roads in Beaver, McClellan, and Lake Townships. The list of names on the petition is quite impressive. Unfortunately for Mrs. Conrad, the board of commissioners stated, “the court finds that cost would incur expense exceeding 4% of the assessed valuation of McClellan, and therefore suggest that the petitioners file an amended petition by constructing more roads in Beaver Township than originally asked and taking out all roads in McClellan.”

In the June 6, 1901, the *Enterprise* reported: “The Beaver township road petition which has caused so much controversy was finally dismissed Monday. This means that Lake and McClellan townships are out of it and a petition will now be filed for Beaver alone.”

Newton County Enterprise

May 23, 1901

“Say Mr. Editor, won’t there be lively times here this summer and fall? Think of building

60 to 75 miles of stone roads in this county in one year and raising and harvesting 1,000 acres of beets. Money ought to be very plenty this fall. The roads already voted and to be voted will amount to something over 100 miles, and if they make them average eight inches deep by nine feet wide it will take almost 120,000 yards of rock to be hauled different distances and at one and one half yards to the load takes 80,000 loads to move - and good loads at that, as a cubic yard of rock weighs 4,000 pounds.

"Then, too, think of the work around the sugar beet fields. There will be nearly 1,000 acres raised in Lincoln Township counting Jasper Powel's field which is directly east of Roselawn, but over the Jasper County line. But there are 80 acres of good beets averaging 30 tons per acre, which is very moderate, that yields 21,000 tons to be harvested and moved to railway or factory and at 2-ton to the load - and that is a load in the fields and on sand hills, requires 12,000 loads to be hauled distances ranging from one to four and one-half miles, and all these thousand tons to be pulled, topped, piled, covered, loaded and unloaded. There is business ahead and it makes my back ache now to think of pulling 21,000 tons of big heavy beets.

"Gosh, that beats Sinks' duck and swan shooting a large majority; and then all the thousands on thousands of acres of oats and corn to cultivate and harvest and crib and haul to market.

"I say, Mr. Editor, it looks like the Newton County Hoosier would have to hump himself this summer and fall to get through the work he has laid out and Lake County cannot help for they have 5-6,000 acres of beets to pull and market. And then there is the railroad to build across the county before snow flies and that will be quite a job, and then if I get out of a job I can cross the river and work on the beet factory, and others may do so if they like.

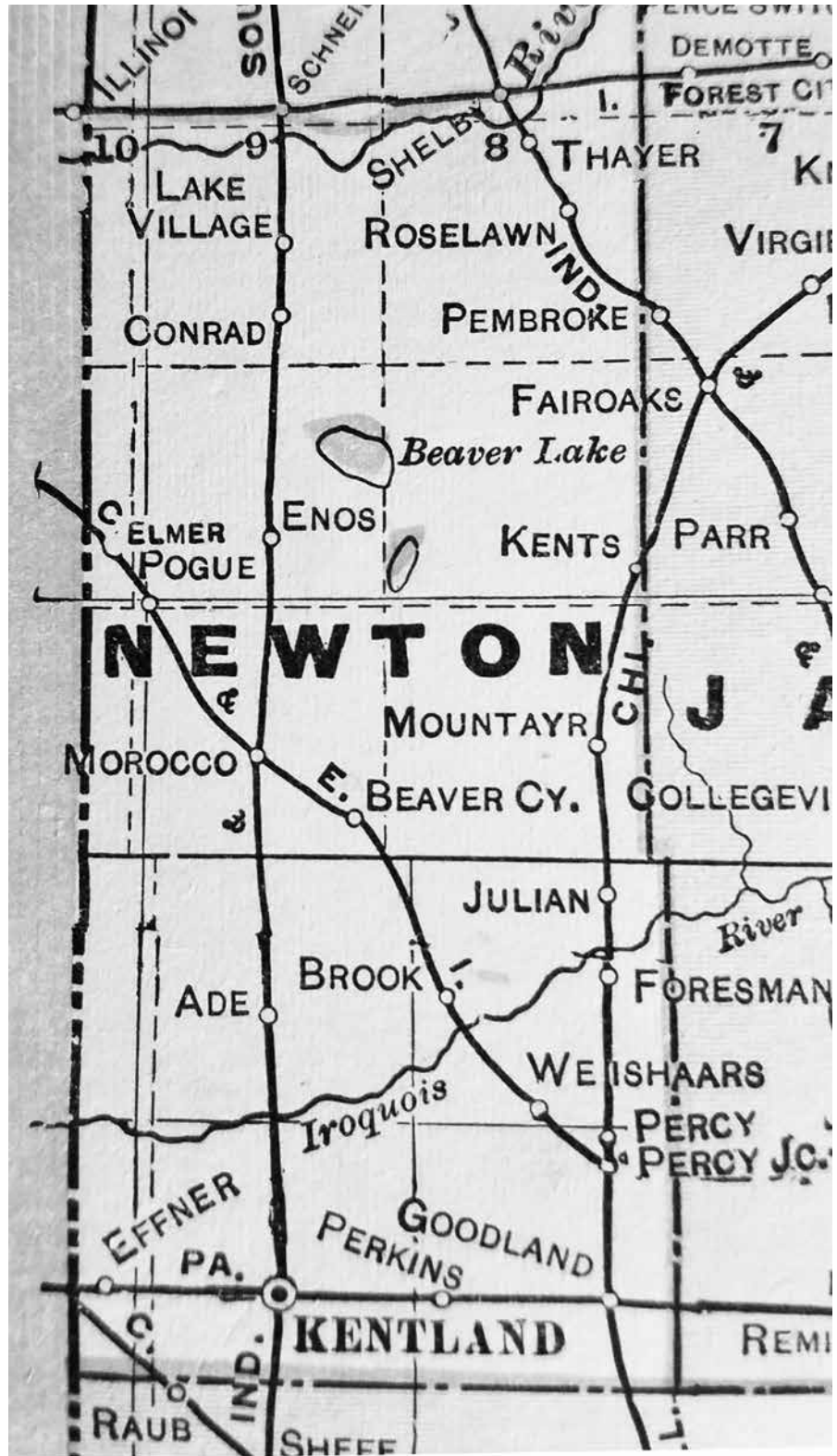
"Hurrah for little Newton. She takes no back seat." (letter unsigned.)

By 1910, John Ade included in his history book, "Newton County 1855-1910," that Newton County had a total of 150 miles of roads in all townships: Jefferson 36; Grant 33; Iroquois 28; Beaver 23; McClellan 8; Lake 8; Lincoln 14. Cost of these roads averaged \$1,000/mile.

Road, ditch and bridge construction was a top priority of the county officials in the first decades of our county existence. The landscape would change drastically with the draining of Beaver Lake that began in 1854, setting into motion more ditching and drainage throughout the northern part of the county. The building of the railroad would have an immense effect on the location of the towns, and with the advent of the automo-

bile, the road construction began a new era of concrete and black-top roadways. Eventually State highways would encompass many of the early established roads in the county, such as SR 10, 14, 114, and 16 and 24. And, eventual-

ly that proposed road between Morocco and Kentland mentioned before, would evolve into a federal highway, US 41, stretching the entire length of Newton County.



By 1916, Newton County was prospering with towns, villages and railroad stops, as depicted on the map published in the "1916 Atlas of Newton County."

Road Petitions 1895-1909

By Beth Bassett

I have selected a few petitions from the Road Petition books found in the county courthouse and depicted each of them utilizing the township maps from a 1950 Newton County plat book so that it would be easier for you to locate the roads. I have not transcribed the entire content of the petitions, but I have included some of the original descriptions for those who can decipher the language, such as the NE ¼ of the NE ¼ of Section 6, T28NR10W. The inability to transcribe the writing of the recorder of these petitions was a challenge and advance apologies to those whose names are misspelled or unknown.

Lincoln Township - Diagram 1

Here is an example of the petitioning process, Lincoln Township, September 16, 1895. Commissioners were Pierce Archibald, Edward E. Parsons and Henry T. Griggs.

A.M. Boyle petitions for three free gravel roads in Lincoln Township. The improvements were to be gravel, paved or macadamized. It was noted that these "highways" were already laid out, and were traveled, but did not have a defined name. Therefore, Boyle proposed:

1. The Roselawn Road to begin at the NE corner of S13, thence west through the township to the NW corner of S18, covering six miles. This stretch of the road today is SR10, aka 1000N.
2. The Thayer Road: to begin at the SW corner of S10, thence north to the NW corner of S3, covering two miles. Today known as part of SR 55.
3. The Lawler Road: to begin at the NW corner of S14, thence south to the NW corner of S26, covering two miles. Today this is part of 400E.

The fifty free-holders and citizens of Lincoln Township who signed the petition: A.M. Boyle, Johana Jensen, Frank Goldsbery, ? Korth, C. S. Moore, J. J. Mulder, Hulda Goldsbery, Wm. A. Jones, Fred Tanner, Wm. Kettering, Geo. B. Callahan, Archibald Leitch, Hugh Williamson, David K. Frye, Theodore W. West, Berth Rostrup, L. W. Moore, John Millinger, Callie West, Ed Rostrup, Frank Denton, Wm. D. Mellinger, Chas. R. Ball, Levi A. Richardson, John Brady, John S. Pierce, George Urch, Lizzie Boyle, Charles Ransom, A. C. Guilford, Ira B. Robbins, M. D., Humphrey Barbour, William Gundy, Peter W. Nelson, George Sims, Susan Jane Cox, Wm. Jacobs, Henry M. Brady, John Bouchard, Constant C. Bruechet, James M. Poisel, Elizabeth Brady, Emaline Burgess, Nancy Bardwell, Hans



Diagram 1: Lincoln Township, utilizing a 1958 Newton County Plat book.

Jensen, James McGrew, Wm. T. Burgess, Marion Churchill, Frank M. Fuller, Richard Mulder, Jette R. Mulder, Silas Sink, Edward Roush, William Denton, Charles S. Moore, Lewis W. Moore, John W. Guilford, Ann E. Guilford, Jette J. Mulder, Mary Aliss, Henry Segar, Beatrice Brady, John O. DeFries, John D. Lunge, George Haskill, A. Dirkineris, John W. Fanner, Albert Eitens, Fred Ahlgrim, Barney Kerchner.

Commissioners appoint Barnett Hawkins, County Surveyor; George Jenkins and John R. Hershman, two dis-interested freeholders of said Newton County as viewers to locate and view said proposed roads set for in the petition, to determine the width of the road, make a profile of the grade, determine the quality and depth of gravel stone or other material to be used and make an estimate of the cost of construction that should include bridges, culverts, drainage and all other things necessary for their completion and file said report by October 9, 1895.

Recommendations of construction and materials: The Roselawn and Thayer roads were to be covered to a width of 10 feet, and a depth of 6 inches of gravel; the Lawler road 12 feet and 8 inches in depth of gravel.

Cost: Roselawn Road: Gravel, \$7641.55; Culverts \$50.00; Cuts, fills and cleaning

\$250; total \$7941.55. Thayer Road: Gravel 1981.55, cuts and fills \$10.00; total \$1991.55. Lawler Road: Gravel \$2520.38; Sewers \$10.00, Cuts, fills and clearing \$60.00; total \$2590.38.

The estimates of the cost were based upon prices of gravel given to the viewers by the engineer of the Monon Railway, who thought it good road gravel and recommended that all of such material of larger size than one and a half inch in diameter shall be placed in the bottom of the surface gravel. The viewers further recommended that all cuts and fills described should have slope of banks of two feet horizontal to one foot vertical.

Grant Township - Diagram 2

Jiba F. Little petitioned for improved roads in Grant Township and the Town of Goodland in February 1901. The streets in the town not mentioned here were portions of Mill, Newton, James, and North.

1. Beginning at the intersection of CR1800S and CR600E north one mile to CR1700S, then west to ½ mile to CR550E, then north to CR1650S, then west to intersect Newton Street in Goodland. North on Newton Street 1 mile to CR1550S, then east to CR550E, then north 3 ½ miles to CR1200S.

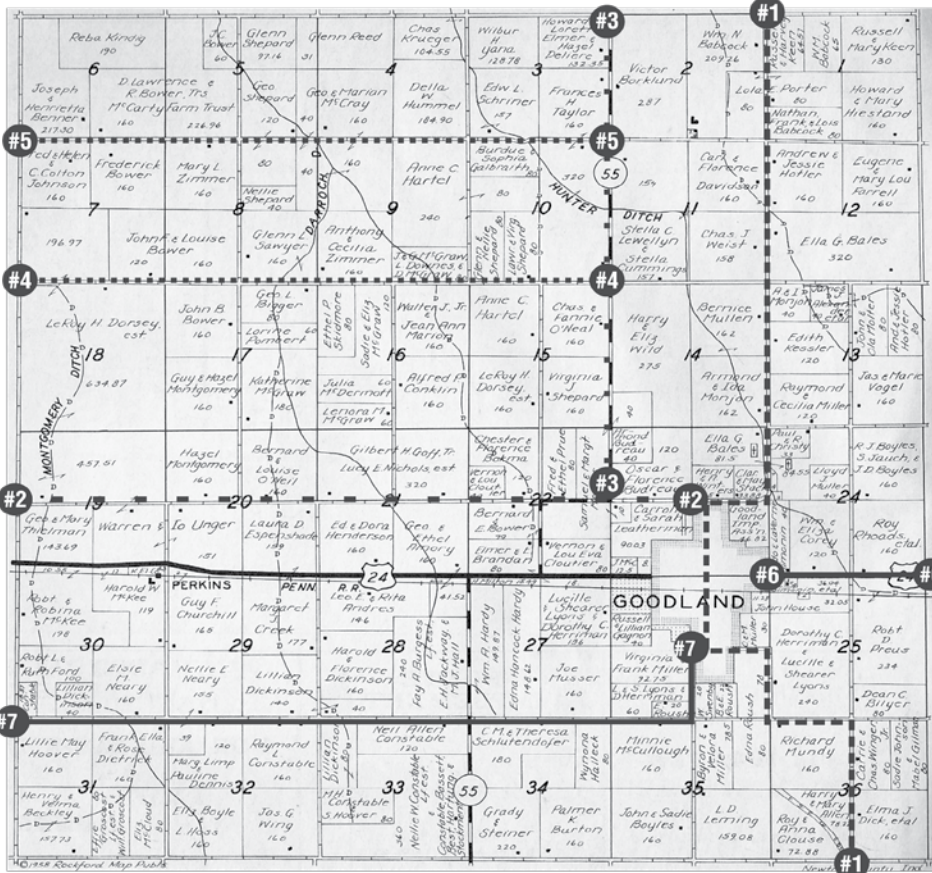


Diagram 2: Grant Township, utilizing a 1958 Newton County Plat book.

2. Beginning at the corner of Newton Street and CR1550S, commence west 4 3/4 mile to 50E.
3. Beginning at the intersection of SR55 and CR1550S, go north on SR55 3 1/2 miles to 1200S
4. Beginning at the intersection of CR1400S and SR55, go west 4 miles and end at 50E.
5. Beginning at CR1300 and SR55, go west 4 miles ending at 50E.
6. At the intersection of Newton and Jasper Street (US24), then east to end at CR650E.
7. At the intersection of Mill and Iroquois Streets (CR500E) to CR1700S, going west 4 1/2 miles to end at 50E.

Lake Township Diagram 3

Here is an example of a petition that was dismissed in December 1895. Commissioners were Henry Griggs, William Edmondson, Edward Parsons

The following are excerpts from a C. L. Brandt petition "for the improvement of graveling, grading, draining, paving and macadamizing the following described road running east and west through said village and through said Township described as to wit:

"Commencing at the NE corner of S13 in T31NR9W in Newton County, Indiana and from thence south the distance of one-half mile and from thence due west through the center of S13, S14, S15, S16, S17, S18 to the center of S13 in T31NR10W in said Newton County, Indiana, and from thence north the distance of one mile to the center of S12 in T31NR10W in Newton County, Indiana, all of said described road being located in Lake Township, the estimated length of which is 8 miles and we asked that the proposed improvement be known and designated as the "Lake Village Gravel Road," and we ask that a special election be called at which to submit the question of whether such road shall be built and improvement made as provided; we further allege that all of said highway proposed to be improved is located in said Lake Township and that over fifty of the undersigned resident free holders and voters of said Township and that the proposed improvements will be of great public benefit and utility, and further state that the said described public highway is already laid out and travelled and has been in actual use for over twenty years and has been general known as the "Lake Village Road."

The fifty freeholders of Lake Township signing the petition: Wm. Kenney (Kerney?), Joseph Deury; M F. DeWolf, J. B. Hess, H. E. Stoner, W. H. Burton, Sam Kight, John Rainford, Herbert Rainford, Chas. Miller, Lincoln H. Lawbaugh, Rachel Lawbaugh, Margaret Rainford, W. A. Rainford, George A. Graves, G. A. Lawbaugh, Thomas Boyd, Mrs. G. Conger Prentis, J. W. Wells, Gust Zach

Continued on page 18 >

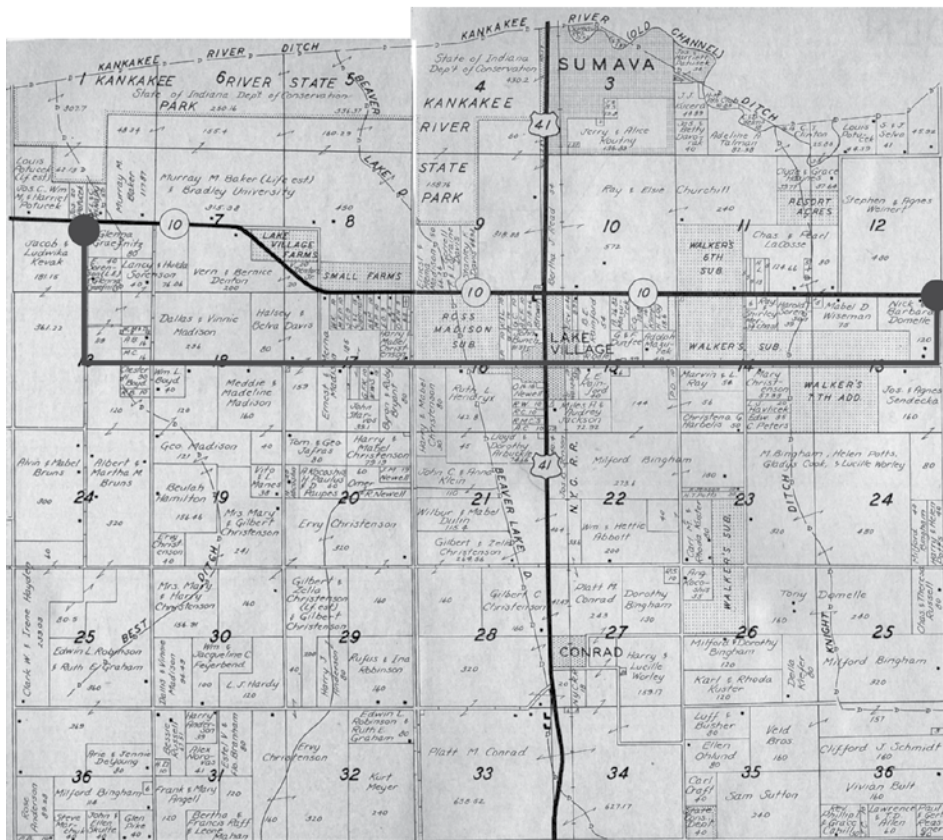


Diagram 3: Lake Township, utilizing a 1958 Newton County Plat book.

18 The Newcomer

< Continued from page 17

arius, M. Hansen, W. M. Firth, S. Nashinska N. A Moller, Edward Davis, Cornelius Kirtz, C L. Brandt, Jacob Nichols, Christian Larson, J. M. Anderson, Marico Russmussen, Mark Bryant, Geo. Bryant, A. Snyder, ?, ? William Rainford, Sam Hansen, Julius Christianson, Fred Ram?, Eddie Bryant, Martin Madden, G. L. Christianson, Elijah H. Curtis, Edward Palmer, Samuel Ostander, Marie Kight, A. C. Rush, Andrew Thompson, Samuel Curtis, I. W. Burton, Henry Rainford, Anna Dena Larson, Mrs. Sophie Wells, Chris Hansen, Mrs. Purly Meadirea.

This entry follows the above petition dated December 29, 1896:

"J. H. Wells and seventeen other residents of Lake Township called for removal of their names from the petition for the Lake Village Gravel Road, "that our names may be cancelled from the said petition land therefore submit that our names were signed by ourselves with our consent but without due consideration and therefore pray to the honorable board of commissioners of said Newton County to have each of our names that may appear in said petition stricken off from said petition and not be counted favorably for the construction of said gravel road though the said township:

Joseph H. Wells, J.P., J. H. Wells, Gust. Zacharius, Mrs. Sophia Wells, Mrs. L. Conger Prentis, S. Nashinska, Julius Ostander, Frederic Hansen, Sam Hansen, Jacob Nichols, Chris Hansen, Marenes Hansen, J. M. Anderson, A. G. Roush, Niels A. Moller, Andrew Thompson, Samuel H. Ostander, George A. Graves. J. B. Hess.

"And the board being duly advised in the matter finds for the said parties upon their application by them made for the withdrawal of their names from the said petition and permits their names to be stricken from said petition and the said board now find that the said petition as presented after the withdrawal of said names is not signed by the required number of freeholders and citizens and said petition is dismissed by the board. Signed Henry Griggs, William Edmondson, Edward Parson."

McClellan Township - Diagram 4

In August of 1901, Elmer Skinner petitioned for the following roads:

1. The Morocco Road - Beginning at the intersection of Division Road and US41, running north one mile and west one mile, this passed over the lands at that time of William Salisbury.

2. East Lake Village Road - Beginning at the corner of SR14 and CR250W, running north 1 1/4 mile to CR225N, then east 1/2 mile to CR200W, then north 1 3/4 mile to CR400N.

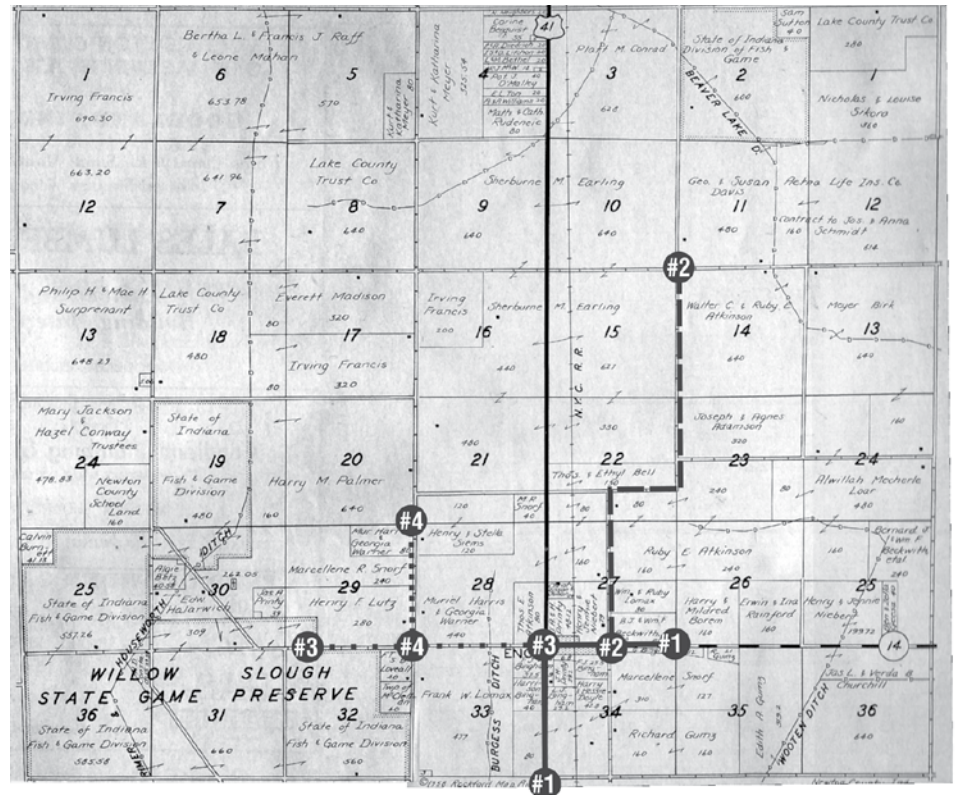


Diagram 4: McClellan Township, utilizing a 1958 Newton County Plat book.



Diagram 5: Colfax Township, utilizing a 1958 Newton County Plat book.

3. Oak Grove Road - Beginning at the intersection of SR14 and CR250W, where the East Lake Village Road began, running west 2 1/2 miles to what today is identified as near to the Old Chicago Road.
4. West Lake Village Road - Beginning at the corner of CR100N and CR400W, go north 1 mile to CR200N.

Colfax Township - Diagram 5

In July 1902, Daniel Odle petitioned for a new road that would run through his property, beginning at the corner of 500N and SR55, then south to 400N, then west 1 mile; then south on a new road that would connect CR400N and SR 14, then continues south on 200E to Division Road. The total cost for stone, would have been \$11,064 for gravel; \$665 for grading; \$150 for bridges; \$75 for tile. 200E is the only part of this road that exists today.

Iroquois Township - Diagram 6

In March 1901, Wilson Griggs and John B. Lyons petitioned for macadamized roads in Iroquois Township.

1. Main Street Road - Beginning at the intersection of CR50E and SR16, then east 6 miles to the Jasper County line, CR650E.
2. North Brook Road - Beginning at the intersection of SR16 and 150E north 3 miles on CR150E to CR600S.
3. McCabe Road - Beginning at the intersection of SR16 and SR55 north 3 miles to CR600S.
4. Griggs Road - Beginning at the intersection of SR16 and Highway Street in Brook, south to Kenoyer Road to CR175E, south 1 1/4 mile, then west and south on CR150E, then 1 1/4 mile to 1200S.
5. Hershman Road - Beginning at Kenoyer Road, south of the Iroquois, go east on what was called Hershman Road, or CR1000S, east to CR350E, south to CR1200S.
6. South Foreman Road - Beginning at the intersection of SR16 and CR550E go south 3 miles to CR1200S.
7. Waling Road - Beginning 1/2 mile north of intersection of SR16 and CR300E then north on CR300E to CR750S.

Answers to ...

Do You Know?

 By Janet Miller
 Questions on page 7

1. Weldon's Corner is in Washington Township at the corner of the Junction of US 41 and State Road 16. In the early 1900's Ridgley and Millie Weldon bought a farm at this junction (northeast corner) and a few years later built a filling station and a few cabins for travelers to spend the night. This was the first of three construction projects at this site. Known to many in the community was the restaurant that was a meeting place for neighborhood coffee breaks and well-known for its home cooking and home grown beef.

2. Ak-ki-ki is one of the Indian names for the Kankakee River. Before the name Kankakee was settled upon, the river once carried the Indian names: Ti-ah-ke-kink, Kien-ki-ki, Au-ki-ki, Theas-ki-ki, Aue-que-que, and Quin-qui-qui.

3. The Greyhound bus stop prior to the building of the Post House was located at the Interstate Nu-Joy Restaurant at the junction of old US 41 and US 24. Its' ad boasted: "Where travelers from all parts of the country stop and enjoy good food and beverages at reasonable budget prices. Our charcoal broiled chicken, steaks and chops will leave you a memory of Nu-Joy never to be forgotten". This building burned down Sunday, September 9, 1945.

4. Dorothy Fry Arbuckle of Lake Village was the author of "Andy's Dan'l Boone Rifle". She was also the author of "The After Harvest Festival". The locale of both novels was the "Great Marsh" country of northern Indiana. Dorothy helped found the Lake Village Memorial Library and served as its librarian for more than 20 years. Her books may be viewed at the NCHS research center in Kentland.

5. The term "grass widow" as recorded in the 1860 Census refers to a woman whose husband is away often or for a prolonged period; and/or a woman separated or divorced from her husband.

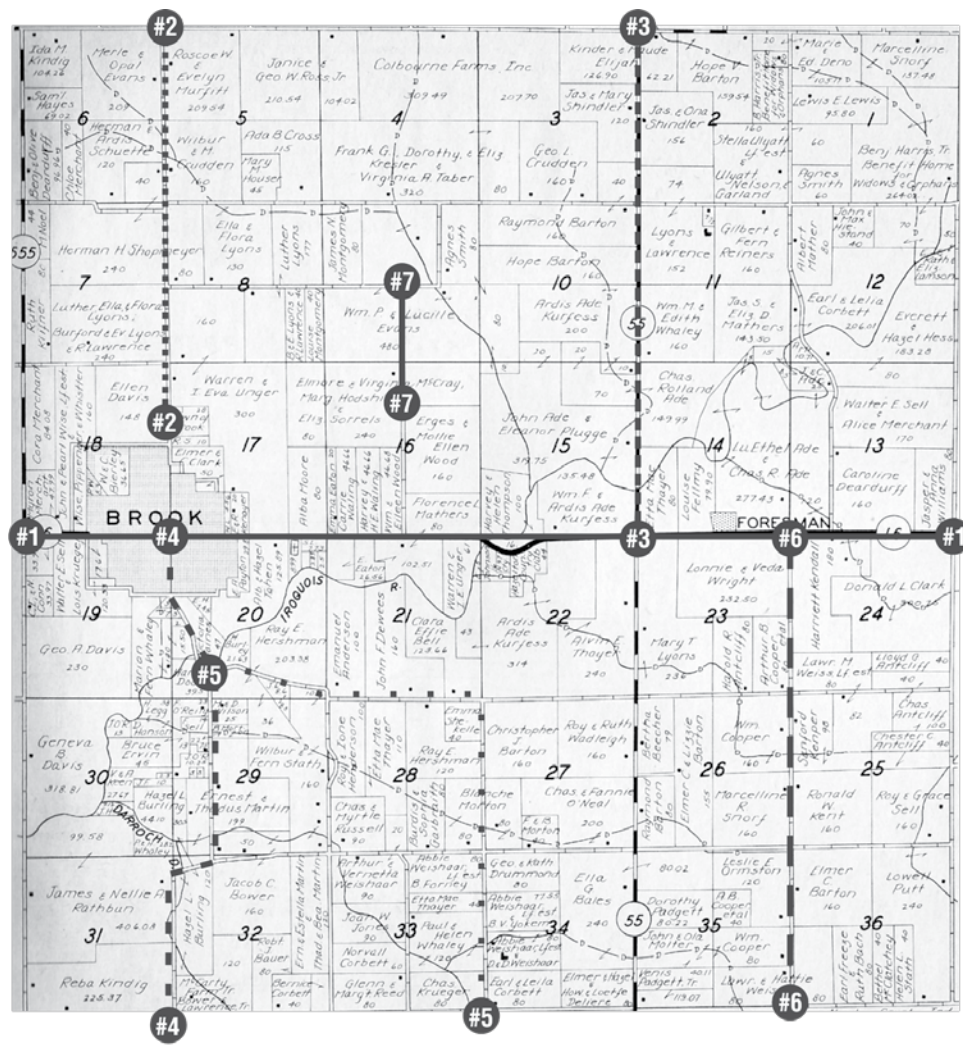


Diagram 6: Iroquois Township, utilizing a 1958 Newton County Plat book.

Home is Where Your Story Begins

The Myers Family - Submitted by Esther Barten

Newton County was a wilderness along the Iroquois River when the John Myers family arrived here in 1836. At that time, the county was actually Jasper County and did not become Newton County until 1860, twenty-four years later.

According to the 1883 History "Counties of Warren, Benton, Jasper and Newton Indiana", John Myers was an early pioneer. John was the son of Abraham and Catherine (Conn) Myers, and was born in York County, PA, March 20, 1803. When he was about fourteen years of age his father moved to Preble County, Ohio, where John went to school and worked on a farm until he was twenty years old. He then went to learn the trade of a cabinet-maker. In November 1829, he married Nancy Snodgrass and they moved to Fountain County, IN, and he was employed at his trade in the town of Chambersburg. To their union have been born nine children, Benjamin H. (deceased), Alexander A., Salinda J., Nancy F., John F., Sarah A. (deceased), Bellzard (deceased), and twin girls (deceased). They lived in Fountain County until 1836, then sold out and came to Jasper (now Newton) County, and purchased 80 acres of land in Section 34 of Washington Township, built a home and made improvements. His wife died here June 20, 1848. She was a member of the United Brethren Church. On October 26, 1854, he married Nancy Bonebrake, a widow with three children, one of whom, George W. was killed at the Battle of the Wilderness, Phillip and Barbara. His son, Benjamin H. died from a disease contracted in the army during the late rebellion; another son, Alexander A., lost a leg in battle. John was a County Commissioner of Jasper County, and School Treasurer of his township. He was a member of the United Brethren Church, and, in politics, a Republican.

A true Myers family story that has been handed down through the generations is an interesting one. When John and Nancy came to Newton County in 1836, the country then was thick woods around the Iroquois River and roads were old Indian trails. When they arrived here everything was covered with deep snow. Just west of their house was an old log corn crib. When the snow finally melted, John found a dead Indian sitting in the old corncrib. He never knew if he died there from exposure or if someone put him there.

In 1964, Clifford Myers, great grandson of John Myers wrote his memories of the Myers family. "I remember my grandfather,



Children of John F. and Lucinda Myers: Front row: Luther, Henry, John; Second row: Kaitie (Myers) Whaley; Florence (Myers) Sell; Rosa (Myers) Stonehill and Euphamie (Myers) Sell. Esther Barten photo.

John F. Myers, told me the family originated in Holland and the name then was Mayers. They went to Germany, then to the United States in Pennsylvania, to Ohio, then to Indiana. He said somewhere the name was Moyer. Somewhere along the line a little boy was close enough to attend a school and the teacher told him the family name should be Myers. He told his father and he said the teacher knew more than any of them so from then on, they were Myers. My grandmother Myers told me her side of the family was Scotch-Irish and proud of it!"

"The Myers came to Newton County in 1836 and settled north of the Iroquois River, about ¾ mile east of present road 41 on what is shown on the plat book as Section 34 in Washington Township. My grandfather, John F. Myers, was born there in 1838.

"When my great-grandfather's first wife died, he went back around Rainsville (IN) to get another wife. I don't know how many if any of his children were married then. He married a widow woman with children. Her name was Barbara Bonebrake. I don't know if she had more than the two, a boy and a girl that she brought along but I have heard them speak of an Uncle George Bonebrake who was killed in the Battle of the Wilderness in Tennessee in the Civil War. The boy was Philip W. Bonebrake and the girl was Barbara Lucinda Bonebrake. They all lived together for a while. I don't know how long."

"In the summer of 1860 my great-grand-

father told my grandfather (John F.) if he stayed there any longer he would have to pay his board. He had bought a farm just north of where they lived, where Oral Haste now lives, 120 acres, so grandpa decided he would get married instead of paying board. His step-mother's daughter (Barbara Lucinda) was a nice girl and past 16 years. So one morning while she was doing the family washing he asked her to marry him. It made her so nervous and upset her so she had to go to bed and he had to finish the washing, but in the early part of September 1860 they were married."

"Aunt Euphamie Sell and my father, Henry, were born before grandpa went to the Army. He said he was never in any battles but drilled and guarded railroads and bridges and supplies of food and ammunition." John F. Myers served in the Civil War where he enlisted in Company H, One hundred Fifty-first Indiana Infantry, and after his discharge returned to the farm. He was a Republican in politics and in 1882 was elected Township Trustee. He was a trustee, steward and an active member of the United Brethren Church where he served as Superintendent of the Sabbath School. "He lived on the farm until 1901 when he built a house in the west edge of Brook and lived there until grandma died August 28, 1912, then he lived with his children until he died in April 1915."

John F. Myers and his wife, Barbara Lucinda Bonebrake Myers were the parents of



Henry Myers June 8, 1864 - March 17, 1941 and Cora (Rudisill) Myers, Oct 5, 1869 - January 5, 1941. Esther Barten photo.

eight children: Nancy E. (Euphamie), George H. (Henry), Rosalie (Rosa), Lucy J., Catherine L. (Katie), Harvey L. (Luther), Florence M. and John.

The oldest of the children, Euphamie, married Edward Sell, son of Daniel Sell. They were the parents of five children: Willie, who died in childhood; Alice who married George Merchant; Ida who married Charles Kindig; Walter who married Ruth Lawrence and Earl who married Ruth Little.

Henry or George Henry, as he often wrote his name, was the second child and was born June 8, 1864. He married on Feb. 22, 1891, Cora Elsa Rudisill, born October 5, 1869. They were the parents of six children. First was a set of twins that died shortly after birth; Dona Alberta never married; Clifford Henry and wife Ruth Orpha Pence had two children Barbara (Mrs. Marvin) Nichols and Harold who married Betty Riegle; Freda Ruth married Kenneth McCarty and had a daughter, Esther Joy. She was married to Ralph Barten and they were the parents of Marcella, Debbie and Mark; the last child of Henry and Cora was Ralph Rudisill who never married.

Next in the John F. Myers family was Rosalie, called Rosa. She married John Stonehill and they were the parents of three. Dorsey married Allie Odle; Charles married Bertha Mustard and secondly, Louise Reed; Florence married Bob Peery. Grandma Rosa Stonehill tells the story that she grew up in a log cabin facing the timber and river. In the early evenings, she and her sisters would watch lights move down the Iroquois River. Later they were told that these lights were fires carried in Indian canoes as they moved to different



July, 1932, Myers family: Clifford, Dona, Cora, George, Freda and Ralph. Esther Barten photo.

hunting grounds along the river.

The next child, Lucy died at the age of three.

Catherine Loretta Myers married Grant Whaley February 22, 1893. They became parents of ten children: Lovia married Earl Kindig; Leann married Chauncey Merchant; Francis married Mary Pluimer; LaFern married Alice Weldon; Kermit married Velva Bartlett; Luther married Helen Hamacher; Darold married Lorabell Cheek; twins - Reba married Curtis Kindig and Reta did not marry; Loretta married Loren Biddle.

Harvey Luther, called Luther, the next son of John F. Myers, married Clara Merchant. They had no children but took in a motherless boy, Oral Haste, and raised him as their own.

Florence, the youngest daughter of John F. and Lucinda Myers was married to Harry Sell, son of Isaac Sell, a neighbor boy. Harry and Florence had three boys grow to manhood: Truman married Iris Davis; Merle married Louise Whaley; and Harold married Helen Bockma.

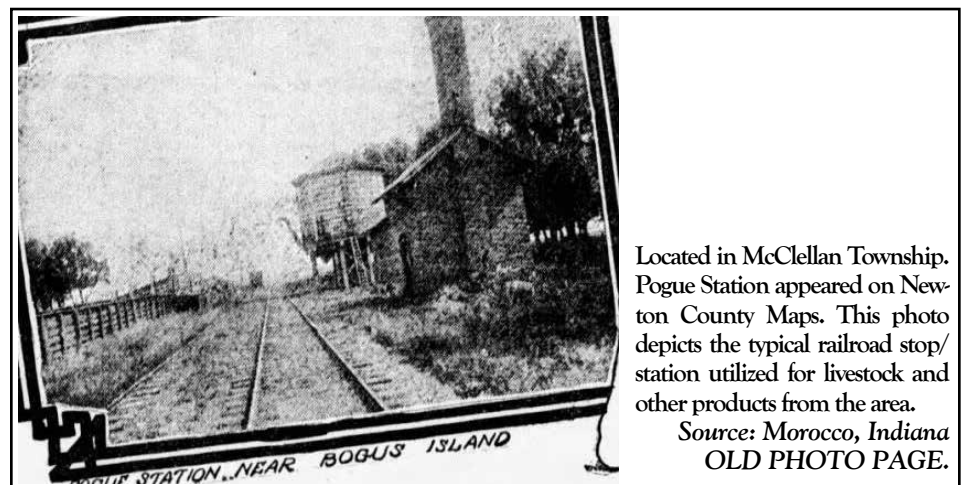
John U. Myers, the youngest child of John F. Myers married Ruth Fogler of Westfield, Illinois. They met while both were students at Westfield College, a United Brethren school. They had one son and one daughter. Doran married Arlene Spangler of Kentland and they have two children, Richard and Betty. Their daughter, Rachel, married Charles

Dyer of Kentland. They have two sons, John and Charles Wayne. In later years Charles and Rachel lived on her parent's farm west of Brook.

All of these children of John F. Myers and his wife, Lucinda, lived in Washington Township their entire lives. They were farmers. The average life span of the children was over seventy years. Most celebrated their 50th wedding anniversaries. They were loyal supporters of River Chapel Church, and when it disbanded they supported the United Brethren Church in Brook.

One of the family stories of the Myers family began at a family reunion held in the woods across the road from the old homestead. The family had started a baseball game one afternoon in the 1930's. Two big black cars passed by on their way to Chicago carrying five to ten young men. The woods are visible from US 41 and the driver spied the ball game. He stopped the car to see if they could join the game. The Myers family men welcomed them and two teams were formed. The pitcher for the Chicago team was pretty good and their team won the game. Months later the family discovered the Myers clan had lost the game to the Dillinger gang and John Dillinger was that good pitcher.

And, it all started when John and Cora Myers came to Jasper County (now Newton) in 1836. In 1838 he received the original land grant for his farm from President Tyler.



Located in McClellan Township. Pogue Station appeared on Newton County Maps. This photo depicts the typical railroad stop/station utilized for livestock and other products from the area.

Source: Morocco, Indiana OLD PHOTO PAGE.

Salt

Flip Phelps
by Jeff Manes

Originally published in February, 2006

"Give a man a fish and he has food for a day; teach him how to fish and you can get rid of him for the entire weekend." – Zenna Schaffer

I don't have time to fish anymore, so like some pathetic grouper groupie, I decided to interview a fisherman. What the heck, listening to and telling fish stories is the best part.

Dick "Flip" Phelps has been on the payroll of the Grand Kankakee Marsh County payroll for about 12 years, but the weather-beaten outdoorsman volunteered his services ever since the park opened up in '78.

Phelps, 69, is a living legend. He's "the man" when it comes to landing the 3 elusive walleye from the murky logjams of the river the Potawatomi called "Aukiki."

"I was born in Hammond," Phelps began. "We moved to Cedar Lake when I was 10."

Flip, I once heard you say at a fishing seminar that you've never fished a drift (logjam) in the Kankakee River without catching at least one fish.

"That's true to this day. If you use live bait, you can get it down underneath the drift without hanging up where you'd get snagged using artificial bait.

"I'm fishing for walleye when I fish a drift, but I catch largemouth, smallmouth, rock bass, bluegill, crappie, carp and dogfish – everything hits crawlers."

Got any tips for novice river fishermen?

"If you let the worm set, you'll catch a lot of carp. I don't let the worm set. You gotta keep it rollin'. If you keep 'er movin', you have a better chance for game fish instead of carp or suckers."

Ever eat carp or sucker?

"I've ate it all. Hog-nosed sucker is good eatin'. Meat's sweet, but bonier than heck. I used to cut 'em up in strips, then score 'em 'til the meat just about fell apart. You just fry 'em up and eat the bones and all – like eatin' potato chips."

When I think of the river, I think of catfish and walleye.

"There's big crappie and bluegills in the Kankakee. If more people would fish the timber, they'd catch a lot more fish. But folks are afraid of hanging up, so they leave those spots alone."

Where exactly did you catch your 13 1/2 pound walleye?

"In the Kankakee River on October 6, 2004. She was a big female, almost 32 inches long. Caught her on 4 lb. test (line) using a



Flip Phelps, Kankakee River fisherman.

weed less jig and a minnow. She was down in a hole with a lot of debris."

But where did you –

"I've fished the Illinois side, but all the big fish I've caught were in Indiana. Thing is, guys find out the good spots, and most of them can't fish it right. They hang up with heavy line. They yank on it, break it off, and then you can't fish that drift because all that line down there. My light line will hook up with all the other line and go right to where it's hung up – then I'm hung up, too."

But where –

"I hook crawlers Texas style with a small No. 6 light wire hook. It's the best way to fish the river without hanging up."

Flip, they say 90 percent of the walleye are taken out of the Kankakee by 10 percent of the fishermen. I've tried. But usually ended up going to Lukes Restaurant for the filet. Mrs. Paul's fish sticks are pretty good.

"Oxbows, neck downs, drifts, jams, drop offs, where a creek or bayou come into the river, are all good feeding areas – any time of the year. The higher the water the better. When the river gets real low, you'll find walleye in holes or undercut banks or drifts because it's dark.

"A guy should know when the water goes up or down the holes fill in. Drifts move, too. If you get a lot of ice in the winter it'll pull out a lot of drifts. One year a hole will be really good for fishing and the next year that

hole is gone."

You mentioned the depth of the water. What about water temperature.

"Above 50 degrees. I use nightcrawlers. If the water is below 50 degrees, I'll use a jig and minnow, Rapala, twisters or plain jigs.

"If I'm in an area full of hang ups, I'll use a weed less 1/16th ounce jig with no paint on it or nothing' – with a minnow.

"Walleye will hit crawlers when the water temps are 30 degrees, but they'll just kind of hang on to it. They won't suck it down like when the water is warmer. I guess there's more protein in the minnow than the crawlers. They don't normally get crawlers in the water because there's no run off. That's how fish usually get crawlers."

Best month for catching walleye?

"Late March. Spawners. They're more vulnerable. Your darker hours and overcast or windy days are best. Although there are times in late August you can catch 'em in the middle of the afternoon with a crank bait and the sun shining."

The state record was caught out of the Kankakee, right?

"Yep, 14 pounds, 4 ounces. I'll usually sit in one spot if I'm after big fish. I've also caught a lot of big fish from shore. Since 1967, I've caught 26 walleyes over 10 pounds, five over 11 pounds, and two over 12 pounds. That's not easy. That's hard fishin'."

I know you're semi-retired, what did you do for a living when you wore a younger man's hip waders?

"I was a union laborer. It was right up my alley. I've never worked a winter in my life. I'd take the winters off so I could ice fish and regular fish."

Got any final words of wisdom for future river fishermen?

"Light line sinks quicker than heavier line. If more people would drop their poundage, they'd catch more fish because you get down to where the fish are sooner."

Ever fly fish?

"Sure."

You know who the greatest advocate of fly fishing is, don't you?

"Who's that?"

The nightcrawler.

Flip Phelps is a lifetime bachelor and a friendly cuss. He's just kinda murky about where he caught that 13 1/2 pounder.

This interview appears in Volume 1 of Jeff Manes' book, "All Worth Their Salt, the People of NWI." You can pick up your copy of Volumes 1-5 at the Resource Center in Kentland.

The Clark Family of Brook and the Chicago Cubs



Above left: Anyone who knew Harley Clark would immediately recognize the shadow over the bricks; Right: Harley and Joan were an intergral part of Newton County. They owned, operated and published *The Brook Reporter*, and were active in the community through their church as well as volunteering their time to work ticket booth at the grandstands of the Newton County Fair year after year. This tribute was posted after the Cubs won the World Series in 2016 by their grandson Tyler Clark. A fitting tribute to a “die-hard Cub fan.”

Go! Cubs Go! by Tyler Clark

My family isn't Irish. We aren't Puerto Rican. We aren't Russian. We're Cubs fans. It's our bloodline. It's what ties us together. When we want to return to our familial homeland, we sit along the third-base line at Wrigley Field when the wind is blowing out.

I've never lived in Chicago. But when your mom grows up just north of it and your dad grows up just south of it, you're blessed and cursed into the life of a Chicago Cubs fan. (With apologies to Sox fans.) I'm not a particularly religious person, but I'm definitely a man of faith. You can't be a Cubs fan without it.

So it's more than just a game for my family and many others. It's about always having a topic of conversation with family members – cousins, aunts, even my own dad – who at times I've had little in common with and nothing much to say. Baseball is what we can always bond over.

It's about sharing phone calls and texts all summer with my brother in New York, my sister in St. Louis, my cousins all over the country, and my friends in Germany and Canada and elsewhere.

It's about the Christmas when my grandfather opened a gift – a sheet of paper – and began to cry. As he passed the paper around, we all added tears. The paper was the receipt for a brick outside of Wrigley Field that reads “The Clark Boys: Harley, Bob and Don”. Yes, we were weeping over a brick, but Grandpa and his brothers would now permanently be in the homeland. [The shadow in the picture with this post belongs to my grandpa.]

It's about just a few years later, when we stood sadly immediately after finally lying Grandpa in the ground – unsure of what to do or say next – until his brother, my truly great Great Uncle Bob, broke the silence with the words of Mr. Cub himself. “The wind is blowing out. Let's play two.” And we knew we'd be OK.

It's about fans of the Cardinals and the Blue Jays and the Red Sox who've told me that they're cheering for the Cubs this year – because they know how much it means to me, my family and the rest of the fans. It's about my coworkers cheering and throwing confetti on me when I walked into the office this morning. (For what it's worth, I'll be cheering for the Cleveland Indians on the American League side now. They're a great team, and they're due a victory.)

It's about members of our extended family all over the country

taking shots of Crown Royal, our family toast, to remember the Cub-loving Harley Clark and the Cub-loving Tim Troup.

My family isn't unique. We're just one of endless stories. For all of us, it's more than a game.

Some fans – at times myself included – are worried about how a World Series championship will change Cub fandom. The World Series drought – the goat, the “Lovable Losers”, Steve Bartman, the '69 collapse – are part of the identity. We've finally reached the top, and will things be different from here on?

Yes. And no. Wrigley Field isn't going anywhere. Next spring the ivy will grow again. And we'll still “root, root, root for the CUUUUUUBBIES” in the middle of every seventh inning. We'll cheer when they win. We'll shake our heads when they lose. (And, yes, they will lose.) And my family will still talk about baseball – whether the Cubs are winning or losing – every time we're together. Because it's what we do. Life moves forward, and so will Cubs fandom.

Sports are over-used as a metaphor for life. But there's no greater sports metaphor – no greater symbol of hope and endurance – than the Chicago Cubs winning the World Series. The Lovable Losers can become winners. The punchlines can become knockouts. The impossible can become more than just possible. Tomorrow is always another chance to win.

The Chicago Cubs have won the World Series.



The family tribute at Riverside Cemetery to the Cubs “W”.

24 The Newcomer

Facebook Postings from: Morocco, Indiana OLD PHOTO PAGE



Morocco, Clay Street looking north from downtown four corners. Date unknown.



At this time in Morocco, this was known as JD Kessler Store, later Spradling's Store would occupy this location. Date unknown.



Morocco, looking south on Clay Street - December 21, 1908.




Morocco Main Street, looking North, 1910.

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

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, Becky Lyons, Brook; Treasurer, Darlene Truby, Kentland; Member at Large, Sig Boezeman, DeMotte, County Historian, Diana Elijah, Morocco; Ex-Officio, Bernie Murphy, Kentland. Printing by Rensselaer PRINTCO.  Historical Newton In

Spring 2017 - www.ingenweb.org/innewton