

The Newcomer

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Plaque Placed at the Gravesite of the Last County Civil War Soldier: John Sarver

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Spring-Summer of 1911

The commemoration ceremony honoring Newton County's last Civil War soldier, John C. Sarver, (1843-1941), Private, Co. E, 99th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, was held at the Prairie Vine Cemetery in Washington Township on June 11, 2011. Kyle Conrad presented a history of Mr. Sarver's life, followed by the ceremony presented by the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Ft. Benjamin Harrison, Indianapolis.

"John "Cal" Sarver was born in Indianapolis on February 22, 1843. As a young boy he came to what is now Newton County and was raised in the home of John and Mary Padgett in Washington Township. In August of 1862 at the age of 19, John heeded the call of his President, Abraham Lincoln, and enlisted in the Union Army, Company E of the 99th Indiana Volunteer Infantry.

"Over the course of the next nearly three years, Sarver saw some of the most fierce fighting of the Civil War. The 99th was involved in battles of Vicksburg, Missionary Ridge, and Atlanta, where Sarver was wounded, and the 99th also participated in the famous march to the sea under Major General William Tecumseh Sherman. Sarver served til the end of the war, having been mustered out at Indianapolis on June 5, 1865.

"John Sarver then returned home to Newton County, no longer a teenage boy, but a man with the scars, both physically and emotionally, to prove it. Sarver engaged in farming and on June 16th, 1867 he married Miss Cynthia Williams, also of Newton County. To this union five children were born; Mary, John, Cora, Charley, and George.

"As a member of the Morocco Grand Army of the Republic post, Sarver was a fixture at Memorial Day events and funerals of his departed comrades, serving alongside veterans of later wars and doing so until the infirmities of old age no longer allowed him to.

"On November 23, 1941 at his winter home in Pensacola, Florida, John Sarver suffered a heart attack and died. The final chapter of one of the greatest eras in American and Newton County history had been written. John Sarver was buried here, in Prairie Vine Cemetery on November 26th, 1941. Full military rites were accorded him by soldiers

of the Spanish and World War, as well as a firing squad from Fort Benjamin Harrison in Indianapolis. The local Daughters of Union Veterans of the Civil War served as ushers at his funeral, but there was one thing missing. None of his comrades were there to salute him as he had done them dozens, maybe hundreds of times over the course of nearly 80 years. And little did anyone know who was standing here at his grave site the day they laid him to rest, that the beginning of the next 'great generation' of soldiers these United States would see was just 11 days away. Today, we commemorate not his death as Newton County's last Civil War soldier, but the life John Calvin Sarver lived."

Benjamin Harrison Camp Commander Gary Walls proceeded with the commemoration.

"Honored guests, Ladies and Gentlemen. On behalf of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War I wish to thank you for coming today. We are here today to honor and forever mark the resting place of the Last Civil War Soldier of Newton County, John Calvin Sarver. As nothing worthy of merit can be

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Newton County veterans and citizens gathered at Prairie Vine Cemetery in Washington Township in June, 2011, to honor the life of Newton County's last Civil War veteran, John C. Sarver, Private, Co. E, 99th Indiana Volunteer Infantry, 1843-1941. A plaque was placed on his tombstone for this honor. Photograph by Beth Bassett.

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accomplished without Divine guidance I ask you to bow your heads as the Chaplain invokes His Divine blessing.

Chaplain: "Let us Pray, Supreme Ruler of the universe, God of battle and of peace, we thank thee for this day and hour; for this blessed privilege of meeting here as sons of soldiers to pay homage to a nation's dead.

"We thank thee that in the day of trouble and the hour of danger that thou in thy infinite wisdom raised up men who were ready to do battle, and if need be, to die so that this country might be preserved. Grant us we beseech thee, a continuance of thy watchful care.

"Grant Thy blessing upon these sacred ceremonies consecrated as they are to the memory of brave and loyal hearts who dared stand for the right and were not afraid to bare their breasts to a storm of steel in defense of human liberty, a united country and the brotherhood of man.

Bless our country. Preserve it in purity and integrity. Amen."

Commander Walls: "The reason we assemble today is best explained by Past Commander in Chief Perie L. Fouch when he addressed the last Encampment of the Grand Army of the Republic in 1949. He said in part "The records of three hundred fighting regiments show, that of their number, one in three was either killed or wounded.

"They stood at Antietam, they faced the heights of Donnellson and Fredericksburg, and stood among the cedars at Stone's River, met the fearful shock at Shiloh, became granite columns with the rocks of Chickamauga, formed a living wall against treason's mightiest power at Gettysburg, moved unflinching in the slaughter pens of Cold Harbor, and climbed up to rocky precept and mountainside to the portals of glory on Lookout, Kennesaw, and Mission Ridge.

"Can we comprehend the loss of human life, even that comprehension will be but a dim picture of the reality unless our imagination be vivid enough to fill all its lines and spaces with privation and suffering, unless we can call up the summer's tempest, and winter's sleet, unless we can behold them fording streams and battling alike with the enemy, ice and swift currents; marching day after day through swamps. Standing on the lonely picket post until too wearied to be even wakeful; unless we can behold the gaunt starvation making hollow the cheek and dimming the light of the eye.



Left to right, Kyle Conrad, Mike Beck, Past Camp Commander, Benjamin Harrison Camp, Benjamin Harrison Camp Commander Garry Walls and Tim Beckman, Past Camp Commander, Benjamin Harrison Camp. Beth Bassett photograph.

Unless we can see the long lines of shroudless bodies and hear the pitiful cry for water and the prayer for succor. I believe our imagination will come far short of reality.

"In the shadow of 500,000 graves in the daily presence of those that returned diseased and broken down, with Libby still vocal with the echo of suffering, with the memory of Belle Island, Salisbury, Millen and Andersonville lighted as though with lurid fires of hell, standing under the clouds of grief that darkened half a million homes, we proclaim a roll of honor of the Grand Army of the Republic.

"That roll was made and completed in days of old, it was written with the red blood from human hearts, its letters more bright and more precious than were they written in the purest gold and they were burned on the pages of life. Therefore, we the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, gather at this memorial in sacred memory of our fathers and their sacrifices."

"If I may be so bold as to quote from the epitaph from another time and place 'Tell them of us and say, for their tomorrow we gave our today.

"As all the veterans here gathered are aware, a Soldier cannot leave his post without being properly relieved. Private Sarver, you are now relieved, I have the post. Rest in peace."

"*Salute:* Three volleys by firing squad.

"Taps" is sounded.

Commander Walls: Chaplain, the benediction please

Chaplain: Let us pray, Heavenly father we again ask your blessing on all here and your protection as we depart this hallowed ground. Teach us to be ever mindful of the sacrifices of those that have gone before us and hold in your tender mercies the defenders of this Great Country. AMEN

Commander: Our service of dedication is ended. In the name of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War I thank you, for your courtesy in permitting us, who are bound by special ties to them, to honor our dead. Taps are sounded - lights are out - the soldier sleeps."

Mr. Conrad concluded the ceremony by thanking those that attended, as well as Judy Taylor, Washington Township trustee, and her board for funding the bronze plaque now affixed to John's monument, forever recognizing him as Newton County's last Civil War soldier. He also mentioned that it was probable that Mr. Sarver attended many burials of his Civil War comrades, but there would be none to attend his, and, that little did the gathering at his grave know that within only the next few months that Japanese forces would bomb Pearl Harbor, and the beginning of Americans involved in World War II.

Old Photographs of Brook School

Our Web Site Brings New-Old Photographs to the Surface

One of the features of our web site, www.ingenweb.org/innewton is the availability of visitors to contribute photographs to be added to the site under a variety of topics. We recently received emails from Ivan Hiestand. The two photographs below are early Brook School photographs, that his father, Chester A. Hiestand, Sr., is in. Here are his comments.

Third Grade Photo of Chester A. Hiestand, Sr. of Brook, Indiana: "This tattered photo was taken in front of the old Brook School. Dad, Chester A. Hiestand, Sr., was born 6/27/1915 and he is pictured in third row up from the bottom and is fourth inset from the left (the light blond kid). The picture isn't dated and I'm uncertain as to what age third graders were in those years, but my guess is eight or nine, which would make the year 1923-1924? Names were written on the back and some were difficult to read. I tried to copy those that I could make out on the attached card.

"In addition, it's documented that early on, Chester along with his sisters Mildred, and Pearl, also attended the Griggs one room school house south of Brook."



Third Grade Photo of Chester A. Hiestand, Sr. of Brook, Indiana

The names were listed in columns on the card, so we are not sure what order they follow. Wringle, Strain, David Fred, Leveron Denton, Bus Herriman, Thomas Whaling, Carl Coon, Milford Alice (Allis), Albert Staton, Ardeth Shepard, Chester Hiestand, ??de Whaling, Gunner Montgomery, Miss Eunice Brand, Mazy Barker, Veneral Allis, Deloris Hiestand, DeLoine Davis, Hazel Mills, Virginia Hinchman, Martha Griggs, Arthail Whaling, Bill Woods, Gerald Light, Ralph Kindig. Circa 1923-24. Brook, Indiana.



Brook, Indiana High School: "This photo came from an old family album and I thought it could be of some use to you? My father, Chester A. Hiestand, Sr. was born and raised in Brook. I have no idea as to the identity of the individuals in the photo or what date it was taken. Judging from the dress and attire, my guess would be in the 1920s."

Newton County Public Library, Lake Village, Receives Platt and Jennie Conrad, Lemuel Milk Family Memorabilia

In the Winter 2011 edition of *The Newcomer*, we published several newly-found photographs of Jennie Conrad and her son Platt Conrad. These photos first appeared on the Lake Village Old Picture Page on the social network Facebook, and were posted by Doug Wolfe, who is the great-nephew of Lena (Pohl) Platt, wife of Platt Conrad. Doug's mother was one of several of Lena's nieces who inherited memorabilia regarding Conrad, and her items were eventually passed to him. Doug packed up two boxes of these items and mailed them to Society member Rod Smart, who made sure that the Lake Village Branch of the Newton County Public Library became the last owner of the material.

Director, Mary Kay Emmrich invited me to stop by to take a look at their newly acquired treasures, which includes several personal letters, photographs and professional correspondence.

The collection includes newspaper clippings regarding the town of Conrad and Jennie; some of them with handwritten comments from either Lena or Platt criticizing and correcting

the content of the articles. Blue prints and a map of Conrad that has pencil markings and comments written upon it were more than likely used when the Conrad lands were being divided and sold. A type-written note alluded to this assumption:

"about 20 acres in the Town Plat west of the railroad and blocks 4, 5 and 6 represent one-third of the 20 acres. I believe there are figures on the original map that show the exact number of feet running east and west and north and south. It was determined that blocks 4, 5 and 6 contain approximately 5.99 acres. Sold to Edward L. Iwinski."

Stationery from the desk of Lemuel Milk gives an insight to the many aspects

of business he and his daughter Jennie conducted that established their success.

Lemuel Milk - Dealer - Hardware, Tinware, Stoves, Nails & C. This note is dated March 13, 1885, it starts, "My Dear Grandson, Platt Milk Conrad" The address given was Milk's Block, Chebanse, Illinois.

Lemuel Milk, Kankakee

amount of her holdings, and there is a complete set of photographs of her favorite Poland China hog, Paul #20. A brochure with the history of Conrad Ranch and Jennie's legacy of breeding and selling Poland

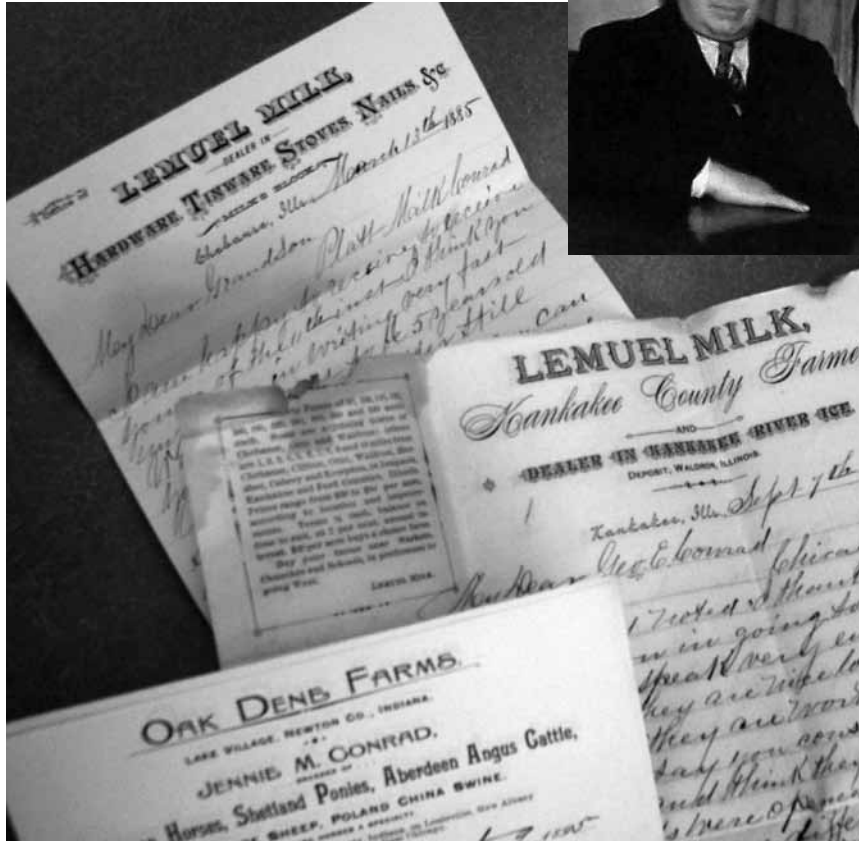
China hogs is a part of the Jennie M. Conrad collection, and also featured on the Facebook page.

Photographs of Platt and Jennie bring these items together to create an invaluable collection of a very important part of Newton County's heritage.

The aforementioned is but a small part of the items donated by Doug Wolfe. The staff is working to document the collection, and then plans to have the items digitized, working with the Indiana State library digitization project.

Left are but a sampling of the stationery that is a part of the Conrad collection donated by Doug Wolfe to the Lake Village Branch of the Newton County Public Library. Top, right, Platt Conrad, son of Jennie Conrad; Courtesy of the Newton County Public Library.

To see more images of Conrad, visit the Lake Village Old Picture Page on Facebook.



Newton County Public Library, Lake Village, is open Mon. and Thurs. 9:30-7:30; Tue., Wed., Fri. 9:30-5:30; Sat. 9:30-2:30. You may email them at lakevill@netnitco.net

A very special thank you to Mary Kay Emmrich, Director of the Newton County Public Library, pictured above, for taking time from her busy day to share the Conrad collection with me. It is great to know that preservation of our heritage continues in a variety of different venues. - Beth Bassett

Life on the Home Front During the Civil War

*... what about the wives, the sons,
daughters and parents
that were left behind?*

By Beth Bassett

The Civil War has captured the interest of people in the United States and beyond more than any other episode in American History. One reason may be the fact that the war was within the proximity of the everyday lives of so many modern Americans. People who live in the states such as Pennsylvania, Maryland, Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina and Indiana drive on many of the same routes that massive armies marched along some 150 years ago.

It was in April of 1860 that Newton County was created from Jasper County, the last county to be formed in Indiana; even so, enough of our men and boys answered the call to arms in 1861 to fill an entire Company - Company B of the 51st Regiment of Indiana Volunteers - that would send them into battle fighting side by side with their neighbors against the southern corps.

The generations have carried the memories of how the war affected their lives, through shortages, destruction of property, loss of limb in battle, or loss of a brother, son or father in the war. Most of the documentation of the war focuses on military events - but what was day-to-day life like for our ancestors in 1860s America?

Statistics show that the Northern society was more urbanized than the South in the mid-19th century. Some 5.5 million Northerners were city dwellers, about a quarter of the 22 million people living in the Union States. The balance, 16.5 million lived in towns or villages or on farms. By contrast, only about 10 percent of the South's population - less than a million people - lived in cities. The remaining 8 million Southerners lived in small towns and villages, and on plantations and farms. Southern cities tended to be smaller, less industrialized and less congested than urban areas in the North.

Oh, Give Me A Home

Housing costs varied from North to South, from city to country during the Civil War. A prairie style farmhouse construction

cost in the Mid-1800s ranged from \$800 to \$1000; rent of a home averaged about \$500 a year. In areas affected by wartime housing shortages, the price at least doubled.

At Any Cost

The cost of all goods and services also increased dramatically during the war. In 1863, the cost of living for a family in an Urban city was \$1,333 per month - compare that to the average wages of the day, (see Table A, next page), and you can imagine the hardships that many families faced.

As the value of goods increased and the value of money decreased, women tried to sell or trade homemade items, such as soap, for food and other necessities. Glue was made from cherry, peach or plum tree gum, or from egg whites mixed with lime.

Paper, ink, and pens were often unavailable, especially in the South. Old business forms, wallpaper and other scrap papers were folded into envelopes. Letter writers conserved paper by turning a page 90 degrees once it was covered with words, and then writing across them until it was full again, a method called "cross-hatching." (see Table A, next page.)

The Pay Check

Although factors such as age, race, geographic location and gender make it difficult to characterize an "average" American's wages during the Civil War, you can get an idea of what many people earned by looking at a number of examples. In the North, buying power for wage earners remained stable from 1860 through 1861, then declined 7 percent by 1862, 16 percent by 1863 and 23 percent by 1864. By 1865, it rose again to 18 percent below what it had been at the start of the war. In the South, real wages plummeted even more quickly, going down 16 percent by 1861, 65 percent by 1862, 81 percent by 1863, and 89 percent by 1864. (see Table B, next page.)

Food For Thought

Wartime conditions led to more acute

food shortages in the South than in the North, with far more Southerners suffering from malnutrition and starvation than did their Northern counterparts. Today's modern benefits of refrigeration and chemical preservation didn't exist and our ancestors either ate fresh food or preserved it through canning, pickling, smoking, salting, drying or storing in cool areas such as a root cellar. Alcohol, salt, sugar and vinegar were important elements in preserving and canning foods.

However, they also ate some manufactured foods that are still familiar to us today: Underwood Deviled Ham (since 1822); Lea and Perrins Worcestershire Sauce (since 1885); Borden's Condensed Milk (since 1856); Van Camp's Pork and Beans (since 1861); and McIlhenny Co.'s Tabasco sauce (since 1868). The typical foods items of the day were soups and stews, many types of fried meats and vegetables, many sorts of breads and biscuits, fruit pies and regional specialties, such as seafood in coastal areas.

That's Entertainment

Dice, board and card games were popular among civilians and soldiers alike. Because of the monotony of camp life, many soldiers in particular spent as much time as they could absorbed in games when other duties didn't call.

Dice were generally small, a bit crude and made of wood (some might've been made from flattened musket balls, like those of the Revolutionary War, amongst men using muskets). Craps was the dice game played most often, but other games included one known variously as birdcage or chuck-a-luck and sweet cloth.

Chuck-A-Luck or Birdcage: Chuck-a-luck is played with three standard dice that are kept in a device shaped somewhat like an hourglass that resembles a wire-frame bird cage and that pivots about its centre. The dealer rotates the cage end over end, with the dice landing on the bottom. Wagers are placed based on possible combinations that can appear on the three dice.

Board games included checkers, chess and backgammon. Checkers were popular in the armies and navies of both sides. Boards in the fields were handmade and were small so as not to be an encumbrance. Checkerboard patterns in red and green or red and yellow were common.

While dice and board-game components were frequently crude or homemade, many sorts of manufactured playing cards were available. During the Civil War, manufacturers created decks that replaced tradi-

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tional playing cards symbols with military and patriotic imagery. The Union Playing Card Company replaced the traditional suits of spades, clubs, hearts and diamonds with eagles, shields, stars and flags. The South used different Confederate generals or cabinet members on each card in the deck.

Although soldiers enjoyed gambling, a preponderance of men considered gambling - or "throwing the papers" in 1860s jargon - to be a mortal sin. As a result, soldiers would play cards or dice right up until marching off to battle, then destroy or discard their gaming implements so the items wouldn't be found on them if they were slain. After the battle, survivors eager for a game would search the former campsite for the previous occupants' cards or dice, or purchase new ones from sutlers, the traveling merchants who followed the armies during the war. Sutlers were looked upon as a necessary evil by both Union and Confederate troops. The sutler was a camp-follower civilian selling goods at high prices set by a committee of military unit officers, and who was doing so because he received a special appointment from the government, a governor or the brigade commander on the recommendation of the brigade's commissioned officers. Sutlers sold all types of goods not provided by the government, and some goods that were provided but never arrived on time.

At Any Cost

Article	\$August, 1861	\$November, 1862	Percent Increase
Brown Muslin	.10	.29	190%
Bleached Muslin	.12	.30	175%
Cotton Flannel	.20	.50	150%
Jeans	.50	1.00	100%
Boots	3.00	4.00	33%
Shoes	1.00	1.50	50%
Brown Sugar, lb.	.08	.13	62%
Rio Coffee, lb.	.15	.37	150%
Tea, lb.	1.00	1.50	50%
Rice, lb.	.08	.10	25%
Molasses, gal.	.50	.70	40%
Flour, barrel	4.50	6.50	44%
Meal, bu.	.40	.70	75%
Potatoes, bu.	.35	.80	130%
Wood, per cord	2.50	5.00	100%

Table A. Information taken from the Adjutant Report, 1861; Document#136, Increase of Pay of Private Soldiers, dated November 29, 1862, Oliver P. Morton, Governor of Indiana.

The Pay Check

Job	Pay (1866-1877)
Blacksmith	\$2.50 to \$3 per day
Cook in home	\$2 to \$10 per week, plus room and board
Clerk, Bookkeeper, etc.	\$1,000 to \$2,000/year if male; \$500 to \$1,000/year if female
Domestic worker/maid in home	\$2/week, plus room and board
Laborer, skilled (carpenter, mason, etc)	\$2.80 to \$3.80 per day
Laborer, unskilled	\$1.50 per 12 hour day
Street Vendor (newspapers, matches, etc)	a few cents a day
Teacher	\$2/student/month plus room and board
Teamster	\$2/day

Table B. Information taken from Family Tree Magazine, May 2011.

Common Slang Terms Used In Conversations During the Civil War Era

Bragg's Body Guard: lice; **Flux, Quick Step:** diarrhea; **Red Badge of Courage:** term used for a wound; **Grab a Root:** to eat something especially a potatoe; **Hospital Rat:** a malingerer, someone who fakes illness to get out of duty; **Sawbones:** slang for a surgeon; **Shank's Mare:** on foot; **Scarce As Hen's Teeth:** very rare, or hard to obtain; **On His Own Hook:** one of own's volition, without orders; **Jonah:** term for someone who has or brings bad luck; **Likely:** able-bodied, serviceable; **Copperheads:** a label for Northerners who opposed the war and occasionally worked to undermine the war effort; **Greenbacker:** political party whose name referred to paper money, or "greenbacks," that had been issued during the American Civil War and afterward. The party opposed the shift from paper money back to a bullion coin-based

monetary system. **Sutlers:** a common sight in the camps was a string of huts or tents bulging with various items for sale. The tents belonged to civilians officially appointed to supply soldiers with a long list of approved items. From these camp vendors, or Sutlers, a soldier could purchase such items as food, newspapers, books, tobacco, razors, tin plates, cups, cutlery, and illegal alcohol; **Sherman's Neckties, Sherman's Hairpins:** railroad rails that had been heated in fires then wrapped around trees to make them useless; from the practice employed by Sherman's troops during the rapacious march across Georgia; **Somebody's Darling:** reference to a dead soldier; **See the Elephant:** to experience combat or other significant events.

Source: Family Tree Magazine, May 2011 and the internet.

Back in the Day . . .



By using Photoshop to join and enhance two postcards that appear on Dean Ford's facebook page, we present to you a view of the corner of (today) 4th Street and US 24 in Kentland; back in the day it was the intersection of US 41 and SR 24. To the left is the old NuJoy Restaurant, to the east, back is the John Cochrane Shell Station, which was torn down when the Kentland Bank built their current facility. The bank at the time these photos were taken was located where the South Newton School Board offices were downtown. In the right corner, front, is the side of the Schuh home, eventually to become the office of Dr. Leon Kresler until 1974.

DO YOU KNOW YOUR COUNTY OF NEWTON?

By Janet Miller, answers on page 13

One of the old established Newton County restaurants was located in Kentland. Do you remember the Nu-Joy Restaurant? See if you can answer the following questions concerning the restaurant.

1. The NuJoy Restaurant was located in two different locations. Do you know where they were located?
2. From the first NuJoy Restaurant menu, the special selection for Nu-Joy Home Style Dinner on Oct 4, 1939 was: Soup or Tomato Juice, Sizzling Tenderloin or Club Steak, Potatoes, Salad, Vegetables, Hot Biscuits and Muffins, Choice of Desserts, Coffee, Tea, Milk or Iced Tea. What was the price of this meal?
3. The second NuJoy had a specialty sandwich called the "Tater Burger." How did it get this name and what ingredients were in the sandwich?
4. A casket with a famous deceased person was in a hearse that was parked in the NuJoy parking lot while the drivers had lunch. Who was this famous person?
5. The first NuJoy Restaurant also served in another capacity. Do you know what that was?



A rare view of the second NuJoy back in the day - looking northeast to the west side of structure, when it appeared as the home of AJ Kent.



The Enos Service Station Owned by Floyd Cox

This was taken from the Lake Village Old Picture Page on Facebook. How many recall this Texaco Station located on US 41 at Enos?

Dennis Boyd commented: "I remember the mural on the wall inside about Custer on his last stand and being surrounded by a bunch of Indians . . ."

Anyone else have any memories or information, note the writing on the building - where were the cabins located?

Elisha Odle and the Iron Brigade

by Kyle D. Conrad

To a Civil War researcher or military history buff, the term "Iron Brigade" commands the attention comparable to the recognition we give today to "Navy SEAL" or "101st Airborne Division". This elite group of Midwestern soldiers saw the fiercest action in the Civil War, and, regrettably, suffered the highest percentage of casualties of any brigade in the Union Army. These men were also known as the 'black hats' due to them wearing the 1858 style Hardee hats instead of the blue kepis worn by most other Union regiments. The Confederate units would later refer to them as "that damn black hat brigade."

The Iron Brigade was comprised of the 2nd, 6th, and 7th Wisconsin regiments along with the 19th Indiana. After suffering tremendous casualties, they were joined by the 24th Michigan in an effort to refortify its number of soldiers. The 19th Indiana regiment was raised at Indianapolis on July 29, 1861 and consisted of ten companies and a band for a total of 1046 men. A majority of the men that comprised the 19th were from the central Indiana counties of Marion, Wayne, Delaware, Randolph, Johnson, and Madison. Another company was comprised of mostly Elkhart County men and another from Owen County. Only two men who were members of the Iron Brigade, and the Indiana 19th Infantry at that, are known to have had ties to Newton County. Lewis Fiers was a member of Co. K of the 19th Indiana and is buried at the Liberty Cemetery in Iroquois County, Illinois. His discharge papers are recorded in the Newton County Recorder's office in Kentland. The other soldier, Elisha B. Odle, was also a member of Co. K of the 19th, and is the subject of this article.

Elisha Barrett Odle was born 24 February, 1838 in Randolph County, Indiana, the son of William and Elizabeth (Franklin) Odle. He was 23 years old when the Confederate army fired upon Fort Sumter South Carolina in April of 1861. In July of that year, Elisha volunteered for the Union Army with his residence being listed as Muncie. Elisha was mustered in Co. K of the 19th Indiana Volunteer Regiment in Indianapolis on 29 July, 1861.

The 19th was immediately combined at Washington with the Wisconsin regiments to form the Army of the Potomac's Iron Brigade.

Before Elisha went off to war, he had

met a young lady by the name of Margaret Bryant, who he traded letters with throughout the war. We are fortunate that some of these letters still survive. Margaret Bryant would become the wife of Elisha Odle in 1863.

The first skirmish that the 19th was involved with was in Lewinsville, Virginia on September 11, 1861. From there they moved on to Falls Church before moving into quarters at Fort Craig near Washington. In March of 1862 the Iron Brigade was attached to McDowell's corp and moved toward Fredricksburg and the Shenendoah Valley. It is during this time that we get the first glimpse of life during the war in Odle's own words:

*Battlefield of Sharpsburg, Maryland
September 23rd, 1862*

"Miss Briant

I received your highly interesting missive some months since but we received marching orders the next day and we have been marching and fighting ever since, for this reason I beg you pardon me for not wrighting. I presume you have herd of the late battles fought in Virginia and Maryland. I have been in all of them and not hurt though this Regiment has lost two thirds of the men engaged. On the 28 of Aug. we were engaged in a hard battle also on the 30th retreating in good order from Bullrun, Centerville. On the 3 of Sept. we crossed the Potomac and marched cross the District of Columbia and found ourselves in Maryland where we found the foe the 13th inst. We fought at Fredric City where we repulsed the enemy and drove them back to Sharpsburg where they got reinforced and on the 18th inst. we had a Decisive battle the number engaged supposed 100,000 on each side. We held the field all day and expected battle the next day but the Cesesh stole away like a thief in the night and cross the Potomac into Virginia and our men are on pursuit of the Grey Coats. This Corps are permitted to rest a fiew for the first time in 6 weeks."

It is important to note that the battles Odle is describing is the battle at south mountain where the regiment lost forty killed and wounded and seven missing, and at Sharpsburg went into action with two hundred officers and men of whom but thrity seven returned from the field. Today we know the battle of Sharpsburg by the more common name of Antietam. It was



Elisha Barrett Odle, 1838-1901, member of Company K, 19th Indiana Volunteer Regiment. Hiestand/Odle Collection.

the bloodiest single day battle in American history with 23,000 casualties and the first to take place on northern soil.

The 19th saw a couple of small skirmishes after Antietam and moved into winter quarters until called upon to engage in Gen. Hooker's Chancellorsville campaign, where it was in an engagement at Fitzhugh's crossing of the Rappahannock where it lost 4 men killed and wounded. Let's let Odle describe the events of that time:

*Bell Plain, Va.
Feb. the 1st, 1863*

"...we made another attempt to cross the Raphanock but the rades were so bad that we could not cross in safty, so we were ordered back to our old quarters where we expect to stay for the winter. We have comfortable shantyes and enjoy our selves well for soldiers. Geners. Burnside, Franklin, & Suner resigned last week. General Hooker now commands the Grand Army of the Potomac..."

The Iron Brigade was subsequently

attached to 1st brigade, 1st division, 1st corps, which was the first of the infantry to engage the enemy at Gettysburg on July 1, 1863. They assisted in the capture of Archer's Confederate brigade but suffered heavy losses with 210 out of 288 men being lost on that first day. During the next two days of battle, they held a position on Culp's hill and saw little action.

Following Gettysburg, the 19th took part in the Mine Run campaign and wintered at Culpepper, where Odle and a portion of the regiment re-enlisted. Soon afterwards, Odle returned home to Indiana and on January 29, 1864 in Newton County, he married Margaret Bryant, a native of Henry County, Indiana. How Elisha met Margaret or first came to Newton County is not known.

Upon his return, the regiment broke winter camp at the beginning of the Wilderness campaign; was engaged at the Wilderness, Laurel Hill, above Spottsylvania, at the North Anna River and Cold Harbor; and was then constantly on duty in the trenches before Petersburg until the end of the siege.

Its losses from May 4 to July 30, 1864, were 36 killed, 168 wounded and 16 missing. The non-veterans were mustered out at Indianapolis early in Aug., 1864, and the veterans and recruits as part of the "Iron Brigade" took part in the expedition against the Weldon railroad. On Oct. 18, 1864, the regiment was consolidated with the 20th Ind. and served until they were mustered out at Louisville, Ky., July 12, 1865. One of their final destinations was to be present at Appomattox Court House for the surrender of General Robert E. Lee and the Confederate Army.

Following the war, Elisha and Margaret began raising their family. In 1880 they purchased a farm two miles south of Brook where they lived the rest of their lives. Children born to their union included Rosa Ellen, Warren, Samuel, Editha, Belle, Sarah, and Mary. Elisha Odle, Newton County's only Iron Brigade soldier, died on February 20, 1901 and is buried next to his wife in Riverside Cemetery at Brook.

Visit our Resource Center

310 E. Seymour Street Kentland, Indiana
219-474-6944 - Open to the public

NEW HOURS:

Monday and Friday 11:00 - 3:00
Second & Fourth Thursday 11:00 - 3:00
Or by appointment
newtonhs@ffni.com

PRESIDENT'S THOUGHTS

by Bernie
Murphy

This will be my first column since becoming President of the Newton County Historical Society. I am honored to be entrusted with this distinction and will endeavor to fulfill these duties as best as I can! Although I have only been back to Newton County the past three years, my roots are here and I am pleased to be back home! For those of you who do not know or remember me, my father and mother are Charles and Dorothea Murphy who started Murphy's Food King. I was born in Morocco but was raised mostly in Kentland. My maternal side is from the Brunton's of Morocco.

For the past four years Janet Miller has headed our organization most admirably and we all owe her our greatest thanks. I also want to thank all of you who volunteer to help; without you the society could not operate and we need more volunteers going forward.

This latter request has always been in play especially due to recent a event - namely, that Beth Bassett has asked to curtail some of her duties at the Resource Center while, at the same time, continuing her involvement in the society. Beth has contributed enormously as we all know but she needs some rest. I asked several members to meet with me recently to get ideas as to how we will cover these duties and expand our offerings. I am pleased to announce that many of these responsibilities are now covered by generous volunteers who stepped forward. Beth will continue to manage our website, Facebook and edit the *Newcomer*, and continue volunteering at the center and organizing the window display and resource center displays. This reprieve from her other duties at the center will allow her to focus on the upcoming Family History Division projects that include the publication of the Mt. Ayr, Jackson and Colfax Township history and the Yost project. We still need additional volunteers to fill some voids.

A committee has been re-established to add ideas and contributors for future *Newcomer* editions. Your input of topics and research is greatly appreciated, and perhaps there are those of you out there that would enjoy this aspect of the society. Please contact Beth at newtonhs@ffni.com for more information about your participation.

Working together we have great possibilities to accomplish in the future and I look forward to and need ideas from all members; your input is most valued!

RESOURCE CENTER NEWS

by Beth Bassett

Summertime is a busy time at the Resource Center. I honestly believe that we would have visitors every day if we could keep the building open! Researchers traveled from as far away as California, Kentucky, Ohio and as near as Goodland to trace their family histories, research historical articles for future publication and just to come inside to take a break from the hot weather.

Our volunteers have been very faithful to the society in keeping our doors open 10 days a month . . . only four years ago, we were open only on Monday afternoons. Yes, we've come a long way from the well house.

Memorabilia, Newton County artifacts are stacking up on the library desk - Becky and Larry Lyons are logging in every donation, tagging and preparing for storage or display. We've recently acquired South Newton Production Company items from Ann Kresler-Petrich. Ann also brought in some items from her father's medical practice, Dr. Leon Kresler. They are out and on display.

Genevieve Molter has brought in a variety of historical items, some of them featured in this edition.

Please do not hesitate to give us a call about scheduling a tour for a group. We will be hosting the Kentland Cub Scouts and the Lake Village Third grade classes in October.

You can see snapshots of activities at the Resource Center at our web site, www.ingenweb.org/innewton, just click on the Newton County Historical Society link.

Look for a re-vamp in the display window soon - the holidays are approaching and we'll be announcing our annual Christmas Open House. We look forward to visiting with everyone and sharing our history!

Chicago, Attica and Southern Railroad

This old engine #256 was used by CA&S and would have run down the rails located on Iroquois Street in Goodland. The railroad went out of business in 1946 and the Depot, that was located at Union and Iroquois Streets became the building where Better Coil and Transformer Corp. began in 1947. This photograph, however, was taken in Morocco in 1930.

David Dye photograph.



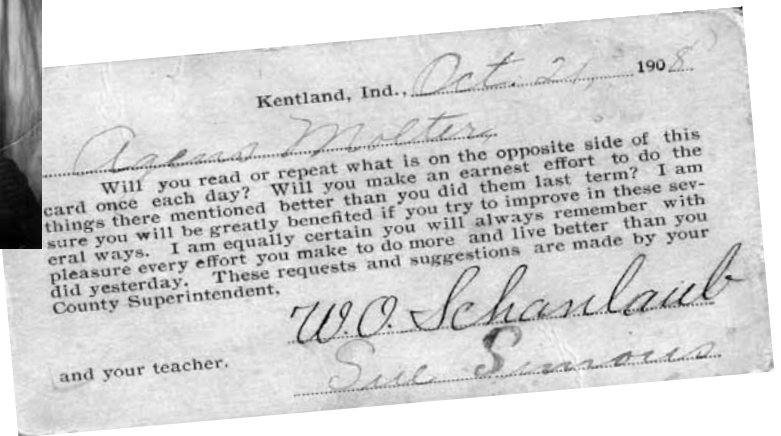
THE MOST RECENT COMMON ANCESTOR IS COUSIN NUMBER TWO'S...

	parent	grandparent	great-grandparent	great-great-grandparent	third-great-grandparent	fourth-great-grandparent	fifth-great-grandparent	sixth-great-grandparent
parent	siblings	nephew or niece	grandnephew or -niece	great-grandnephew or -niece	great-great-grandnephew or -niece	third-great-grandnephew or -niece	fourth-great-grandnephew or -niece	fifth-great-grandnephew or -niece
grandparent	nephew or niece	first cousins	first cousins once removed	first cousins twice removed	first cousins three times removed	first cousins four times removed	first cousins five times removed	first cousins six times removed
great-grandparent	grandnephew or -niece	first cousins once removed	second cousins	second cousins once removed	second cousins twice removed	second cousins three times removed	second cousins four times removed	second cousins five times removed
great-great-grandparent	great-grandnephew or -niece	first cousins twice removed	second cousins once removed	third cousins	third cousins once removed	third cousins twice removed	third cousins three times removed	third cousins four times removed
third great-grandparent	great-great-grandnephew or -niece	first cousins three removed	second cousins twice removed	third cousins once removed	fourth cousins	fourth cousins once removed	fourth cousins twice removed	fourth cousins three times removed
fourth-great-grandparent	third-great-grandnephew or -niece	first cousins four times removed	second cousins three times removed	third cousins twice removed	fourth cousins once removed	fifth cousins	fifth cousins once removed	fifth cousins twice removed
fifth-great-grandparent	fourth-great-grandnephew or -niece	first cousins five times removed	second cousins four times removed	third cousins three times removed	fourth cousins twice removed	fifth cousins once removed	sixth cousins	sixth cousins once removed
sixth-great-grandparent	fifth-great-grandnephew or -niece	first cousins six times removed	second cousins five times removed	third cousins four times removed	fourth cousins three times removed	fifth cousins twice removed	sixth cousins once removed	seventh cousins

How often have you heard, “she’s my cousin, twice removed,” but didn’t have a clue as to what reference was being used by “twice removed.” We most often hear “first cousin or second cousin.” This relationship chart from Family Tree Maker Magazine may help you decipher just how “removed” your cousins are from you! Submitted by Darlene and David Truby.

A Student's Promise to the School Superintendent, 1908

Stand and Sit Erect
 Move Promptly and Quietly
 Speak Distinctly and Gently
 Study More than Text-Books
 Master What You Study
 Be Courteous and Thoughtful
 Be Diligent and Trustworthy
 Make the Most of the Best in You



This school card was donated to the society last fall by Genevieve Molter. It was a card given to the students in the Newton County Schools during the year 1908, this one dated October 21, 1908, belonged to Agnes Molter, pictured in later years above, signed by W. O. Schanlaub, Superintendent of Schools at the time, and her teacher, Sue Simons. The back side reads as follows: "Will you read or repeat what is on the opposite side of

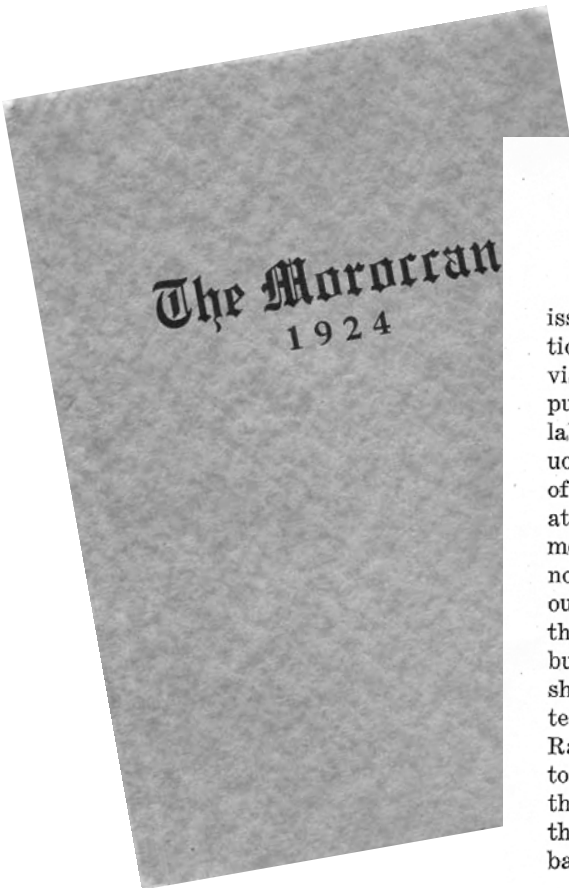
this card once each day? Will you make an earnest effort to do the things there mentioned better than you did them last term? I am sure you will be greatly benefited if you try to improve in these several ways. I am equally certain you will always remember with pleasure every effort you make to do more and live better than you did yesterday. These requests and suggestions are made by your County Superintendent, and your teacher.

Newton County Fair Association

One of the First Newton County Fair Membership Certificates: #6



When the Newton County fair started there were 100 membership certificates issued at \$10.00 each. The purpose of the certificate was to raise money to help fund the fair. These certificates were for a life-time membership in the fair association which entitled you to attend the annual meeting and vote for the Fair Board officers. If you wanted to be a Fair Board officer you needed to be a member of the fair association. The amount of the certificates was raised in approximately 1980 to \$15.00 and that is the cost of a membership today. There is no stipulation at this time as to how many members can belong to the association. The list of association members, as well as the Fair Board, is printed each year in the front of the fair book. - Information supplied by Rich Miller



Morocco High School Yearbook The Moroccan - 1924

M. H. S.

A Junior-Senior High School Commission for the Morocco school was issued this year by the State Board of Education upon the recommendation of State High School Inspector E. E. Ramsey. Mr. Ramsey when he visited the schools last fall found the character of the work done by the pupils and teachers of high class. He also found the shops, library, and laboratories well equipped. This prompted him to recommend a continuous commission which the school now holds. Only about fifteen per cent of the schools of the State hold a continuous commission. Now the graduating class need not worry about the standing of their school near commencement time. The recognition of our school by the State Board should not only fill the hearts of the school children with joy, but should cause our citizens, generally, to feel proud of the fact that they have contributed their part towards the construction and maintenance of a good school building, without which this recognition would not have been made. It should make Trustee W. H. Kessler feel proud of his splendid core of teachers, whose work after inspection by State School Inspector E. E. Ramsey, was of such a high standard that a recommendation was made to the State Board to issue the foregoing commission. The schools under the direction of S. Earl Rouch have done fine this year and it is hoped that the high standard of work may continue to move forward and never backward.

Sometimes things just fall into place. We recently acquired a copy of the 1924 Morocco High School yearbook, *The Moroccan* from Genevieve Molter about the same time that the photo below contributed to us by Dennis Boyd. It is a panoramic shot of the 1923-1924 students at Morocco. It was in 1922 that the new high school building was completed, and that prompted several changes in the status of the school

program, as explained above, in a reprint of page four of the 1924 Moroccan.

Judy Schultz supplied this information regarding the MHS yearbooks:

“The yearbook you have, 1924, and another year, 1923 or 1925, were published instead of the school newspaper for those years.

“After those two years they went back to printing the school newspaper. This is

about the time of the first two years at the new Morocco High School.”

It was in 1959 that the yearbook returned, and it was named *The Occorom*, or Morocco spelled backwards.

Copies of the school newspaper, *The Old Gold and Black*, are on microfilm at the Resource Center at Kentland.

You can view the photograph on our website under school photos.





NOW YOU KNOW YOUR COUNTY OF NEWTON

by Janet Miller, Questions on page 7

1. The two locations of the NuJoy Restaurant were as follows: The first restaurant was located at the intersection of US Highway 24 and US Highway 41 (Old two-lane 41). This would currently be on the northwest corner of 4th and Seymour Streets. It burned down in 1945. The second restaurant was on the current US Highway 41 in what was the home of A. J. Kent. It is currently used as an office building for Channel Seeds.
2. The Nu-Joy Home Style Dinner on Oct 4, 1939 was enjoyed at the cost of \$1.10.
3. The "Tater Burger" got its name from the chef who designed the sandwich, Don "Tater" Blankenship. The sandwich was a cheeseburger with grilled onions and thinly sliced tomatoes on grilled bread of your choice.
4. The famous deceased person in the hearse in the NuJoy parking lot was John Dillinger.
5. The first NuJoy Restaurant also served as the Greyhound bus stop.

Above left, the Gooseneck Bridge in the background, the railroad bridge in the foreground, have spanned the Iroquois River between Jefferson and Washington Townships. Located 5 miles northwest of Kentland and 1/2 mile east of the Newton County Fairgrounds, this overhead pony truss bridge called "Gooseneck Bridge" was built in 1918 by The Cleveland Bridge and Iron-works Co. As the bridge deteriorated and had a one-ton weight limit imposed upon it, the County Commissioners designated it a walk bridge and closed it to vehicle traffic in 1985. Around the year 1990 the bridge was torn down due to continued vehicular use and vandalism. In 1881, the first iron bridge in the county was built in this location. So traffic crossed the Iroquois River in this location for 104 years before it was determined to be unsafe. The name of the bridge is believed to be derived from the curved nature of the county road that approached it from both sides. It has also been known as "Go Between Bridge" and "Goose Bridge". For an interesting view of its history, see "Brook, Washington and Iroquois Townships, 1856-2006". Information supplied by Janet Miller.



Goodland, Indiana. Looking northwest, this is the view from the intersection of Union and Newton Streets, circa 1900. The drug store in the foreground was replaced by a modern brick Masonic lodge which housed the Goodland State Bank. The old pump at the corner became a huge concrete drinking fountain. The commercial hotel, upper right, later became the Sluz (Marie's) Tavern. Much later, the tavern was BJ's which closed about 2010. David Dye photograph.



High School, Morristo, Ind., Sept. 13-14, Earl Rausch, Supt.

Yes, A Building Can Talk

Submitted by Becky Lyons



Let me introduce myself. I'm the oldest building in Brook and currently known as the Wash-O-Quois Museum.

Do you remember all the memories and stories I contained and told you during the Bicentennial in 1976? My stories continued several years afterward, when evening visitors walked across my threshold. Oh, the good old days!

However, the years since then have not been kind to me. My furnace broke, so I've gotten very cold in the winters and very hot in the summers. This accounts for my awful musty smell. Now my floor is warped and the ceiling tiles are falling down. The people of the Wash-O-Quois Committee say my roof needs new shingles.

Since Brook's Sesquicentennial, you remember the four day celebration of wheat threshing, the play about Brook's bank robbery, church in the park, and the 4th of July parade, there have been desires to fix me up. It would be so much fun to be able again to welcome you and share, for instance, my main histories such as Brook's native son, Don Berlin - designer of WWII airplanes, and who owned those pretty pink dishes displayed in my glass cases.

Funding for my facelift and fixing up has been growing through the generosity of several organizations. There is one funding hurdle yet to achieve. If you wish to help "perk me up", please do so at the Community State Bank in Brook. The girls will know my account number and your donation is tax deductible.

With your help, my friends will once again be sitting on benches out front ready to welcome you inside and share with you their enthusiasm for the history of Brook, Iroquois and Washington Townships.

Interested in being a part of the Iroquois-Washington Preservation Committee? Contact president, Kyle Conrad at kidclerk@aol.com

A Detailed Look at the Past Owners of the Property Known Today As The Wash-O-Quois Museum

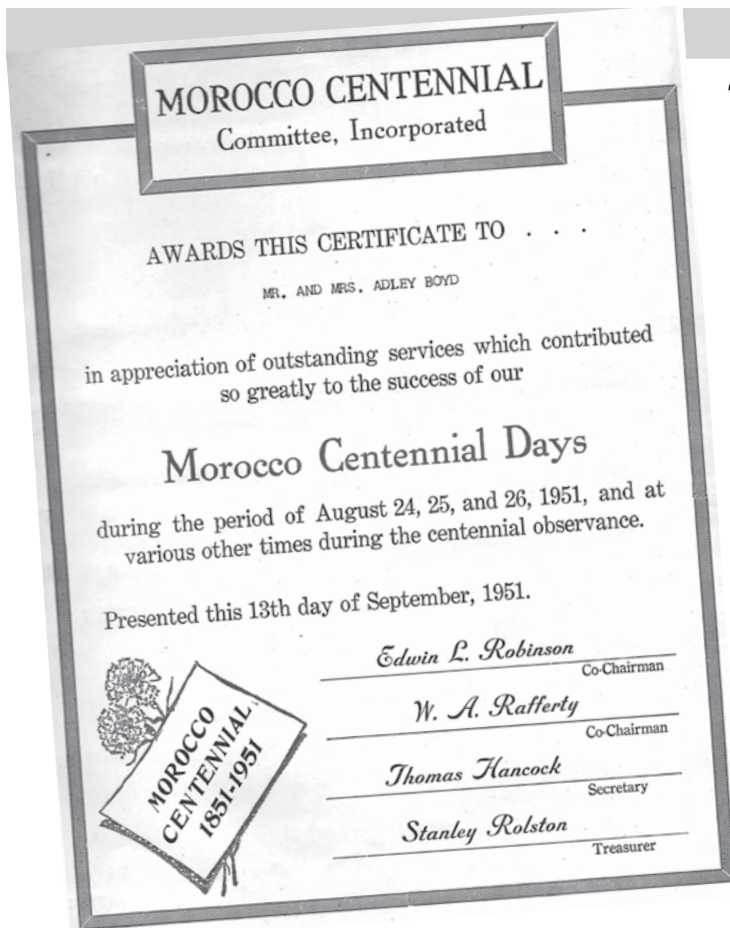
Lot 14: Warr's Addition

- 1854 Spitler family from U. S. Gov.
- 1864 Orlando Bush and Samuel Favorite from Spitler family
- 1868 Orlando Bush from Samuel Favorite
- 1874 Margaret Deaver from Orlando Bush
- 1883 Andrew Miller from Margaret Deaver
- 1884 Bertha Lyman from Andrew Miller
- 1884 Benjamin Warr from Bertha Lyman
- 1889 Warr's Addition to town
- 1897 J. D. Rich and Philip Stonehill (Citizen's Bank) from Benjamin Warr
- 1901 Citizen's Bank moved to 127 West Main
- 1901 Thomas Martin from J. D. Rich
- 1905 J. D. Rich and Joseph Clark from Thomas Martin
- 1911 J. D. Rich from Joseph Clark (1/2 int.)
- 1916 Alice Vondersmith (millinery shop) from J. D. Rich (Clark's 1/2 int.)
- 1917 John Boyer from Alice Vondersmith (Clark's 1/2 int.)
- 1917 John Boyer from J. D. Rich (J. D. Rich's 1/2 int. from 1905 purchase)
- 1930 Elmer (Al) Cline (barber shop) from John Boyer estate
- 1951 Eugene Miller (barber shop) from Elmer (Al) Cline
- 1979 Gertrude Hamacher (Brook Museum) from Eugene Miller
- 1980 Town of Brook from Gertrude Hamacher (for Wash-O-Quois Museum)
- 2005 Town of Brook

It Is Time to Renew Your Membership to the Society! You will find a renewal form inserted in this edition!

Annual dues are valid Jan. 1 - Dec. 31.
Must be a member of the general society to join the Family History Division.
General Society: \$17.00
Family History: \$5.00
Total for both: \$22.00
Lifetime General Society: \$125.00
Lifetime Family History Division: \$50.00
Total for both \$175.00

Membership includes free copies of *The Newcomer*; monthly notification of meeting programs.



Sixty Years Ago . . .

Morocco Celebrated 100 Years

Submitted by Darlene Truby

Recently, some pictures and programs concerning the 1951 Morocco Centennial were donated to the Historical Society. The pictures on page 14 belonged to the Adley Boyd family and were donated by Bonnie (Boyd) Wagner. This article contains some of these pictures, plus pictures related to the Centennial from the Harriet (Goddard) Spurgeon family albums. (see page 17.)

In order to commemorate this historic event, a Centennial Committee was formed to coordinate and plan the celebration. This committee consisted of Edwin L. Robinson, Co-Chairman, W. A. Rafferty, Co-Chairman, Thomas Hancock, Secretary and Stanley Rolston, Treasurer.

Ed Robinson was a prominent local attorney and life-long Morocco / Conrad area resident. William Rafferty, prominent land owner, Tom Hancock, owner of the local dime store and funeral home and Stanley Rolston was the Morocco Methodist minister. Much of Morocco and the area population was involved in the events that took place during the celebration. Some highlights of the celebration follow.

An hour long Variety Show was held in the evening. The show featured the Morocco High School Band followed by everyone singing the Centennial Song. There were solo singing performances by the following: Ruth Ann Falk, Brook Ripples, Jerry Voss, Marjorie Murphey, and Marilyn Padgett. Jo Alice Ulm and Anna Lee Blackburn danced, Jane Estergreen twirled, Darlene Wiggs whistled, Caryl Marie and Anna Louis Jacobson played piano and violin....a wonderful celebration of Morocco's first 100 years!

In honor of the event, a history of Morocco was compiled and written by Miss Ruth Corbin, a history teacher of many years at Morocco High School. Miss Corbin did lots of research and interviewed hundreds of the local citizenry. First-hand historical data was contributed by James C. Murphey, Mrs. Tennis Deardurff, Mrs. Laura Hale, George Deardurff, William Kessler, Frank Cox.

A large number of area residents of all ages participated in the performance of the play, "Morocco Centennial Days" which consisted of 16 episodes:

Episode 1: "Queen's Coronation" - Crowning of the Centennial Queen

Episode 2: "An Early Indian Village" - Depiction of the Miami tribe climaxing with the thrilling death scene of Chiefs Turkey Foot and Bull Foot.

Episode 3: "The Vanishing American" - Showed the Indian driven from his native soil.

Episode 4: "The Spirit of 76" - While life in the Morocco area began possibly 15,000 years ago, it wasn't until the 1700's that people really became interested.

Episode 5: "Beaver Lake and Bogus Island" - Importance of Beaver Lake in Morocco's beginning. Climaxed by a daring robbery led by Old Shaffer, one of the most notorious criminals of that period. Shaffer was depicted by Charlie Conn, Ned Barker by Art Lowe, other trappers by Vic Carlson and Bud Johnson.

Episode 6: "The First Settlers" - Depicted life in the home of John Murphey and ended with the arrival of the first wagon train.

Episode 7: "The Founding of Morocco" - How Morocco received its name from a stranger on horseback wearing red Morocco leather on the top of his boots.

Episode 8: "The First School"

Episode 9: "The First Church"

Episode 10: "Antebellum Days" - Depicted the social life prior to Civil War and featured the Virginia Reel; also, the arrival of the town's first doctor, Dr. Triplett.

Episode 11: "The Rebellion" - Majority of Morocco soldiers served in Co. B 51st Indiana Volunteer Infantry and participated in the battles of Shiloh, siege of Corinth and Stone River. Abe Lincoln was depicted by Gerald Bouse.

Episode 12: "Morocco's Incorporation" in 1889.



HOME IS WHERE YOUR STORY BEGINS . . .

The Harris Family of Jackson Township, Newton County

The society received an email from Sue Hurlbut of Redlands California, informing us that she had several copies of Civil War era letters from Newton County residents, John T. and Louisa (Coshaw) Harris, Henry Coshaw, Micha Halstead, Elizabeth (Coshaw) Kessler and other related family names. She was planning a visit to our Resource Center to do research on the family. Sue works as a volunteer at the San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands, California, and travels the United States researching items that are donated to them, which is a story within itself.

The letters were donated to them from the family of the late Ruth Harris, the great-granddaughter of John and Louisa Harris. Through the letters the path that led them to California was revealed, as well as correspondence from John T. Harris, a member of Company B of the 51st Indiana Volunteer Infantry, to his wife Louisa (Coshaw) Harris, living in Jackson Township. News of the war, politics, the Rebels and general military existence is beautifully illustrated in ink and pen. The entire collection consists of over 100 letters, dating from 1858-1895. At this point in time we have digital copies, but Sue assures me that eventually we will receive the original copies. Excerpts from those letters regarding the Civil War will appear in the next edition of *The Newcomer*.

Sue's extensive research has revealed seven (7) generations, of the Harris family, beginning with (1) Benjamin Harris, who had a daughter named Unity Harris, who died in 1788. She married a John Ladd, and from this marriage there were nine children: Guli, b. 1769; Rachel, b. 1771, d. 1795; Elizabeth, b. 1772; Benjamin Harris, b. 1774; Margaret, b. 1776; Unity Smith, b. 1780 in Charles City, Virginia, d. 1846 in Indiana; Mary, b. 1782; Sarah, b. 1785; John, b. 1787, d. 1788.

John and Unity Ladd's sixth daughter, (2)Unity Smith married Dr. Thomas Harris, (ca. 1740-1828.) However, there isn't any documentation to his lineage. Speculation would be that he was the grandson of the first generation Benjamin Harris. (3) Dr. Thomas Harris' wife may have been his cousin.

Further evidence of this fact would be the naming of their first born, Benjamin T. Harris, b. February 10, 1808 in Virginia, d. Sept 4, 1837 in Tippecanoe County, Indiana. Their other children were: Lucy Ann, b. 1807; Mary T., b. Feb 1, 1821, d. May 11, 1845; Sarah W., b. February 4, 1814; Thomas W., b. December 10, 1816, d. August 1, 1890; Lucy Ann, b. July 30, 1822. Unity Smith (Ladd) wife of Dr. Thomas Harris was born in 1780 in Charles City, Virginia and died September 20, 1846 in Indiana, and is buried in Tippecanoe County, Indiana.

(4) Benjamin T. Harris, (1808-1837), son of Dr. Thomas and Unity (Ladd) Harris, married Elizabeth Faulk, b. November 30, 1807, d. December 30, 1856 in Jasper County, Indiana. From the source list Sue provided, I was able to find a bit more regarding Benjamin and Elizabeth Harris. From page 739 of the Biographical History of Tippecanoe, White, Jasper, Newton, Benton, Warren and Pulaski Counties, Indiana, 1899, Micah B. Halstead sketch, (he married John T. Harris' sister, Virginia U.):

"Our subject (Halstead) was married August 30, 1857, to Miss Virginia U. Harris, who was born in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, February 19, 1836. She is the daughter of Benjamin and Betsy (Faulk) Harris, her father being the son of Thomas Harris, of Vir-

ginia, the well known physician. Benjamin Harris was married in Virginia and came to Indiana in 1835, settling in Tippecanoe County, where he died in 1837. He was a farmer and speculator and a prominent man in his community. His wife survived him and kept the family of little children together, giving them the best education in her power. In 1851 she removed to Jasper county, where she entered land and improved a farm, on which she died December 30, 1856, when forty-nine years of age. Both she and her husband were members of the Society of Friends, or Quakers, and were most estimable people. Their children were as follows: William, Henry O., Regina, John, Virginia, and Benjamin."

The children of Benjamin and Betsy (Faulk) Harris were: William F., b. January 26, 1830, d. on June 3, 1874, buried at the Harris Cemetery in Jackson Township, Newton County; Henry Oliver, b. November 5, 1831, in Nansemond, Virginia, d. October 27, 1919, in Jasper County, Indiana, and is buried in Rensselaer, Indiana; Elizabeth Regina, b. November 11, 1833, d. August 21, 1853; (5) John Thomas, twin to Virginia Unity, b. February 19, 1836 in Tippecanoe County, Indiana, d. July 13, 1895 in Rensselaer, Jasper County, Indiana. He is buried in Weston Cemetery; Virginia Unity, twin to John Thomas, b. February 19, 1836, married Micah B. Halstead, d. April 25, 1916, in Rensselaer, Jasper County, Indiana; Benjamin, b. April 2, 1838, d. December 8, 1916, in Jasper County, Indiana. These generations of the family were the early pioneers of our area, and many other local names are tied to this lineage, such as Ham, Handley, Kessler, Yeoman, and Halstead.

(5) John Thomas, son of Benjamin and Betsy (Faulk) Harris, married Louisa Jane Coshaw, daughter of William W. and Catherine (Buckley) Coshaw. There are many different spellings to the Coshaw name, but the Notice of Estate in the *Newton County Union*, Dec 3, 1863, for Henry Coshaw indicated this spelling, so I will use it throughout. Catherine (Buckley) Coshaw, b. 1811, d. 1849, was the daughter of Isaac B. and Abigail (Turney) Buckley, and is buried in Carroll County, Indiana.

The children of William W. and Catherine Coshaw were: Elizabeth Abigail, b. 1835 in Fayette, Indiana, (not sure if Lafayette or Fayette County), d. February 6, 1869; Henry H. Coshaw, b. 1837 in Indiana and died on September 5, 1863 in Camp Sherman, MS at the age of 26. He was a member of Co. D., of the 12th Indiana Volunteer Infantry. The cause of his death was typhoid fever or pneumonia. In the letters from John T. Harris to his wife, Louisa (sister to Henry), he continually asks if she had any correspondence with him; Thomas J. Coshaw, b. August 1839 in Carroll County, Indiana, d. February 15, 1907 and is buried in Jasper, Illinois; Louisa Jane, b. August 26, 1841 near Kokomo in Howard County, Indiana, d. October 22, 1884 in Newton County. She is buried in the Harris Cemetery, Jackson Township, Newton County, Indiana.

The children of John T. Harris and Louisa Jane (Coshaw) were: Oscar William, b. October 14, 1860, in Newton County, d. August 15, 1938, in Redlands, San Bernardino, CA; Grant D. Harris, b. 1864 in Indiana, d. November 28 1892, in Redlands at age 28, the cause of death was pneumonia; Bruce T. Harris, b. September 13, 1866 in Indiana, d. February 9, 1886 in California, about age 19; Detmer E., b. April 4, 1869, d. September 16, 1870, age

1, and is buried at Harris Cemetery, Jackson Township, Newton County, Indiana.

From the Obituary of John T. Harris, July 18, 1895, *Rensselaer Republican*:

“John T. Harris died last Saturday afternoon, at the residence of F. M. Parker, just north of town, after a sickness of two weeks.

“He was born in Tippecanoe County, this state, February 19, 1836, and his age at death was therefore 59 years, 4 months and 24 days. He was an old resident of this and Newton County, coming here with his parents in 1851. He lived in what was then Jasper County, but afterwards became a part of Newton County. He was married in 1859 to Louisa Koshaw. Four sons were born to this union, of whom only one the oldest is living, and he is now in California. His wife died in 1885, and in 1887 he married Miss Nellie Jackson, who survives him. He moved to Rensselaer in 1893, buying and occupying a good residence, which was destroyed by fire, a few months ago.

“He joined the Union army in 1861, and served faithfully for three years in Company B, of the 51st Indiana Regiment. Many years ago he and his wife united with the Cumberland Presbyterians, but after the disbanding of that organization he had no church connections.

“His other surviving near relatives are two brothers, Henry and Benjamin Harris, well known and highly respected residents of Rensselaer, and a twin sister, Mrs. M. B. Halstead, of Newton Township.

“The funeral was held Monday afternoon, at the First Baptist Church and was conducted by Rev. W. E. Wight, of Illinois. Interment was made in Weston Cemetery.

“The deceased was a member of the Rensselaer Post, Grand Army of the Republic, and the burial services were conducted by the Post, in accordance with the funeral rituals of the order. Some

37 army veterans took part in the services, among whom were the following members of Mr. Harris’ own Company: John Higgins, Recorder of Newton County, Dr. G. B. Smith, of Foresman, Hon. J. B. Lyons of Brook, Isaac Denny and John Lowe, of Kentland, and S. E. Yeoman of Rensselaer.”

(6) Oscar William Harris, the son of John T. and Louisa (Coshow) Harris was the only living child at the time of John’s death. He married Alice Cook, and from their marriage there were seven children, Ruth Harris, b. 1883, d. 1957; Chester Cook, b. 1885, d. 1940; Hazel, b. 1887, d. 1900; Benjamin Harrison, b. 1889, d. 1949; Virginia R., b. 1891, d. 1909; John Milton, b. 1896, d. 1962; Olive E., b. 1898, d. 1968.

(7) Ruth Harris, from whose family the letters were donated to the San Bernardino County Museum in Redlands, California. Sue tells me that their interest in this family is in the study of the fruit industry during the Civil War era, and the letters sent back and forth from California to Indiana give a wonderful description of the lushness of the area. Many times, Grant wrote home to his father encouraging others to send money to invest in land in the area.

The research that Sue produced on the family history in combination with the letters that span 62 years, 1858-1916, give a rich, detailed story to the life and times of a pioneer family of Newton County.

Note: A complete excel file of all the letters with dates, to/ from/ names mentioned and subject of the letter is available at the Resource Center in Kentland. Print outs of the digital prints of the letters are also on display. A special thank you to Sue Hulburt and the San Bernardino County Museum for making us aware of their donation. Written and submitted by Beth Bassett.

Morocco Centennial Photographs

Upper right, Joe and Sandy Padgett on their ponies; next, right, Adley Boyd and Esther (Deardurff) Boyd, upper far right, June Murphey, Doug Boyd, Bonnie (Boyd) Wagner. Doug and Bonnie are children of Adley and Esther Boyd. below, left, Jack Storey on a Farmall tractor; middle, below Ella Mae (Milk) Kessler, wife of Chester Kessler. Chester was the son of William and Hattie (Triplett) Kessler; far right bottom - the Hancock Funeral Home parade entry.



SALT Venus Lukes

Written by
Jeff Manes

This interview first appeared in the April 5, 2005 Lowell Tribune and in the November 5, 2009 Post Tribune.

“Pivo prosim.” (A beer, please.)

As I parked in front of the Sumava Resorts post office, I stared at the small apartment sitting above it. Memories.

Behind the post office is the home of Venus Lukes. She lives beside Lukes Restaurant & Tavern. Three generations of Lukes have owned and operated the establishment for nearly 70 years.

Always a fine-featured, slender lady, Lukes, 84, looks remarkably the same as she did 45 years ago. Her pleasant voice and polite manner of speaking remain as well.

She and her late husband, Jimmy, raised three sons: Tom, Bob and Jim. Tom, the eldest, continues to run the family business.

* * *

Venus, tell me about some of your earliest memories.

“I was born on the southwest side of Chicago. My parents were immigrants who had come to Ellis Island from Czechoslovakia; they met in New York, married, and eventually moved to Chicago.

“When I was 3 years old, my parents were forced to move back to Europe. It was the early 1930s. But my father moved back to the U.S. a year later.

“When he saved up enough money, he sent for us. I was 5 by then. I spoke only Bohemian when I returned to America.

“I graduated from grade school in Chicago, but my father had tired of city life and found a farm outside of Schneider. We moved to the farm in 1941. Then, I went back to Chicago and got into the cadet nurse corps; it was run by the government.”

When did you meet your husband?

“I knew of him and his family when I was in high school because I would buy rye bread from his parents’ bakery – I’d walk along the railroad tracks from Schneider to Sumava.

“Jimmy’s family were also Bohemians who migrated to Chicago; they were some of the earliest settlers of Sumava during the 1920s.

“I’d take the bus from Chicago to visit the farm; Jimmy was in the Navy at the time. His mother would always let me know when he was going to be coming home.”

Sounds like Bessie Lukes was a bit of a matchmaker.

“Yes, she kind of hooked us up. Jimmy and I started writing each other. He came home and gave me an engagement ring in ‘46. It was about the time of V-J Day; I remember people celebrating the Japanese surrender. In Chicago, they didn’t want me to leave nursing, but I told them I was getting married.”

Decided to become a restaurateur instead.

“Yes, my in-laws opened the restaurant in 1940; we took it over in 1948. Jimmy did the cooking. Whatever he needed, I was right there. I was his ‘right-hand man.’”

I remember, Venus. I remember Doris Hendryx and Adrianna Havlicek, too – darting into the kitchen. Gracefully weaving their



This photo was taken from “Indiana Everglades,” a short promo by Patty Wisniwski and Jeff Manes that features an interview of Venus and Tom Lukes at Lukes Restuarant in Sumava Resorts.

way through tables while toting platters of walleyed pike fillets, frog legs, fried mushrooms and cold sweaty bottles of Stroh’s Bohemian-style beer.

You mentioned Jimmy’s family was here before yours. I’m sure they told you about Sumava during the late ‘20s; fill me in.

“From what has been handed down, in 1925, a group of real estate agents – all Czechs from Chicago; Kral, Kucera, Dvorak and Koutny came upon the land. They formed a company named Sumava Forest Resorts Inc.

“They subdivided it with streets, beaches and parks. In June of 1927, the first lots were put up for sale.

“All the work was done by big scoop shovels drawn by horses. They put in deep wells for the people.

“By 1928, a chartered train brought hundreds of prospective customers to Sumava. Women would get dressed up in native Bohemian attire and greet the people as they spent the day looking at lots. Later, they bought buses to bring the people in.

“Many Chicagoans bought lots and built summer cottages. They would stay for the weekends in these little bungalows, most of which had no insulation.

“Jimmy’s parents had been successful bakery shop owners in Chicago. He said his father spotted an ad in a Bohemian newspaper about Sumava Resorts.

“At first, Jimmy’s parents built a small cottage way back in the woods, then, as did some of the others, they built a house suitable to live in year around. It is still standing near the old Sumava Hotel.

“Then came the Depression in 1929. By 1930, they lost the house.”

Hard times.

“The Depression stagnated the growth of Sumava. When the country finally started to pull out of it, Sumava started to make a comeback, too.

“Then, in 1950, the Kankakee River overflowed causing a 75-foot break in the dike. The entire community was flooded; everyone had to leave. I was expecting, so I went to stay on my parents’ farm in Schneider.

“Jimmy and his mother were the only two people from Sumava who remained; he got around town by boat. It lasted six weeks. Volunteers from the Lake Village Grange and American Legion loaded up more than 9,000 sandbags into wagons and pulled them with tractors to Sumava. Men in boats transported the sandbags to the break.

“1967, ‘76, and ‘93 were bad, but nothing like what happened Easter Sunday, 1950.

“Jeff, I can still see my brother running down the deck of the ship that took us back to Czechoslovakia. He was playing with paper airplanes. I was known as Venuska (pronounced Ve-NOOSH-ka) Zamazal back then. I was 3 years old.”

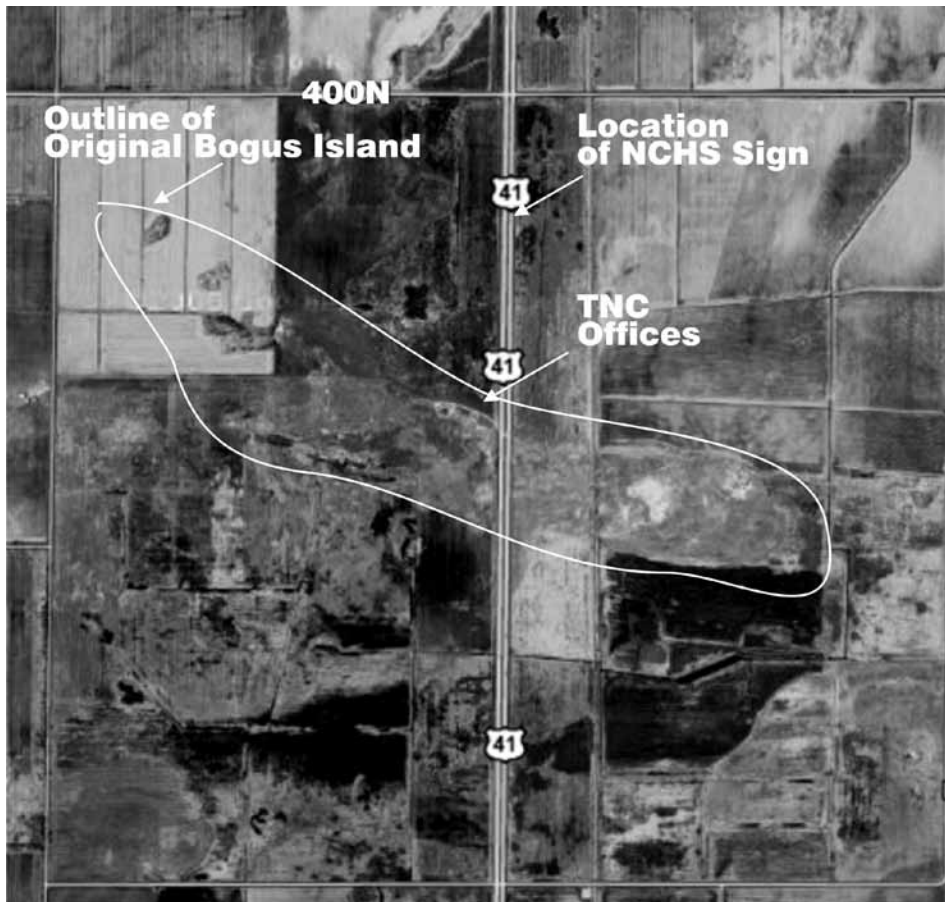
Venus Lukes also was the postmaster for 32 years. A post office that served, simultaneously, as Lukes Bakery for many years.

She baked her share of kolaches, waited tables ad infinitum, and made sure our letters got mailed – all the while raising three sons.

Venus still runs the cash register and washes down tables at the restaurant. She’d feel out of sorts not to.

Jimmy Lukes was my parents’ landlord when we lived above that tiny bakery-post office almost 50 years ago. My dad said he had to fork out 30 bucks a month rent, but the utility bills weren’t bad in the winter living above a bakery. I remember when we moved.

I was 3 years old.



Newton County Historical Society Erects Landmark Sign For Beaver Lake and Bogus Island

In the spring of 2011, a sign (pictured above) was placed along U.S. 41, just south of 400N, marking the area where Beaver Lake and Bogus Island were located in McClellan Township. There is a pull off on the southbound side of the highway where historical information about the area can be read from your vehicle.

To the left, is a 2011 Google map of the area. At The Nature Conservancy offices, you will find this same aerial photo posted on their walls. Stephanie Frische explained to us that they found evidence of the excavation of the sand dug from the island on the east side of 41, when the highway was constructed in the late 1950s.

The sign was erected in conjunction with other landmarks throughout the county in recognition of the Sesquicentennial of the county.

Pick up a copy of a map and *Landmarks of Newton County* brochure for a driving tour of the county landmarks.

PAGES OF THE PAST

Submitted by Janet Miller
Excerpts were taken from

The Newton County Enterprise, Spring-Summer, 1911

Kentland

The county jail referred to in the report of the recent grand jury as being unfit for use, is the jail in Kentland, and not the one at the county farm. The report of the jury on the jail and the county farm was made in one paragraph, and Col. Joe Hooker asks for a differentiation. Joe's jail is like the King's parlor.

The new globular steel safe recently installed by the Kent State Bank is possibly the best safe owned by any bank in northwestern Indiana. It is made of manard manganese steel by the Ely-Norris Safe Company of Perth Amboy, N. J., and tests made with nitro-glycerine prove conclusively that the safe is explosive proof, and for that reason, burglar and fire proof. Aside from the security this safe affords the bank, as well as the bank's customers, it is a handsome piece of furniture and will be an ornament in the new Kent State Bank building when completed.

New Haberdashery. Boyd Neher is arranging shelving and receiving goods for the opening of a new gents' furnishings store in the room formerly occupied by R. R. Cummings, attorney. Mr. Neher hopes to give Kentland an up-to-date furnishing store, and the location selected is admirable for that business. The store will open for business Saturday or the first of next week.

Methodists Dedicate New Church Sunday. Dr. Frank J. McConnell, President of DePauw University Preaches Two Able Sermons to Monster Audiences. Sunday was a great day in Methodism in Kentland. The handsome new edifice erected by the congregation of Trinity Church was dedicated with impressive ceremonies. The day broke bright and clear, and the warmth of a perfect April sun invited the people out to participate in the event. Services were abandoned at the Christian and Presbyterian churches and members of all denominations flocked to the stately new building that for the first time was thrown open for public worship.

Uncle Sam Now Holding Forth in New Quarters. The post office was moved Saturday night to the vacant room south of the Kent State Bank, and the building vacated is being razed to give room for the erection of a new two story brick block. Whether or not the post office has found permanent quarters will not be known until an inspector visits Kentland and looks over the grounds. The move was made without the slightest inconvenience to patrons, though many callers for their Sunday morning mail were obliged to retrace their steps from the old quarters to the new.

Morocco

Ethelbert Hosier sold his restaurant Saturday to George Grooms, and became a partner of I. W. Murphey in the grocery and dry goods store.

Morocco was honored Saturday by having the field meet of the high schools of the county, quite a crowd being present to enjoy it. Morocco and Kentland tied in points made, and Freeman Davis, representing the Brook school, won individual honors. All the events were well given and none of the boys should be ashamed of the records they made.

Brook

George Ade placed an order Tuesday with the Dixon Co. of Earl Park for a new Stoddard-Dayton combination truck and runabout.

The business firms of Brook have organized the Brook Booster Club, and every Saturday afternoon will give away some valuable present to the person holding the number drawn at the public gathering. A \$40 dining table and set of chairs were given at L. L. Hershman's furniture store last week, and a large rug from D. Hess and an oil stove from J. A. Sell's are to be given next Saturday.

Lake Village

The school picnic Saturday in Hess' Hall was a very pleasant affair. Dinner was served to more than 150, and after dinner there was a splendid program by the Conrad and North Star Schools.

Quite a few nimrods from over the county and elsewhere are patrolling the Kankakee in search of the festive mallard.

J. J. Wilson has returned from an extended trip through Missouri and southern Illinois. He reports that he has made arrangements to handle a much larger quantity of pickles here than ever before, and this week expects to call on the farmers to make contracts and furnish fertilizer to those who wish it. His contract has several features better than some others. Contracts can be made with C. C. Fletcher, and Rainford & Sons of Lake Village, or Harry Roush of Schneider.

Ned Barker informs us that he contemplates starting a skunk farm near Lake Village—in fact has already started it, beginning with about a dozen members of the skunk family. Aside from its being a paying proposition, there is no end of pleasurable excitement in connection with skunk farming, especially on occasions when the animals grow peevish over some real or fancied slight.

Roselawn

(Rensselaer Republican) Boring for Oil at Roselawn. S. M. LaRue states that an oil and gas well is being drilled on the G. K. Wentworth land between Roselawn and the milk station at Pembroke.

Goodland

(Fowler Leader) It is stated that Goodland merchants are preening themselves over the increase trade that will come to the place on account of it being the only wet spot in the desert between Lafayette and Kankakee.

(Goodland Herald) The town is richer by \$600—Wednesday City Clerk Howard McCurry issued two licenses for \$300 each to the saloon men in Goodland. This hardly seems fair though for Goodland to get all the money and the township to bear the expenses of the election—which was \$50.

The Goodland saloons opened Saturday night and sixty cases of beer were consumed before the corkscrew was put in the cooling tank.

McClellan Township

Big Day In McClellan. The schools of McClellan township closed Friday with a big blow-out. About two hundred patrons and pupils of the three schools of the township met early in the morning at Oak Grove school house to mark the event with appropriate ceremony. A literary and musical program was given by the children, one that entertained their friends and showed careful preparation. There was also a creditable display of work done by the various schools, and some speech making by County Superintendent Schanlaub and J. M. Illingworth. The Lake Village Band was present all day and entertained the people with music that stirred the soul to patriotism. But the big card of the day was the dinner. All entered the event on equal footing. The old folks again became children and broke wish-bones and chomped sugar tarts with childish glee, and the kids forgot their lessons in diet and gorged to the fill. It was a big day, and all were happy.

Colfax Township

Samuel Butts of Colfax township, champion horse-shoe pitcher of western Indiana, 'lows he's feelin' mighty fittin' this spring, and rather intimated to the writer that possibly he would attend Kentland's Fourth of July celebration and give an exhibition of his skill as a pitcher. To see Sammy pile up "ringers" at a distance of thirty yards is a beautiful and awe-inspiring sight.

Goodland, Indiana

The Universal Paper Company

Browsing the internet, I came across David Dye's website, which houses a great amount of local history pertaining to Goodland and Newton County. This photo to the left appeared there, entitled the Universal Paper Company. I put the word out to our members regarding the business and these were the replies:

David Dye comments on the Universal Paper Company: "I know my mother worked at the paper factory during WWII making soda straws. Lily made the straws and were also the makers of what we call "dixie" drinking cups. Dracket burned in the middle to late 50's. The cans of Vanish (cleaner) were acting like rockets and landed clear across town when they got hot and caught fire thus exploding.

Newton County Engineer, Larry Holderly searched the land records and found: On December 8, 1945 Universal Paper Products Company purchased part of Lot 29 and Part of Lot 30 in the Original Plat of Goodland from Bales Lunber Company. The parcel was 50 feet by about 210 feet. On January 2, 1946 Universal Paper Products Company purchased a strip about 20 feet wide by 50 feet long adjacent to their north property line. This strip was adjacent to the railroad. On January 10, 1947 Universal Paper Products Company purchased the rest of Lot 29 from Harry A. and Elizabeth Wild. This gave them an 80 foot frontage on Union Street. This is where the parking lot is now located immediately east of the Goodland Post Office property.



On January 24, 1947 Universal Paper Products Company was merged with Lilly - Tulip Cup Corporation. On June 6, 1950 Lilly - Tulip Company sold the property to Judson Dunaway Corporation. I have not found where Judson Dunaway sold the property but I did find from the plat book that the lumber yard ended up with the property.

Judson Dunaway Company also owned land in Kentland where S & S Plastics is now located. Judson Dunaway in Kentland was then sold to the Drackett Company. Someone told me at one of the historical society meetings that sometime in the past the ditch backed up and Drackett flooded. There was a lot of their products floating around for people to pick up. I hope this helps. I don't know if the Drackett Company actually owned property in Goodland because I haven't been able to find that."

Thanks to David Dye and Larry Holderly.

Lake Village Store in the 1900s



"They handled most everything from shoe strings to horse collars in this general store at Lake Village in the early 1900s. The business was operated by Jacob Hess and he is the large man near the buggy in the pictures. Hess was an uncle of the late Dr. Bert Hess and father-in-law of the late Ethel Hess. The man at the left of Hess is thought to be Wilbert Davis. Jack Bingham wearing a mustache is standing on the porch and the two men standing near the horse team are Albert and Henry Rainford. The couple in the road wagon were identified as Mr. and Mrs. George C. A. Bryant. The house shown in the background is part of the present Irvy Christenson residence. Frank Manning of Lake Village supplied the picture."

Reprinted from the February 11, 1960 Newton County Enterprise.

I Grew Up In Jail . . . The Ford Family of Kentland



1.



2.



3.



4.

. . . that is the title Dean Ford used when he posted these photographs of his family on his Facebook page. His father, Lowell Ford, a former Newton County Sheriff resided along with his family in the apartment located in the same building that housed the jail during his term.

Dennis Ford gave us a bit of history: "Dad was appointed to fill the term of the elected sheriff (I've forgotten his name) who had died shortly after the beginning of a term in late 1950 or early 1951. Dad was an Indiana State Trooper living in Morocco when he was appointed sheriff. I was seven years old and Dean was only three. I had started the second grade in Morocco and transferred to the Kentland Grade School sometime during the 50/51 school year. Dad served the remainder of that term as sheriff (1950-54), but did not run for that office, although he later ran for Newton County Surveyor. I think he was succeeded in office by Pat Mullen, but I'm not sure about that.

We lived at the jail for something between three and four years, and our apartment was the entire front half of the jail building at that time. The back half of the building included the cell blocks and a two car garage. We had a full basement which included a shooting range where I learned to shoot a little .22 cal. rifle that my grandfather had given me. The first floor consisted of the sheriff's (very tiny) office, a living room, dining room and a kitchen. Our mother Kathlyn, the jail matron, cooked not only our meals, but those of the

inmates as well. The second floor had included four small bedrooms and a bath. Just to the east of the jail building was a long narrow side yard, where our mother hung out the laundry (no dryer in those days) and I sometimes played catch with one of the "trusties" (long-term inmates with whom our family had become friends). One of those trusted inmates was a man in whom our father's trust was ill-placed. While we were away on vacation one year he managed to escape, causing our premature return home and my everlasting disdain. To the east of our side yard was a hatchery operated and occupied by Joe and Eura Mullen. Joe was one of dad's deputies and is pictured (along with Sam Beekman, another deputy) in some of those photos of the jail that Dean has posted. The side yard and the hatchery were entirely consumed by the jail addition that was built some years ago. Hard to imagine that anyone could have fond memories of four years in jail, but we do!"

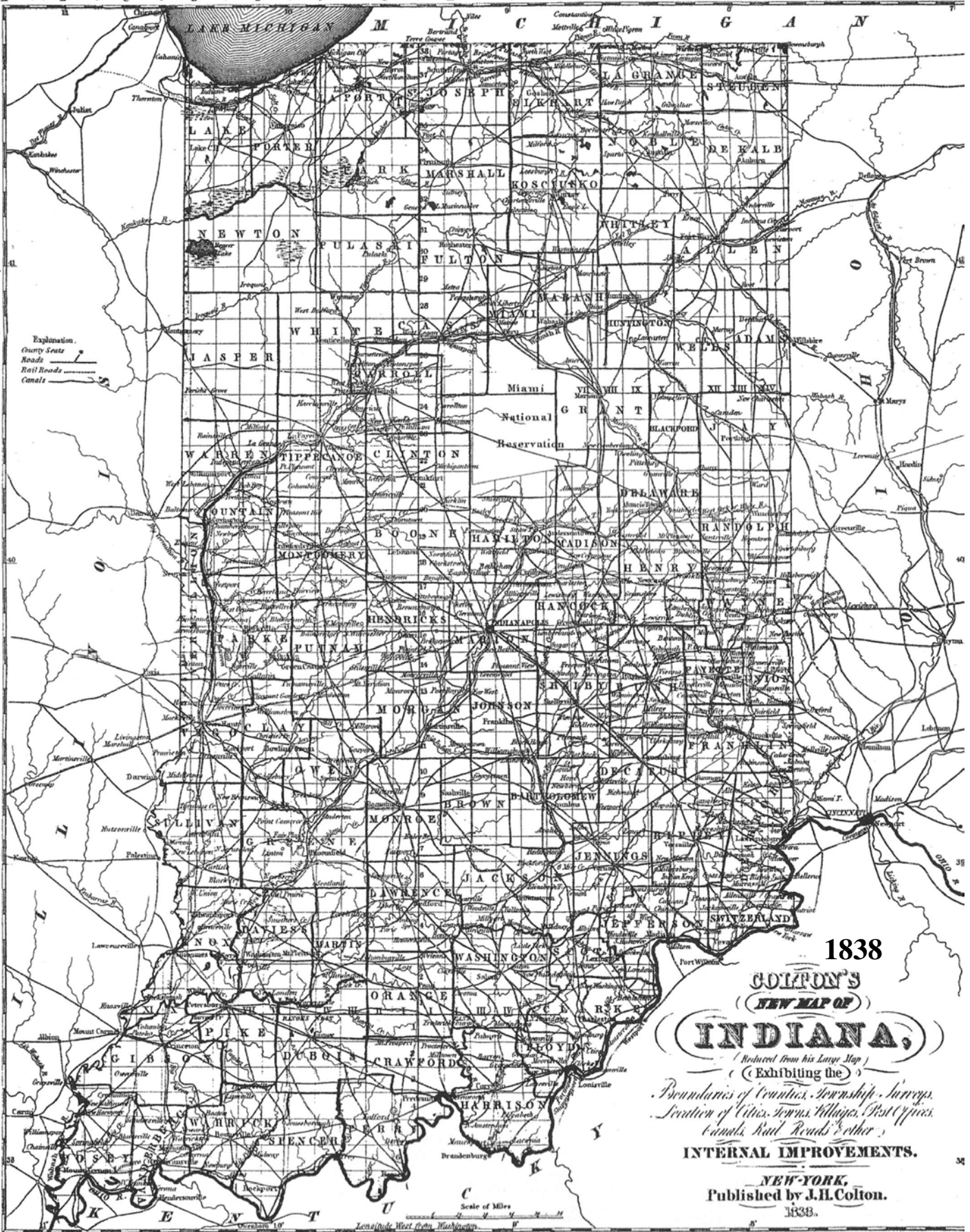


5.



6.

Photographs: 1. the jail in 1956; 2. playing football in the front 'jail yard'. The Mullen milk, egg and poultry store wall is in the background. (1952); 3. Front, l-r, Dean and Dennis, back, l-r, Kathlyn and Lowell Ford; 4. Joe Mullen and Lowell Ford inside the office; 5. "We ate prison food," the Ford family in the kitchen; 6. Lowell Ford in the police cruiser.



24 The Newcomer



12th Regiment



99th Regiment



9th Regiment

In 1866 General Lew Wallace turned over to Governor Oliver Morton the Civil War Battle Flags of the Regiments of the Indiana Volunteer Infantry under which the sons of Indiana fought and died to restore the Union.

On Civil War battlefields, regimental colors or flags provided an important means for soldiers to mark the positions of their regiments and for their officers to convey instructions to the men under their command.

Each regiment had a color company or a color guard, whose assignment was to bear the colors into battle and protect them. Each member of a color guard or company was selected for this position based on his courage and steadiness under fire, by the Regimental Commanders. The flags were carried by unarmed color sergeants, and accompanied by armed color corporals, who were instructed not to engage in combat unless the flags were in immediate danger of capture. The flags became the physical symbol of a unit's pride and courage, a rallying point in combat and the source of many heroic deeds in their defense.

Company B of the 51st was the only company raised in Newton County, but many others joined prior to and after in other 'local' companies that were being raised in neighboring counties, mainly Jasper. Newton County soldiers were found in Infantry Regiments including the 9th, 10th, 12th, 15th, 20th, 48th, 54th, 99th, 127th, 128th, and the 151st. Other state infantries included the 36th Illinois, the 6th Ohio. Cavalry Regiments included the 5th, the 12th Indiana. These photographs came from the Indiana Military Museum in Indianapolis, Indiana. Information gathered from John Ade's "Newton County, 1853-1911"- *Contributed by Beth Bassett*

51st Regiment



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