

Country Hearth

The Journal Of Northwest Indiana

Adams Hearth Publications Post Office Box 550 Kouts Indiana 46347 phone (219) 766-3982

Cover Story by Kathy Good

Archaeologists of The Au-Ki-Ki

The Kankakee River flows across country rich with fertile soil and friendly neighbors. While driving through our peaceful towns, past the modern farmsteads and neat fields of soybeans and corn, it's hard to imagine the great forests and marshes, the Indian villages and trading posts, which once flourished here.

Over 300 years ago, the French launched an expedition along the river named Au-ki-ki, a Potawatomi word meaning *Beautiful River*. During their voyage down this first highway of the Old Northwest, the explorers recorded the first written history of the Kankakee River — though not always accurately and often with a one-sided point of view. No written account exists of the Native American peoples who inhabited the area before this time of first contact, but artifacts left behind provide clues to their lives during the centuries of pre-history.

Members of the Northwest Indiana Archaeological Association share a love of local history and a desire to decipher those clues. The organization, co-founded by Shirley Anderson and Harold Haman of Porter County and Bob Nesius of Jasper County, was formed in 1977 to help preserve the culture of the American Indian.

Association members hold regular meetings to share their knowledge of history and archaeology. Every two years, they share that knowledge with the public by hosting an exhibit of prehistoric artifacts found in counties bordering the Kankakee River. This year's exhibit, held August 29 in Rensselaer, was organized by Bob Nesius and Shirley Anderson. Close to 400 area residents attended the event, where they caught a glimpse of what life was like here long before those French explorers first paddled down the Kankakee.

Thirty exhibitors displayed artifacts from their personal collections and related the history of those artifacts with drawings, maps, and lively discussions with visitors.

Exhibit-goers were also treated to demonstrations of the ancient skills of pottery-making, decorative beading, and flint knapping. Those who watched Ball State University archaeologist Don Cochran patiently

Exhibits, historical re-creations, and rendezvous events all help to bring the past to life. But actually holding a part of pre-history in your hand carries you back through time. As you touch the cool triangle of stone, it is easy to imagine the clicking sound of antler striking flint as the arrowhead takes shape. You can almost smell the smoke of wood fires and venison drying in preparation for the coming snows.

Harold Haman of Kouts began 'walking the fields' as a young boy, and has found over 500 points, or arrowheads, along with pottery pieces and other artifacts, most within a short hike of his front door. He says "When I find a piece, I think *My God, I might be the first person to touch this since the original owner dropped it!*" And that original owner might have lived a very long time ago.

Shirley Anderson, whose farm is on the site of Fort Tassinong, a French trading post built in 1673, has found stone tools made by the Paleo Indians before the year 6000 B.C. The Anderson family has called the Malden area home since 1838. When Shirley was five years old, a walk with her grandfather, John Shelhart, on the Shelhart farm in Parr, Indiana, turned up an arrowhead. The excitement of that moment led to a lifelong interest in things past.

Hundreds of artifacts, from 35 prehistoric sites and one historic site, make up the Anderson collection. The items are classified by age, which indicates the group that made and used them. From the earliest a Paleo knife, to the latest, trade pipes and metal buttons from both French and Indiana Militia uniforms, the items paint an interesting picture of northwest Indiana history.

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FREE
September of 1993

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Tales of Hoosier Pioneers Ursa Shadbonna

**Ursa: The Ottawa Squaw of Shadbonna
the Pottawattomie Chief of Indian Island
where Hebron, Indiana is located today.**

Article from 1900 by Frances Howe

"Ursa Shadbonna possessed a grand presence. She looked every inch a queen. She was the only full-blooded Indian I ever saw. Her skin was like copper with a dulled finish. Not one atom of white blood was recorded in her ancestry. Not one feature and not one outline of her body departed from the perfect type of her race. Tall and portly, her commanding figure made a fitting monument to a lost dynasty.

Many who saw her in Westchester Township thought she was my grandmother, Marie Bailly. She dressed gorgeously in a costume having very little resemblance to the sedate grays, browns, and black worn by grandmother. Ursa's apparel was as distinctly pagan as grandmother's was quiet and demure. She wore a wide, short, open sleeve. Her broad expanse of neck and chest was not covered Quaker style with a folded kerchief, as most Indian women wore when visiting. Ursa's neck and chest were always decorated with lavish necklaces and broaches—really valuable pieces—and all worn at the same time. A huge brooch of hammered silver—several inches in diameter—held her shirt together at the throat. Her ears carried silver bobs. A broadcloth, kilt-like skirt draped around her in a way grandmother said was more graceful than modest. Ursa's 'cloak' was a scarlet blanket of the kind the British shipped to Malden for trading purposes. It probably cost thirty beaver hides. Her hair was coarse and black and as thick as a horse's tail. She wore it in a doubled-up braid with a silver ornament and a red ribbon—a small one—at the end. She was somewhat masculine in stride and stature, and, of course, she made a very picturesque appearance with our grand old forest for a background....

Continued on Page 6

Over the Bridge to Dunnville

From the book *Indian and Nature Stories* by George Johnson of Rensselaer

The area on each side of what is now the Kankakee River in Newton County, Jasper County and on up the river valley toward South Bend was originally impassable marshland. The Government, in the 1850s, gave the Kankakee Marsh land to the State of Indiana to be sold and the money was to be spent to drain and develop the Marsh land. The land was sold but very little draining was done. Some of the land was bought in large tracts by speculators. Two of these speculators were professors at Asbury College of Greencastle, Indiana (*Asbury is the forerunner of DePauw University*). When there was some question about whether their titles were good, they hired a young lawyer named Issac D. Dunn to come up and represent their interests.

Issac Dunn came to the area and liked it. Besides looking after the interest of the professors, he bought a large tract. (1873) He built a store and called the post office Dunnville. Dunnville sounded so much like Danville of Illinois that mail was missent and the post office asked him to change the name. He chose Tefft. Tefft was the name of his brother-in-law, Dr. Tefft, who had been a diplomat to Sweden.

Mr. Dunn operated the store, did some farming on the higher and dryer spots, built a church, and was involved in politics. (*County Commissioner in 1878*.) His store sold things on "Time Credit" and some of the bills were paid by buying wild rabbits and shipping them to Chicago. Some of the bills were paid with "Swamp Grass Hay" that was cut off the ice in winter, baled and used as "Crate packing" for shipping on trains and ships.

Issac D. Dunn was my wife's grandfather on her father's side. We have some of his store's books with hand written entries, the names of purchasers, and, of course the prices. It is interesting to compare the things and prices with now, and to notice how the seasons changed some prices. For instance, the need for oats for the horses of travelers and salesmen. That was their transportation, no need for gasoline!

My how things have changed!

Publisher's note: George Johnson and his wife, Betty Dunn Johnson, report that Issac Dunn married Nancy Bayliss Coffin of Martha's Vineyard. Issac and Nancy's children were John Dunn, Carrie Dunn Seegrist, and George Nathan Dunn. Betty's father, George, was born in Martha's Vineyard since Nancy Dunn is believed to have been traveling to her birthplace at that time. The older children were born at home. The photograph is of the bridge Issac Dunn built to connect his Jasper and Porter county lands. The Issac Dunn homestead still stands on Birky property, across from the gravel pit and south of the Kankakee Dunn's Bridge. Issac D. Dunn was born in Maine. He died in 1916. The Dunn's Bridge story by Lewis Coe is on Page 13.

George and Betty Johnson live on the land of her ancestors that is located on Moody Road, a winding country road northeast of Rensselaer, Indiana. George is the author of Indian and Nature Stories which includes 114 true life stories. Purchase information is under Publishers in The Olde Time Business Card Catalog of this issue.



Photo: Rick Warren

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Photo Credit

Rick Warren, Dunns Bridge

We are honored to reprint the partial article from 1900 of Ursa Shadbonna by Frances Howe & the photograph of The Issac Dunn Homestead

Cover Art for The Country Hearth Journal
Laney Griffin

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Au-ki-ki Archaeologists

Continued from Front Page

The collection displayed by Rensselaer area resident Bob Nesius contained many unique artifacts. Visitors were drawn to a large bowl made of stone, close in size to a bowling ball with its top scraped out, which was originally found along the Kankakee by August Johnson. Birdstones, rarely found locally, were an especially interesting part of the display. The birdstones came from sites in Newton, Clinton, and Lake counties.

Casmer Sikora, who lives southeast of LaCrosse, displayed artifacts found in southern LaPorte county. An unusual item in the Sikora collection, a complete copper bead necklace, was discovered by Cass while he was chisel-plowing the family's farm fields. The site, later searched by Archaeological Association members during a rare April blizzard about ten years ago, also yielded a large cache of turkey tail blades, and was recorded in an archaeological journal. The necklace, which weighs approximately one pound, has been dated as originating in the Archaic to Early Woodland periods, making it at least 2500 years old. Since copper is not found in this area, the necklace was most likely crafted in another part of the country and then traded locally.

Harold Haman says, "Finding any artifact is exciting, but you really get interested in the item once you find out when and where it came from." To learn more about archaeology and history, Archaeological Association members have participated in university-sponsored digs, and frequently 'dig in' to books for serious research. Strict laws now prohibit any digging for artifacts without a state permit. A proper dig, supervised by a qualified archaeologist, painstakingly records the exact location, to the centimeter, of every relic found, in order to preserve the cultural and historical integrity of the site.

Walking the fields is more a quest than a hobby for long-time collectors. Though some artifacts can be quite valuable, the artifacts found are prized for the clues they provide to the history of our piece of the

Article by Kathy Good Continued on Page 11

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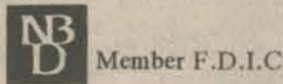


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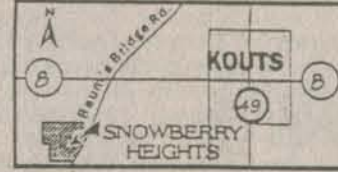
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Festivals of Autumn

by Linda Warren of North Judson

After traveling out west this summer, I came to the conclusion that there's no place like home in Indiana. Over the summer & into fall, festivals are everywhere. Town folks get a chance to visit with their neighbors & slow down just enough to savor the flavor of the great outdoors, food, crafts & music. We just missed some great fests that I will try to include in suggestions for entertainment before they are held again next year. There was the Mill Pond Festival, & last weekend's music festival held at Lomax Station (near San Pierre & LaCrosse). Also, the Chesterton Art Fair, Michigan City's October Fest in September, Medaryville's Potato Festival, the Koontz Lake activities, the Knox Harvest Fest & the Plymouth Blueberry Festival, which is one of the largest festivals in the area. The blueberry ice cream is a must!

Hopefully, you will be able to attend a new one next year. And hopefully, you won't miss the ones that are coming up! Winamac will host its 24 Kiwanis Farmer Market & Craft Days on September 11 with over 100 food & craft vendors. The North Judson Hoosier Valley Railroad Museum is open every Saturday, but this weekend they are holding a special Membership Day picnic. Members invite visitors & those who have considered becoming members to join them & their families, & to explore the dozen & more old railroad engines & cars they are restoring. The Hoosier Mopar Club & 49er Drive-In are holding a show & swap meet the same weekend. Rensselaer's Little Cousin Jasper Festival is scheduled for the weekend of September 10-12 & a parade, bed race, ventriloquist, music, heehaw show & line dancing are entertainment. Valparaiso's Popcorn Festival on September 11 is always a hometown favorite. Arts & crafts, the Popcorn Panic Run & parade will be featured. On September 11th & 12 the Porter County Expo Center will be the sight for the hot air balloon events. A mass ascension is scheduled, & later a balloon glow will take place. Francessville's Fall Festival is coming September 17-19. Arts, crafts, flea market, food & entertainment daily along with Bingo, country & western line dancing, horseshoe pitching, a turkey shoot & auto show. There is also a parade. The Duneland Harvest Festival at Chellburg Farm & Bailly Homestead of The Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore will celebrate turn-of-the-century rural life on September 18-19. Kouts will have a parade to celebrate their PorkFestivities the same weekend. Local businesses are preparing pork for their menu, such as Birky's Cafe. Some are holding hog roasts (Sandlin's Tavern & Riverhouse Inn & unusual entertainment such as The Riverhouse Inn's Outhouse Race with a pig to accompany participants. (See ads on Dining Pages.) September 17-19 is The Harvest Festival & Power Show at Sunset Hill Farm features an antique cars & truck parade, flea market & machinery demonstrations. The Apple Fest is in LaPorte that weekend at Garwood Orchards. September 25 - 26 is the Chesterton Wizard of Oz Fest. Also, the Keepers of the Dream PowWow to benefit the needy in South Dakota is September 25 at Lake County Fairgrounds. The Michiana Mennonite Relief Sale is September 26th at the Goshen 4-H Fairgrounds and features three auctions plus a smorgasbord of foods. (ads below). And the same weekend begins the Fall Harvest Festival for Miller's Tree Farm near Monticello. Idaville is the exact location for this festival that runs every weekend through October 31st! Find their map on the next page. Live country & Bluegrass music, pony rides, hayrides, campfires, petting animals, Native American dancers, demonstrating crafters, & rendezvous campers are enough to make a person want to move to Miller's Tree Farm until their festival is over the end of October. But take a jaunt over to the Feast of the Hunters' Moon on October 9-10 in Lafayette at Fort Ouiatenon. The re-creation of an 18th century gathering of French & Indian is sponsored by the Tippecanoe County Historical Association.

Linda Warren & her husband, Rick, make their home near North Judson. Linda has been writing articles, reviewing and covering music entertainment for the Music City Entertainer in Nashville for 5 years. Rick has been shooting concert photography during these years. Recently they expanded their talents toward local and national publications. Other interests include travel, festivals and experiencing life's pleasures.

Festival committees are invited to phone Adams Hearth Publications at 219/766-3982. Ask for Diane or Vicki. Only your ad guarantees that your festival and/or entertainment will be included in Linda Warren's Festivals of the Season feature. Restaurants, stores, schools, towns, and private enterprisers are invited to include your entertainment requests. Information, rates and publication schedules are mailed if you send an SASE to Festivals Info Please, Adams Hearth Publications, P O Box 550, Kouts IN 46347. (Non-profit organizations entitled to 25% discounted advertising. Restrictions do apply.)

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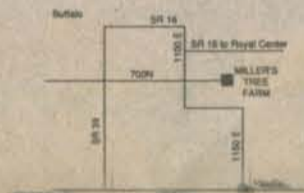


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- Phylis Condo Spinning & Weaving
- Pony Rides - Deer Creek Falls
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Miller's Festival Dates

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- October 2 & 3 Antique Power Show
Music by "Legal Tender" Oct 2 & The Bluegrass Connection Oct. 3
- October 9 & 10 The Plow Gang - Draft Horse Plowing Demonstrations
Music by Darryl Miller and The Pace Changers Oct. 9
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DINING WITHOUT DISHES

BY SAM



Over the years, I have been fortunate enough to have dined in some of this country's finest restaurants. I have also had the misfortune of having been subjected to some of the worst food and service imaginable. In the course of these experiences, I have found that you don't necessarily have to spend great sums of money to have great dining, and that spending a great deal does not ensure excellent food and service.

This column will explore the local restaurants and give readers my opinion of the quality of dining and value I have found. The editor and I decided to limit the area to a leisure drive around northwest Indiana so that readers can go to these restaurants themselves. Each issue I will report on my latest adventure, telling you what the food and service was like, how much you can expect to pay, and what my estimation of the value is.

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VALUE

Editor's note: Sam is our anonymous critic, therefore we cannot tell you much about this person's likes, dislikes, location of home or gender. We do assure the readers & establishments that the critic is not myself, my relation, or in my employ. The critic is a freelancer and enjoys the writing of Dining Without Dishes immensely. Sam will choose the next, and all, establishments. Sam does request suggestions from readers. Send name of your favorite restaurant to: Dining Without Dishes, Adams Heath Publications, P.O. Box 550, Kouts, In 46347.

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DON'T KNOW WHERE THESE RESTAURANTS & TOWNS ARE ?

USE THE COUNTRY HEARTH MAP & INDEX ON PAGE 15.

Country Hearth Guest Editorial *from Cheryl Ponder*

LOOKIN' BACK I can look back to 'the good olde days' thanks to my Grandpa, Otto C. Dilling. He gave a wonderful legacy to his family by leaving behind a colorful bit of history as he grew up, and in later years, little 'onces' about the pleasantries and not so pleasantries of his life. This excerpt is about country store shopping in 1909, in Preble township, Adams County, Indiana. Granpa was eleven years old when he took the hot and dusty half of a mile walk to the General Store. His reward? He was allowed to buy one penny's worth of candy. He didn't carry a wallet laden with cash, or even credit cards though. He took eggs and home churned butter to trade with the storekeeper. This is a partial account of what those eleven year old eyes noticed in that store 84 years ago.

Fruits and vegetables were mostly dried and came in large bags. Peaches, pears, prunes, apples, raisins, beans (dry Northern, navy or green), peas and other items did not come pre-packaged. They were shipped in bulk and weighed out. There were no regular computing scales then, so it was easier to weigh or measure them by the pint, gallon, peck, or bushel.

There was rarely a selection or variety -- you simply took what the shopkeeper had to offer. There was no fresh meat at the store. Grocers did not carry fresh meats and butchers did not sell groceries. The general store did sell a lot of fish - either 'put up' in brine, pickling vinegar or smoked. In front of the counter a row of buckets, tubs or small barrels held these fish.

Sugar, salt and crackers came packaged in wooden barrels, then were weighed out to the customer. There was only one kind: Perfection Wafers.

The most fascinating store display for the man or boy was the buggy whips. There were dozens of types, some cheap but serviceable, and others trimmed in silver or other metals that were most attractive. Every man and boy in those days had to have a nice buggy whip in the whip socket of the buggy. Whether he used it or not was not important. What was important was that he had to have one in order to 'rate' in the community.

Another item was a display of button hooks. All shoes, with the exception of men's work shoes though, were high button and required button hooks. And there was a shelf containing patent medicines and remedies. Probably the most popular was Peruna, an all purpose tonic or 'cure-all'. There was an excellent remedy for treating sore throats, which was called Heinfong Essence or Chinese Green Drops. There were two soaps to choose from: Ivory and Fels Naptha. Other soap was homemade.

And when the shopping was finished and the groceries were packed into a basket there were even a few coins left over for another day. Basically, that was the only comparison I could make to shopping in the early 1900s and now. The last time I went shopping I had a few coins left over, too!!

Imagine having only one brand of anything to choose from. There was no bread on the shelves, you made your own. You milked cows, you didn't buy a gallon of 2%. You didn't buy many things that are commonly on the shopping list today. You simply made what you needed or did without. Could we shop that way today? I don't even think I would care to try.

I love the little general stores with the bolts of calico mixed happily among the penny candy, dill pickles and hardware, but turn me loose in a modern supermarket where there's a choice -- with multiple aisles and lots of fresh produce, fresh flowers, and greeting cards, and I'm a happy woman! Some progress I approve and applaud. Think about it the next time you get groceries for a week. How well off we are. How easy it has become. Our biggest problem is a long line at the check-out, the scanner breaking down, or the grocerybag tearing.

Sometimes -- just sometimes, I think we should go back -- not to horse and buggy days, just horse and buggy ways. We need to slow the pace a bit and be more family oriented. Maybe you felt it a little, too -- lookin' back.

"Grandpa, tell me about the good old days. Sometimes it feels like this world's gone crazy. Grandpa, take me back to yesterday. When the line between right and wrong didn't seem to be hazy. Lovers really fall in love to stay. They stand beside each other come what may. Promises really something people kept, not just something they would say and then forget. Families really bowed their head to pray. Oh -- Grandpa -- tell me 'bout the good olde days."
(a song in part that was made popular by Naomi and Wynonna Judd)

Cheryl is an award-winning editorialist. She teaches private creative writing classes and enjoys her church activities. Cheryl resides in DeMotte with her daughter. The Country Hearth will have the pleasure of her guest editorial to share in October.

HOLLISTER, COME HOME

LOST FROM HIS HOME BEFORE THE BUS RUN ON THE MORNING OF JANUARY 2ND OR 9TH OF 1992 THE DAY OF A HORRIBLE SNOWSTORM. LOVED AND FAMILIAR. LONG-HAIRED, BEAUTIFUL BLACK CAT WITH WHITE PAWS. CHEST & TUMMY. A WHITE BOW ACROSS NOSE. HAD COLLAR OF BLUE OR GREEN THEN, CASTRATED MALE/NO FRONT CLAWS. MISSING FROM HIS HOME ON 1050 SOUTH NEAR BAUM'S BRIDGE ROAD/SOUTHWEST OF KOUTS, MILE FROM KANKAKEE RIVER & JASPER COUNTY.



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HOLLISTER IS A CHILD'S PET BUT ALL OF US MISS HIM. HE WAS AN INDOOR CAT & NOT TO BE OUT OF DOORS. WE KNOW A KIND WOMAN KEPT HIM IN HER HOUSE DURING THE JANUARY SNOWSTORM OF 1992. WILL THE WOMAN WHO TOLD THE KOUTS CLERK THAT SHE HAD THE CAT THAT WAS ON THE POSTER YOU TOOK FROM THE STORE PLEASE BRING HOLLISTER HOME.

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Au-ki-ki Archaeologists

Continued from Page 2

world, rather than for their monetary value. Dave Vohlken and Butch Holt, Rensselaer area residents, have together found over 1000 artifacts in Jasper, Pulaski, and Newton counties. They share this philosophy: "We perceive these artifacts as treasures from ancient unknown cultures. Finding and saving them brings life to these ancient peoples and, at the same time, much humility to those of us who thought we invented civilization."

AN INVITATION The public is invited to attend the meeting of the Northwest Indiana Archaeological Association. Since the group does not presently have access to a public meeting place, it has been meeting in the homes of local members. Watch for announcements of times, dates, and locations in area newspapers. For information, contact Shirley Anderson at 462-6039, or Bob Nesius, at 956-3354.

THE END

Kathy, her husband, and four children live on a farm in Porter County's Pleasant Township. She freelances for The Kouts Journal & local newspapers. Kathy has an interest in the history of northwest Indiana. Readers will look forward to more fine articles.

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On the Edge & In the Center of Rural

Rainbow Crafts by Diane Adams of Kouts

Rainbow Crafts was recently opened by Kouts proprietor, Sue Daugherty. She offers customers a chance to browse through most of her catalogs and welcomes special orders. Crafters will find quail, birds, western style accessories, ribbons, and magazines. Rainbow Crafts is located approximately 1/2 mile west of Kouts on State Road 8. Sue Daugherty has plenty of parking behind her home and a barn full of fun for crafters. Hours Mon - Thurs & Sat 8:30-5:30 Fri 8:30-7

Great Gatherings by Cheryl Ponder of DeMotte (Staff writer)

Linda Mattingly's business, Great Gatherings, is located on Kniman Road between Rensselaer, DeMotte, and Wheatfield. The shop is in a 100 year old store, and supplies party favors, invitations, Bingo supplies, table coverings, gifts for attendants, decorations for halls and carnival prizes. She has been part of 100 weddings in the last year. Though off the beaten path, Linda's business is making it out there. She credits the area with being warm and friendly. Employees Audrey and Mina help make Great Gatherings a place where you're welcome to have a cup of coffee as you browse through this shop on the edge of rural. Hours Mon thru Fri 10-5 Sat 10-4 Eves by appt

Hilton Daylily Farm by Cheryl Ponder

On Highway 114, west of I-65, between Rensselaer and Mt Ayr, is a daylily farm owned by Linda and Will Hilton. The summer view is one you will remember for a long time. Try to be there in mid-June to catch the flowers and butterflies at their peak. All one needs to do to shop is grab a clipboard and take a walk through the field and jot down information about the lily of their choice. Take a drive to 2 1/2 acres of beauty with the thought of naturalizing your yard. The daylily is an excellent, reasonably priced flower for your efforts. Farm open from April thru September.

The Treasure Chest by Cindy I Flagg of Argos (Staff writer)

The Treasure Chest in downtown Plymouth has been in business for almost one year. Proprietor Kim Clark states that she tries to carry items that no one else in town has. The store offers a unique line of cards, frames, gift bags, baby items, and many collectibles, such as Cherished Teddies, Precious Moments, Leanin' Tree, and David Winter. One very popular baby gift item that Clark displays is the "baby time capsule". The Treasure Chest is located at 111 N. Michigan Street. Hours: Tues, Wed, Thurs 9-4 Fri 10-5:30 Sat 10-3. They soon will be starting extended holiday hours.

The Bookshelf, Ltd. by Cindy I Flagg

Conveniently located in the Plymouth Center, the Bookshelf, Ltd. recently celebrated their one year anniversary. The Bookshelf is family owned and operated. They offer a full line of religious cards, books, music, Sunday school material, and gift items. Also, Living Epistles teeshirts, and the posters and Pass It On cards by Argos. If you are looking for a specific Bible translation, or an accompaniment tape by your favorite artist, stop in Mon thru Thurs 10-6, Fri 10-9, or Sat 10-6. The clerks are happy to special order any item that is not in stock at no additional cost.

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Ursa Shadbonna

continued from front page

She was like a blast from a Wagnerian trumpet, arrayed in all her glory whenever she and Shadbonna came up from the Kankakee to visit us. I am sure she always knew she was being mistaken for Marie Bailly as they strode firmly along the path toward our home on the Calumet.

During the three years we were in Europe - with the balance of the family at Mackinaw - I am sure both Ursa and Shadbonna slept on the front porch, rolled up in their blankets - for they were seen by visitors - but at that time they were both old, gray, and growing somewhat infirm. She didn't make nearly as picturesque a presentation as she had in earlier days.

On December 17, 1836, the day after grandfather died, they came to the Bailly home. How they ever knew of grandfather's death is a mystery. They came and sat silently in the little log cabin beside the big house all during the day of the funeral. After the other visitors had departed, they accompanied grandmother to the cemetery for a final farewell. I was told that they both stood tall and straight with folded arms beside the tomb, looking neither right nor left as my little grandmother said her prayers for her husband.

Ursa was indeed a character to fit the ride of the Valkyrie. She spoke some English and some French. She was firmly opposed to the lack of moral laws among the younger Indian women of the time - and she was also opposed to the Indians selling their reserves at some insignificant figure to unscrupulous whites.

Whenever this pair came to visit us, grandmother would frequently go to their cabin and talk over old times with them. Ursa never acted nor posed - and - - - and an ner accumulated wealth of necklaces and brooches was not out of place on her. She took them with her wherever she went. She knew value from time - - - side of her skirt, she always carried a keen-edged dagger - and with it she had slit many a deer's throat. She wore heavy buckskin leggings and moccasins of her own make. These were never ornamented. Her wearing apparel, even though flamboyant, was made for good hard use - and so was she.

THE END

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Over the 100 Year Old Bridge

The Dunnville Saga Continues

Photo: Rick Warren

Written by Lewis Coe, Author from Crown Point

The exotic dances of Little Egypt, along with the Ferris Wheel of the World's Columbian Exposition held in Chicago during 1893, have survived in the public memory as the best known features of the fair. Today one can see more female exposure at the neighborhood supermarket, but in 1893 Little Egypt's costumes were a sensation that had the country boys flocking to her performances! In this year of 1993, the country bridges of Indiana have reporters flocking to their arches.

According to local Kankakee River legend, Dunn's Bridge on Porter County Road 500 East was built from steel salvaged of the famed Ferris Wheel. Even though the legend has been documented by numerous printed references a little logic will suggest this legend is completely unfounded. Comparing pictures of the Ferris Wheel and Dunn's Bridge, along with photos of the Exposition's Administration building of 1893, it appears much more likely that the bridge was built from steel arches salvaged from the dome of the building. A book by Kay Folsom Nichols titled *The Kankakee: Chronicle of An Indiana River & Its Fabled Marshes* gives this version and states that a number of bridges were built from the salvaged steel of the Administration building.

Regardless of the source of the steel, the landmark is unique for a reason that has not been disputed. According to the authoritative survey of Indiana's steel bridges published by Depauw University in 1987, Dunn's is the only example of a true metal arch bridge still extant in the state of Indiana and has been recommended for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Landmarks. The Depauw survey acknowledges the World's Fair source of steel but says that there appears to be no documentation of the facts. Apparently, any turn of the century steel arch bridge was likely to be associated with the famous Ferris Wheel. Down in Morgan County, the Burton Lane Bridge, according to local legend, was built from Ferris Wheel salvage. Actually it is a rather rare type of bow string arch built by the Massillon Bridge Company of Ohio.

Dunn's Bridge is named for its builder, Issac D. Dunn, a native of Maine who arrived in Indiana with \$450 (today's currency of \$500 or more) in his pocket. By 1873, Dunn had settled in Jasper County, Kankakee Township. He became a well known farmer and stock raiser and was elected County Commissioner in 1878. He was also engaged in hay production and was said to be shipping as much as 1500 tons per year. Dunn built his bridge to connect his land holdings on both sides of the Kankakee. Also, he probably knew that a river crossing would benefit the whole area traversed by the road now known as County Road 500 East. In 1884, Dunn and his wife, Nancy, had laid out the town of Dunnville, south of the river. The town was renamed to Tefft, in honor of Dunn's brother-in-law since Dunnville was so often confused for the town of Danville.

Tefft today has a population of maybe 200 and even has a small local industry in the form of a steel fabricating plant. The cluster of homes on the south bank of the river in the vicinity of the bridge is marked on maps as "Dunn's". The original steel bridge became inadequate to carry modern traffic several years ago and is bypassed by a modern concrete bridge. The old bridge can be examined by an access road on the north side of the river and a good view is obtained from the present highway bridge.

With its World's Fair association and unique design, the old bridge is a worthy destination for a Sunday afternoon drive. One tip for the visitor; make that trip on a beautiful fall day. The bridge location is home of Indiana's largest colony of man eating mosquitos!

Lewis Coe has lived in Crown Point for many years and has authored numerous articles, including those on the history of the telegraph and radio, which he learned as a teenager in his home town of Galva, Illinois. His book, *The Telegraph: A History of Morse's Invention and Its Predecessors in the United States* was recently published. Another of Mr. Coe's books, *The Heliograph*, was printed in 1987. Ordering information is under "Publishers" in the issue.

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Trackin' Tractors

by Matt Oswald

Carl Albertson (46) of Kouts has an interesting hobby, restoring antique tractors. It's a hobby that seems to be catching on in popularity during recent years. Go to any county fair and undoubtedly you'll find a row of neatly polished, showroom quality, antique tractors with people from all walks of life inspecting the machinery's details.

Some remember the machines working the fields during their childhood. Others just marvel at the beauty and craftsmanship. You might even hear someone murmur to someone close by, "They just don't make them like they used to."

There is a fond feeling of nostalgia for many of the tractor restoration hobbyists. Carl Albertson started restoring tractors as a worthwhile project to put time into after work, and to make an investment. That hobby turned out to be 3 years worth of a costly and time consuming investment.

Mr. Albertson has two 1939 fully restored John Deere tractors. 1939 is the first year John Deere tractors became 'styled'. This was the company's way of making their tractors more appealing to buyers. Mr. Albertson's 1939 'H' hand winder is unique to this new style because it was one of the first off the assembly line and incorporates parts from the new 'styled' equipment and also 'unstyled' equipment. Carl's 1953 John Deere has the side mounted flywheel, but uses a starter instead of hand winding. Mr. Albertson says that John Deere are by far the most popular (and most valuable) tractors for restoration. "You can go to any show, and I'd say at least 50 percent will be John Deere."

If you're interested in starting a new hobby, here's a little of what you can expect:

First, you need time (about 6 months to a year) and be willing to make a commitment. "You can't hurry something like this."

Now, you need a tractor. The worth of the tractor depends on the age, condition, and uniqueness of the tractor. The price of a tractor can range from around \$500 to \$1000 depending on the quality. According to Carl, "The serial number of the machine is the bible to enthusiasts."

Next you need to track down parts for your tractor. Some parts are available directly from the company. Others you can order from one of various antique machinery magazines. There are even tractor junkyards for the adventurous.

Finally, after you've put in hours of work and effort, you can show your tractor.


Carl now has one 1953 John Deere, one 1945 Farmall, and 2 1939 John Deere, fully restored tractors. These were considered by many to set the standard for farm machinery. He also has plans in the future for a 1939 'B' Spoke Wheel John Deere.

Mr. Albertson shows his tractors every chance he gets, which is pretty often. There are antique tractor shows nearly every weekend at fairs, festivals, and even parks. Carl Albertson is now organizing an antique tractor show and parade for the Kouts Pork Fest. There you can see first hand a piece of American history.

CH

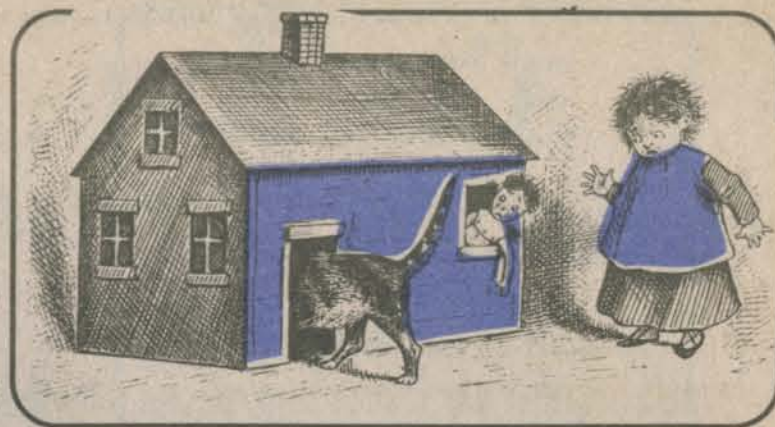
Matt Oswald is a senior at Kouts High School. He fills in as a drummer for a Lafayette area band, Brownz Chicken. His interest in journalism and publishing has involved him with The Kouts Journal and The Country Hearth Journal. Matt has served as co-editor of the Kouts school publication, The Glue Factory, since he assisted with its founding during his sophomore year. He plans to major in communications at Ball State.

Editor's note: Every month we will probably track something. For instance, next month we have an interest in barns of the rural areas in northwest Indiana. Suggestions? Send via the mail to: Adams Hearth Publications, P O Box 550, Kouts IN 46347. Thanks!



The Farm Wife by Ilah Miller

Climbing up the side of the silo almost 40 feet wasn't bad . . .



It was raining, raining softly so it could soak the ground and nourish the newly sprouted corn and beans. But it didn't stop - no - it came in torrents. A cats and dogs rain that lasted for several days. We had just rented a 320 acre dairy farm from J. A. Warren that was located on what is now 500 East in Pleasant Township. This was to be our first crop year of farming for ourselves in 1944. My husband, Junior and I had bought cattle and some used machinery from the tenant farmer who was going back to his former employment as a school teacher. Both sets of parents were concerned about us borrowing money from the bank to get started farming with no ground of our own for collateral. We were young, 18 and 22, and knew that if we worked hard enough we'd do alright.

As I said, we were just done with the planting when the awful rains came. We had drowned out crops that had to be replanted. Later we had hay to bale that just wouldn't get dry when rain was a problem again. We had some blessings that year also. Our daughter Wilma was born near Memorial Day. She joined our family, along with our first girl, Katie, to make our life very happy.

Work was hard on the farm with milking 40 or 50 cows daily along with field work that had to be completed each day. The problem for me was that the cows had drinking cups in the barn so they would produce more milk to sell and we had NO water in the house. Yes - that's right! Electricity had been installed only two weeks before we moved there and the owner thought first of the income to be generated. We carried water in from the milk house, used it for cooking and dishes, then carried it back outside. When I look back, I guess he was right though because with the extra milk money we were able to buy a water pump, a sink and an electric water heater to put in the kitchen.

As I said, we ran a dairy farm and so we filled two silos for cattle feed. One afternoon while the girls were napping, I thought I would surprise the men and throw the silage down for the cattle. Climbing up the silo almost forty feet wasn't bad. After forking and pitching out the amount I thought was necessary for feed that night I went to climb down the ladder. Talk about frozen stiff from fear - I looked down and couldn't move. There I was half way out and half way in - straddling the concrete silo side. I don't know how long I sat there - it seemed like an eternity. Then I heard my husband call, "Ilah, are you alright?" I still couldn't move until he climbed the silo steps and took my hand.

Ilah Sandberg Miller and her husband Junior reside southeast of Kouts, near the Kankakee. Ilah's articles are often published in The Kouts Journal and other publications. She writes, "Farming has been a way of life for us these past fifty some years so I'll share stories with you later." Ilah

Rural Recipes Late September's Oven Barbequed Roast Pork

- | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 6-pound loin of pork | 1 10 1/2 oz can tomato soup |
| 1 medium onion, chopped | 2 T Worcestershire |
| 1/3 c chopped celery | 2 T vinegar |
| 1 clove garlic, minced | dash Tabasco |
| 2 T brown sugar | 2 16 oz cans white potatoes |
| 2 t prepared mustard | paprika parsley sprigs |



ABOUT 3 HRS AND 15 MINS BEFORE SERVING:

- 1 Heat oven to 325 F. Place loin of pork with cracked ribs in shallow roasting pan; put roast-meat thermometer in place; roast, uncovered for 2 hrs.
- 2 In saucepan combine onion, celery, garlic, brown sugar, mustard, tomato soup, vinegar, Worcestershire, Tabasco; simmer 5 min.
- 3 Pour fat from roasting pan; arrange potatoes on one side of pork; sprinkle with paprika. Spoon some of sauce over pork then roast it 30 min; now spoon remaining sauce over pork and roast 30 min longer or until meat thermometer registers 185 degrees.
- 4 When done, remove pork to heated platter. Spoon sauce over potatoes then arrange them beside meat. Garnish with parsley. Makes 10 servings.

The RURAL RECIPES feature will need your favorites that are appropriate to the seasons. Please be careful to send a copy you won't need returned. We can only be responsible for the return of photos. So share your favorite soups, dinners, desserts & canning recipes. Thanks! Remember to send a copy we are able to keep. Adams Hearth Publications, P.O. Box 550, Kouts IN 46347. (219)766-3982

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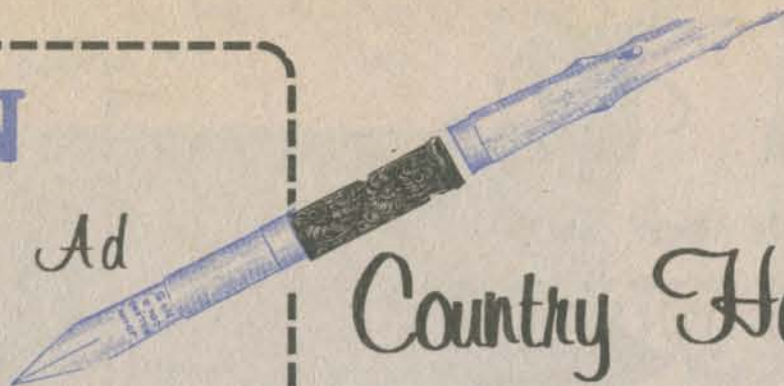
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Country Hearth Editorial

Oh the plans of mice and men - to be asleep at least by ten.



Welcome to the first issue of COUNTRY HEARTH. We

have a few worthy notes. First, the 1993-94 Hoosier Outdoor Calendar, available from the DNR, Div. of Fish and Wildlife, can be ordered when you send a check or money order for \$6 to DNR Sales Division, 402 W. Washington Street, Rm W160, Indianapolis, IN 46204. Calendars run from September 1993 through August 1994. Proceeds from the calendar go to Indiana's Fish and Wildlife Fund, which is used to protect and manage fish and wildlife resources in Indiana.

Another brochure on the desk concerns the Environmental License Plates. The brochure states, "If you believe Indiana's natural areas are worth protecting, you'll love the new Environmental license plate. Featuring a majestic eagle soaring across the sun on a sky-blue background, the plate represents - and makes possible - the protection and conservation of Indiana's natural resources. In 1992, the Indiana General Assembly recognized the need to set aside more of Indiana's natural and historic areas for public use. Hence the Indiana Heritage Trust. It exists to secure more lands for conservation, recreation and preservation. By donating at least \$25 to the Indiana Heritage Trust, you can display your concern for the Hoosier environment. Send your name/address/county/branch where you would pick up plates (if they were not mailed) to Environmental License Plate and use the same address as above. Include IGC South and 46204-2742 for the zip. The Environmental License Plate - For those driven to preserve Indiana's natural heritage."

Now, to answer a few questions you will have. No, The Country Hearth is not a subscriber paper. In fact, this isn't really a paper. Think of it as a magazine in a newspaper format. No, the Country Hearth is not mailed to everyone in all the towns where we distribute. We will do random promotions though. Yes, this is a monthly publication, which you will find in just about the same place you found this copy when you go back there around the third Friday of next month. Until later...Diane



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WHEN NO ONE IS IN, PLEASE LEAVE A MESSAGE

SEE THE AREA MAP ON PAGE 15 FOR TOWN LOCATIONS