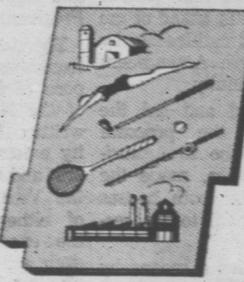


The Only Newspaper That Covers The Lakeland Area

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The Mail Journal



SECTION
TWO

Consolidation of THE MILFORD MAIL (Est. 1888) and THE SYRACUSE-WAWASEE JOURNAL (Est. 1907)

VOLUME 4

NO. 23

Katie's Kapers

By
Katie
Ruple

Nedra Jones called early one evening while I was sleeping thru my favorite TV show to ask if I could help Nancy Prickett get a group together to decorate the Chamber of Commerce float for the Mermaid Festival in which our pretty queen, Teri Blue, would be riding.

Knowing Nancy was exhausted from the wonderful job she did on the first Queen Pageant the previous week, wanted to help, but told Nedra my knowledge of such a project was nil. She assured me the theme had been planned and the young teenagers were eager to help, but more or less needed an adult around. Am so glad she talked me into it as it was such a wonderful experience.

First thing was to get the materials together. Admit felt a little peculiar with thirty boxes of Kleenex and twenty rolls of toilet tissue in a grocery cart in the check-out line, but this was only the beginning.

We had three days to punch all this paper (which turned out to be much more as time went on) into chicken wire. Those little gals worked their hearts out.

Most of them had jobs but showed up to work every available moment they had to enthusiastically work on their float which they felt was real 'cool.' Learned that 'cool' means real 'neat,' all of which means it was pretty great.

Most of my time was spent doing the leg work for more materials needed as the float started to take form. A purchase of thirty more boxes of Kleenex aroused the curiosity of a little fellow in the check-out line and wondered what all that was for. Was short on time and telling him, 'at his young years, it was for decorating a float would take more time than I had, so just told him my husband had a bad cold. That saved about five minutes time and we were running short of that. On the Friday of the parade, we could have used two more days to complete it.

Miss Kunes wanted to start at 7 that morning as she had a hair appointment to work in and had to be to work at 11. So a group of us started at 7 a.m. The little gals worked in their hair appointments during the day and immediately returned to continue their work on the float.

The float was in one of Harkless' warehouses and a young gal walked by on her way home. Some of the gals knew her and invited her in. She saw our need for help and brought an older brother along. At this point a decision was made to close in a new area. More chicken wire was needed. The little passer-by was inside the chicken wire and sort of underneath the float affixing it like an experienced veteran where chicken wire was concerned and the other gals started stuffing paper. She must have had a two foot clearance to get out, but somehow made it.

All of a sudden we were out of blue tissue - was pretty sure we had all that was in town, but locked in to the seven remaining rolls in Syracuse. Got back with it just in time to see the float pulled out and done in red and pink. She had used roses and other flowers from her garden with red and pink candies. The table was covered with a lovely white lace and embroidered cloth overlaid with red netting.

The next meeting will be August 3 at the home of Mrs. W. E. Long.

TWO FINED IN SYRACUSE JP COURT

Syracuse justice of the peace, Christian Koher, fined two 18 year old youths a total of \$3.75 for illegal possession and transportation of alcoholic beverages, recently.

Paying fines were Monty R. Smyth, Springfield, and Walter D. Shrum, New Castle, who were taken into custody, by State trooper Herschel O. Harper.

SHOWER GIVEN FOR RECENT BRIDE

Mrs. Tom Swartz, Mrs. Steve Crow and Mrs. Robert Hasse entertained last week at a bridal shower at the Swartz home, Syracuse, for Miss Attonya Butt, who on Saturday, July 3, became the bride of Robert Pavy.

Gifts were presented to the bride in a decorated umbrella using the color scheme of pink. Games provided entertainment.

Guests were Miss Bunny Cripe, Miss Vicki Firestone, Miss Sally Fosbrink, Miss Kay Nordman, all of Syracuse, and Miss Carolyn Smith and Mrs. Richard Kohn, Goshen, Mrs. Sam Lundby, North Webster, Mrs. Richard Kowallik, Mrs. Jerry Popenfoose and Mrs. Tom Firestone.



The Origin Of Hastings; How Was It Named?

SECOND IN A SERIES
By KENNETH HANEY

It is not known how the name originated. It could have come from the Battle of Hastings in 1066. It certainly was a battle to subdue this wilderness.

A more likely origin would be a shortening of "hay strings."

In the early days the marsh hay was cut with a scythe and put in piles. Later, in the winter, when these marshes were frozen it was hauled in to feed.

These marshes and the higher ground were saturated with bumblebee nests. In fact the saying, "thick as bumblebees," was a common expression. One thing was sure - they were excellent pollinizers and a cloverseed yield of three to five bushels per acre was not uncommon.

A bumblebee always warns you that those wasps, yellow jackets and hornets were very rude in their introduction.

Jefferson Township

Jefferson township originally had 36 sections, but due to the Mt. Taylor neighborhood difficulty in getting across the marsh to vote at Hastings it was detached and those five sections were added to Scott township.

The parts over the bogs were corduroy or logs placed side by side crossways in the roadbed, and covered with dirt. As you crossed these roadways you could see the ground and water far out moving. They were sometimes called "sink holes." After 100 years and continual filling in, road 19 is still "sinking."

Some of the ditchers, who could bring up nearly a perfect "fall," were George Roberts, Peter Jensen, Leland Rohrer, John Kaiser, and Walter Kline. This hard, back-breaking work certainly separated the men from the boys.

Onions

After the lowering of the water level the ground was plowed, the tufts carried off and sometimes the ground hand raked, then it was ready for onions - the first major muck crop.

The onion seed was drilled in rows about 14 inches wide. They were then wheel hoed and then weeded.

The Joe Army ditch came from the north branch of the Yellow River. The Dausman ditch starts about a mile southeast of the store

and flows nearly due west into the Yellow River. The last one flows into the Mississippi River and the first one into the St. Lawrence River. Many farms have water flowing into the Atlantic Ocean and the Gulf of Mexico.

gathered all available island kids as well as 50 to 75 from Milford.

The prevailing rates were 2½ cents per hour for one row, five cents for two rows, and 7½ cents for three rows or 75 cents for a '10 hour day.

Whenever I think of that grinding, gritty muck on my knees they still hurt, but 25 cents would buy a pair of overalls.

With large families every penny helped to put "grub" or "vittles" (food) on the table.

I have seen many red and yellow globe onions as big as indoor balls. After putting in "wind rows" they were hand topped at 2½ to 4½ cents; a bushel depending on size. Mrs. Emma Biller has topped about as many onions as anyone in the township.

Those onion storages, some like slatted corn cribs and some double-walled for winter storage, held thousands of bushels. They were located at the corner of 1200N and 500W and have rotted away. The storage west of the Lentz Coal Company is gone and the other is now used by Spencer Chemical.

David Dousman and the Billers were other big onion raisers. Henry Stieglitz and Elmer Thwaits were some of the more recent growers.

In onion raising the stakes were high. You could make a fortune one year and lose it the next. William Dredick and Fred McKown bought many a carload of onions from local growers - when onions were king.

"Onion" days in Nappanee were big events. Everyone had a patch and when the pay roll checks were cashed by the parents for store items it was a bonanza to the economy.

A nickel's worth of candy was "appreciated" by the kids.

Some of the ditchers, who could bring up nearly a perfect "fall," were George Roberts, Peter Jensen, Leland Rohrer, John Kaiser, and Walter Kline. This hard, back-breaking work certainly separated the men from the boys.

Onions

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Frank and Charlie Geiger, Mrs. Emma Lentz's brothers, were the giants of the local industry. They

had planted a mile southeast of the store

What caused the tears: The photo of carpenters tearing down the Hastings store.

Just after WW II, she and hubby Don turned the country store for a time, and "paid for that roof on the installment plan."

She wants to do an "egg and I" spoof on their life in the country store.

The old millrace, which caused such a row about a year ago, has been filled and the south end of it is now a blacktopped parking area.

The parking area is real handy for such events as the Lions club fish fry Friday night. One can drive the full length of the millrace now.

Some town jokers are having fun coming up with impossible names for the new "street." Sam Larsen, who with Ardis and Sam's mother live on the north end of the millrace, said, "If they can't come up with something pretty soon, we'll just call it 'Larsen's Lane.'

Near disaster struck the new addition at Auer's service station during the hard inch-and-a-half rain last Tuesday night.

Gutters were not yet on the new addition and all roof rain went off the north end into the area just filled in. It caused a heavy pressure on the new block wall, moving it about four inches," according to Nelson Auer.

The wall had to be blocked up and all the fill dirt removed. The roof was rolled back and the wall reinforced with steel.

The new addition is 1,726 square feet and will house the company's parts section.

It was good to see Syracuse Lion members, mostly businessmen, serving fish and coffee at the Scout cabin in Friday night. They had a good crowd, ran out of most everything. Money goes for community projects.

A little out-of-the-way place doing a fine business is Smith's Lakeside Market and Du Pont Paint Store.

Assets of State Bank of Syracuse now nearing \$8 million mark, nearly double in two-year period since the bank re-organized.

Gifts were presented to the bride in a decorated umbrella using the color scheme of pink. Games provided entertainment.

Callers were Miss Bunny Cripe, Miss Vicki Firestone, Miss Sally Fosbrink, Miss Kay Nordman, all of Syracuse, and Miss Carolyn Smith and Mrs. Richard Kohn, Goshen, Mrs. Sam Lundby, North Webster, Mrs. Richard Kowallik, Mrs. Jerry Popenfoose and Mrs. Tom Firestone.

IS THIS YOUR DREAM? Do you want a garden to live in as well as look at? It's yours when you plan your garden activities. Select your plants with care; give them proper vermiculite-lightened soil when planting. Feed your lawn and mow with a good, sharp rotary mower. Space the planting of your Summer bulbs to prolong color and add a touch of intrigue by plugging clay-potted indoor plants under trees. Spray regularly with an all-purpose insecticide to prevent insects and keep lawn edges trim with a good edger. When all these ingredients are mixed together, they spell Summer enjoyment.

Along Main Street

By JERI SEELY

Mary Pike And Thelma Hattersley Are Golf Winners

Mary Pike was the first low gross winner at Wawasee Golf Club's invitational last Thursday with a 46. Thelma Hattersley was the first low net winner with 37.

Dorothy Fisher and Melba Leinhart tied with 48 for second low gross of 48 and Lorene Oliver, Beverly Buley and Pearl Miller tied with 38 for second low net.

Third low gross winners were Louise Harrel and Arlene Deeds with 49 while Margie Purdum, Gayle Roosington and Joan Miller tied for third low net with 39.

Ella Richards had fourth low gross with 50.

Other low net winners were: Marybelle Sharp, Irene Bucher, and Jean Gotshall, 40; Jean Harrelson, Lee Dippon and Ruth Banta, 41; Ethel Henderson and Della Baumgartner, 42; Nedra Beebe, 44; Jo Mauzy and Ruth Snellenberger, 45; Jane Miller and Joan Haas, 46.

BOATING LAW VIOLATORS PAY FINES

A total of 13 boating law violations resulted over the long fourth of July weekend. These were tried in Syracuse justice of the peace Christian Koher's court.

Daniel J. Bandenburg, Fort Wayne, paid a fine of \$19 and Stanley R. Young, Fort Wayne, and Robert Bigler, Glen Ellyn, Ill., each paid \$17, for insufficient life preservers.

David Archier of Princeton, Ronald G. Shellenberger of Goshen, John Slanich of Indianapolis, Walter Punkiewicz of Oak Park, Ill., and Richard Schoonover of Griffith were each fined \$17 for riding on gunboats.

Also paying fines were Vernon Horton of Indianapolis, \$17, for improper lighting; Randy Krenzler, Niles Mich., \$17, no observer; Carol Rafferty, Lagrange, Ill., and Phil Pearson, Gary, \$17 each for speeding.

The town board is trying to organize but three men can't do all the work. They need a little cooperation.

One man said if you have a small fire in your home you call the fire department, then you try to put it out. Maybe you have it out before the firemen get there but, if you don't you know they are on the way, and you have a chance of saving something.

It's the same way with tornado warnings. Maybe a warning will sound and the town won't be hit by a tornado, then again, maybe it will be wiped off the map.

You say it couldn't happen - think back to Palm Sunday.

Upon leaving the men's room, he quickly found out when he found a bevy of campus cuties surrounding U. S. Senator Birch Bayh for his picture.

Announcement: Arch Baumgartner has been named president of the M-J TOPS (Take Off Pounds Softly) club, Mrs. Richard (Betty) italics in the state of Indiana.

While accompanying daughter Smith has stated she wants to be the treasurer.

I received a call from Lincoln Vale of the Everglades television fame the other day. Seems chasing alligators has Earl Money thinking he's Lincoln Vale. Seriously though Mr. Money is doing a good job in the Lakeland area.

Byram Again Head Of State GOP Finances

INDIANAPOLIS (UPI) — Stanley H. Byram, Martinsville, treasurer of the Indiana Republican Central Committee, was back in control of the party's finances Wednesday.

At a meeting here Tuesday, the committee voted to uphold a rule making the treasurer the chairman of the finance committee. During the regime of former GOP state chairman Robert N. Stewart, Indianapolis insurance executive John Burkhardt had held the reins of finance chairman despite Byram's post as treasurer.

Charles Hendricks, new state chairman, said after the meeting, "It was a happy, harmonious session at which we all learned that there is no real rift in the Indiana Republican party."

Other finance committee members named were Robert Gates, Columbia City, 4th district chairman; Harold C. Downers, Sullivan, 7th District chairman; Seth Denbo, English, 8th District chairman; Alvin Cast, Kentland, 2nd District chairman; Mrs. Howard Hinkle, Salem, 9th District vice chairman; Mrs. Clayton Bond, Liberty, 10th District vice chairman, and Gerald K. Hodson, New Castle, 10th District chairman.

The committee deferred until later any decision on naming new members from the congressional districts which were left without resident chairmen or vice chairmen following the redistricting by the 1965 legislature.

It also delayed action on a proposal that members of the Indiana Republican Mayors Association be represented at future state committee meetings.

Hendricks called the next meeting of the state committee for July 27.



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