



Sainte Marie Foundation News

Celebrating our special hometown Fall 2023

Volume 16 Issue 3

Another Successful Cork & Pork Festival

Many organizations are helped

The rainy day may have involved many last-minute changes, including the place of the venue, but the festival was still a rousing success.

Donations from many generous sponsors helped finance the festival, for which we are very grateful. It takes over 200 volunteers to work a two-hour shift in various capacities. It could not be done without them.

The Cork & Pork Festival, started by the Sainte Marie Foundation, is one of its biggest fundraisers. Profits from the Festival are given to various organizations throughout the community. This year over \$31,550 will be donated from the Cork & Pork Festival for a to date total of over \$219,000 to the community.



Norma and Kadence Ochs paint tree on the Foundation property

Tree Planted in Memory of Teresa Hartrich

Christmas was Teresa Hartrich's favorite holiday. In her honor, Foundation Board members Sharon Tuttle and Norma Ochs (with the assistance of Norma's granddaughter, Kadence) planted a pine tree on the grounds of the Foundation House. Teresa gave so much to the Foundation – she is very missed!



New Museum Exhibit

The newest museum exhibit at the Sainte Marie Foundation house is now open and highlights the many celebrations that have been held in the Sainte Marie and Bend communities over the years. Included are pictures and articles of the 125th, 150th, and 175th anniversaries of the founding of Sainte Marie, St. Mary's Pre-Labor Day Picnics, Bend Picnics, and of course the fun filed 4th if July celebrations held from 1963-1986. Hours are the first Sunday of the month from 1-3, during the Whoville celebration on November 25, or by appointment by contacting Mike Hartrich at 618-562-8678.



St. Thomas school was one of the organizations given money from the Cork and Pork Festival. They will use this money to help with the purchase of new lockers.

CORK PORK DONATIONS 2023

FAMILY LIFE CENTER - GARAGE OPENING AND INSULATION for storage	\$	5,000.00
BLESSINGS IN A BACK PACK - JASPER COUNTY	\$	4,000.00
SAINTE MARIE FOUNDATION	\$	4,000.00
JASPER COUNTY HOMEFRONT	\$	2,000.00
NCHS THEATER - TOWARDS COMPLIANT MICROPHONE SYSTEM	\$	1,000.00
JCIH - THEATER PROGRAM - 2023 FROZEN JR.	\$	1,000.00
JC FIRST - "BACK TO SCHOOL" ITEMS: HAIRCUTS, SWEATSHIRTS, SHOES	\$	1,000.00
JASPER COUNTY SENIOR CITIZENS - ELLIPTICAL & STATIONARY BIKES	\$	1,000.00
ST. THOMAS SCHOOL - TOWARDS LOCKERS	\$	1,000.00
HOMELY DD MINISTRIES	\$	1,000.00
JASPER COUNTY CANCER FUND	\$	1,000.00
JASPER COUNTY MINISTERIAL ASSN.	\$	1,000.00
SHOP WITH A COP	\$	1,000.00
NCE TOYS FOR KIDS	\$	1,000.00
HELPFUL LITTLE HANDS 4-H CLUB	\$	1,000.00
TEAM OF MERCY	\$	1,000.00
JASPER COUNTY EDUCATION ASSOCIATION	\$	650.00
NCHS FOOTBALL - TOWARDS NEW REQUIRED SAFETY HELMETS	\$	500.00
EMBARRAS RIVER TOURISM - PETERSON PARK CHRISTMAS LIGHTS	\$	500.00
WHOVILLE IN SAINTE MARIE	\$	500.00
NCHS BAND - TO HELP UPDATE MELLORPHONES	\$	500.00
NCHS BETA CLUB - USE FOR SCHOLARSHIP	\$	500.00
SUNRISE YOUTH SOCCER - TOWARDS MENTAL BENCHES	\$	500.00
THE EDGE - WILLOW HILL - FOR HOMELESS IN JASPER COUNTY	\$	500.00
JC JUNIOR HIGH - COLOR GUARD FLAGS	\$	400.00
TOTAL DONATIONS FOR 2023	\$	31,550.00

Whoville Wonderment

Sainte Marie

November 25, 2023



Join us in the Village of Sainte Marie this season as WHOVILLE comes to life for a 1 day only Holiday experience!

The event will kick off early with the WHOVILLE 5K Sponsored by Saved By Grace Animal Rescue. 🐕🐶
7:30AM Registration starts at the Park
8AM 5K Run/Walk
9AM 1 Mile Run
9:30AM Free Block Run
(Park Bathrooms Available)

9:30AM SHOP with our local crafty WHO'S as they set up at WHOVILLE (located outside on the parish grounds) for all your Holiday shopping needs! 🎁

10AM Parish Hall opens its doors for kids to get pictures with WHOVILLE characters including a surprise NEW guest from the North Pole!

CONCESSION STAND Cookies & Cocoa (Park)

ICE SKATING 🛷

COTTON CANDY 🍭

POPCORN

FOOD (Legion & Jersey Mikes at Park)

PHOTO BOOTH

FACE PAINTING

OLD FASHIONED GAMES

WAGON RIDES (Tickets at Park Concession Stand)

WHOVILLE STORE & RAFFLES

FOUNDATION HOUSE TOURS

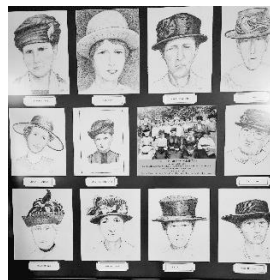
FAMILY PICS AT THE TRUCK



A Peak at Permanent Museum Exhibits

If you haven't been to the Foundation Museum in a while, you may have forgotten about some of our displays always on exhibit! Make sure to look at them when you come to see the new exhibit featuring Sainte Marie area celebrations.

The Hat Room



TRANSITIONS

Patricia Reis Obituary

Services in Sainte Marie will be held at a later time.

Obituary

Patricia (Pat) Ann Reis passed away peacefully on July 22, 2023, in Royal Oak, MI, at the age of 86. She was a long-time resident of Chicago, IL and raised her family in Skokie, IL. She was born on July 31, 1936, in Ste Marie, IL, to Louis and Bernadette (Hahn) Reis. Pat will be dearly missed by her children: John Handzel, Mark (Randi) Handzel, Elizabeth (Bene't) Coldstream and Will (Lori) Handzel as well as her grandchildren: Katherine and Allison Handzel, Vanessa, Theodore, and Christian Coldstream, and Jack, Ben, and Olivia Handzel.

Pat was a dedicated individual with a passion for education and serving her community. She obtained degrees at the University of Illinois, the University of Indiana, and Northern Illinois University. She was an early contributor to the formation of Oakton Community College (Des Plaines, IL) eventually retiring as the Director of College Relations. In retirement she worked as a Freelance Writer for Openlands; and was a Certified Volunteer TreeKeeper serving in parks throughout the city of Chicago. She also was a Former Chairman, Village of Skokie, IL, Human Relations Commission; former Niles Township Republican Committeeman, co-founder Women in Management, and former secretary of the Grant Park Advisory Council. Her crowning achievement was to create a legacy in the small town where she was raised so that future generations could know the town's history. She led the formation of the Sainte Marie Foundation and was a driving force behind it for many years. In her free time, Pat had a passion for the arts and music, attending many plays and concerts throughout the Chicago metropolitan area with her long-time companion, Don Perille.

Donna Barnett, 67 of Sainte Marie

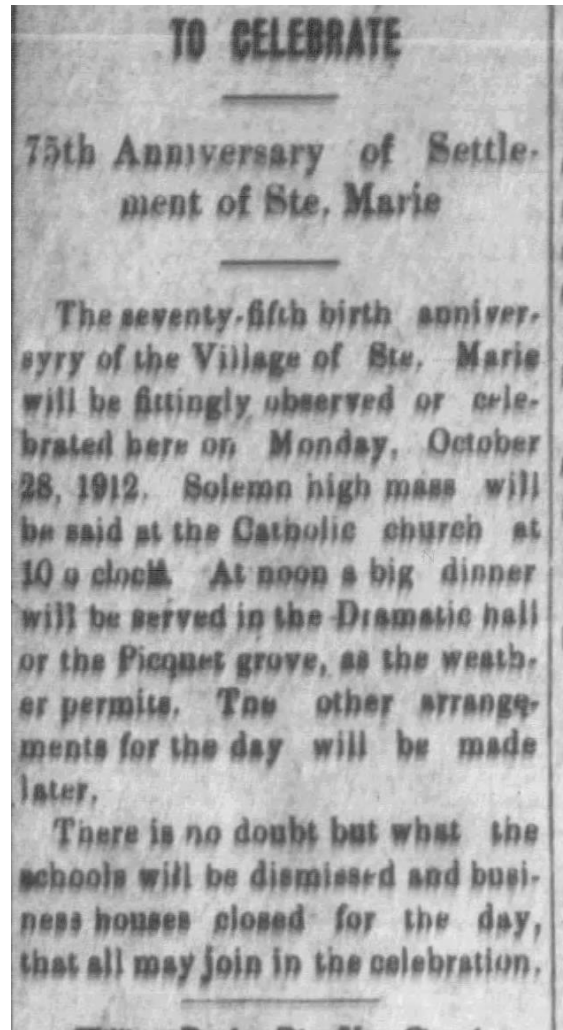
April 13, 1956 – August 11, 2023

Surviving are son, Shane (Amy) Mashburn, daughter, Brittany Jarosik, six grandchildren, and three great grandchildren.

Donna was preceded in death by her parents, husband, Matthew, and son, Jerry.



Sainte Marie's 75th Anniversary Celebration



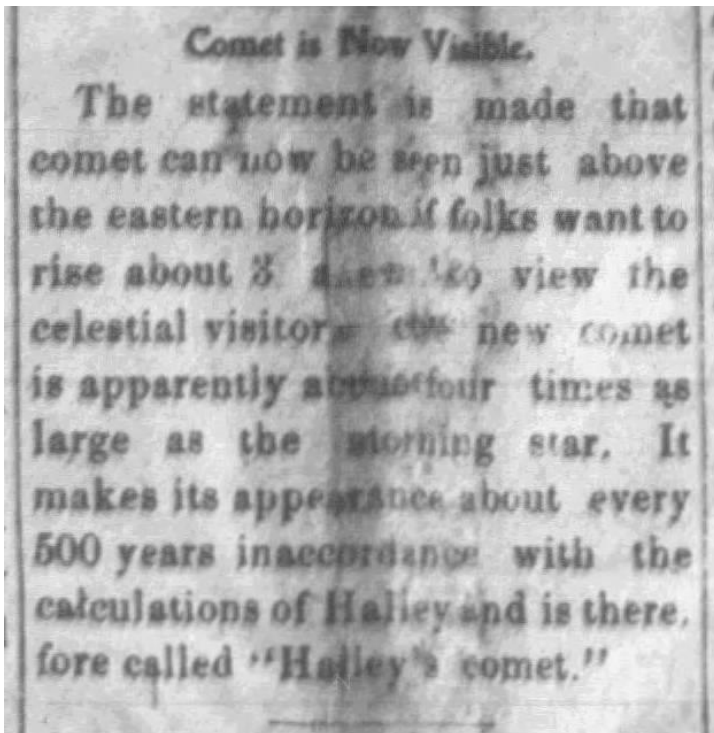
Sainte Marie Tribune October 4, 1912



NEWS

The Sainte Marie Farmers Market wrapped up its 4th season on Saturday, September 22. Unfortunately, that will be the last market unless someone new takes it over. Sharon Tuttle and Donna Keller have worked very hard over the last several summers to give Jasper County residents a place to purchase quality baked goods, produce, crafts, and handmade items. Thanks to all who helped in this endeavor. If you are interested in taking over the market, please contact Donna or Sharon via Messenger.

Halley's Comet Spotted



SAINTE MARIE TRIBUNE OCTOBER 23, 1908

Want to Donate to the Sainte Marie Foundation?

Yes, I want to help the Sainte Marie Foundation. Enclosed is my check for: ___ \$20 ___ \$40 ___ \$100 ___ \$1000

Other \$ _____

Name _____

Address _____

City State Zip _____

Phone (Home) _____

(Work) _____ (Cell) _____

E-Mail Address _____

My donation is in memory of: (print) _____

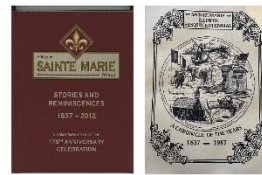
Or in honor of: (print) _____

(Names will be included in the Foundation newsletter and/or annual report.)

Sainte Marie Foundation, P.O. Box 186, Ste. Marie, IL 62459
www.saintemariefoundation.org

The Sainte Marie Foundation newsletter is published quarterly. Send comments to writer/editor Gina Fox
gina.fox1@gmail.com

Sainte Marie Souvenirs Make Great Christmas Presents



Books now \$10 each
 Very limited supply of 1987 books

Sainte Marie Souvenirs For Sale

Set of 16 - 18 different postcards \$5 per set



Beautiful notecards, available in two different sets. 10 different notecards w/ envelopes in each set \$4 per set



Christmas ornaments, red or blue, from the 175th, now only \$2 each

There are a limited supply of Sainte Marie shot glasses and mugs from the 175th
 Shot glasses - \$4 each - Mugs - \$6 each

Farming of the Past



Land in Jasper county is rapidly advancing in value. In some neighborhoods the enhanced prices range from \$4 to \$10 an acre within the past 5 years; and take the county over it is safe to put the increase at 25 per cent. The fact that all the choice land of the plains has passed out of the control of the government and is no longer to be had for \$1.25 an acre has induced many persons to turn their attention to home, who otherwise would have gone west.

Newton Press July 20, 1892

John Hitch sold his 80 acre farm southeast of town for \$65 an acre who said old Jasper was not on a boom. Mrs. Margret Warner went to Elgin, Ill., to visit her son Newt Warner.

Sainte Marie Tribune October 2, 1903



Every farm had its faithful dog

25,000 Dozen Eggs
 Barthelme & Kirts bought 25,000 dozen eggs during the months of April and May. The average price paid per dozen was 32 cents. This is an average sum of \$4000.00 a month, \$8000.00 for the two months. And this large amount for only eggs.

Sainte Marie Tribune June 18, 1918

Water reaches 21 ft stage, first week in June. Crop destroyed.
 John Fisher raises 45 bushels of wheat per acre.
 October 5, crop damaged by frost.

Sainte Marie Tribune January 18, 1918



Typical barnyard

FOR SALE:—Full blooded Black Langshang roosters. MRS. E. F. OCHS, R. R. No. 6, Newton, Ill.

Sainte Marie Tribune October 3, 1915



Harvesting tomatoes for Del Monte pre-WWII

John C. Raef is about to sell his birth right home of 180 acres for \$75 an acre. Mr. Raef is agent for about 6500 acres of land in Arkansas which reaches almost across the entire state.

**Feed Grinding
and
Chicken Feed**

We are prepared to do all kinds of feed grinding—corn, oats, wheat or rye every Wednesday. Chicken feed always on hand. When in need of any grinding or chicken feed give us a call.

John Reis, Sainte Marie, Illinois
3 Miles South

FOR SALE:—Two-horse wagon. C. E. Lamotte, Ste. Marie, Ill.

Sainte Marie Tribune October 30, 1908

FOR SALE:—1 horse, three years old 16 hands high, well broke; 1 set of single buggy harness 1 set of double tug harness good as new. Call or write to Mrs. A. Alblinger, Ste. Marie, Illinois.

Sainte Marie Tribune October 16, 1908



Butchering time at Picquet house



Putting up Corn

FOR SALE:—Corn, good quality, one pen at 73c a bushel, other at 75c. 2 miles south of Sainte Marie. Also 40 acres improved land at \$49 per acre. Parker Moore, Ste. Marie, Ill.

Sainte Marie Tribune May 8, 1914



Ferd Hartrich with his prize-winning jacks

FOR SALE:—Five brood sows, two male hogs and one cow. Call on or write Theo. Hartrich, Ste. Marie Illinois.

MEAT MARKET



Almost Everyone is pleased with Our Meats—Are You?
 You can get good wholesome meats such as Beef, Pork and Sausage at our place. East of Charles Barthelme's Store.

BAGWELL & KRATZMEYER.



The team hitched to sled

FOR SALE—Through bred Jersey bull 3 years old, 2 though bred heifers, fresh in the spring. Call or write Mat Pistor, Ste. Marie, Ill.

Sainte Marie Tribune October 2, 1908

A Small Fire
 Tuesday, a bonfire, flamed by a high wind set fire to and destroyed a chicken house for Ephriam Ochs, west of town.

SAINTE MARIE TRIBUNE MAY 19, 1916

The thermometer registered 107 in the shade at 12:30 p. m. today.

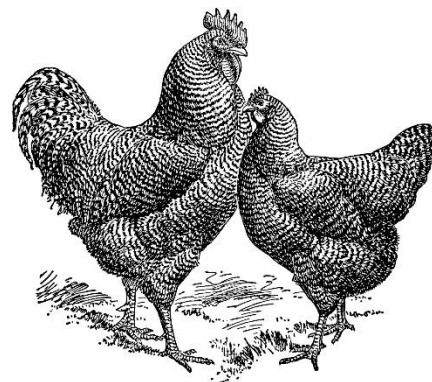
Newton Press July 20, 1892

Special Prices on Wagons

3 1-4x2 1-2 Mandt wagons, cash.....	\$68 00
3 1-4x2 1-2 Mandt gear, cash.....	\$50 00
3 1-4x1 1-2 Mandt wagons, cash.....	\$67 00
3 1-4x1 1-2 Mandt gear, cash.....	\$48 50
3x1 1-2 Becker wagon, cash.....	\$65 50
Extra wagon boxes, cash.....	\$14 50
Monitor drill and grass seeder, cash.....	\$52 50
Shoveling boards, cash.....	\$2 00

Above prices are for stock on hand

A. J. LITZELMAN ♪ ♪ ♪



Riverside Creamery

Sainte Marie, Illinois



At the turn of the 20th century, many farmers were looking for opportunities to enhance their incomes. Each year there was another invention that saved them time. Fields had been cleared by the generations before them, more acreage could be bought because they either had equipment to help them, or they had larger families to help with the work. Farming was more of an occupation now than a way to make a subsistence living.

Farmers in Sainte Marie have always been known for their ability to think ahead, and they recognized diversity was a key ingredient to success. The creation of a creamery in Sainte Marie was one way to do that.

In July 1904 the business was granted a charter by the State for the Riverside Creamery, area farmers and businessmen bought stock, and it was opened on August 12, 1904. The original cost was \$5600. The creamery was a welcome addition to the town. Officers were elected and the creamery was in business!

The creamery experienced many ups and downs over the years. Various articles in the *Sainte Marie Tribune* detail the sale of the Riverside Creamery to the Olney Creamery, the buying back of the Creamery by stockholders, and other turns of events over the next decade. Val Wuerth was the most constant employee of the creamery and seemed to be quite the butter maker. In a 1910 *Sainte Marie Tribune* article, the stockholders stated, "they felt satisfied he would do everything in his power to have the word success spelled in large letters at the end of the year."

In 1914, Mr. Wuerth and Joseph Miller bought the creamery from the stockholders and renamed it the Sainte Marie Creamery Company. In 1915, they purchased \$1200 of the most modern equipment for the business, making it one of the most up to date in the area. Just one year later, in May

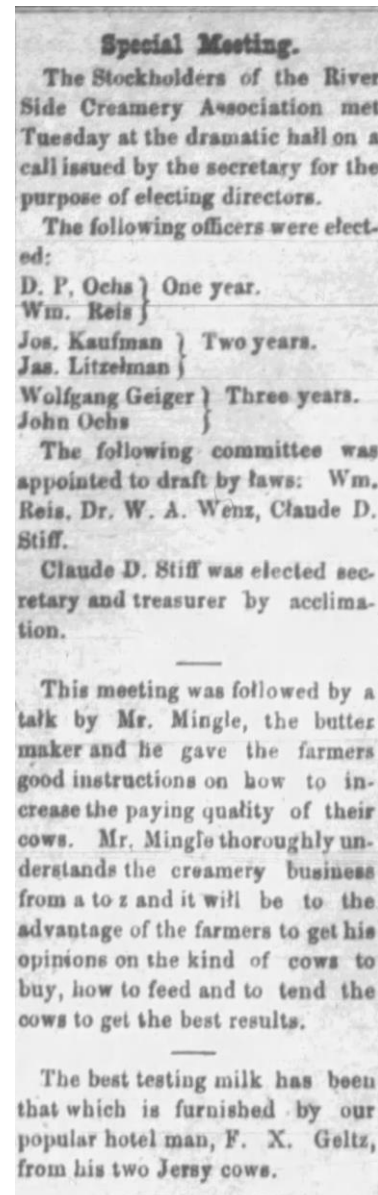
1916, a fire broke out and destroyed the building and contents.

It is thought that a stockpile of coal stored in a nearby shed spontaneously combusted. Mr. Miller, an employee, and customer C.E. Wade were in the building and smelled a burning odor but assumed it was something in a nearby cuspidor. A Mrs. Altoff saw the flames and alerted the gentlemen to the fire. It quickly quickly spread to the roof, and everything was gone before help could arrive.

The creamery was rebuilt in 1917 and opened for business soon after. It is unknown when the creamery was closed for good.

The building then housed a feed and grain business operated by Merece Gowins and was also a part of the sawmill located on the same property.

At its height, the creamery brought a lot of great butter and extra income to the Sainte Marie area.



Sainte Marie Tribune September 23, 1904

7. I will not expect more for poor cream than it is worth.

8. I will use my influence to build up the local creamery and make of it a permanent institution.

9. I will put up ice or build a milk house with a water tank, to keep my milk and cream in good condition in hot weather.

I will not knock if the butter-maker tells me my cream is old or of poor quality.

Tack these resolutions where you can read them often.

Since the new tariff on butter is from 2½ to 6c per pound lower, it is to the dairy man's interest to practise these resolutions.

Bring pure sweet cream benefits the producer and commands better prices and also helps the creamery.

A Dairy Man's Ten Resolutions

1. I will be in the dairy business to make money.
2. By modern science, past experience and good judgement I will make more success per cow than ever before.
3. I will take better care of my cows, milk and cream.
4. I will deliver my cream sweet, regular and often to the creamery.
5. I will not deliver one poor or sour can of cream or milk this year.
6. I will not expect the butter maker to make good butter from poor state or old cream.

Sainte Marie Tribune March 27, 1914

**Original Stockholders in the
Riverside Creamery**

- | | |
|-----------------------|------------------|
| Claud Stiff | C. I. Dodd |
| J. M. Miller | Ed Duthrane |
| Edwin Hartrich | John Harding |
| Joseph Picquet | Jacob Rennie |
| Mike Richard | Henry Kirts |
| A. J. Litzelman | J. P. Hynes |
| A. A. Strutner | Anthony Hahn |
| William Reis | Wolfgang Geiger |
| Arthur Pictor | Anthony Wagner |
| Albert Kaufmann | F. E. Kraus |
| Sainte Marie Hardware | H. Boehl |
| Paul Hartrich | Stephen Raef |
| M. J. Pictor | Theo Hahn |
| James Litzelman | A. C. Kessler |
| Frank Ochs | A. M. Ochs |
| Ambrose Ochs | John Schuch |
| D. P. Ochs | Chas. Litzelman |
| T. E. Piper | Chas. Helregel |
| Anthony Kaufmann | Louis Raef |
| C. B. Schmidt | Alex Ritz |
| Derrick Savoy | Louis Kaufmann |
| Anthony Reis | Nick Reis |
| Chas. Spitzer | John D. Yeager |
| John Ochs | Albert Kessler |
| W. F. Wade | Julius Schmidt |
| John Mingle | Phillip Bolander |

Parties holding stock in the Riverside Creamery Assn. should call for same at once at the Bank of Sainte Marie.

Sainte Marie Tribune May 14, 1915

The creamery paid 82c for butter fat for the month of September. During the same month country butter sold for 18c. Quite a difference!

Sainte Marie Tribune October 22, 1909

Creamery Pays Out \$1432

The River Side creamery paid to its patrons \$1,432 for butter fat during the past month. Of this amount Supervisor F. F. Kraus again headed the list with the largest check, getting \$102 while Wolfgang Geiger is second with a check for \$81.

5000 pounds of butter was made during the month, a gain of 800 pounds over that of the same month last year.

The creamery paid 30c per pound for butterfat.

Sainte Marie Tribune June 24, 1910

Creamery Ready for Business

The Ste. Marie Creamery Company, of which V. C. Wuerth is manager, started their butter manufactory Thursday of this week. The plant is located near the depot and is equipped with the latest modern machinery. The first churning of butter was made Thursday morning.

Sainte Marie Tribune June 15, 1917

Gets \$83 Check

Supervisor F. E. Kraus has the distinction of being the first patron to receive a check amounting to over \$80. This amount was paid him for the month of April.

Mr. Kraus is building up a fine dairy farm, having already secured a gasoline engine to separate the milk, and other conveniences are to be added in the near future.

The creamery here paid 82 cents for butter fat for the month of April while the Olney and Newton creameries only paid 29 and 31c respectively.

Sainte Marie Tribune June 20, 1910

CREAMERY DESTROYED BY FIRE

Ste. Marie Creamery Co. suffer
Loss of About \$3000

Thursday morning between ten and eleven o'clock the creamery was completely destroyed by fire. Loss about \$3000.

Particulars in next issue.

Sainte Marie Tribune May 12, 1916



Sainte Marie's Greatest Generations

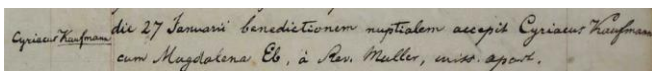
Remembering those who have made our memories
sweet and our Village strong

The Thomas and Serena Kaufmann Story

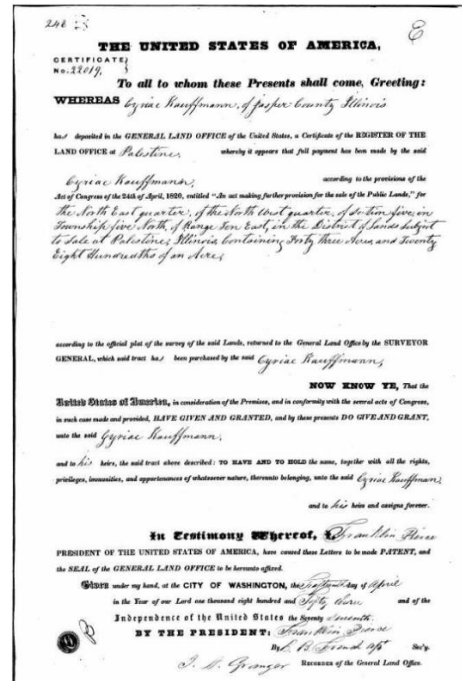


Serena and Thomas Kaufmann

The story of Thomas and Serena Kaufmann begins like many families of the Sainte Marie area. Their families were concerned about wars, unstable governments, and the shrinking available farmland of their beloved homeland, Alsace, France. (or Germany, depending on the year!) Valentine Kauffmann (as was the spelling at the time) of Hagenau married Catherine (unknown last name) in Altorf, a village southwest of Hagenau. In the late 1830s or early 1840s, they packed up their belongings and decided to seek a better life for their children in the United States. It is unclear how many children arrived with them, but son Cyriac Cyril Kauffmann did. Born July 14, 1820, in Altorf, he married Magdalene Ebb on January 27, 1841. Their marriage is one of the first recorded at St. Mary's Church.



Cyriac and Magdalene farmed the area, bought more property, and raised three sons, Joseph, Anthony, and Louis, and two daughters, Mary and Catherine. Magdalene died in 1888 and Cyriac soon after in 1890. In his will, Cyriac left \$300 for the "building or ornamentation of the proposed new church in the Village of Sainte Marie.



Land Grant for Cyriac Kauffmann

RESIDENCE	NAME	DESCRIPTION			PLACE OF BIRTH (Naming the State, Territory, or Country.)
		AGE 1st July, 1863	WHITE OR COLORED	PROFESSION, OCCUPATION, OR TRADE	
St. Louis, Mo.	Cyriac Kauffmann	30	White	Farmer	France

Cyriac Kauffmann's draft registration for the Civil War

The line continues with their son, Anthony. Born in Fox Township on October 17, 1847, he married Mary Kessler (04-17-1853) on April 14, 1874. They had eleven children namely Felix, Albert, Paul, James, Clotilde, Charles, Mary Kathryn, John, Julia, Gertrude, and Ilene. As you may have guessed, many families in the area have one or more ties with the Kaufmann family!



The Anthony and Mary Kessler Kaufmann family

Funeral of Anthony Kaufman

The funeral of Anthony Kaufman at the Catholic church, Saturday morning was attended by a large crowd, as a fitting tribute to the mortal remains of a man, noble in character, sincere in his convictions, a thorough Catholic.

Requiem high mass was said by Rev. P. J. Virnich and interment made in the Catholic cemetery.

Pall bearers were: D. P. Ochs, Lewis Barthelme, Mike and Ed Hines, August Radke and J. R. Maginn.

Sainte Marie Tribune
November 8, 1912

After the death of Anthony, tragedy struck again five years later. A fire caused by a gasoline explosion killed his widow, Mary and their youngest daughter, Irene. A farm sale followed shortly thereafter.

PUBLIC SALE

The Personal Property of Mrs. A. Kaufmann, deceased, will be sold at Public Auction, to the highest bidder, at the Anthony Kaufmann farm, 7 miles Southeast of Newton, and 1 mile south of Boos, on

TUESDAY, MAY 1st

Beginning at 10 O'clock

5 — Head of Horses — 5

Grey horse 9 yrs old. Bay mare 8 yrs old. Bay mare 4 yrs old.
Black mare 7 yrs old. Sorrel mare 10 yrs old, foal to a jack

21 Milch Cows and Yearling Calves 21

9 Splendid milch cows, 5 with calf at side. 7 Yearling calves. 4 of these cows will be fresh in the Fall. The 9 milch cows are 3 to 8 years old

One Brood Sow With a Litter of Ten Pigs

Buggies, Harness and implements

Surrey, buggy, wagon, mower, corn cutter, riding cultivator, fan mill, wheat drill, oats seeder, corn sheller, bull rake, corn grinder, straw cutter, sulky plow, walker plow, hay derrick, sulky rake, grinding stone, set of single driving harness, set of double driving harness, set of work harness.

Household Goods, Etc.

Cream separator, coal stove good as new, kitchen range, gasoline stove, 2 king heaters sewing machine, lawn swing, 3 good rugs and other articles too numerous to mention.

50 Bushels Corn 3 Ton Hay in Stack

Sale Terms: All items of \$10.00 and under to be cash. All items over \$10.00 a credit of 90 days will be given, purchaser to give note with approved security. Note to have interest from date of sale at 6 per cent when due. 5 per cent off for cash. No property to be removed until settled for.

HENRY C. JAMES
Auctioneer

Mrs. A. Kaufmann's Estate

Sale Bill of Mrs. Anthony Kaufmann's farm
April 27, 1917

Paul Nicholas Kaufmann, third child and son of Anthony and Mary continues our story. He was born on June 30, 1878, and married Ida Catherine Burgund (01-08-1879) on October 5, 1904. They were the parents of seven children, including Thomas Paul who was born on March 7, 1907. Tommy's siblings were Cletta, Theresa, Eunice, Stella, Irene, and Bernard. They lived on several different properties in Fox Township. Because of this, the children attended several of the one room schoolhouses in the area including Dallmier, Ochs, and Kessler.

Ida passed away on October 5, 1937. Paul lived with his son, Bernard, until he passed on the same day as Ida, but twenty-five years later in 1961.

Miss Irene Kaufman is dead and her mother Mrs. Anthony Kaufman is at the point of death, the result of a gasoline explosion at their home this (Friday) morning.

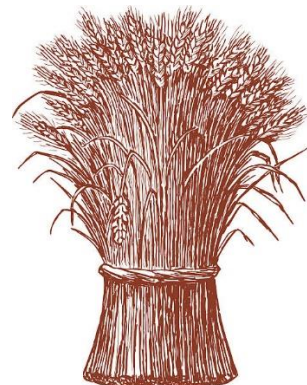
The sad accident happened about 8:30 o'clock. Mrs. Kaufman and her daughter were preparing to do some ironing. A gasoline sadiron was being generated with which to do the work. A two gallon can, containing some gasoline, with which the small urn on the iron had been replenished, and afterwards placed near the ironing board, in some manner caught fire and slightly exploded throwing flame on the two ladies. Aflame they ran to the outside crying for help. The strong wind hastening the blaze the clothing of Miss Irene were burnt almost completely from her body before Felix, her brother, who had been in the field, some distance from the house, came to their assistance. She died out in the yard a few minutes after he arrived. Mrs. Kaufman's clothing were also almost all burnt off of her body before Felix succeeded in extinguishing the blaze. Her condition is serious and it is probable that death will soon relieve her of her intense sufferings.

Little Miss Lorena Kaufman, daughter of Felix Kaufman, who had been making her home with Mrs. Kaufman, who was in the room at the time of the explosion, was slightly burnt on the head and shoulders.

Miss Irene was about 23 years of age. She was a jovial young lady and her untimely death will be mourned by all her acquaintances.

Funeral arrangements have not yet been made.

Sainte Marie Tribune
April 13, 1917



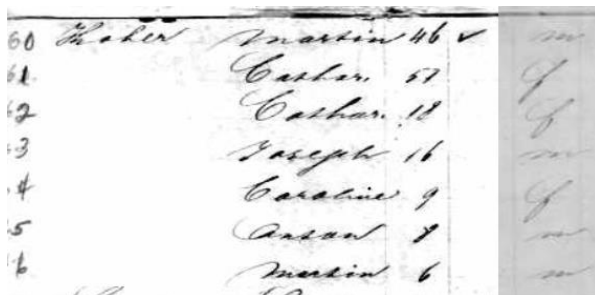
Serena's family followed much the same path as Thomas's ancestors.



Martin and Katharine Kocher

Martin Kocher, Sr., a blacksmith in the small village of Forstfeld in Alsace, France (Germany) married Katharine Claire Ohry on February 9, 1834. She was a widow 10 years his senior. Her first husband and their two young children died in a span of a couple of years.

Martin and Katharine had two daughters and three sons: Joseph, Martin, Jr. Anthony, Catharine, and Caroline. Fearing a life full of wars and lack of freedom, the family boarded the *Sarah Bridge* in Le Havre on November 2, 1852, and sailed for the United States. They landed in New Orleans after a grueling 75-day voyage and headed up the Mississippi River on a steamer. They then sailed up the Ohio, disembarking at Cincinnati and traveling over land towards Akron, finally landing in the small town of Massillon, OH. They farmed and worked in the nearby coal mines.



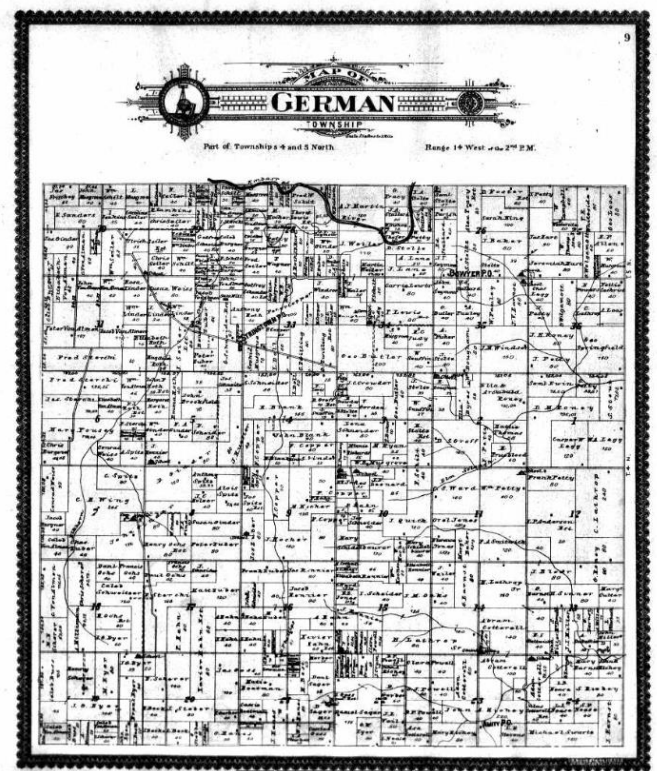
Document showing the Kocher family's passage to the United States

In 1859, their son, Joseph married Elizabeth Weiler, an Ohio native. They had two children while in Ohio, and then in 1865, they sold their property, boarded a train, and headed for Illinois. They bought 80 acres of partially wooded/partially prairie for \$17 acre in German Township, Richland County. It was said the prairie grasses were 10 -15 feet high. Here Joseph built his family a modest log cabin. He then began clearing the forested land on which to start farming. Joseph and Elizabeth had eleven children: Anthony, William, Mary, Catherine, Simon, Rosa, Martin, Frances, Frank, Aloysius, and Leo.

In 1870, Martin and Catherine, their widowed daughter and her family, and several of Martin's other children also came to Illinois.



Joseph and Elizabeth Weiler Kocher



In February of 1907, Joseph and Elizabeth's youngest child, Leo, married Ida Rennie, daughter of Joseph Philumena Rennie. They moved to Iowa with their two children, Helen and Serena, shortly after the death of Leo's father in 1912. While they were living there, they had five more children, Elizabeth, Teresa, Elmer, and Ralph. Children Herman and Mildred were born when the family returned to Illinois.





Serena Kocher and Tommy Kaufmann's Wedding Day, 1932
Serena's sister Mary Kocher and Jim Frauli stood up with them.

Tommy and Serena were married on April 5, 1932. When first married, they farmed in southern Fox Township near West Liberty. Oldest daughter, Pat, attended a little over two years at Ganderneck School, while second daughter, Millie, attended there for a couple of months before they moved. It is supposed they named the school as they did because the schoolhouse was built just east of the railroad tracks, and children were distracted and had to look when the trains came through.

In 1942, Tommy and Serena purchased the farm west of Sainte Marie where Maynard and Elfreida live today. Their growing family of daughters, Pat and Millie, and son, Leonard, was soon expanded by the additions of Phyllis, Maynard and Mary. They lost an infant son, Elmer, in 1941.

The children attended Sainte Marie parochial school through 8th grade once they moved to the area. Pat attended Sainte Marie High School for one year and then finished at Newton High School. The rest of the children all attended Newton High School after 8th grade. The older Kaufmann children would walk to school picking up Georgianna Bolander and Jimmy Curtright along the way. Leonard was little at the time, so he would ride on the shoulders of Jimmy.



Mary and Phyllis Kaufmann

Millie remembers they had nuns for all classes apart from Henry Kirts and later Vince Keller. They went to mass every morning, and she was trained to sing alto by Sister, so she was able to stand next to the glorious pipe organ so she would not be distracted by the sopranos. They played hopscotch, jump rope and other games at recess. She especially remembered that George Kirts and Charlie Zuber were often in trouble for talking to each other and not paying attention in class. One time Sister was writing something on the board when Charlie and George were at it again. George threw something intending to hit Charley but missed. Sister happened to turn around at that same time, and the object hit her square in the bib of her habit. She did not miss a beat, turned around, and continued writing on the board. Millie thought it highly likely that she was laughing at the incident.



Serena and Tommy

As with most farm families of the time, the Kaufmanns' lives revolved around the farm. The list of chores, repairs, and improvements was never ending. Millie remembers when they first moved to the farm, they did not have electricity. She helped carry wood for the furnace. They always included a several pieces of coal to put on the fire at night to make it last. Typical of small family farms in that time, they raised a variety of animals to keep their family fed. They had cows, pigs, some sheep, and chickens. They would purchase 300 chicks in the spring: 200 straight run and 100 pullets. They also kept 100 of last year's chickens. The extra cream and eggs were taken to Robards Grocery in Sainte Marie each week and sold. The money they raised paid for a week's groceries with maybe a little money left over.



Tommy and Serena Kaufmann 1930s

The Kaufmanns had a very large garden with lots of vegetables and flowers. Serena was known for her green thumb. They canned almost anything they could. They often had roasts and chicken for meals. Millie remembers the ration books they were issued to purchase sugar and coffee in limited amounts. In the winter, they could have homemade ice cream if enough ice to fill a five-gallon bucket of ice was collected. This usually meant collecting it from the ditches. Serena was a very good cook, but one of her specialties was angel food cake. Maynard remembers Phil Cameron was a frequent visitor at their house. He asked how Serena got her cakes to be so tall and fluffy. Serena replied that she used "old" eggs. That stopped Phil mid-bite!



The Kaufmann children Left to right: front Phyllis, Maynard, and Leonard

Back row: Pat, Mary, and Millie,

Tommy listed on the 1940 census that he worked 60 hours a week for 52 weeks the prior year. That is probably not an exaggeration. When Maynard was very small Tommy was still shucking corn by hand. He would fill a horse drawn wooden wheeled wagon with corn. The wagon held about 50 bushels of corn. They would take one load to a corn crib they had near the north end of town and then another wagonload

would be deposited in a corncrib at home. That would be a day's work.

Later, Tommy bought a one row corn picker. He still shucked the first two rows on the perimeter of by hand. This made harvesting corn a lot easier and faster. When Frank Zuber got a mounted picker, he and Tommy worked together harvesting for a number of years in the bottom grounds north of Sainte Marie and in some ground in the Bend.

When food for the animals was needed, the corn would be taken to Gowins Feed Mill to be ground. The chickens and pigs had corn that was finely ground. The cows ate cob and all in a coarser grind. The crops were used to feed all their livestock.

They received some Holsteins in a deal made with some relatives and started the busy life of dairy farmers in 1960. For quite a while, they provided Prairie Farms with their Grade B milk. This grade only required them to put the milk in a 10 gallon can and then cool it. Prairie Farms also picked up small quantities of milk with this process.



Serena and Thomas

Pat, Mary, Leonard, Phyllis, Millie, and Maynard

When Prairie Farms decided they would only take Grade A milk (milk that is immediately cooled and stirred frequently without the cream being separated), Tommy decided he did not want to deal with the newer restrictions, but he would help his son, Maynard, with the process. Maynard and his son, Paul, gave up dairy cows altogether in 2006.

The family took one trip each May to the Mother House in Springfield. Tommy's sister, Sister Angelita, was based in Green Bay, WI and came down to Springfield annually. This was about the only time she could visit with her family. Her other siblings tried to visit her at that time, so it was somewhat of a family reunion. Maynard remembers they were not allowed to go into the convent but had to meet their aunt somewhere outside.

Christmases were celebrated in a very simple manner. The family went to a nearby hedgerow or in the woods and cut down one of the cedar trees. There were not a lot of glass ornaments, so the tree was covered in lots of tinsel. Stockings were not a custom for them, and most presents were practical things that they needed: coats, hats and gloves, clothing, etc. Sometimes they would get a special present such as a book or a puzzle.



Tommy and Serena

The elder Kaufmanns moved to Sainte Marie in January 1968 when Maynard and Elfrieda married. The newlyweds took over the farmhouse, and Tommy and Serena moved into the Barthelme house they had bought in 1963 from Leonard and Olivia Sheridan. Serena continued to live there on her own after Tommy passed away in 1975 and Serena lived in the house until she was well into her 90s.

Tommy was very focused on working on the farm and this took up much of his time. He didn't like to travel, but Serena did. Maynard remembered that she was always ready to go whenever she was asked. She went several times to Indianapolis and Colorado to visit Tommy's sisters. Serena also made many beautiful quilts and gifted them to her children, many grandchildren, and other family members. She always had a quilt in the large frame, usually one in a smaller frame, and one she was working on piecing! She was an integral part of the quilting "bees" the ladies of the church had to supply quilts to raffle at the annual church picnic. For a time the quilts were at her home, and she literally quilted day and night! She quilted with the morning ladies and when the group of evening ladies came to quilt.

The grandchildren remember how wonderful Serena always made them feel. Sometimes they were able to spend the night with their grandma, and she would cook them a meal like they were her most important company. Among their favorites were her chicken and noodles, rolls, cakes and pies.

She had a huge toy box underneath the stairs. She was also a very good Scrabble player. One time, a granddaughter was playing with her and mentioned that she would have a great word if she only had a few more tiles. Serena commented, "Well, you don't, so make a different word."



Quilters Float in the Sainte Marie Sesquicentennial Parade 1987

At the time of Tommy's passing on May 13, 1975, at the age of 68, they had been married for 43 years. Serena celebrated her 100th birthday in 2010, and passed away on October 4, 2011, at the age of 101. At the time of her death, the couple had over 100 grandchildren and great grandchildren!

The couple and their family have made a lasting contribution to the Sainte Marie area. Their example of hard work, commitment, and integrity has left our town a better place.

Look Familiar?

These scenes are not from Jasper County, but of a farm right outside of Weyersheim in Alsace, France. No wonder our ancestors chose the very similar looking landscape that is Jasper County to start their new lives!



Vintage Cookbook

Margo Regas, granddaughter of Bud and Evelyn Barthelme, was sorting through cookbooks and found this gem! This cookbook was sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary and was published in 1951.



Christine Ablinger	Averil Keller
Mildred Ablinger	Jean Kirts
Myrtle Bahl	Lena Kirts
Bernita Barthelme	Martha Kocher
Wina Brackett	Ada Mae Moran
Evelyn Burgand	Lulu Menacher
Patricia Burtch	Mariel Menacher
Bertha Bolander	Vera Maxwell
Charlene Bolander	Frances Menka
Marjorie Barthelme	Dorothy O'Brien
Georgianna Brown	Neomi Ochs
Mary Cunningham	Lois Ochs
Rose Cunningham	Hasel Ochs
Cletha Chapman	Clayra Reiz
Emma Copper	Bertha Ritz
Clara Derler	Marjory Sheldelbower
Verna Elder	Freda Swisher
Regina Faltmier	Moise Spitzer
Bertha Geiger	Margaret Schwager
Minnie Geltz	Geneva Shedelbower
Bess Geltz	Lillie Shedelbower
Nabel Groves	Anne Sheridan
Gatherine Gowin	Olivia Sheridan
Dorothy Hahn	Margaret Schmidt
Romona Hunsinger	Lenore Spannagel
Ellen Hunsinger	Agnes Strutner
Lucy Hartrich	Marcella Strutner
Clara Hartrich	Martha Stone
Rosemary Hartrich	Leona Valbert
Mayme Hartrich	Jamita Wade
Dorothy Huber	Elyth Wilson
Sophia Helregel	Martha Wilson
Lucille Hipp	Veronica Yost
Margaret Hunsinger	Bernadette Zuber
Myrtle Hill	Patricia Zuber
Louise Keller	Grace Ochs

HOMEMAKER CREED MAKES HAPPY HOME

"A home is what we make it," is a truism familiar to all of us. When we think of ways to make that truism live we might follow a few suggestions, if not all of them, from the Homemakers Creed below:

I BELIEVE
Homemaking is a noble and challenging career.

I BELIEVE
Homemaking is an art requiring many different skills.

I BELIEVE
Homemaking requires the best of my efforts, my abilities, and my thinking.

I BELIEVE
Home reflects the spirit of the homemaker.

I BELIEVE
Home should be a place of peace, joy, and contentment.

I BELIEVE
No task is too humble that contributes to the cleanliness, the order, the health, the well being of the household.

BELIEVE
A homemaker must be true to the highest ideals of love, loyalty, service, and religion.

BELIEVE
Home must be an influence for good in the neighborhood, the community, the country.

HISTORY

On February 2, 1949, Christine Hockenmeyer, 23rd district director of Mt. Vernon, Illinois, organized the Ste. Marie American Legion Auxiliary Unit 932. When the unit organized there were 14 members; in less than two years the membership has increased to 72 members.

1950-51 OFFICERS

President.....Olivia Sheridan
Vice President.....Lenore Spannagel
Secretary.....Marjorie Barthelme
Treasurer.....Geneva Shedelbower
Chaplain.....Romona Hunsinger
Historian.....Dorothy Huber
Sgt. At Arms.....Bess Geltz

1951
COOK BOOK
COMPILED BY

AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 932
STE. MARIE, ILLINOIS

ED. BARTHELME'S
SONS

GENERAL MERCHANDISE

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CAKES-COOKIES

