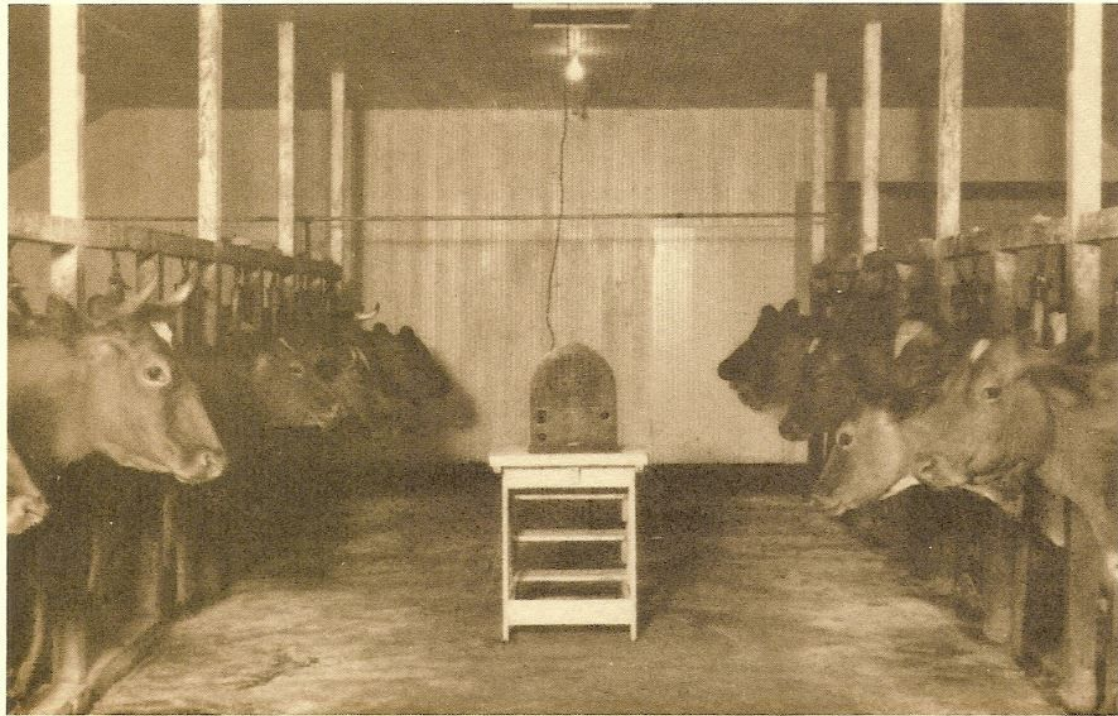


1930s

The Great Depression

Cows listening to the radio 1930





Girls posing vs. Boys posing
From the Kent family Boyer collection of photos c.1930's

Photo is from the
Rasmussen
collection, c.1930
"Real beer" on a trip
to Canada.





The Kent business district c.1930s - 40s. Shown is Ramstead Hardware and the Fashion Hotel, 1st Ave.

Wishing great luck to all
of our students getting
ready to head back to
school soon!

Here are three young men
looking like they are
headed off to college! This
photo comes from a
newly donated collection
from Kent's Boyer /
Thomas family.
c.1930's-40's



Here's a great photo of the
Kent High School Band in
either 1930 or 1931.



1930 or 1931

The 1931 Kent High School
Student Body Officers

Top: Laurella Routh, Frank
Abbott, Margaret Hallock,
Russell O'Grady

Bottom: Paul Ferguson-
advisor, John Mac Gregor,
Robert Hall, Mary Genazzi &
Keo Glidwell



Kent Jr. High Honor Society 1931. Left to right: Charlotte Oliver, Betty Fae Williams, Ellen Gray, Toye Louise Nakatsuka, Giulia Reano, Jane Rawdon, Alma Booher, Imogene Bush, unknown, Virginia Meridth, Tillie Ann Hallock, & Natalie Dubois.



Kent Jr. H. Honor Society
1931

L.-R

1. Charlotte Oliver
2. Betty Fae Williams
3. Ellen Gray
4. ~~♣~~ Toye Louise Nakatsuka
5. Giulia Reano
6. Jane Rawdon
7. ~~♣~~ Alma Booher
8. Imogene Bush
9. ? 1
10. Virginia Merideth
11. Tillie Ann Hallock
12. Natalie Dubois

Did you know... Kent used to have a fish pond in the middle of town? It was in the city park that was between Gowe & Smith streets. The park had flowers, Chestnut trees and a bandstand. Around 1932 the fish pond was erected to give employment to those out of work due to the depression.





Summer is festival season and we have had no shortage of festivals here in the White River Valley over the years. From the Lettuce Festival in 1934 (and undoubtedly others even earlier) to the International Festival started just nine years ago, festivals bring together a community in a way nothing else can.

"Festivals foster community pride, teach people new things, and strengthen relationships." (Wuthnow) When we celebrate the things that make our city special it evokes good feelings, people come together and participate in lighthearted fun and gives us all something in common to talk about.



The Lettuce Festival is a great example. Much of the valley's history is rooted in agriculture, so the celebrations of that common history made for some great fun. They had parades, a Lettuce Queen and built the "World's Largest Salad" for all to enjoy.

Festivals also serve to bring in new citizens and to celebrate the changing definition of a community. The International Festival has done an excellent job of this.



Cornucopia Days, the Canterbury Faire, Ezra Meeker Days, the Kent International Balloon Classic, the Valley Festival, Dragonboat Races, Soapbox Derbys, Kent's 4th of July Splash, Experience Historical Kent... some of these have fallen by the wayside, but others are going strong! Join your community and find some festivals to enjoy this summer!

-Michelle Gehlman-Teeter



With all the rain we've been having lately, it makes us grateful for the Howard A.

Hanson Dam that was completed in 1961 to control the yearly flooding the valley used to get. Shown is a creative way some got around downtown Kent during the floods! It was taken from 2nd & Meeker in front of Kent Emporium in 1933.

Pictured is Dr. Hoffman in front of canoe, Don Bell Sr. in the back. Dave Leppert is with his granddaughter Louise Wilson in the background.

The Pay'n Takit Store in the Rader Building on Central Ave, during the 1934 flood.

2nd from the right is Clarence Lee, last on the right is Claude Fielding.



Here's a great article shared with us by Tyler A., about his grandmother, Queen of the Lettuce Festival that year! It's from Time magazine, July 13, 1936. Thanks Tyler!

WASHINGTON

Lettuce

Tiny Kent's greatest fame comes from lettuce. Annually it produces half of Washington's bumper crop, third largest in the U. S. Kent's 2,000 citizens annually hold a three-day Lettuce Festival, big fea-

ture of which is the mixing of the "World's Largest Salad."

Proclaimed Queen of the Lettuce Festival last week was snub-nosed Opal Sorenson, telephone company employe. Together with two giggling high-school girls, she put on bathing suit and rubber boots, climbed into a huge wooden bowl. From two nearby trucks two pretty girls chucked tons of lettuce into an ensilage cutter. Shredded to bits, it was then blown into the bowl. Queen Sorenson added 100 gallons of ready-mixed mayonnaise. Wading in, the three girls stirred, churned, whipped, mashed (*see cut*). Dripping from head to foot with lettuce & mayonnaise, they pitchforked it out to eager Kentians, for whom there is no tastier dish.



Wide World

QUEEN OPAL SORENSON & AIDES

For Kentians, no tastier dish.

This is a group shot of the kids
at St. James Episcopal Church
in the 1937-38.

6th from the right is Adrean
Owens, and 4th from the right
is Joann Pozzi, the only two
identified.



Going to the beach on an overcast day is still fun, you just have to dress warmer . This is A.E. Smith from Kent enjoying the view from Madrona Bathing Beach on June 30, 1937



CAN YOU AFFORD IT? "AFFORD WHAT?"



Afford to let your girl or boy grow up ignorant of the **World's Beautiful Pictures**

At the age of two or three, it is not too early to let them enjoy pictures, pictures suitable for their ages

"Can't You Talk?" *Alvin*
(The Two Children Pictures are several times larger than this picture.)

The Perry Pictures

Cost so little: **TWO CENTS EACH** for 25 or more
On paper 5/16th inches. Assorted as desired. Postpaid
Send 15 cents, in coin or stamps, for our 64-page
CATALOGUE of 1600 miniature illustrations

The Perry Pictures Company, Box 394, Malden, Mass.

Some one has said:
"Ninety per cent of permanent impressions come through the eye."

We received a donation of before "Highlights" children's activity books from the 1930's! This ad really shows how lucky we are to have the internet now, our kids can see the "World's Beautiful Pictures" with a quick online search, no mail order required! This was from "Children's Activities for Home and School", March 1937.



1937-38

CONTRIBUTORS

City of Kent
 Richard, John, Seattle
 W. C. Powell Co.
 Sun Printing Shop
 Kent Hospital
 Kent Bakery
 Kent Fruit Company
 Pacific Northwest Company
 Seattle - Sewing Company
 C. W. Roberts, Treasurer, Inc.
 State Lane Building Company

Edward Fong Company
 R. B. Wallace
 Dr. G. M. MacGregor
 Valley Garage
 Jack Hoffman, A.
 Bennett
 George Smith
 Metropolitan Grocery
 Paul Wright
 Lewis Corbett
 Kent Hotel

Earl May Market
 Jackson Stone
 Kent Electric Supply Co.
 Lyle, Robert & Lyle
 Localities Company
 Albert Gas Company
 Anthony Ice Cream Company
 Standard Oil Company
 The Kent Hospital
 C. W. Roberts
 Kent Hardware
 Puget Sound Trading & Lumber Co.
 O'Leary, Ed. and Son, Company

Teaching Mills
 Kent Bakery
 Ed. Carlson
 John K. E. Anderson
 Kent Market
 Jackson Stone
 C. W. Roberts
 Standard Oil Company
 The Kent Hospital
 C. W. Roberts
 Puget Sound Trading & Lumber Co.

Ed. Carlson
 D. and E. Peters
 Kent Hardware
 Sun Printing Shop
 The Kent and Camp
 Jack Hoffman
 E. B. Overlander
 Kent Hardware
 Puget Sound Trading & Lumber Co.
 Paul Wright
 Lewis Corbett
 Daily Department Store

Rheinlander
 "The Best Breadable Flour"
 SEATTLE BAKING & MALTING
 COMPANY
 Since 1878

PROGRAM

BOYS AND GIRLS SPORTS
 BASKET-BALL, VOLLEY-BALL, SWIMMING
 High School Field..... Kent White League, sponsor

11:00 A. M.
BOY BOY GAMES
 Thompson Street Hall..... Kent-Jordan, Kent White League

12:30 P. M.
OFFICIAL COMMITTEE LUNCHEON
 Executive Conference C. B. Smith, and James Jure and crew, and visiting guests

1:30 P. M.
PLANT BAKING CONTEST
 Kent High School, Kent Post No. 15 American Legion, Hutchinson Bakery, and Columbia Trust, Federal Reserve Bank, Field Offices

1:45 P. M.
ORGANIZATION OF QUEEN JURY
 Governor Clarence A. Martin
 Kent Justice and Civic Bureau

2:30 P. M.
ENTERTAINING OF WHOLESALE LADIES SALAD
 Five Tables, C. Public
 Kent Market "Wm. Downing, Lyle's Market, and Kent Film Exchange
 Graham and Kent Market..... Henry Street Jackson Club, sponsor

3:45 P. M.
EVENTS BEING OBSERVED
 National Home Trade Day..... Nicholasiding Academy
 High School Field

4:00 to 4:30 P. M.
BOY BALL GAMES
 Kent High vs. Kent's Transportation, Tipton Tennis vs. Gassman's 4
 Tennis, Grand Day off 7 tennis..... Kent Athletic Club, sponsor

6:30 P. M.
FOUNDS
 Kent Orchestra Club, sponsor

8:30 P. M.
MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTED
 Seattle Public Hall Choir..... The Japanese Band
 Columbia Radio and Service in Individual Actives, Kent Orchestra Club, sponsor

9:30 P. M.
FREE STREY DANCE
 Sponsored by Kent Kiwanis Club

11:00 P. M.
EVERYONE SINGING
 Presented by Kent Kiwanis Club

SPONSORS

AMERICAN LEGION POST NO. 15, 4755 KENNEDY BOULEVARD

BOY COMMERCIAL CLUB
 BEST SPONSOR CLUB
 BEST BREAKFAST CLUB

General Committee
 S. B. FOSTERMAN
 Social Chairman

Co-ordinating Committee
 ED CARLSON, Chairman
 MARGIE BELL

The Rotary
 BEN NEEDHAM, Chairman
 James Taylor

Rotary Society
 JOSE FOSTERMAN, Chairman
 FEARNS EUSTICE

Women's Committee and
 Public Relations
 BEVER BROWN, Chairman
 OR. C. B. JENSEN
 THE BERRIDGE
 DONALD ARMSTRONG

Ladies Table
 WILLIAM FERRIS, Chairman

BANDS
 EDWARD RAGLES
 E. F. A. BAKER, Popular
 KENT BLUE BAND
 JONATHAN KENT BAND

DRILL TEAMS
 GERRARD BOY BOYS
 SEATTLE BEARCATS
 SEATTLE PUBLIC HALL TEAM
 SEATTLE BEARCATS

SOUND AND AMPLIFICATION
 ELSBIE RE. JOHNSON..... JAMES W. ODELL COMPANY
 STANLEY W. JOHNSON

Band Concert
 WELDON BARN, Chairman

FRANK BROWN, Chairman
 CHARLES JOHNSON

Band Dinner
 KIM GRAHAM

Band Dinner
 JOSE, CHAPMAN, Chairman

Dinnering
 KIM BRONKH, Chairman



Flowers
 E. F. O'BRYEN, Chairman
 A. J. JOHNSON
 LES BRONKH

Caterers
 E. B. THOMPSON, Chairman

Bandish
 PERCY HAYWARD, Chairman
 SAMUEL JOHNSON

FOURTH ANNUAL KENT LETTUCE FESTIVAL

SPONSORED BY
 Kent Post No. 15, American Legion

1937-38

This flyer is from Kent's 4th annual Lettuce Festival in 1937! June Miller was the Lettuce Queen that year. This was also the year they had "The World's Largest Salad" downtown!

Young friends from the '30's
enjoying the nice weather.
L-R: Jack "Buddy" Whiting Jr.
(from an early Auburn pioneer
family)

Ron Scribner of Kent
Fonda Ranta Palo Willson
Zimmerman of Kent (the
Ranta's were early Covington
settlers)
and her brother Gary Wingate
Willson of Kent
c.1938

