

Bethinking of Old Orleans

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County
Historian 4-6-83



L. Monacelli Photo

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TOWN OF MURRAY MARKS 175 YEARS

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"The town is a family of families, a yard where children play, a gathering of homes,....."

In this larger home we pursue language and learning beyond the fireside and the familiar voices that provoked us to speech.

The town is a threshold on the world, a gate opening to travels.

The town is the present tense of our years, our locality in space and time, a wrap warming us against the ice of ages before we were born and the blizzards of the millenia to come.

Its adjunct is the town of the dead, where our forebears lie in long silence."

---Kenneth L. Patton

No milestone in the history of a town's establishment should be ignored. For it is the town which is the real heart of America. Yes, it is the basis for all governmental, political and family structure, it is home, home-town. For its inhabitants, the town is root of the past and seed for the future.

Let me extend my heartiest congratulations to the Town of Murray on Your 175th birthday. It was on April 8, 1808 that the original Town of Murray was formed from the Town of Northampton which is now known as Gates in Monroe County.

To recognize and celebrate the Town's birthday, members of Girl Scout Troop 2089 built a cake which you see pictured here. The girls L to R are: Lisa Harner, Ann Marie Persia, Lori Harner, Anne DeFilipps, Meredith Persia and Amy Mandracchia who was absent from the picture. The cake which is made of Kleenex tissue flowers was done for the badge "The World in My Community" under the leadership of Murray Town Historian Marcia DeFilipps. This large symbolic cake is now displayed in Rayburn's Jewelry Store window on the Square in Holley.

Ironically the Town of Murray will celebrate another milestone in just four years. It was on April 7, 1837 that the Town of Kendall was formed from Murray leaving what remains today as Murray's present size, shape and boundaries. For Murray's 150th celebration in 1987 Marcia DeFilipps is now seeking donations of historical facts, legends and photos, for a publication of the town's history. Looking ahead to that Sesquicentennial we can, as I've gleaned, expect a real "whoop-de-do".