

Editor's note: This story is being reprinted from the Edgerton Reporter's 2014 Lakes Edition in part for our out-of-town readers.

The early settlers often survived by neighbor helping neighbor. Though less common today, even through the 1950s and early '60s, neighboring farmers worked together for baling and combining. It was a way of getting by when money was tight.

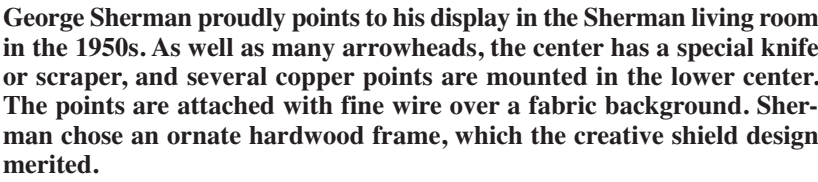
Wilma Knapton has lived all but one of her 93 years in Newville. Before her father built the house in which she now lives, Wilma spent her childhood in an old house that was once an Indian trading post. "The plaque over the front door said 1812. My grandparents settled here

Her eyes twinkle as she mentions an outhouse. Wilma uses a wheelchair because it's faster than using a walker. She had heart surgery last year which has slowed her down a bit. However, her mind is still as keen as that of someone in their 20s.

A source of pride for Wilma is the huge ash tree in her yard. State forest department officials visited every year for a time, bringing students with them, to measure the tree. She's proud of the certificate awarded her for the Wisconsin Champion Tree.

“Then in the afternoon, the women’s softball teams would play

was dead tired at the end of the day
so I don't remember much about the



war.” standing displays collected by Ben-

And, for a few moments, she is quiet, looking back on her life: the good times and the not-so easy times.

In her history of the area, Edith Sherman notes there are seven out-

An article about the Sherman family operating the cider mill for

Continued on page 17



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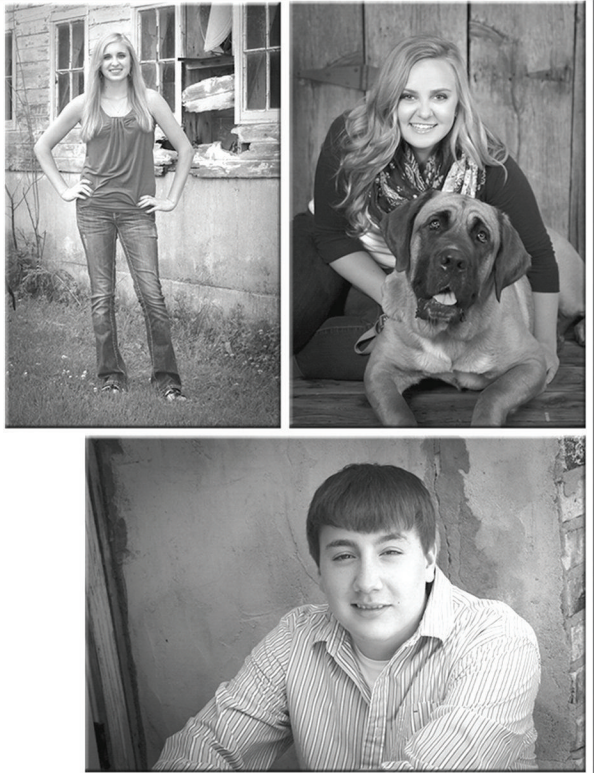
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