

Mary Frances Parsons to Janet Hennipman

July 6, 1937

WA-PA-KE-WAY FARM
"THE PARSONS TRIBE"
PLAINFIELD, INDIANA

Tuesday Morn

My dearest little Girl & Sweetheart Janet,

I see you have not answered my letter as yet.

I was coming up last Wednesday but I decided not to as Ninnie didn't want to go to June's so I couldn't come.

Well, I suppose you heard that Broyles house was robbed. sp The took a new rifle and the radio Coston's gave them. Florence said her & and her Mother had gone some place to see about picking berries; and when they crossed the railroad track a big dust rose going south from the house. When they got home those things were gone. It happened Saturday afternoon & Sat. nite Luther was really worked up. I didn't get to see Florence as I went to the show & as I came out Florence went in so I didn't get to talk to her.

Did Florence write & tell you she lost her wrist watch in the oats field. Well, Billy Walton was over and they wer going after the cows. Billy began to cry (as usual) and Florence couldn't stand to hear him & carried him. When she went to set him down he knocker he wrist watch off. She said she cried & cried and the next nite she found it. Mrs. Broyles said they had a hard time finding it.

Janet, I am coming up while they are thrashing. But, if you have a chace come down here first. Can you come down Fri. of this week & have them come after you Saturday. The way down here (in case you don't know) is come to where Luwellan's store was & turn south. Come to the second road going west & turn. Go to the cross roads and turn south & go to the first lane & drive down. If we are not home sit down & wait for me. (I didn't think you knew the way because you don't come down.)

I will have to start watching gates as they are going to start hauling gravel. They have stopped dipping now & moved to Cartersburg. When I watch gates I will get paid so that don't worry me.

I am still sewing. Making a slip.

Did you have a big 4th. Well, we dove all afternoon & every place ~~they~~ we went they we gone. We had fireworks that nite.

We canned cherries last week. I hate to can them. Well I had better stop & keep the news till you come down.

Your dearest sweetheart
Jake

R.S. My address is Plainfield (you act as if you forgot it)

x o x o x o x o x o x o x o x o x o

Good – bye Dearest Janet

Please come down and visit
me or at least write me
come down Friday
Jake

Historical Notes:

Janet Pauline Hennipman (1923 – 1938) was daughter of Dutch immigrants John (1887 – 1968) and Elsie (Van Dyke) Hennipman (1891 – 1992). Janet was the 4th of 5 sisters and lived near what is now the corner of 200N and Raceway Rd. She died June 14, 1938 of strep throat.

Virginia Miller Parsons (1921 – 2018) was the sister of Mary Frances Parsons and was referred to as “Ninnie” in letters. Virginia graduated from Avon High School in 1939.

Florence “Flossy” Lillian Broyles (1923 – 2015) was the daughter of Luther Cornelius (1896 – 1978) and Hazel Ruth (Seymour) Broyles (1896 – 1975). Florence had 2 older brothers and lived about 7 miles away from Janet. She graduated from Avon High School in 1941.

Billie H Walton (1928 -) was the son of Paul (1903 – 1946) and Mary Jane (Wear) Walton (1901 – 1996). Billie was the youngest of 3 children and lived about a mile from Mary Frances Parsons. He graduated from Avon High School in 1947.

Mary Frances “Jake” Parsons (1923 – 1996) was the daughter of Chester Adrian (1887 – 1977) and Hazel (Miller) Parsons (1896 – 1983). Mary was the 2nd of three children and lived near what is now the corner of County Road 625 S and 100S, about 7 miles from Janet. She graduated from Avon High School in 1941.

Wa-Pe-Ke-Way Farm was named by Mary Frances Parsons' grandfather after he purchased the farm in 1885. It is a Native American name for White Lick Creek that flows through the farm.