

## Glorious past haunts rustic Wild Cat Falls

by Hazel Baker

A former high life resort of our area, Wild Cat Falls Hotel has now sunk into oblivion. Only the falls are left now, still cascading down the York County Hills opposite Marietta. The old hotel was located just to the west of the rustic falls.

Around the turn of the century and well into the 20's residents and travelers would take the "Lady Gay" ferry boat in Marietta to the hotel's dock on the opposite shore of the Susquehanna. They would enjoy a few days of dining, dancing to live music, and other pleasant activities.

One could also take a train to the upper Wild Cat landing in those days. The train crew used to roll out the red carpet for visiting dignitaries.

Besides the "Lady Gay", there was also a steamer named the "Accomac". It was a barge-type boat with its paddle wheels astern. The "Lady Gay" had side wheels.

Since 1896 the falls have served as an overflow for the Wild Cat Reservoir, which supplies water for the Marietta area. The reservoir stores water from springs farther up the hillside.

The depth of water in the Susquehanna determined the place of docking on the Lancaster County shores; the captain controlled the departure time.

Some visitors came to the area just because they enjoyed the operators of the hotel, the late Norman Pickle and Ray Engle.

Mrs. Harry Zuch, Marietta, remembers attending the hotel for dinner in 1910. The menu included plank shad which were probably caught in the shad fishery near the resort.

Later the Wild Cat Falls Hotel was sold to a group

of lawyers from the Lancaster area and became known as the Blackstone Inn Club. The lawyers brought friends and associates to their haven for parties and relaxation. In time, however, the club was dissolved.

The Glen Orchard Club, within a stones throw of the Wild Cat Falls Hotel, was owned by 100 members who paid \$100 each. It was organized by E.B.

Reinhold, the father of Albert Reinhold. Members came from all over Pennsylvania by trolley, train and of course boat. Some registered at the Cross Keys in Marietta, some at the Wild Cat Falls Inn. Featured were planked shad and champagne dinners. At one time the chef from the Bellvue Hotel in Philadelphia was imported.

Judges, congressmen, and other dignitaries were

members of this club. A list of their names is still available.

Today little remains of this former playground of high society. The entire area has been demolished by vandals, leaving only the clear, cool water slipping quietly down its natural slope.

## Jr. Day at E-Town College

Elizabethtown College has invited 1,500 high school juniors to campus on Saturday, Aug. 7, for a Junior Day.

According to Dr. Kenneth E. Zirkle, dean of student affairs, the students will be on campus from 9 a.m. through luncheon, touring facilities, meeting faculty and staff, and asking questions about the college and its programs.

During the luncheon, the college will present Junior Day Scholarships to qualified students to attend Elizabethtown in the fall of 1977.

Invitations were sent to selected students living in Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Maryland, New York, Connecticut and Virginia.



Lucy Elizabeth Thompson-Zuch at Wild Cat Falls in the summer of 1910.

### HIND QUARTERS OF BEEF 99c LB.

cut and wrapped for your freezer

### YOUNDT'S MEAT MARKET

119 E. Market St., Marietta - 426-1245

## SUPER 76 SALE

Not going stale?  
Visit Kenny Smith Sport Shop  
Where bargains never stop!



THEY HAVE IT ALL at.....

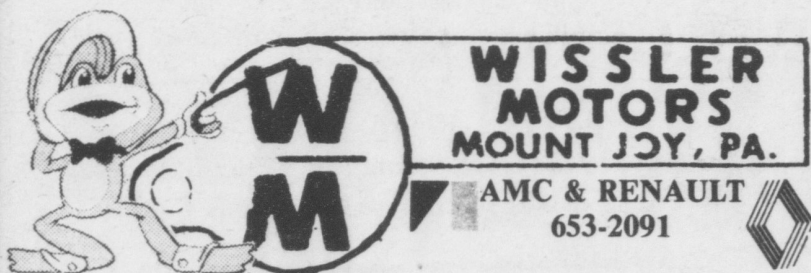
# KENNY SMITH SPORT SHOP

65 E. Main St. Mount Joy, Pa. 17552

'Central Pa. Year-Round Hockey Headquarters'  
[717] 653-5051

### FRIENDLY FOREIGN USED CARS

- 1964 VW Bug, \$350, work car
- 1970 Renault 10, automatic
- 1971 Renault 16, white, automatic
- 1972 Renault 16, blue, 4 speed
- 1972 VW Bug, 4 speed, 36,254 miles
- 1973 Renault 15 Coupe, 4 speed, 32,356 mi.
- 1974 VW Super Beetle, auto., AM-FM radio, 22,627 miles



YOU'LL WHISTLE WHEN YOU KNOW US.

### U.S.A. USED CARS

- 1971 Malibu, 2 door, V-top, auto., P.S., one local owner.
- 1971 Nova, 4 door, auto., air
- 1972 Gremlin X, auto, air
- 1973 Hornet Hatchback
- 1974 Matador Sedan, 4 door, auto., air., P.S.
- 1974 Maverick, 2 door, auto., P.S., air, 30,279 miles
- 1975 Pacer X, 9,000miles
- 1972 Dodge Truck, Adventure, auto., cap



The old Wild Cat Falls Hotel.