

## **Kudos to the Marion Star**

Today's edition of the Marion Star refutes the allegations of those who bemoan the fewer pages we now receive. Within this edition I found an article about Jerry Davis' donation of 27 gallons of blood to the American Red Cross Blood Bank. I learned of the upcoming Winter Tree Identification at the Terradise Nature Preserve on February 6. It was comforting to know that Marion Towers will receive Tax Credit Exchange funds of \$3 million dollars to subsidize 225 units for senior housing. Included was a special section featuring 2009 births and now I know what the newest non-traditional names are given to the new babies.

Besides this pertinent local news were the daily features I turn to—obituaries (to be sure I am not among them!) the crossword puzzles, Ann Lander's Column, the weather, and a few of the "comic" strips. I'm not a sports fan but I see that those who are will find all the latest wins, losses and chitchat. Outstanding students from local high schools are honored monthly. State, national and international news is not neglected. The Sunday edition carries columns of local interest and book reviews. Not many ads since special sections are used to hawk groceries and merchandise. So I can peruse them—or not.

The *Marion Star* has served Marion well since its roots in 1877 when the struggling *Pebble* was renamed the *Star* by the Hume Brothers. With half interest having been purchased by his father, Dr. George T. Harding, in May 1884 Warren G. Harding became the editor. With some bumps along the road he managed and edited it until his political career took him to Washington D.C. He owned it until 1923 shortly before his fateful trip to Alaska and his death in San Francisco.

So don't tell me the Marion Star has lost its shine. It has been a part of my life since I curled up in my Daddy's lap and he read to "funnies" to me.

**Trella Romine – January 21, 2010 (age 94)**

