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ships she's gained, and being able to work with a 'nice group of ladies.'

"I'd tell young people they should get involved in Auxiliary, to meet other people who are patriotic — to help support veterans."

Joyce List, and current president, says that Martha is always ready and willing to help and be there when needed, providing the helping hand, food, or whatever.

"She gives of her time graciously, and she never expects anything in return."

Martha grew up near Utica, attended Hillcrest School, and graduated from Lesterville High School. She went to Mitchell Business College, walking a mile to college and acting as caregiver to 3 little boys to earn her room and board. She married Eugene List in 1938 and worked at Gurney's in their business office.

Martha worked at Randall's Food Store, The Red Owl, and then in the business office at Montgomery Ward. While checking groceries at Red Owl, she was once recognized as having the largest dollar volume of groceries go through her checkout line with the greatest accuracy — only being 1 cent off. Martha explained that her husband Eugene was employed at Anderson Livestock as well as Federal Crop Insurance.

She has 3 children, 8 grandchildren, 19 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great grandchild. Martha says she hopes that her grandchildren and their children have gotten to know the importance of showing respect to our veterans and the flag by seeing her involvement in things like the Memorial Day service at the park, as well as seeing her march in parades year after year.

"The kids always love to watch me in the parade carrying the flag. They'll call out 'Hi grandma' as I march by."

This year, however, Martha says she's 'been grounded': this Czech Days parade will be the first riding in a car instead of marching the route on foot.

Other activities that keep this sociable lady busy include playing bridge and faithfully bowling on Thursday nights. She has gone to many national tournaments through the years, and has bowled a couple 200 games. She will continue to be active in a variety of things as long as she's able.

■ by Julie Mooney

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