

Collection name: Adath E. Decker Collection

Repository: Special Collections Department -Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library. 211 First Ave, Alpena, MI 49707.
specialcollections@alpenalibrary.org. <https://alpenalibrary.org/>

Collection number: 2014.001

Dates: 1909 to 1978

Creator Name: Adath E. Decker

Quantity: 8 boxes

Biographical & Historical Information: Adath Evalena Decker was born on September 11, 1915, to Norma and Carl Decker of Battle Creek, Mich. Adath spent much of her childhood in Michigan and Indiana while her father worked for the railroad on the South Bend-Chicago line. Adath and her mother moved near Pikes Peak in 1957. They worked as a medical secretary and transcriptionist at Penrose Hospital until her retirement in 1987. She later passed away on September 28, 2014, in Colorado Springs.

Scope & Content: This collection relates to correspondence with the Decker, VanHemel and St. John families; photographs of Rockport Watermelon Party; photographs of 121 E. Maple St.; Downtown print shop at 108 Water St. newspaper clippings; and the family bible of the St. John family of Alpena, Mich.

Acquisition: Adath E. Deck created the records and caregiver Helen Hedemark donated the materials in Adath's name after death.

Access: *Open for research*

Preferred Citation: *item, folder, box*, Adath E. Decker, Alpena County George N. Fletcher Public Library. Alpena, MI

Collection Contents:

Box 1 (1909 - 1937) [Correspondence]

Folder

1. Correspondence – 1909 and July 15, 1929 to December 22, 1929
2. Correspondence; also Battle Creek Sanitarium information – May 25, 1929 and 1919

3. Correspondence – March 9, 1930 to December 20, 1930
4. Correspondence – January 1, 1931 to December 25, 1931
5. Correspondence – January 6, 1932 to November 23, 1932
6. Correspondence – January 9, 1933 to April 13, 1933
7. Correspondence – February 7, 1937 to August 24, 1937
8. Correspondence – September 10, 1937 to December 22, 1937

Box 2 (1938 - 1947) [Correspondence]**Folder**

1. Correspondence - (January 4, 1938 to December 9, 1938)
2. Correspondence - (May 6, 1941 to May 14, 1941)
3. Correspondence - (February 20, 1942 to December 4, 1942)
4. Correspondence - (May 17, 1943 to December 16, 1943)
5. Correspondence - (January 3, 1944 to May 31, 1944)
6. Correspondence - (July 5, 1944 to December 26, 1944)
7. Correspondence - (January 3, 1945 to December 28, 1945)
8. Correspondence - (January 18, 1946 to December 6, 1946)
9. Correspondence - (January 17, 1947 to October 12, 1947)

Box 3 (1948 - 1978) [Correspondence]**Folder**

1. Correspondence - January 4, 1948 to December 30, 1949
2. Correspondence – February 21, 1950 to December 24, 1959
3. Correspondence - April 8, 1962 to October 28, 1967 and 1970 & 1978
4. Correspondence - Undated

Box 4 (1909 - 1925) [Books]**Folder**

1. Holy Bible – 1909
2. Alpena Home Coming with inserts- 1925
3. Photograph (Mary Evalena St. Johns Smith & Norma Smith Van Hemel Decker) - c.1911

Box 5**Folder**

1. Genealogy & Photographs **Folder 1 of 5** – [List of Marriages, Charles Henry Smith, Dorothea St. John Van Hemel, John Peter Van Hemel, Mary Evalena St. John Van Hemel, Norma Adaline St. John Van Hemel, Raymond Welch VanHemel,]
2. Genealogy & Photographs **Folder 2 of 5** – [Adath Evalena Decker, Carl Wilbur Decker, Mary Evalena St. John Van Hemel, Norma Adaline St. John Van Hemel Decker, letter sent to Mrs. Theodore Decker (Carl's Father)]
3. Genealogy & Photographs **Folder 3 of 5** – [Alfred Albert St. John (Son of Caroline ST. John), Alfred Arthur St. John, Caroline(Carrie) Butman St. John (Mary Evalena's Mother), Mary Evalena St. John Van Hemel, Norma Adaline St. John Van Hemel Decker,]
4. Genealogy & Photographs **Folder 4 of 5** – [Caroline(Carrie) Butman St. John (Mary Evalena's Mother), Adath Decker, Carl Decker, Caesar (Carl's Dog), Ella C (Smith) Decker, Norma Adaline

St. John Van Hemel Decker, Captain Post, Edna S (Decker) Sternaman, Carolee Van Hemel, John P. Van Hemel, Johnnie Van Hemel (Ray's adopted son), Mary Evalena St. John Van Hemel, Mildred Van Hemel (Ray's Wife), Ray Van Hemel]

5. Genealogy & Photographs **Folder 5 of 5** – [Adath Decker, Carl Decker, Norma Adaline St. John Van Hemel Decker, John P. Van Hemel, Lena Van Hemel, Mary Evalena St. John Van Hemel, Allen Park Key Lodge Letter of member in good standing,

Box 6

Folder

1. Correspondence with Donor – 2015
2. Adath E. Decker collection: Adath Decker (Birth Certificate, Announcement, Photographs)
3. Adath Decker (Report Cards and Note from Department of Health Education of Physical defect)
4. Carl Decker (Correspondence form Mother and Sister) [Mother is Ella Smith Decker, Sister is Edna Decker Sternaman]
5. Carl, Norma, Adath Decker (Genealogy and Photographs)
6. Scrapbook pages (Genealogy and Photographs)
7. Scrapbook pages includes Rockport Watermelon Party (Genealogy and Photographs)
8. Wills and other Legal Papers [Carl Decker, etc.]
9. Marriage License, Photos, etc. [Carl and Norma Decker]
10. Carl Decker's Player Piano: Picture of and Receipt of Payment
11. John Harvey Kellogg (biography)
12. Photograph Album – 1923/9 photographs [68 W. Burnham Street, Battle Creek, MI., Carl Decker, Norma Decker, Adath Decker, Evaline Van Hemel, Post Office Battle Creek, MI, Adath Decker, Harriet Bush, Christmas Tree]

Box 7 [Textiles and Jewelry]

Included in box:

1. Grandmother St. John's Black lace Pieces
2. Baptismal Dress
3. White baby bootie
4. Photo pins – St. John's
5. Envelope
6. Small Jewelry Box

Box 8

Included in box:

1. Old Family Bible (UNDER THE BOX - NOT INSIDE BOX)