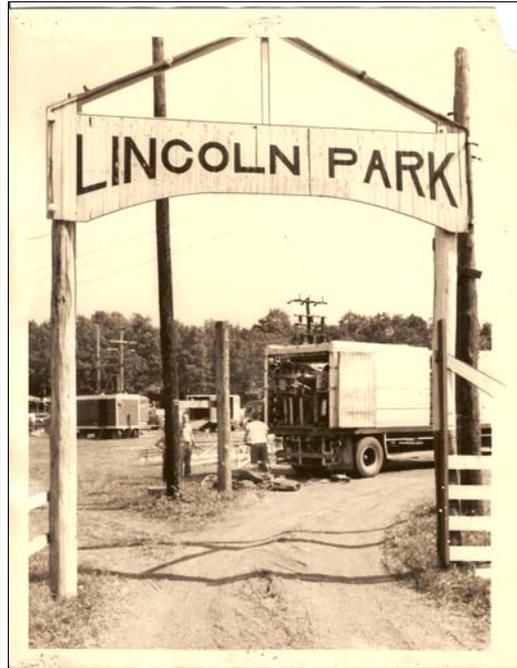




The Millmont Times

AUGUST 2005



An early view of the entrance to Lincoln Park at Laurelton. Photograph courtesy of Delphia Shirk, Millmont.

Corn Festival to County Fair By Scott Sanders

The Union County West End Fair began in 1925 as a "homecoming picnic" for the folks in Laurelton to entertain former village residents who returned for a reunion visit with old neighbors and relatives. The first week in August was chosen so that the picnic could feature sweet corn and the ladies of Laurelton did just that, serving corn in every conceivable way.

That first picnic proved so popular that the folks of Laurelton all agreed it should become an annual event; and so it did. It garnered a new name "The Corn Festival" because so many corn dishes were served at the picnic. In the next few years, the event grew in popularity and became known as an agricultural fair that included all of Union County.

Each year, the fair continued to grow and by 1935, it was time to incorporate as a nonprofit organization. The organization was formed

with a slate of officers and 39 charter members. Those included Wesley Aumiller, Charles Blackford, Harry Blackwell, Blaine Catherman, Donald Cook, Milford Dorman, Clyde Eyster, David Glover, Clayton Hackenburg, Asher Harter, Aaron Hassinger, John Hobbs, Elmer Johnson, Ernest Johnson, Lester Johnson, Andrew Kelly (great grandfather of current president Dianne Shuck), Asher Kniss, Ira Knouse, Jacob Lamey, Carrie Lincoln, William Long, Haven Lukens, David Pursley, Harry Pursley, Aaron Reedy, Clarence Sheets, Robert Smith, James Snook, Frank Snyder, Roy Stees, Laura VonNeida, Martha VonNeida, and

(Continued on page 2)

Millmont Mailbox by Postmaster Sam Smith



I would like to congratulate our Temporary Rural Carrier, Teddie Troisi, upon her completion of LPN Training! Regrettably, she will be resigning as our TRC on Rural Route 2 as of August 13 to pursue her LPN career. Thank-you Teddie for your dedication, and good luck! If anyone is interested in this position, please contact me at the Post Office or call 922-1211.

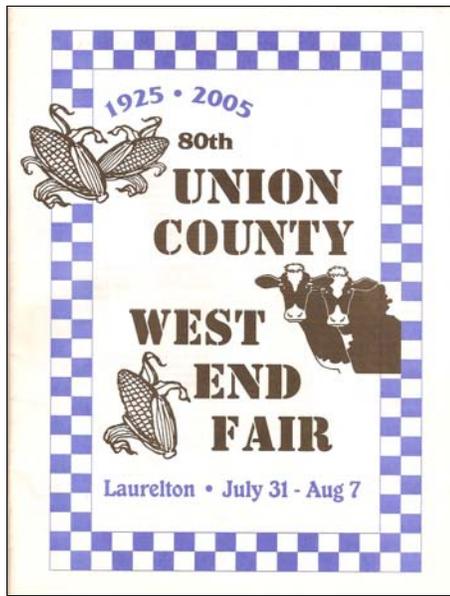
This month's mail scam to be aware of is the free prize scheme. Every day thousands of people are notified by mail that they have won a "free" prize. Often it is a postcard that says your prize will be one of four or five "valuable" items - like a new car, color tv, or a vacation. Many of these messages come from con artists. When you contact the company by phone to claim your prize, they will tell you that you are required to pay a processing fee and they will pressure you to give out your credit card number. Don't do it! You will end up with hundreds of dollars in unauthorized charges. Others will ask you to cover the processing charge by sending a check. Either way, the prize will cost you more than it's worth, will be worthless junk, or it may never arrive.

One occurrence that isn't a scam is my annual "Dog Days of Summer" customer appreciation promotion. Stop in at the Millmont Post Office on August 18 or 19 from 10:00AM-12:00 or 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM either day and get a free hot dog and fixings! It's just my way of saying thanks to my great customers!

(Continued from page 1)

James Zimmerman.

Fair association founding officers were Byron Leffler, president; Leroy Yagel, vice president; Sherman Kreisher, secretary; Frank Stout, assistant secretary; and Harry Fauver, treasurer.



In 1936, as wealthy Hartley Township residents and charter members of the fair association, the Lincoln family offered the fair just over 15 acres of its farm for \$1.00. The location was perfect, just at the north edge of Laurelton. The fair had been held in Laurelton since 1925 in the fields behind the Hartley Township high school on Route 235 but was fast running out of room to expand.

The land the Lincoln's "gave" to the fair association is today the centerpiece of the Union County West End Fair. Today, however, the fair property is even larger, with 18 additional acres purchased from David Pursley, the remaining Lincoln descendant.

The fair is still run by an officer/board plus association members, all whom are dedicated volunteers working all year round to make each fair a success. Over the years the fair association has been led by many hardworking, devoted presidents, some serving several years in succession. They include Blaine Catherman, John Wehr, Kermit Boob, Leroy Yagel, Frank Stout, Harry Davis, Lewis Kenamond, Ralph Dietrich, Glen Zimmerman, Elwood Hassinger, Donald Shirk and the current and first female president Dianne Shuck. Many descendants of the original members and these officers are active members today. They contribute many long hours to the fair each year.

The fairgrounds have seen extensive renovations during the past 30 years. Many of the buildings have been replaced or enlarged with gold colored siding used throughout the grounds to give a consistent look. In 1975 the current large exhibit building was erected to accommodate all non-livestock exhibits. The heavy snows of the winter of 1978 collapsed the commercial exhibit building, which was then moved and replaced with a much larger facility which is rented for family reunions and sometimes wedding receptions. An eating stand was demolished in 1984 when a vehicle lost control on Route 235 and rammed into the building. 1985 saw the culmination of several years of fund raising by the dairy committee, 4-H and FFA groups to build a new dairy barn. The old dairy barn still stands today but it has been remodeled into sheep pens and a showing arena.

The fair's signature wooden boardwalk building was demolished in 1989 and replaced with a modern steel building with a concrete floor and overhead garage doors at each individual booth. The new building still retains the boardwalk look and measures more than a football field in length. It is now finished on the north end by modern flush toilets and on the south end by a modern office space, which retains the original counter from the long gone Laurelton Bank.

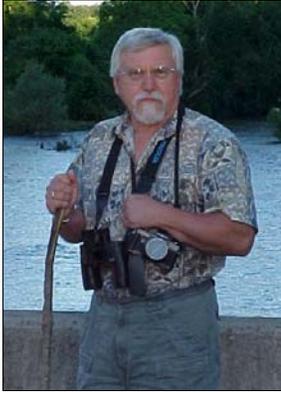
1993 was the year to expand the parking lots. Land was cleared and shale was hauled in to accommodate an ever-increasing number of vehicles each night. In 1996 snow once again played havoc with a fair structure as the roof on the stage collapsed. Since the stage is the central focal point for the entire fairgrounds it was important to have a beautifully designed roof installed by fair time. The next five years saw chain link fencing expanded along Rt. 235 to keep people out of the poison ivy and along the fair perimeter and hopefully increase the gate attendance. This period also included renovation of the existing 4-H and FFA hog barn, new restrooms, the building of the West Union Area Lion's Club bingo stand, a new announcer's booth for the tractor pull area and renovation of the ambulance building.

The Union County West End Fair can justly brag about its tractor pull. It is considered the largest in the state of Pennsylvania, with pullers coming from all areas of the state. The various classes are held throughout the week culminating on Friday and Saturday.

The fair association is also proud of its reputation of bringing top-notch entertainment to its center stage for FREE. Some recent names include Mark Wills, Big Al Downing, Jeannie C. Riley, Jessica Andrews, Chad Brock, Crystal Gayle, Chely Wright, Jim Ed Brown, and many of the popular stars of Hew Haw.

The fair has also held a Miss Union County pageant for many years. The pageant was started in 1965 with Maureen Zimmerman as the first queen. The pageant continued until 1988 when interest was waning. The year 2000 marked the 75th anniversary of the fair and the pageant was revived. It continues to grow again each year.

The Union County West End Fair like many organizations has had many highs and lows. Over the years the fair has suffered some major setbacks that called for real tenacity from which to recover and keep going – a world war when manpower all but disappeared, buildings destroyed by violent storms, heavy snows and other catastrophes. But like the very first gatherings of the people of Laurelton the Union County West End Fair is still a homecoming of sorts. It is a time to renew old friendships as people gather from far and near to recall the days when they showed cattle, sheep or hogs, or won their very first blue ribbon on an apple pie made from their grandmother's recipe. The fair is a time to reflect on a simpler time when men were all the weight needed on the sled of the tractor pull, or the only time to ride above the treetops on the giant ferris wheel. The fair is also a time for newcomers to meet and greet and enjoy the wondrous bounty that Union County has to offer. These are the memories that keep generation after generation working so hard to preserve and to continue the tradition started back in 1925 in a field in Laurelton, Pennsylvania.



BIRD TALK

By Jim McCormick

“Are you a photographer? she asked...” Hot! ... Hot! ... Hot! This summer has been way too hot! I grew up in Minnesota, and it seems like we have been spending the summer in the tropics. To be honest, though, it’s been just as hot in Minnesota. At least we finally got some rain, but then I have to cut the grass more often Oh well, get over it. The days have already started to get shorter, and we all know what that means.

As I have said many times, when I go for my morning walk, I am never sure what I am going to see. Fourth of July weekend, just as I was reaching the concrete bridge on Penns Creek, I noticed two young teen-age girls coming up the lane. At first I didn’t pay any attention to them, and proceeded to the bridge. I was looking upstream and downstream and saw a little girl come on the bridge and look over at the water below. The girls were nearing the bridge, so I decided to get ahead of this parade. I had reached the dip in Canada Drive, when I heard the sound of scraping shoes on the road behind me. As I turned, the little girl slid to a stop right next to me. I looked down at her and here was this pretty little girl with curly hair looking up at me. **“Are you a photographer?” she asked** in her biggest little voice. “Yes, I am.” I said. “What do you take pictures of? Animals?” she said. “Sometimes,” I said. “Sometimes I take pictures of birds, sometimes I take pictures of trees, and sometimes I take pictures of clouds.” “Oh, clouds! I take pictures too,” she said, “and I took a really nice picture of some clouds.” “That’s nice.” I said. I had never seen her before and asked her if she was visiting someone around here. She said she was camping across the creek. She was riding a little bike that was only one step up from training wheels; she looked like she had spent the whole summer in the sun and was a very active little girl. I asked, “Did you come from far away?” “I’m from Shamookin.” she said; spoken like a true native of Shamokin. “That’s not very far.” I said. “But we’re moving to California pretty soon.” she added. “That IS far away.” I said. “But we’re going to fly in an airplane.” she said. “That’s nice.” I said. Getting back to photography, I asked her what kind of a camera she had. “I have one just like you do!” she answered with full authority. “Oh, you’re a very lucky girl.” I said. Then, having used up all our common interests, my miniature conversationalist turned around and said, “Well, I better get back to my sister and my friend.” She then sped off on her little bike with her legs moving much faster than the bike. With her energy and spunk and conversational ability, I’m sure she’ll make a fine photographer some day. I wish her all the luck in the world, whoever she was.

As the summer moves on, more and more little bands of birds are appearing. The Common Grackles started to leave their breeding grounds the second week of July. They have been a nearly daily sight since their arrival at the end of February and it is another sign of the changing of the seasons. They have started to gather into groups and will eventually form huge cloud-like flocks. I noticed in last month’s *Millmont Times* Mr. Mattern expressed some concern about the number of Indigo Buntings and Eastern Meadowlarks. I saw six male Indigo Buntings on my normal walk the other day, so at least in Lewis Township they are alive and well. The Meadowlarks are still around, but there did seem to be fewer this year. I’m glad more and more people are taking notice of our avian friends and, you too, should grab your binoculars and take it all in.



White Throated Sparrow

Brush Valley Choir

The 17-member Brush Valley Community Choir will be presenting a concert at 2:00 PM on Sunday afternoon, August 7, at the Livonia Chapel. This concert will benefit the Livonia Cemetery Association. A free will offering will be taken. The mixed choir has been singing since 1998 and sings patriotic, gospel and Christmas music. Special solos will also be included in the program. The Livonia Chapel is on Route 192 at Livonia, which is about 14 miles west of Forest Hill - a nice mountain drive through the “Fourteen Mile Narrows.”

A Gift From Carrie Lincoln

Over the years, I have heard a number of older residents imply that the West End Fair Association should not be charging admission to enter the fairgrounds. Those comments always included the fact that Carrie Lincoln donated the land to the fair association with the condition that no admission charges were to be levied on those who passed through the gates. As these folks explained it, the no admission clause "was written into the deed." Having spent many hours in the office of Register and Recorder at the Union County Courthouse researching deeds for their historical content, I decided to view this deed to see if I could clarify this mystery.

Upon viewing a copy of the deed that transferred 15.45 acres of land from Carrie Lincoln to the West End Fair Association, it was clear that the parties whose signatures were attached to the document never entered into a "free admission" agreement. So where did this often repeated and long held belief find its origins?

Carrie Lincoln was a community minded person. Prior to donating the parcel of land to the West End Fair Association, she gave permission to the Laurelton Baseball Club to use the property for athletic events and festivals. Although she wanted to transfer ownership of the property to the fair association, she did not want to see the baseball club without a field to play on. When Lincoln conveyed the parcel of land to the West End Fair Association, the deed, dated May 26, 1937, contained the following clause:

"Whereas it appears that for nine (9) years or more last past part of the said parcel or tract of land herby conveyed has been used with Mrs. Carrie Lincoln's consent by the Laurelton Baseball Club, for its games and contests with other clubs and for occasional Festivals and that most of the labor of preparing the land for their purposes has been performed by the boys and young men of Laurelton and vicinity.

AND WHEREAS, Mrs. Carrie Lincoln the Donor, in this Defeasance Deed, is of the opinion that a well regulated and managed Baseball Park is a proper and desirable part of a Community Center, such as this Park is intended to be and that such use is well within the purposes for which the said Association was incorporated, therefore this grant and conveyance is made upon the express Condition that the Laurelton Baseball Club shall be allowed to use the said Baseball Park as now laid out and used free of rent, except that in case of Festivals held by the said Laurelton Baseball Club, the said Club shall pay to the association the usual charge for Light etc. and shall keep the Park clean and in good condition."



David W. Diehl

The "free rent" for the Laurelton Baseball Club that Carrie Lincoln inserted in the deed may very well have been the rationale that allowed some folks to mistakenly believe that admission to the annual West End Fair should also be "free." While free admission to the grounds would be ideal, it is unlikely that the fair association could operate financially under such a stipulation.

On May 18, 1943, six years after donating the property to the West End Fair Association, Carrie Lincoln recorded a new deed in the Register & Recorders office releasing the fair association from the "free rent" clause stipulated in the original deed. One reason for removing the deed restriction may have been the fact that during the intervening years the Laurelton Baseball Club had established a new ball field, adjacent to the Hartley Township High School in Laurelton.

Mrs. Carrie Lincoln Presents West End Fair Association With Deed To Lincoln Park

September 10, 11 And 12 Selected for
Holding The Fair This Year.

Members of the Union County West End Fair Association who attended the meeting of the association Monday evening were fortunate in being present when Mrs. Carrie Lincoln presented the association with a deed to the ground known as Lincoln Park, near Laurelton, where the fair has been held the past nine years. The presentation came as a complete surprise and shows a very generous spirit on the part of Mrs. Lincoln, who has been vitally interested in the fair ever since its inception and is proud of its growth.

The meeting Monday evening was held in the Lutheran church building for the purpose of electing officers and choosing dates for the 1936 fair and Mrs. Lincoln's generous gift came as a complete surprise. Mr. Leffler, the retiring president, made the acceptance address and voiced the thanks and appreciation of the association. Mr. Leroy Yeagel, the new president and Aaron Hassinger, a former president, also made short addresses of thanks and appreciation. A rising vote of thanks punctuated with hearty applause was given Mrs. Lincoln. She responded with a hearty welcome and expressed hope that the association would press forward with renewed energy and continue to build a bigger and better fair.

The newly elected officers for 1936 are as follows: president, Leroy Yeagel; vice president J. Frank Snyder; secretary, Sherman Kreisher; assistant secretary, F. W. Stout; treasurer, H. W. Fauver.

Dates selected for the 1936 fair are September 10, 11, and 12th.

Editors note: This article was originally published in one of the local newspapers on July 3, 1936. It is copied here verbatim.

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)



Some fair attendees may remember when Tex Ritter performed at the West End Fair. This photograph was taken at Oriental in Juniata County a number of years before his performance at Laurelton. Standing next to Ritter is the late Charles Buttorff. Photograph courtesy of the late Kenneth Shively.

Admission to the annual fair was free until 1931, which predates Carrie Lincoln's land donation by five years. That year officers instituted a 10-cent per person admission charge for each adult who entered the fairgrounds. David W. Diehl, former treasurer of the West End Fair Association, recalled when the price of admission was increased from 10 cents to 25 cents per person. According to Diehl, there was a lot of "flack" from some disgruntled fair attendees regarding the 150% increase in admission. Diehl, who succeeded Harry Fauver as treasurer of the West End Fair Association, also recalled an era when the fair attracted as many, if not more, attendees during the daytime as it did during the evening hours.

The West End Fair holds another special place in the heart of David Diehl. In 1936, while he was enrolled at the Joyce Kilmer CCC Camp near Hairy Johns State Park, Diehl and his fellow enrollees at the camp had numerous opportunities to attend the annual fair. On one of those occasions David was invited to go on a blind date arranged by a friend of his enrolled at the camp. His date at the fairgrounds on a late summer day in 1936 was Mildred Teichman. As a result of that blind date the pair began a four-year-long courtship. On October 12, 1940, Diehl and Teichman began a lifetime commitment to each another that continued until her passing on February 28, 2005. An interesting side note is that David and Mildred's daughter, Diane Diehl, also met her husband, Robert Wert, while attending the West End Fair.

The generosity of the late Donald Hayes is well-known by many folks who spent their childhood growing up in the borough of Hartleton. Hayes was noted for distributing dimes to many of the borough's children during the Christmas holiday season. According to Wayne Shively, Hayes' spirit of giving was not limited to Christmas, or just to the young folks of Hartleton. As a youngster, Shively recalled attending the West End Fair and being the recipient of Donald's generosity. During the fair Hayes could often be found on the grounds handing out dimes to many of the young folks in attendance.

Whether it was the Wallenda's in the 1940's, Ranger Joe and his horse "Topaz" in the 1950's, Tex Ritter in the 1960's, Kitty Wells in the 1970's, Porter Wagner in the 1980's, Southern Winds in the 1990's, or Ricochet, one

of this years acts, the West End Fair has been entertaining young and old since 1925. Making new friends or renewing old acquaintances, the annual fair holds a special place in the hearts and minds of many of the attendees. This year marks the 80th year for what generations of county residents have come to know as the "West End Fair." This year the fair begins on July 31 and continues through August 7.

If you plan to attend the fair this year you can disregard the decades old myth about "free admission." The price of admission ranges from \$2 to \$4 depending on which evening you plan to attend. Children under twelve are admitted free, and there is also plenty of free parking.

My thanks to David W. Diehl, Lewisburg; Robert and Diane (Diehl) Wert, Mechanicsburg; Theresa Schrawder of the Union County Register & Records office, Delphia Shirk, Millmont; Wayne Shively, Mifflinburg; Kim Blyler, Millmont; and Betty Buttorff, Hartleton for their help with this article.

The 80th Union County West End Fair

July 31 - August 7

Sunday - Vesper Service - Mountain Man Contest held at the Union County Sportsmen's Club.

Monday - Entry of Livestock - Midway Opens - Kiddie Tractor Pull - Talent Show.

Tuesday - Judging Contest - Tractor Driving Contest - Horseshoe Pitching Contest - 4 Wheel Drive Vehicle Pull - Market Lamb Show & Judging - Judging of Steers, Swine, Rabbits - Miss Union County Pageant - Talent Show Finalists.

Wednesday - Dairy Cattle Show & Judging - Tractor Pulls - The Hub Caps Will be performing on stage.

Thursday - Dairy Goat Show & Judging - 4-H and FFA Dairy Showing Contests - Tractor Pulls - Jim Sturr on stage.

Friday - 4-H and FFA Livestock Sale - Stock Farm Tractor Pull - Ricochet on stage.

Saturday - Stock Farm Tractor Pull - West End Fire Company Parade - Tommy Cash on stage.

Blessed is he who expects nothing, for he shall never be disappointed.



Meanderings

by

Hertha S. Wehr

Summer is the time for many picnics, reunions and gatherings. The Mifflinburg High School Class of 1940 was no exception.

After sixty-five years we weren't sure how many people we could expect. As it turned out, we had six men and five women from a class of sixty. Several people felt they could no longer travel and several had other reasons for not attending. More than half are deceased.

Of the six men, we found that four of them had military service. Two of them were bomber pilots and one was a Navy career man. One served in the Army Infantry. Two of them were farmers who eventually made a living in other occupations. Many of the deceased classmates also served in different branches of the service.

Many of the women, both present and deceased, were primarily homemakers who held jobs of various kinds. If we didn't hold jobs outside the home, we were helpmates in our husbands' occupations, especially if they farmed. Occupations outside of the home found nurses in the majority with teachers, librarians and clerical workers all represented. We seem to be a class of "doers."

We came to the conclusion that we were the last class to graduate in a sane world. Mechanization and technology, mainly because of war necessities, exploded during the 'forties. After the war and after mandatory price-fixing inflation began its climb.

Perhaps our lives at that time are best expressed by the following piece of memorabilia that came from a class member:

THAT WONDERFUL YEAR: 1940

We were before television. Before penicillin, The Pill, polio shots, antibiotics and Frisbees. Before frozen food, nylon, Dacron, Xerox, and the Kinsey Report. We were before radar, fluorescent lights, credit cards, and ballpoint pens. For us, time-sharing meant togetherness. There were no computers. A chip meant a piece of wood. Hardware meant hardware. And software wasn't even a word. In those days, bunnies were small rabbits and rabbits were not Volkswagens.

We were before Batman, Rudolph the Red nosed Reindeer, and Snoopy. Before DDT and vitamin pills, disposable diapers, Jeeps and the Jefferson nickel. Before Scotch Tape, M&M's, the automatic shift, and the Lincoln Continentals.

Pizzas, Cheerios, frozen orange juice, instant coffee and McDonald's were unheard of. We thought "fast food" was what you ate during Lent. We were before FM radio, tape recorders, electric typewriters, word processors, and disco dancing. We were before pantyhose and drip-dry clothes. Before ice makers and dishwashers, clothes dryers, freezers and electric blankets. Before men wore long hair and ear rings and women wore tuxedos. We got married first and then lived together!

In our day, cigarette smoking was fashionable, grass got mowed, Coke was something you drank, and pot was something you cooked in.

We were before coin vending machines, jet planes, helicopters, and interstate highways. In 1940 "Made in Japan" usually meant junk, and the term "making out" referred to how well you did in school.

There were 5- and 10¢ stores where you could buy things for five and ten cents! For a nickel you could make a phone call, buy a Coke or enough stamps to mail one letter and two postcards. You could buy a new Chevrolet coupe for \$600, but few could afford one. Too bad – because gas was 11¢ per gallon.

We were not before the difference between the sexes was discovered, but we were before sex changes. We just made do with what we had.

Aren't reunions wonderful!?!?!

Lumbering - A Way of Life at Pardee

The booklet entitled "Lumbering - A Way of Life At Pardee 1886 - 1903" is now available from the author, Jonathan Bastian. The 34 page booklet explores the history of the village and the lumbering operation that took place there during the late 1800's and early 1900's. Included are maps and photographs of Pardee and the site of the lumber mill. A donation of \$4.00, plus \$3.50 shipping and handling per copy is requested to cover expenses.

Those interested in purchasing a copy of this interesting and informative publication should address your request to the following address: Jonathan Bastian, 393 Oil Well Road, Mifflinburg, PA 17844. If you have any questions you can also contact Jonathan at 570.966.6009 or you can email him at: jdbastian@dejazzd.com

LUMBERING - A WAY OF LIFE
AT PARDEE
1886 - 1903

Jonathan Bastian





Millmont Cemetery Stone?

The headstone shown on the left was recently discovered during a remodeling project undertaken at the home of Ron Koonsman Jr. and his wife, Ann, of Millmont. In the process of removing the enclosed porch attached to their Third Street home, they found the white marble stone lying on the ground. The headstone bares the following inscription:

Sallie A. daughter of Wm. & Mary M Hughes
Died Oct. 20, 1862 Aged 1Y. 11M. & 17 D.

According to Millmont resident Gordon “Butch” Libby, the headstone was placed beneath the porch many years ago by the late Ray Koonsman. Ray and his wife, Ethel, owned the Third Street property from 1941 until 1975. Ronald Koonsman Jr., the current owner of that property, is the great grandson of Ray & Ethel Koonsman.

Libby recalled Ray Koonsman showing him the headstone many years ago, and explaining the story behind it. The stone was believed to have come from the cemetery that was located in a field at the northwest corner of Millmont. This cemetery, also known as the “Yoder Cemetery” was located on property now owned by Donald and Doris Wilson. Although all traces of this cemetery have disappeared, the remains of some of this areas first settlers are interred in this unmarked cemetery.

In his writings, the late R.V. B. Lincoln recorded some of the headstones in that cemetery bore dates as early as 1794. Lincoln, who visited the cemetery circa 1885, noted in his writing that no burials had taken place in the cemetery during the previous 50 years, and that all of the headstones were made from reddish sandstone, not marble, and that many of the stones were broken and most were unmarked. The headstone pictured above is made of white marble, which adds even more mystic to its existence.

The cemetery had been in a state of disrepair for more than a half century when the landowner, Rev. J. W. Yeisley, consented to having all of the headstones removed so the remaining portion of the cemetery could be cultivated. Some of those stones were discarded in a nearby fencerow, with little regard for the deceased. Many years ago Ray Koonsman retrieved the headstone of Sallie Hughes and placed it beneath his porch. Because of the renovation project, the young girl’s existence has once again been brought to light.

Sallie Hughes never saw her second birthday. What was the cause of her death? Did she have brothers and sisters? Did her family remain in this area or did they migrate west like many other early settlers? These are questions that will most likely never be answered. The name “Hughes” is not a common name in this section of the west end, so it is unlikely that a relative to the little girl will ever be found. In the event that a relative can be found, Ronald and Ann Koonsman would be happy to present the headstone to anyone connected to the family.



Salem School Class of 1926 - 1927

The Salem School class photograph to the left is courtesy of David W. Diehl. The teacher, Melvin Adams stands behind his class of 15 students.

Left to right, those students include:
Front row - Margaret (Boney) Yarger, Helen (Rudy) Englehart, and Marie (Boney) Sparks.

Second row: Floyd Moll, Kenneth Englehart, Dale Englehart, George Willow, Shreman Kreisher, and James Reamer.

Back row: Clyde Englehart, Grace (Rudy) Englehart, Edna Brillhart, Russell _____, David Diehl, and Donald Willow.

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it. Proverbs 22:6

Recipe of the Month

By Janice (Dorman) Shively

Great-Grammy Sheesley's Bread and Butter Pickle Recipe

8 C. peeled & thinly sliced cucumbers
2 C. thinly sliced onions
2 T. salt
2 C. vinegar
3 C. sugar
1 tsp. allspice
2 tsp. celery seed
2 tsp. turmeric

Sprinkle the cucumbers and onions with salt to get the juices started and let stand for 20 – 30 minutes. Squeeze out the juice and put cucumbers and onions in kettle. Add remaining ingredients and boil for 20 minutes or until soft. Put into jars and process. Makes 3-½ pints.

This recipe came to me as a bridal shower gift from my Mom. I enjoy canning fresh vegetables from the garden, and my Mom knew that canning recipes from my Great Grandmothers and Grandmothers would be cherished gifts.

I remember my Great Grammy Sheesley. She was born Elsie Minerva Trutt, daughter of Elias and Sarah Boyer Trutt on May 13, 1889. A lifetime resident of Hartleton, she married Reuben Albert Sheesley in 1906. He passed away in 1960.

Great Grammy had 12 children. My Grandmother, Miriam VonNeida was one of them. Great Grammy lived with my Grandparents until her passing on December 17, 1982. I have many fond memories of visiting with my Gram and Pap VonNeida, and Great Grammy Sheesley.

While I don't remember my Great Grammy Sheesley preparing her bread and butter pickle recipe, I've been enjoying it all of my life. This is the recipe that my mother has prepared for years. I recently prepared this recipe using the first crop of cucumbers from our garden. My mother assures me that they taste just like her Grammy Sheesley's bread and butter pickles.

**I like to eat these bread and butter pickles on burgers, hot dogs, fried potatoes, and I also add it to my chicken salad!

ENJOY!



Millmont Covered Bridge Update

Many friends and admirers of the Millmont Covered Bridge have been eagerly awaiting the rehabilitation of the beloved landmark just west of town. In June 2002, Union County Commissioners announced their success in obtaining 1.3 million dollars in federal funding that was to be earmarked for the restoration of the 157 foot structure. Repairs were to begin in the spring of 2005 that would eventually allow the guard rails and "Bridge Closed" signs removed from both entrances. Those who have been waiting and watching for signs of progress have been sorely disappointed.

County Engineer, Shawn Sassman, indicated recently that because there is federal money involved in the grant to fix the bridge, PennDOT needs to provide results from an archaeological and environmental study at the bridge's location. At the request of Sassman, the Commissioners drafted a letter to the Department of Transportation requesting a speedy resolution to the matter.

A recent conversation with William Haas, Chairman Commissioner, revealed that final design and specifications will begin as soon as all of the environmental and archeological studies have been completed. It was his desire to have the bridge restored by the autumn of 2006.

Vandalism to the bridge, including holes drilled through the floor and siding broken off and removed, is becoming increasingly apparent. The unsightly graffiti that disgraces the interior of this county landmark is shameful. It is thought that once repairs are made, and traffic is once again allowed to pass through the bridge, the individuals responsible for committing the acts of vandalism will be deterred.

If you are interested in seeing this landmark preserved for future generations, please be sure to pass along your views to any or all of the Union County Commissioners at one of the following telephone numbers:

524.8636, 524.8638, or
524.8640.



Vandalism at the Millmont Covered Bridge

Penlines From my Kitchen to Yours

By Lucy Hoover

June 22, 2005

Services were held at Mt. View Church to ordain a deacon to fill the vacancy of Deacon Weaver Zimmerman, who died three months ago. There were nine candidates. Our new deacon and his wife are, Earl and Mary Martin of Mifflinburg. They have a family of four children. :The lot is cast into the lap; but the whole disposing thereof is of the Lord." Proverbs 16:33.

June 23, 2005

Special services were held at Vicksburg church this forenoon for visiting ministers from Canada and Kentucky.

June 24, 2005

Loren Martin (18), son of Mervin and Annetta Martin of Mifflinburg, fell while picking cherries.

July 2, 2005

Late in the evening, brother Merle Hoover (18) of Lewisburg, was at Poe Valley State Park with two of his friends. As they were walking on the path along the lake, Merle decided to take a shortcut down a very steep grassy slope to where his truck was parked. It was dark, and there were rocks on the slope. He lost his balance, causing him to fall down over a six foot stone wall that is near the outlet of the dam. He suffered numerous injuries and was taken to Mt. Nittany Medical Center in Centre County.

July 3, 2005

Early this morning Merle Hoover was taken by Life Flight from Mt. Nittany Medical Center to Hershey Medical Center. He was admitted to the I.C.U. where he was in critical condition.

Curvin and I went with a friend to visit with Brian Peachy for a couple of hours. He is still at Cresson.

"Though no one can go back, and make a brand new start,

Anyone can start from now, and make a brand new end."

July 4, 2005

We went to see Merle Hoover at Hershey. This afternoon he squeezed the nurses hand when she told him to.

July 5, 2005

It is wonderful to have rain again!

July 9, 2005

Curvin and I and Mom Hoover spent the day at Hershey with Merle. He had a MRI today.

Derick Martin, 19-month old son of Mervin Ray and Ruth Martin of Mifflinburg is wearing a cast on his leg.

Amy Martin (13) daughter of Floyd and Katie Martin of Mifflinburg, remains in the hospital at Pittsburg. She has been there since April.

Allen Hoover Sr. of Mifflinburg was taken to the Evan Hospital.

July 10, 2005

Deacon Titus Stauffer's of Iowa were at Vicksburg church today, plus a lot of other visitors.

July 12, 2005

Merle Hoover was moved out of the intensive care unit after being in for ten days.

July 13, 2005

Allen Hoover Sr. came home from the Williamsport Hospital.

Luke and Kathryn Shirk and children of Iowa are in our area for a few days. We are all invited to the Hoover's for a family gathering tomorrow.

Looking Back

This article was originally published in one of the local newspapers in August, 1880. This clipping was among those preserved by the late Jennie (Bingaman) Moyer, and provided to me courtesy of Jean (Moyer) Hostrander of South Williamsport. It is copied here verbatim.

Family Reunion and Picnic at Mr. And Mrs. Wm. Hoffman's near Hartleton,
Saturday Aug. 7, 1880.

The sun rose in her majestic beauty, while not a cloud bedecked the sky. We doubtless all enjoyed the pure and refreshing air as we were wending our way home (home that most blessed spot on earth), anxious parents anticipating a happy reunion. The gate was opened to admit sevens sons and three daughters, with their wives, husbands, and children. Forty-seven have arrived. (Two grand children, their husbands, and one great-grandchild absent.) Among those present were masons, carpenters, farmers and tinnners. First in order, when meeting and greeting was over, the barn doors were thrown open and the barn floor selected as a good and substantial foundation for the setting of the table, while the hammer and saw of the carpenter were heard in preparing table and benches, the farmers being busy in unloading baskets and boxes and storing them on the barn floor. The tinnners, too, were busy in arranging, in proper order, their luxuries on the table; however, their skill was better exhibited a few moments later, in the packing of pies and cakes. It would be incredible to tell the number packed in so short a time. Nevertheless, all seemed happy and enjoyed the dinner, as the table exhibited a wonderful production of the field, garden and tree. For abundant vegetation we desire ever to be grateful, when all were filled with joy and especially dinner. Father expressed his gratitude to an allwise providence for His kind care over us as a family, and to his children for bringing their families to enjoy the day with them. Mother's joy was manifested in her countenance by that same quiet, kind look she was wont to have when we were boys and girls at home together. But all things earthly must have an end. The parting came, and as we say farewell, we hear the words "come often." A few more days - it can't be long - earth may part us; but thanks, Heaven may unite us.

E.

Public meetings to be held in the Lewis Township Municipal Building

- ▶ Municipal Authority of Lewis Township, the first Tuesday of the month, beginning at 8:00 p. m.
- ▶ Lewis Township Board of Supervisors, the second Tuesday of the month beginning at 7:30 p. m.
- ▶ Lewis Township Village Green Recreation Association.

Please include a note to your readers that the American Red Cross will be holding a blood drive on Monday, September 26 at First Lutheran Church in Mifflinburg from 1-7:00 pm. We hope that all eligible area residents will take an hour to give the gift of life. Blood donors must be at least 17 years old, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in general good health. For information on health or eligibility requirements, please call 1.800.432.8045 extension 2154, or the local Red Cross office at 524-0400.

Bible Quiz

Catherine Martin, 1050 Millmont Road, Millmont, PA 17845, was the winner of the July Bible Quiz. As a result she won \$10. The answer to the July Bible quiz was "Obadiah" was the shortest book in the Old Testament.

The anonymous benefactor who is responsible for the Bible Quiz would like to thank the following entrants for their participation: Judith Martin, Denise Hoover, Hazel Erdley, Mary Kahl, Amber Rishel, Dana Hoover, Millmont Methodist Youth Group, Kenneth Lepley, Anna Mae Martin, and Sharon Page.

The Bible Quiz Question for August is courtesy of Sharon Page of Ramer, TN. Where in the Bible is a "ferry boat" mentioned? Send your answer to: Bible Quiz, P. O. Box 21, Millmont PA 17845. Please have your answer submitted by the 20th of the month.

Thank You!

I would like to thank the following people for making donations toward the publication of this newsletter: Ray and Margie Bowersox, Woodlake, Texas; Faye Lyons, Mifflinburg; Norman & Kathleen Strickler, Millmont; Bob & Jeanne Jolly, Weikert; Clarence R. Aikey, Sebastian, Florida; and Lulu Hoffman, Millmont.

The following people have agreed to accept this newsletter over the Internet as a PDF, thereby allowing me to reduce the monthly expenses associated with printing and mailing this publication: Dennis Heims; Mike Lynch, Mifflinburg; William and Dianne (Mitchell) Martin, Staten Island, New York; Scott and Debbie Sanders, Mifflinburg; and the History Center of Richfield, PA (Sponsored by the Juniata District Mennonite Churches). Anyone interested in signing up to receive a free color version of the newsletter each month is encouraged to contact: millmonttimes@dejazzd.com

I would also like to thank the following new mail subscribers: Bob and Jeanne Jolly, Weikert; Mazie Stahl, Millmont, PA; and Mr. & Mrs. Miles Delcamp, Mifflinburg.

Thanks also to all those who renewed their subscriptions for an additional year. Your support is what helps to make this newsletter possible, and is greatly appreciated!!

Thanks to Alma (Eberhart) Heimbach for donating a copy of the history of The Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren published by the late Rev. Greene Shively in 1939, Wayne and Nancy Shively for donating a spiral bound copy of Then & Now, published by the Rev. Greene Shively, and a packet of sample calendars from the Rex Company of Millmont, Delphia Shirk for providing me with copies of some old West End Fair Association booklets, Kenneth Groff, Charm, Ohio for donating a recent edition of the Sugar Creek Budget, Marvin Engelhart for donating a copy of a poem entitled "The Old Shively Sugar Camp" by Rev. Greene Shively, Ralph Dorman for loaning me a book of topographical maps, Sandra Winegardner for loaning me a number of early Union County Heritage and New Berlin Heritage books, Susan Epley, Director of the West End Library, and Cindy Shively for their assistance in obtaining the book entitled "Penns Woods 1682 - 1982" from the Dillsburg Library through an interlibrary loan program, and Edgar Shively for allowing me to make copies of two old school photographs with Frank Stout as the teacher. Thanks to Paul and Jane (Ely) Foster of Mechanicsburg for donating several items of historical interest including the "History of the Forefathers of John Dale II", the "History of the Hartleton Lutheran Pastoral Charge", published in 1943, a children's assignment from the Pike School dated 1932, a booklet pertaining to the Golden Anniversary of the Glen Iron Wesleyan Church 1918 - 1968, and the 1926 Lewis Township High School Senior Class Will. Thanks also to Linda Fox of Millmont for donating 4-H scrapbooks that belonged to her mother, the late Evelyn Fox. The scrapbooks pertained to the Hartleton and Pleasant Grove 4-H Clubs, and included numerous newspaper clippings and photographs of activities they participated in during the 1950's.

From the diary of the late Elder Greene Shively (1870 - 1954), a resident of Millmont from 1918 until his death:

Monday August 22, 1932. Clear. A party from Millmont went deep sea fishing, so I decided to go along. James Catherman, Edmund, and I started this morning and arrived about 2 o'clock. Went out to see the city.

Tuesday August 23, 1932. We went on a fishing trip. There were about 20 in our party. We met at Cape May and went out on a boat called Captain Johnson. There were nearly 100 on the boat, too many to fish for sure. Edmund, myself, and Ken caught 10. I caught 9. Luther Yarger caught most of any, 23. We arrived home about 10 o'clock. Those who were along were J. Snook, Luther Yarger, Mr. & Mrs. Fred Showalter, Mr. & Mrs. Edmund Shively, Dr. & Mrs. Forrest Showalter, Abraham Grove, Clayton Hackenburg, Harold Eberhart, Harold Catherman, Ernest Printzenhoff, Earl Shirk, Arthur Surd, Owen Steese, Peter Knepp, Daniel Pick, Elmer Boop & son Donald, Andy Kelly & son Don, Theodore Shuck, Joe Hassinger, Kenneth Shively, Aaron Hassinger, and Cyrus Eberhart.

Lewis Township News

Municipal Authority of Lewis Township: The regular meeting of the Municipal Authority of Lewis Township was held on July 5, 2005, 8:00 PM at the Lewis Township Municipal Building, Millmont. The following, being members of the board of authority named in the articles of incorporation, were present: Jim Sanders, Renda Shively and Marge Schmader. Also present were Solicitor Melissa Lobos, Plant Manager Walt Scholl and HRG Rep. Rob Rowe.

The minutes from the May meeting were approved as printed. There were no minutes from June to approve; there wasn't a meeting because of no quorum. The treasurer's report was given. The checking account balance for June was \$11,794.47 and \$96,637.69 in CDs and \$13,867.31 in checking and \$96,637.69 in CDs for July and were approved and filed for audit.

Marge made a motion to pay the bills and Renda seconded it – so moved

HEARING OF VISITORS: No visitors

CORRESPONDENCE: Received a thank you to Jim from HRG for answering a Client Survey.

The audit was received from our auditor, Douglas Parker and is on file. Marge made a motion to pay the auditor and Renda seconded it - so moved.

Cover letters were sent along with copies of our audit to DCED and Twp. Supervisors.

A cover letter was sent to Mifflinburg Telegraph along with a copy of our financial statement to be put in their paper.

The Housing Authority of Union Co. requested the current rate of our sewer service, which was sent to them.

Two letters were received from DEP. The first letter stated they received our Wasteload Mgmt. report and that it appeared to be complete and accurate. And the other letter stated that we were in violation because we didn't let DEP know about the flood affecting our plant.

We finally received a proposal for the cost of an audit for our authority (very late) from Patricia Young, CPA. It was higher than Douglas Parker's bid.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Rob had nothing to report. He stated that all is "smooth sailing" at plant.

PLANT OPERATOR UPDATE: Walt reported that the plant is in "good shape." There is a little more work to do on marshes and meadows. Four of them are cleaned out and the vegetation is growing. The discharges are cleaned out. A groundhog chewed holes in the liner and will need to be repaired. Ammonias were good and no West Nile virus was detected.

OLD BUSINESS: Delinquent accounts were addressed.

Melissa stated that Walt should make a list of priorities for things that need to be done at the plant so that when the contract from the block grant comes in we are ready to let them know what we need. Rob will get specs for a computer for next meeting.

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

Letters and Emails to the Editor

hello down there.....this is a great issue for me.....

I lived in Laurelton for 2 years of my childhood and Amelia Schnure was my enormously memorable first grade teacher as well as my Sunday School teacheralso she had been the schoolteacher of my mother and all my Johnson aunts and uncles...decades later my mother took me to visit Mrs. Schnure in the nursing home and I was astounded that she remembered my name and could tell detailed stories about everyone in my first grade class.....

also my Johnson relatives had participated in the life at "Tight End" for a few generations before moving into Laurelton so my mother who had been born above Weikert near Cherry Run, made sure we went to see the foundations of what had been Pardee when we were going to my grandfather's little cabin on Cherry Run or just driving around "God's Country".... another terrific issue...thanks....Katharine Kreisher Oneonta, NY

Tony,

I enjoyed the article about my first grade teacher - Mrs. Schnure!! Thanks.

Harry Mensch, Harvest AL

Tony, I should have ordered this years ago instead of reading Emilie's! I am still researching Allen S. Jolly, but could do an article later. Would you be interested in an article on how Weikert got its name? Thanks again. Jeanne Jolly, Weikert, PA

Dear Tony & Janice, Enclosed is a check to renew my subscription to The Millmont Times. I would also like a gift subscription sent to Mr. & Mrs. Miles Delcamp, Mifflinburg, Pa. Any balance will be a donation to a wonderful paper. The Times just keeps getting better. Stay well and keep up the good work.

Lulu Hoffman, Millmont, PA

The small photograph in the upper left hand corner of page one shows the former Hartley Township High School, in Laurelton, circa 1909.

What's Happening at the 4-Bell Lutheran Church - Courtesy of Shirley Kerstetter

Members of the Christ Lutheran Church encourage everyone to visit their food stand during the week of the Union County West End Fair (August 1-6). Weekday specials are as follows: Monday - Barbecue platter and baked ham. Tuesday - Roast beef and Turkey dinners. Wednesday - Smoked ham and Turkey dinner. Thursday - Pot pie and Turkey dinners. Friday - Pork & Sauerkraut, Roast pork, and Turkey dinners. Saturday - Roast beef and Turkey dinners. The cost of an adult dinner is \$7.00, while a child's dinners is priced at \$4.00. Also being served daily will be ham sandwiches - \$2.25, homemade pie at \$1.50 per slice, and homemade baked beans 75 cents. Take out meals are available.

Meals and prices subject to change.

August Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------|
| 1—Mae (Kuhns) Sullivan | 14 – Tom Catherman |
| 2 – Pat Kline | 16 – Kyle Failor |
| 2 – James C. Catherman | 16 – Pearl Gower |
| 3 – Chris Bilger | 17 – Levi Brubaker |
| 3 – Brandon Bilger | 20 – Glenda Murphy |
| 3 – Sean Klingman | 20 – Henry Dorman |
| 5 – Sandra Winegardner | 22 – Sue Blyler |
| 5 – Alta Z. Oberholtzer | 22 – Kyla Mattern |
| 7 – Kim Blyler | 24 - Grace Kuhns |
| 7 – Carol Martin | 24 – Tom Guyer |
| 7 – Carolyn Catherman | 24 – Lois Feaster |
| 9 – Mary Ella Martin | 24 – Brenda Klingman |
| 10 – Angie Dorman | 28 – Menno Zimmerman |
| 11 – Jeff Erdley | 29 – Ralph Kuhns |
| 12 – Betty Zechman | |

The Millmont Times is distributed during the first week of each month, and is available through mail subscription, the Internet, and over the counter at Dormans Country Store in Hartleton. Mail subscriptions are \$10 per year (12 issues). Internet subscriptions are available **FREE** to those who would like to receive the newsletter as a PDF each month. Adobe Acrobat Reader is required.

Please contact the address below if you are interested in subscribing, making a donation, submitting a story or article for publication, sending a gift subscription, changing your address, providing me with your email address, or contacting the editor and publisher. So that your material can be included in the next issue, please be sure to submit your information or photos prior to the 20th of the month.

The Millmont Times
Post Office Box 3, Millmont PA 17845
Telephone: (570) 922.4297 or E-mail:
millmonttimes@dejazzd.com

- | | | |
|-------------|---------------------------|------------------------------|
| 14-Aug-1947 | Paul and Betty Long | Happy
Anniversary |
| 7-Aug-1952 | George & Helen Wert | |
| 23-Aug-1952 | Earl & Ruth (Kuhns) Deetz | |
| 12-Aug-1962 | Ken and Bev Catherman | |
| 20-Aug-1966 | Dennis & Lena Susan | |

Change of Address

If your mailing or Internet address is changing, please let me know in advance so that I can make the necessary changes. Thank You.

The Millmont Times

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