



The Millmont Times

JANUARY 2005

African-Americans in Hartley Township: Slave and Free

By Jeannette Lasansky

For the last three years the Union County Historical Society has been conducting a research effort on the slaves and slave holders in Union County. The effort was begun with the accepted bequest of the Samuel Dale 1793 limestone farm house in Buffalo Township. It was known through references in Linn's *Annals* that Dale owned a slave named Dinah when he died. This compelled us to understand the historical context and I began searching for other slave holders. Before long I was joined by others with interest in the topic. Sam Alcorn, Dick Smith, Kate Hastings, courthouse staff member Elaine Wintjen, Andrea Bashore, and others from the Northumberland County Historical Society began to meet periodically to report of their findings in searching area newspapers, tax assessments, census records, diaries, and previously published works for reference to slaves, the underground railroad, and other local African-American references. In the summer of 2004 two college students: David Bell and Erin Henson joined our effort by looking for free African-American households in Hartley and Union townships where we had found them concentrated at iron furnaces. Business ledgers in the Society's collection were among the resources used.

This article will report on our findings to date in Hartley Township but first a brief overview of what we found about slavery in Pennsylvania and in Union County (comprised of present Union and Snyder counties until the split of 1855).

During the colonial period, Pennsylvania did allow permit slave trade and slave holding. Slavery was also allowed in Massachusetts (which included Maine at the time), but neither Massachusetts nor Vermont had any slaves by the first federal census in 1790. New Hampshire, Connecticut and Rhode Island then had slave populations of .10%, 1.2%, and 1.4% respectively. In contrast, New Jersey had 6.2 % and New York had 6.27% while Pennsylvania had .86% of its inhabitants as slaves. These percentages are small when compared to southern states, which generally had a quarter to more than a third of their populations held in bondage.

With the exception of Rhode Island, slave holding in New England and most Middle Atlantic colonies generally meant one or two slaves per slaveholder. That was so in Union County where, with the exception of seven families who had from 3-6 slaves each, 74 families had one or two "family slaves." Family slaves are defined by historians as living in the house with the families who owned them.

Until 1725, Pennsylvania law gave slaves the same rights as their owners and all other people. Slave or free, people were tried in the same courts at that time in Pennsylvania. Though slaves often attended the same churches they were not buried in the same cemeteries however—more often in the owner's orchard or at the edge of the woods. They were human property, not free or with a prospect of freedom as white indentured servants, who received

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Millmont Mailbox by Postmaster Sam Smith

I hope everyone had a Merry Christmas! We had a very busy holiday season at the Millmont Post Office once again. I would like to thank everyone who mailed their cards and packages early; it helped to make the operation run smoothly. I think that we delivered more packages this year than in any other holiday season, just ask Randy or Tom! Many people are finding it much more time conserving and economical, considering gas prices, to shop from home. Another way to make delivery easier is to make sure the approaches to mailboxes are clear of snow and ice.

Many people have asked when stamps are going up in price. As of yet, no date has been announced. We have to apply in order to raise rates, which takes many months for approval. Unlike gas companies, who seem to raise prices daily! The Post Office seems to be criticized more for raising postage a couple of cents after YEARS of steady prices, than gas companies do! Rising gasoline costs are one of the main reasons for our need to raise prices. Just something to think about!

I will be busy on Saturday, January 15, 2005 as my annual sports card show will be held at the Shikellamy High School. (See ad in this paper.) I hope to see many of you there! The Post Office will be closed Monday January 17th, 2005 in honor of Martin Luther King Day.

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their freedom after a prescribed time, as well as those who benefited from other owner obligations regarding education and "a good start." 1725 was a pivotal year, which set back owner/slave relations in Pennsylvania. A law was enacted then that established a separate court system based on race and required the posting of a 30 pound bond by those who wanted to free their slaves thus making it more difficult. By this time a movement to abolish the slave trade, then slavery, was well underway among Quakers who started preaching abolition among their own, holding vehemently to the phrase "do unto others as you would have done unto you."

The early German population of Pennsylvania, by in large, found slavery antithetical to their work ethic of self-sufficiency. The percentage of slaveholders among the German population in Pennsylvania was consistently and significantly smaller than among their English neighbors. Where statistics are available in Lancaster, York, and Berks counties, 8-1.6% of the Pennsylvania-German population owned slaves as compared to 3-5% of their English neighbors. This was seen in Union County as well with only a few of the slaveholding families having Germanic-sounding names: Swisser, Crusser, Derr, and Kline.

The first formal protest against slavery in North America was held in 1688 in Germantown, an area north of Philadelphia settled by German Quakers. The Quakers over time became quite united in their opposition to slavery and in 1758 their church declared that Quaker slaveholders who persisted in the practice would be read out of meeting. The Quakers and others began bringing up the issue before the Pennsylvania Assembly. Eventually, Pennsylvania, along with Massachusetts, passed an abolition law in 1780, near the close of the Revolutionary War and, as a local legislator, Union Countian Samuel Dale voted for it. Abolition (gradual or otherwise) statutes were passed subsequently by Connecticut and Rhode Island in 1784, New Hampshire in 1788, New York in 1799, and last, New Jersey in 1804.

Like the other state abolition laws, Pennsylvania did not immediately free slaves nor children born to slaves but rather, held out the promise of freedom at a definite time along with a suit of clothes, much like the white indentured servants. The economy of holding slave labor had prevailed to a certain extent even with the "abolition" laws. Human bondage was allowed to work itself out of the system albeit slowly. Slave holding for some was convenient even when they felt it was morally repugnant. Children born to slaves were required to work as slaves until they were twenty eight years old.

In 1790, 48 Union County families owned 88 slaves; in 1800, 25 Union County families owned 31 slaves. And in 1810-1840 usually three Union County families held a slave.

Another major factor in understanding the atmosphere, especially for free or runaway African-Americans, especially in an area like Hartley Township—with most being free—were the two federal "property" taxes passed in 1793 and 1850, not long before the Civil War. Both were meant to reinforce the rights of slave owners to seize their "property" in states that were considered free or were working their way gradually to that position. The second law in 1850 was more onerous than the first in that it held accountable by severe punishment those who aided and abetted the movement of African-Americans in any way. Many risked their lives and homes to be part of the network called "the underground railroad." Historians now feel that as many free blacks as well as those on the run were living in the more remote sections of Pennsylvania, sometimes living there for decades, rather than being in more urban areas where abolitionist support was obvious. Many did not seek to go all the way to Canada where they could be truly free. In any case, vigilance was always the operative word because

Black History Month Programs, sponsored by the Union County Historical Society

February 6th 1 PM and 4 PM at the Dale/Engle Walker house: two separate presentations by researcher and author, Jeannette Lasansky "Slavery in Union County Set Within Context of the Northeast" and each talk followed by a tour of the 1793 kitchen where Dinah worked for the Dale family

February 13th 2 PM at the Lewisburg High School Auditorium: one presentation by African-American author Juanita Patience Moss "African-American Soldiers in White Civil War Regiments" followed by book sale and signing; program co-sponsored with the local chapter of the Civil War Round Table

February 20th 2 PM at the Dale/Engle/Walker house; one presentation by Susquehanna University Professor Kate Hastings "Near but Different: the African-American Communities in Milton and Union County in the 19th and 20th Centuries"; advance reservation advised and limited to 40 persons; call 524-8666 to secure a reservation

February 27th 1 and 4 PM showings of critically acclaimed "Safe Harbor." a recent DVD about the Underground Railroad in Pennsylvania at the Dale/Engle/Walker house; reservations required and limited to 30 per showing; call 524-8666. NOTE: The Dale/Engle/Walker house is located off Strawberry Road off of Route 192, west of Lewisburg.

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BIRD TALK

By Jim McCormick

“A cold, but pleasant, walk on Christmas morn.” The ice is just starting to form on Penns Creek, the Winter Solstice has come and gone, and winter has come to stay for a while. The hours of daylight are ever so slowly starting to lengthen—imperceptibly at first, yet happening all the same. We have been lucky so far; all the snowstorms have passed us by.

Christmas Eve day was quite windy; on my walk that day I saw only two birds. A Ring-necked Pheasant hen flew up on the south edge of town. She must have been resting right by the edge of the road—she scared me as much as I must have scared her! The other bird was a shivering little Tree Sparrow, hiding in a bush. It’s a good thing the annual Christmas Bird Count wasn’t on that windy, cold day; birds stay close to the ground when it gets windy. Christmas Day was just as cold, but the wind had died down. It was a beautiful, still morning; hardly anyone was out as I made my rounds. It was completely different from the day before--it was a real ‘bird day’.

I heard a Nuthatch just outside my window before I even stepped out the door. The Starlings were perched in clusters at the top of the trees along Maple Street. As I reached the bridge on Penns Creek, I saw a little bird busily flitting from branch to branch. It just wouldn’t stay in one place long enough for me to get a good look at it. It must have been a little Kinglet of some kind. Walking along the creek in the shadow of the mountain, I felt cold and the air was damp, but as I reached the Kahler’s, the sun was just clearing the ridge and I could see the Covered Bridge in the distance through the trees. It looked so beautiful and bright; its red color in stark contrast to the grays and browns of the barren trees. Near the western end of Canada Drive I noticed a flock of Juncos along the edge of the road. They were flying back and forth across the road as I approached. There must have been twenty or thirty, flying from the roadside to the cornfield and back again into the thickets along Cooks Run. It’s funny, but birds tend to feed in groups. I mean different species of birds all feeding in the same area, at the same time. So for that day the ‘feeding ground’ was in that spot. There were Titmice, Chickadees, Downy Woodpeckers, Nuthatches, Cardinals, and Blue Jays, all congregated in one place. One bird missing was the Brown Creeper. I have seen them, but only rarely. They could be heading up the trunk of the tree, as the Nuthatches are heading down. As I turned towards the Covered Bridge, a Yellow-shafted Northern Flicker flew overhead; flying in its characteristic, undulating way. Along Shirk Road, there were more Blue Jays, seemingly in every tree, but unusually quiet. Farther down the road there was a White-headed Sparrow in a shrub on the hill above me, and a Mockingbird in a tree nearby. The Mockingbird, too, was quiet for now. Heading up Davis Road, I could hear a Carolina Wren in the distance. I was thinking I hadn’t seen any Red-tailed hawks, but there in a tree high on the hill were two, sitting, waiting patiently for the thermals to form. Crows were cawing, as I reached the top of the hill. Approaching Millmont I saw a Red-bellied Woodpecker on the trunk of a dead tree. A group of Mallards took off, quacking and squawking. Nearing town, I realized I hadn’t seen any House Sparrows, but then I heard the gossipy chatter of a group of them in the bush along Cold Run, and saw another group by the bridge. I hadn’t seen a Pileated Woodpecker, but I had seen one, right in Millmont, the weekend before. I now had come full-circle. All in all, it was *“a cold, but pleasant, walk on Christmas morn.”* All these birds, and more, can be seen nearly anywhere in our quiet little valley; so grab your binoculars and take it all in.



Field Notes by Union County Wildlife Conservation Officer

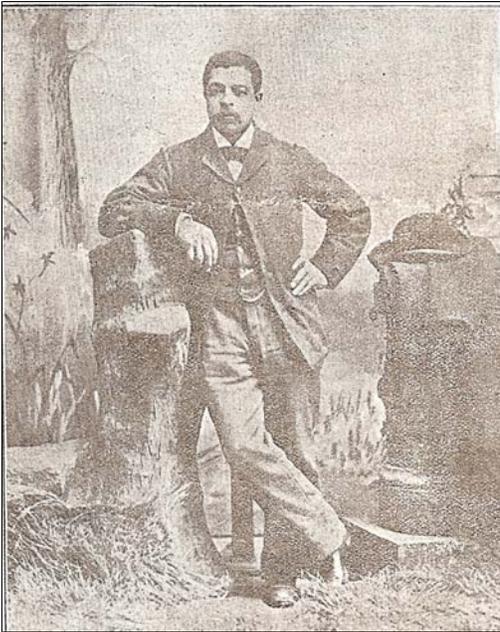
Dirk B. Remensnyder

Throughout the hunting season WCO’s normally hear all the good and bad things that the hunters have to say about the Game Commission, and with the new deer management plan in effect, most comments center around it. With Gary Alt leading the deer management plan he has probably heard it all, but just in case you didn’t Gary, here is the newest one. “You better tell Gary Alt that since he changed the deer management system he better change the deer weight tape that you guys sell because the tape won’t fit around my deer anymore.” This basic comment was relayed to me by three different hunters who harvested very large buck. Well Gary?

Editors note: We extend our best wishes to Dirk as he heads off to Iraq on January 4, 2005. He will be serving as a medic in Iraq for possibly 18 months. Our prayers are with Dirk and all American service men and women as they serve their country abroad.

The light of God surrounds me, the love of God enfolds me, the power of God protects me, the presence of God watches over me, where I am, God is -from a prayer card

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Robert S. Miller, born in Hartley Township on March 25, 1847, the son of Daniel and Margaret O'Bryant Miller. He died on March 20, 1909, and is buried in the Lincoln Chapel Cemetery.

slave catchers were not always discriminating in who they "caught" to take back to the South and many truly free blacks were taken from their own homes or those of white householders in areas like ours.

HARTLEY TOWNSHIP AFRICAN-AMERICANS 1790-1900

Farmer and early Hartley Township settler, John Glover was the only person in the township ever recorded as owning a slave. In 1810, twenty years later there was a free black in the same household. There were also free blacks living in white households but the free blacks names are not known since only the name of the head of the household was recorded prior to 1850. Those white households with free blacks in Hartley Township were:

The Joseph Emery household in 1830 included two free colored males, age 24-35. The Emery family lived in Hartley Township over a long time and was buried there;

The Henry Roush household in 1840 included one free colored male, age 10-23. Henry Roush was a person of substance, a landholder, and innkeeper for a long period of time;

The large household of Richard P. Maclay in 1840 which included one free colored male age 24-35, two free colored females under 10, one free colored female age 24-35, one free colored female age 36-55. Maclay lived in Hartleton were he had an office as state senator from 1842-44; and

The large household of John C. Wilson in 1840 which included one free colored male age 24-35, one free colored male 36-55, and one free colored female age 10-23.

The largest and most long-lasting free African-American family households in Union County lived in Hartley Township and included (in roughly chronological order):

- 1) Henry Bryson who was the first free black recorded by name in Hartley Township and listed as a cooper starting in the tax assessments from 1829 until 1841. He and his wife Nancy lived on the former R. Clark property later bought by abuttor Jacob Zimmerman. Bryson owned a cow in 1829. Some of Bryson's children were listed from time to time as poor children being supported by local tax dollars and their names were James, Lydia, Hannah, Margaret, Robert, Clares, and Sarah Bryson;
- 2) Alexander McDonald, a 24-35-year-old free black laborer, was living with four other free African-Americans including his wife and was recorded in 1830-35 and much later in the 1880 census;
- 3) The Dunlap family was listed starting in Hartley's 1836 tax assessment as well as the in the 1840, 1860, 1880, 1870, and 1900 censuses:
 - 1836 Samuel Dunlap
 - 1838-41 Daniel Dunlap was a forgerman age 35-54 and household head of six persons
 - 1860: James Dunlap age 26 and Mary Dunlap (in 1880 she was listed as white) age 32; they moved to the furnace in Union Township, Union County by 1880
 - 1880: Wesley Dunlap age 45 and wife Elizabeth age 45, Gary 24, Sarah [Jane] 20 Henry 19, Samuel 18, Louisa 16, James 14, Fran 9, and Mary 4;

(in 1900: Wesley W. Dunlap was 64 and Elizabeth 65 and living with them was granddaughter Getys age 15, Herman Graham age 5, and stepson-Philip Smith age 44

- 1900: Samuel Dunlap 38 and [Sarah] Ellen 30

Members of the Dunlap family are buried in the Long Cemetery near Lincoln Chapel:

Wesley William Dunlap 1835-1924

Elizabeth Bruce Dunlap, w/o Wesley William Dunlap 1834-1905

Samuel Wesley Dunlap 1862-1932

Sarah Ellen Dunlap, w/o Samuel Wesley Dunlap 1869-1935

Sarah Jane Dunlap, d/o Wesley & Elizabeth 1860-1915

James Elmer Dunlap, s/o Wesley & Elizabeth 1866-1902

Annie Elizabeth Dunlap, d/o Wesley & Elizabeth 1868-1948

Grant H. Dunlap, s/o Wesley & Elizabeth 1871-1906

Herman Wesley Dunlap, s/o Wesley & Elizabeth 1895- ;

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Hi Tony,

I thought that you might like to hear a story about a family of Pileated woodpeckers that we fed through the last two winters. We're hoping to see them again this winter.

We feed the birds seed and suet over the winter. We have a variety of birds on our mountain, but we had an extra Christmas present the Christmas of 2002. A family of Pileated woodpeckers came to our suet feeder on Christmas morning. We had caught glimpses of them, mostly heard them in the woods here, but they had never stopped to eat.

We got out our bird books and figured out that they were a male and a female and two juveniles. Pileated woodpeckers are the largest, (their wingspan is 25 to 30") and most spectacular of eastern woodpeckers, although they are somewhat uncommon and elusive. It's not unusual for people to live their whole lives without ever seeing one, and here we had four. They were pretty bedraggled, colors a little dull, and their feathers ruffled looking, but after a couple of weeks they looked glossy and healthy.

We had fun watching them figure out how to get to the suet in those "squirrel protected" suet feeders. It turns out the females are much more curious and figured it out much sooner. They would only eat from the feeder one at a time. They eventually figured out that when one of them was eating, some suet dropped to the ground. So the other one would back down the tree and wait on the ground to eat the suet that dropped.

We've never seen them land on the ground. They always land on the tree trunk and back down the tree. They are not very graceful on the ground. They were a hungry bunch and we had to put out a suet cake every day. After they got use to the routine, if we were late getting the suet refilled they

would fly up to the empty feeder and squawk. We fed them until April. We did see them occasionally during the summer. They came back last winter and we're hoping they come back every winter. They are a joy to watch.

We enjoy reading your newsletter so much, thank you.

Have a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Linda Swartz, Mifflinburg, PA

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4) George Ford was a laborer and head of household included eight other free blacks from 1838-44 and in 1843-44 he lived in log house with bank barn. In 1840 George Ford was 36 or older and his wife was 24-35 years old;

A James Ford marries Phebe Parks in Glen Iron at the Berlin Ironworks in 1848 as noted on the front page in *The [Lewisburg] Chronicle*. James was most likely of the George Ford family. There is no further reference to the couple;

5) Adam & Catherine Auckerman in their mid-forties were listed as free blacks in the 1850 census;

6) Robert and Sophia Miller were in their mid twenties in 1870 and he was a day laborer with a family of two including his father and a brother living with him;

7) Robert and Rachel Miller were in their mid-forties in 1880 and were listed as a farm family of five and

8) John and Charles Hamilton were listed in the 1880 census.

In another issue of the *Millmont Times* we can present more on the Miller family. Any additional information about these or other African-American families would be greatly appreciated. Please contact the author at lasansky@bucknell.edu or 524-2085.

About the author: Jeannette Lansansky, a resident of Lewisburg, has lived in Union County since the late 1960's. She has researched and published sixteen books on Pennsylvania's material culture, including: *Pieced by Mother: Over 100 years of Quilting Traditions*; *Central Pennsylvania Redware Pottery*; *Bits and Pieces: Textile Traditions*; *The History of Magic and Honeycomb*; *Willow, Oak and Rye: Basket Traditions in Pennsylvania*; *To Cut, Piece and Solder: The Work of the Rural Pennsylvania Tinsmith 1778-1908*; *Rural Delivery: Real Photo Postcards from Central Pennsylvania, 1905-1935* (co-authored with Jody Blake); and *Union County Pennsylvania, A Celebration of History* by Charles Snyder, and co-authored with John Downie, Lois Kulp, and Jeannette Lansansky, originally published in 1976, and revised and republished in 2000. Jeannette has been a long time volunteer with the Union County Historical Society. She is currently a board member, and past President.



Meanderings

by

Hertha S. Wehr

January 2005

Another year has come and gone. The holiday season is another memory. Or perhaps it isn't a total memory but more of a reality as you have leftover turkey or ham tucked away in the freezer to be used another day. And then there might be sauerkraut, pork and mashed potatoes left from New Year's Day.

I suppose we could talk about New Year's Resolutions. But then, why bother, as I don't know anyone who has kept a resolution for more than a few weeks, or even for a few days. Maybe you are the exception. If you are an exception I admire your fortitude.

Then I got to thinking about sauerkraut and the origin of the word. I think we use far more words of German, French and Italian than we ever stop to realize. You might never have studied Latin but lots of words you and I use every day have a Latin root.

Let's just explore a few words that we use and never stop to think about their origins. To get back to sauerkraut. Of course you know what it is but we're beholden to the Germans--(sauer) sour kraut (cabbage) for naming it.

The dictionary happened to lay open at the "T's" so I thought of terra--which is Latin for earth. We have terra cotta tile. The cotta comes from the Italian meaning baked. Then there is terrarium. Sure enough arium has a Latin base. I seem to recall that either General Motors or Chrysler Corporation had once manufactured an automobile called a Terraplane. That must have been a speedy auto. Or is this a figment of my imagination? My next step was to look up figment. It too has a Latin base meaning to form. Then down

the line was terrazzo, which is Italian, using the Latin base.

Next I moved onto terri. I found it was used in Old Order French adapted to Middle English, but low and behold Latin again comes into its background. Some of the other words in this category are "terrific" which can cause great fear or meaning good or fine. Odd how one word can have such different meanings.

As I continued to look at a lot of other words Latin was the prevailing root with some words having Greek roots. Of course there wasn't much surprise to find teriyaki was Japanese. Actually I learned it is a word made up of two roots "teri" meaning flame or sunshine plus "yaki" meaning to broil.

Then I came to thermometer. This one has a Greek origin. I recalled reading somewhere that mercury, the much maligned liquid formally used in all thermometers, will freeze. I cannot recall the temperature at which alcohol is substituted, perhaps somewhere around -40 degrees. Do you Alaskans know?

Then I thought of all the words we use every day which have dual meaning. Just a few: bear-an animal, carry a burden: read-cipher the written word, determine someone's mood: pitch-music savvy, sap from evergreens, throwing a ball or quoits, promote a product, angle of roof, set up a tent: drag-pull over a surface, extra long speech, an implement, a boring person: pot-cooking equipment, ante in poker, Marijuana, plant flowers, deteriorate: and the list goes on and on plus all the synonyms I haven't explored. I sometimes think learning English as a second language must be a daunting task to the learners.

I remember reading in one of Maria VonTrapp's books about her trials with English. One specific point was the way plurals are changed in some instances. "If the plural of mouse is mice, why isn't the plural of blouse pronounced blice?" See what I mean?

Perhaps as we all more or less hibernate for winter we'll want to ponder our language, and maybe learn more about it, me included.

But just because the year is ended doesn't say I want to make New Year's Resolutions for you. As for me, I want to write more notes, call more people, visit more, and sometimes just put my feet up and relax, of course with a book at hand. I might even doze off and dream a little. Wonder how long my resolutions will last.

Happy New Year

Thank You!!

I would like to thank the following people for making donations toward the publication of this newsletter: Rick & Susan Boop, Laurelton; John and Glenda Sheaffer, Mifflinburg; Evelyn Smith, Swengel; Harold Zechman, Milton; Sharon Smith, Millmont; Eleanor Koonsman, Mifflinburg; and Everett Bingaman, Millmont. Thanks also to the anonymous person who sent me a donation through the mail.

The following people have agreed to accept this newsletter over the Internet as a PDF, thus allowing me to reduce the monthly expenses associated with printing and mailing this publication. Doug & Sharon Denisen, Naples, FL and Michael Aikey, Laurelton, Kathy Boop, Millmont. Anyone interested in signing up to receive a color version of the newsletter each month at no charge is encouraged to contact: millmonttimes@dejazzd.com

I would also like to thank the following new mail subscribers: Orville Dunkleberger, Millmont; Debra Stahl, Mifflinburg; Floyd Martin, Mifflinburg; Sarah Martin, Mifflinburg, Sam Ely, Millmont; Mary Louise Wilson, Lewisburg; Harry Oberholtzer, Millmont; Elvin & Lucy Martin, Mifflinburg; Alvin & Annie Nolt, Mifflinburg; Judith Blair, Millmont; David Peachey, Mifflinburg; and Karl Eberhart, 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 as always it is greatly appreciated!!

Passage

Helen L. Susan, 81, of 100 E. Walnut St., Mifflinburg, formerly of Libby Road, Millmont, went to be with her Lord on Wednesday, December 8, 2004 at 9:55 a.m. She was born June 13, 1923, in Hartleton, a daughter of the late Charles and Mae (Bingaman) VonNeida. On November 10, 1941, she married Edward F. Susan, who preceded her in death on July 5, 2004. Helen was a 1941 graduate of Mifflinburg High School. She worked for several years at the former Friendly Nursing Home in Millmont.

Helen was a member of Millmont God's Missionary Church, where she served as a Sunday School teacher, a deaconess and a custodian, as well as singing in the church.

The great joy of her life was her family, and she especially loved family gatherings. She enjoyed reading and was an excellent cook.

Surviving are one daughter and son-in-law, Frances M. and Robert Stroup of Mifflinburg; five sons and daughters-in-law, Dennis E. and Lena Susan, Samuel C. and Carolyn Susan, and Thomas P. and Drema Susan, all of Mifflinburg, James F. and Diane Susan of Penns Creek, and Edward M. and Mary Margaret Susan of Pottersdale. She is also survived by 21 grandchildren, 15 great-grandchildren, and one brother, the Rev. Richard VonNeida of Millmont.

In addition to her husband, she was preceded in death by two grandchildren in infancy; one sister, Marguerite Wilt; and four brothers, Earl, Harry, John, and Charles Jr. VonNeida.

Services were held at Millmont God's Missionary Church, Turnpike Road, Millmont with Rev. Paul W. Clough, and her brother, Rev. Richard VonNeida officiating. Burial was in the Hartleton Cemetery, Hartleton.

On a personal note, both Tony and I enjoyed the visits we had with Great-Aunt Helen and Great-Uncle Ed. We particularly count it a privilege that we were able to enjoy time with Aunt Helen, and with her brother, Uncle Dick, on the Friday evening that Helen was stricken ill. Our time spent with them was a true blessing. I'll always remember Aunt Helen for her beautiful, contagious smile, her laugh, and her soft-spoken voice. She shared her faith with me many times; she was not shy about that at all. We even discussed heaven over dinner that Friday evening. Little did any of us know that Aunt Helen's trip "home" was so near. Our sympathy's are extended to the Susan children and their spouses, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, and to Uncle Dick.



Chad Cooper

Sports Card & Collectable Toy Show

Benefit—Shikellamy Marching Braves
Saturday January 1, 2005
9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

Shikellamy High School Cafeteria
Sunbury, PA

Admission \$1.00—Refreshments available
Chad Cooper, of Hughesville, a Tampa Bay Devil Ray prospect, along with Nate Messner of Muncy, a Florida Marlins prospect, will be at the show signing autographs.

Blood Drive

There will be a blood drive on Friday, January 21 from 1:00 until 7:00 pm at the Church of God in Christ Menonite on Mensch Road in Mifflinburg (behind Manbeck Motors). We hope all eligible donors will attend and encourage them to bring a new donor along! For more information, call the Union County Chapter of the American Red Cross at 524-0400.

Public meetings to be held in the Lewis Township Municipal Building

- ▶ Municipal Authority of Lewis Township, the first Tuesday of the month, beginning at 7:30 p. m.
- ▶ Lewis Township Board of Supervisors, the second Tuesday of the month beginning at 7:30 p. m.

God Gave you a gift of 86,400 seconds today. Have you used one to say "thank you." William A. Ward

No winter lasts forever; no spring skips its turn.

Hal Borland

Penlines from my Kitchen to Yours

By Lucy Hoover

November 14, 2004

Levi & Susan Oberholtzer of Millmont have a daughter named Marie. She has one sister and one brother. Grandparents are Ivan & Martha Oberholtzer of Mifflinburg and Mrs. Jonas Hoover of Ephrata.

November 16

Tonight Curvin went to take the diesel fuel tank off a track hoe (there had been a fire beneath it). There was a little bit of fuel in the tank, but the fuel cap was off. He thought he had the tank loose, but it wasn't, and when he pushed it with the skid loader, it ripped a hole in the bottom of the tank, causing an explosion. The right side of Curvin's face is covered with burns; "Learn from the mistakes of others, You'll never live long enough to make them all yourself."

November 19

By putting Good Samaritan Cream and Union Salve on Curvin's burn, it seems to be healing well.

November 21

Mervin & Mabel Stauffer of Mifflinburg have a third son named Matthew. He also has a sister. Grandparents are Edward and Lena Stauffer of Narvon, and Isaac & Lizzie Weaver of New Holland.

November 24

The school children had a Guinea Pig Dinner at school today. Each student made a dish of food with a recipe they never used before. Elsie took Peanut Butter Cup Pudding along.

Tonight Curvin's sister, Kathryn & Luke Shirk, and three of their children from Iowa were here for supper. Also brother Michael & Jemima Hoover were here as well.

November 25

Thanksgiving Day, and also a wedding day for Curvin's sister, Mary Joy & Ammon Zimmerman. Approximately 205 people were at the wedding for dinner and 133 for supper. We were glad that it wasn't an all day rain, but cleared off after the thunder shower we had.

November 27

Curvin, Elsie, Marie & I went to Lancaster County to visit Grandmother Sauder. She could not be at the wedding due to her health. She is almost 92 years old.

November 28

Jere & Ruth Ann Martin, of Lewisburg, have their third son named John Anthony. Grandparents are Levi and Lydia Martin of Mifflinburg, and George & Edna Martin of Lewisburg.

December 2

I had a Tupperware Party this afternoon. Thank You ladies, it was a very successful party.

December 3

Eugene & Anna Mae Horning of Mifflinburg have a daughter named Kayla. She has two brothers and two sis-

(Continued on page 9)

Looking Back

The article below was originally published in one of the local newspapers on January 6, 1905. It is copied here verbatim.

Coal, Gas and Oil in Union County.

"Mifflinburg Mineral Company," capitalized at \$133,000.00, and incorporated under the laws of the State of Delaware, is one of the new enterprises of our town. The officers recently elected are: President, Hon. James R. Ritter, of our town; Vice President, Gehrad Snyder, of Bloomsburg; Treasurer, D. B. Miller, and Secretary, George A. Guyer, of our city.

The above named gentlemen, together with Rob't. S. Gutelius, of this place, Hon. Benj. K. Focht of Lewisburg, O. B. Mellick and Irvin A. Snyder, of Bloomsburg, and Wm. M. Pyle, of Wilmington, Del., compose the directorate.

The company have leased about 1,400 acres of land in Lewis and West Buffalo townships in this county, and purpose developing the mineral resources of the district. In 1894 coal was found on these lands, having washed down a small stream, on the mountain side. Lands were leased, and an attempt was made to form a company to operate. The project fell through and was abandoned, until recently when coal was again discovered on the same range, but some three miles east of the first discovery, when new fresh impetus was given the enterprise and the result is the incorporation of this company.

Coal, gas and oil experts have flocked to the grounds upon the report of the find, and a conservative report of the result of the tests of the experts boiled into one is that coal blossoms are found all over these lands and the semibituminous coal itself crops out in numerous places. Although no well defined vein of coal has yet been found, nevertheless they have indicated where the veins may be found.

The consensus of opinion of the experts seems to be that we have the Chemung and Catskill formation, representing the oil and gas producing strata of the lower oil country, and the Bradford measures to a very great extent, and, in short, the lands may conservatively be regarded as defined coal, gas and oil territory. Glass sand rock in unlimited quantities of nearly, if not quite, ninety-five per cent purity is scattered over the entire scope of land. These alone, if developed and utilized, will be a source of benefit and great wealth to the entire community.

Prospecting and mining each year, are making great strides in the business world than any other enterprise. It is no lottery; the mineral is in the ground, and it only requires perseverance in order to find it. Each and every citizen of the county is interested and is likely to be benefited, and the company should be given financial aid and encouragement in every possible manner, that success of the undertaking be assured.

The standing of the officers and directorate of the Company, in the business world, bespeak for it stability, honesty and determination to succeed, and inspires respect and confidence. The Mifflinburg Mineral Company propose to test out the selected territory under its control, and stay with the undertaking, for a result in the interest of its stockholders.

(Continued from page 8)

ters. Grandparents are Harvey & Ruth Horning of Mifflinburg, and Eli and Anna Shirk of Mifflinburg.

December 5

We had lots of visitors at church, among them was Deacon Joseph Shirk of Lititz. In the afternoon our friends of Pottsville visited us and we invited Curvin's parents too. While we were visiting in here another horse & buggy came. Isaac Reiff and family was going past our place and saw that a horse had gotten his neck rope loose, but could not run off because the buggy wheel was up against the side of the flatbed trailer where the horse had been tied. Isaac came in to tie the horse.

December 9

Ammon (age 9) son of Esra & Anna Mary Zimmerman of Winfield, broke his little finger while playing a game at school.

December 11

Curvin's birthday. It was also public auction at his brother John Isaac & Erla Hoover of Lewisburg. They sold their 2-acre property to Paul Weaver of Lewisburg for \$175,000.00. The property included three greenhouses. John Isaac Hoover is planning to move to Kentucky by the end of January 2005.

December 12

Aaron & Joann Hoover of Mifflinburg have a daughter named Maria Lynn. She has two brothers. Grandparents are Amos & Elizabeth Hoover of Mifflinburg, and Benjamin and Esther Oberholtzer of Shiloh, Ohio.

America! Oh, America!

With this world in a turmoil,
So much violence and hate;
I can't help but imagine
With great sadness, our fate.

Can't we see that the problem,
Is we're selfish and greedy?
We refuse to accept Him
Who died for the needy

We continue to stumble
Through life day after day
Ignoring all the problems
We create on our way.

Priorities are mixed up!
No morals can be found.
No wonder the entire world
Seems to be up-side-down.

Abortions are commonplace!
Euthanasia's on the rise!
Help someone with suicide
And no one blinks their eyes!

But kill a tree in the park
Or discipline your child
Or test out drugs on a mouse
And the public just goes wild!

We pay sports' idols, millions,
For simply running meters;
But pay our teachers 'peanuts'
For training our next leaders.

Commonsense says, "Something's
wrong,
With society today."
If people don't soon wake-up
The whole world will have to pay.

What went wrong in the first place?
Selfishness? Greed? And lust?
We've lost our FOUNDING
FATHERS'
MOTTO: "In God We Trust!"

Written and submitted by
Norma Jean Sauers

(This poem was first printed in the
January 25, 1994 issue
of the Lewisburg Daily Journal.)

Pardee Lumber Co

Jonathan Bastian, 393 Oil Well Road, Mifflinburg, PA, is continuing to research and gather information relative to the Pardee Lumber Company, and the village of Pardee. Bastian is planning to write a book about the lumbering operation that took place in the west end of Union County during the late 1800's and early 1900's. Anyone with any information or photographs that would be useful to Jonathan is encouraged to call 966.6009. You can also Email him at: jdbastian@dejazzd.com

Thank You

My thanks to Judy (Shively) Wagner and Belva (Shirk) Steese, both of Mifflinburg, for loaning me their collections of old newspaper clippings. Information obtained from these clippings will prove useful for the newsletter, and I appreciate your willingness to share these clippings with me.

**Stopping by the Woods
on a Snowy Evening**

By Robert Frost

Whose woods these are I think I know
His house is in the village though
He will not see me stopping by
To watch his woods filled up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep
But I have promises to keep
And miles to go before I sleep
And miles to go before I sleep.

The above poem was submitted by Evelyn Fox,
who is able to recite it from memory.

The small photograph in the upper left hand corner of page one is the Hartleton Garage the way it appeared in the 1940's. The garage was then operated by Buck Diehl. Today the garage is operated by Bob Goss, Jr.

Bible Quiz

Margaret Stutzman, Mifflinburg, PA, was the winner of the December Bible Quiz. The correct answer to the question: The Angel's name was Gabriel, found in Luke 1:28. The individual responsible for the Bible Quiz each month would like to thank the following people for submitting an answer to the question: Ian Weaver, Millmont, Martha Hoover, Millmont, and the Millmont Methodist Church Youth Group.

The Bible Quiz question for January is: What were the names of Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego before they were changed? The person selected with the correct answer will receive \$10. Send your answer along with your name and address to: Bible Quiz, Post Office Box 8, Swengel, PA 17880.

Please have your answer mailed to this address by the 20th of the month.

Remembrance

By James Russell Chambers

Corn And Its Uses

Long before Europeans arrived on this continent, Indians raised corn for staple part of their diet. The early settlers found corn to be a healthy, nourishing food. It was easy to keep for winter food. Field Corn was ground into corn meal, then baked into corn bread or boiled into corn meal mush. It was also fed to the farm animals. In early September, we would go through the corn field and pick a number of mature ears, then shell the kernels off the cobs. The next day we took a sack of corn to the White Springs Grist Mill. The miller kept half of the corn to pay for the grinding. That night we had fresh cornbread for supper. The portion of any kind of grain the miller kept to pay for grinding, he ground into meal or wheat flour and then sold those products in the stores in our valley.

Pop-Corn We popped our crop!! Some of the popped corn was dyed red. We would sew red and white pop corn kernels on a long string to decorate our Christmas tree.

Broom-Corn When my mother needed brooms, we planted a row of broom corn when we planted the corn in April. Broom Corn has small ears and small kernels, but the tassels are 13 or more inches long. The tassels are used for the bristles in a broom. When the corn was harvested, we cut off the tassels and tied them into bundles with twine. We then took the bundles to Mr. Greene Shively who made brooms. Mr. Shively had a foot pedal sewing machine to sew the brooms. He also found and milled the handles. Mr. Shively kept half of our crop of tassels for his pay. Our half of the tassels made enough brooms to last 5 years. We saved enough broomcorn kernels for future planting.

“A New Broom Sweeps Clean”

Recipe of the Month

By Janice (Dorman) Shively

Cheesy Chicken Corn Chowder

1 whole small chicken breast
1/4 c. chopped onion
1/4 c. chopped celery
1 10 3/4 oz. can cream of chicken soup
1 8 3/4 oz. can whole kernel corn
1/2 c. milk
1/2 c. shredded American cheese
2 T. chopped pimiento

In a saucepan combine chicken, onion, celery, and 1/2 c. water. Bring to boiling; reduce heat. Cover; simmer 15 to 20 minutes. Remove chicken; when cool enough to handle, cut off meat and chop. Discard skin and bones. Return meat to broth; stir in remaining ingredients. Cook, uncovered, about 10 minutes. Makes 4 main-dish servings.

This recipe is from *Better Homes and Gardens New Cook Book*. I have adapted this recipe by using left over baked chicken, and adding chicken broth to the recipe. I like to use mozzarella cheese instead of American cheese. Enjoy this recipe, and adapt it to suit your tastes.

Public Meetings

Former Laurelton Center

On January 5, 2005, at 7:00 p.m., a public meeting will be held at the Hartley Township Community Center regarding the proposed re-use of the former Laurelton Center property. Residents of Mifflinburg Borough, Hartleton Borough, Lewis Township, Hartley Township, and West Buffalo Township are encouraged to attend. If you wish to have your named placed on the agenda please call 922.4634.

Penns Creek Watershed Assoc.

The Penns Creek Watershed Association will be holding an organizational meeting on January 20, 2005, at 7:00 p.m. . The meeting will be held at the Penns Creek Community Center in Penns Creek, Snyder County. If you have an interest in the watershed of lower Penns Creek (the area between Cherry Run and the Susquehanna River) you are encouraged to attend this important and timely meeting.

Lewis Township News

Lewis Township Board of Supervisors -

The Lewis Township Board of Supervisors met on Tuesday, November 9, 2004, 7:00 p. m., at the Municipal Building, Millmont, PA. Those attending the meeting were; Supervisors, Henry M. Sanders, Doug Pepper, and Wayne Klingman, Thomas Watters, Planning Committee, Taxpayers of Lewis Township, Karen L. Watters, Secretary.

A budget workshop meeting was held at 7:00 p. m. for the purpose of discussing and preparing the 2005 Annual Budget.

The floor was opened for public comment. There was none. The minutes were reviewed, Doug Pepper made a motion to approve the minutes as printed, the minutes were seconded by Wayne Klingman. The Treasurer's report was approved as printed and Doug Pepper made a motion to pay the bills for November, seconded by Wayne Klingman.

There was some discussion regarding the matter of Mr. Milford Hoover and a Koch's Trucking truck parked in the road right of way. The Union County Sheriff visited Mr. Hoover and warned him to remove all vehicles from the right of way, and a certified letter was also sent to him. A letter will be sent to Koch's Trucking regarding his employee who is also parking in the right of way.

A letter was received from the Municipal Authority regarding the road into the sewer plant and they are requesting the township provide 2 loads of 2B stone. Doug Pepper objected to their request, stating that it was the Municipal Authority's responsibility to maintain the road. After some discussion, the Supervisors agreed that they will provide hauling of the stone at no expense, however the Authority will have to pay for the stone.

Ball field Committee—Jennifer Mabus was present and discussed the issues with the ball field. The dugouts are on hold until spring, she asked that the supervisors waive the fee for the building permit, the supervisors granted their request. The clearing of the trees, the stumps need to be cut flush, burn the brush. Shale will hauled in.

There was some discussion regarding the Harry Strausser driveway installation. Gary Hoppole contacted Wayne Klingman to discuss the issues. Vehicles are dragging and tearing up the driveway. Mr. Schlegel did not grade the driveway correctly, it should have feathered out more. Wayne Klingman will contact Mr. Strausser to give him the suggestions from Gary Hoppole. It is requested Mr. Hoppole give a written report to the Supervisors on the corrections.

A letter was received with a permit, fee and photographs of the site, from the Calvary Chapel of Millmont requesting a conditional permit for their driveway. There was some discussion regarding the request, there are erosion issues and the Church needs to comply with the requested suggestions given to them. The supervisors will be cutting the ditch line and take the pipe out and cutting the shoulder. A letter will be sent to the Church denying the request and giving them 4 to 5 days notice prior to the work being done by the Road master.

No further business; meeting adjourned.

EBERHART FAMILY

By Eleanor (Hoffman) Hoy

In previous issues of The Millmont Times I wrote an article about Jacob Eberhart and his descendants who came to Union County. I have since found he also had a sister who settled in this same county.

Ann Eberhart, on her tombstone her name is Annie. She was born 13 April 1816 in Berks County, PA, died 19 March 1882, and is buried in the Ray's Church Cemetery, Lewis Township, Union County, PA. She was married to David Stauffer in Berks County and no tombstone for him was ever found. Perhaps the stone was destroyed.

The 1860 Census of Hartley Township, Union County, PA lists them as living north of Hartleton. They lived there with two daughters and one son. According to the research done by Myron and Helen Eberhart, the two girls were born in Berks County, PA. I have never researched where this home may have been.

Catharine Stauffer, the oldest daughter, was born in 1838 and died in 1924 per tombstone inscription in Lincoln Chapel Cemetery, Hartley Township, Union County, PA. She married William H. Weirick and they farmed near Pardee. William was born in 1834 and died in 1911 per tombstone in same cemetery as his wife.

William & Catharine Weirick were the parents of 5 children – (1) John Weirick who married Mary ? (2) Anna Weirick who married Charles Weller (3) Alice Weirick who married Howard Mersinger. Their daughter, Sarah, married Howard Klingman of Mifflinburg, PA. (4) William Weirick married Catharine? (5) Emma Weirick married James I. Zimmerman, who farmed in Hartley Township, Union County, PA west of Lincoln Chapel Church. Maybe this was the Weirick farm.

Elizabeth Stauffer, the youngest daughter, was born 16 February 1840, died 19 August 1920 in Union county, PA. She married John Hickernell 16 September 1868. John was born 26 March 1839 in Harrisburg, PA, son of Jacob & Martha Hickernell and died 19 June 1926 in the home of his daughter, Mrs. Jesse Hackenburg, in Hartley Township, Union County, PA. They are buried in the Hartleton Hill Cemetery.

John Hickernell served in the Civil War as a PA Volunteer and was imprisoned at Andersonville, GA per his obituary, and was in bad health after that ordeal. As a Civil War Veteran, he loved to be in local parades.

John & Elizabeth Stauffer Hickernell were parents of four children – (1) Martha Ann Hickernell, born 1872, married Jesse Hackenburg (2) Kathryn A. Hickernell, born 1879, married Herbert L. Charles (3) George Robert Hickernell, born 1883, died in 1954 and is buried in Eastside Cemetery, Mifflinburg, PA. He married Edna Viola Schreckengast in 1911. They owned a large farm north of Millmont, PA. He was a Democratic Politician and ran for several offices in Union County. Some may remember his slogan, "Ring the bell for Hickernell." (4) Oliver Hickernell.

In the 1860 Census of Hartley Township, Union County, PA it lists a son John Stauffer but no other information was found by me.

From the diary of the late Elder Greene Shively, a resident of Millmont from 1918 until his death in 1954:
Wed. Jan. 10, 1934 - Cloudy 34 above about the same all day, this evening it is somewhat cooler with a strong wind from the south west. Present at the School Board meeting. Dr. Boyer was there. We decided to do some grading around the school buildings. A few days ago I received a letter from Dr. Boyer saying some kind things about some of my poems appearing in the county papers. I thanked him this evening and he remarked " We meant every word of what we said." Knowing the Dr. as I do, I believe he thought the effort was worth a kind word.

January Birthdays

1 - Evelyn Fox	22 - Wilmer Zimmerman
2 - Brady O. Koonsman	22 - Hertha Wehr
4 - Stacey Witmer	22 - Gerald Starks
5 - Harry Oberholtzer	23 - Fred Yarger
5 - Wilmer Zimmerman	24 - Randy Lyons
5 - Donna Fultz	25 - Warren Zimmerman
6 - Lisa Martin	25 - Millmont Times Editor
6 - Betty Wallace	26 - Helen Martin
6 - Arlene Zimmerman	27 - Evelyn Miller
7 - Norma "Pat" Bennett	28 - Mildred Diehl
10 - LaNelle Weaver	29 - Margaret Yarger
11 - Leroy Zimmerman	30 - Stan Weaver
12 - Ann M. Koonsman	31 - Marcus Zimmerman
14 - Helen Raker	31 - Linda Walter
16 - Marge Schmader	31 - Hilda Zechman
16 - Julia Libby	
16 - Jason Zimmerman	
16 - Diane Hackenburg	
16 - Regina Oxenford	
18 - Keyen Bingaman	
21 - Tracey Beaver	
21 - Billy Mattern	

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