



Hertha riding her pony - Judy. The photograph, dated 1936, is from the collection of Nessie (Shively) Watson.

## Meandering Through Life With Hertha Wehr

Hertha Wehr first began submitting her self-titled column "Meanderings" to this newsletter in May of 2002, and it has been a regular feature ever since. Through her column she has a unique opportunity to reflect upon her life experiences. From her childhood, growing up in a family with 10 older siblings, to her numerous trips across the country and around the world, Wehr has a wellspring of memories, which she is able to draw from and share.

From the time she was a young girl, Hertha possessed an inquisitive and adventurous spirit. Being raised on a farm during the 1920 and 30's, one of the ways she was able to satisfy those traits was by reading everything she could get her hands on. Sometimes that even meant borrowing books from her old brothers, even though the subject matter was not to her liking. The desire to read has been a lifetime passion. As she approaches her 83<sup>rd</sup> birth-

day she can boast of reading 50 books per year.

The youngest of eleven children born to Clarence "Bud" and Mary Sophia (Miller) Shively, Hertha was born January 22, 1923, in the home located at 1795 Kaiser Run Road. Her older siblings included Nellie, Luther, Clark, Fred, T. "Ralph", Ned, Lynn, Roger, Nessie, and Fern.

The patriarch of the Shively clan, Bud wanted to find a way to put his seven sons to work. So, in addition to crop farming, he began buying and selling cattle. He routinely visited farmers in the eastern Centre County region in search of cattle to purchase. Once the deals were finalized the chore of getting those cattle to the family farm on Kaiser Run Road fell upon the shoulders of one or more of his sons. It is hard to envision herds of 20 to 25 cattle being shepherded on Route 45 from Centre County through the Seven Mile Narrows into Union County, but that was the life of the Shively boys from about 1915 until the mid-1920's. Bud later purchased a truck, which made for an easier and faster method of transporting live-

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## Millmont Mailbox by Postmaster Sam Smith

Saturday, January 7 will be a busy day for me as that is the date of my annual sports card show at the Shikellamy High School, benefiting the band. Former Philadelphia Eagles' cheerleader, Tara Smith (no relation!) will be signing autographs from 11:00 AM till 1:00 PM.

I hope everyone had an enjoyable Holiday Season. We did, although, like many other families in the area, our table had an empty chair as my son-in-law was deployed in October and is serving overseas in the military. I know many of you sent care packages for Christmas to servicemen, but it's important to show support throughout the year to help keep spirits high and confidence strong during difficult, dangerous times. The Postal Service goes to great lengths to ensure that military mail gets delivered to our brave men and women. One benefit we offer is that APO and FPO addresses for overseas installations cost the same as if they are mailed within the US. When sending letters or packages, always make sure to use the individual's rank, full name, group/division, and all other coding in their address, so that we are able to delivery your message or gift as quickly as possible. Mail call is a lifeline from home for those in the military. As a reminder, new postal rates are effective January 8, 2006, and can be found at [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com) or at your local post office.

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**PUBLIC SALE**  
OF  
**Car Load of Horses**  
**Sat., Jan. 23, 1937.**  
At 1 o'clock  
**AT THE OLD FORT**  
One half mile from Center Hall  
This is a load of GOOD HORSES.  
Every one is young.  
**SIX MATED TEAMS**  
Weighing from 3050 to 3500 a team.  
Balance single horses  
None weighing less than 1200.  
Now Listen Men, this load of horses were bought in the County right off the farms. The first auction for them is the OLD FORT. They will arrive Thursday, Sale Saturday. Come, look them over and I know you will be a buyer.  
SALE TAKEN BY  
**C. E. SHIVELY**

Above is a sale bill that was produced for one of Clarence Shively's horse auctions. The paragraph at the bottom, just above the name states:

*"Now Listen Men, this load of horses were bought in the County right off the farms. This first auction for them is OLD FORT. They will arrive Thursday, Sale Saturday. Come, look them over and I know you will be a buyer."*

This sale bill is from the collection of Delphia Shirk, Millmont.

stock.

Cattle that were not sold locally were shipped to markets in eastern Pennsylvania. A large percentage of them were shipped by rail to Chalfont, Bucks County where they were auctioned. Being active in the cattle business is what led Shively into the butchering and meat business. After purchasing butchering equipment from Harry Klose in 1918, Bud founded "Shively's Meats." The family owned and operated establishment was a landmark in Mifflinburg for seven decades until it was sold in 1988.

During the early years of Shively's operation, cattle were butchered at the family farm on Kaiser Run Road. At that time electricity was a luxury the Shively family and their neighbors had yet to receive. As a youngster in the 1930's, Hertha recalled the times when she came to the aid of her brother, Fred, by holding the kerosene lantern so that he had sufficient light while he was butchering a cow.

As Hertha's older brothers, Clark and Fred, began to take over the butchering business and meat store, Bud turned his business interest to buying and selling workhorses. Hertha recalled her father's frequent trips to Omaha, Nebraska, where he purchased horses at auction and shipped the animals east by stockcar to his barn located alongside Walnut Street in Mifflinburg. These animals were later sold to area farmers in need of workhorses. Dealing in workhorses was a lucrative business until tractor power slowly replaced animal power as a means of operating farm implements.

Clarence Shively could be a hard taskmaster, especially when it came to his sons. Hertha noted that as she and her siblings were growing up, whenever their father "barked" you "jumped." The boys worked long hours for their father, whether it was in the field behind a team of horses, or driving cattle and horses. While a stern demeanor by a parent may seem unnecessary to a son or daughter, hard work, discipline, and respect for authority are a means by which parents can instill character in their children. Character was a trait that Bud and Mary Shively's children exemplified.

Hertha began attending school at the Pike Schoolhouse in 1929. Her teacher that year, and throughout the remainder of her elementary education, was Pearl Kaler. The Pike school was located on the south side of Route 45, a short distance east of the present-day 4-Bell Lutheran Church. In March 1930, the schoolhouse caught fire and burned to the ground. School directors chose not to rebuild the school and instead transported the Pike students to the vacant portion of the Lewis Township High School. Hertha completed her elementary education at the relocated Pike School before entering the nearby high school.

By the time Hertha entered high school Lewis Township consisted of only the freshman and sophomore classes. During the two years she spent at LTHS Hertha developed an interest in tennis, thanks to her teacher and instructor, Fred Showalter. While the boys in her class outnumbered the girls by a 4 to 1 ratio, the girls were able to keep up with the boys scholastically and athletically.

Graduating from Mifflinburg High School in the Class of 1940 was a significant event in Hertha's life. Not only did she receive her diploma, she also met Karl Wehr for the first time. The young man who came into her life that day proposed to her on Christmas Day 1941. Less than six months later, June 7, 1942, Hertha and Karl were married by Rev. Robert Clark in the sanctuary of the Hartleton Lutheran Church.

Karl and Hertha began dairy farming on their 80-acre



This is the farmhouse where Hertha Shively was born in 1923. It is located at 1795 Kaiser Run Road, and is currently owned by David Ebersole.

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# BIRD TALK

By Jim McCormick

*“The Mystery of the Soap Moon Craters”* December has been way too cold. After Thanksgiving we had a brief tropical interlude--monsoon rains and a thunderstorm-- then cold, cold temperatures returned and stayed. Strangely it wasn't until the 'official' start of winter that it began to warm up! Speaking of the start of winter, the Winter Solstice has just passed, so start watching the rising and setting of the sun on the horizon. As I have said before, you will be absolutely amazed at how far north the sun moves from Winter to Summer Solstice.

On Christmas Eve Day I was walking along Penns Creek when I noticed something strange in the Creek. At the bottom of a steep embankment there were some objects piled up on an ice jam. They were off-white in color, round, and had edges around them. I couldn't easily reach them, so tried to get a better look with my binoculars. They appeared to be made of soap. I thought they might have been formed somehow from the soap scum that tends to accumulate in the Creek from time to time, but what could account for their shape? At first I thought they each might have been a bubble that broke and fell in on itself. The fact that it had been in the low 20s, made gas formation as the cause highly unlikely. They also looked like they might have been formed by something falling into the soap like the formation of a moon crater by a meteor. The idea of a meteor, though, seemed equally unlikely. There were five 'craters' ranging in size from 8 to 12 inches in diameter and quite regular in shape--round to oval. They certainly had me searching for an explanation, when I saw another one come floating down the stream. Obviously their source was upstream. About twenty yards away *“The Mystery of the Soap Moon Craters”* was revealed. In the middle of the stream was a break in the ice, where a whirlpool had formed. In the middle of this vortex was another 'crater' being formed as the scum spun around and around the opening in the ice, the edges getting higher and higher. You might, of course, be wondering what is the point of this discussion. While it might not reach the philosophical stature of a question such as: “If a tree falls in the forest and there is no one there to hear it; does it make a sound?” But if I hadn't been there to see the formation of the 'craters', would anyone ever have known about it? Would it matter? Probably not, but I found it interesting just the same. As the day progressed and the temperatures rose, the ice melted and the little 'craters' probably drifted downstream and lost their newfound 'shape', returning to just being soap scum again. Besides the joy of discovering the cause of something unusual, I thought this little story an interesting metaphor on the transience and impermanence of everything on earth. Nature had given the soap shape and form, then, just as quickly, returned it to its former amorphous state. Just some food for thought.

I suppose I should say something about the birds. Extreme cold and snow are always hard on the birds. Snow cover makes finding food difficult for most ground feeding species; just watch how the Juncos and other small birds flock to any spot left bare by the snowplow. I saw a small band of Goldfinches along Davis road, the males dressed in their drab winter garb, searching for any stray seeds. Strangely I saw a pair of Killdeer along one of the small streams; at this time of the year it is hard to know if they are early returning or late leaving. The Mourning Doves are still here in large numbers; they don't leave until January and then only for the briefest of time. There is still at least one Great Blue Heron hanging around. I usually see a Kingfisher near the Covered Bridge at least until the Creek freezes over, then only rarely along the feeder streams. There is always something to see out there, so grab your binoculars and take it all in.

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**West Buffalo Township farm in 1945. The farm had been in the Wehr family, and was located off Strickler Road. In 1957 Karl began working for the Bureau of Prisons. His employment with the Federal government required that the family relocate to Chillicothe, Ohio. Three years later he was able to transfer to central Pennsylvania, where he continued to work as a dairy supervisor at the Federal Penitentiary at Lewisburg until his retirement in 1977. Following his retirement, Karl drove school bus for the Mifflinburg School District for a number of years.**

**Karl Wehr passed away on June 9, 2003. He was known for his woodworking skills and his volunteer efforts with Habitat for Humanity. He not only assisted with local habitat projects, but each winter from 1990 through 2000 he traveled to the southern states to assist with on going projects in that region of the country.**

**Together Karl and Hertha had five children, including Diane, Roger, Samuel, Mark, and Wendy. Hertha is proud of the fact that she and her late husband were able to lend their support as each one furthered their education beyond high school. All five of the Wehr children graduated from college, with two obtaining their Masters**

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Degrees. Once the children were out of college, Karl and Hertha built a new home just east of their farmhouse on Strickler Road. While it was three years from start to finish, it was a home they both labored to build. After completing their home in 1975, the couple decided it was time to take advantage of their retirement years by traveling. Hertha has visited every state in the Union, including Alaska and Hawaii. She has also visited the United Kingdom, Panama, Russia, and Peru. For her, each trip was an opportunity to discover and learn new and interesting things.

Desiring to sharpen her speaking, writing, and communication skills, Hertha attended evening courses at Susquehanna University, and obtained a certificate in Human Services in 1985. She later worked at the Human Resources office, a state sponsored agency that was located in Selinsgrove. In an effort to hone her tax preparation skills she also took a short course of study at Penn State University. From 1960 until 1990 she signed on as a U. S. census taker, gathering information for the nations decennial survey. An active member of the First Lutheran Church of Mifflinburg for over 60 years, she served two terms on the church council, taught Sunday School for 10 years, and remains active in the women's group and the Stephen Ministry.

Like her late husband, Hertha believes strongly in the spirit of volunteerism. Through the years she has given her time freely to various commissions, boards and non-profit groups including the Vicksburg Library, Union County Extension Office, 4-H Leader, Union County Planning Commission, Hospice, and the Union County Historical Society.

Of the eleven children born to Clarence and Mary Shively, four survive: Hertha, Nessie, Lynn and Roger. Nellie, the oldest child, was born in 1902. Followed by the birth of seven brothers and three sisters, the assistance she provided to her mother was invaluable. Nellie, who died in 1986, was married Robert Mitch. G. Luther Shively, was born in 1904. He assisted his father until he later went to work for a trucking firm. Luther, who died in 1973, was married to Grayce Sampsell.

Clark Shively was born in 1906. He, along with his brother Fred, owned and operated Shively's Meats in Mifflinburg. Clark died in 1999, and was married to Mildred Zimmerman. Fred Shively was born in 1907 and died in 1980. He was married to Beulah Catherman. T. Ralph Shively was born in 1910. He owned a farm near Forest Hill and was an active livestock dealer for a number of years. Married to Mildred Erdley, Ralph served two terms as Union County Commissioner. He died in 1984.

Ned Shively was born in 1912. He was a self employed machinist, carpenter, and farmer. He was married to Pauline Leitzel. Ned died in 1993. Lynn was born in 1913. He was employed as a mechanic for Diehls' Chevrolet, Manbeck Motors, before assuming maintenance responsibility for the fleet of school buses owned by the Mifflinburg School District. He is married to Mary Hackenberg. Roger and his wife, Doris Hess, own a farm on Kaiser Run Road a short distance from where he was born in 1916.

Nessie Shively was born in 1918. She married John C. Watson, who owned and operated Watson Motors until his death in 1989. Fern was born in 1920. She was married to Harold Sauer who died as a result of injuries sustained during a traffic accident in 1944. She later married Charles Klose, Jr. Fern passed away in 1986.

A span of twenty-one years separated the birth of Hertha and her oldest sibling, Nellie. A mother of five, grandmother of nine, and great grandmother of four, Hertha remains active despite the physical



Clarence and Mary (Miller) Shively and their children. First row left to right :Fern, Clarence "Bud", Mary, Hertha. Second row left to right: Nessie, Ned, George, Fred, Nellie. Third row left to right: Clark, Lynn, Roger, T. Ralph.

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Clarence and Mary Shively's youngest children, Hertha, Nessie, and Fern. The photograph, taken in 1933, is courtesy of Nessie, (Shively) Watson.

challenges that come with age. While those conditions may have slowed her step, they do not deter her from doing the things she enjoys. A lifetime reader, she has recently been asked to write a book of her own. She is currently working on a future issue of *Heritage* for the Union County Historical Society. That book will deal with all aspects of Union County's dairy industry.

Some of us acquire an adventurous spirit as we mature, while others seem to have been born with that same spirit. While growing up, Hertha's adventurous spirit was limited to the confines of Lewis Township, and the farm upon which she was born and raised. As a child Hertha read about far away places, never dreaming that one day she would have opportunity to visit some of the places that were found in the pages of a book.

Webster's definition of meandering is "to wonder aimlessly or casually and without urgent destination." Her travels across the country and around the world were casual and without urgency, however, they were not aimless. Approaching her 83<sup>rd</sup> birthday, Hertha exclaimed, "I feel like I have had a full life – and that I have learned a lot." Each month she will continue to share some of what she has learned and some of those life experiences through her column - *Meanderings*.

In addition to Hertha (Shively) Wehr, I would like to thank Nessie (Shively) Watson, Glenda (Shively) Sheaffer, and Delphia Shirk for their help with this article. Other resources included "Louise Goehring Scott's Oral History Collection" transcribed by Emilie F. Jansma, 2005, "A History of One of Eleven Children Growing Up In Lewis Township Union Co. by Ned Miller Shively" published by the author in 1993; and "The History of the Shively Family," by Judith (Shively) Wagner, published in 1987.

## Days of Yore

The scene below was a common sight on the roads of western Union County one hundred years ago. In the undated photograph below Peter Winegardner, father of the late Walter Winegardner and grandfather of Roger Winegardner, is shown with his dual horse team pulling a bobsled on the snow covered highway. "Petie," as he was known, lived for a number of years on the Paschal Lewis farm located off Red Ridge Road east of White Springs. He died in 1957 when his grandson, Roger was twelve years old. Roger believes the photograph was taken circa 1910.

My thanks to Roger Winegardner of Mifflinburg for providing me with this unique winter scene.





# Meanderings

by

*Hertha S. Wehr*

## Christmas Cards and Memories

Over the Holidays I correspond with people whom very seldom get a letter from me, and I might add that I seldom get letters from them other times of the year. There are two couples, one from MT and one from CT that I met on a trip to Switzerland. We seem to have some things in common and have continued to correspond with one another. Their letters bring back memories that we shared. We had one guide who was not the neatest person I ever met.

She was very intelligent and good at languages. I think she spoke three or four different ones. However she was not the most patient person and was somewhat rude in answering questions. One young man kept calling her Hilda. I happened to be standing near him one day and said I thought her name was Heidi, not Hilda. He gave me a funny smile and said he knew her name was Heidi but she reminded him of Broom Hilda! Sometimes it's better to just stay in the dark when you can't understand why people do certain things. Any way we all remember Heidi.

The letters cause one to recall the topics we discussed as we took the bus rides from one site to another, from castles to farms to a dinner high in the Alps.

Another couple we met in England, through a mutual friend, and we visited them in their home. They live in Alnwick, Northumberland, which is near the Scottish border. They took us on a picnic to the east coast which borders the North Sea. They informed us Norway was just across the open water. It's so much easier to understand geography when you see it, than when you're looking at a map.

One of the things which surprised us was that the road to the beach went through a golf course. If someone happened to be playing golf, cars would wait until the golfers played through. Being that far north we had to visit Hadrian's Wall. If you recall, he was the Roman emperor who thought he could keep the Scots from invading Roman territory (England) by building a wall across England at the most narrow part. Actually it wasn't effective but the almost unbelievable part is that sections of the wall are still standing. It was a great history lesson.

They have three daughters. The youngest at the time was a pre-schooler. She skinned her knee and I offered to put a Band-Aid on it. The crying stopped when she saw the bandage but it wasn't until later that I realized she had no idea what I was offering to put on her skinned knee. When she explained to her mother that I put a Plaster on it I was enlightened. One more lesson I learned.

I also correspond with a former teacher from Germany. A number of years ago there was a program called American Host. The program enabled foreign teachers to spend about two weeks with a family in America. We hosted several at different times but lost track of most of them except the one in Germany. She and I have a lot in common and the letters are long. One year, one of my daughters and I visited her. Regensburg was her home at that time. Since the Danube River runs through the city it was a real treat to see a bridge over the river that was built by the Romans. It is still in use. The Romans must have had a lot of engineering know-how to built things that are still in use. We did some sight-seeing on our own after she pointed out things we might want to see. All the things were great eye-openers to me.

Another couple we met in England enabled us to be pointed in another direction. We visited the Lake District. The highlight there was probably The Beatrice Potter Home and farms she has put into preservation for all to enjoy. No we didn't see Peter Rabbit. This couple visited us several years later and we had the joy of visiting with them and showing them a part of Central Pennsylvania.

Of course the cards we get from old friends and family are always special. Each one brings back a memory or two of days and happening of years past. Many of the memories are funny and some are sad. But without the sad ones we probably wouldn't appreciate the good and funny things that happen.

I hope you have good memories from your cards. I wish you a happy and prosperous New Year.

### 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.
- ▶ Lewis Township Village Green Recreation Association, no meeting scheduled.

The small photograph in the upper left hand corner of page one shows a view of the Beaver Tunnel on the former Lewisburg & Tyrone Rail Road, circa 1910. This tunnel is located near the village of Coburn.

**Recipe of the Month**  
*By Janice (Dorman) Shively*  
**Creamy Spinach & Carrot Soup**

3 TBSP. butter or margarine  
1 C. chopped onion  
2-1/2 TBSP. all-purpose flour  
3/4 C. milk  
3/4 C. heavy cream  
14 oz. can chicken broth  
1 C. shredded carrots  
10-oz. pkg. frozen chipped spinach, thawed and drained  
1-1/2 tsp. chicken broth powder (like Bouillon)  
1/4 tsp. salt  
1/4 tsp. black pepper  
Pinch of nutmeg

In a 2-qt. Saucepan melt butter; add onions. Cook over medium heat, stirring occasionally, until onions are tender (5 to 6 mins.). Stir in flour until smooth and bubbly (1 min.). Stir in milk, heavy cream, and chicken broth. Add remaining ingredients. Continue cooking over low heat, stirring occasionally, until soup is heated through (12 to 15 min.).

As an alternative to the milk and heavy cream, you can use  
1-1/2 C. half-and-half.

Also, if you have on hand, add about 1/8 c. of white wine when adding the liquid ingredients. It will alter the flavor slightly.

This is a simple, tasty main course dish on a cold winter day.

**ENJOY!**

**Thank You!**

I would like to thank the following people for making monetary donations toward the publication of this newsletter: John & Janet Renninger, Millmont; Shirley Kerstetter, Mifflinburg; Harold and Patricia Zechman, Millmont; Dan & Barb Snyder, Millmont; James and Sheridan Walter, Mifflinburg; Richard & Susan Boop, Millmont; Jack & Judy Wagner, Mifflinburg; Miriam Galer, Millmont; Mary Kahl, Millmont; and the anonymous donation that I received in the mail prior to Christmas.

The following people have agreed to accept this newsletter through the Internet as a PDF, thereby reducing the monthly expenses associated with printing and mailing this publication: Deb Hommel, Selinsgrove; Judy Pelter, Millmont. Anyone interested in signing up to receive a free color version of the newsletter each month is encouraged to contact me at: [millmonttimes@dejazzd.com](mailto:millmonttimes@dejazzd.com)

The following are new mail subscribers: Edwin Oberholtzer, Mifflinburg; Rev. Arthur Fritz, Shepherd, MI; Richard & Eunice Swain, Millmont; Kenneth Hackenburg, Millmont; Donald Boop, Bloomfield, NJ; and Tim & Bridget Catherman, Mifflinburg.

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

Thanks also to Ray & Margie Bowersox, Groveton, Texas, for donating several old photo postcards of street scenes in Mifflinburg; Paul and Jane (Ely) Foster, Camp Hill, for donating old newspaper clipping preserved by Amelia (Kaler) Ely; Rev. David and Karen Mitchell, Ketchikan, Alaska for donating a copy of the 1912-1913 White Springs School District school register.

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

*Wednesday January 24, 1934, 25 to 35 degrees, Clear. Worked in the garage this forenoon. Went with Brother William Boop to David Boop's funeral. David was an uncle to William, and a brother to Samuel Boop, children of Conrad Boop, a brother to my grandfather, Jacob Boop. David was born July 3, 1847, died January 22, 1934, aged 86 yrs 6 mo and 19 days. David Boop buried. I took my text from Galatians 2:20.*

*This evening mother and I went with Florence to Ray's Church. By request I preached using my text St. John 12:31 "Now is the Judgment of the World." Request by Rev. Frantz, having a week of prayer. William and Donald sang about the Judgment. David and Mrs. Kreisher kept the little folks while we were at church.*

Mifflinburg Community Blood Drive on Friday, January 20, 2006 from 1:00 PM to 7:00 PM at Church of God in Christ Mennonite located on Mensch Road-Behind Manbeck Motors. Must have positive I.D.

All persons 17+, in good health and who weigh at least 110 pounds are urged to come and donate blood.

Call (800) GIVE LIFE with eligibility questions.

Please bring photo I.D.

## Passage

Bruce Melvin Boop, 86, of 935 Ranck Road and a lifelong resident of Union County, passed away at 1:20 p.m. Thursday, December 1, 2005, at Evangelical Community Hospital, Lewisburg, where he had been a patient since November 26. He was born in Millmont on December 4, 1919, a son of the late Wilmer and Estella Kaler Boop. On August 7, 1942, in St. John's Reformed Church, Mifflinburg, he married the former Betty E. Stoudt, who survives.

Bruce was a 1937 graduate of Laurelton High School, where he played soccer and was well known for playing softball, which he continued to play throughout his life. He was a self-employed dairy farmer in Millmont his entire life and was also employed at Chef Boy-Ar-Dee, Milton, for many years until his retirement.

Bruce was a member of the Union County Fair Association, an associate member of the Future Farmers of America and a member of the Mifflinburg Loyal Order of Moose. He enjoyed hunting and tying flies for fishing. He was also at one time a member of the Mifflinburg Bowling League.

Surviving, in addition to his wife of 63 years, Betty, are two sons and one daughter-in-law, Bruce R. Boop and Gerald W. and Kathy A. Boop, all of Millmont; one daughter and son-in-law, Deborah A. and Marlin R. Zimmerman of Millmont; one foster daughter, Sandra Sheetz and her husband Dave of Millmont; seven grandchildren, Gerald Boop Jr., Jonathan and Douglas Boop, Kimberly Sanders, M. Roger and Michael A. Zimmerman, and Leah King; and nine great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by one brother, Stewart Boop, and one sister, Helen Bowes-Gelnett.

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Lurietta H. Kaler, 89, of 1670 Paddy Mountain Road, passed away at 6:43 a.m. Thursday, December 8, 2005, at Evangelical Community Hospital, Lewisburg. She was born December 23, 1915 in Hartley Township, Union County, a daughter of the late Arthur and Florence Bickel Keister. On March 27, 1937 she married Fred M. Kaler, who preceded her in death on November 25, 2005.

Lurietta was a 1933 graduate of Laurelton High School. She and Fred lived their entire married life in the same house in Hartley Township. She was a homemaker and in earlier years worked in an area garment factory.

Mrs. Kaler was a member of the Glen Iron Pilgrim Holiness Church, where she formerly served as church treasurer and past president of the Missionary Society. She enjoyed raising flowers and baking. But the great joy of Lurietta's life were her grandchildren.

Surviving, are one son and daughter-in-law, Carl A. and Faye Kaler of Hassenplug Road, Millmont; two grandchildren and their spouses, Alan and Crystal Kaler and Karen and Anthony Sauers; six great-grandchildren, Kayla, Jessica, Megan and Rachel Kaler and Aaron and Katelynn Sauers; one brother, Richard A. Keister of Millmont; and three sisters, Dorothy Zimmerman of West Seneca, N.Y., Geraldine Royer of Milton, and Grace Weidensaul of Laurelton.

In addition to her husband of 68 years, she was preceded in death by two sisters, Edith Middleswarth and Gladys Keister.

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Merlyn Harrison Hoffman, 86, of 2080 Forest Hill Road, entered into rest at 6:55 p.m. at Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village, East Buffalo Township, Union County, on Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25, 2005.

He was born March 24, 1919, in Mifflinburg, the son of the late Reno M. and Carrie H. Galer Hoffman. On July 5, 1942, in Mifflinburg, he was united in marriage to the former Miriam Viola Lohr, who survives. Merlyn was a self-employed carpenter for more than 50 years. Earlier in life, he farmed and worked as the movie reel

operator at the movie theater in Mifflinburg. He also worked at Chef Boy-Ar-Dee in Milton.

He was a life member of Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren, Mifflinburg, where he was an usher for many years. He was also a member of the Shikellamy Region Antique Automobile Club of America, as well as the National Automobile Club. He enjoyed riding motorcycles and flying airplanes.

Mr. Hoffman enjoyed restoring antique cars, such as Kaisers and Ford Model A's and T's. He was an avid outdoorsman. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, flying his airplanes, building boats and taking his family boating. He also assisted the West Shore railroad line when it was restored as a passenger tour train.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, are four sons, Eugene F. Hoffman, Gary H. Hoffman, Wayne S. Hoffman and William B. Hoffman, all of Mifflinburg; one daughter, Eileen H. Wolf of Danville; six grandchildren; and one great-grandchild. He was preceded in death by his sister, Edith I. Hoffman, in 2003. Burial was in the church cemetery.

### Raindrops by Miriam (Lohr) Hoffman

I watched the raindrops start to fall  
Upon the dusty land  
It seemed as each one touched the ground  
They all joined hand in hand.

They soon had covered all the land  
With God's great gift of life  
He said, "so do ye likewise,  
Join hands, forget the strife."

Just one raindrop by itself  
Does not an ocean make  
But joining with the other drops  
May someday be a lake.

So let's be like the raindrops  
Join together one by one  
And when the storms of life are past  
He'll say "My child well done."

# Penlines From my Kitchen to Yours

Nov. 18, 2005

The new Ridge View Parochial School of Lewisburg opened today. They had temporarily been having school at Elvin and Erla Zimmerman's of Lewisburg until the new schoolhouse was completed.

Nov. 19, 2005

Two van loads from this area went to Penn Valley Deaf Retreat. We found it very interesting. "Thou shalt not curse the deaf, nor put a stumbling block before the blind, but shalt fear thy God." Lev. 19:14.

We are trying to learn more American sign language so that we can communicate better with the deaf. It even comes in handy around home. The roar of an engine can never drown out sign language!

Nov. 20, 2005

Lamar and Delores Horning of Mifflinburg have a son named Michael Leon. He is their first child. Grandparents are Harvey and Ruth Horning of Millmont and Lester and Marlene Martin of Mifflinburg.

Nov. 24, 2005

Thanksgiving Day!

"Thou hast given us so much dear Lord,  
Give us one more thing, a grateful heart."

We had dinner at brother David and Mabel Jane Brubaker's of New York.

Rueben and Nora Zimmerman of Millmont have a son named Ervin Ray. He has 5 brothers and 1 sister. Grandparent's are Esra and Lena Zimmerman of Mifflinburg and Phares and Anna Horning, also of Mifflinburg.

Our neighbor, Mrs. Jonas Zeiset, was taken to the hospital. It is expected that she will need to undergo surgery.

Levi Brubacker's of Millmont took their daughter, Louise (10 months) to the emergency room. She was treated and released.

Dec. 7, 2005

Allen and Esther Burkholder of Lewisburg have a daughter named Irene. They now have three girls. Grandparent's are Eli and Irene Burkholder and Ammon and Erma Zimmerman of Penns Valley.

Dec. 12, 2005

Leon and Marian Martin of Millmont have a daughter named Kaitlyn. She has 1 brother and 7 sisters. Grandparent's are Mrs. Leroy Martin and Noah and Ella Zimmerman, all of Mifflinburg.

"A daughter is.... A love that lasts a lifetime."

Mrs. Ammon Martin (Mary) 72, is not feeling well. There is a scrap page shower for her. The address is 805 Green Ridge Road, Mifflinburg, PA 17844.

## Moving?

If you are planning to move or if your post office mailing address is about to change, please notify The Millmont Times immediately. This newsletter is distributed each month by bulk rate, and will not be forwarded to your new address by the U. S. Postal Service. Newsletters that can not be delivered are returned, which requires me to pay an additional .37 cents postage. Please call me at (570) 922.4297 or email me at: millmonttimes@dejazzd.com if there are any changes in your postal mailing address.

## Looking Back

This article was originally published in The Mifflinburg Telegraph on January 4, 1895. It is copied verbatim.

### HARTLETON LOCALS

The snowstorm of last Wednesday night and Thursday morning was a regular Nor'easter, filling every nook and corner with snow, and in field and road bed creating beautiful fantastic snowdrifts. In the woods the snow is from eighteen inches to two feet in depth.

Miss Maude King of Laurelton was the guest of Rev. Stonecypher's the greater part of last week.

Miss Holloway of Stephenson Co., Ill., was the guest of James Musser's family last week.

Mrs. W. F. Wilson and daughter Cora spent a day or two with Milton friends last week.

On Christmas day Mr. Joe Charles received the sad news of the death of his grandson, Will Charles, of Harrisburg, a young man of nineteen years.

The rhetorical given by the class of '95 of the grammar school was a decided success. The pupils deserve credit for the effort and the teacher praise for the pains taking manifested and the desire to do what he can for the advancement of his pupils.

On Monday Miss Jessie Myers started for Albany, N. Y., to assume the duties of her position in the hospital of that place.

Edgar Smith, tutor in the Susquehanna College at Selinsgrove, was the guest of Luther Hoffman from Saturday to Monday.

Mrs. Paul Charles and son were the guests of friends in this place Thursday and Friday of last week.

J. N. Glover and D. L. Glover visited relatives and renewed old acquaintances Saturday and Sunday. Always glad to see them. Come again.

Mrs. Stover of Millheim was the guest of Mrs. Rebecca Rhule several days of last week.

Mrs. Sam'l Blair, Mr. And Mrs. Will Blair and children were guests at the Musser Mansion last Thursday and Friday.

Miss Margaret Lodge spent Friday, Saturday and Sunday with Miss Sallie Wolf and Miss Emma Beaver.

Mrs. Hutson of Montoursville is this week visiting her brother's family, Rev. Stonecypher.

Miss Nellie Vanatta is visiting her grandparents, near town.

Quite a number of our young people attended the Xmas exercises at the Laurelton Reformed church last Sabbath evening.

Tom Feese is this week enjoying sightseeing at Shmokin.

Miss Bessie Musser was home for a few days last week. Saturday she went to Mifflinburg to visit her sisters.

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

Rev. Stonecypher's attended the reception of Rev. Charles Sanders on New Year's eve.

Mrs. Mary Elliot entertained a number of friends on New Year's day.

The fantastics failed to put in their appearance this year. What was the matter boys?

The Contest on Friday evening was exceptionally well attended, considering the bad roads and severe cold. The contestants were Margaret Lodge, Mame Hoffman, Bessie Musser, Mabel Charles, May Radabaugh and Nettie Charles. The gold medal was won by No. five, Miss May Radabaugh. During the year of '94 six Demorest silver medal and two gold medal contests were held, under the auspices of the C. E.

Teachers at Institute this week—Will Yarger, A. A. Lose, Will Wilson, Misses Nan Haupt, Minnie Haupt, Cora and Elsie Wilson. Others that will be there as visitors—Miss Jennie Yarger, Nora Myers, Mazie Pellman, Emma Beaver, Nettie and Mabel Charles, Bertha Pontius and Bessie Rule.

The week of Prayer will be observed in this place under the superintendence of the C. E. Society.

Jan 1st, 1895  
Elice.

### Preservation Mifflinburg Banquet

Preservation Mifflinburg is holding a banquet on Friday, January 13, 2006, 6:30 PM to benefit the Elias Church project. The banquet will be held at the Carriage Corner Restaurant in Mifflinburg. Tickets are \$20 per person.

Preservation Mifflinburg has been able to schedule Congressman Don Sherwood to speak about the importance of historic preservation. The Historical Society encourages people to attend the banquet to support Preservation Mifflinburg. For more information or to make reservations, contact Bob Lynch, at 966-0016.

### Bible Quiz

Judith Martin, 737 Orchard Road, Millmont, PA 17845 was the winner of the December Bible Quiz. As a result she won \$10.00 cash prize. The correct answer was from Genesis 1:16. On the fourth day God made two great lights; the greater light to rule the day, and the lesser light to rule the night.

The anonymous benefactor responsible for the Bible Quiz distributed \$2.00 bills to all those who entered the contest with the correct answer, including Mr. & Mrs. Randall Boob, Catherine Martin, Millmont United Methodist Youth Group, Margaret Stutzman, Mary Kahl, and Jonathan Zimmerman.

The Bible Quiz Question for January is: Who took the place of Judas as one of the apostles? A \$10 cash prize will be awarded to the person selected with the correct answer.

Send your answer to: Bible Quiz, P. O. Box 21, Millmont PA 17845. Please have your answer submitted by the 20th of the month.

### Letters and Emails to the Editor

Dear Tony, I continue to enjoy your monthly publication. That's why I'm sending you a donation to keep up the good work. I enjoy receiving your work by email and hope the donation helps keep the DSL connection. Hope you and your family have a wonderful Christmas season.

Jim Walter, Mifflinburg, PA

Dear Tony and Janice, I just downloaded the December Millmont Times. I'll read it later. I did want to wish both of you a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I enjoy every issue of TMT I receive. I've been away from Union County for over 40 years, except for family visits and it is absolutely amazing how places and names return to my memory when I read them in the Times. Many of them bring back memories of Sunday drives and picnics and hikes through the woods. Keep finding these memories for us!

Mary (Shively) Lytle

Hi Tony, We would like to receive The Millmont Times as a PDF. We really enjoy The Millmont Times and we appreciate all the hard work that you put into organizing the information. Thank you very much and keep up the good work.

Tony & Twila Graybill, Lewisburg

Tony, I love your newsletter - it brings me back home to all the people I knew growing up. You do a really great job!

Deb Stahl, Mifflinburg

Tony & Janice, Miriam Galer has been in Rolling Hills Manor since October 12, 2005. She is doing very well. She has been feeding herself, and reading the paper, and watching TV. Thanks to everyone for their prayers and cards.

Mary Catherine Kahl, Millmont

Tony & Janice, The completion of 2005 is almost here, where did the year go? Once again, we send our holiday greetings to you and we have enjoyed another year of reading The Millmont Times. Enclosing a little donation which we hope comes in handy with your future publications. Wishing you a Blessed Christmas, and joyful New Year!

Rick and Susan Boop, Millmont

## Lewis Township News

The regular meeting of the Municipal Authority of Lewis Township was held December 6, 2005, 7:30 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, Steve Bilger and Marge Schmader. Also present were Solicitor Melissa Lobos, Plant Mgr. Walt Scholl, HRG Rep. Rob Rowe and Supervisor Henry Sanders.

The minutes from the November meeting were approved as printed. The treasurer's report was given. The checking account balance for November was \$8,026.87 and \$97,204.70 in CDs and were approved and filed for audit. Marge made a motion to pay the bills and Steve seconded it – so moved. The Budget was presented and a motion to accept was made by Steve and Marge seconded it – so moved.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Received a copy of a letter sent to Melissa from SEDA COG stating that she received a fully executed original of the CDBG Non-Entitlement Activity Assistance Agreement between the Union Co. Board of Commissioners and us for the fiscal year 2005 for our files. Melissa will see that we get a copy of the agreement.

A letter to DEP from Melissa re: our violations and the reasons why the fence is not constructed will be on file when Melissa gets a copy to us.

**ENGINEER'S REPORT:** Rob Rowe reported that Steve Siegfried reviewed the letter that Mr. Seigel from SEDA COG had drafted explaining Sole Search Purchase to stay with Jet Tech. The estimate from Jet Tech was \$7300.00 to replace components so Walt can control what goes on at plant. We asked Rob to tell Steve that we want a bid on a new computer system. They were still under the assumption that we were considering refurbishing the old computer.

**PLANT OPERATOR UPDATE:** Walt was late for the meeting as the decanters were blocked from the last rain. He reported that the two culverts under the road to the plant couldn't handle the rainwater. He couldn't get across to the plant on the 29<sup>th</sup> of Nov. The water was too deep.

All four marshes and meadows are fixed.

**OLD BUSINESS:** Delinquency notice was sent resulting in a mortgage foreclosure being filed. We will receive our delinquent payments when everything is taken care of by the court.

**NEW BUSINESS:** None

## Black History Events Sponsored by The Union County Historical Society

Submitted by Jeannette Lasansky

**Freedom Bound:** The Underground Railroad in Lycoming County will be the Union County Historical Society's second of four Black History Month programs and will be held on Sunday, February 12 at 1:30 PM, at the Society's Dale/Engle/Walker house on Strawbridge Road outside of Lewisburg. The speaker will be Mamie Sweeting Diggs, who is the fourth generation descendent of Daniel Hughes, a "conductor" on the Underground Railroad in Lycoming County, Pennsylvania. She is respected as the preeminent historian of the older Williamsport African-American community. Mamie Diggs can often be found in schools, colleges, museums, libraries and any other place that people gather, telling the history and stories that were passed down from Daniel to his thirteen sons. Mamie's grandfather, Robert, helped his father, Daniel Hughes, hide escaped slaves in the caves behind their home on Freedom road. They fed them, nursed the sick back to health and delivered them safely to the next "station." Robert passed the stories to his children, including Mamie's mother, Marion. Mrs. Diggs has spent years researching and documenting the stories she had heard since childhood and donated her research to the Lycoming College archives. Mrs. Diggs was responsible for historical research on the WVIA video, *Follow the North Star to Freedom*, and the Lycoming College Art Department website: Freedom Bound. She has personally brought history alive for several generations of school children in Lycoming County. Mamie was an honored guest, along with Harriet Tubman's great granddaughter, at the initial launch of the Freedom Schooner "Amistad" and has won a number of awards for her community service and storytelling. She received an honorary degree from Lycoming College in 2005. Reservations are required for this Dale/Engle/Walker event and are limited to 35 people. Call 524-8666 or write [historicl@ptd.net](mailto:historicl@ptd.net) for reservations.

**The African-American Community in Central PA:** Where did they come from, Where did they go, and Who did they marry?

The third program in the Union County Historical Society's Black History Month will feature Connie Cole of State College and be held at the Dale/Engle/Walker House on Sunday, February 19. The program will start at 1:30 PM and the accompanying exhibit at the house will open at 1 PM and can also be viewed after the talk. Connie Cole received her BS from Penn State University and has published primarily in the field of nutrition. Her avocation has been researching the African American population in Pennsylvania which she has done for 15 years. Many oral traditions about African Americans have been preserved by Charles Blockson and others. Groups comprised of people like Ms. Cole have been following up on the basis for these oral traditions. In Pennsylvania about one third of the families of the free black and mulatto population established prior to 18th century were assimilated as white. In order for many lines to be accepted as African American in origin they must be proven to be African American in the records. Connie Cole has been working on this in Central Pennsylvania. She has found that the hospitality industry of the 18th Century Pennsylvania rural small town offered employment opportunities to a mixed racial population and included skilled labor. To get a fuller picture of our complex historical record come to the Society's program on February 19<sup>th</sup>. Among Connie Cole's publications are: (2003) Database=Colored Records, <<http://userdb.rootsweb.com/colored/cgi-bin/blacks.cgi>><http://userdb.rootsweb.com/colored/cgi-bin/blacks.cgi>, *RootsWeb.com*, compiler and contributor; (2004) Excerpts from *The Black, Mulatto, and Allied Families of Centre County, Pennsylvania*, State College, PA, *Centre County Roots*, 28(4):5-25, Author; and (2005) *Mother Northumberland County Pennsylvania*, Closson Press Apollo, PA Author. For any questions about the Black History Month events of the Union County Historical Society please call 524-8666 or write [historicl@ptd.net](mailto:historicl@ptd.net).

Friends, this is an announcement that the Penns Valley Men's Chorus CD, in combination with the Brush Valley Community Choir, and the Penns Valley Men's (Educators) Quartet is now available for only \$10.00. Titled 'A Valley Christmas,' it includes 23 selections by the chorus, combined choirs and quartet. To acquire a copy, contact Robert Bower at 814-349-8672, or me at 814-349-8304. Shipping cost is \$2.00 for mailing. This is our second CD in as many years. Last year's CD, which is still available is, the Penns Valley Men's Chorus, with the Four Decades quartet, titled "Favorite Gospel Hymns." So for good "local" singing, these are available also for \$10.00 & \$2.00 mailing cost. MERRY CHRISTMAS to you all. Guy Rachau, Director

### January Birthdays & Anniversaries

- |                                      |                                   |
|--------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| 2 – Brady O. Koonsman                | 16 – Regina Oxenford              |
| 2 - Chris and Jennifer Martin - 2004 | 18 – Keyen Bingaman               |
| 3 – Edward Martin                    | 18 – Glenn Kuhns                  |
| 4 – Stacey Witmer                    | 19 - Donald & Phyllis Ruhl - 1973 |
| 5 - Sarah Gordon                     | 20 – Carl Catherman               |
| 5 – Harry Oberholtzer                | 21 – Tracey Beaver                |
| 5 – Wilmer Zimmerman                 | 21 – Jennifer Martin              |
| 5 – Donna Fultz                      | 21 – Billy Mattern                |
| 6 – Wanda Weller                     | 22 - Helen Camp                   |
| 6 – Lisa Martin                      | 22– James & Helen Camp - 1961     |
| 6 – Betty Wallace                    | 22 – Wilmer Zimmerman             |
| 6 – Arlene Zimmerman                 | 22 – Hertha Wehr                  |
| 7 – Helen Harter                     | 22 – Gerald Starks                |
| 7 – Norma “Pat” Bennett              | 23 – Fred Yarger                  |
| 10 – LaNell Reiff                    | 24 – Randy Lyons                  |
| 11 – Leroy Zimmerman                 | 25 – Betty Makosy                 |
| 12 – Peter Makosy                    | 25 – Warren Zimmerman             |
| 12 – Ann M. Koonsman                 | 26 – Helen Martin                 |
| 13 – Carolyn Susan                   | 27 – Evelyn Miller                |
| 14 – Helen Raker                     | 29 – Margaret Yarger              |
| 16 – Marge Schmader                  | 30 – Stan Weaver                  |
| 16 – Julia Libby                     | 31 – Marcus Zimmerman             |
| 16 – Jason Zimmerman                 | 31 – Linda Walter                 |
| 16 – Diane Hackenburg                | 31 – Hilda 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 in Hartleton at Dormans Country Store. 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.

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