



Ario Pardee

Pardee

If you were to look for "Pardee" on the current Commonwealth of Pennsylvania transportation and tourism map, your search would be futile. Among the more than 3,600 cities, boroughs, towns, villages and hamlets shown on that map, there is no mention of the village of Pardee. Why Pardee doesn't merit any recognition is a mystery. While it bears little resemblance to what it was more than a century ago, Pardee is far from being considered a ghost town. Because of the role the village played in the history of the "Tight End," area residents will never forget about Pardee, and in particular where it is located.

Pardee, a.k.a. "Pardee Station," derived its name from Ario Pardee (1810-1892). Ario, a wealthy coal baron from Hazelton, purchased vast tracts of forestlands in central Pennsylvania during the early 1870's. Pardee's interest in the timberland of this area stemmed from the need for mine props for his extensive anthracite mining operations in Luzerne County.

Ario Pardee's ability to exploit the timber resources of Union, Centre, Snyder and Mifflin Counties was made possible due in large part to the westward expansion of the Lewisburg, Centre, and Spruce Creek Rail Road (later known as the Lewisburg & Tyrone Rail Road, or L & T). Like a number of other villages in western Union County, the village of Pardee sprang up alongside the rail line as construction continued into eastern Centre County.

Coinciding with the erection of the nearby sawmill, and the increase in employment, Pardee grew into a bustling little village. While his sons played a role in the lumbering operation in western Union County, there is no evidence to suggest that Ario ever visited the village that bares his name.

(Continued on page 2)

"The Pardee Lumber Company came in to the picture just as a major transformation occurred in the lumbering industry. The advancement was the advent of steam powered locomotives commonly referred to as "dinkeys." Dinkeys were no more than simple steam-powered engines on wheels."

Page 15 of the booklet entitled "Lumbering - A Way of Life at Pardee" by Jonathan Bastian.

The Millmont Times

JULY 2005

Millmont Mailbox by Postmaster Sam Smith



I am happy for and envious of my Postmaster Relief, Beverly Catherman's retirement at the end of July! She will be missed by myself, coworkers, and postal customers. Bev has worked at the Millmont Post Office longer than I have, since November of 1984! Anyone who knows Bev can vouch for how dependable she has been. I can count on one hand the number of Saturdays she has missed in over 20 years! Bev is a special person, having adjusted to all the changes in the Postal Service, and putting up with me for over 16 years! If you have a chance, stop in and congratulate her on a job well done!

In the next few months, I will be writing about the top five mail scams and tips to protect yourself from them. This month deals with work at home scams. Working at home is an attractive alternative for many. But beware! Con artists take advantage of this and place work-at-home ads. "Envelope stuffing" can be one such scam. Typically there is nothing to stuff, instead you receive instructions on how to deceive others by placing an ad like the one you responded to! Always suspect any ad claiming you can earn unusually high income with little or no effort on your part. Postal Inspectors arrested a Texas man involved in a large envelope-stuffing scheme that was in operation for at least 18 months and generated more than \$2.5 million from approximately 100,000 victims throughout the country. Each victim was required to mail an advance fee of \$25.00. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is!

(Continued from page 1)

Although the village has long been known as Pardee, the post office established there in the mid 1880's was named "Cohn." Since there was another village in western Pennsylvania called "Pardoe," the U. S. Postal Service selected Cohn as the name of the office at Pardee. Benjamin Cohn was one of the leading citizens of that village.

At the dawn of the 20th century the village of Pardee consisted of 30 dwellings, according to the late historian R. V. B. Lincoln. A 1908 Rand McNally map indicated the population of Pardee was slightly less than the village of Millmont.

The fortunes of the village of Pardee, and many of its residents, depended on the continuation of the lumbering operation. As long as the supply of harvestable timber continued, the village and its residents flourished. However, the quantity of available timber was exhaustible. Within a span of 18 years, timber on the slopes of White, Penns Creek, Thick, Strong, and Jacks Mountains was depleted. The only trees and old growth timber that escaped the woodsman's ax are located within the boundary of the Snyder – Middleswarth Natural Area.

Pardee Lumber Company ceased operating as the year 1903 drew to a close. The sawmill was dismantled, and remnants of the operation were either sold or scrapped. The heyday of the village had come to an end. While the village of Pardee remained and time went on, for many of the residents, life would never be the same.

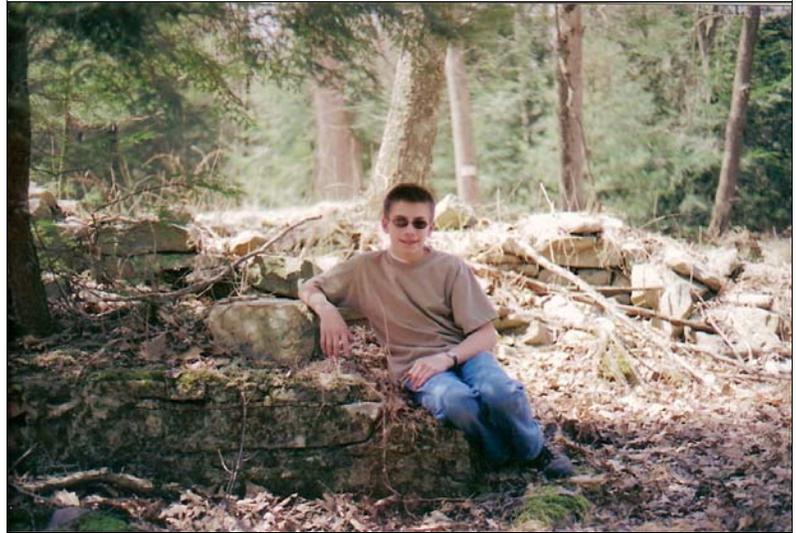
Delphia Shirk, of Millmont, was born at Pardee, and recalls growing up in the little village. From 1926 until 1935, her parents, the late Melvin and Sarah (Walls) Jolly, resided there. Her grandmother, the late Nancy (Zimmerman) Jolly, was also a Pardee resident. Shirk remembers the times that she, her sisters, and their friends gathered under a large tree next to the railroad tracks. The young children could always rely on the generosity of the engineer tossing a handful of candy to them as he passed through their little village.

The tenant houses, blacksmith shop, store, post office, and many of the buildings that constituted Pardee have surrendered to the ravages of time. Today, only a few of the original buildings remain. Some of those buildings are used as seasonal homes, or Rod & Gun Clubs. More recently, a few new homes have been constructed.

Evidence of the former L & T Rail Road can still be seen. Walking through the center of the quiet and peaceful spot situated near the banks of Penns Creek, railroad ties, spikes, and metal plates that held the rails in place can be seen.

All signs of the long trestle bridge that crossed Penns Creek from the mill to Pardee have long

(Continued on page 4)



Jonathan Bastian seated on the stone remains of the Pardee Lumber Company sawmill.

Lumbering – A Way of Life at Pardee

By Jonathan Bastian

I started research of the Pardee Lumber Company in the summer of 2001 after my father told me about something he had seen while he was hiking east of Weikert. He said he had seen what appeared to be the remains of a stone foundation. My father thought the foundation belonged to the Pardee Lumber Company. He knew that I was interested in railroads and that I wanted to do more research about them. He suggested that I focus my research on the railroad belonging to the Pardee Lumber Company.

Now that I am 4 years into this research I never expected my quest for information on the Pardee Lumber Company to be so extensive and give me the opportunity to write a book. I have learned so much in doing the research from note taking to writing a book to being able spot the evidence that there is a tram line there. I am thrilled that I had the opportunity to help preserve the history of the West End.

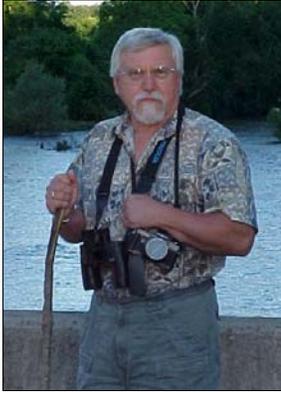
In doing this research it has made me realize how different it was from today. There are a lot more people today looking for the highest paying jobs. In the 1800's men looked for a job to live on. Back then men worked harder for a lot less than today. I realize how fortunate most people are.

When I walk along a tram line, I think about this being someone's life to work on this tram line, to slave away at the trees, trying to bring in some money to their families. What were once tramlines with lots of men at work are now narrow flat paths throughout the woods. It has helped me to see how fortunate some of us are today compared to years ago.

We don't give lumbermen enough credit for what they did. They allowed our nation to grow and turn into what it is today by supplying the lumber which is used everywhere.

The information that I have compiled is not complete. I have tried my best to keep the information as accurate as possible. The sources used have been obtained from books, people, and

(Continued on page 3)



BIRD TALK

By Jim McCormick

“It was such a brilliant, brilliant, shiny red color, it almost looked unreal.” June has come and gone, although the heat made it seem more like August. In spite of the heat the birds have been extremely active. Some birds are just starting to build their nests, while others are already feeding their fledglings. Today I saw a Cedar Waxwing collecting nesting materials along Penns Creek. This is the time of the year when you start to see birds that look somewhat familiar, but something is not quite right. For example, I saw a bird that looked like a Blue Jay, but it was only partially blue. Some of the Eastern Bluebirds are spotty with only hints of the brilliant blue of the adults. I am, of course, talking about the immature fledglings that are starting to appear everywhere. Sometimes it is very difficult to figure out just which bird it is. I saw a small brownish-grayish bird trying to keep its balance on a very large telephone line. It seemed quite awkward-looking and helpless. If I hadn’t seen a male Red-winged Blackbird fly up and feed it, I would never have guessed it was a blackbird at all.

One of the joys of bird-watching is that you never know what you are going to see. The other day I was walking along Shirk Road and saw what at first looked like a Pileated Woodpecker flying right at me. It turned out to be a Red-headed Woodpecker, a rare sight in my walking area. In the same spot, I noticed a bird fly into a tree across the open field. *“It was such a brilliant, brilliant, shiny red color, it almost looked unreal.”* It was a Scarlet Tanager. In the early morning sunlight its color was even more brilliant than I had ever noticed before. I have seen them high in the treetops along Penns Creek or deep in the forests along Cherry Run. Pictures do not do justice to the beauty of this species. As I was looking for information about this bird on the Internet, I was delighted to discover that others were similarly impressed with the unusual brilliancy of its color. In fact, it is described as the “most exotic” looking bird in North America. It is a bird of the tropics and returns there every winter. We are so fortunate to have such a beautiful bird living in our area, even if it is for just a few months of the year. The male is the brightly colored one; the female is a drab greenish-yellow, looking much like the female Baltimore and Orchard Orioles. Interestingly, the male, like the male Goldfinch, molts at the end of the breeding season and takes on the coloration of the female. So, just as the Goldfinches winter farther south in their drab plumage, the beautiful, brilliant Scarlet Tanager only brightens for a short period of time and it does it here in our area. The Scarlet Tanager is slightly smaller than the Cardinal. In spite of its brilliant coloration, it can be very difficult to see in the high canopy. I have heard its scratchy song along Penns Creek starting in May, but only rarely catch a glimpse of it from across the Creek. Its singing has been described as sounding like a Robin with a sore throat. I think that is quite accurate. A photo and sound clip of the Scarlet Tanager can be found at the website www.birdwatchersdigest.com, as well as at www.naturesound.com/birds/birds.html.

There is so much bird activity around us right now, you cannot ignore it even if you try. Adults are everywhere finding food for their nestlings and fledglings. The singing starts early (some say way too early) and continues throughout the day. There is something new to learn about birds every day, so grab your binoculars and take it all in.

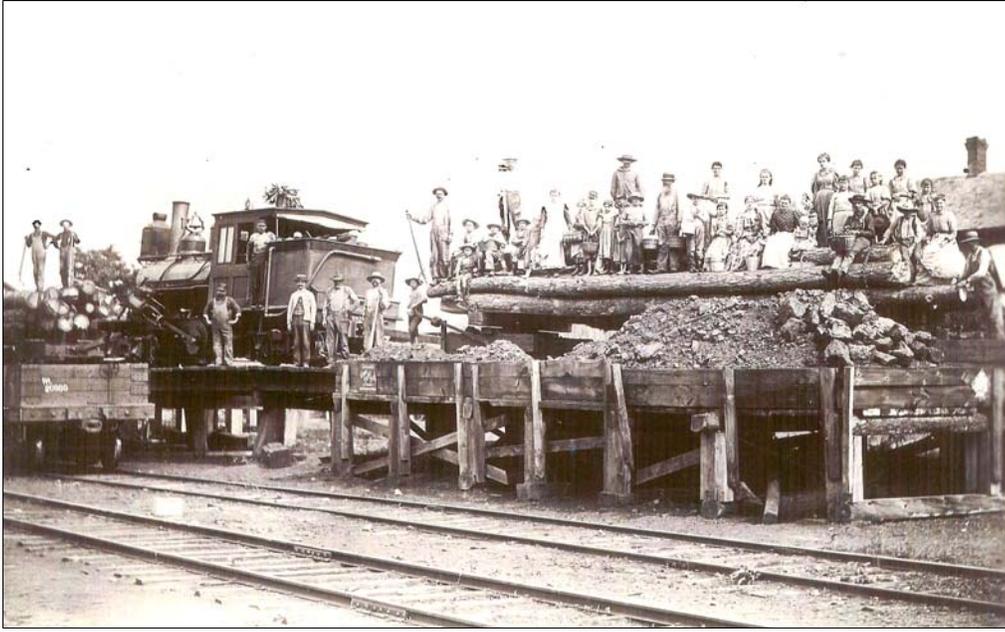
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notes. I have done my own research by tracing the entire tram line system the Pardee Lumber Company operated on. I have completed about 75% of the tram lines thus far.

Editors Note: Jonathan Bastian, fourteen year old author and historian, is the son of Jeff and Vickie Bastian of Mifflinburg, PA. The Mifflinburg Area High School freshman has always been interested in history, particularly the lumbering and the railroads associated with the logging era. Jonathan, who attends the Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren, is the grandson of Lucille Mattern of Lewisburg and William and Connie Bastian of Weikert, and the great grandson of Leona (Sholter) Wirt of Sunbury and Weikert.

A recently published booklet entitled *“Lumbering – A Way of Life at Pardee”* by Jonathan Bastian explores the history of the village and the lumbering operation that took place there. This 34 page booklet with photographs and maps of the Pardee area is now available for purchase. A donation of \$4.00, plus \$3.50 for shipping, per book will cover his expenses. Those interested in purchasing a copy of this interesting and informative work should address your request to the following address: Jonathan Bastian, 393 Oil Well Road, Mifflinburg, PA 17844. Jonathan can be reached via e-mail at jdbastian@dejazzd.com or via telephone at 570-966-6009.

(Continued from page 2)



The photograph above shows engine No. 121 of the Pardee Lumber Company with its load of logs. In addition to the logs, this particular train was loaded down with a group of Huckleberry pickers. This photograph was taken in the village of Pardee, where the Pardee Railroad and the Lewisburg & Tyrone Rail Road paralleled one another. One of the young ladies standing atop the log car (7th lady from the right) is Sarah (Walls) Jolly. Sarah is the late mother of Mrs. Delphia Shirk of Millmont.
Photograph courtesy of Delphia Shirk.

since been eroded. Those with a discerning eye might be able to locate the remnants of the sawmill operated by the Pardee Lumber Company. Sections of the narrow gauge tram roads that meandered from the sawmill to areas such as Henstep, Green Gap, East Kettle, and Bull Hollow can also be found today.

Despite the fact that the official cartographers of Pennsylvania fail to recognize the village, Pardee still exists. A shadow of its former self, it is located four miles west of Glen Iron, off Trails End Road.

Only those unfamiliar with the history of Pardee could ever disregard or ignore its existence. Those of us who are interested in local history will continue to remember the role this village played in the development of the west end, and the legacy left behind by its many residents.

Resources: *“Lumbering – A Way of Life at Pardee,”* by Jonathan Bastian, published in 2005; *“Wildcatting on the Mountain,”* by Benjamin F. Kline, published 1970, and The Greater Hazelton Historical Society. I would also like to thank “Weikert Historian,” Emilie F. Jansma, of State College, and Delphia Shirk of Millmont.



The photograph above is a recent view of Pardee. The grass strip in the middle of the photograph is the abandoned line of the former Lewisburg & Tyrone Rail Road.

“The mill was located four miles west of Glen Iron in Union County. Rail lines connected the Pardee Operation to the Lewisburg and Tyrone railroad. During the first year of operation, the mill produced 70 carloads of mine props a month. The superintendent, Albert Lichtenwalter, and Ario’s two sons ran the operation. During operation, Pardee Lumber Company’s circular saw had the capacity to cut 35,000 to 40,000 feet of lumber per day.”

From page 8 of the booklet entitled *“Lumbering - A Way of Life at Pardee”* by Jonathan Bastian.

Yesterday has gone. Tomorrow may never come. There is only the miracle of this moment. Savor it. It is a gift.

-Anon.



Amelia Schnure, First Grade Teacher - Laurelton

by Dahle Bingaman

On a bright fall day in September 1943, I walked into my first grade classroom carrying a plaid book bag not yet filled with books and, meeting my first grade teacher for the first time, asked "Where should I sit?" I don't remember where she seated me but I shall always remember Mrs. Schnure. As my classmates plan a reunion in August commemorating our fiftieth year since our graduating from Mifflinburg High School, I view it timely to offer this tribute to Amelia Schnure who taught the Laurelton contingent of the Class of '55.

Some time ago, I received a call from Mrs. Schnure's niece about materials she found in our teacher's attic after her death. She had first contacted Tony Shively, who in turn, suggested she contact the West End Library. As president of the Library, I accepted the materials, which included group pictures of first grades Mrs. Schnure had taught, lists of students and their parents, and other memorabilia of her career. By unlikely coincidence, in the process of selling a property in Mifflinburg, I was required to remove several boxes from the loft of the garage. Imagine my surprise in finding four boxes of textbooks Mrs. Schnure used in college in preparation for her long teaching career in the Hartley Township Grade School. In addition, I found books she used in her teaching and more materials from her days in the Hartley Township School System. A tenant had purchased these as box lots at her sale.

Raised in Laurelton, Amelia Schell graduated from Hartley Township High School in 1922. Following graduation from Susquehanna University, she began her teaching career across the street from her home in Laurelton in 1924. Early on she served as the teacher for multiple grades. By my entry on the scene in 1943, she was responsible for first grade only. Her marriage to William Schnure just prior to my beginning first grade was a source of confusion for my classmates and me because students who had started school ahead of us kept calling her Miss Schell.

Unable to confirm it, I believe she would have begun her teaching career in the red brick building next to the Hartley Township Community Center. The community center began not as a single building but as several one room schools. As transportation improved, these were torn down and moved one by one and joined together next to what became the high school. Mrs. Schnure continued teaching in the room that now serves as the West End Library until a new elementary school was built across the field from the old one about 1953. Amelia, or as she was known to many, Bib, continued to teach until her retirement in 1969. This lengthy career was spent totally in Laurelton. Over this span of 45 years, she touched the young lives of hundreds and created memories to last through our lifetimes: the ABC's, reading, writing, and arithmetic. Will any of us forget her "pinchy chair?"

She had a paddle but I don't recall her use of it very often since the



Mrs. Schnure and her first grade class of 1943. These students represent the beginning of the Mifflinburg High School Class of 1955.

Left to right: Front row: Mary Gross, Florence Zimmerman, Ida Bettlyon, Patsy Johnson, Dorothy Keister, Ruth Ann Bingaman, Lulu Belle Feaster, Anna Lau, Kay Libby, and Kathryn Everett.

Second row: Mrs. Schnure, Robert Ely, Seibert Teichman, Marlin Wenrick, John Wallace, Gertrude Bilger, Naomi Osenbaugh, Mollie Pursley, and Harold Pick.

Back row: Kenneth Keister, John Johnson, Franklin Zimmerman, George Bartlett, Keith Shively, Donald Schell, and Dahle Bingaman.

(Continued on page 8)



Meanderings

by

Hertha S. Wehr

Rubbish

A book entitled *Rubbish* was given to me. I couldn't quite understand how it could be interesting reading, but I decided to give it a try.

It proved to be readable and had some eye-opening facts listed. I found that Pennsylvania and Virginia are the nation's largest importers of garbage, trash, or rubbish, whatever you want to call it. Pennsylvania might be number two in the line of states to join the Union, but we are number one as a garbage disposal state! A lot of other states take garbage from the dense population of the Northeast. Imagine archeologists digging in landfills in the future and finding a New York Times in Colorado.

We can hardly comprehend the squalor, filth, and unsanitary conditions that prevailed until the late 1800's. As cities became more compact, even the well-to-do sections had much the same conditions. When society finally decided it needed to do something about rubbish, Sanitary Commissions were formed and garbage became a department of city government.

Cities and towns chose areas to dump the collected garbage. It was pointed out that wetlands often were the first garbage dumps. That was before we knew the benefits of wetlands in our environment. Kennedy Airport is situated over what were marginal swampland, wetlands, and wasteland that was filled with garbage. In our own community, Haney Ball Field is on the site of the former Mifflinburg town dump. Many communities have similar sites that have been used to erect monuments and well known buildings. Even New England with its renowned seacoast has spots that were once garbage dumps.

The book goes into detail about the University of Arizona's Garbage Project. A percentage of garbage from different neighborhoods is consigned to the project. Then students sort, weigh, count, and analyze people's garbage habits. They liken the project to a modern archeological project. Several similar projects are in other cities, modeled after Arizona's start.

Where am I going with all of this? It impressed upon me what a nation of wasters we are. They found that during

times of shortages garbage volume is up. This is attributed to families buying all that's available. Perhaps cuts of meat they don't know how to prepare are unpalatable and not used. Or perhaps they buy more than they need and it spoils. Another eye-opener was the fact that, after summer holiday's, garbage bulged with thrown away hot dog and hamburger rolls and other picnic relics.

Aside from the Garbage Project, another project is briefly mentioned where they auger down as far as forty feet or more to sample garbage from landfills. Some things do disintegrate over years, but since garbage is sealed off from air the disintegrating is really slow. By the way, the landfills of today are much different from the old dumping sites. It was found that newspapers are really the bad guys, and there are so many of them, they just lie there and "mummify." Some were found to be fifty years old and still readable. Office paper is also a no-no. In spite of the fact that the computer was to reduce paper work, it has had the opposite effect. All of us who have a computer and printer have a printing press at our disposal. And we use it. One research group had this to say, "If paper stored on a typical American aircraft carrier were removed, the ship would rise three inches in the water." That is sort of hard to believe.

They explored a number of things that go into landfills and, believe it or not, disposable diapers are not a major problem. Diapers do not contribute to health risks, especially when you realize that landfills receive about 20% of the sludge from sewage treatment plants. Plastics are much more of a problem, although manufacturers have been able to make them thinner and stronger. They are more easily crushable but they do not disintegrate. I suppose here is where I should put in a plug for recycling. If you do recycle, I congratulate you. If you don't recycle, why not? Find out what your local recycling group can use, find out the hours and become part of the problem solvers and not part of the problem.

The researchers say there is no shortage of landfill space. The problem is that some communities do not want a landfill located NIMBY. (Not in my back yard) But on the other side are the states that are strapped for cash, and the tipping fees help to meet expenses. But don't be fooled that the tipping fees are all free and clear. It is expensive to operate a landfill, and there are a lot of rules and regulations to meet.

The book has a lot more information than I could cram into an article of this sort. For instance they mentioned construction and demolition debris, which goes into landfills. They have no records on what percentage of total volume C & D contributes, but they do feel it's an area that should be researched and perhaps find a use for some of it besides landfills.

I was sort of overwhelmed by all the statistics they gave and I'm sort of ashamed and disconcerted by what we Americans waste.

The Creek School An Enduring Legacy



The Creek School located north of Mifflinburg. Photograph courtesy of the Mifflinburg Area School District.

When the bell rang at 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, August 24, 2004 at Buffalo Creek School, it announced the beginning of another school term for about the 150th time. Few, if any, of the many one room schools that served as the primary education system in Pennsylvania from the mid 1800's through the mid 1900's have given this length of service.

This schoolhouse on Green Ridge Road north of Mifflinburg was built around 1850 and served as a public school until 1953. Other schools to close that year in West Buffalo Township were Red Bank, Forest Hill, Centennial, and Rand. In Buffalo Township; Steans, Black Run, Buffalo Crossroads, Mazeppa, and Reed's closed, as did Millmont, Swengel, and Royer in Lewis Township and the school in Hartleton Borough. New consolidated elementary schools were built in Laurelton, New Berlin, and Buffalo Crossroads in 1952 – 53 and the era of the public one room school came to an end in western Union County.

The creek school was purchased and reopened by the Buffalo Mennonite Church in 1954 with 29 pupils. Mast Stoltzfus, Crist Sharp, and Edwin Keener served as the first trustees and Anna Mary Kauffman as the first teacher. A second room was added in 1956. It has served as a private Mennonite school since that time and currently serves various Conservative and Old Order Mennonite families.

While in the public school system, it was known as Rockey's Dam school because it was right next to the dam that ran Rockey's Mill on Buffalo Creek. It was later known as the Creek School, and when bought by the Mennonites, as the Buffalo Christian Day School. Today it is officially known as the Buffalo Creek Parochial School but is still referred to as the Creek School.

When this schoolhouse was built around 1850, a few things were different around this area and the world in general. With a short walk to Mifflinburg, one would have seen a town of 783 residents. Today around 3500 people live in the Borough. Snyder County did not exist, being formed out of Union County in 1855. The California gold fever had just reached the valley and adventurous men were leaving the county for the gold fields. Lewisburg was about to receive its first telegraph line, an invention only seven years old. Bucknell University was four years old and consisted of one building and five teachers.

On the national scene in 1850, Millard Fillmore was president, and the storm clouds of the Civil War, though still more than 10 years away, loomed heavy on the horizon. Though owning slaves was not permitted in Pennsylvania after 1840, some may very well have been slipping through Union County on their way north to freedom.

The United States had just added California as its 31st state and increased its territory by about fifty percent by acquiring the Republic of Texas in 1845, the Oregon Territory from Great Britain in 1846, and through the war with Mexico, received a large area of land reaching from New Mexico to California. In this area of the Wild West roamed about 200,000 American



The Creek School near Mifflinburg as it appears today.

Indians and a main source of their subsistence, the buffalo. The bloody struggle for control of this land between these native people and the United States government was to continue for almost thirty more years. As the Pennsylvania Dutch folk, of whom many attended this school, would say, "A lot of water has gone over the dam (Rockey's Dam) since that time."

This historical school building was chosen by the Juniata Mennonite Historical Society in their ongoing effort to raise funds to pay for the restoration of an old building done by the society in 2002. The commemorative crock shown in the picture on page 8 is the third in a series that is being made and sold by the society from July 2004 until July 2005, with the profit going toward this restoration. On the crock is a drawing of the schoolhouse as it appeared around 1950. The drawing was made from an old photo in the archives of the Mifflinburg School District.

The building receiving the benefits of this fund raising project sits just north of Richfield in western Snyder County. It is known as Fort Promfret or the Graybill Homestead and is thought to be one of the oldest buildings in Snyder County. Ac-

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(Continued from page 5)

pinchy chair was the main tool for maintaining order. I confess that my conduct earned me at least one acquaintance with it; like all 6 year olds, I'm sure I told others that it didn't pinch, but I remained cautious lest I find out the hard way that it malfunctioned the first time. Supplementing her teaching salary, she also taught private piano lessons to untold numbers of local children.

Her teaching career was played out in a period when teachers were expected to fill leadership roles in their communities. Amelia met this expectation willingly being very active in her church, the Laurelton Women's Club, the PTA, the Hartley Township Community Chorus, and other organizations. Her love of her work and her students is very much evidenced in the photos and lists of students which she kept. She was loved, in turn, by her community and will be remembered as long as any of her former students continue to live.

Editors note: My thanks to Dahle Bingaman for submitting the above article. Dahle is the son of the late Harry and Dorothy (Aumiller) Bingaman. A 1955 Mifflinburg Area High School graduate, he spent two years in the Army, and was a Lieutenant at the time of his discharge. Dahle graduated from Bloomsburg University and received a Graduate Degree from Penn State University in 1972. Dahle is retired from the Parole Board. He is married to the former Shirley Anderson, who also taught school at the Laurelton Elementary School. Dahle and Shirley are the parents of one daughter, Victoria, a resident of Irvin, California. Dahle is President of the West End Library Association Board of Trustees. Groundbreaking for the association's new library took place in June. Dahle is also an avid golfer and enjoys fishing. He and Shirley have traveled extensively throughout the United States.

Recipe of the Month

By Janice (Dorman) Shively

"Dirt" (Oreo Cookie Dessert)

Combine: 2-8 oz. Packages cream cheese & 2 C. confectioners sugar
Beat with mixer until smooth and set aside

Combine: 2 small pkg. Instant vanilla pudding & 3 C. milk
Beat with mixer until thick

Add to pudding mixture: 12 oz. Cool whip & 2 tsp. vanilla
Fold in with mixer setting on low

Add cream cheese / confectioners sugar mixture to the pudding / cool whip mixture and beat with mixer until well blended.

Crush approximately 30 Oreo cookies with food processor to fine crumbs. Layer 1/2 of the cookies on the bottom of a 9 x 13 pan. Pour the cream cheese mixture evenly over the cookie crumbs. Layer the other 1/2 of cookie crumbs on top. Freeze over night and serve frozen or chilled.

*For some added fun, place 12-15 gummy worms in the first layer of cookie crumbs. It'll raise some eyebrows when worms are found in the "Dirt."
ENJOY!

(Continued from page 7)



The limited edition crock of the Creek School north of Mifflinburg is now available.

According to oral tradition, this building sits on a foundation of a fort built in the French and Indian War and Mennonite pioneer John Graybill built his home there. It was reaching the point of deterioration beyond repair but it was brought back to good condition by a private contractor. This building is on private land but can be seen by appointment by contacting the society.

To order one of these limited edition crocks, call the society at 717-694-3211 Tuesday 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. or Saturday from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. They can also be ordered by calling 570-524-7998. These crocks are numbered and can be ordered until July 9, 2005 for \$35.00 each. With the crock will be a brochure giving a history of this school. The Juniata Mennonite Historical Society is interested in any old pictures or other material of this school. If you have anything to contribute, please contact the society.

Editors Note: My thanks to Luke Weaver for submitting his article about the Creek School located north of Mifflinburg. Luke, his wife Vera, and their nine children reside at 221 Pik Rite Lane, near Lewisburg. Luke is the son of Annie Weaver, and the late John D. Weaver. John D. Weaver and his family were one of the pioneer Old Order Mennonite families to migrate from Lancaster County to Union County in 1960. From 1960 through 1967, John Weaver resided on the farm located south of the Millmont Covered Bridge. Luke recalls his childhood on the family farm, and fishing in Penns Creek from the nearby covered bridge.

After living in Franklin and Lancaster Counties for a number of years, Luke returned to Union County in 1988, and is now the owner of Weaver's Woodcraft. Weaver's Woodcrafts builds and installs custom made kitchen cabinets and countertops, and is a distributor of Corian Countertops.

Luke is interested in local history, and at the encouragement of Mervin Nissley he volunteered to serve on the committee of the Juniata District Mennonite Society. He is currently the only Old Order Mennonite member of that committee.

Passage

Charles R. Oxenford, 75, died in his home at Dillsburg, Pa, on Wednesday, June 1, 2005, two days prior to celebrating his 55th wedding anniversary. Charles was married to Regina Susan, a former Union County resident, on June 3, 1950. In addition to his wife, this loving and giving man is survived by a daughter, Debra S. of Dillsburg; a son Paul R. and his wife Cathy of Mechanicsburg; a sister, Dorothy J. Bell of Mechanicsburg, and a niece Jane E. Gazzette of Harrisburg. Charles was loved by his only grandson, Marja R. Oxenford of Las Vegas, NV, and his great-grand-dog, Harry.

Charles enjoyed his life in Dillsburg, where he served as a Franklin Township Supervisor. He will be dearly missed by his breakfast club of Dillsburg. Charles served in the U. S. Army during the Korean War.

Burial was in the Dillsburg Cemetery.

Bobbye G. Benner, 69, of 30 Lincoln Chapel Road, died at 10:33 a.m. Wednesday, June 22, 2005, at the Hershey Medical Center. She was born May 10, 1936, in Tracy City, Tenn., a daughter of the late John Hershel and Virginia A. (Gregory) Griswold. On

(Continued on page 10)

Penlines From my Kitchen to Yours

By Lucy Hoover

May 15, 2005

Preacher Aaron Nolt was at our church with a van load of visitors from Penns Valley. There were also visitors there from Cumberland County, Lancaster County, and Ohio.

May 18, 2005

The girls and I went with Curvin's mom to visit with Ervin and Carolyn Hoover of Mifflinburg. We quilted most of the day. They are building a new milking parlor and free-stalls for 60 cows. His brother Samuel, (20) is helping with the construction, and is living with the Hoovers.

May 22, 2005

Galen Nolt (19) son of Lester and Martha Nolt of Lewisburg was injured while boating with his friends in Cumberland County.

May 26, 2005

Mom came home tonight after a lengthy visit in Kentucky. We have a family picnic planned for this weekend.

Favorite people, favorite places,
Favorite memories of the past.
These are the joys of a lifetime,
These are the things that last.

May 27, 2005

Nelson and Miriam Zimmerman of Millmont have a son, Marlin. Grandparents are John and Esther Zimmerman of Millmont and Eli and Anna Shirk of Mifflinburg.

May 29, 2005

Chris and Wilma invited the family to a picnic lunch at their place. Samuel and Martha Brubacker and David and Mabel Jane Brubacker and family of New York were there. Milton (15) and Cleason (13), sons of George and Nancy Brubacker of Liberty, Kentucky, were also there.

We invited family to our house for supper. Mom will stay here with us for three days.

May 30, 2005

Mom, myself, and the girls walked to our neighbor's (Mrs. Phares Reiff) to quilt. Mrs. Reiff is mom's sister. We got rained on by a sudden thunder shower on the way home.

June 2, 2005

Elton and Edna Martin of Mifflinburg have a son named Jared. Grandparents are Ammon and Eva Martin and Daniel and Alice Burkholder of Mifflinburg.

June 5, 2005

Chris and Wilma Brubacker had a picnic for the Hoover family. Our nephew, Nevin Shirk (14) of Alta Vista, Iowa, was there to join us. It was almost too humid to eat.

(Continued on Page 10)

Looking Back

The article was originally published in one of the local newspapers on July 20, 1894. It is copied here verbatim.

The Post Office Robbers Went Through the Narrows

The Telegraph, in its account of the robbery of the Mifflinburg post office, stated that four suspicious characters were seen in the Fourteen Mile Narrows, at about 8 A. M., between six and seven hours after the robbery occurred - seen by Mr. Stover, who lives a short distance on the other side of the Narrows, and who met them shortly after he entered the Narrows coming this way. We stated that they were undoubtedly the burglars. This belief is now verified, as on Monday last postmaster Kleckner was informed that certain pieces of official envelopes, addressed to the Mifflinburg office, &c., had been found in a barn at Sand Bridge, about three miles up the Narrows. The postmaster went there on Monday afternoon and found a number of small envelopes, which had contained postal funds, a larger one which had the box rent money, and a small purse which had contained money order funds, and which was handed him by a party who had recently been there, camping and fishing. Had a good, plucky crowd gone that direction on the morning of the robbery, the scoundrels, with the evidence of their guilt upon their persons, might have been captured. It makes one kick himself to think how easily they escaped.

Bible Quiz

Kenneth W. Lepley, 111 Cambridge Lane, Lewisburg, PA 17837 was the winner of the June Bible Quiz. As a result he won \$10. The answer to the June Bible quiz: The shortest verse in the Bible, John 11:35 - Jesus Wept.

The anonymous benefactor who is responsible for the Bible Quiz would like to thank the following entrants for their participation: Kathleen Martin, Kenneth Rishel, Alma Heimbach, Leah Brubacker, Marion Keithan, Anna Mae Martin, Sadie Yoder, Millmont Methodist Church Youth Group, Laverne Radel, and Mary Kahl.

The Bible Quiz for July - What is the shortest book in the Old Testament?

Send your answer to:

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

Public meetings to be held in the Lewis Township Municipal Building

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

(Continued from page 9)

June 6, 2005

It was still humid today. We had several thunderstorms. At Ervin and Carolyn Hoover they had something like a tornado touch down. It pulled the large posts of the equipment shed out of the ground. The shed will probably need to be rebuilt. Ervin has been building a milking parlor. At the time of the storm, six men were down in the pit making forms to concrete the sides. They were unaware of how serious the storm was, and did not have time to get out before the roof above them blew partly off. They had torn some of the roof off earlier and had planned to build onto the part that was left. Now it may take a whole new roof. With all of the damage, we are thankful that there were no people or animals hurt.

Allen Mook of Lewisburg, who does hauling for folks in our area, had surgery on Friday. He came home from the hospital today.

Amy Martin is home from Pittsburgh, after a nearly three week stay.

June 11, 2005

Enos and Rachel Shirk of Mifflinburg have a daughter, Anita. She has one sister and two brothers. Grandparents are Naamon and Florence Shirk of Narvon, and Milton and Edith Hurst of East Earl.

(Continued from page 8)

May 9, 1959, in Tracy City, Tenn., she married Wayne D. Benner, who survives. Mrs. Benner was a 1954 graduate of Grundy County High School. She was employed for 26 years at the Laurelton Center, until she retired in 1986.

Mrs. Benner was a member of Lincoln Chapel United Methodist Church, Laurelton, for more than 45 years.

She was a volunteer for the Hartley Township Community Center, and the Hartley Township Municipal Authority. She was also a member of the Hartley Township Planning Commission, the Laurelton Advisory Committee, the Election Board, and the Parent-Teacher Association of the Mifflinburg Area School District.

Surviving, in addition to her husband of 46 years, are two sons and one daughter-in-law, Michael W. Benner of Millmont, and Steven B. and Kelly M. Benner of Mifflinburg; two granddaughters, Katie M. Benner and Abigail A. Benner; four brothers, Richard, Barry, David and Keith; and seven sisters, JoAnn, Gayle, Debbie, Fawn, Jennie, Rena and Cheryl. She was preceded in death by two brothers, John and James.

Thank You!

I would like to thank the following people for making donations toward the publication of this newsletter: Siebert & Connie Teichman, Millmont; Hazel Benfer, Milton, and Mary Kahl, Millmont.

The following people have agreed to accept this newsletter over the Internet as a PDF, thereby allowing me to reduce the monthly expenses associated with printing and mailing this publication: John W. and Joanne Stamm, Chambersburg, PA; Ronald and Ann Koonsman, Millmont; Carla McClintock, and Jonna Zimmerman. Anyone interested in signing up to receive a free color version of the newsletter each month is encouraged to contact: millmonttimes@dejazzd.com

I would also like to thank the following new mail subscribers: William & Ethel Musser, Mifflinburg; Sharon Page, Ramer, TN; Larry & Janita Brubaker, Womelsdorf, PA; and Kenneth & Isabel Kline, Millmont.

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

Thanks to Jonathan Bastian for submitting excerpts from his book "Lumbering - A Way of Life at Pardee," Dahle Bingaman for his article "Amelia Schnure First Grade Teacher - Laurelton," Luke Weaver for submitting his article entitled "The Creek School An Enduring Legacy" and for giving me a copy of a book he co-authored with David M. Weaver entitled "The Ancestors and Descendants of Isaac Weaver and Barbara Nolt 1869 - 2002," Mildred Jean (Moyer) Hostrander for allowing me to reproduce a book of newspaper clippings from the 1880's that were preserved by her grandmother, the late Jennie (Bingaman) Moyer, Lois Pick for furnishing a photograph and information relative to the Laurelton Foundry, Delphia Shirk for allowing me to copy numerous photographs relative to Pardee, and Tharp's Beer Garden, Sandra Winegardner for loaning me copies of several books published by the New Berlin Heritage Association, Grace Kuhns for information relative to the book "Penns Woods 1682 - 1982," Robert Middleworth for furnishing me with a copy of "The 175th Anniversary of the Founding of Ebenezer United Church of Christ Congregation" published in 1989, David Diehl for presenting me with a number of old Mifflinburg Telegraph newspapers, Ronald and Ann Koonsman for loaning me an old tombstone that they found during renovations of their home on Third Street in Millmont. The headstone, which is in good condition, is perhaps from the old cemetery once located at the northwest corner of Millmont (I hope to include a photograph of the stone in the August issue of the newsletter), Ken Groff of Charm, Ohio for providing me material copied from the book "The Amish in America - Settlements that Failed 1840 - 1960 by David Luthy, and Esther Keister of Penns Creek for allowing me to make copies her photographs of God's Missionary Church that was located on Libby Road. Thanks also to Harlan Zimmerman of Alta Vista, Iowa for stopping by Shirk's Store and asking to see me during his recent visit to Pennsylvania. Once again, Harlan paid for a three-year extension of his newsletter, confident that I will be able to keep my end of the deal!

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

Sunday July 5, 1942. 67 degrees at 7 a.m., sun shining, a beautiful morning, 84 degrees at 6 this evening, sun still shining brightly, a delightful day. Lesson "God The Creator," G.T. Genesis 1:1. Lesson Text Genesis 1:1-5, 24-31, 2:1. Present 54. Con. \$5.03. Mother and I were at Bro. Chas. Keisters for dinner and spent the afternoon. Bro. Willard Showalters were there and Malyn. This evening at 8:30 Sister Edith Hoffman brought mother and I to their home and I officiated at the marriage of her brother Merlyn Harrison Hoffman and Miriam Viola Lohr. After the ceremony they served a lunch and then Edith brought us home. Merlyn gave me \$5.00.

BLOOD DRIVES SCHEDULED

Two blood drives are scheduled in the Mifflinburg/Millmont area during the month of July. The American Red Cross wants to remind everyone the need for blood donors knows no season. There is only about a day's supply of blood ready for patients who need it. Red Cross urges everyone who can to give blood now. Friday, July 8, at St. John's United Church of Christ located at 417 Market Street, Mifflinburg from 10:00 am – 2:00 p.m., and Wednesday, July 27 at Christ's United Lutheran Church (Four Bells Church), Millmont from 1 – 7:00 pm.

During June, July, and August, American Red Cross Blood Services, Northeastern PA Region (NEPA), is offering blood drive participants the chance to win great prizes. For instance, anyone who participates in an American Red Cross Blood Drive in June, July, and August will have the chance to win an Apple IPOD, to be raffled each month, or a gas card worth \$25, to be chanced off each week.

In addition to whole blood donations, the option of a double red cell donation will be available at the 7/27 drive. To help save a life by donating blood, you must be at least 17 years of age, weigh at least 110 pounds and be in good health. Additional criteria apply to double red cell donors. For more information, call the Union County Chapter at 524-0400 or 1-800-GIVE-LIFE.

The 52nd annual K/Catherman Reunion will be held at the Mifflinburg Community Park on Saturday July 9, and Sunday July 10. The reunion is open to any descendants of any Katterman immigrant. Scheduled activities on Saturday begin at 10:00 a.m. with fellowship, genealogical consultations, and sharing of family information. At 11:30 a.m. announcements and group photographs will be taken at the gazebo. At 12 noon, a picnic lunch will be enjoyed by all. Please be sure to bring your favorite meat dish, side dish and a desert to share. The reunion association will provide soft drinks. At 1:30 p.m. a family history tour by caravan will be offered to those interested in participating. The tour will last from 2 to 2 1/2 hours. The tour varies each year but will visit the farm where David Katterman first settled in Union County circa 1780. At 2:15 p.m. a Chinese (silent) auction will be held. If you wish to support the association treasury, you are encouraged to bring a homemade or other item (unwrapped) that can be auctioned off.

Activities scheduled for Sunday include an 8:30 a.m. breakfast at the Old Turnpike Restaurant in Mifflinburg. The cost of the all you can eat breakfast is \$6.50 per person, tax and gratuity included.

For more information you can call (570) 966.6236 or Email creath@dejazzd.com

Letters & Emails to the Editor

Tony: Enclosed find a check for the renewal of The Millmont Times. Also a check for donation to the paper. I won the April Bible Quiz, so I am donating the \$10.00 to you for your wonderful paper. Keep up the good work. Mary C. Kahl, Millmont

Dear Tony, I enjoy The Millmont Times very much and look forward to it each month. If you do an article on the Laurelton Foundry - remember I have a snapshot of the cupola and part of the main building. My husband worked there for a few years until it closed.
Sincerely, Lois Pick, Laurelton

Tony: Enclosed is \$10.00 for renewal of my subscription to your swell paper. For the birds, have you noticed the absence of the once common meadowlark? This bird would spring from tall grass and sing his way straight up in the air and then settle again in the grass. He could be commonly seen sitting on a fence, singing his heart out. The Audubon people believe that with the absence of Timothy Grass this bird has no nesting area, yet a drive around the country reveals many tall grass fields. I do notice, in the spring, acres and acres of brown, weed-less fields. Weed-less because of killer chemicals that have been sprayed on them. Could this have anything to do with the absence of the lark? The Indigo Bunting is absent too. Who has seen a lark this year?
Sincerely, Bill Mattern, Mifflinburg

Hi Tony, We enjoy reading about local history. Mel's birthday is May 6 and mine is Sept. 20, and we will be married 49 years this coming Dec. 7 (Pearl Harbor Day - makes it easier to remember.) I like Janice's recipes, maybe you can publish a cookbook if you need to cover expenses. I like the ones from scratch. Mel and I used to run the local Western Auto in the BV Shopping Center from 1971 to 1989, and we see a lot of familiar faces at auctions we love to attend. Mel drives the USTA van the last 10 years, and I sell antiques and collectables at Hartleton's Village Antique Mall and at the Silver Moon Antique Mall, having fun yet!!! Thanks again for all your hard work.
Mel and Doris Walter, Penns Creek, PA

Tony, I was wondering if you know anything about an Old Fashioned Cakewalk. I remember participating in a couple when I was younger but you don't hear about them anymore. I've been substituting at school and about three of the books I've read to the kids talked about a cakewalk. I know it is similar to musical chairs and I found some information on the Internet about one but I'd like to know the rules of a cakewalk or an Old Fashioned one that would have been held in our grandparents time. I thought some of your readers might know. Thanks for any info. Wendy Rote, email: shekou@sunlink.net

The small photograph in the upper left hand corner of page one shows the Union County West End Fire Co. building in Glen Iron. The photograph was taken October 6, 1963.

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

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

(Meals and prices subject to change).

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 2 – Carolyn Bowersox | 20 – Ruth Hoover |
| 2 – Shanda Bingaman | 22 – Elva Brubaker |
| 3 – Kody Catherman | 22 – Jonathan Martin |
| 3 – Mary K. Campbell | 22 – Esther Nissley |
| 7 – Scott Kline | 23 – Donald Long |
| 9 – Jerry L. Starks | 24 – Sarah Hoover |
| 11 – Matt Siegrist | 25 – Frank Raker |
| 11 – Mervin Zimmerman | 26 – Bailey J. Koonsman |
| 13 – Mary C. Kahl | 26 – Donald Zechman |
| 15 – Donald R. Miller | 26 – Miriam Hoffman |
| 15 – Sam Susan | 27 – Donald Bowersox |
| 18 – Aaron Reiff | 29 – Ethel R. Stover |
| 18 – William Fultz | 30 – Jeannette Lasansky |
| 19 – Kass Beebe | 31 – Baris Göktaş |
| 19 – Glen G. Catherman | |

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

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

The Millmont Times
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 Telephone: (570) 922.4297 or E-mail:
 millmonttimes@dejazzd.com

- | | | |
|-------------|-----------------------------|------------------------------|
| 5-Jul-1942 | Merlyn and Miriam Hoffman | Happy
Anniversary |
| 17-Jul-1971 | Robert & Carolyn Wagner | |
| 18-Jul-1965 | Dolores and Gerald Starks | |
| 22-Jul-1955 | William and Doris Fultz | |
| 22-Jul-1972 | Donald and Carolyn Bowersox | |
| 29-Jul-2000 | Kimber and Joanne Groff | |

Change of Address

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

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