



# L & T Tracks to Trails

News concerning the proposed Rails to Trails project between Lewisburg and Mifflinburg has been widely published in local newspapers in recent months. The West Shore Railroad Corporation abandoned the 11.8-mile section of unused rail line in April of this year. Using grant money (\$150,000) provided by the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation of Natural Resources (DCNR), the Lewis-

burg Area Recreation Association (LARA) purchased the track and right of way from the railroad company with a goal of turning it into a hiking and biking trail. By May, contractors began dismantling the rail line and removal of the railroad ties continued into June.

In addition to the money received from DCNR the recreation association received an additional 3.7 million dollar grant from Penn DOT. This money will reportedly be used to complete phase one of the proposed trail project. In 1878 the superstructure from Montandon to Spring Mills (about 44 miles) cost the stockholders of the Lewisburg, Centre and Spruce Creek Railroad about 2.35 million dollars. That included grading, culverts, bridges, tunnels, ballast, ties, rails, and signage in addition to numerous depots along the railway.

Controversy over the proposed trail stems from the fact that one state agency is providing

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# The Millmont Times

JULY 2009

## Millmont Mailbox by Postmaster Sam Smith

The Millmont Post Office will be closed with no delivery services on Saturday, July 4 to celebrate Independence Day. Many Post Offices in the area will have limited window hours on Friday July 3, but Millmont will be open normal hours for your convenience. (7:30-12:00, 1:00-4:00 PM)

This article is a retraction of my article from January 2009. In that article I stated that I would be retiring in June 2011. The Postal Service has offered another Voluntary Early Retirement, and after discussing my options with my wife, and careful consideration, I have decided to retire this year. July 31 will be my last day as Postmaster of Millmont! There were many factors considered in my decision to retire. The arrival of our first grandson in July is certainly one! Many of you know my daughter Erin, who will be having Myles Samuel. My wife Debbie is looking forward to being a grandmother and my retirement will give us the opportunity to spend a lot of time spoiling him. This development may have put a crimp in our plans to move to Arizona immediately, but being a "snow-bird" in Arizona in the future is a distinct possibility. Now that the decision has been made, I am looking forward to enjoying my retirement. It has been a pleasure serving my customers in Millmont for over 20 years. I have met some great people and made many friends. I've been saddened by the passing of some terrific people, Don Shirk, Brenda Rowe, Enos Miller, L.G White, and others. I've watched kids grow-up, and experienced many changes in the Postal Service. I've had the pleasure of working with some great employees: Bev Catherman and Tony Shively as my trusted and dependable replacements. Randy Lyons and Tom Guyer, rural carriers, and Don Dorsey before Randy. There have been many Part-time carriers also, among them local residents, Teddie Troisi, Deb (Kline) Woodling, Deanna Rakerd, Sherri (Hackenberg) Benjo, Sandy (Kline) Keiser, and currently Glenda (Hackenburg) Murphy. I would like to thank my current and former employees for doing a great job! I would also like to thank everyone in the community for the opportunity to serve, and also, all my readers of this column!



(Continued from page 1)



Looking west from inside the Paddy Mountain Tunnel.

taxpayer money to fund the trail project, while another state agency is proposing to close a number of popular parks in the central part of the state. While the two state agencies operate independently, taxpayers fund both. Public reaction to this project has been both positive and negative. Promoters anticipate that walkers, joggers, bicyclists, and cross-country skiers will use the trail. Adjacent farmers and landowners have concerns about the loss of privacy, trespassers, litter, and vandalism.

Another section of this rail line was abandoned nearly forty years ago. On May 9, 1968 the last train made use of the railroad between Mifflinburg and Coburn. Penn Central Corporation approved the abandonment of this stretch of railway on December 17, 1969. Two years later (summer of 1971) the rails and ties were removed from the nearly twenty five-mile stretch of railroad. Although at the time there was speculation that this portion of the railroad right-of-way might be turned into a trail, nothing ever developed. Unfortunately Congress did not authorize rail banking until 1983. The Rails-to-Trails Conservancy was not founded until 1986.

Large portions of the railroad right-of-way land west of Mifflinburg were under a long-term lease that expired once the rails were removed. As a result most of the property on which the railroad crossed reverted to the landowner. Large sections of the former rail line have since been ploughed over. In some areas between Mifflinburg and Cherry Run all traces of the railway have been removed. One of the few places where the railroad bed is still intact, and accessible to the public is the section between Cherry Run and the Tunnel Spur Road, which leads to Poe Paddy State Park. Those

who have hiked or bicycled this segment of abandoned rail line can attest to its spectacular beauty.

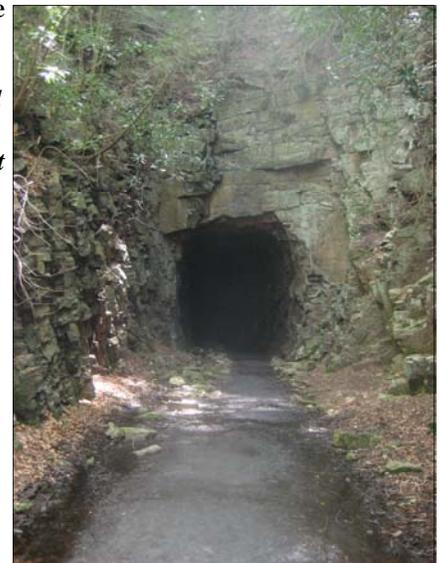
The railroad line from Northumberland County into Union County began in 1868 when the Lewisburg, Centre and Spruce Creek Railroad (LC&SC) first began construction. Rail service between Montandon and Lewisburg was initiated on July 23, 1869. While railroad officials envisioned the expansion of the rail line westward to Tyrone, the company was hampered by financial difficulties. With an infusion of money from the Pennsylvania Rail Road construction of the railroad was able to continue its westward trek through the heart of Buffalo Valley. The rail line between Lewisburg and Mifflinburg was completed in 1871. Three years later (1874) Laurel Run was the terminus.

As the railroad slowly progressed into Centre County planners had to find a way over and through a number of obstacles. Three bridges over Penns Creek were constructed and two mountains had to be bored through in the course of less than four miles. While the three trestles required considerable labor, burrowing through solid rock at both the Paddy Mountain and the Beaver Dam Tunnel near Coburn was even more difficult and labor intensive.

The original contractor hired to drill through Paddy Mountain was David Williams. During construction he pled with the railroad company officials for additional men and money in order to complete the tunneling project. Eventually they permitted him and his crew to abandon the project. The railroad company subsequently hired another firm to complete the work. George F. Miller, President of the LC & SC Railroad shared with the stockholders the progress of constructing the two tunnels in a July 1876 report:

*The Beaver Dam Tunnel, on section No 35 allotted to VanDykes and Wilson, is worked through and nearly finished - carriages have been driven through. It is 260 feet in length, not as long as was expected, as the digging away of the approaches in order to get solid covering or roof shortened it considerably. The tunnel at Paddy's Mountain at section No 32 re-allotted to Bridgens & Co, presented at first a rather difficult task. In excavating the approaches seams were found in the rocks, and large boulders were encountered, which had to be moved; but afterwards solid rock was reached which makes a solid and safe roof. In consequence of extending the approaches in order to reach solid rock, the tunnel is very much shortened, consequently the length will now be 250 feet instead of 320. The heading is within 85 feet of being through, but as the rock is so very hard, the work of drill is necessarily slow. It is likely that with a proper force the tunnel can be finished in the course of eight or ten weeks.*

Progression of the railroad from Union County, through Mifflin and into Centre County was slow. A cause for jubilation occurred on July 4, 1877, when rails were laid as far west as Spring Mills. The grand opening excursion train from Union County to the Centre County village of Spring Mills had 13 passenger cars in tow, with an estimated 1,200 people aboard. A reporter for The Mifflinburg Telegraph provided his observations traveling over the section of railroad between Mifflin-

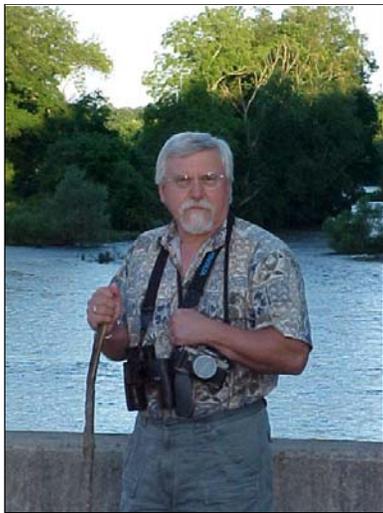


A view of the west portal of the Paddy Mountain Tunnel.

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# BIRD TALK

by Jim McCormick



**“June is Fledge Month.”** Another rainy month, but at least everything is green; everywhere you look something is blooming, day lilies, elderberry bushes as well as that roadside ‘weed’ with the beautiful name—angelica. The Summer Solstice has come and gone; the winter wheat is ready for harvesting—summer is here. It’s hard to believe but the daylight is already starting to shorten, as the sun begins its long six-month journey southward on the horizons.

Not only is everything in full bloom, but everywhere you look there are fledglings, too! **“June is Fledge Month.”** While there certainly are fledglings earlier, some Robins and Starlings had already fledged in May, but the vast majority of birds fledged in June. Little cries of “Peep!! Peep!!” can be heard coming from shrubs and from forest floors. “Feed me!!” “Feed me!!” “I’m over here!!” Little, fluffy, miniature copies of the adults of the species can be seen with their desperate, anxious parents usually nearby. All the work of courtship, nest building, egg laying and feeding the nestlings is just the beginning of the work of these frazzled parents! Now the real work begins—getting these awkward youngsters ready to fly south, many of them many thousands of miles, by fall time. Much, much work to do and the task is filled with danger at every turn. It truly is amazing to watch these parents trying to teach and protect these little creatures. The discipline shown by the ducklings of the Common Mergansers and Wood Ducks is really impressive. I mentioned in last month’s column the heroic efforts of the female Wood Duck protecting her ducklings from the mink. In fact, this month’s photo is that very same female Wood Duck and she is seen with most, if not all, of her brood. I have been watching the female Common Merganser with her band of eighteen ducklings for a couple of months now. She is incredibly vigilant and protective of her brood. I rarely see her before she sees me. One morning I caught the whole family about a hundred yards upstream from the Millmont concrete bridge; it was early morning and they were all in that playful early morning ‘prep time’. I could see them ‘shooting’ the small rapids where Penns Creek comes together at the tip of the island. It seemed like even the matriarch was at play. They were too far upstream to get a good picture, so I thought I would get ahead of them and catch them as they reached a clear spot through the trees along the creek. I waited until they started heading upstream, then I tried to stay out of sight and get ahead of them. I kept waiting near the ‘dip’ in the road along the creek, but they either were quicker than I thought or I lost them along the way. Later in the month, I took an afternoon walk along the creek and was startled to see them on the shore near that very same ‘dip’. The female, again, saw me before I saw her. She immediately called her brood into the water and headed downstream with the fast-moving current. The trees along this part of the creek make it difficult to see clearly; I could only guess where they were. I reached an open spot and waited—nothing. She had tricked me again; she was upstream hiding along the opposite shoreline. I could see her with her ducklings in tight formation, waiting. I went upstream and waited for her to head downstream again. We played this game until she reached the tip of the island, but it didn’t look like she was going to venture out into the open water, where I hoped to get their picture. I felt I had traumatized these ducks long enough and left them there. Nature is filled with wonder!



**Mother Wood Duck with her brood of seven ducklings. Photograph courtesy of Jim McCormick.**

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This neat little cabin is located just east of the Paddy Mountain Tunnel. A portion of the cabin once was used as the Paddy Mountain Railroad Station. The station was moved to its present location and a small addition was built onto it.

## burg and Centre County:

*Leaving Mifflinburg a little before ten o'clock we were soon bowling along through far-famed Buffalo Valley, whose evidences of prosperity are everywhere visible in the shape of handsome, well-stocked farms, with their wealth of waving grain, and residences such as are seldom seen throughout agricultural districts.*

*At Swengel, Millmont and Laurelton other delegations were taken up, swelling the number on board the train to at least twelve hundred. From the latter point westward to its present terminus, the road traversed a region comparatively unknown to most of the excursionists. Instead of the familiar farmhouse, nestled among trees and surrounded by cultivated fields, the church, and school-house, seated here and there, along the route, the scene now changed to one of surprising grandeur and beauty. Mountains took the place of meadows, green fields succumbed to the superior charms of the forest, its dense undergrowth charmingly variegated with clusters of bright-hued laurel flowers, while now and then, rippling brooks emerged from cool, shady recesses, into where depths*

*one felt irresistibly impelled to penetrate. Through this wild, yet lovely section, our train pursued a course not unlike that of a worm-fence, now winding around the base of a mountain, whose rock-bound sides were painfully suggestive of an avalanche of boulders, then a sudden turn in an opposite direction – over bridges – through gorges – up grades that taxed to their utmost the powers of our noble iron steed, but all under the careful guidance of one whose very presence inspired confidence in his ability to carry us through in safety. Huge, powerful as the monster he controls, yet careful as a mother with her infant, who would fear to follow where Josiah Ray, our engineer, leads?*

Completion of the nearly 60-mile section of railroad between Montandon and Lemont occurred in 1885. That inauspicious occasion was seventeen years after construction first began and nearly three decades after the LC& SC Railroad was incorporated. The reason it took so long to construct the rail line was not because of the physical obstacles, although there were some, but rather the ongoing financial issues that plagued the railroad company. The Lewisburg, Centre & Spruce Creek Railroad defaulted on its bonds and was sold at sheriff's sale in 1879. The name of the railroad was subsequently changed to the Lewisburg & Tyrone Railroad, or L & T.

While Hartleton and Laurelton were on the map before the railroad entered the West End, other small hamlets and villages did not spring into existence until the rails were laid. Once operational the railroad provided a convenience and speedy means of transportation for passengers. An 1897 timetable shows that a passenger boarding the L & T at Montandon at 5:40 a.m. could detrain at Bellefonte at 9:00 a.m. That three hour and twenty minute ride included 14 stops along the way. Traveling by buggy between those two places in 1897 would not only have been longer, but it would also been a much bumpier ride.

The railroad was an important means of transportation for farmers and manufacturers throughout the valley section, for both shipping and receiving. Sawmills were erected at Laurelton, Pardee, Weikert, Cherry Run, Paddy Mountain Station, Poe Mills, and Ingleby. The railroad was a windfall to lumber barons who owned large tracts of forestlands in Union, Mifflin and Centre Counties as it provided efficient means of shipping millions of board feet of lumber, mine props, pulpwood, and tree bark to distant markets.



A view of Penns Creek from the railroad trestle west of the Paddy Mountain Tunnel.

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# Penns Creek Angler

*by Bruce Fisher*

June was the month for Slate Drakes, Blue Wing Olives and Cahill's of all different sizes and colors. My favorite is the Orange Cahill with its bright orange body and yellowish wings. The fish can't seem to hold back from rising when one comes floating down their feeding lane. It's always the same story; if you float the fly correctly it disappears in a swirl. As it goes with the month of June there are many different flies on the water at the same time. There were many people coming to the shop asking what are the fish eating? The old saying goes in the month of June if you can see what the fish are rising to its most likely a Blue Wing Olive #18. They are so hard to see even when you get down close to the water and look really hard.

One issue with BWO's is they are so tiny and their wings are so big the wind will blow them to one side of the creek. So the side of the creek you are on may not have any floating flies. You need to get on the side of the creek the wind is blowing the flies. I usually see these flies very near the edges of the creek and also caught in the vegetation on the stream bank. Some nights the spinner falls of BWO's and Cahill's were absolutely amazing. You can match the BWO spinner with a #16 Rusty Spinner and the Cahill can be matched with a Cream-Colored Spinner ranging in size from #12-16.

There are many different varieties of what we call Cahill's so you must be prepared with different sizes. This same holds true for sizes of BWO's. So far this year has been extremely kind to Penns Creek with great water levels and water temperature. It looks like we will see BWO's, Cahill's and Slate Drakes until the middle of July. This is something we must enjoy! The past two years the fishing was mostly over by the middle of June. What really surprises me this year is the conditions are almost perfect but nobody is fishing. Take some time and enjoy Penns in the month of July! I usually stop fishing for trout when the water hits 76 degrees during the day, its just too hard on the trout and they don't live after you release them. So I move on to other things like small stream brook trout fishing or bass on lower Penn's and the Susquehanna. I hope everyone has a wonderful summer and don't forget to get out there and do some trout fishing before the water becomes too warm.



Photograph of Penns Creek courtesy of the author's website:  
[www.pennscreekanangler.com](http://www.pennscreekanangler.com)

**Editor's Note:** Penns Creek Angler is located at 17745 Old Turnpike Road (intersection of Route 45 and Fairground Road) and offers angling and hunting supplies, custom rods and repairs, lodging, and fly tying courses. You can telephone Penns Creek Angler at 570.922.1053, or visit the website at: [www.pennscreekanangler.com](http://www.pennscreekanangler.com)



## *Field Notes, by WCO Dirk Remensnyder*

A few retired guys who are members of the Buffalo Valley Sportsmen's Club are usually available to help me process bears should I need help getting them in and out of the trap. Last year I called them to help me put a 461-lb bear back in the trap, which we exhaustedly tried to do to no avail. After that incident they assured me that retired guys don't work that hard anymore and that they would be ready next time I had a big bear and needed help. The next time I called them for help on a bear this one just happened to be the exact same weight and they came prepared with a winch that hooked into the hitch receiver, a tow strap and an aluminum ramp with roller wheels. We hooked up the tow strap to the bear, then the winch and hit the button and watched the winch pull the bear up the ramp and into the trap with no hard work or sweat involved.

A Bald Eagle nest has been located on an island in the Susquehanna River adjacent to my district in which the pair has successfully hatched chicks.



# Meanderings

by

*Hertha S. Wehr*

## Independence Day

Very few people today refer to July Fourth as Independence Day. I began to wonder what I knew about the original day and I decided it wasn't very much. I got the encyclopedia and once again I had forgotten the real story—if I ever knew.

Winston Churchill referred to England's trials during World War II as being a time of "blood, sweat and tears". When I read the days our forefathers spent trying to come to agreement, for the good of all the people, they must have had times when Churchill's remark applied to their situation.

The first Congress met in 1774 and it wasn't until two years later that they came up with a workable document. They met in 1774 with a lot of opinions as to what should a document of independence include. They met again in 1775. This time they encouraged states to work at setting up their own government, they were so far from agreement as to what would satisfy all the states.

In 1776 they met again. This time on June 10 they appointed a committee of five to write a document on which they could vote. The task of composition was assigned to Jefferson. The committee, Jefferson, made changes, and the Congress made more changes, but the language is practically all Jefferson's. Everyone must have been tired of meeting and wrangling as June 10 to July 4 wasn't very long to come up with a document that they could vote on. Perhaps they decided they had discussed all the angles and resolved most of their differ-

ences.

I was a little surprised to learn that the original had a cancellation of an indictment for the king for having carried on slave trade. This cancellation was struck because several of the southern states still had slave trading, and the Northern states gained wealth by the trade, so no one was seeing it as a good idea. Thus there was a combined effort to delete it. The argument was that if we were still carrying on slave trade that statement would make foreign nations dubious of our sincerity.

The original document was deposited with the Department of State when the government was finally organized in 1789. In 1783 John Quincy Adams had a copperplate facsimile made to give to the signers and their heirs: unfortunately it ruined the original. The process drew out the ink so that most of the signatures and the text are almost illegible. After it was shown on special occasions, in 1894 it was sealed up on a steel case to keep it from light and air. It was in the Patent Office for some time, in 1954 the original was transferred to the National Archives Building.

I know that when I was growing up there was little thought of how much toil went into the making of the day. The Fourth of July was a holiday for picnics and for setting off fireworks. I can recall the Roman candles, skyrockets, and those salutes of various sizes. Of course there were sparklers and little pinwheels, which we younger children were allowed to set a match to. I remember my brothers putting those little one-inch salutes under a tin can, from which one end had been cut, lighting them and watching them go sky-high. Also a metal drum was set out and some of the larger salutes were thrown in the drum. To me it sounded as if a bomb went off. The drum served a dual purpose as it helped with the cleaning up afterward. Neither my dad nor my mother tolerated leaving a mess such as all the paper and junk left from firecrackers.

We always had picnic type food, even if we didn't actually go away or eat outside. A patio or picnic area was not the norm for every home at that time.

I hope you all have a happy and safe Fourth of July. Take care if you are setting off fire works—even if they are tiny little ones!!



## To the Millmont Community

I just thought I would let everyone know that Max isn't with us anymore. He was hit on the road sometime on the morning of June 7th. I buried him around 10:00 a.m. Chasing buggies and trucks was his way of life and he lived it the way he wanted to. We all live and die by the choices we make while we are here. I am just glad that God left me spend the time with Max that He did. Max was by far one of my best friends. I would also like to extend my thanks to everyone in the community who extended their kindness to him and accepted him as part of the town. I am only now, as I write this, realizing how big of a part of my life Max was, and how much love and companionship I enjoyed just having him here everyday. I just hope that in heaven someone is enjoying throwing a Frisbee or a ball with him, he loved that too. Thanks again, Doug Pepper

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This monument was erected by Lillian Sheffer in memory of Byron Foust Krumrine. The monument is located 250 yards upstream from the trestle at Paddy Mountain. Krumrine drowned September 4, 1921 while swimming in the “waters of Ka-roundinha.”

The landscape, the economy, and the lives of people in the West End of Union County were forever altered by the arrival of the railroad. The area between Glen Iron and Spring Mills became a mecca for hunters and fishermen soon after the railway was opened. The rail line provided access to those who yearned to take advantage of the refreshing breezes along the pristine waters of Penns Creek.

It is unfortunate that no farsighted individuals were around when Penn Central abandoned the line between Mifflinburg and Coburn. If there were, perhaps a hiking and biking trail would now be located along that portion of railroad. One of the few places along a stretch of the former L & T line where people are welcome to hike and bike is a short section between Cherry Run and the Paddy Mountain Tunnel. A convenient access point for the trail is the parking area located on the Pennsylvania Fish Commission property located west of the intersection of Weikert Road and Cherry Run Road.

This three-mile trail is sandwiched between Paddy Mountain and Penns Creek. To the south, White Mountain looms up to a height of 2,200 feet above sea level. This short section of trail provides a unique opportunity to see the natural beauty of the area. In addition to whitetail deer, black bear, and turkeys you might also have a unique opportunity to observe bald eagles, osprey, beavers, and otters while hiking along the trail or spending time along Penns Creek.

Whether you are walking or biking the abandoned rail line from Cherry Run to the Paddy Mountain tunnel it can be fun to reminisce about the early days of the railroad. Take time to consider all the hard labor involved during the construction of the roadbed and laying down the ties and rails, and building the trestles over Penns Creek. At the Paddy Mountain Tunnel you can reflect upon the difficulty workers had as they tunneled through solid rock.

How thrilling it would have been to be among the throng of people crowded into one of the passenger cars during the grand opening excursion in 1877. Watching clouds of smoke bellowing from the stack, feeling the vibration of the wheels of the car against the rails, and listening to the roar of the engine or the whistle echoing off of Paddy and White Mountains as the train sluggishly made its way westward en route to Spring Mills.

How interesting it would have been to meet longtime L & T engineer J. W. Tussey. By 1895 Tussey had spent more than 25 years of service on the L & T line. He was there when the rail line was first opened. What fascinating stories he could have told.

Then there was Frank Jolly (1868-1950) of Lindale. Jolly spent a number of years (c 1898-1907) as an inspector on the L & T. He regularly walked the rail line from his home to the Paddy Mountain Tunnel looking for areas that needed repaired. Jolly shared with his grandson, Robert Jolly of Weikert, some of his experiences as an inspector. One of those stories included the time an animal, which he assumed was a mountain lion, began stalking him during one of his inspection tours. Each time he turned his back on the animal it got closer, so he walked backwards facing the animal to keep it at bay. Leary of encountering the animal again Jolly began carrying a pistol along on his inspection tours.

My mind also wanders back to stories that the late George Wert, Sr. (1895-1977) told me about trips he made on the L & T after landing a job with the Pennsylvania Rail Road in Altoona. Later, when he secured a job with Ford Motor Company in Detroit, he also used the L & T whenever he visited relatives in Millmont. He recalled how everyone aboard the train was advised to close their windows in advance of approaching the tunnels. Each time Wert told the story he chuckled as he recalled the smart-alecks who deliberately kept their window open. As a result, the passenger car was filled with smoke as it exited the tunnel.

Unfortunately the L & T Railroad is little more than a memory to many of us old enough to recall when trains once rumbled through the West End. With the dismantling of the rails between Lewisburg and Mifflinburg yet another piece of local history is lost, never to return. Fortunately we do have a few small sections of the railroad that were converted to trail. It is along these sections of abandoned railroad where, if you choose, you can walk, ski, or peddle your way back in time.

Sources: The PRR's Lewisburg & Tyrone Railroad: When Two Halves Didn't Make a Whole, by Michael Bezilla; A Dream of a Ride on the L & T by Emilie F. Jansma; The Mifflinburg Telegraph; The Lewisburg Chronicle, The Sunbury Daily Item, and the Union County Standard. I would also like to thank Robert and Jeanne Jolly of Weikert, and Eugene Hoffman of Mifflinburg for providing information useful for this article.

## Recipe of the Month

by Janice (Dorman) Shively

### French Toast Stuffed with Peaches

1 pound ripe peaches (approximately 2 cups sliced)  
2 T. lemon juice  
½ C. sugar  
4 eggs  
1 C. half-and-half  
⅓ C. heavy cream or milk  
2 T. vanilla extract  
¾ tsp. cinnamon  
Pinch of nutmeg  
8 slices French bread, 1 ½ inches thick, crust removed  
4 T. unsalted butter  
Maple syrup  
Vanilla yogurt

Preheat oven to 375°

Peel the peaches, split them from top to bottom and remove the pits. Slice the peaches into ½-inch thick slices. Toss the slices in a bowl with the lemon juice and ¼ C. of the sugar. Let stand for 30 minutes.

In a large shallow pan, combine the eggs, half-and-half, heavy cream or milk, vanilla, the remaining ¼ C. sugar, cin-

namon and nutmeg. Whisk until blended.

With a sharp, thin-bladed knife, carefully slit open one side of each slice of bread to form a pocket, coming no more than ½ inch from the sides. Stuff the bread pockets with 5 or 6 peach slices each. When all the bread pockets are stuffed, pour the excess peach juice into the egg mixture. Reserve the extra peach slices for garnish. Soak the stuffed slices for 4 or 5 minutes in the egg mixture, turning the slices at least once so they will be evenly moistened.

Heat butter in a large sauté pan over medium heat. When the butter is sizzling, remove the slices from the egg mixture and place in the pan. Cook on both sides until golden brown. Transfer to a casserole dish and put into the pre-heated oven. Bake for 12 minutes.

Remove from the oven and serve immediately. Garnish with reserved peach slices, maple syrup, and / or vanilla yogurt.

This recipe is adapted from one of my favorite cookbooks, *Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner*, authored by Bradley Ogden. I've made just a few minor changes to his recipe. You can also make this recipe with other seasonal fruits and berries. Be creative.

ENJOY!



From the diary of the late Elder Greene Shively, born in White Springs in 1870 and a resident of Millmont from 1918 until his death in 1954:

*Saturday July 21, 1934—Temperature was 70 –100 degrees today. Clear with the exception of a few showers this afternoon. I worked in the garage until 8:30 a.m. then mother and I went with Florence to the Sister's Aid outing near Mazepa. Had a basket lunch. They had a place to swim. David (Grandson) was along and I was surprised to see how well he could swim.*

*Sunday July 22, 1934—Temperature was 60 to 95 degrees. Present 117. Con \$3.05. I taught my class. The following organization was effected. D. H. Strickler President, Augustus Beaver Secretary, and Charles Keister Secretary, and myself as teacher and Bro. Starook assistant. "Elijah Hears God's Voice", 1 Kings 19:9-18. Golden Text 1 Kings 3:9. After service I went back to the creek and ate lunch and then on my way to the Rand Sunday School. Bro. Marlin Boop took me along. I then came to Bro. William Boop's in time for dinner. They insisted that I join them at the table. I ate some cake and some of Sis Boop's good pies, and drank some coffee. A number of Bro William's folks were home. Came back to the church with Mr. C. L. Burd for C. W. M. I led the meeting. Subject, "Paul's Country."*

*Monday July 23, 1934—Temperature 60 to 90 degrees. Worked in the garage and made some repairs to Jacob's barn.*

### K/Catherman Family Reunion

The 56th Annual K/Catherman Family Reunion will be held at the Mifflinburg Community Park on Saturday July 11 and Sunday July 12. Activities on Saturday include genealogical consultations, group photographs, picnic lunch, family history tour by car caravan, and a Chinese auction. Activities begin at 10:00 a.m. and continue through 2:00 p.m. Sunday events include an 8:30 a.m. breakfast buffet at the Old Turnpike restaurant followed by church service at Christ's United Lutheran Church about 2 miles west of Mifflinburg. For more information you can contact Diane Bailey at 610.441.3378 or Kristin Gessner at 570.524.6156.

### Hartley Family Reunion

The annual Hartley Family Reunion, including descendents of Joseph Hartley, will be held at Anthony Selin Park in Selinsgrove on Sunday July 26. Attendees are welcome to come any time, with the meal time set for 12-noon. You are asked to bring place settings for your family and one of your favorite foods to share. The park includes about 10 acres of playground area, game fields, nature trail, and pavilion. The reunion will be held rain or shine. You are invited to bring your family photographs, old or new. For more information you can contact Jim Hartley at 570.374.4067 or email at jash39@verizon.net

# Penlines From my Kitchen to Yours

by Lucy Hoover

May 14, 2009

John David and Esther Zimmerman of Millmont have a daughter named Sarah Beth. She has two sisters. Grandparents are John and Esther Zimmerman and Allen and Lucy Oberholtzer.

May 19

Darvin Oberholtzer (age 2) son of Melvin and Irene Oberholtzer of Mifflinburg broke his leg below the knee when the express wagon turned over that he and his brother were riding.

May 21

Ascension Day. Rebecca Hoover (age 11) has been at our house for two days. This afternoon we all went to Shikellamy Park. It was perfect weather to sit along the riverbank and enjoy the scenery. Curvin and the girls were fishing, but the fish did not bite.

May 23

Delton Zimmerman (age 2) fractured his elbow at two places. He will need to wear a splint.

May 29

John Aaron and Amanda Martin of Mifflinburg have a daughter named Jessica Rachelle. She is their first child. Grandparents are Irvin and Esther Martin and Eli and Kathleen Reiff. Baby Jessica was rushed to the hospital soon after birth.

May 30

Samuel and Loretta Hoover of Mifflinburg have a son named Merlin. He is their first child. Grandparents are John and Verna Hoover and Melvin and Elva Weaver.

May 31

Amos Lavern Horning (age 4) son of James and Annetta Horning of Lewisburg broke his leg below the knee because of an accident while playing on the trampoline.

June 6

Larry and Miriam Nolt of Middleburg have a son named Justin. He has two brothers and two sisters. Grandparents are Lester and Martha Nolt and Phares and Anna Horning.

June 8

Norman and Alta Reiff of Lewisburg have a son named Nathan. He has one brother and one sister. Grandparents are Isaac and Ruth Reiff and Aden and Irene Weaver.

June 11

James and Annetta Horning of Lewisburg have a son named David Lamar. He has four brothers and one sister. Grandparents are Amos and Laura Horning and Isaac and Lizzie Weaver.

Baby Jessica Rachelle Martin is still at Geisinger Medical Center. She is still on oxygen and may need to stay there for two more weeks.

## Looking Back

The following article was copied from a local newspaper first published in the July 27, 1876 edition of The Mifflinburg Telegraph.

### Swengel Items.

Editor Telegraph: Since your correspondents from here have all ceased to report, allow me to give you a few items.

The buildings in course of erection are almost finished. Mr. Diehl already occupies his, and Mr. Aumiller will move into his next week. Our village proper now contains six families, eight voters, and unfortunately for Hayes, five will vote for Tilden\*

Harvest is over and everybody has gone and been to the mountains for whortleberries. I have heard of no snake-bites though some had small garters in their hats.

The sawmills near the mountains have been idle for about four weeks, and all hands assisted in gathering the crops, though it is said Whitmer's mill will resume operations soon.

On last Saturday evening the "Cameron Cornet Band," of Hartleton, surprised and delighted our citizens by serenading us. They discoursed sweet music, partook of ice cream at Mr. Zeigler's, and after receiving the thanks and contribution from the multitude, returned home. Never did this place present such a lively appearance.

This place is not exempt from gossips, news carriers, and busybodies, in fact all that is interesting. There are those (not lazy) but have a chronic indisposition to exertion.

Millmont is alive to her interest; preparations are made to build an Evangelical Church, and other buildings in contemplation.

A great many have, and others intend, visiting the Centennial Exposition from this section.

Notwithstanding the extreme heat the past month, the health of our citizens is excellent.

During the coming campaign we would be glad to listen to speakers of both parties and then make up our minds. If meetings were appointed here, I think there would be respectable and attentive audience.

Respectfully, Neutral.

\*And *fortunately* they have plenty of time to reform between this and election and cast their votes for the next President—Hayes of Ohio. —*Ed Tel.*

The small photograph located in the upper left hand corner of page one shows a westbound passenger train on the Lewisburg & Tyrone Railroad arriving at the Millmont Station.

# Millmont Items

On May 29, Mary Orday, age 87, of 1330 Stover Road passed away at Rolling Hills Manor. Some area residents referred to Mary as "Schoolhouse Mary", since she lived in the former Red Brick Schoolhouse just north of the village. She was born in Good Hope, Illinois on June 5, 1921. Mary served in the Navy during WWII, and was honorably discharged on September 28, 1945. In her free time she often visited wounded military soldiers at Walter Reed Hospital, Baltimore and the Naval Hospital in Bethesda. Interment was in Indiantown Gap National Cemetery, Annville, PA.

Tuesday June 2nd was the last day of school for the students in the Mifflinburg Area School District. That is good news for the students. Graduation exercises were held at the Intermediate School at 7:30 p.m. The graduates of the Class of 2009 that live in close proximity to Millmont were Dakota Catherman and Mariah Libby, both of whom live along Canada Drive, Whitney Knechel along Davis Road, and Corrin Showalter, Creek Road.

Joseph and Lori (Weaver) Peachey, of Dawson Creek, Alberta, Canada, arrived at the home of her parent's at 18 Penn Street late in the evening on Wednesday June 5<sup>th</sup>. They stayed with family for a two-week visit. John, Brenda, Stan, and Holly Weaver were glad to have Lori and her husband return to Millmont for an extended visit.

On Sunday June 7th the friendly neighborhood dog, Max, was struck on the highway and killed just north of the post office. The well-behaved dog belonging to Doug Peffer and his daughter, Laura, will be missed by many, including the staff and patrons of the Millmont Post Office. For more information and to see a photo of Max go to page 6.

Principle Scott Zimmerman recently recognized Mifflinburg Intermediate School classroom aide, Wendy Bilger of Maple Street, for her heroism. In May Bilger responded to a student who was choking during the lunch break. That student, Brandon Bowersox, his parents, and the staff of the school were very appreciative of Wendy's quick and heroic response to the situation.

Defoliation from Gypsy moths caterpillars can be seen on the trees on the lower section of Penns Creek Mountain across from Millmont. Higher up on the mountain is evidence from the destructive Hemlock Woolly Adelgid. Yet another destructive insect, the Emerald ash borer, is now creeping its way into the western part of Pennsylvania.

While camping along Penns Creek on June 13 & 14, just west of Millmont, the editor, his wife, and numerous nieces and nephews were fortunate enough to witness five mature Bald Eagle sightings within a 24-hour period.

Creek Road remains closed due to the construction of a new bridge over Smith Run. The timeline as to when construction of the bridge is to be com-

*(Continued on page 11)*

## Regina Hartman Chapter Children of The American Revolution

Courtesy of Leanne Keefer Bechdel

I am pleased to announce that it is now official! Our Sr. officers were sworn in at my D.A.R. district director and S.A.R. state registrar in June. My thanks to Preservation Mifflinburg for granting us use of the Historic Frederick Gutelius Home. We are proud to be the only C.A.R. chapter in the state of Pennsylvania with a home base!

Our officers will be sworn in by the Pennsylvania State C.A.R. officers and witnessed by many Sr. State C.A.R. and Legion members at 1:00 p.m. on Wednesday July 22nd at the Gutelius Home located on the corner of Green and 5th Streets in Mifflinburg, Pa. We hope to honor several DAR local chapter members (one will be 90) who were also in the C.A.R. Our Shikelimo D.A.R. Lewisburg Chapter is sponsoring the Regina Hartman C.A.R. Chapter.

A picnic style deli sandwich lunch (provided) and will follow the ceremony on the lawn of the Gutelius home. An opportunity to express our love of Country, Flag, and interest in local history we sincerely hope to have a large turnout of D.A.R. (Daughters of the American Revolution), S.A.R. (Sons of the American Revolution, and C.A.R. (Children of the American Revolution) as well as local living history persons present.

I am honored to have an opportunity to cast a bright light of hope and news for the historical places in our region in spite of the recent sad funding news for many historical places. Please consider attending if you are able.

### WELCOME TO THE 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Meeting of the Juniata District Mennonite Historical Society to be held Saturday, July 11, 2009 Millmont Mennonite Church Millmont, Union County, PA

9:00: Welcome & singing

Devotions: David Swartzentruber

Mennonites in the Valley:

Roy Longenecker - Lancaster Conference

Daryl Yoder – Memories, followed by "Yea, I Have a Goodly Heritage"  
Psalm 16

Luke H. Weaver - Groffdale Conference

11:15 – Society Report – John W. Graybill

11:20 – closing song, offering, prayer

11:30 – lunch available

12:45 – Tour: Walk to the "Shively Family Collection" in the village to view contents with host Tony Shively; travel by bus through the valley pointing out places of early Millmont Church history and other places of interest; stop at Mountain View Old Order Mennonite Church; stop at the Sierer House (stone house on the Brubaker farm with a clock dial on outside wall in connection with an Indian story); visit the Buffalo Cross Roads Presbyterian Church (Buffalo Cross Roads Mennonite & Shady Grove A.M. Church worshiped here at one time); visit the site and hear the traumatic story of the Penn's Creek Massacre.

Moderator – David Swartzentruber

Chorister – Isaac Reiff

(Continued from page 10)

pleted is not yet known.

On June 16th Millmont residents, Shawn and Stacey Moyer were blessed with a new addition to their home. Their daughter, Lyla Shea Moyer, was born at 2:45 a.m. in Geisinger Medical Center.

A June 18 email reply from Union County Commissioner John Showers regarding an inquiry from the editor as to the status of the Millmont Covered Bridge provided the following response: *We are expecting to get the go ahead from Penn DOT on the bidding process shortly. Penn DOT is currently making arrangements to handle the old timbers that don't get reused in the reconstruction. So all seems ago. Can't believe all of this effort that has gone in to it. Please reassure your neighbors construction bids will soon be let. The bridge reconstruction will start later this year and continue over the winter. I, too, want to ride my bike through the new bridge.* John (Showers) - Thank you Commissioner Showers for your interest and desire to get the Millmont Red Covered Bridge back into shape once again. Folks from the West End are looking forward to seeing the bridge restored so that it will be a part of the landscape for many years to come. Hopefully future generations will be able to use and enjoy the bridge and also learn to appreciate the heritage that is a part of the West End of Union County.

Sam Smith, Millmont's longest serving postmaster, has officially announced his retirement (see page 1). Postmaster Smith has competently served the residents of Millmont and the surrounding area since his official appointment to that office February 25, 1989. His last day of service will be July 31, 2009. Those who visit the post office each weekday will surely miss him.

Rain, rain go away, come again another day! While there were a number of beautiful days weather wise this month, we also had more than our share of rainy days. From June 1 through the 30th we had many rainy days and 6.4 inches of rain was emptied from the editors' backyard rain gauge.

The Bowersox's, a.k.a. the "Texans" arrived at 1440 Millmont Road, the home of Tracey Beaver, on Monday June 22. Their time here was spent visiting with relatives, picnicking, Flea Markets, picnicking, Yard Sales, Knoebles Grove, and more picnicking.

The Village Green Recreation Association had beautiful weather and a good turnout for their annual Flea Market and Chicken Barbecue that was held on the Saturday the 27th. Millmont was the liveliest it has been in quite some time. Kudos to the members of the association for putting the event together.

### *What's Happening at Christ's United Lutheran Church*

Sunday Evening Concert Series: All concerts begin promptly at 6:00 pm with doors opening at 5:30 p.m. ~ A free will offering will be taken. Upcoming concerts are: July 12, Messenger; August 16, Teresa Fink; September 20, Larry Mitchell's One Man Electron Band; October 18, Daryl Willow Ministries; November 15, Saving Grace. Light refreshments will be available at intermission.

West End Fair is Sunday August 2 through Saturday August 8. Christ's United Lutheran (4 Bells) Church will be serving meals again this year at their stand just East of the office. They will offer lunch Tuesday through Saturday and Dinner Monday through Saturday. A menu will be posted on their website ([www.4bellschurch.com](http://www.4bellschurch.com)) when it is available.

### *Angel Food Ministries - Low Cost Food Distribution available to EVERYONE*

The Angel Food Signature Box contains approx. 17 items (different each month) with a value of \$60 or more at the local grocery store.... for just \$30. Several other choices as well as specials are available each month as well. Christ's United Lutheran (4 Bells) Church, a local Host Site, will be taking orders for the July 18th distribution on the following days.... Friday July 10th from 9:00 am - noon and 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 pm and on Monday July 13th from 5:00 pm - 7:00 pm. For the current menu or to order online, please visit their website at [www.4bellschurch.com](http://www.4bellschurch.com). Angel Food is available in 34 states. Please visit [www.angelfoodministries.com](http://www.angelfoodministries.com) for other host sites.

### **Thank You!**

I would like to thank the following people for making monetary donations toward the publication of this newsletter: Thelma Pontius, Hartleton; Leon and Betty Klock, Herndon; Isabel Kline, Mary Kahl and Donald and Kathryn Shively of Millmont; Robert Reigle, Vicksburg; Arnold and Dorothy Gilkey, Mifflinburg, and Donald and Margie Bowersox of Woodlake, TX.

If you would like to receive a FREE color version of The Millmont Times each month via the Internet you can log on to the website: [www.millmonttimes.com](http://www.millmonttimes.com) and download the newsletter directly onto your computer. All of the newsletters published between January 2004 to the current issue are available on the website.

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!! I would also like to welcome the following new subscribers: Harvey and Brenda Ilgen, Mifflinburg.

I would also like to thank Donald and Eleanor (Hoffman) Hoy for providing information about the late Charles Loy and Harriet (Shontz) Sanders; and Margaret Moyer, of Libby Road, and Sharon Hartman, of Millmont, for allowing me to copy two school photographs; Betty Shively of Millmont for donating over 200 local obituaries dating between the 1940's and 1970's; and Margie Bowersox of Woodlake, TX for donating numerous circa 1950 Central Pennsylvania postcards.

## Are You Moving?

If you are planning to move, or if your post office mailing address is about to change, please notify The Millmont Times at P. O. Box 3, Millmont, PA 17845, as soon as possible. This newsletter is distributed bulk rate each month, and therefore it will not be forwarded by the United States Postal Service to your new address. All undeliverable newsletters are returned to me postage due. If there are any changes in your postal mailing address you can contact me at (570) 922.4297 or you can send an email to: [tshively@dejazzd.com](mailto:tshively@dejazzd.com)

## Blood Drive

A blood drive will be held at Christ's United Lutheran Church (Four Bells) on Thursday July 23, from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. All persons 16 years of age and older, in good health, and who weigh at least 110 pounds are urged to consider donating blood. For an appointment visit [www.givelife.org](http://www.givelife.org) or you can call 524.0400. Please bring photo identification.

## Correction

On page 2 of the June 2009 issue of The Millmont Times, in the article entitled "Rev. Charles Schnure A Martyr For Truth and Justice", I incorrectly stated the name of Mary "Mae" DeHass' father. Her father's name was Joseph M. DeHass and not John M. DeHass. I apologize for my error.

## July Birthdays & Anniversaries

2 – Carolyn Bowersox  
2 – Shanda Bingaman  
3 – Olivia Hackenberg  
3 – Kody Catherman  
3 – Mary K. Campbell  
5 – Robert Klingman  
5 – Roger Shoemaker  
7 – Dennis Shively  
7 – Scott Kline  
8 – Catana "Tina" Zimmerman  
9 – Rachel Shively  
9 – Brooke Catherman  
9 – Jeremy & Elisa Beaver - 2005  
9 – Franklin Gross  
9 – Jerry L. Starks  
11 – Mervin Zimmerman  
13 – Barry Cooper  
13 – Mary C. Kahl

15 – Donald R. Miller  
14 – Adran Martin  
17 – Randall Aikey  
17 – Robert & Carolyn Wagner – 1971  
18 – Dolores & Gerald Starks - 1965  
18 – Esther Keister  
18 – Aaron Reiff  
18 – William Fultz  
19 – Bill Chappell  
19 – Kass Beebe  
19 – Glen G. Catherman  
20 – Nancy Prutzman  
20 – Ruth Hoover  
22 – William & Doris Fultz – 1955  
22 – Donald & Carolyn Bowersox - 1972  
22 – Elva Brubaker  
22 – Jonathan Martin  
22 – Esther Nissley

23 – Shelby Hackenberg  
23 – Donald Long  
24 – Sarah Hoover  
25 – Frank Raker  
26 – Becky Wenrick  
26 – Michael Jones  
26 – Bailey J. Koonsman  
26 – Donald Zechman  
27 – Donald Bowersox  
28 – Phyllis Ruhl  
29 – Ethel Stover  
29 – Oakley Whitesel  
29 – Harold Stephens  
30 – Eli Shirk  
30 – Jeannette Lasansky  
31 – Baris Göktaş

**The Millmont Times**  
**P. O. Box 3**  
**Millmont, PA 17845**

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