



Changes to the Forest Landscape 1754 – 2012 Part II

The pioneers who settled in the West End swiftly transformed large sections of primeval forestland into productive farmland. Trees, stumps, and rocks were removed and cleared land was used for cultivation and pasturing livestock. Cultivating crops and vegetables provided essential provisions, for human as well as animal consumption.

Some of those crops included corn, buckwheat, flax, clover, rye, and wheat. Turning their harvests into usable and marketable goods required gristmills. Several gristmills were constructed at an early period in the history of the West End, an indication of the important role they played in the lives of the settlers. According to the history of this section of the county, preserved by Richard V.B. Lincoln, three gristmills were constructed in the area comprising Hartley and Lewis townships prior to 1800. Those gristmills were owned by David Smith, Michael Shirtz, and Peter Fisher.

Smith's mill, built in 1781, was situated southeast of Millmont. In 1804, David and Barbara (Shively) Smith sold their mill, along with other real estate to Robert Barber, Jr. By 1807, the Smith family had relocated to Columbiana County, Ohio. In addition to Barber, successive owners of this mill included John Ruhl, Samuel Kauffman, Samuel Knauer, John and Ase-neath (Knauer) Halfpenny and Abraham E. Grove, and others. This mill was enlarged and refurbished on numerous occasions.

Michael Shirtz's gristmill was located at the east entrance to Seven-Mile-Narrows. This mill was situated adjacent to the Reuben Haines Road, and was operating in 1793. Waterpower to operate this mill was furnished from Laurel Run. Subsequent owner, Henry Roush, advertised this property for sale in the March 1840 edition of the New Berlin newspaper – the Union Star. That advertisement noted that in addition to 111 acres, the property included a merchant gristmill with never failing stream, a sawmill, distillery, commodious dwelling house, including a tavern, store, and millers house, along with barns and stalling.

Peter Fisher built a gristmill near the mouth of Laurel Run in 1797. This mill along Penns Creek was a focal point for loading and launching arks. Those arks embarked on their journey loaded with wheat, flour, whiskey, butter and other locally produced goods. Fisher's mill stood for a half century prior to being replaced with a new structure in 1847. All traces of these three gristmills have long since passed from the scene.

As the population of the West End increased so too did the need for schoolhouses. This resulted in the construction of several subscription schools. Subscription schools were often built on donated land and fees to build and operate the schools were collected from the parents of the students who attended. Three log subscription schools were erected in the West End prior to 1800. These schools included the Keister School, one at Laurelton, and yet another school in Hartleton.

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The Millmont Times

JULY 2012

Hartleton Mailbox by Postmaster Gail Hanselman

It's July already....hard to believe but the year is half over, summer vacation is half over, fresh strawberries are over....I know it's hot right now but for me summer just doesn't last long enough.

Speaking of hot....we are having some days in the 90's so remembering to stay hydrated is very important. The risks of dehydration are greater in hot and humid climates. Your body heats up faster in the heat. You sweat to keep your body cool. It's not unusual to lose 1 1/2-quarts or more of sweat an hour when you are very active in the heat.

When the climate is also humid, or you are wearing clothing that traps sweat, your sweat rate - hence your water loss rate - is even higher. It is possible in some hot and humid climates to lose water faster than you are able to replace it. Frequent drinking to replace body water is critical in the heat. In extreme heat, you are more susceptible to dehydration and heat stress that can lead to reduced performance, heat injury and irreparable kidney damage and death.

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The Keister School was located adjacent to Weikert Road and was situated on the east side of the cemetery that bears the same name. Funds used to erect this schoolhouse were provided in the will of George Kester (Keister), who died in 1795. This log schoolhouse was covered with slab wood and the benches were made of planks. The desks used by the students capable of writing were also made of planks, and were situated along the interior walls of the school.

Richard V.B. Lincoln (1822 - 1901) attended this school during his early childhood. At age nine his parents, John and Hannah (Van Boskirk) Lincoln, sent him to the Mifflinburg Academy. At that time the academy had a reputation for providing students with more comprehensive educational opportunities. By age 16, Lincoln entered Dickinson College at Carlisle. He graduated in 1841 and by the following year he was hired by the Hartley Township School Board to teach in the district. He left his teaching position in 1845 in order to devote attention to his farming interests.

Lincoln served on the Hartley Township School Board for more than 20 years, and was well acquainted with all aspects of early education in the West End. His historical writings relative to that section of the county are invaluable. When he documented recollections of his early childhood education at the Keister School he included this observation: *“The instruction imparted in this old log schoolhouse would not suffer when put in comparison with any imparted in the township at the present day.”*

A log schoolhouse was built on the hill east of the village of Laurelton. A description of this early school stated that it had a clapboard roof, long low windows, slab or plank benches, and desks for writing around the sides of the building. This schoolhouse was replaced in 1842.

The first schoolhouse erected in Hartleton was built using round logs with the bark still attached. These logs were covered with boards and slabs. The seats were also made of slab wood.

During the period when subscription schools were common a term consisted of three months duration, and students learned the basics – reading, writing, and arithmetic. Lincoln’s description of these modest schoolhouses of Hartley Township noted that they were: *“distinctly and entirely backwoods American”*.

Many of the early settlers of Union County were of German and Swiss descent, in addition to other nationalities. The reason why these people left their homeland and came to America is varied. Often families came here due to religious persecution in their homeland. Some men left in order to avoid conscription. Others came because of the poor economic conditions in their native land, and the prospect of moving to a different country with new opportunities was alluring.

Some of these families arrived in America via the Port of Philadelphia. These families first settled in southeastern Pennsylvania. As time went by second and third generations of these families who first came here began migrating to other parts of the state and country, including Union County.

The lives of the settlers were in a variety of ways shaped by their religious views and practices. Initially the population of the West End of the county was rather sparse, so worship services were held in the homes of the congregants. Church services were also held in the early schoolhouses. The Lutheran and German Reformed were some of the earliest denominations to erect churches in the West End.

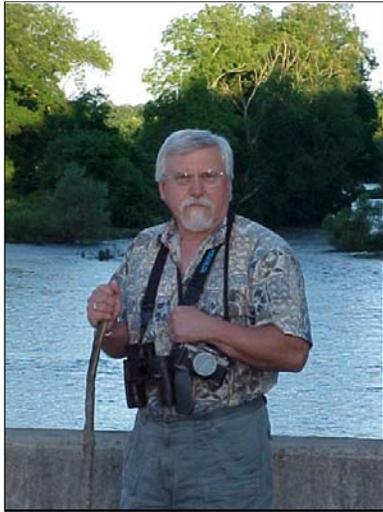
In 1801 George Ray donated roughly one acre of land to the Lutheran and German Reformed congregations on which they erected a church built of hewed logs. The log sanctuary was situated on the south side of the highway, east of the present day

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Shown above is a view of the Millmont Covered Bridge taken December 20, 2009 during the time it was undergoing major renovations. Many of the original timbers used in the construction of this bridge were replaced during this process. Below is a view of the Glen Iron Covered Bridge prior to being demolished in June 1952.





BIRD TALK

by Jim McCormick

The fields covered with the green of corn, soy and clover, interrupted only by rows of golden winter wheat ready for harvest, the roadsides now with the Phloxes of May replaced by Daylilies, Chicory and Queen Anne's Lace, the arrival of the colorful Buckeye, Swallowtail, and Monarch butterflies, the darting Damselflies of green, blue and black, and the mountainside completely covered with its summer green—that's June!

Fluffy, gray little birds lined up on the wires across Penns Creek; their markings so ambiguous it was difficult to know what they were. I had my suspicions they were recently fledged Tree Swallows, but there was almost no telling who they belonged to. That's how the month of June began; it's the month of the fledglings. Each weekend as I took my walk, I noticed more and more details appearing on these little birds. Finally on the last weekend of the month I could start to make out their little notched tails--swallow tails. They were still lining up on the wires, but now they were flying; chasing each other, skimming over the water, flaunting their newfound aeronautic skills. Occasionally an adult would fly up to the wires and feed one of them. Although they were becoming skilled flyers, they still had to master the art of catching their food on the fly. Swallows do everything on the fly; they eat, drink and bathe while flying. It's amazing to watch them as they skim across the water, bouncing like a skipping stone. These little fluff-balls would soon begin to take on the brilliant sheen of the adults and become those beautiful Masters of the Air.

About mid-month I was walking along Shirk Road and I noticed a female Robin making quite a commotion in a sumac tree along the side of the road and knew there had to be a fledgling close by. The male flew up to the wire above with a worm dangling from his beak; further proof the fledgling was right near where I was standing. I looked and looked into that thickly leafed sumac, but could not see anything but the frantic female. I finally heard something behind me and saw some motion in the shrub across the road. There, tucked away in the dense vegetation, was the little Robin fledgling, with his stubby little tail and spotted breast, watching me, waiting for his breakfast. I took a quick photograph and left this Robin family to their daily affairs. Not much farther, as I turned onto Davis Road, I saw a Baltimore Oriole fly up from the roadside vegetation along a recently mowed field. It was an unusual spot to see one; I knew there had to be a fledgling somewhere around there, too. I tried to flush out anything hiding along the road, but found nothing. Across the road I saw an Oriole-colored bird fly up onto a tall Black Cohosh plant growing in the soy bean field. It must not have been able to fly very well, because it stayed there, perched, seemingly waiting for something. Breakfast, perhaps? I figured the little guy was traumatized enough already, and left him there. I thought it might have come from the nest I had been watching since the beginning of May. The nest, now abandoned, had been built in an elm tree overhanging Shirk Road; that tree, sadly however, was now dying and, although the Orioles had nested there for several years, they would no longer be returning to that tree. As I thought about the Baltimore Orioles, I was reminded that I had not seen any Orchard Orioles this season. I normally see one or two pairs between the Covered Bridge and the end of Shirk Road.

Another species I haven't seen or heard for a couple of years now is the Yellow-billed Cuckoo. Every year for quite a while I would hear their familiar "Cuk..Cuk..Cuk" or "Coo....Coo....Coo....!" But no more. The cheery "Ritzity, Ritzity, Ritzity" of the Common Yellowthroat is also absent this year. This is only temporary, I hope; that's four species (counting the Eastern Meadowlarks I mentioned last month) that have not returned in just a couple of years. This has been such an unusual winter and spring; maybe they will all return next year. There are plenty of other birds to see, so get out there and enjoy the wonders of nature.



Shown above is a photograph of an immature Tree Swallow and below is an immature Robin. Photographs courtesy of Jim McCormick.



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Shown above is a turkey call made of American Chestnut wood salvaged from the Millmont Covered Bridge. A limited number (155) of these unique turkey calls were made through the efforts of John Bohn, Robert Wagner and Cutting Edge Laser Engraving, the SUN Tech Foundation, David Aucker (artwork), and Top Calls, Renovo, PA.

church. This church was razed in 1851 and replaced with a brick structure on the same site. The former Ray’s Church that stands today on the north side of the highway was constructed in 1883 on land obtained from Samuel Ruhl.

Another log church located in the West End was one built near Laurelton (on the east side of Laurel Run) about 1814. This church was built on property donated by John Glover, and was intended for use by any Protestant denominations. Lincoln noted that this church – “was built of hewed logs that were chinked and daubed, with a small round log stable adjacent in which to feed and shelter the parson’s horse”. The log church was used for a number of years before it was replaced by a brick structure.

At one time there were two covered bridges spanning Penns Creek in Hartley Township, one at Millmont and another at Glen Iron. The commissioners of Union County awarded the bid for the construction of the 157-foot bridge west of Millmont to Henry Charles in January 1857. Within days construction was underway

and it was completed and ready for inspection in September of the same year.

Anecdotal information suggests that Jefferson Jordon (1827-1910) was one of the men involved in the bridge’s construction. Jordon, who was known for his proficiency with a broad axe, purportedly assisted in cutting and hewing the timbers used in the construction of the Millmont Covered Bridge.

I have very few specifics concerning the Glen Iron Covered Bridge, such as the date it was constructed, the length, or who was responsible for its construction. However, it was similar in design to that of the Millmont Covered Bridge, including the Burr arch truss. This bridge was replaced in June 1952.

During the early history of the West End, lumbering and agriculture were the two principal methods by which men in this area earned their livelihood. Reliance on wood and products made from wood was so important that sawmills were often one

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Field Notes, by WCO Dirk Remensnyder

After a morning of spring gobbler hunting a hunter decided to take a different route back and swing by and check on his neighbor’s camp, which he frequently did. Upon walking up to the camp he was shocked to see someone had broken into the camp smashing numerous windows. The hunter immediately ran back to his house and called the camp owner and the State Police. When all parties arrived and went back to the camp the Trooper did a thorough investigation to find any clues of who the perpetrator of this crime might be. Upon completion of the investigation the trooper had his suspect but could not affect an arrest because the suspect was just too wily and quick to be caught. It seems that this Pileated Woodpecker may never face justice.

Numerous individuals have been cited for driving on portions of State Game Lands that are closed to vehicular travel.

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To reduce the risk of dehydration in the heat drink water frequently - 4-6 quarts of water for light work in warm weather, and 10-12 quarts of water for heavy work in hot humid weather. Smaller amounts of water, such as 4-6 ounces every 15 minutes, would be prudent.

To reduce Body Heat Build-Up.....Observe work-rest cycles - work outside for short periods, schedule heavy activity for the coolest time of day - don't exercise outside during the middle of the day, and wear light colored- light weight clothing - such as mesh jerseys, shorts and low-cut socks to allow more sweat to evaporate.

New Stamps Major League Baseball All-Stars- four designs featuring Joe DiMaggio, Larry Doby, Willie Stargell, and Ted Williams - available July 20th on a pane of 20 stamps. Joe DiMaggio - available July 21st on a pane of 20, sold at a select number of New York Post Offices. Larry Doby - available July 21 on a pane of 20, sold at a select number of Cleveland Post Offices. Willie Stargell - available July 21st on a pane of 20, sold at a select number of Pittsburgh Post Offices. Ted Williams - available on July 21st on a pane of 20, sold at a select number of Boston Post Offices.

How to order Major League Baseball All Star individual panes of 20..... www.usps.com/play-ball, call 800-stamp-24 (800-782-6724) or by mailing a check or money order to.... MLB Pre-Order Offer, USPS Stamp Fulfillment Services, 8300 NE Underground Drive # 210, Kansas City, Mo 64144-0001.

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Shown above is a view of the barn located at 132 Hoover Lane owned by Earl S. and Clara M. Hoover. This June 2012 photograph was taken as the barn was in the process of being razed. According to Hoover many of the logs and planks used in the construction of this old barn were made from White Oak trees.

of the first enterprises established in some areas.

In order to operate an early sawmill, a reliable source of water was essential. From its origins at Penns Cave and throughout its 60-mile journey to the Susquehanna River, Penns Creek was a dependable source of water for lumbermen. By locating their sawmills in close proximity to this waterway sawyers were able to use it to their benefit.

Landowners who held deeds to vast tracts of virgin white pine and other timber that once bordered Penns Creek were in an advantageous position. Despite the hairpin turns in this stream between Coburn and Weikert, when conditions were favorable Penns Creek provided ample means of conveying timber downstream to their sawmills.

There were several sawmills operating in the West End prior to 1800, and all were situated next to Penns Creek, or one of its tributaries. Some of the earliest sawmill owners in the area encompassing Hartley and Lewis Townships at the end of the 18th century included Joseph Green, Michael Shirtz, Thomas Frederick, and David Smith.

Joseph Green's sawmill was situated near the mouth of Weikert Run. He was one of the earliest sawyers in the Tight End. Jacob Weiker later became the owner of

this sawmill.

Michael Shirtz was the first settler in the area along Laurel Run at the eastern entrance to the Seven-Mile-Narrows. In addition to operating a gristmill, as was noted earlier, Shirtz also had a sawmill at this location. Subsequent owners of this operation included Adam Wilt and Henry Roush. The former added a hotel to the business while the latter added a store, distillery, and tavern.

Thomas Frederick's sawmill was located adjacent to the small-unnamed stream near the intersection of Hassenplug Road and Weikert Road. Ezekiel Jones later owned this sawmill.

David Smith's sawmill was located southeast of Millmont. As was mentioned earlier, Smith also built and operated a gristmill at this location.

By the early part of the 19th century additional sawmills were being established throughout the area encompassing what was then Hartley Township. In 1802 Melchoir Smith, Jr. was operating a sawmill and a hemp-mill along Laurel Run, north of Laurelton. His brother, Leonard Smith, also operated a sawmill during this same era. Other sawmill operators included Jesse Hendricks, Peter Fisher, John Brown, Sr. Ludwig Dorman, John Keister, Henry Keister, John Galer, and George Reznor.

Jesse Hendricks sawmill was situated on the south side of Penns Creek at Cherry Run. This mill was located in the flat area south of the where the swinging bridge is located today. Peter Fisher's sawmill was located adjacent to his gristmill near the mouth of Laurel Run. John Brown and Ludwig Dorman each operated sawmills along Penns Creek west of the Millmont Covered Bridge. A section on Penns Creek long referred to as Brown's Dam was the site of John Brown's sawmill. John and Henry Keister each had sawmills on the south side of Penns Creek near Laurel Park.

John Galer was assessed with a sawmill along Penns Creek in 1814. His mill was located near Weikert. His name, along with that of Abbot Green, has been preserved in the history of the West End as two of the men who rafted lumber down Penns Creek. Without a doubt there were others who followed that line of work. George Reznor's sawmill was located near Pleasant Grove.

There were a number of others who were assessed with sawmills in Hartley Township during this same era (early 1800's) including John Foster, James Cook, John Williams and Robert Wiley. The specific location of these sawmills is unknown.

William Johnson (1800-1898) settled in Hartley Township around 1845. For a period of years he was the owner of a sizeable tract of forestland in the Tight End. Johnson and his family lived in the vicinity of 8035 Weikert Road. His sawmill was located alongside Penns Creek, a short distance from his home. For a number of years he sawed and rafted lumber on an extensive scale. Much of the Johnson forestland was located along Penns Creek in the area where Union, Centre, and Mifflin counties join. This property subsequently came into the possession of a lumbering firm by the name of Scribner and Perkins, which originated in the state of Maine.

According to Lincoln, the arrival of the Yankees from Maine was a stroke of luck to the residents of the Tight End. The lumbering company provided employment to a large number of men living in that region. Lincoln also noted that the arrival

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Mifflinburg and the West End—It's here!

Mifflinburg and the West End, authored by Lois Huffines is now available! The first book signing will be held Friday, June 29th at the Lewisburg branch of the Mifflinburg Bank and Trust, North Fair-ground Road (and Rte 192). Dr. Huffines will have a supply of books on hand for sale for UCHS members at \$21 (including PA tax), and for non-members price at \$23 (including PA tax).

Continuing the series begun in 2010 with the publication of *Lewisburg*, coauthored by Lois Huffines and Rick Sauers, and in 2011 with the publication of *River Towns*, by Jeannette Lasansky, the 2012 publication of *Mifflinburg and the West End* is the third in this four-part series. Each of these books is part of the Arcadia Publication series of Images of America and tells the history of these communities with pictures, some never published before, and extensive captioning.

Mifflinburg and each of the towns of the West End have a story to tell. The hard work of making a life in early America demanded courage and determination of its settlers. There were good times when the towns thrived and tough times when efforts failed. Fires and accidents destroyed dreams, and financial distress halted progress, but the towns worked hard to survive, and those that did celebrated their successes with fairs, parades, bands, and church dinners. Learn the history of Mifflinburg and the towns of the West End.

Mifflinburg and the West End presents the unfolding stories of Mifflinburg, Swengel, Millmont, Laurel Park, Pardee, Glen Iron, Weikert, Hartleton, and Laurelton, bringing their stories alive with pictures and text. It is a history full of surprises and wonderful spirit. In these pictures, you may even recognize family and friends from long ago, and you may even find yourself!

Mifflinburg and the West End can also be purchased at the Union County Historical Society office (open M-F 8:30-4:30) in the county courthouse, S. 2nd Street, Lewisburg, and at the Dale/Engle/Walker House (Sundays 2-4 PM). Cost for UCHS members is \$21 (including PA tax). Non-members price is \$23 (including PA tax). Mail orders are accepted, with prepayment. Please contact us for cost. For more information, contact the Society at 570-524-8666 or historicl@ptd.net.

You can meet and greet the author, M. Lois Huffines, and have her sign your copy of *Mifflinburg and the West End* book at any one of the following locations:

July 4th - Mifflinburg celebration from 4:00 p.m. until the end of the fireworks.

July 20th - Mifflinburg Blueberry and Blue Grass celebration from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m.

July 21st - Le Vieille Maison des Livres at 344 Chestnut St., Mifflinburg, 11:00 a.m. until 2:00 p.m.

Aug. 3rd - Mifflinburg Bank and Trust in Mifflinburg 10:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

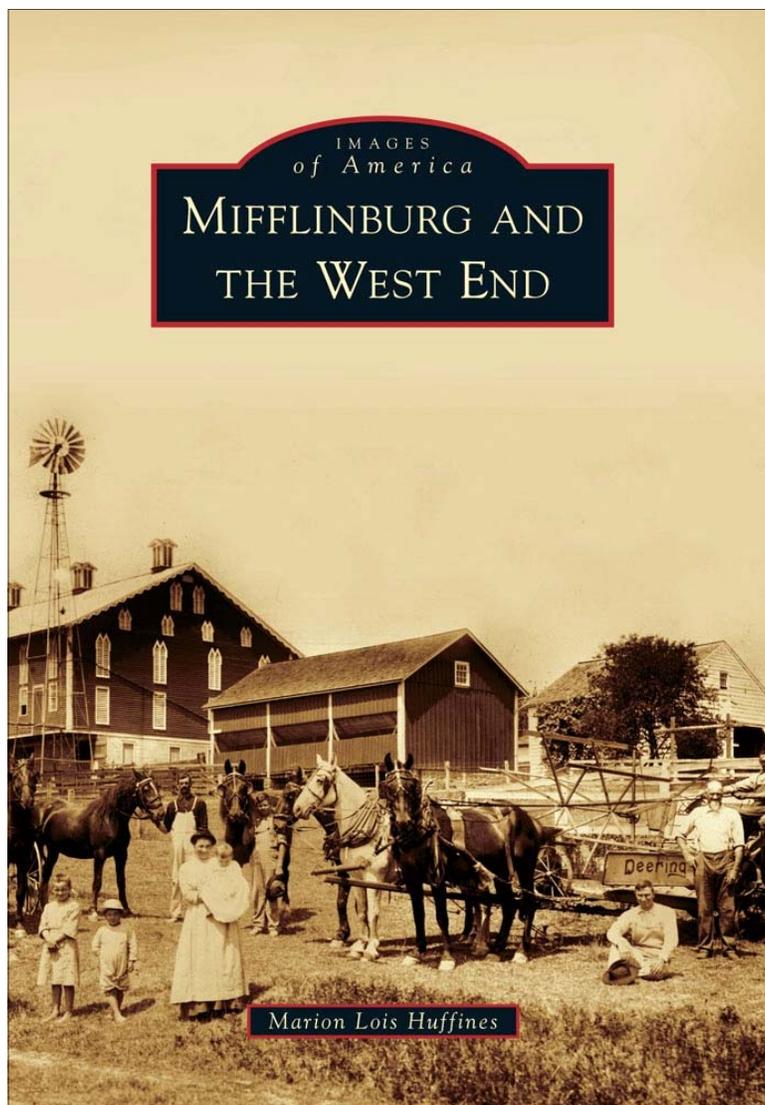
August 5-11th - West End Fairground at Laurelton.

August 18th - West End Library 11:00 a.m. until 1:00 p.m.

August 25th - New Berlin Heritage Day.

Sept. 9 - Union County Historical Society Program at Hartley Township Community Center at 2:00 p.m.

As a convenience for those residents living in the West End who would like to purchase this book you can contact the editor of this newsletter at 922.4297 to reserve your copy of *Mifflinburg and the West End*.



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of these out of state lumbermen “...resulted in the capture of quite a number of young Maine Yankees, by the fair damsels of Tight End, who with their descendants are among the most respectable, thrifty and law abiding citizens of the township”.

The 1860 Hartley Township census report reveals the names of a number of male residents whose place of birth was in Maine. Some of the individuals who journeyed from the Pine Tree State to Central Pennsylvania include surnames such as Libby, Rote, Marston, and Fessenden.

Soon after Scribner and Perkins purchased the woodland they began lumbering in a method entirely new to the people living in the Tight End. Employees built trough-like inclined planes on which their horses and oxen were able to drag logs to the edge of Penns Creek. These logs were then floated to their sawmills. One of those sawmills, referred to as the “Maine” mill, was located at the head of the Isle of Que in Snyder County. According to an 1856 map of Union County this lumbering firm also had a sawmill at the mouth of Weikert Run.

As timber contiguous to Penns Creek was depleted they were forced to broaden their operations and move deeper into the forest. Once again they took advantage of the water on Weikert Run and Poe Creek. On these two streams lumbermen moved timber by utilizing a series of dams. After constructing impoundments on the small mountain stream they were filled with harvested timber. The timber was moved from one dam to the next until it reached the sawmill along Penns Creek at the mouth of Weikert Run. On Poe Creek the logs were moved to the edge of Penns Creek, and when the creek was at the proper stage the timber was floated downstream. The men who followed the logs downstream were known as log drivers.

Surveys undertaken by Thomas H. Paschall & James Keily in 1856 and published in map form reveal the locations of fourteen sawmills in the West End (Hartley and Lewis townships). The map shows sawmills on White Deer Creek, Rapid Run, Laurel Run, and Penns Creek, as well as other unnamed mountain streams.

TLS

Future installments in this series of articles will include information about why wood was so important to the Berlin Iron Works. Who were some of the colliers and coopers living in the West End and what did their occupations entail? We will look at the arrival of the large-scale lumber companies at Laurelton and Pardee, the life of a Wildcatter, and the legend of Pardee Engine 59. The state of Pennsylvania purchases vast areas of clear-cut forestlands and the reforestation efforts begin. And, what are some of the changes taking place in our forests today.

Sources used in this article: History of that part of the Susquehanna and Juniata valleys, embraced in the counties of Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Union and Snyder, in the commonwealth of Pennsylvania, published by Everts, Peck, and Richards, Philadelphia, 1886; Union County Map (1856) entirely from original surveys by Thomas H. Paschall & James Keily, Third & Dock Streets, Philadelphia; Union County Heritage Volume XIV, published by the Union County Historical Society, Lewisburg, PA; Union County Pennsylvania A Bicentennial History by Charles M. Snyder, 1976; The Mifflinburg Telegraph; and the Lewisburg Saturday News.

Thank You!

I would like to thank the following people for making monetary donations toward the publication of this newsletter: Robert Reigle, Jack Wagner, and Arnold & Dorothy Gilkey, all of Mifflinburg; Karl Schnure of Wyalusing; Thomas E. Ray of State College; Leon & Betty Klock of Herndon; Mary Kahl of Millmont; and Thelma Pontius of Hartleton.

I would like to welcome the following new subscribers: Lucas and Angela Southerton of Millmont; Eli Zimmerman of Dunsville, KY; Timothy Ryan of Aldie, VA; and Fred and Rachel Keister of Mifflinburg.

Thanks also 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 thank Bob Lynch of Mifflinburg for providing me with a copy of the list of schools that were consolidated in the Western Area School District and the year when the one room schoolhouses were built; Thiry (Reamer) Olbrich of Lewistown for donating material of historic interest and for allowing me to make copies of newspaper clippings preserved by her late parents, Paul and Ruth Reamer; Bob & Jeanne Jolly of Weikert for donating newspaper articles clipped from The Mifflinburg Telegraph; Sandy Winegardner of Mifflinburg for donating old photographs from Millmont, newspaper clippings, and Shively family memorabilia; and Elvin Stoltzfus of Lewisburg for donating a copy of a 1794 petition to Northumberland County Court in Sunbury relative to the children of Christian Hettick. Hettick was killed by Indians near Gundy’s Mill in October 1780.

Free Newsletters!

Would you like to receive The Millmont Times each month at no charge? Would you like to receive The Millmont Times in color each month? Well, it is as easy as visiting our website: www.millmonttimes.com

Find the year and month you would like to read. Using your “right click” on your mouse select an issue. Using your “left click” select “Open Link” and presto - there it is! You can save them on your computer or you can print it off at your leisure.

Recipe of the Month
by Janice (Dorman) Shively
Iced Coffee / Slushie

- ¾ C. Cold water
- ¾ C. Milk
- ¾ C. Half-n-half
- 3 T. Instant coffee granules
- 3 T. Sugar
- 1 ½ C. ice cubes (about 12 large)
- Chocolate syrup (optional)

Combine first five ingredients and blend well in blender. Add chocolate syrup if you prefer a mocha taste and blend again. If you want a slushie type iced coffee, add the ice cubes and blend until ice is crushed. Or, you can pour beverage over ice cubes for iced coffee.

My co-worker, Suzanne Hendershot of Turbotville, shared the original recipe for iced coffee with me. I've made adaptations to come up with this recipe. You can also make adaptations to suit your taste. I prefer 1%

milk, you can use whatever milk you choose. Add flavored creamers if you want a different taste. You can use artificial sweetener instead of sugar. Pour your iced coffee over mini-ice cubes.

This recipe makes four tall-glass servings. Divide all of the ingredients in thirds and you have a single, large size glass of iced coffee!



ENJOY!

****Note the late June / early July blooming hydrangeas in the background are red, white and blue. Add a few drops of red food coloring to a glass of water, and blue food coloring to another glass of water. When you cut your hydrangeas place them in the specified glasses and in about 24 hours you have dyed hydrangeas. Cut some fresh white hydrangeas and assemble your patriotic arrangement.**



Doris Wilson of Millmont is proud to announce the birth of her great-grandson, Ryan Donald Dreese, on June 4, 2012 at Grandview Hospital, Sellersville, PA.

Ryan weighed 10 pounds 14 ounces and

was 21 inches long. Ryan's parents are Matthew and Dawn (Wilson) Dreese of Lansdale, Pennsylvania. Grandparents are Debra Wilson of Millmont and Daryl and Donna Dreese of Mifflinburg. Great-grandparents, in addition to Doris Wilson of Millmont, are Ralph and Vivian Dreese of Mifflinburg.

WANTED

I am looking for photographs of the Grace Chapel that was located adjacent to the former Smith's Restaurant on Old Turnpike Road, west of Fairground Road and the Dunkard Church that was situated along Weikert Road across from the Keister Cemetery. This cemetery was also referred to as the Dunkard Cemetery. Pomeroy's atlas from 1868 shows a church and schoolhouse located just east of the cemetery. This cemetery is located about 2.5 miles west of Laurelton.

I am also trying to locate information as well as an original photograph of Dreibelbis Mill that was situated in White Springs.

If you have any information or photographs please contact me at 570.922.4297, email - tshively@dejazzd.com, or write to P. O. Box 3, Millmont, PA 17845.



Do You Recognize This Bridge?

It is unlikely that anyone would recognize any of the ladies picking flowers along the edge of Penns Creek in this photograph. However, perhaps you recognize the bridge in the background? For those who would like a little hint as to where this bridge was located - think Camp Thomas.

To find out when and where this photograph was taken look for the answer on page 12 of this publication.

Penlines From my Kitchen to Yours

by Lucy Hoover

May 10, 2012

Johnny Ray Zimmerman (14), son of Amos and Susie Zimmerman of Mifflinburg, fractured his right arm while playing ball. He is wearing a cast.

May 14

Clarence and Ruth Ann Reiff of Millmont have a son named Nathaniel. He has four brothers and two sisters. Grandparents are Mrs. Laura Reiff and Harvey and Ruth Horning.

May 15

John David and Esther Zimmerman of Millmont have a son named Malachi David. He has three sisters. Grandparents are John and Esther Zimmerman and Allen and Lucy Oberholtzer.

May 20

Curvin is scheduled to interpret for deaf Daniel Miller at Conestoga Church. Daniel and his wife are residents of Conestoga Retreat.

May 23

Paul David and Joann Sensenig of Mifflinburg have their first child. His name is Kyle David. Grandparents are Alvin and Lizzie Sensenig and Earl and Emma Weaver.

June 9

My cousin, Rachel Burkholder of KY, was at our house for lunch today.

Clarence and Ruth Ann Reiff's son, Nathaniel, had a hospital stay. He had double pneumonia. Paul David and Joann Sensenig's baby, Kyle David, was in the hospital due to a virus.

June 14

Julia Shirk (9), daughter of Luke and Kathryn Shirk of KY, is in our area for ten days to visit relatives. She spent time at our house today.

Timothy Nolt (12), son of John and Esther Nolt of Mifflinburg, is getting around on a wheelchair following surgery on his foot. He also had an infection in his other leg that was partially amputated years ago following a lawn mower accident. We hope that he will soon be able to walk again.

Looking Back

The undated newspaper article below was copied from the July 31, 1920 edition of the Lewisburg Saturday News.

MORE PARKS ON UNION COUNTY STATE FORESTS

Voneida Recreation Park to Be Enlarged and Improved, And Other Beauty Spots Developed.

Forester A. C. Silvius, of Mifflinburg, who is in charge of the Buffalo and White Deer State Forests in Union county, has recently improved the road leading from the State Highway to Winkelblech Fields. The "Breakers" on Winkelblech mountain have been removed and a new bridge was constructed across Winkelblech Run.

During his recent visit to the Buffalo Forest, the Chief of State Forester said: "This is one of the very best forest roads I have ever traveled over on the State Forests." Travelers may now leave the State Highway near Voneida State Park and return to the highway near the Pennsylvania Village for Feeble Minded Women, near Laurelton.

The development of further picnic grounds and recreation parks on the Buffalo Forest is planned. As funds are available, Voneida Park will be improved and enlarged. Another site will be put in shape in Sheesley Gap between Burnt Mill and the Walnut Camp site, and a third is planned at Hickernell Spring, on both sides of the State Highway.

On the White Deer State Forest, recreation sites are proposed at the Halfway Dam in the Brush Valley Narrows; an area on the north side of the Brush Valley road on both sides of Yankee Run; a site at the Buffalo Path Camp site and one near Old Gap Camp site.

Sometime next month, Forester Silvius will take up his new position as secretary of the Anthracite Forest Protection Association, at Pottsville.

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:

Sunday July 6, 1941—It was rainy all day. Father Sell, his son M. W. and his nephew, Bro. Sheffer, remained all night and this morning I went with them to services. Mother went with David. Brother Sell taught my class or rather talked to the class. The meeting was in his charge and he brought a wonderful message to the young people, from Acts 2:17 - Your young men shall see visions and your old men shall dream dreams. That is your young shall become leaders, planning the work and your old men shall be your historians. To be leaders you must be prepared. Read God's Word, it will lead you in the right path. I buttoned my vest and when I was thru I had one button too many. The result of starting wrong the only thing to do was to start over again. So in life when we make mistakes we must be willing to start over again. Meeting by Brother James A. Sell, now in his 96th year. He has preached for 75 years. Bro. Sell was present at Love Feast in 1865, the year following the building of the church house. He and Sister Sell were with us at a meeting Dec. 7, 1930 and again at a feast on May 16, 1931. He was also a delegate at District Meeting on April 25, 1888. Hon. Curtis C. Leisher died Saturday night at midnight.

Blessings from the Bible

By Brenda Weaver

*“One thing have I desired of the Lord, that will I seek after;
that I may dwell in the house of the Lord all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the Lord, and to inquire in his temple.”*

Psalm 27:4

Thirty years ago we walked down the aisle in this place. The soft tones of “Tread Softly” guided our steps. It is fitting that I visit here today.

I thought my grief might overwhelm me here in this lovely setting and rustic old Tabernacle. Instead I feel a deep sense of peace and calm steel across my soul. I am still enamored by this place, just as when I was a young bride-to-be looking for a place with a roof to protect our outdoor wedding from possible rain.

The Tabernacle was built 103 years ago and stood stately with the tall trees of Central Oak Heights. Its high octagonal roof still rises among the oaks and maples, and it is surrounded by quaint little cottages of yesteryear, built and maintained by families who summered here on “The Heights.” COH was established as a Christian camp and it was its own world of wonder rising from the shores of the Susquehanna River.

Much changed over the years and a four-lane highway severed the camp from its riverfront property. But the Tabernacle, the trails, the cabins, and the quaint little cottages remain.

Somehow my husband and I found the place when we were looking for a place to wed. The place would hardly be considered suitable for many brides of today, but for me it was “just right.” Christian camp (Camp Hebron) influenced my life greatly during my formative years, and Central Oak Heights had that same camp feel.

As I sit here today, bereaved of that handsome groom who stood beside me at this altar, I am thankful we married here. The aged Tabernacle still holds charm for me. I can visit here anytime and remember.

A breeze rustles the leaves of the nearby trees. Birds sing, like they did on our wedding day. The same cottages smile at me as they did on that day, and I burst forth with praise. I thank God for blessing me here thirty years ago. I thank Him for meeting me here today.

Prayer for Today:

Oh thou Great God who first ordained marriage to be a picture of Your great love, before any of these ancient oaks were acorns, thank You for marriage, and memories, and the opportunity to worship You here. Amen.

* * * * *

*Give unto the Lord the glory due unto his name;
worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness.*

Psalm 29:2

I've come to the outdoor Tabernacle where John and I married with three purposes: I want to remember; I want to grieve; I want to worship God.

The first day of summer unveils itself with heavy humidity and hot sunshine. But in the old Tabernacle I enjoy shade and an occasional welcome breeze. The cement floor cools my feet.

When my eyes finish feasting on the lovely outdoors surrounding me, I look up, up, up into the cathedral ceiling of the rustic Tabernacle. A tall tree, stripped of its bark, rises in the center of the large structure. Massive beams reach out from it, supporting the large, high, octagonal roof clear up to the cupola-style bell tower. Someone planned carefully how to build this large, unique structure.

Around the Tabernacle the camp is quiet except for the singing of birds and I am tempted to grab the rope and ring that old bell thirty times—once for every year since we were married here. In cottages around the campground people would wonder. “Why is the tabernacle bell ringing?”

But I slip away as quietly as I came. A phoebe sings from somewhere in the trees and I smile. God and I know (from a day spent at a Christian Camp years ago) what it means when I hear a Phoebe sing. It reminds me to write to glorify His name. And I will.

Prayer for Today:

Thank You, God, for your wonderful plan for marriage. Thank you for carefully designing it. For laying beams in place to raise a roof of protection for couples, and to toll a bell for the world to know of Your great love.

The small photograph in the upper left hand corner of page one shows a view of William Hironimus and his team of oxen, Buck, Bright, Rock, and Tobe, pulling a cart with logs attached. This photograph was taken sometime prior to 1905.

Civil War Re-enactment

Rebersburg will host a Civil War re-enactment on Saturday, July 14, at 4:00 p.m. on the actual site of the enlistment. On August 25, 1862, seventy-two men from Brush Valley stood in front of the hotel in Rebersburg to commit to serving their country in a war that lasted until 1865. Lynn Herman, president of the 148th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Company C, and Dave Felice are in charge of the re-enactment.

Music will be provided by the Penns Valley Men's Chorus and the Coburn Brass. Bob and Jimmy Brown of Hampton's Artillery will help to fill the ranks. David Klinepeter will appear as Gov. Andrew Curtin. State Route 192 will be closed for two hours. Bring lawn chairs.

Food available from Miles Township Fire Company. Contact Vonnie

Village Green Association News

The Millmont Fall Festival will be held Saturday September 29, 2012. Crafts, antiques, Chicken Barbecue and more. More information will be released in future issues of the newsletter. You can also contact Tom Catherman at 922.1662 for more information.

Reunions

The 59th annual K/Catherman Family Reunion will be held at the Mifflinburg Community Park on Saturday July 14 and Sunday July 15. Activities for Saturday begin at 10:00 a.m. with genealogical consultations and sharing of family history. Announcements follow at 11:45 a.m. followed by a picnic lunch at 12:15 p.m. Those interested in a family history tour by car caravan may do so from 1:45 p.m. until 4:15 p.m. A Chinese auction will be held at 2:45 p.m. Scheduled activities for Sunday include a breakfast buffet at The Old Turnpike Restaurant in Mifflinburg followed by a church service at Christ's United Lutheran Church, about 2 miles west of Mifflinburg off Route 45. For more information contact Diane Bailey at 610-441-3378 (email micknpoo@netscape.com) or Kristin Gessner at 570-524-6156.

The annual Joseph Hartley Reunion will be held at the Anthony Selin Park in Selinsgrove on Sunday July 29, 2012 from 11:00 a.m. until ? Meal time is scheduled for 12-noon. Those attending are asked to bring a covered dish to share, along with your personal place settings and tablecloth. Attendees are encouraged to bring any family photographs – both old and new - to share. A Family History Book will be chanced off during the days activities. For more information you can contact Jim Hartley at 570-374-4067 or by email at: jash312@ptd.net.

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 disposed of by the United States Postal Service. If there are any changes in your postal mailing address you can contact me at (570) 922.4297 or send an email to: tshively@dejazzd.com

Remembrance



Forrest S. "Forry" Hoffman, 77, of Mifflinburg, entered into rest at 10:25 p.m. Friday, June 1, 2012, at the Geisinger Medical Center, Danville.

He was born August 20, 1934, in Hartleton, the son of the late Maynard E. and Mildred E. (Eberhart) Hoffman. On September 25, 1953, in the Dreisbach United Church in Christ, he married the former Mary Ellen Erdley, who survives.

Forry was a 1952 graduate of Mifflinburg High School. He was a co-owner of the Ben Franklin store, Mifflinburg, for 18 years, retiring in 1988. In 1960, Forry began assisting at the George E. Carr Funeral Home, Mifflinburg later becoming the James L. Schwartz Home for funerals, and currently the Dominick T. Adamo Funeral Home, where he still assisted with funerals. He also worked part time at Hoover's Bernina Sewing Center, Mifflinburg in the service department, where he enjoyed spending time with the Hoover family.

He was a member of the Dreisbach United Church of Christ, Lewisburg. He was a former member and served as president of the Mifflinburg Hose Company No.1, a former member of the Free and Accepted Masons, Lodge 370, Mifflinburg, and former member and president of the Sunbury Shrine Club. He also served as an American Red Cross Volunteer.

Forry was a Mr. Fix-it and enjoyed putting puzzles together, spending summers at Cape May, N.J., attending picnics, and spending time with family.

Surviving in addition to his wife are five daughters and sons-in-law, Debra L. and William Dressler, of Mifflinburg, Cathy L. and Seth G. Neuhauser, of Mifflinburg, Brenda L. and Harry E. Hubbert, of Mifflinburg, Sharyn M. and Samuel Zimmerman, of Ringgold, Va., Sheryl A. and Mark Fetter, of Mifflinburg; seven grandchildren; nine great-grandchildren; one brother and sister-in-law, Roger K. and Donna Hoffman, of Selinsgrove; and one sister and brother-in-law, Eleanor R. and Donald Hoy, of Mifflinburg.

Interment was in the Hartleton Cemetery.

The photograph of the ladies picking flowers on page 8 was taken in August 1916. The bridge in the background is the one that crossed Penns Creek at Trails End.

This photograph is courtesy of newsletter subscriber Tyler Potterfield of Richmond, VA. He and members of his family are owners of Windy Inn, off Nikomahs Drive at Trails End.

The Millmont Times is distributed during the first week of each month, and is available through mail subscriptions. Mail subscriptions are \$10 per year (12 issues). The newsletter is also available at Koch's Country Store in Hartleton, PA. Telephone 922.0452. The single issue cost is \$1.50.

Internet subscriptions can be obtained FREE by visiting: www.millmonttimes.com
All of the newsletters published between January 2004 to the current issue are now available on the website. Please use the following address if you are interested in contacting the editor, subscribing to the newsletter, making a donation, sending a gift subscription, or changing your address: Tony Shively, Post Office Box 3, Millmont PA 17845, telephone: (570) 922.4297 or E-mail: tshively@dejazzd.com

July Birthdays & Anniversaries

2 – Carolyn Bowersox
2 – Shanda Bingaman
3 – Olivia Hackenberg
3 – Kody Catherman
4 - Independence Day!
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
10 – Neil Shoreman
10 – Neil & Alice Shoreman – 1966
11 – Bill Chappell
11 – Mervin Zimmerman
12 - Harvey & Brenda Ilgen - 1959
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 – Kass Beebe
19 – Glen G. Catherman
20 – Nancy Prutzman
20 – Ruth Hoover
21 – Ralph Sheesley
21 – Ricky Sholter
22 – Becky Calder
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 – June Rowe
28 – Phyllis Ruhl
29 – Oakley Whitesel
30 – Eli Shirk
30 – Jeannette Lasansky
31 – Shirley Eberhart
31 – Baris Göktaş

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