



The Millmont Times

MAY 2005

Remembering a Soldier

By Judy (Shively) Wagner



Private George W. Zimmerman

As Memorial Day approaches, it is tradition to remember those who have passed on, friends and relatives who have meant something to us. Our local veterans' organizations conduct services to honor veterans at the various local cemeteries. It may be of interest to readers to learn something of one local soldier who, although I did not know him, means something to me.

At a public sale of an elderly relative last year, I had the good fortune to purchase the death certificate of my great-uncle who was killed in World War I. Arriving late, my husband and I were looking at the sale items when I noticed the rolled-up, yellowed document. Before I had time to fully realize its importance, it was in the auctioneer's hands and the last bid was mine.

A closer examination of the certificate revealed it was printed in French, issued by the French government to the War Department of the United States, and signed by the president of France. An unknown sale attendee called my attention to an empty mailing sleeve which had held the certificate when it was mailed to my great-grandfather from Washington D.C. Since they obviously belonged together, the auctioneer kindly gave it to me.

George Whitmore Zimmerman, my maternal great-uncle, was born near Pleasant Grove, Lewis Township, Union county on February 18, 1894 to George Oliver and Sarah Salinda (Kleckner) Zimmerman. George was the youngest of the family of five children. The others were Hattie, wife of L. Francis Dieffenderfer, Elizabeth, wife of Henry Willow, Orville, and Lloyd. George was twenty-four years of age when, according to his obituary, "...he went to the call of the colors on May 28, 1918, to Camp Meade [Maryland], where he was in training about five weeks, and then was sent overseas."

There was a draft then, and my mother often recalled that her uncle anguished over going to war, even shedding tears. Fear of the unknown probably occupied the thoughts of this country boy who doubtless had never strayed far from home. Perhaps he had a premonition he would not return. Among my mother's mementos were numerous postcards written by family members to the soldier, but none from him have

(Continued on page 2)

Millmont Mailbox by Postmaster Sam Smith



Inverted Jenny stamp printed in 1918.

The Millmont Times always has some historical stories and factual articles. I'm going to keep with that theme, about stamps this month, by answering five often asked questions. #1. "Where did stamps come from?" Great Britain. In the 1830's, schoolmaster and government employee Rowland Hill suggested the postage stamp as a way of taxing newspapers and collecting fees based on weight. This led to the world's first adhesive stamp, called the "Penny Black," issued in 1840. #2. "When did the U.S. start making stamps?" 1847! George Washington and Benjamin Franklin appeared on the first U.S. postage Stamps. #3 "How can I tell what a vintage stamp is worth?" As with baseball

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 1)

surfaced revealing his thoughts or experiences.

An inquiry sent to the National Archives and Records Administration revealed only that George W. Zimmerman was a Private, Company F, 314th U.S. Army Infantry, and that he was killed in action. A detailed military record was unavailable, possibly due to a 1973 fire during which records were either damaged or destroyed.

According to an undated local newspaper, George's name first appeared on the casualty lists published in Philadelphia newspapers. The family had not yet been notified by the War Department of his death. Soon it became known that George had died in the battle of the Argonne Woods on November 10, 1918, one day before the armistice ending World War I.

The Meuse-Argonne battle began September 26, 1918 and lasted forty days. It was the greatest battle in which American troops had ever been engaged with 1,200,000 allied soldiers, 840 airplanes, and 324 tanks utilized. The campaign resulted in 117,000 American casualties, but eventually achieved its objective, in part by breaking the famous Hindenburg line.

With Private Zimmerman at the time of his death in the trenches of France was fellow soldier Frank P. Boyer of Millmont. Boyer had been a teacher, and before entering the service was principal of Lewis Township High School. He later became superintendent of schools for Union County, and was a historian as well. Most locals referred to him as Professor, "Prof" or Dr. Boyer. Two of his sons, Winston and Spencer, are life-long residents of Mifflinburg.

Since George's mother had died the year before, Boyer wrote a consoling letter to Mrs. Hattie Dieffenderfer, George's eldest sister, telling the family of his bravery and of his dying in Boyer's arms. Until a few years ago, this letter and the flag from his coffin were in the possession of Hattie's granddaughter, Mrs. Andrew Shirk of Lewisburg, who presented the items to the Yoder-Zimmerman Post 1964 of Mifflinburg.

George's body was returned to Union county in late February 1919, some three months after his death, and taken to the L. W. Strunk Funeral Home in Mifflinburg. My grandfather was not convinced that it was his brother's body, but perhaps an unknown soldier who had been returned. Over the strong objections of Mr. Strunk, he and his brother-in-law, Francis Dieffenderfer, insisted that the sealed coffin be opened even though it required the use of a blowtorch. Both men were able to identify George by a gold tooth they knew he had, and the fact that he had been shot in the right eye. The condition of the body, just as it had been claimed from the battlefield, was so shocking that they long-regretted they had made the request.

On Sunday, March 2, 1919, memorial services were held at the Pleasant Grove Church, conducted by Rev. Ralph Smith and Rev. Hartman. The Patriotic Order Sons of America, of which George was a member, attended the service as well as the one held at the gravesite in Ray's Church cemetery. The latter ceremony was conducted by the local post of the American Legion, and Frank P. Boyer was one of the speakers.

Although there were many others who fought and died in World War I from Union county, George's death was somewhat more poignant because he died just one

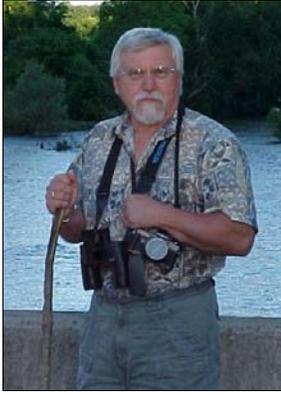
(Continued on page 4)



Private George Zimmerman (third row far left) is shown here with members of his unit, including Professor Frank Boyer (fourth row far right).



The family of George and Sarah Zimmerman. Situated behind Sarah and George are their children (left to right) Lloyd, Elizabeth, Orville, Hattie, and George.



BIRD TALK

By Jim McCormick

“...and there they were, just like clockwork!” You may have noticed—spring is here. It has been an unusual one to be sure—wet and cold, then hot and dry. No matter, it’s spring, the most beautiful season of the year. I grew up in Minnesota and spring didn’t seem to last all that long. As we moved farther and farther south, springtime grew longer and longer. In Minnesota the high snow-banks melted, the leaves came out, lilacs bloomed and then it was summer! Here, spring is like the slow movement of a symphony unfolding.

Every day there is a subtle change in color or sound—a spray of yellow here, pink or white or green there. The spring chorus is growing daily as each new bird adds its call to the choir. It is breathtaking to watch as the colors emerge and deepen across the landscape. I remember seeing the first blush of red on the mountain as the red maples began to bud. Now, there is color everywhere. Beautiful!

Recently as I reached the edge of town, I looked up **and there they were, just like clockwork!** The Tree Swallows had returned on April 2nd. They may not be as regular as the famous swallows of Capistrano (they’re cliff swallows), but they do show up the first week of April every year. Those beautiful, graceful birds are always a pleasure to watch, as they glide through the air, in seemingly effortless flight. I watched them as they peeled off the wire like jet fighters leaving the flight deck of a battleship. The activity of all the birds has increased dramatically. The Robins, Red-winged Blackbirds and Grackles have all moved into their breeding territories. The female Red-winged Blackbirds returned mid-month, nearly six-weeks after the males. The male Goldfinches have begun to molt into their brilliant spring plumage, adding even more color to the scene. The Phoebes also returned early in the month, adding their faint “fee-be” call to the growing chorus of sounds. The Mocking Birds have broken their winter silence and are beginning to become territorial. On the 26th I saw two male Yellow Warblers chasing each other around a known nesting area on the south edge of town. They, too, are a very striking bird, easily seen now when the leaves are just starting to come out. On the same day I finally saw a Common Snipe in Wilson’s field. I had almost given up hope of seeing them this year. In previous years I had seen as many as twenty arrive in early spring. The Mallard hens have disappeared and are sitting on their nests, the Drakes, meanwhile, are patrolling the riverbanks like swift boats. Soon the hens will appear with their little fuzzy ducklings in tow, hiding in the overhanging grass along the shoreline.

May is another exciting month for bird watching with the coming of the Baltimore Orioles and many, many more species. The grandeur of spring continues for another month, so smell it, listen to it and grab your binoculars and take it all in.

(Continued from page 1)

cards, two factors determine a stamp's value; its rarity and condition. Stamp catalogs or local dealers can help to determine the value. #4. "What is the most valuable stamp and how much is it worth?" The most famous and valuable U.S. stamp is the 24 cent "Inverted Jenny" issued in 1918. It depicted a Curtiss JN-model biplane known as the Jenny. It was accidentally printed upside down on some sheets. In 1989, a block of four was sold at auction for \$1 million. The most valuable stamp ever produced is the 1880's Swedish Treskilling Yellow. In 1996, an anonymous buyer paid \$2.7 million for it! #5. "Who decides what subjects appear on U.S. stamps?" The Citizen's Advisory Committee, founded in 1957 makes recommendations on stamp subjects. The Postmaster General makes the final decision. Only a few dozen stamp subjects are issued annually. To suggest an idea for a stamp, write to the; Citizen's Stamp Advisory Committee, c/o Stamp Development, U.S. Postal Service, 1735 North Lynn Street Suite 5013, Arlington, VA. 22209-6432. That's how the new Henry Fonda stamp to be issued in May was designed and approved.

Southern Gospel Concert

Southern gospel concert featuring “The Relations Quartet” from Texas on May 29, 2005 at the First Church of the Nazarene located at 12 Market Street, Mifflinburg, PA. The program begins at 10:30 a.m. The Relations Quartet has received the South Texas Association, “Group of the Year” Award in 2001 and 2004. They have been featured on the Paul Heil’s Gospel Greats Program and are known world-wide. Members of the quartet include: Rod Treme-Bass and Song-writer, Ryan Napier – Lead, Jeremy Partlow – Tenor, and Chris “Hoss” Hoke - Baritone.

For more information you can contact Pastors Wayne Krell and Janel Brooks at 966-0852.

(Continued from page 2)



*The brave soldier trusts in God.
And fights for what is true.
The bravest were the first to fall.
To fall for me and you.*

Inscription on the headstone of Private George W. Zimmerman at Rays Cemetery along Route 45 west of Mifflinburg.

day before the armistice. Ironically, in a letter written that same day from Curtis Bay Ordinance Depot [Maryland] by another soldier, my grandmother's brother Corporal Clarence King, he wrote, "I guess the war is over now. It is a good thing to quit killing people for there has been enough killed." One can only imagine the family's sorrow when they read those words, and their relief that at least one of their own had been spared.

VFW Post 1964 honored George W. Zimmerman and another local soldier, Charles O. Yoder, by naming their post for them in 1930. For many years, the post has conducted Memorial Day services at the Zimmerman grave in Ray's Church cemetery. An honor guard composed of members of American Legion Post 410 of Mifflinburg, and a member of the Mifflinburg High School band playing "Taps" are always on hand. Unfortunately, attendance at the service has dwindled over the years, and now only a few people, mostly relatives, attend. The local veterans' organizations deserve our thanks for continuing these services.

My grandparents and their brothers and sisters were "savers". Over the years, their frugality has been a subject of amusement to some of us. However, it is now clear that many of the things saved have become treasured mementos to us as well. Resurrected from a dark closet or trunk, we proudly display them and, hopefully, they will be cherished by future generations of our families.

Thanks to my family of "savers", I was able to purchase a real treasure at a public sale. Thanks to my great-uncle and veterans everywhere who have saved us from despots who



spread tyranny and terror, we all continue to enjoy freedom, an even greater treasure.

Editors note: Charles O Yoder, a member of Company F, 314th Infantry, 39th Division is buried in the Mifflinburg cemetery. The names Yoder and Zimmerman are on the sign in front of the Mifflinburg V.F.W. Post 1964.

My thanks to Judy (Shively) Wagner for submitting the article about Private George W. Zimmerman, and the ultimate sacrifice he made on foreign soil on behalf of his country.

Judy is an avid genealogist and has written genealogies on several Union County families, including the Shively, Zimmerman, Wagner, Heinley, and Yarger families. She is also continuing to gather information relative to the King and Reish families. Judy and Eleanor (Hoffman) Hoy are also jointly compiling information on the Kleckner family. If you have any information relative to any of the above named families you are encouraged to contact Judy. She and her husband, Jack, reside at 512 Walnut Street in Mifflinburg, the same home they have shared for 45 years.



The Leaning Silo on Swengel Road

Few of us have, or perhaps ever will, have an opportunity to view the "Leaning tower of Pisa." Although the "Leaning Silo on Swengel Road" in no way compares in architecture, design, and history of the 185' high bell tower located in Pisa, Italy, nonetheless it is an interesting sight.

The cement stave silo was originally built during the summer of 1969, after Leroy and Sarah Martin purchased the farm from Theodore "Pete" and Carolyn Catherman. The current owners of the farm are Floyd and Katie Martin. Floyd is the son of Sarah Martin and the late Leroy Martin.

According to Floyd's son, Derick, his father had a ten-foot addition placed on the top of the silo in August 2004. After the construction was completed, they soon began filling the silo with corn silage. The silo was full by September 2004. The morning after it was filled to capacity, a member of the Martin family noticed a sizeable gap between the silo and the barn. It was obvious that something was wrong. It was then that they discovered that their silo was leaning up against the adjacent silo.

(Continued on page 5)



Elias Church in Mifflinburg built in 1806

ELIAS CHURCH RESTORATION BEGINS!!!

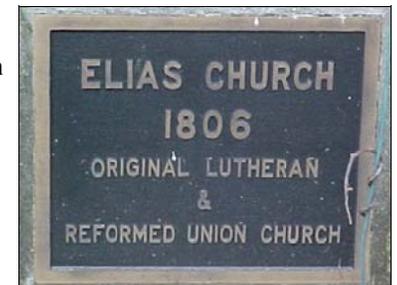
By Robert Lynch

On Saturday, April 9, 2005 the restoration of the Elias Church began with a large crew of volunteers dismantling the east side and west side porches which are not original to the building. Crews began working at 9:00 a.m. and concluded their day at 2:00 p.m. after experiencing a very productive effort under ideal weather conditions. Work days are scheduled from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. every Thursday and Saturday until further notice. Interested volunteers are encouraged to participate as their schedule will permit. It is important to note that the effort is to secure enough volunteers so that steady progress can be made. If you are available only one or two days a month, your help will be appreciated. We are confident that you will find it an enjoyable experience. Get your hammer, crow bar, and any tool you feel necessary and join

us. You'll be glad you did! After removal of the porches, work will begin on the siding; an effort will be made to determine the original window and door locations; excavating will be completed to create proper drainage. The foundation will also be repaired early in the project. Committee members visited a German Reform-Lutheran Church located at Brickerville, PA, which was built one year after the Elias Church. It has recently been restored to its original condition and gives an early view of how a restored Elias Church will appear. In consulting with Mr. Fredrick Weiser, a noted Pennsylvania Church Historian, he states that German Reform and Lutheran "Union Churches" are generally the same while they might have minor differences. The Elias Church belfry was removed some time after 1857 when the church building was bought by the Mifflinburg Schools. It was used as such until the new and modern high school was erected in 1876 at the foot of the Mifflinburg Cemetery Hill. It is exciting to note that it appears that the belfry lumber was used to construct the supports for the joists under the porch. If this is so, we are hoping to be able to use it as a template to reconstruct a new and identical belfry and steeple. As of this time, we are unaware of the existence of any wood frame church buildings in Pennsylvania that are as old as the 1806 Elias Church. If any reader has personal knowledge of a church with older wooden credentials, we would love to hear from you. Mr. Frank Stroik, a preservation expert from Kreamer, PA, has been engaged to head up the restoration project. He has the necessary credentials to do an excellent job. If any interested person would like to see a beautiful restored church and steeple by Mr. Stroik, take a ride to Freeburg and observe the overpowering view of the Reformed and Lutheran Church steeple and its skyline as you enter town.

Our committee is also making an appeal to the general public to contact us if you have any personal information, pictures, artifacts, pamphlets, or other material which will help us in researching the history of the Elias Church. We will be happy to return all requested items to you. Committee members who participated in Saturday's work session were: Dave Holman, Gary Benfer, Kim Sauers, Mike Lynch, Linda Elliot, Alan Elliot, Bob Manotti, Charles Seiger, Carl Catherman, Karin Fullam, George Steese, Bob Lynch, Dick Stees, Kathy Ranney, Matt Wagner, Mike Sterling, Mark Nolan, Mark Weaver, Michelle Holman, Ruth Nolan, Frank Stroik.

If you would like to join The Elias Church Restoration Committee and Preservation Mifflinburg in the above endeavor, please contact Robert K. Lynch at 570-966-0016 or PMI President Kathy Ranney at 570-966-9484 to pledge your time and/or financial support.



(Continued from page 4)

Although it is not known for sure, it is believed that weak staves on the lower section of the 20' x 70' silo is what caused the problems. Once the silo has been completely emptied it is hoped that they can determine exactly what caused the silo to lean. Had it not been for the metal stave silo, in all likelihood the cement structure would have fallen to the ground.

Derick Martin stated that his father has had several experts on site to inspect the silo and make recommendations how to fix the problem. Temporary reinforcements were added to the base of the silo; a long term solution has yet to be determined. While opinions vary, one expert who constructs silos has stated his willingness to upright the silo, rather than dismantle it. Damage to the smaller silo is so extensive that it will probably be razed once the Martin family can resolve exactly what they are going to do with the larger silo.

To see the leaning silo at the Martin farm just take a drive on Swengel Road, about 2 ½ miles west of Mifflinburg.



Meanderings

by

Hertha S. Wehr

Jane's Album

Several months ago while I was waiting for some work to be done on my car another customer was also waiting. He recognized me so we began a conversation. I discovered I knew him as a young person about the age of our children. As we talked he began telling me about an autograph album he acquired at a sale. He offered to loan it to me. Of course I couldn't resist a peek at it.

A loaned book presents some problems. It has to be read carefully and notes made as you will no longer have it for reference. I couldn't stop taking notes because it was so unusual. Even the cover was different from any autograph books I had ever seen.

The book had a hard cover about 8"x 6" with the bound edge being on the 8" end. The cover was embossed with leaves and vines and stamped into the embossing were the words Rose Bud Album. The album belonged to Mary Jane Rhodes from Kelly Township. It was dated November, 1859.

Miss Jane, as many referred to her, was apparently a teenager when she received the book. It had verses and greetings until 1864.

I had to ask myself as I read if perhaps she was ill or an invalid as all of the verses were so somber. Everything was in legible script except for a few words that had faded. The script was the beautiful cursive writing that was taught in schools at that time. The first page was a Dedicatory written to/for Mary Jane Rhodes by Isaac C. Moore, Kelly Township. It is as follows:

On this fair page the flowers of thought
In many a glowing chaplit wrought
 Shall longer live
Than wreaths the spring can give
In many a future hour of life
Thy thoughtful mind shall turn to this
 Fair leaf.

This book, all simple as it seems,
Shall still illumine they eager dreams.

Most of the entries rhymed and the few that did not rhyme had a meter rhythm. All of the entries were signed and by way of identification they wrote the township name, plus the date. There were no town names. All but one was from White Deer or Kelly Township. The one exception was from Lewis Township.

The one from Lewis Township was perhaps the most light-hearted. It was written by Rebecca R. Rukle, January, 1864.

I always take it great delight
In filling up the album light
Now since for me this tasks not light
Remember me when out of sight.

The somber tone is expressed by M. J. Ketter in March 1860. He addressed it "To My Friend Jannie".

With angel hosts divinely fair
Dear Jane, O May I meet you there
And range with Thee, on glowing plain
Where pure joy forever reigns.

As I read I was a little baffled by not seeing any references to the looming war clouds. But I observed that most of the entries were by young ladies. However there were two or three Hafers, all different initials, who were probably going to war. A.H. Hafer in January, 1861 wrote a tribute to the flag and country. R.A Hafer wrote about Army Call with the last line being:

Arise ye fair, Our Battle call shall be,
The Union and the stars and stripes forever.

In June, 1866 Harrison Hafer wrote a poem, posthumously, in Jane's book. It was four verses long but the third verse tells how he thought.

Now it 1861, my ladies
We're in this sad plight
For Constitution and the laws
We came here to fight
We have left our mountain home, my ladies
For a cause we know is just.
What's our lawful rights, the stars and stripes
And have them now we must.

So now we've briefly examined the contents of her autograph album. There were about twenty people who had written in her album. Some of the words that were used are not in common usage anymore but I have copied them as they were written. Apparently she died at an early age. I learned a little bit more of her life as I read of her funeral in 1864. It appears to have been written by a family member.

She was confirmed in the Lutheran faith by Rev. Anspach. He also had the funeral service. The scripture was listed as Revelations 14:13. The details were listed as follows: Grave Diggers--Calvin Keefer, Wm. Haslet, and Wm. Huntington. Pallbearers--Herman Hafer, Wm. Huntington, Calvin Keefer, James Hafer. Coffin was made by Samuel Bickel. Price 10 dollars.

Also in the back of the book were the funeral services of John and Christian Rhodes, in 1876, who were her parents. The cause of death was listed as diphtheria and they died less than a month apart. The details were much the same as for Jane's funeral. Some of the names were different and I did notice that the cost of the coffin was 28 dollars. Were they bigger people or had the cost gone up?

As interesting as her album proved to be, and the people who wrote in it, my interest was sparked by the mention of another name.

I was curious about the mention of Rev. Anspach as I knew a Rev. Anspach was a former pastor of First Lutheran in Mifflinburg. I searched a copy of *History of First Lutheran Church* by Chas. M Steese and found the information I was seeking. Rev. Anspach received his degree from Gettysburg Seminary. He was listed as having severed 10 churches in his

(Continued on page 7)

Passage

Ezra I. Yoder, 60, of 14605 Old Turnpike Rd. passed away at 7:16 a.m. Saturday, April 2, 2005. He was born April 9, 1944, in Dover, Delaware, a son of the late Iddo I. and Sylvia (Kanagy) Yoder. On July 30, 1964, at the Vicksburg Mennonite Church, he married the former Ruth R. Byler, who survives.

He was a member of the West End Lions Club for 13 years. He served as a marketing director for I.A.B. Insurance Company. Ezra was a member of the Boyer Mennonite Church for 28 years.

In 1977, Ezra took over his father's restaurant, which was widely known as Rock Oak Country Kitchen. The restaurant's name was changed to Yoder's Family Restaurant, but was never forgotten as Rock Oak. Over the years, he enjoyed hosting Gospel concerts at the restaurant.

He was a dedicated father and grandfather to his four children and 11 grandchildren. Ezra enjoyed sharing time with all of his family. Surviving, in addition to his wife of 40 years, is one son and daughter-in-law, Marlin and Melanie Yoder; three daughters and sons-in-law, Carolyn and Marlin Hoffmaster Jr. of Mifflinburg, Susan and Jeff Wagner of Mifflinburg, and Regina and Keith Miller of Danville; 11 grandchildren, Seth, Tony, Ethan, and Gabriel Yoder, Darci and Colton Hoffmaster, Korynn and Jordan Wagner, and Mariah, Joshua and Caleb Miller; six brothers and sisters, Lewis Yoder, Aquilla Yoder, Daniel Yoder, Susie Williams, Bertha Miller, and Dorothy Yoder. He was preceded in death by two brothers, John Yoder and Iddo Junior Yoder.

Burial was in Boyer Mennonite Church Cemetery, Middleburg.

Edith (Moyer) Musser, 84, of Unionville, PA, passed away on Tuesday, April 26, 2005 at the Centre Crest Nursing Home. Edith was born on April 4, 1921, the daughter of the late Dreese and Estella (Rhodes) Moyer. On June 15, 1946 she was married to Paul H. Musser, who preceded her in death on November 26, 2003.

She was a 1938 graduate of Mifflinburg High School. In addition to being a home maker for 58 years, she was also a waitress, and worked at the Mifflinburg Silk Mill during WWII.

Edith was a member of the Berean Bible Fellowship Church. She was also a member of the Unionville Hospital Auxiliary. She enjoyed photography, crafts, and enjoyed gardening. She was noted for her green thumb with her flower gardens. She enjoyed making new friends with her husband on their numerous bus trips. She also loved her two cats, Mitch and Brandy. She is survived by two sons, Randy Musser of Milesburg, and Roger Musser of rural Bellefonte, and one sister, M. Jean (Moyer) Hostrander of South Williamsport, and numerous nieces and nephews. In addition to her husband she was preceded in death by three sisters, Pearl Sattler, Ruth Black, Jennie Moyer, and one brother, George Moyer.

Burial was in the Oak Ridge Cemetery, Union Township, Centre County.

(Continued from page 6)

life time. Some of those churches must have been part of dual parishes as I know that Dreisbach and Mifflinburg were served by one pastor for many years. Apparently Mifflinburg-Dreisbach was his first parish as he was ordained in 1831, about the time he served those churches. White Deer was listed as one of his parishes so our Rev. Anspach is one and the same person. He was the father of three children, one of them, Luther, was the parent of "Miss Virginia" who lived in Mifflinburg and taught piano to countless children. Some of my contemporaries were her pupils.

I owe thanks to Roger Winegardner for loaning me his interesting autograph album.

Union County Historical Society Program

May 12th, 7:30 p.m.

The Lewisburg & Tyrone Railroad, Forever Divided

Michael Bezilla, author and researcher on the Pennsylvania Railroad, will give a presentation with slides on the Lewisburg-Tyrone Railroad. The line ran from Montandon west to Bellefonte with a disconnected piece at Tyrone. He will discuss the attempts made to build the railroad through to State College and thus, how the L&T fit into the overall operations and goals of the Pennsylvania Railroad. This talk will give Union County residents an appreciation of how "their" railroad was important in the grand scheme of things.

Mr. Bezilla is a writer/editor at Penn State, having completed graduate work in history at that institution. He is author or co-author of five books, including two on the Pennsylvania Railroad, and is currently writing a book-length history of the Bellefonte Central Railroad. He has researched the history and archeology of railroads in Centre and Clearfield counties and published articles on his work.

The program is open to the public free of charge. The First Presbyterian Church is handicapped accessible.

There will be a blood drive on Friday, May 27 from 1:00 until 7:00 at Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren. The Red Cross urges all area residents to consider taking an hour to give the gift as we head into the Memorial Day weekend. Donors must be at least 17 years old, weight at least 110 pounds and be in general good health. For information on allowable medications and health conditions, call the Union County office of the Red Cross at 524-0400 or 1-800-GIVE-LIFE.

Penlines from my Kitchen to Yours

By Lucy Hoover

March 14, 2005

Ervin Hoover of Mifflinburg was on his way home from Stauffers with Randall Brininger, in Middleburg a pick up truck pulled out in front of them, which caused an accident. Randall's pick up truck was totaled. No one was injured.

March 18, 2005

Stanley Zimmerman (5) son of Amos & Mary of Mifflinburg, had a little accident with his bike. He hit his cheek against the handlebars and needed stitches.

March 19, 2005

Weaver Zimmerman (64) of Mifflinburg died unexpectedly of a massive heat attack. He was the Deacon of our church.

March 26, 2005

Luke & Ada Mae Hoover of Mifflinburg have a son named Luke. Grandparents are Joseph & Margaret Hoover of Mifflinburg, and Phares and Ada Zimmerman of Millmont.

April 2, 2005

Our neighbors, John Ivan & Mary Ann Martin, have a daughter named Heidi Ranelle. She has 1 sister and 2 brothers. Grandparents are Allen & Anna Martin of Mifflinburg and Aaron and Susan Zimmerman of Lewisburg.

Ezra Yoder (60) of Yoder's Family Restaurant, of Millmont, died suddenly of a heart attack. The restaurant has been closed.

April 3, 2005

Eli & Emma Reiff of Millmont, were on their way to church, as they crossed Rt. 45 at the 4 Bell Church, they were hit by a vehicle. No one was hurt. There was damage done to the buggy and the vehicle, but the horse is ok.

Floyd & Helen Martin's 3 year old son, Austin, of Mifflinburg had a one day hospital stay.

Alvin & Erma Zimmerman of Lewisburg have a daughter named Janette. She has 2 sisters and 4 brothers. Grandparents are Ammon & Erma Zimmerman of Kutztown, and John & Barbara Nolt of New Holland.

April 4, 2005

I spent the day in the classroom for teacher Lori. I'm not a school teacher, but I knew we would make out somehow for 1 day. Lori went to Pittsburgh to stay with her cousin, Amy Martin, who wasn't feeling well the last weeks. Amy came home from the hospital today. It is nearly a year ago that she had surgery. She will be having her 13th birthday on April 25th. Let's remember to send a card. Her address is 2080 Swengel Road, Mifflinburg, PA 17844.

April 5, 2005

I planted peas in the garden. For all the rain we were having I was surprised that we could plant so soon.

April 6, 2005

Friends got together at Enos & Rachel Shirk of Mifflinburg (yesterday was Rachel's birthday). We took lunch along and helped houseclean a couple of rooms. There were 7 women and 17 preschoolers, so we did not get much work done. But we could socialize anyway.

April 7, 2005

We went to Parent/Teacher meeting this afternoon. The school picnic is

(Continued on page 9)

Looking Back

The article was originally published in one of the local newspapers on May 27, 1904. It is copied here verbatim.

BIG FLY WHEEL BURSTS WITH FEARFUL RESULTS

ONE MAN LOSES HIS LIFE
Laurelton Lumber Co.'s Big
Mill Badly Wrecked.

WORKMEN INJURED BY FLYING MISSLES

Belt slipped From Fly Wheel and
Engine Ran Wild With Speed
Breaking Large Wheel and Send-
ing Heavy Pieces of Iron
Crashing in all Directions.

A frightful and fatal accident occurred on Tuesday evening at about four o'clock in the large saw mill of the Laurelton Lumber Company, near Glen Iron, in which one man lost his life, and many were badly injured by the large fly wheel on the massive engine bursting, sending the heavy pieces of iron crashing in all direction through the mill, and doing much damage.

The massive engine driving the machinery in the mill was located on the ground floor of the mill. On the floor above was much machinery, and many men at work. The large belt from the fly wheel of the engine to the main shaft, is supposed to have slipped off. This dislodged the belt on the engine governor, allowing the engine to run wild and race at a frightful rate of speed, impelled with all the steam in the boilers. It was but a moment when the ponderous fly wheel on the engine burst, and the flying mass of iron was hurled in all directions. Pieces weighing several hundred pounds crashed through the floor above where the men were working at the machines, and here they were injured. In the path of the flying iron were timbers a foot square, and these were snapped off like match sticks. Two pieces weighing several hundred pounds went through the roof, and others landed among the employees at work on the machines.

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

planned for May 10th. Our school secretary moved to KY, so we needed to elect another one. Henry Oberholtzer had the most votes.

April 8, 2005

Mother Hoover's birthday. Some of us family took a birthday meal in and surprised her.

"Birthdays are good for you,
The more you have
The longer you live!"

April 9, 2005

Today was the Annual Consignment Sale at Mifflinburg. Curvin always enjoys going.

April 10, 2005

Kenneth & Anna Mae Martin of Millmont have a daughter named Crystal Janelle. She has 3 brothers and 3 sisters. Grandparents are Eli & Nora Martin of Millmont, and Leroy & Verna Zimmerman of Millmont.

This afternoon we went to James & Susie Brubacker of Millmont to meet our cousin Luke & Anna Mary Zimmerman and children of KY. (All the cousins were invited).

April 13, 2005

Grandmother Susanna Sauder, of Churchtown, had public auction. All of Curvin's family of Union County went to the sale. The one acre lot (house and small barn) was sold for \$255,000.00 to Issac & Anna Mae Shirk (one of the daughters). Grandmother has been living with her daughters, since she is 93.

The proceeds from the lunch stand goes to Mervin & Irene Horning of Mifflinburg. Their son, Jaydon (13 months) will need to have surgery in the near future.

Recipe of the Month
By Janice (Dorman) Shively
Firehouse Salad

It's that time of year again; time to start thinking about summer picnics. For picnic preparation of the Firehouse Salad, combine the salad ingredients, and serve the lime cumin vinaigrette on the side.

- 1 head leafy green lettuce, roughly chopped
- 1 pint cherry tomatoes
- 1/2 large red onion, thinly sliced
- 4 carrots, julienned or thinly sliced
- 1 can black beans, drained and rinsed
- 1 mango, pitted and cubed
- 2 small beets, cooked, peeled, and julienned or sliced into thin strips (about 1 cup)

In a large bowl toss the lettuce, tomato, red onion, carrots, and black beans. Add the mango and beet sticks and gently toss again.

Lime Cumin Vinaigrette:

- 1/4 C. fresh lime juice
 - 1/4 C. rice wine vinegar
 - 1/4 tsp. cumin
 - 1 T. honey
 - 1 tsp. minced jalapeno
 - 2 tsp. olive oil
 - Salt and pepper to taste
 - 1/2 bunch cilantro leaves, chopped
- Combine the lime juice, rice wine vinegar, cumin, honey, and jalapeno and mix until smooth. While whisking, slowly drizzle in the olive oil. Season with salt and pepper. Whisk in cilantro. Adjust seasoning to your taste.
- Enjoy!

Thank You!

I would like to thank the following people for making donations toward the publication of this newsletter: Harry Mensch, Harvest, AL; Shirley Walter, Millmont; John & Georgeann Whelan, Ellicott City, MD; Kenneth & Rhelda Rishel, Mifflinburg; James & Helen Camp, Millmont; Dennis & Lena Susan, Mifflinburg; Kerwin & Ruth Martin, Mifflinburg; Marion Keithan, Mifflinburg; and the anonymous donation from Millmont.

The following people have agreed to accept this newsletter over the Internet as a PDF, thereby allowing me to reduce the monthly expenses associated with printing and mailing this publication: Marvin Englehart, Brian Norhold, Jake Norhold, Mary Genevish, Sharon & Bill Lynch, and Debra Herrold. Anyone interested in signing up to receive a free color version of the newsletter each month is encouraged to contact: millmonttimes@dejazzd.com

I would also like to thank the following new mail subscribers: Bruce Shirk, Middleburg; R. Richard Lutz, Denver, PA; Dedra Wagner, Laurelton; and John Whelan, Ellicott City, MD.

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

(Continued from page 8)

Isaac Smith was operating the cutoff saw right above the fly wheel and he received frightful injuries. He died about four hours after the accident. Benjamin Boop, who was working on the edger was struck by the flying iron, and his right leg at the ankle and left arm between the wrist and elbow were fractured. He sustained ugly bruises on the other arm and leg and about the body. Samuel Harter and David Krebs, of Laurelton, were struck on the head with flying timbers, Harter receiving a bad blow on the eye, but will not lose his sight. Frank Reeder, of Millmont, was badly bruised on the left leg. Link Dorman, of Millmont, was thrown almost to the roof of the mill, and received a number of minor bruises. Several other men in the mill had very narrow escapes from the flying pieces of iron, and the mill was badly wrecked.

The small photograph in the upper left hand corner of page one shows the "Company Street" and several buildings of the Joyce Kilmer CCC camp that was located off of Route 45, east of Hairy Johns Park. Photograph courtesy of David W. Diehl.

Mifflinburg; Find the Future in Our Past

By Leanne Keefer Bechdel

It's hard to ignore the economic changes in our region. Several large corporations, such as Pennsylvania House, Yorktown, Thor, have left our area, leaving residents with unemployment and a deep concern about the future. The pending redevelopment of the Laurelton Center has forced us to evaluate what kind of community we want to live in.

In this challenging climate, tourism is gaining significance as an option for a sustainable community. Our local history has significant importance on many levels, now more than ever. Economic instability has left us vulnerable to insensitive development that mars the character of our region. While change is inevitable and necessary, we cannot ignore how our lives are being shaped by economic interests headquartered far away. Now is the time to invest in our communities in ways that will keep them livable and bring an influx of money to help in this difficult time.

What is there to see in Union County? The heritage and charm of our small towns and the scenic beauty of our rural areas have much to offer. This area truly was the "wild west" at one time, present-day Sunbury being the last colonial fort on the frontier in the mid-1700s. Many of our oldest families were the earliest pioneers of our country. It has been said that nearly every early pioneer family passed through Pennsylvania in their migrations westward.

By the mid-1800s, Mifflinburg had become the "Detroit of Buggies," manufacturing and supplying buggies throughout the east and as far away as Kansas. Mifflinburg is home to the only intact buggy manufacturing museum in the entire United States.

June 4th and 5th marks the 24th annual Mifflinburg Buggy Days Festival. From 10AM – 5PM on Saturday and 1PM – 5PM on Sunday visitors can enjoy a tour of the Buggy Museum, a reenacted Civil War skirmish, blacksmith demonstrations, buggy rides, children's activities, and food and craft vendors.

For the first time, many of our local non profit organizations are working together in the hope that Buggy Days will generate a greater interest in tourism in Mifflinburg. Participants include Mifflinburg Heritage and Revitalization, Christkindl Market committee, Herr Memorial Library, Preservation Mifflinburg, and Mifflinburg Young Farmers.

Many organizations are hard at work to create a successful tourism economy in Union County. Mifflinburg's historic Gutelius House, Elias church and several other buildings in Mifflinburg have recently been acquired for historic preservation. But more help is needed!

Letters to the Editor

I really enjoy TMT - can't believe I have been getting it for a year already. Thanks to Lulu Hoffman. She told me about it. Am enclosing a little extra for expenses.

Kenneth Rishel, Mifflinburg

Sorry we are not connected to the Internet. We really enjoy The Millmont Times so very much. We read it from start to finish as soon as we get it. Keep up the good work. We like Janice's recipe each month!

Dennis & Lena Susan, Mifflinburg

I can't tell you how much I enjoy your newsletter. I look forward to it each month. I am renewing my subscription, and would also like another subscription sent to R. Richard Lutz, Denver, PA. I'm also enclosing a donation. Thank you for all your time and effort. It is appreciated.

Shirley Walter, Millmont

Enclosed is a check for \$20.00, ten for a subscription and ten for a donation. It's a great paper. Galen (Roy) Graham sent me the last two issues, which I found truly interesting, formerly being raised in Hartleton. Best wishes for the future. I know the Penna. House closing was a severe blow to many. Sadly, that is becoming a national crisis. Say hello to your uncle Edgar when you see him.

John R. Whelan, Ellicott City, MD

We sure do enjoy The Millmont Times. Keep up the good work. We don't have a computer, so we must get the Times by mail. Enclosed is a check to renew our subscription for 1 year. Thank you.

Robert Stroup, Mifflinburg

From the diary of the late Elder Greene Shively (1870 - 1954), a resident of Millmont from 1918 until his death: Tue. May 15, 1934. 60 - 70 degrees. Rain. I worked in the garage this forenoon. This afternoon Mr. Oberlin came for me to visit his father-in-law, cousin Samuel Boop. We called at Mervyn's and Samuel's but neither were at home. Then I called at his brother Arthur's home and we went along and we anointed Samuel, and baptized him in the creek, south of where the road turns to Laurelton, above Glen Iron. Samuel has been sick for some time after the experience he said he felt much better. Mr. Oberlin insisted I should accept a \$1.00 stating he wished he could spare more. I told him I would rather give than take, and that I appreciated his gift as much as I would were he more able to give. Anointed and Baptized Mr. Samuel Boop.

"My mother was the most beautiful woman I ever saw. All I am I owe to my mother. I attribute all my success in life to the moral, intellectual and physical education I received from her." -- George Washington (1732-1799)

Mother's Day - May 8

Lewis Township News

Lewis Township Board of Supervisors - No report available.

Municipal Authority of Lewis Township - Courtesy of Marge Schmader.

The regular meeting of the Municipal Authority of Lewis Township was held on April 5, 2005, 7:30 PM at the Lewis Township Municipal Building, Millmont. The following, being members of the board of authority named in the articles of incorporation, were present: Jim Sanders, Steve Bilger, new member Rhenda Shively and Marge Schmader. Also present were Solicitor Melissa Lobos, Plant Manager Walt Scholl, HRG Rep. Rob Rowe.

Marge nominated Rhenda for Treasurer and was seconded by Steve Bilger. There being no other nominations the motion passed. Rhenda talked to our insurance company and they said we need to pay the \$300.00 for Ken Bair and they will roll over the difference for Rhenda. Rhenda will take care of this.

The minutes of the March meeting were approved as printed. The treasurer's report was given. The checking account balance was \$12,658.24 and \$ 96,637.69 in CDs and was approved and filed for audit. A motion was made by Steve Bilger to pay the bills and seconded by Marge Schmader - so moved.

HEARING OF VISITORS: No visitors

CORRESPONDENCE: A letter was sent to the Township Supervisors which included an Available Operator Annual Report Form to be filled out by them.

We received a copy of a letter from the Supervisors stating they sent the above form to DEP.

A letter from Lobos' office was received. It included the names and addresses of the board members and also the date of the Commissioner's meeting regarding the CDBG Grant.

Marge sent a letter to Mr. Timothy Eddinger about his sewer permit stating that it was past the time to be receiving monthly bills and that he owed \$220.00 since it has been over 185 days since approval of the hook-on was given. Mr. Eddinger called and wanted to know if we could possibly reduce that amount since they haven't put in the bathroom as yet and there is nothing on the permit giving a date to start paying. Marge made a motion to charge them the \$20.00 vacancy fee from the last half of October 2004 to date for a total of \$110.00. The motion was seconded by Steve Bilger - so moved. Marge will print up a note to put with future permits that are issued so that people know when they have to start paying the monthly sewer bill.

The Annual Survey of Gov't. Employment form was received and Marge will fill it out and send it back.

We received a copy of the Chapter 94 Report from HRG.

ENGINEER'S REPORT: Rob Rowe reported that the Chapter 94 Report was submitted to DEP.

PLANT OPERATOR UPDATE: Walt reported that he has to fix the road. Melissa will be seeing Doug Peffer and will ask him to have Ken Catherman bring sub base and stones.

The discharge pumps were under water twice last week with all the rain. The affluent doesn't get chlorinated when this happens and it is reported as such.

Walt stated that he would be having the sludge hauled shortly. And, other than that everything is okay.

OLD BUSINESS: It looks like we will be receiving \$65,000.00 from the CDBG Grant money. The commissioners want us to clean up the water not build fences. Apparently that is why we didn't get more money.

NEW BUSINESS: Jim thought the meetings from May to October should be changed to 8 PM so that it would be easier for a couple of the board members to get to the meetings. Marge made a motion to that effect and Rhenda seconded it - so moved. Marge will have these meeting changes advertised.

Marge received two bids for our audit. Melissa said we should have three. Marge will call the other person who said they would give us a bid.

Jim spoke on the Chesapeake Bay Tributary Strategy. He said there has been minimal progress in 15 years. PA could be subject to lawsuits if not meeting the numbers. DEP is working on a de-nitrification system.

Bible Quiz

Mary Kahl, 520 Circle B Lane, Millmont, PA 17844 was the winner of the April Bible Quiz. As a result she won \$10. The answer to the April question: Luke 17:15 And one of them, when he saw that he was healed, turned back, and with a loud voice glorified God."

The anonymous benefactor who is responsible for the Bible Quiz would like to thank the following entrants for their participation: Bonita Zimmerman, Lena Susan, Joseph Martin, Millmont Methodist Youth Group, Annette Oberholtzer, Judith Martin, and Amanda Oberholtzer.

The Bible Quiz question for May: Peter escaped from prison because of the unceasing prayers of the church, and the divine intervention of God. What was the name of the first person Peter spoke to following his escape? Send your answer to Bible Quiz, P. O. Box 8, Swengel, PA 17880. Please have your answer submitted by the 20th of the month.

Public meetings to be held in the Lewis Township Municipal Building

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

Remembrance

By James Randall Chambers

Apples

In Buffalo Valley, Union County, Pennsylvania, we had a variety of apples. There were two large fruit farms and most farmers had a fruit orchard. When the young apple trees were planted, a peach tree was planted between each apple tree. The peach tree matures in two years and bore fruit, thus giving the owners an income. Apple varieties included: Early Harvest (ripened in early June), Baldwin and Pippin (good for cooking), Ben Davis (a juicy cider apple), Delicious (red and yellow - good eating), Banana (a large cooking apple), Smokehouse (a smoky tasting apple), Northern Spy (a large red and yellow striped apple - when you bit into one the juice squirted all over your face - a good keeper), Rustycoat (a course thick skin - they would keep well in a cellar until March or April) Winesap (a small, tart apple) Jonathan (a large cooking and eating apple), McIntosh (good cooking apple and a good keeper), Gravanstine, and Roman Beauty (a large redish mild flavor apple - used mostly for pie and applesauce.

May Birthdays & Anniversaries

2 – Joseph Smith	15 – Steve Bilger
2 – Faye Lyons	18 – Annie R. Nolt
4 – Norma Sauers	18 – Ryan Hopta
4 – Connie Swartz	19 – Sam Smith
4 – David Swartz	21 – Eddie Weaver
6 – Melvin Walter	23 – Tyler Dorman
7 – Beverly Catherman	24 – Kendrisa Kerstetter
8 – Bruce Shirk	25 – Dolores Starks
9 – Jeannie Sampsell	28 – Carl “Bup” Sampsell
10 – Betty Auman	29 – Nathan Yoder
13 – Shirley Catherman	29 – Mike Fultz
14 – Jean Marquardt	30 – William Shively
15 – Carolyn Wagner	30 – Henry Bartolo

25-May-1957	Glenn and Norma Catherman
9-May-1959	Wayne and Bobbye Benner
14-May-1960	Eugene and Darlene Hackenburg
22-May-1965	Lee and Norma Sauers
23-May-1970	Donald and Evelyn Miller
26-May-2001	Bob and Shirley Catherman
8-May-2004	Matt and Angie Dorman
9-May-2004	Tony and Janice Shively

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

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

The Millmont Times
Post Office Box 3, Millmont PA 17845
Telephone: (570) 922.4297 or E-mail:
millmonttimes@dejazzd.com

Change of Address

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

The Millmont Times

P. O. Box 3

Millmont, PA 17845

Return Service Requested

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
MILLMONT PA
PERMIT NO. 3