



The Millmont Times

MAY 2006

From the Annals of the West End



This monument ,commemorating the attack at Jacob Grozing's mill, was erected by the Pennsylvania Historical Commission in 1922.

In the last issue of this newsletter I cited a few details surrounding the Native American attack on the LeRoy homestead. In this issue I will explore a few more incidents that occurred between the Natives and the white settlers in the west end of Union County. The incursions by Native Americans in 1755 on the LeRoy family, and others, led to a mass exodus by many of the white settlers then living in the western end of Buffalo Valley. While some of the settlers that fled the valley at that time later returned, others did not. In the early 1770's white settlers once again began migrating into what is today Hartley, Lewis, Limestone, and West Buffalo Townships, and Hartleton Borough. The surnames of just a few of these families included Groshang, Etsweiler, Foster, Chambers, McLaughlin, Smith, Wierbach, Watson, Catherman, and Shively.

The harrowing and sometimes fatal encounters between these and other settlers, and the Natives are preserved for posterity in several local history books written in the 1800's, including Linn's Annals of Buffalo Valley (published in 1877), and History of the Susquehanna & Juniata Valleys (published in 1886). Excerpted below are several passages taken from these history books that pertain to some of the families mentioned above.

These incidents all occurred a quarter century after the attack on the LeRoy and Leininger families. The veracity of some of these incidents can be documented. Other anecdotal accounts recorded in these history books were family traditions handed down from one generation to the next. In this article I have tried to highlight some of the interesting encounters between the Natives and the settlers relating to that era.

A stone monument, with a bronze plaque, at the intersection of Buffalo Road and Walbash Road in West Buffalo Township, marks the nearby location where Jacob Grozing (French Jacob) built a gristmill in 1776. This mill sometimes served as a place of refuge for the settlers during hostilities in the area by the Native Americans. On May 16,1780, a patrol of local militiamen were attacked not far from the mill. Four of the soldiers were killed. The following letter, culled from the pages of Linn's Annals of Buffalo Valley, was written by Matthew Smith

(Continued on page 2)

Millmont Mailbox by Postmaster Sam Smith

As the weather continues to improve, many people will be going away on vacation, if they can afford the gasoline to do so! In previous articles I have written, I have stressed the importance of safeguarding yourself from identity theft. When you go on vacation, make sure your mail is safe to protect your vital information that many times is contained in correspondence. An easy way to do so is to have your mail held at the Post Office. You may fill out an Authorization to hold mail card at the Post office, go on-line at www.usps.com, or leave a signed note in your mailbox for your carrier. I prefer not to accept holds over the phone, as anyone can call and I may not be able to verify their identity. I also recommend when you have your mail held, to pick it up at the Post Office instead of having it delivered on a certain date, so that it isn't laying in the box in case of a delay in your return. If you can't get to Disney World on vacation this year, we can bring Disney to you with the beautiful, new Art of Disney postage stamps, on sale now! The Post Office will be closed Monday, May 29 in honor of Memorial Day.

(Continued from page 1)



The solitary gravesite pictured above is that of George Etzweiler, Jr., and is located alongside Brouse Road in Limestone Township. In accordance with Matthew Smith's letter dated May 18, 1780, the date inscribed on this marble stone would be erroneous.

Below, the headstones of James Chambers and John Foster Jr. are side by side in the Lewis Cemetery located in Limestone Township. This is the same cemetery where Patrick Watson and his mother are buried.



Letters of administration on Patrick Watson's estate, were granted on the 23d of July, of this year (1780); and his death, perhaps, occurred during May, when the stroke on the Valley, spoken of in Captain Matthew Smith's letter, was made. His cabin was on a slight elevation, a little east of the new school-house (1877) at White Springs, Limestone Township. The site was pointed out to me, by Jacob M. Shively, whose grandfather, Christian Shively, showed him the spot, and told the story. He said he heard the firing, and went to Watson's cabin, and found Mrs. Watson, Patrick's mother, lying on the floor, shot, and a dog licking her scalped head. She could only make motions in reply to his inquiry, intimating that Patrick had gone down the run. He went out after him, and found him near the White spring. Watson did not know he was shot until, stooping down by the spring to drink, the water ran out of his wound. He died within two hours. He and his mother were among the first buried in the Lewis grave-yard. He was an uncle of David, William, and John C. Watson.

Christian Shively, mentioned in the paragraph above, also lived in the vicinity of White Springs, a short distance south of the Watson family. Christian was one of four Shively siblings that received a portion of an 1,100-acre tract of land on the north side of Penns Creek, which their father purchased from John Harris in April 1773. This narrow tract of land along the creek ran from White Springs to an area west of Millmont, and was subdivided between Christian, John, and their siblings, Barbara (married to David Smith) and Esther (married to Ludwig Smith) each owned tracts. Both Christian Shively and his brother John had moved their families onto their properties by 1775. When the Natives attacked with a vengeance in 1780, Christian and his family fled the region and did not return until 1783. This paragraph, from Volume II of the History of the

and sent to Gen. Jos. Reed. Smith's letter reveals the anxiety that many of those living in the frontier regions of the state experienced at the time:

Northumberland Town, May 18, 1780.

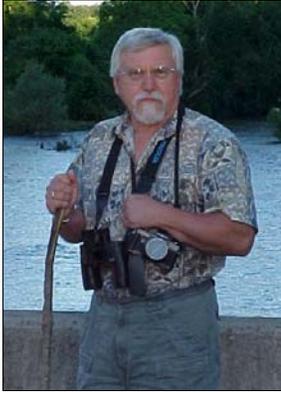
I am unhappy enough to inform you the savage enemy have, on the 16th inst., made a stroke on the inhabitants of this much distressed county, at Buffalo Valley. At French Jacob Grozong's mills four men killed, viz: Jno. Foster, jr., _____ Eytzwiller, James Chambers, and Samuel McLaughlen. The enemy got only one of the scalps. The neighboring inhabitants, on hearing the firing, briskly turned out, and pursued the enemy very brave, but was not able to overtake them. The inhabitants have stood here, indeed, longer than could be expected, were it not desperation. But, sir, unless some support can be instantly afforded, the State must shortly count one county less than formerly – which God forbid. I refer you, D'r sir, to the bearer, Gen. Potter, for further information, as he waits on horseback, whilst I write this imperfect, distress'd acc't. Provisions none, cash none, nor can it be had in this place. Gen. Potter's acc'ts from this place to the Hon'ble the Assembly, which I doubt not you will see, will fully satisfy you of the state of this place.

I am, D'r sir, your most obt. humble serv't, Matthew Smith.

The burial sites of Jacob Grozing and Samuel McLaughlen are unknown. George Etzweiler, Jr. is interred in a solitary grave situated alongside Brouse Road, east of Dice. John Foster, Jr. and James Chambers are both buried in the Lewis Cemetery, east of White Springs. That cemetery holds the remains of 17 Revolutionary War soldiers, including Patrick Watson, who served as a Captain in the Frontier Rangers. Captain Watson and his mother were both killed by Natives near their White Springs home following the attack at French Jacob's Mill. The brutal deaths of the mother and son are recorded in this paragraph extracted from Linn's Annals of Buffalo Valley:

Letters of administration on Patrick Watson's estate, were granted on the 23d of July, of this year (1780); and his death, perhaps, occurred during May, when the stroke on the Valley, spoken of in Captain Matthew Smith's letter, was made. His cabin was on a slight elevation, a little east of the new school-house (1877) at White Springs, Limestone Township. The site was pointed out to me, by Jacob M. Shively, whose grandfather, Christian Shively, showed him the spot, and told the story. He said he heard the firing, and went to Watson's cabin, and found Mrs. Watson, Patrick's mother, lying on the floor, shot, and a dog licking her scalped head. She

(Continued on page 4)



BIRD TALK

By Jim McCormick

“Now, that’s unconditional love!” Our little village has come alive after its long winter dormancy. Everyone is busily trying to remove any trace of winter from their sight. Even the weekly ritual of mowing the lawn has started; but no matter, spring is here. Spring is my favorite time of the year and we are fortunate it lasts as long as it does. I have written before about how long spring lasts here compared to Minnesota, especially northern Minnesota. There it seemed like the snow melted, the leaves came out, the lilacs bloomed and then, boom, it was summer! Maybe that’s just the telescoping of time of a boy. As a young boy I loved to

watch those huge piles of snow suddenly melt into rivers of water running down the streets, and feeling the warmth of the spring sun on my face. Life was so simple then. Recently, on my way home from work, I was reminded of that simplicity by a scene I caught out of the corner of my eye. I was admiring the beauty of the spring landscape--those splashes of color changing almost daily. Very often I find myself behind a school bus dropping off students. This particular day, I arrived a little later than usual and the bus had already left. A little girl, probably a first-grader, was walking along her sidewalk carrying her oversized backpack, when her two dogs greeted her. Both were happy to see her, but one was especially so. It was an aging, overweight Lab that obviously had a very special relationship with this little girl. Not only was the dog’s tail wagging, but also its whole body was wagging, and it was practically smiling with joy. **“Now, that’s unconditional love!”** I couldn’t see the little girl’s expression, but I’m guessing she was just as happy to see her old dog, as the dog was to see her.

I just ran across a new birding website you might want to investigate, Whatbird.com, which can be accessed, believe it or not, at www.whatbird.com. There is a wealth of information there: search engines, illustrations and, especially useful, actual bird sound-clips that are very helpful. There are several methods of searching for the identity of a bird: color, shape, habitat, etc. and it actually can be fun and educational. The main criticism I have is that it can be quite slow to navigate.

April is a very active time for our birds and some species have already built nests and are actively breeding. The ‘Millmont’ Tree Swallows arrived about a week late this year, but it sure is nice to see them skimming across Wilson’s field again. I even saw two Barn Swallows along Shirk Road, but the main group usually doesn’t arrive until early May. Every spring I watch for the return of the Common Snipes in Wilson’s field. Last year I only saw one, this year I saw eleven one morning at midmonth, but have not seen any since. The male Goldfinches had molted and were sporting their brilliant yellow coats just in time for Easter Sunday. Also on Easter Sunday I began hearing what I thought were Mockingbirds everywhere I went. It finally dawned on me it was the returning Brown Thrashers; I really wasn’t expecting them for several weeks though. I also keep hearing the Eastern Towhees, but have yet to actually see one. The female Red-winged Blackbirds snuck in at midmonth, six weeks after the males had arrived. I missed the actual arrival, usually quite an active time in the breeding grounds. As you can see the bird species are multiplying almost daily, and May is an even more active time for migratory birds, so grab your binoculars, and with the help of the new website, take it all in.



The wood frog is a small (about 2") frog of moist woodlands. As the name implies, this frog is not an animal of ponds and streams but one that spends its life in the woodlands and vegetated wetlands. In early spring, shortly after thawing from their winter dormancy, the wood frogs find their way to temporary wetlands for breeding. The males set up a raucous quacking chorus which can be heard for a few weeks when the air temperature is above the high 40's.

The Wood Frog, One of God’s Unique Creations by Cindy Shively

This past March while cutting and gathering firewood near Millmont with my parent’s, Edgar and Betty Shively, along with Jane Boop, and Tom Shemory (who both

gave up their Saturday to lend us a hand), we all had the good fortune to witness a unique sight in the natural world. As the chain saws went silent, we heard a loud quacking sound emanating from a nearby vernal pool in the vicinity of where we were located. Within a short time we all began to notice movement on the ground at our feet. Before long the woodland surrounding us was alive with sight of hundreds, perhaps thousands, of wood frogs hopping in the same direction. I soon realized that we were witnessing the annual migration of the wood frog to their ancestral breeding ground. We were in the right place at the right time to see firsthand one of nature’s more interesting sights, and one of God’s most unique creations.

(Continued from page 2)

Susquehanna & Juniata Valleys, reveals one families need to leave all their material possessions behind, and flee for their lives:

Christian Shively, who came from Lancaster County, had purchased the John Harris survey and improvement of 1755, near the mouth of the White Spring Run, and was living there before the commencement of the war. He did not leave at the time of the big runaway of 1778, and had hoped to remain undisturbed with his family at the place which he had selected as their home. He was aware, however, of the danger incurred by remaining, and on one occasion, before the murder of Watson, having occasion to go to a so-called fort near New Berlin, he hid his wife and two children in his corn-patch, with the directions to remain there until his return. During his absence, Mrs. Shively, not feeling secure in the protection of the growing corn, had left the corn-patch and waded over Penns Creek, and hidden herself and children in the thicket of bushes at the foot of Jack's Mountain, and while there in hiding, she saw two Indians going up the mountain at a short distance from her, but fortunately without being discovered by them. After seeing the Indians she was afraid to leave her hiding place. Mr. Shively, after his return home, went to the corn-patch where he supposed his household treasures were concealed, and after having searched it over and over, without avail, was on the point of giving up the search in despair, when he heard the faint wail of a child, which seemed to come from the opposite side of the creek. He then found them and accompanied them to their cabin. After the murder of Watson he set about making preparations for his departure from the settlement. He buried his stove in the soft, boggy ground which skirted the run, expecting that the day would come when he would return and exhume it. He made a raft of logs, tied together with hickory withes, upon which he placed his wife and children, and floated with them down Penn's Creek. After the war was over he returned and found some apple-trees which he had planted before his hegira, bending under the weight of fruit; but the concealed stove for many years eluded all attempts to find it. Many and many a time did the old gentleman, in after-years, with stick in hand, go over the meadow prodding it at every point where he thought the errant stove was concealed, until at last, after many years of persisting search, it was at last struck and brought forth to the light of day. Mr. Shively lived to an extreme old age, dying in 1842, aged almost ninety-two years.



The farmhouse now owned by Leah Bingaman, at 1040 Shirk Road, was the site of the Wierbach cabin in 1781 where sisters, Elizabeth and Anna Wierbach were captured. John Shively's cabin was located one mile southwest of here. He was captured at or about the same time.

The fate of thirty two year old John Shively, Christian's brother, was not as fortunate. John was captured by the Natives on his homestead, and never heard from again. Although his body was never found, it was presumed that the hostile Natives who swooped down upon him had taken his life. Fortunately his wife, Eve, and their four young sons were unharmed during the attack. The plight of John Shively at the hands of the Natives is revealed in this brief passage in Volume II of the History of Susquehanna & Juniata Valleys:

John Shively, who came from York County, owned the place where R. V. B. Lincoln now resides, and where an improvement had been made as early as 1754, and abandoned after the time of the Indian massacres of October, 1755. In 1775 he was assessed with nine acres of cleared land, two horses and two cows. He was living on his place there in 1781, and, whilst engaged in making hay in the meadow in the rear of the house, he was captured and carried away by the Indians and was never heard of afterwards.

His widow married Philip Mann, and occupied the place until 1804, when it was sold by Christian and Frederick Shively, sons of the captured man.

At or about the same time as John Shively's capture, Catherine Elizabeth Wierbach and her sister, Anna, were also taken captive. Less than a mile separated the rustic cabins of the Wierbach's and Shively's. The text below is from the History of the Susquehanna & Juniata Valleys:

When Shively was captured, two daughters of John Wierbach, who lived on the farm now owned by Daniel S. Smith, were also captured. Shively's and Wierbach's farms were not more than a mile apart.

It was in the afternoon when the savages made their descent upon the Wierbach cabin. All of the family, both males and females, were out in the field reaping, except the two girls. The savages captured the girls, set fire to the cabins, and departed. The ascending smoke from the burning dwelling was the first intimation that the reapers had of anything being wrong. In a few days

(Continued on page 5)

(Continued from page 4)

one of the girls returned, having escaped from her captors. After the war was over, Wierbach having heard of the whereabouts of his other daughter, went after her, and found her the wife of an Indian, on the waters of the Allegheny; but she had become so attached to the wild life of the savages that all the inducements that he could offer her to return were of no avail. She was never heard of afterwards.

John and Catherine (Best) Wierbach settled onto their 336-acre tract of land sometime during the mid 1770's. Their homestead was located along Shirk Road, in what is now Lewis and Hartley Townships. The names of the two Wierbach girls captured in 1781 were Catherine "Elizabeth" and Anna. Anna, who was about 13 years old at the time of her capture, miraculously escaped. Her older sister, Elizabeth, was taken to western Pennsylvania, near the banks of the Allegheny River. According to descendants of the Wierbach family, the last family contact between Elizabeth and her siblings occurred in 1808. In a document dated November 12, 1808, located at the Northumberland County Courthouse, Elizabeth provided the court with a written release during the settlement of her father's estate. At that time, some two decades after her capture, Elizabeth was using the surname "Leef." Elizabeth Leef's release facilitated the division and sale of her parent's 336-acre farm between her siblings.

Anna Wierbach later married Adam Hennig. By the mid 1790's the Hennig family resided near the village of Woodward in Haines Township, Centre County. Adam and Anna (Wierbach) Hennig were the parents of twins, (a girl and a boy). According to family tradition, Anna met with an untimely death at the age of 27. While riding separate horses, she and her husband attempted to cross a rain-swollen stream. Anna's horse lost its footing and plunged into the water. Anna and the young daughter she was carrying both drowned. Anna Wierbach and her daughter are buried in the Hennig - Neidig Cemetery. This secluded little cemetery is situated on private property near the Houser Farm on Cemetery Road in Haines Township, Centre County, approximately 1.5 miles northeast of Woodward. Headstones in this 18th century cemetery were carefully restored by descendants of the Wierbach family in 1980.



The headstones of Adam Hennig (left) and Anna (Wierbach) Hennig (right) are located in the Neidig - Hennig Cemetery in Haines Township, Centre County. Anna, born 1767 died 1794, was captured by Natives Americans at her parent's cabin in Hartley Township Union County in 1781.

The final narrative is one more that I extracted from the pages of the History of the Susquehanna & Juniata Valleys Volume II. This story pertains to the capture of Jacob Catherman. His fate, unlike so many captives, ended on a much brighter (and lighter) note:

As early as 1780 David Catherman lived on the place now owned by William Swengle. He had two sons, Jacob and George, between whom he divided his four hundred acres of land, Jacob getting the place where Swengle now lives, while George had his cabin a little north of the present residence of J. L. Halfpenny, Esq. In 1781 Jacob Catherman was captured by the Indians, at or about the same time that John Shively and the Wierbach girls were taken, as detailed in the history of Hartley Township. The family tradition of the capture of Catherman, as related by John F. Catherman, a grandson, is substantially as

follows: There had been rumors of the approach of hostile Indians, and the Catherman family had been considering the propriety of leaving their home and seeking a more secure place of refuge; and, with this end in view, Jacob Catherman and a man named Reichard went up on the Limestone Ridge to hunt for the colts, which had been allowed to run at large. Whilst thus engaged they were unexpectedly fired upon and Reichard wounded, but not dangerously. They commenced to run, and, after running some distance, came upon a large band of Indians, and, seeing no hope of escape, Catherman, who had a gun, fired it into the ground in token of surrender. After a captivity of three days Reichard escaped and returned, but Catherman remained in captivity until the war ended. Whilst a captive he made it a point to be of as little use as possible to his captors, and contrived to do everything that he was ordered to do in an unsatisfactory manner. For example, when set to hoeing corn, he would hoe the corn off and leave the weeds stand, etc., so that the Indians got tired of him and sold him to their British allies for a few gallons of whiskey, an article which they could use. On his return from captivity, as he neared his home, he passed a harvest-field, in which were about thirty reapers, on land lately part of the estate of John Mench (deceased), in Limestone Township.

The reapers happened to be at the end as Catherman neared them, and some of them knowing and recognizing him, they had a

(Continued on page 7)



Meanderings

by

Hertha S. Wehr

Social Security

Most industrialized countries of the world have some form of socialistic governments, which provide benefits of some kind to its people. However, the term social security seems to have been coined in the United States in the 1930's. After being debated for several years the Congress passed the Social Security Act in 1935. Its first line is contributory social insurance. The second part provided for public assistance. Many people are not aware that they are part of the same act.

One of the great objections in the discussion stage was that the government would take away some of your freedom. To a certain extent it did that because everyone now had a number that could make you known to the government. I can well remember when we were told that your social security number was very private and not available to anyone outside of the department. I guess we all know that was an understatement. It is only since identity theft has become a reality that we are told to guard our social security number as being very private. Just recently I read an article about protecting our Medicare card as also being very private as it usually has our social security number, or perhaps our spouse's number, on it.

Before social security came into existence some states had programs set up which provided some relief for workers. There were some businesses which did pay some death benefits or disabled benefits but there was no uniformity and the payments were small. The Social Security Act has been updated (or maybe a better term would be tinkered with) a number of times. In 1954 it had some major changes and a number of different benefits were added. The main problem now is that the government has borrowed funds from the account, which puts the available funds in jeopardy.

Social Security has created some changes in our lives, which we don't often think about. When World War II put a number of women in the work force, they paid social security taxes. If they didn't marry and decided to continue to work, they paid taxes. When they retired they had an income. Gone were the days when a maiden aunt or widow came to a family home and was the extra hand for a growing family or the nurse for an invalid family member.

When Social Security was first introduced many people thought it would cover retirement living. They failed to try to develop a nest egg of their own. All of us are aware that other benefits, whether from savings, family, or community help, are needed to supplement those government payments. Perhaps since most Americans desire to have an abundance of worldly goods, this is to blame for our failure to think

about the future. We are a nation of instant gratification.

So, if you are still earning money, think twice about your purchases, put away a portion of your income. If you have read or heard reports about how much your teen is costing you in terms of "extras" maybe you need to reconsider if he or she needs an iPod, or a cell phone. Perhaps you need to turn a deaf ear to the whining about "but everyone has one."

Rereading that last paragraph sounds to me as if I am preaching. But I see so many people who are in debt up to their ears and have no idea how they will manage in the future. We all want to be good to our families but sometimes what looks good now is indeed a recipe for disaster in the future.

Editors Note: Janice and I extend our sympathy to Hertha on the recent passing of her brother, Lynn R. Shively, age 92, who entered into rest at 9 a.m. Wednesday, April 12, 2006.

Lynn Raymond Shively, 92, was born November 25, 1913, in Lewis Township, a son of the late Clarence Edward and Mary Sophia (Miller) Shively. On April 10, he and his wife, Mary Viola (Hackenberg) Shively celebrated their 68th wedding anniversary. They were married April 10, 1938, in New Berlin by the Rev. Clarence Whetstone.

Mr. Shively attended Lewis Township schools, and was formerly employed by Paul S. Krebs Trucking of Northumberland and as an auto mechanic for Manbeck Motors, Mifflinburg, before retiring from the Mifflinburg Area School District's transportation department on April 30, 1982, having served as a chief mechanic since 1968.

Lynn was an avid hunter, fisherman and an active conservationist, serving the cause of wildlife conservation and outdoor sportsmanship, and was a founding member of the Buffalo Valley Sportsmen's Association, where he served as a board member, president, vice president, treasurer, poster chairman, committee member, state delegate and alternate county delegate. He promoted wildlife conservation education through the poster committee chairmanship, sponsored his own grandchildren to the Penn State Conservation Leadership School, encouraged other youths to attend conservation camps and by personal example in his community.

A life member of the Pennsylvania Federation of Sportsman's Clubs, Mr. Shively held various offices in the Central Division of that organization. He always supported the Pennsylvania Game Commission's programs and consistently helped the commission by taking leadership roles in the practical application of their efforts. In 1987, upon the recommendation of then-wildlife conservation management officer Bernard Schmader, Mr. Shively was awarded the Pennsylvania Game Commission's Senior Wildlife Conservation Award for outstanding contribution to that cause. Mr. Shively spent many Sunday afternoons driving the mountain roads of Union County and walking the mountain trails. The love of traveling from his trucking days enticed Mr. Shively to tour the United States. On two separate trips, after the age of 70, Mr. Shively, accompanied by his wife, Mary, drove through the continental United States, Alaska and Canada. In addition, he went on several Wyoming hunting trips.

He was a faithful member and servant of Dreisbach United

(Continued on page 7)

Recipe of the Month
By Janice (Dorman) Shively
Chocolate Chip Cookie.....Pie

2 Eggs
½ C. All-purpose flour
½ C. Sugar
½ C. Firmly packed brown sugar
1 C. Butter, melted and cooled to room temperature
1 C. Semi-sweet chocolate chips
1 C. Chopped pecans
1 9-inch unbaked pie crust
Whipped cream or ice cream

In a large bowl beat eggs. Add flour, sugar, and brown sugar; beat until well blended. Blend in melted butter. Stir in chocolate chips and pecans. Pour into pie shell. Bake at 325° for 1 hour.

Allow to cool and serve with whipped cream or ice cream.

ENJOY!



(Continued from page 6)

Church of Christ, Lewisburg.

He was an outstanding example of a man, a husband, a father, a grandfather and a friend.

Surviving, in addition to his wife, are one daughter and son-in-law, Mary A. and Richard D. Lytle of Harrisburg; one son and daughter-in-law, David L. and Sandra M. Shively of Mifflinburg; five grandchildren, Scott Lytle of Blairstown, N.J., Barbara and James Davis of Cleveland, Ohio, Sheri and Michael Prescott of Camp Hill, Duane Shively of Mifflinburg and Craig Shively of McElhattan; five great-grandchildren; one brother and sister-in-law, Roger M. and Doris Shively of Millmont; and two sisters, Nessie S. Watson and Hertha S. Wehr, both of Mifflinburg; as well as his extended family and friends.

He was preceded in death by one daughter, Viola Shively, in 1941; five brothers, Clark A., Fred E., T. Ralph, G. Luther and Ned M. Shively; and two sisters, Nellie S. Mitch and Fern S. Klose.

Burial was in the Dreisbach Church Cemetery, Buffalo Township, Union County.

(Continued from page 5)

regular jubilee over his return, and regaled him so freely with the usual harvest beverage that, for some hours, he was unable to continue his journey. He lived long in the valley, and raised a family of eleven sons and two daughters. His brother, George, also raised a large family of boys, and their descendants can now be counted by the hundred, in Lewis and Hartley townships, and in the Western States of the Union. The stone mansion-house on Jacob Catherman's place was built in 1817.

These stories, and others, concerning the frontier life of this areas pioneer settlers are yet another chapter in the fascinating history of the west end of Union County. While some may question the authenticity of the stories outlined in this article, the fact remains that our ancestors encountered hazards, hardships, and adversities on their arrival here. Despite those obstacles, these hardy and brave souls persevered. Their courage and fortitude should serve as an inspiration to us all.

If you are interested in learning more about the fascinating history of our area there are a number of ways to get started. Visit one of the county libraries and seek out some of the local history books. Some of those books include Linn's Annals of Buffalo Valley, Otzinachson, or the History of the Susquehanna and Juniata Valleys. There are numerous other books that detail the early county history available at the county libraries as well. You can also attend programs, bus tours, and other activities sponsored by such organizations as the Union County Historical Society and the Snyder County Historical Society.

Sources: Linn's Annals of Buffalo Valley, published in 1877 by John Blair Linn; Richard V.B. Lincoln, who wrote the history of the west end of Union County for the book entitled "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, Volume II," published in 1886 by Everts, Peck & Richards; The History of the Christian Shively Family, published in 1987 by Judy (Shively) Wagner, and the following web sites: www.weyerbacher.net and www.henneyfoxswensonthompson.com/henney.htm

I would like to thank Janet Larson of Kylerstown, Pa for providing information on the Wierbach family, and for personally showing me the Hennig - Neidig Cemetery located in Haines Township, Centre County, and to Gail (Watson) Erdley for providing information pertaining to the death of Patrick "Paddy" Watson.

Moving?

If you are planning to move or if your post office mailing address is about to change, please notify The Millmont Times immediately. This newsletter is distributed each month by bulk rate, and will not be forwarded to your new address, nor will they be returned to me by the U. S. Postal Service. If there are any changes in your postal mailing address please call me at (570) 922.4297 or email me at: millmonttimes@dejazzd.com

From the diary of the late Elder Greene Shively (1870 - 1954) a resident of Millmont from 1918 until his death: *Wed. May 18, 1932. Worked at Jacob's and in the garage. This AM Mrs. Annie (Rearick) Kaler was badly burned while boiling sugar sacks in kerosene oil, which exploded on the stove when she spilled the water on the stove while tending them. Mother phoned for a Dr., she also went along on the ambulance when they took her to Danville hospital this PM. Mrs. DeWhitt also went along. She (Mrs. Kaler) was burned seriously.*

Thurs. May 19, 1932. Clear. Worked in the garage & at Jacob's place.

Fri. May 20, 1932. Clear. Worked in the garage also for Jacob at his place. The State road from Hartleton to the schoolhouse was tarred for the first time. Mrs. Kaler died at 3 o'clock this morning.

Sat. May 21, 1932. Clear. This was our Spring Love Feast tonight. The tables were about all filled. Not many from a distance present. Bro. Flemings from McClure officiated. Bro. Charles Schwenk assisted. Bro. Flemings remained with us over night.

Sun. May 22, 1932. Clear. Lesson text Jacob and Esau reconciled, Genesis 33. We ate at the church then went to Lizzie's place to give communion to Sister Lizzie. This evening I preached a sermon to the graduating class in Hartley Township. The house was filled.

Mon. 23, 1932. Clear 70 degrees this AM. Worked around the buildings cleaning up. This PM at 2 o'clock officiated at the funeral of Mrs. Anna Kaler, assisted by Rev. Reiley in the ME Church here. Text - Here have we no continuing place. The house was filled to overflowing. Interred in Swengel Cemetery. She was born in 1873.

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

* Bible Study will be held at the church on the second Tuesday of every month. The group study will be begin at 11:00 a.m. and continue until 12 noon.

* A Prayer and Healing Service will be held at the church on the second Thursday of each month beginning at 8:00 a.m.

Blood Drive

There will be a community blood drive at the Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren, alongside Route 45 west of Mifflinburg, on Monday May 22, 2006, from 1:00 p.m. until 7:00 p.m. All persons, 17 years and older, in good health, and who weigh at least 110 pounds, are encouraged to come and donate blood. For more information call 800.GIVE LIFE.

Public meetings to be held in the Lewis Township Municipal Building

- ▶ Municipal Authority of Lewis Township, the second Thursday of the month, beginning at 7:30 p.m.
- ▶ Lewis Township Board of Supervisors, the second Tuesday of the month, beginning at 7:30 p.m.
- ▶ Lewis Township Village Green Recreation Association, meeting to be announced.

Thank You!

I would like to thank the following people for making monetary donations toward the publication of this newsletter: Paul L. Sheesley, Lewisburg; Kathryn Wert, Mifflinburg; Joan & Robert Klinger, Mifflinburg; Sam & Shirley Diehl, Millmont; Seibert & Connie Teichman, Millmont; Billy Mattern, Mifflinburg; and the subscriber from Maryland who wishes to remain anonymous.

The following people have agreed to accept this newsletter through the Internet as a PDF, thereby reducing the monthly expenses associated with printing and mailing this publication: Steve Nogle, Millmont; Carol Stover, Millmont; Timothy Bastian, Hummelstown, PA; and Steve Pletcher, Gerald Botdorf, Steven Croman. More than 200 newsletter subscribers receive The Millmont Times in color each month in the form of a PDF via the Internet. If you would like to receive the newsletter free each month please contact me at: millmonttimes@dejazzd.com

The following are new mail subscribers: Paul L. Sheesley, Lewisburg; Martin Teichman, Millmont; David Showalter, Millmont; Mr. & Mrs. Chick Sauers, Mifflinburg; Leona Hackenberg, Mifflinburg; Mr. & Mrs. Archie Wagner, Milroy; Mr. & Mrs. James Gross, Hartleton; Russel F. Eisenhuth, Mifflinburg; Roger & Betty Shoemaker, Millmont.

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

Thanks to Leona Hackenberg for allowing me to make copies of several old photos from when she and her late husband, Willard, owned and operated their store in Swengel, and Bep Steese of Mifflinburg for allowing me to make a photograph of a drawing of Mifflinburg Borough dated 1884.

The small photograph in the upper left hand corner of page one is an early view of Richard & Sue Hassenplug's residence, located on Second Street in Millmont. Posing in front of their home for this circa 1908 photograph are Frederick and Elizabeth Altholf on the left. The woman on the right side of the photograph is unknown.

Penlines From my Kitchen to Yours

March 23, 2006

David & Irene Reiff have a daughter names Renee Lynette. She has one brother and one sister. Grandparents are Eli & Emma Reiff, and Aaron & Emma Martin.

March 26

Minister Daniel Zimmerman of Cumberland Co. was at Penns Creek Church this forenoon. We took our lunch along and then went to see baby Curvin at Amos & Almeta Horning of Middleburg.

March 28

Levi & Susan Oberholtzer's baby, Wayne (2 weeks old), had a four day hospital stay. He came home tonight.

Elsie has six rabbits; three of them each have a nest of babies since last night. The girls are excited about that!

March 30

Miriam Brubacker (16), daughter of Amos & Elva of Middleburg, went to Surgery Center in Allenwood. She could not breathe through her nose since she was kicked in the face by a cow a while ago. She needed surgery to correct it.

Lewis and Verna Hoover Family of Lewisburg had a chimney fire in their farmhouse around 9:30 p.m. Verna & Merle (19) were already in bed. They both heard the smoke alarm, and were able to get out. Very little was taken out of the house otherwise. Lewis had been out in the field, and Ada Mae (32) was in the barn. Lewis Ray (31) was in Indiana at the time the fire broke out. Firefighters soon had the fire under control, but not before the house was severely damaged. Lewis & Verna, and Merle, will move in with us. Ada Mae & Lewis Ray will stay with Chris & Wilma Brubacker while neighbors, friends, and relatives work on the house.

March 31

A large group gathered to help tear ½ of the house away at Parent Hoovers. Plans are to build a new part of the house, at the same place the old one was. And the part that is still there needs to be completely remodeled.

Mahlon Horning, son of Phares & Anna of Mifflinburg, needed to leave early because he stepped in a nail. And Phares Reiff, Jr. of Lewisburg went to the E.R. tonight because he had steel and rust in his eye.

April 1

Linus Martin of Mifflinburg spent part of the day in the hospital.

April 2

Larry & Miriam Nolt of Middleburg have a daughter named LaJane. She has one brother and one sister. Grandparents are Lester & Martha Nolt of Lewisburg, and Phares & Anna Horning of Mifflinburg.

April 4

James & Ella Mae Hoover of Mifflinburg have a son named Javon. He has one brother and one sister. Grandparents are Joseph & Margaret Hoover of Mifflinburg, and Ervin & Almeta Sensenig of Shiloh, Ohio.

Ivan Zimmerman (26), invalid son of Esra & Lena of Mifflinburg, has been restless and cries a lot for the last two months. They have been doing a lot of tests to find his problem.

April 6

Derick Martin (16), son of Floyd & Katie, was treated at Pittsburgh and will need to stay there for about six weeks, depending on how fast he recov-

(Continued on page 10)

Looking Back

The article below was published in a local newspaper in May 1949.

50-YEAR HONOR FOR DR. WOLFE Former Laurelton Village Head To Receive Medical Society Tribute.

Dr. Mary M. Wolfe, 29 South Third Street, Lewisburg, will be honored with 50-year testimonials Wednesday at the meeting of the Seventh Councilor Dist. Pennsylvania State Medical Society, at the Elks Club, Williamsport.

Dr. Wolfe was affiliated with Laurelton State Village, the Union County institution which she served as superintendent, until her retirement in 1940.

A native of Lewisburg and descendent of a family which settled in that area in 1740, she was graduated from Bucknell Institute, and in 1896, received her degree from Bucknell University. Since the University of Pennsylvania's medical school did not accept female students at that time, she continued her work in the medical department of the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, graduating in 1899.

Her first assignment was as assistant physician at Norristown State Hospital's women's department, and February 1, 1901, she was elected chief physician for the department, having in her care 1,400 women. In the fall of 1910, she left to open a private sanitarium at Holmesburg, Philadelphia suburb. Four years there were followed by a six-month period at her Lewisburg home, during which the State Legislature approved the establishment of the Laurelton institution, expressly for feeble-minded women of child-bearing age.

Dr. Wolfe recalled today the blackberry patch where the institution now stands, and her work in helping choose the site, having been appointed to the board of managers by the late Governor Tener. She remained on that body from the time of her appointment, December, 1913, until named superintendent. Dr. Wolfe supervised the construction of the first building and the two which followed, made possible through appropriations of 1917. During World War I, she was located for a time at Muscle Shoals, Ala, doing war work at the camp where nitrogen was taken from the air to get nitrates to combine with other ele-

(Continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

ments in the making of gun powder.

In December, 1919, she moved to Laurelton preparatory to the opening of the institution, living there until her retirement in September, 1940, when she returned to Lewisburg.

Under Dr. Wolfe's direction, the buildings which now comprise the institution were all constructed. Only this year, ground was broken for the first of a number of new units. She helped build and develop the organization to operate Laurelton. The institution was furnished for occupancy December 5, 1919, and the first girl, a Union countian, was received on January 2, 1920. In 1934, Dr. Wolfe was made president of the American Association for Mental Deficiency, covering all institutions for mental defectives in the United States and Canada.

Research of scientific nature at Laurelton gained widespread attention, and was recognized by several large N.Y. City foundations. As a result, persons from Europe and Australia visited Laurelton and learned of the work done there to improve medical care for those known as mental defectives.

Dr. Wolfe, who received her doctor of science degree from Bucknell University in 1933, has been a trustee of the college for many years, and is chairman of the trustee group on grounds and buildings, her assignment having been made on the basis of her work and experience in supervising the establishment of Laurelton. She is an honorary member of the Lycoming County Medical Society, and a fellow in the American Medical Association, American Psychiatric Association and the American Association for Mental Deficiency.

During World War II she was active in Red Cross work in Union County, and has always maintained much civic interest in her home community.

Also to be honored with 50-year testimonials are Dr. David E. Jacobs, Codersport, and Dr. Farnham H. Shaw, Wellsboro. District involved includes Clinton, Elk, Lycoming, Potter and Tioga counties. Union County is a part of the Lycoming County set-up.

Featured speaker will be Dr. Gilson Colby Engel, Philadelphia, president of the state society.

Taking part in the noon-time Womens' Auxilliary luncheon will be Mrs. Amos V. Persing, Jr., of Watsontown, wife of a physician in that community.

Bible Quiz

Teresa Crerand, 4278 Conashaugh Lakes, Milford, PA 18337, was the winner of the March Bible Quiz. As a result she won the \$10.00 cash prize. The answer to the question can be found in II Kings Chapter 20: 1-11. The shadow of the sun dial would go back ten degrees.

The person responsible for the Bible Quiz would like to thank all those who entered the April Bible quiz.

The Bible Quiz Question for May is courtesy of Sharon Page: Where in the Bible does it specifically mention a "lefthanded" man, and what was the man's name? Please include the Chapter and verse where the answer can be found.

A \$10 cash prize will be awarded to the person selected with the correct answer.

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

(Continued from page 9)

ers.

Mrs. Ammon (Mary) Martin (72) was treated at the hospital. She came home the same day.

April 9

Raymond & Verna Weaver of Lewisburg have a daughter named Amanda. Now they have five girls. Grandparents are Aden & Irene Weaver, and Phares & Lena Reiff all of Lewisburg.

April 12

Alson & Faith Martin have a daughter named Lanelle Marie. Now they have three girls. Grandparents are Linus & Irene Martin, and Mrs. Jonas Weaver.

Eugene & Christine Martin have a son named Jeffrey Lee. He has one brother. Grandparents are Irvin & Esther Martin, and Paul & Louise Reiff.



Nifty, Nifty, Sam's about to Turn 50!!

Do you know who will be turning 50th on May 19? It is none other than Millmont Postmaster Sam Smith. If you get by the post office be sure to wish Sam a Happy Birthday!

God's Masterpiece Is Mother

By Herbert Farnham

God took the fragrance of a flower...
The majesty of a tree...
The gentleness of morning dew...
The calm of a quiet sea...
The beauty of the twilight hour...
The soul of a starry night...
The laughter of a rippling brook...
The grace of a bird in flight...
Then God fashioned from these things
A creation like no other,
And when his masterpiece was through
He called it simply - Mother.

Don't Forget Mother's Day - May 14, 2006

Lewis Township News

The regular meeting of the Municipal Authority of Lewis Township was held April 13, 2006, 7:30 PM at the Lewis Township Municipal Building, Millmont. The following, being members of the board of authority named in the articles of incorporation, were present: Jim Sanders, Renda Shively, Clair Kaler, Steve Bilger, and Marge Schmader. Also present were Solicitor Melissa Lobos, HRG Rep. Rob Rowe and Plant Mgr. Walt Scholl.

The minutes were approved as printed. The treasurer's report was given. The checking account balance for February was \$10,610.68 and \$97,204.70 in CDs and were approved and filed for audit. Steve made a motion for Renda to roll over mature CD at West Milton Bank at 4.93% interest. Clair seconded the motion – so moved. Marge made a motion to pay the bills and Clair seconded it – so moved.

HEARING OF VISITORS: Joe White wanted to know if he needed to pay a hook on fee if he was replacing an old trailer with a new one. He doesn't need to if he is using the same connection.

CORRESPONDENCE: A copy of the letter sent to all sewer customers re: no more vacancies and 90 days for delinquencies instead of 150 was presented and filed.

We received a copy of the delinquent sewer bills that Himes owe so that it can be paid when their house is sold at sheriff's sale on April 12, 2006,

ENGINEER'S REPORT: We received the Chapter 94 report from HRG. Rob reported that HRG received a letter from DEP stating our Chapter 94 report was accepted. Rob said we should be receiving a copy of this letter.

PLANT OPERATOR UPDATE: Walt reported that everything ran smoothly with the back-up operators during his absence.

OLD BUSINESS: No old business

NEW BUSINESS: No new business.

Passage

Elizabeth Jane Wenrick, 34 of 6545 Weikert Road for the past 11 years and a lifelong resident of the Mifflinburg area, died at 6:55 a.m. Wednesday, April 5, 2006, in Haines Township, Centre County, of injuries suffered in an automobile accident. She was born March 31, 1972, in Allentown, a daughter of John F. and Victoria M. (Vandegrift) Martin of White Sulphur Springs, WV. She and Kerry L. Wenrick were married May 17, 1997, at Sacred Heart Church, Lewisburg.

Liz was a 1990 graduate of Mifflinburg Area High School and a 1994 graduate of Pennsylvania State University with a bachelor of science degree in environmental resource management. She was employed by Penn State University for 10 years in the agricultural analytical services laboratory as a supervisor of environmental testing.

Mrs. Wenrick was a member of Sacred Heart Church, Lewisburg, a member of the Hartley Township Recreation Committee, the Laurelton Women's Club and the Union County Sportsmen's Club. Liz enjoyed singing and photography in her spare time. She was a devoted wife and mother to her two sons.

Surviving, in addition to her husband of more than eight years, are two sons, Derrick A. and Spencer A. Wenrick, both at home; one brother, John W. Martin of Chattanooga, TN; one sister and brother-in-law, Mary R. and Matthew Hoke of Shady Springs, WV; her maternal grandmother, Mary Vandegrift of Whitehall; three nieces, Alexandria, Jaden and Mackenzie; and three nephews, Ethan, Craig Jr. and Colton.

Burial was in the Hironimus Union Church Cemetery, Weikert.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made to the Informal Trust for Derrick and Spencer in care of Mifflinburg Bank and Trust, P.O. Box 186, Mifflinburg, PA 17844.

Days of Yore

This photograph was submitted by Marie (Boney) Sparks of Mifflinburg. The school year was 1927-1928, and was taken at the Salem School that was situated alongside Cold Run Road, between Hartleton and Pleasant Grove.

Back row (left to right) Kenneth Englehart, Teacher Mr. Melvin Adams, Edna Brillhart, James Reamer, Donald Willow, Clyde Englehart, and Randall Boob.

Middle row (left to right) Sherman Kreisher, Jr., George Willow, Leroy Sampsell, Dale Englehart, and Floyd Mull.

Front Row (left to right) Margaret Boney, Helen Rudy, Marie Boney, Cara Wenrick.





In Remembrance this Memorial Day, May 29, 2006

Following is a list of those Veterans that are interred in the Lewis Cemetery, Limestone Township, Union County.

Michael Lincoln, Jacob Kaderman, William Irvine, Christian Shively, Robert Forster, Joseph Green, William Foster, Patrick Watson, John Clark, David Watson, Robert Chamber, Jr., James Chambers, John Forster, Jr., William Thomas Hayes, Samuel Crossgrove, William Fisher, Robert Barber, Pashall Lewis, Thomas Forester, and Samuel Frederick.

Of these 20 men, 17 served in the Revolutionary War. Of those 17, seven were officers. Two of the above mentioned men served in the War of 1812, and one served in the Civil War.

May Birthdays & Anniversaries

- | | |
|---|-------------------------------------|
| 2 – Joseph Smith | 21 – Eddie Weaver |
| 2 – Faye Lyons | 22 - Lee & Norma Sauers - 1965 |
| 4 – Norma Sauers | 23 – Tyler Dorman |
| 6 – Melvin Walter | 23 - Donald & Evelyn Miller - 1970 |
| 7 - Mark & Mary Bingaman - 1983 | 24 – Kendrisa Kerstetter |
| 7 – Beverly Catherman | 25 - Glenn & Norma Catherman - 1957 |
| 8 – Bruce Shirk | 25 – Dolores Starks |
| 8 - Matthew & Angie Dorman - 2004 | 26 - Bob & Shirley Catherman - 2001 |
| 9 - Tony & Janice Shively - 2004 | 28 – Carl “Bup” Sampsell |
| 9 – Jeannie Sampsell | 29 – Nathan Yoder |
| 10 – Betty Auman | 29 – Mike Fultz |
| 11 - Randall & Hazel Erdly - 1974 | 30 – William Shively |
| 13 – Shirley Catherman | 30 – Henry Bartolo |
| 14 - Eugene & Darlene Hackenburg - 1960 | |
| 14 – Jean Marquardt | |
| 15 – Carolyn Wagner | |
| 15 – Steve Bilger | |
| 18 - Kenneth & Helen Hugar - 1946 | |
| 18 – Annie R. Nolt | |
| 18 – Ryan Hopta | |
| 19 – Sam Smith - Happy 50th! | |

The Millmont Times is distributed during the first week of each month, and is available through mail subscription, a PDF through the Internet (Adobe Acrobat Reader is required), and over the counter at Dormans Country Store in Hartleton. Mail subscriptions are \$10 per year (12 issues). Internet subscriptions are FREE. Copies purchased at Dorman’s Store are priced at \$1.50 each.

Please use the address below if you are interested in subscribing, making a donation, sending a gift subscription, changing your address, providing me with your email address, or to contact the editor and publisher.

The Millmont Times
Post Office Box 3
Millmont PA 17845

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

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

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