



# The Forgotten Soldier: Pvt. George W. Getz, Co. E, 53<sup>rd</sup> Penn. Vol. Inf. By Jay Rarick



Shown above is the headstone of George W. Getz located in the Ray's Church Cemetery along Route 45 west of Mifflinburg. Photograph courtesy of Jay Rarick.

George W. Getz was born December 28<sup>th</sup>, 1842, the oldest son of Adam and Hetty Getz in Union County. When the War started, George enlisted on September 7<sup>th</sup>, and was mustered in on October 16<sup>th</sup>, 1861, in Company E of the 53<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry. By the end of the War, his father and five of his Getz Uncles and another uncle, Daniel Reigle, would also enlist. Of these eight family members, four would be wounded, two of whom would die from their wounds.

Like many of the Getz, George was a shoemaker. The cause was just, and going off to War in those early days must have seemed like an adventure. The 53<sup>rd</sup> moved to Washington, where it was part of the garrison manning the defenses of Washington around Alexandria, VA through the winter of 1861-1862.

As part of the 53<sup>rd</sup>, George moved with the Army of the Potomac to Fort Monroe, on the tip of the peninsula between the James and York Rivers in Virginia. The Army fought its way up, toward Richmond, passing Jamestown, where the country began in 1607 and Yorktown, where independence was won in 1781.

When General Robert E. Lee took command of Confederate forces, he began a counterattack known as the Seven Days' Campaign. George and the 53<sup>rd</sup> took

part in the Seven Days' battles, being engaged at Fair Oaks, Gaines Mill, the Peach Orchard and Savage Station, and Malvern Hill.

After the Army of the Potomac was withdrawn once more to the defenses of Washington, Lee began his first invasion of the North, moving into Maryland. The Armies collided first at South Mountain and then at the western Maryland town of Sharpsburg, along Antietam Creek. George and the 53<sup>rd</sup> helped drive the Confederates back through the gaps in South Mountain and was engaged supporting the brigades assaulting the sunken road, known as the "Bloody Lane," in the single bloodiest day in American history at the Battle of Antietam.

At the time of the Battle of Fredericksburg, Virginia, the 53<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania was part of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade (Colonel Samuel Zook), 1<sup>st</sup> Division (Brigadier General Winfield S. Hancock) of the II Corps, commanded by Major General Darius N. Couch. The assault against Marye's

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## Hartleton Mailbox by Postmaster Gail Hanselman

It's May...hard to believe but we are almost half way through the year already!

It's spring and with that means it's time for spring cleaning ..... Inside and out, and when you're doing the outside don't forget your mailbox and the area around it. Make sure the mailman's pulling in and out space is safe, that the post is sturdy, check to see that the door opens and closes correctly and that the numbers are readable. And on a regular basis, while the weather is warm, keep the mailbox free of bee's.

I don't know about you but I love to go for walks when the weather is nice and besides the wind lately it's been fairly nice outside. I know that young people love to be outside and with that drivers need to be aware of children crossing streets, maybe not in a cross walk or chasing after a runaway ball. This is also the time of year to remember to keep your dogs out of the path of the mailman...if you have your front door open to let the fresh air in make sure the screen door is locked so when the dog jumps up it can't knock it open and don't let them

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Heights by the 1st Division, II Corps is authentically depicted in the movie "Gods & Generals" where the 3rd Brigade immediately preceded the 2nd "Irish" Brigade in the attack.

As the generals fed men into the charnel house of the assault on December 13<sup>th</sup>, across the "Bloody Plain" against the "Stone Wall" seven times, George was wounded in the head. Despite thousands of casualties, the assault never got closer than 40 yards. It is likely that George, severely wounded, endured the terror of the frigid night on the battlefield where a movement could bring a sentinel's bullet. If conscious, he would have seen the rare appearance of the Northern Lights above the blood soaked field. If awake, he could well have been one of the wounded succored the next day by "the Angel of Marye's Heights," Sergeant Richard Rowland Kirkland, a compassionate soldier from the 2<sup>nd</sup> South Carolina who, at risk of his own life, repeatedly crawled out over the stone wall to bring water and aid to the wounded Union soldiers.

Mortally wounded, George was taken to the new St. Elizabeth's Hospital in Washington, DC where he died on December 21<sup>st</sup>, 1862...just seven days short of his 20<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was brought home for burial in Union County, Pennsylvania, where he lies beside his parents in Ray's Church Cemetery beside SR 45. His epitaph reads:

George W.  
son of Adam and Hetty Getz  
Wounded Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> [sic], 1862 in the battle of  
Fredericksburg, Va.  
Died in Washington, D.C., Dec. 21<sup>st</sup>, 1862.  
Aged 19 years, 11 m., & 23 d's

*The morning strife began  
The balls flew thick around  
Where I received my mortal wound  
Which laid me to the ground.*

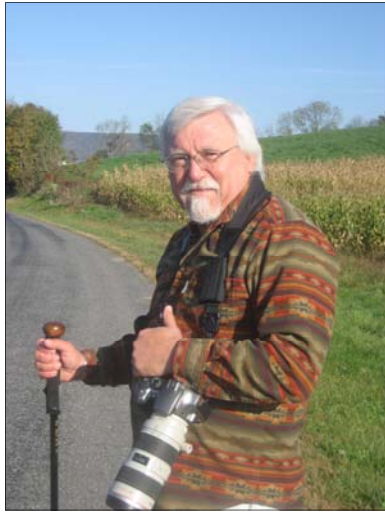


Shown above is a photograph of the Marye's Heights portion of the Fredericksburg Battlefield. The photograph is looking from the back (west) edge of Fredericksburg across the "Bloody Plain" towards Marye's Heights, which are the hills in the distance. The sunken road (Telegraph Road) and the famous "Stone Wall" run along the base of the heights. The four columned house along the ridge line in the center of the picture is the "Brompton" a.k.a. the Marye family home (today the home of the President of Mary Washington University which is beyond the heights).

It was near these heights and stone wall that about 7,000 Federals fell dead or wounded, including George W. Getz, and his uncle, Pvt. Daniel Getz of Co. F, 131st Penn. Vol. Inf. (Daniel would also die of wounds 9 months later at home in Snyder County. Another uncle, Pvt. Henry Getz, was in the same outfit as Daniel and survived, mustered out, and then re-enlisted...was present at Appomattox...and then mustered out a second time at the end of the war.)

This 1863 photograph was published in *The Photographic History of The Civil War in Ten Volumes: Volume Two, Two Years of Grim War*. The Review of Reviews Co., New York. 1911. Photograph provided by Jay Rarick.

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# BIRD TALK

by Jim McCormick

The winter that wasn't, turned into a March that was more like an April; but what about April itself? Well, April turned out to be more like a March! Confused? I know I am! What crazy weather we have been having; no matter, however, spring is here and I love it. In fact, it has been one of the most beautiful springs I can ever remember. It probably was because the winter was so mild, the spring came early and many of the trees, shrubs and flowers all bloomed together. Watching the leafing of the mountainside this year was breathtaking. I have watched this transformation for over twenty-two years; watched as the leafing moved up the mountainside. I don't know if I just looked more closely this year or if it was more spectacular, but its beauty was incredible. Driving home from work, I noticed as the sun was getting lower in the sky it highlighted the multiple colors of red, yellow and green. This year I did take the time to watch the magic that is the leafing of the trees and shrubs around me. It is a phenomenon that has been going on for millions of years (which more than covers my lifetime!), yet I had simply never bothered to watch it that closely before. I knew that there were leaf buds and that the leaves eventually grew bigger and bigger and then the tree had leaves on it. But wait, it's a lot more complicated than that! Every shrub and tree has evolved its own unique process; some of these are incredibly complex and amazing. This process can be as simple as I had thought it was, but some are multistep affairs. I knew that flowering trees such as cherry and apple have blossoms that are eventually replaced by leaves, but I never thought about maples as 'flowering'. I was only aware of the pollen and debris that covered my car and sidewalk in the spring! I have been surprised at what emerges from what I had only thought of as 'leaf buds'. Some compound leaves emerge and branch out from what looked like a dead stick and become almost flowerlike. I have walked past this wonder of nature most of my life, not seeing it and I had always thought I was rather observant!

We were in the south the first week of the month and it was already summer down there, way too hot for me; all the spring foliage was done. I was worried that we might have missed our own spring and it would all be over before we got back. Fortunately, spring was waiting for us on our return. Whenever I return from a trip like that, I am always curious to see which birds had arrived in my absence. The Tree Swallows routinely return the first week of April and sure enough, there they were, those acrobats of the air, gliding and swooping over field and stream. On my walk I also was alert to listen for any other new arrivals and I was not disappointed with that either. Near the Covered Bridge I could hear the familiar repeated litany of calls of a Brown Thrasher calling from the top of a nearby tree. This is another joy of springtime, the return of familiar birdsongs, long silent through the gray winter. The female Red-winged Blackbirds had also returned and were busily starting their new broods. I saw a male hopping around on a branch actively displaying his wing patches and chasing a female. They must have just arrived in the recent past. On the last weekend of the month I heard another familiar sound that I at first thought was either a Mockingbird or a Brown Thrasher. It didn't seem to sound like a Mockingbird, so I looked to the top of the nearby trees to see if it was another Brown Thrasher, but the sound was coming from lower down. I finally saw what it was; it was a newly arrived Gray Catbird. I hadn't expected the Catbirds for another week. The Catbirds beat the Baltimore Orioles this year! I always expect the Orioles around the first of May.

As I always say, it is nice to get away and see new sights, but it also is nice to return to the familiar and watch that wonderment that is spring.



Above is the leafing of the Shagbark Hickory tree. Below are a pair of Tree Swallows.

Both photographs were provided by writer and photographer, Jim McCormick.



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Since that dark December in 1862, time has passed George by. The Bloody Plain at Fredericksburg has been a suburb full of homes for more than a century and the sunken road behind the stone wall is now a pleasant lane that fronts the National Cemetery. In the words of General Grant, "the rebels are our fellow countrymen once again." When Samuel P. Bates put together his "History of the Pennsylvania Volunteers, 1861-1865," George W. Getz was left out. Neither does George appear in the muster rolls of Company E, 53<sup>rd</sup> Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry in the Pennsylvania State Archives. It was only in the files of the National Archives that the record of Pvt. George W. Getz survives.

So if you are traveling west from Mifflinburg and pass by Ray's Church, stop by the cemetery and say thank-you to a Hero of Union County who gave the last full measure of devotion for our Flag and Constitution.



Editor's Note: I would like to thank Jay Rarick (on the left) for submitting this article for publication in The Millmont Times. Jay Rarick is son of the late Wilmer E. Rarick, of Alexandria, Virginia, originally of Swengel. He is a first cousin, three times removed, to George W. Getz and is the Great-great-grandson of George W. Getz' uncle, Pvt. Daniel Reigle of Co. I, the 49<sup>th</sup> Penn. Vol. Inf.

He is also the Junior Vice Commander of the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, Irish Brigade Camp No. 4, Fredericksburg, Virginia. To learn more about the Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War, go to [www.suvvw.org](http://www.suvvw.org).

### Union County Historical Society Program

The Union County Historical Society will host a presentation by Nada Gray, "The Shorkley Family" on Thursday, May 3 at 7:30 PM at the Lewisburg Cemetery Chapel.

Nada Gray of Lewisburg will present a program on the Shorkley family, based on her readings of the diaries of Sallie and Elisha Shorkely. The Shorkleys, although not as well known as the Camerons or Slifers, contributed to the community and county for several generations.

Elisha Shorkley gives day-to-day accounts of work at the Geddes-Marsh foundry, where he later became a partner.

Sallie (related to the Moore and Meixell families) was actively involved in the University at Lewisburg (now Bucknell), the Baptist Church, the Grange, and the temperance movement. Nada became enthralled with Mrs. Shorkley after reading her accounts of every day life in Lewisburg in the 1800's. Members of the Shorkley family are buried in the Lewisburg Cemetery.

Through their words we see the town's response to events in the mid 1800s.

The program, which is free and open to the public, will be held at the Lewisburg Cemetery Chapel, South 7th Street, Lewisburg. Parking is available along the street and in an adjacent lot.



### *Field Notes, by WEO Dirk Remensnyder*

During CPR/First Aid instruction for the new class of Cadets at RLSC we, as instructors, relayed many stories to the new class of cadets about how field officers have had to utilize these skills in the past on both PGC employees and the public. I think some eyes were opened as to the importance of having these skills and applying them properly.

Now is a good time of the year to get out and take a hike in the woods and hunt antler sheds. Last year two individuals did this multiple times a week and found 23 different sheds.

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run in the yard at the same time your mailman delivers your mail. Giving your dog plenty of love, taking it for long walks, having regular meal times and never ever letting anyone tease your dog in anyway, will help your dog not become an aggressive dog. If your dog does show signs of aggression taking him or her to an obedience class may help.

May 13th is Mother's Day...If you can't be with your mom on Mother's Day be sure to send your love in a card or present. And May also means finals for your favorite college student...send them some encouragement in a box of their favorite goodies to help them through their studying.

New Stamps: Great Film Directors - available May 23rd, in a four design pane of 20 stamps.

Memorial Day will be observed on Monday - May 28. All post offices will be closed that day.



## Renovations at Rolling Hills Manor

Rolling Hills Manor, a 57 bed Skilled Nursing Facility, located at 17350 Old Turnpike Road, Millmont Pa, has recently undergone some remodeling at their facility west of Hartleton. As part of that remodeling project the area between the driveway and front door is now under a canopy. In addition a number of private rooms at the facility have also undergone renovations.

The facility offers Physical, Occupational, and Speech Therapies 5 days a week, providing quality care and services to meet the needs of their residents. In order to serve short term residents better, they have also remodeled the private rooms on the main floor and converted them to short term rehabilitation suites.

These rooms are perfect for any individual who needs care to get back on their feet and back home. Rolling Hills Manor also provides respite care, hospice care, dementia care, and long term care.

Rolling Hills Manor specializes in short term rehabilitation. If you are interested in learning more about Rolling Hills Manor, please feel free to stop by for a tour or call Jennifer Sharp at 570-922-3351.

## Thank You!

I would like to thank the following people for making monetary donations toward the publication of this newsletter: Robert and Bernice Dluge of Elysburg; Tom Guyer of Middleburg; James and Peggy Gross of Hartleton; and Kenneth and Rhelda Rishel of Mifflinburg.

I would like to welcome the following new subscribers: Kenneth Erdley Jr. of Lancaster, Donna Purves of Millmont, and Paul and Thiry Olbrich of Lewistown.

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

I would also like to thank Gordon "Butch" Libby of Millmont for donating a parade, or walking stick, once used by members of Camp 426 Millmont P. O. S. of A. of Millmont; Paul and Thiry (Reamer) Olbrich for donating hundreds of old newspaper clippings and for allowing me to make copies of dozens of school photographs in which her father, the late Paul Reamer, was the teacher; Wayne Nolen of Millmont for emailing a copy of "Unto These Valleys" published at the time of Union County's Sesquicentennial in 1963; and George and Ella Willow of Mifflinburg for sending me a copy of the February 18, 1935 (Vol. 1 No. 1) issue of the Lewistonian Review published by the Lewis Township High School.

## Are You Moving?

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

## WANTED

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

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

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

The small photograph in the upper left hand corner of page one shows a view of the headstone of Elmer R. Vanatta, a veteran aviator of WWI. Vanatta died in an airplane crash in New York on April 30, 1921. He is buried in Hartleton.

# Biography of Jacob F. Spacht



Jacob Spacht, a longtime resident of Pardee, holding a nice size snapping turtle. Photograph from the collection of Seibert "Herb" and Connie Teichman.

Jacob F. Spacht was born in Juniata County. His parents later relocated to Snyder County where he grew to manhood. His journey to Union County in the mid 1880's was the result of his employment with the Pardee Lumber Company. A blacksmith by trade, Spacht applied his skills at the lumber camp located in this small village at the Tight End of the county.

It is unknown if he continued to follow the blacksmithing trade once the Pardee Lumber Company ceased operation. Centenarian, Leona (Sholter) Wirt, currently residing at Riverview Manor in Lewisburg, remembered Jacob and Amanda Spacht. Wirt said that Spacht's operated a small store from their home located at the east end of Pardee.

Although both Jacob and Amanda were in their 70's in the 1920's, they were able to earn a little extra money by selling basic goods such as sugar, salt, pepper and other items from their Pardee home. Wirt also recalled that the elderly couple maintained a large garden next to their Pardee home.

Wirt remembered one occasion in the early 1920's when she and Clara Pursley walked east on the railroad tracks from Weikert to Spacht's store in Pardee to purchase syrup. At that time syrup was pumped from a barrel into a container that the customer brought to the store. Wirt said that Spacht's home/store, which is no longer standing, was located along the north side of the railroad tracks.

Wirt also remembered that William and Cora Oakes operated a small store from their home during this same era. Cora was the daughter of Jacob and Amanda Spacht. Wirt stated that customers had to be cautious when patronizing either store in order to avoid conflict between family members. Pardee was a small community that provided numerous employment opportunities during the lumbering era. However, when the lumbering operations ceased around 1903 that all changed. As the lumbering era faded, the number of residents living in the small village also dwindled.

Census data from 1920 reveals that Spacht's neighbors in Pardee included surnames such as Boop, Galer, Keister, Jolly, Styers, Knepper and others.

Following is the obituary of Jacob F. Spacht as published in one of the local newspapers in August 1925:

*On last Wednesday, August 26, at 8 o'clock A. M., occurred the death of Mr. Jacob F. Spacht, the last surviving Civil War veteran of the far west end of Union County, at the Danville State Hospital, where he had been a patient for the past three months.*

*Jacob Franklin Spacht was born at Thompsontown, January 1, 1846, the son of Anthony and Mary Spacht, who later moved to Snyder County, where Jacob spent his boyhood and where he learned the blacksmithing trade, although after working at his trade a few years he followed various occupations until the days of the great civil strife when his father was drawn for service in the Union army, but Jacob, who was then a little over fifteen, volunteered to go as a substitute for his father, and after much coaxing the father consented to allow the boy to go as a member of Company A of the 12<sup>th</sup> Regiment, under Capt. Smith of Middleburg. The company was mustered and immediately sent southward, arriving at Baltimore, from thence to the Potomac River, where they commenced to taste the lust of battle. The experience of the subject of this obituary is lengthy and varied, the most important achievement of his company was the capture of Fort Steadman, in which he took an important part. The capture was affected under cover of darkness and Capt. Smith's mere handful of boys were compelled to cover the distance to the fort by pushing themselves inch by inch as they were compelled to lie flat upon the ground so well was the fort guarded, but the seemingly impossible was accomplished. The fort was taken with over three hundred prisoners beside many arms and much ammunition. At another engagement he had his rifle butt shattered by an enemy bullet but escaped capture unhurt and continued through out the battle. He was honorably discharged in 1865, and a year later was united in marriage to Amanda C. Derr of near*



Jacob and Amanda Spacht's headstone located in the Hironimus Cemetery west of Weikert. Unfortunately the date of death for Amanda was never etched into the headstone.

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Shown in the photograph above (left to right) are Emma Derr, Jacob F. and Amanda (Derr) Spacht. Jacob is holding a snapping turtle, while Emma and Amanda appear to be holding the shells from snapping turtles.

This photograph is from the collection of Seibert "Herb" and Connie Teichman.

Middleburg, which union was blessed with four children, one daughter and three sons.

Mr. Spacht moved to Pardee about 40 years ago, and was employed by the Pardee Lumber Co. as blacksmith until they closed operations and since that time had practically lived retired. He was an ardent sportsman and until two years ago followed the hunt with the younger generation, and needless to say he could shoot with unusual skill. He also loved to travel along the beautiful trout streams in this vicinity and angle for the speckled beauties.

He was a member of the J. C. Schnure Post No. 46, Grand Army of the Republic, at Laurelton, and for the past six or seven years was commander of the Post until two years ago when owing to the small number able to attend the meetings the Post was disbanded and the work was handed over to Camp No. 11, Sons of Veterans.

Mr. Spacht is survived by his wife, and the following children: O. P. of Cheat Haven, (PA); Howard, of Juniata; Edward, of Rochester, N. Y., and Cora, wife of W. W. Oakes, of Kissimee, Florida; also the following brothers: P.W., of McAllisterville; J. F. of McClure; S. D. of Coalport, and one sister, Mrs. James Wirth, of Hartleton. Comrade Spacht is also survived by two great-grandchildren beside a number of grandchildren.

The remains in charge of Funeral Director L. W. Strunk and Sons were interred at Hironimus Union Cemetery on Saturday afternoon. Funeral sermon was ably delivered by Rev. J. L. Hoffman, of Baltimore, Md., after which the Sons of Veterans took charge and held an impressive military burial service ending with the salute by the firing squad and the sounding of taps by A. R. Sholter. The body was followed to the grave by one of his staunch comrades and past commander of the G. A. R. post, Alanson Johnson, of Laurelton. The presence of this lone comrade of the War of '61 to '65 impressed upon the minds of the people the fact that the Blue line is almost a past glory, and but a few years will eradicate that once noble band, but the memories shall live in the minds of the people and their deeds of courage and valor shall remain emblazoned on the pages of history for all time.

Jacob F. Spacht united with the United Brethren Church when a young man, and the lessons learned then were practiced throughout his daily life. The beautiful mound of red, white and blue flowers, emblematic of the symbol of our country and the truths and sacrifices made by

those who upheld our ideals covers his silent tomb.

Civil War records preserved in Volume I of the History of the Susquehanna and Juniata Valleys, Embraced in the Counties of Mifflin, Juniata, Perry, Union and Snyder in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, by Everts, Peck, and Richards, Philadelphia, Pa 1886, indicate that Jacob F. Specht of Snyder County was mustered into service on August 20, 1864. Whether the spelling of the last name was a typo or if the family spelled their name differently at that time is unknown.

Jacob, who was 18-years old when he was mustered into Company A of the 208th Regiment, served just over nine months of active service. The company organized at Camp Curtin near Harrisburg on September 12, 1864. Company A of the 208th was involved in the capture of Fort Steadman on March 25, 1865, capturing three hundred prisoners. Subsequently they were involved in the assault of Petersburg. Jacob F. Specht was mustered out of service with his company on June 1, 1865.

Editor's note: I would like to thank Seibert "Herb" and Connie Teichman of Laurelton and Leona Wirt of Lewisburg for information and photographs they provided for this article.

TLS



## 95 Years Young!

Hartleton resident, and longtime subscriber and supporter of The Millmont Times, Caroline Wenrick, will be celebrating her 95th birthday.

Born May 11th, 1917 near Cherry Run, Caroline is the daughter of the late George W. and Ruth Ann (Wilson) Bilger.

The family requests that those who know Caroline, and would like to send birthday greetings to her may do so at P. O. Box 25, Laurelton, PA 17835.

## Free Newsletters!

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

[www.millmonttimes.com](http://www.millmonttimes.com).

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

**Recipe of the Month**  
**by Janice (Dorman) Shively**  
**Strawberry Vinaigrette Dressing**

5 Quarts (25 cups) fresh whole strawberries, washed and stemmed  
6 C. white distilled vinegar  
Sugar and / or Splenda® (equal to the amount of liquid in step 4)

1. Place strawberries in a large stainless steel saucepot or plastic container.
2. Pour vinegar over strawberries. Cover container tightly with plastic wrap and let stand overnight in a dark, cool place (70° - 75° F).
3. Prepare boiling water canner. Heat jars and lids in simmering water until ready for use. Do not boil. Set bands aside.
4. Strain liquid from strawberries, collecting in a large liquid measuring container. Liquid should be red and clear (no pulp).
5. Place strawberry vinegar in a clean, large stainless steel saucepan. Add an equal amount of sugar, stirring to combine. Bring mixture just to a boil. Remove from heat and skim foam if necessary.
6. Ladle hot vinaigrette into hot jars leaving ¼ inch head space. Wipe rim. Center lid on jar. Apply band until fit is fingertip tight.
7. Process jars in a boiling water canner for 10 minutes, adjusting for altitude. Remove jars and cool. Check lids for seal after 24 hours. Lid should not flex up and down when center is pressed.

**Strawberry  
Romaine Salad**

2 large heads romaine lettuce  
1 to 2 pints (about 2 ½ - 5 C.) strawberries, hulled and sliced  
1 C. grated Monterey jack cheese  
½ C. toasted chopped walnuts, optional  
Strawberry Vinaigrette Dressing



I came across a strawberry vinaigrette dressing recipe similar to this on-line a couple of years ago. That year I made a batch of it and also made a batch of black raspberry vinaigrette dressing, using the same quantities of raspberries as strawberries. Both are delicious! This year, I think I'm going to try red raspberry vinaigrette using this recipe.

My experience is that this vinaigrette recipe yields 6 C. of vinegar / fruit liquid. To that I add 3 C. sugar and 1 ½ C. Splenda®, instead of 6 C. sugar. I've not tried it with 100% Splenda®.

The strawberry romaine salad could not be any simpler. Four ingredients, easy to assemble, dressed with the vinaigrette, yields a delicious and healthful meal or side dish.

Hopefully we'll have a good strawberry yield this year and the price will be right for making this recipe. It seems wasteful to throw away 5 quarts of strawberries, but when you enjoy the vinaigrette made with juice extracted from all those berries surely you will appreciate it.

ENJOY!

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

*Monday May 19, 1941. 44 degrees at 5, clear and calm. C. Dreisbach's Sons Store (Lewisburg) partly destroyed by fire last Sunday was founded 67 years ago by Cyrus Driesbach. After his death his sons carried on the business. The last son died in 1923. Charles D. Stephens and Charles L. Liddick were killed during the fire and a numbered injured. It was said that it was the second largest fire in the history of the town.*

*Mother sold 68 quarts of milk @ 6 cents (per quart), 3 quart of Butter Milk at 5 cents (per quart), and 5 ¾ lbs of butter @ 28 cents (per pound) – total \$5.81, during the past week.*

*Bro. Henry H. Reber, of Mohrsville, Penns, and Brother Reuel R. Pirtchett, White Pine, Tenne, who just closed a meeting at Maiden Creek, called and dined with us. Brother Pirtchett is interested in antiques. I presented him with a candle mould.*

*Joanna Beaver was buried this afternoon in our cemetery. Funeral services were conducted at the Strunk Funeral Parlor at Mifflinburg by Rev. N. J. Dubs of the E. V. Church. Joanna died at the Brethren Home at Flora, Ind., on Friday May 16, aged 83. She had been at the home for quite a few years.*

*70 degrees at 8 this evening.*

*Sammy (Starook) was here and brought us a bushel of apples @ 25 cents.*

**Village Green Association News**

Millmont Community Yard Sales will be held Saturday June 23, 2012.

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



# *Penlines From my Kitchen to Yours*

*by Lucy Hoover*

## March 12, 2012

Mrs. James Horning (Annetta) of Lewisburg spent a short time in the hospital.

## March 19

Phares Reiff Jr., of Lewisburg, was up in the barn with his skid loader with two round bales on it. The skid loader broke through the floor and landed in the middle isle of the cow stable. No one was hurt.

## March 20

Menno and Elaine Zimmerman of Millmont have a son named Leroy. He has six brothers and five sisters. Grandparents are Esra and Lydia Ann Zimmerman and Phares and Anna Horning.

## March 22

Daniel and Esther Nolt of Lewisburg have a son named Josiah. He has four brothers and three sisters. Grandparents are Floyd and Jane Nolt of New Holland and Reuben and Ella Reiff of Ephrata.

## March 25

Allen and Darlene Zimmerman of Lewisburg have a son named Paul. He has four brothers and two sisters. Grandparents are Phares and Ada Zimmerman and Irvin and Esther Martin.

## April 7

Isaac (3) was sitting at the table playing with a wallet and coins. Curvin came in and took a glance at him, and asked me "Does Isaac have dirty ears?" When I checked him out I found he had a penny in one ear and a dime in the other. (I thought he had outgrown the habit of stuffing things in his nose and ears).

Marcus and Kathy Zimmerman of Millmont have a son named Cory. He is their first child. Grandparents are John and Esther Zimmerman and Eli and Kathleen Reiff.

## April 11

We had sleet today, and this afternoon while it was showering we saw a beautiful double rainbow, until it slowly faded away.

## April 14

Curvin's mother, Mrs. Verna Hoover of Lewisburg, broke her right wrist when her horse knocked her over. She will need surgery on Wednesday. Seventeen months ago she had broken her left wrist in another little accident she had.

# Looking Back

The newspaper article below was originally published in the May 24, 1907 edition of The Mifflinburg Telegraph.

## Memorial Day Program of J. C. Schnure Post of Laurelton

For May 30. Meet at the Dunkard Church west of Laurelton at 8:00 a.m., and decorate the graves there. At 9 a.m. meet at Lincoln Chapel to decorate the graves. After which the address will be delivered by S. E. Gross of New Berlin. After the exercises at the Chapel meet at the New Cemetery east of the Chapel and decorate the graves there. Then go to Laurelton for dinner. After dinner meet in Laurelton at 1:30 p.m. form in line on the square and march to the cemetery and decorate the graves. After which will have an address delivered by M. W. Whitmer, of the Seminary at New Berlin. Meet in Hartleton at the Lutheran Church at 5:30 p.m. march to the Union Church, decorate the graves, after which the address will be delivered by Rev. S. Sidney Kohler of Mifflinburg. After the address the G. A. R. and the P. O. S. of A. will form in line at the Union Church, headed by the Laurel Park Band, and march west of Hartleton to the cemetery to decorate the graves of the old soldiers and the P. O. S. of A., where the P. O. S. of A. services will be held in the cemetery.

May 29. Meet at the Hironimus Church at 1:30 p.m. to decorate; after which the address will be delivered by Post Com., J. J. Steininger and Rev. Timothy Tubbs of Laurelton. The comrades from Laurelton will go to Grace Chapel and Emanuel's Church to decorate the graves there at 5:30 p.m. Address by Rev. D. R. P. Barry.

The comrades from Hartleton and vicinity will meet at Pleasant Grove Church at 6 p.m., to decorate the old soldiers and the Odd Fellows will do their decorating at the same time; after which the address will be delivered by Rev. W. C. Bierly of Millmont.

In Hartleton there will be a drill in the church by young girls and boys; the title, "Marching Through Georgia."

We ask all the old soldiers, the P. O. S. of A. and the Sons of Veterans to turn out and help us in the exercises. We welcome everybody to these meetings and hope all will come. The Laurel Park Band will furnish music for May 30.

The Memorial sermon will be delivered by Rev. M. H. Calkins, D. D., May 26, at 2:30 p.m., in the Presbyterian Church in Hartleton. We ask all the old soldiers to join the G. A. R. and meet at Com Steininger's at 2:15, then march to the church in a body.

J. J. Steininger, Post Com.  
Jacob F. Spacht, Post Adjt.

By order of the Post

# *Blessings from the Bible*

*By Brenda Weaver*

*“But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.”*

1 Corinthians 15:57

Rain fell softly on the cemetery. I sat grief-shrouded in my car and listened to the recording of my husband’s funeral service, remembering the day.

Our church cemetery has become a place of peace to me. I am familiar with the graves. I know who lies beneath each stone. On evenings when I am terribly lonely I seek company here. No one here tells me to get over my pain and get on with life. No one minds if I wail. All is quiet. Nothing distracts me from my thoughts. This has become a place of worship for me I suppose, for it is here I offer the sacrifice of tears and pray until desperation turns to calm acceptance. It is here I surrender, again and again to God’s will for my life.

I do not dread my visits to the cemetery. Sometimes I even get company. If my children see my car lights illuminating their father’s grave when they come home from an evening activity, one of them may join me. It is good for them to see my grief and it gives them opportunity to express their own grief. We are learning the value of embracing grief rather than running away from it.

On this night my sixteen-year-old daughter joins me. And we are comforted - even in the rain.

*Thank You, God, for the victory!*

*“My mouth shall show forth thy righteousness and thy salvation all the day...I will go in the strength of the Lord God. I will make mention of thy righteousness...”*

Psalm 71:15-16

I have walked to the cemetery with my friends. And we have cried together there. I’ve walked to the cemetery with my sister, and we cried too. When our sobs stopped my sister remembered some of the things my husband did that made him such a great brother-in-law to her. We ended up laughing.

And then one Sunday I walked to the grave with a friend of his.

Ernie Reesor was John’s cousin and he and his wife had come to visit from Ontario, Canada. They hadn’t been able to attend John’s funeral four months previous, so they were visiting and remembering now. I greatly appreciated their visit. It felt good to talk to someone about my husband’s death and funeral, about his last days of struggle and his glorious home-going. The people close to me had either heard it all before or had experienced it with me. But here was a friend who wanted to hear. It felt good to talk about the difficult things we’d experienced. Recounting God’s goodness in the midst of our pain cleansed my soul and encouraged my visitors.

As we neared the grave I sensed this couple’s emotion. I had grown comfortable with visiting my husband’s grave, but this was their first visit. Reality settled over them at the site of the grave. This was a cousin’s personal moment of grief, his mini funeral service, his final goodbye. I stopped talking and offered them the respect of silence to grieve as they willed.

Later, back at our house, I offered my guests seats. I directed John’s cousin to his favorite recliner and told him I’d be happy to have him sit in John’s chair. He reclined, propped up his feet, and began sharing memories. How I enjoyed hearing what he had to say! He and his wife looked through our recent family photograph albums.

They offered me words of encouragement and spoke about how their family had been touched by our response to suffering.

When the day ended I thanked God for His goodness. For a grief shared is blessed with comfort. And showing forth the righteousness of God softens hearts that mourn.

Prayer for today:

*Dear Lord, You say in Your Word “Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted.” Thank You for helping me and my family on this walk of grief. We don’t always know how to “do” grief but You are gently guiding us through it. Be with those who are mourning now, and those who will mourn. Give them the grace to reach for Your kind comfort. Amen.*

# Remembrance

James Wilson Wilt, 92, of 514 Main St., Hartleton, since 1952, entered into rest at 7:15 p.m., Saturday, April 14, 2012, at Riverwoods, Lewisburg, where he had been a resident for one week.

He was born April 23, 1919 in Sunbury, a son of the late Irvin A. and Jennie E. (Spicher) Wilt. On November 10, 1941, in Hagerstown, MD, he married the former Marguerite VonNeida, who preceded him in death on December 30, 1986.

James served in the Army, Company 1, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Division from August 4, 1943 until his honorable discharge on February 13, 1946. During his service he earned the World War II Victory Medal, Purple Heart Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Philippines Liberation ribbon with bronze star, and the Asiatic Pacific Campaign Medal with one bronze service star.

He was employed as a paint foreman at the Laurelton Center for 35 years, until he retired in 1981. Earlier in life, he was employed at the Watsonstown Foundry, Laurelton Foundry, and Pennsylvania House, Lewisburg.

James was a Lutheran.

He enjoyed bowling, woodworking, watching the "Price is Right", and baseball, especially as a fan of the Philadelphia Phillies.

Surviving are one daughter and son-in-law, Sandra and Bob Wagner, of Laurelton; one granddaughter, Dedra and husband Jeff Mowery, of Lewisburg; one great-grandson, Owen; two brothers, Fred Wilt, and Kay Wilt; and two sisters, Anna Baker, and Patricia Fiss. He was preceded in death by six brothers, Eugene, Jack, Irvin Jr., Donald, Robert, and William; and four sisters, Dorothea Wilt, Nancy Jo Deal, Betty Wilt, and Geraldine Wilt.

Burial was in the Hartleton Cemetery, with military honors by the Mifflinburg American Legion Post 410. Another patriotic American veteran is gone.

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Betty L. "Twiggy" Stahl, 77, of 2195 Weikert Road, Millmont since 1968, entered into rest at 8:15 p.m. Sunday, April 15, 2012, at Rolling Hills Manor, Millmont.

She was born October 12, 1934, in Lewisburg, a daughter of Emily (Hulsizer) Snyder, of Millmont, and the late William D. Snyder. On August 22, 1953, in Hagerstown, MD, she married Charles A. Stahl, who preceded her in death April 27, 2008.

Betty was a 1952 graduate of Mifflinburg High School. She was employed at the Union County Sportsmen's Club, Weikert, for many years.

Betty attended West End Bible Fellowship, Millmont. She enjoyed cooking and spending time with her grandchildren and friends, and she loved her Lord.

Surviving, in addition to her mother, are one son, William D. Stahl, of Millmont; two daughters and one son-in-law, Ellen M. and Don L. Kahler, of Millmont, and Deb L. Gross, of Laurelton; four brothers and sisters-in-law, Dan and Barb Snyder, of Millmont, Bob and Sue Snyder, of VA, Tom and Deb Snyder, of MD, and Joe and Annette Snyder, of Millmont; three sisters and two brothers-in-law, Lois and Melvin Bickel, of Millmont, Mary Ann Hackenburg, of Mifflinburg, and Linda and Jim Martin, of New Ringgold; eight grandchildren and their spouses, Michele and Andy Hackenburg, of Laurelton, Ann and Ron Koonsman, of Millmont, Dawn and Donald Pfleeger, of Mifflinburg, Julie and Tim Miller, of Mifflinburg, Trisha and Mike Buoy, of Millmont, Kyle and Nicole Stahl, of Middleburg, Amanda Stahl, of Millmont, and Carla Stahl, of OK; and 13 great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by one son, Charles A. Stahl Jr., in 1978, and one brother, John B. Snyder.

Burial was in Lincoln Chapel Cemetery, Laurelton.

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Shirley June Showalter Boyer, 82, of 501 Old Orchard Lane, Mifflinburg, PA, entered into rest at 11:26 p.m. Friday, April 27, 2012, at the Geisinger Medical Center, Danville.

She was born December 24, 1929, in Millmont, the daughter of the late Fred Showalter and Hilda (Grove) Showalter Jamison. On November 23, 1950, in Hartleton she married Spencer E. Boyer, who survives.

Shirley graduated from Mifflinburg High School Class of 1946. She earned her bachelor of science in sociology from Susquehanna University and her master's degree in education from Bucknell University.

She began her teaching career at the Salem Schoolhouse in 1950 teaching for one year, at which time she took time off to begin her family. In 1959, she began teaching kindergarten with the Mifflinburg Area School District retiring in 1989.

She was of the Lutheran faith and was a member of the Athenaeum Club, Mifflinburg.

Shirley enjoyed reading and knitting. She was a proud grandmother and was very influential in her grandchildren's lives.

Surviving are one daughter, Ann M. Boyer, of Kutztown; one son, Spencer E. Boyer Jr. and his companion, Linda Hawkins, of Louisville, KY.; four grandchildren, Evan Boyer and spouse, Alejandra, Adam Boyer, Hannah Boyer and Michael Boyer; one brother, Glenn Showalter, of Signal Mountain, TN.; and one sister-in-law, Sandra Showalter Khuen-Kryk, of Warminster.

Preceding her in death are one brother, James Showalter; one sister, Mary Fox; and one brother-in-law, Vernon Fox.

Interment in the East Side Section of Mifflinburg Cemetery.

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

Internet subscriptions can be obtained FREE by visiting: [www.millmonttimes.com](http://www.millmonttimes.com)

All of the newsletters published between January 2004 to the current issue are now available on the website.

Please use the following address if you are interested in contacting the editor, subscribing to the newsletter, making a donation, sending a gift subscription, or changing your address: Tony Shively, Post Office Box 3, Millmont PA 17845, telephone: (570) 922.4297 or E-mail: [tshively@dejazzd.com](mailto:tshively@dejazzd.com)

### May Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 - Janet Pursel  
1 - Helen P. Strunk  
2 - David Sampsell  
2 - Joseph Smith  
2 - Faye Lyons  
3 - Leon Sheesley  
4 - Norma Sauers  
5 - Brian Ulmer  
6 - Melvin Walter  
7 - Mark & Mary Bingaman - 1983  
7 - Beverly Catherman  
8 - Matt & Angie Dorman - 2004  
9 - Jeannie Sampsell  
10 - Betty Auman  
11 - Caroline Wenrick  
12 - John Wesley Showalter  
12 - Dion Shively  
13 - Shirley Catherman  
14 - Eugene & Darlene Hackenburg - 1960  
14 - Jean Marquardt  
15 - Carolyn Wagner  
15 - Steve Bilger

16 - Josh Frank  
17 - John Dunkle  
18 - Kenneth Blyler  
18 - Spencer Boyer  
18 - Kenneth & Helen Hugar - 1946  
18 - Annie R. Nolt  
19 - Sam Smith  
20 - Patricia Phifer  
21 - Richard & Hilda Zechman - 1952  
21 - Eugene Wertz  
21 - Eddie Weaver  
22 - George & Linda Sholter - 1968  
22 - Lee & Norma Sauers - 1965  
23 - Donald & Evelyn Miller - 1970  
23 - Tyler Dorman  
24 - Kendrisa Kerstetter  
25 - Emre Goktas  
25 - Glenn & Norma Catherman - 1957  
25 - Dolores Starks  
26 - Melody Keister  
26 - Bob & Shirley Catherman - 2001  
28 - Carl "Bup" Sampsell

28 - Memorial Day  
29 - Mike Fultz  
30 - Harold Shively  
30 - Henry Bartolo

**The Millmont Times**  
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