



West End Cemeteries, Headstones & Epitaphs Part I

The primary purpose for a cemetery, graveyard or burial grounds is to hold the earthly remains of those who have passed away. Not only do we bury our dead in these special places, we also mark the site where someone is interred with a monument or headstone. By marking the spot where the mortal remains lie buried it allows the living to return to the burial site in order to pay their respects to the deceased.

Early grave markers were sometimes little more than a piece of wood or a small fieldstone. While wooden markers have long since turned to dust, unmarked fieldstones can still be found in a number of cemeteries throughout the West End of Union County.

The birth dates of some of the early settlers who migrated here can be traced to the 1740's. In one instance I discovered a person whose birth year was 1738, the earliest of any of the cemeteries I visited for this article. This particular person was born 276 years ago, decades before the Revolutionary War, and long before she ever settled in Buffalo Valley.

Evidence of one of the oldest burial grounds in the West End of the county can no longer be found. This cemetery is sometimes referred to as the Yoder Cemetery, and was established (and abandoned) long before the small village of Millmont was founded in 1874. Any and all traces of this burial grounds have long since disappeared. The location of this cemetery is identified in the Pomeroy & Beers Atlas of 1868.

Historian, Richard VB. Lincoln referenced this burial ground in his writings from 1886. Lincoln wrote: *"On a slightly elevated knoll a short distance northwest of Millmont are the remains of an old burying-ground, in which were deposited the mortal remains of many of the first settlers of the neighborhood. Over a half century has passed since any interments have been made there. The great majority of the graves were unmarked and part of the grave-yard has been for many years under cultivation. On the part not yet desecrated by the plow lie a few fragments of broken stone, not marble, but reddish sandstone from the adjacent mountain, on which part of the inscription is still legible, - e. g., "In memory of Andrew Fox, Jr., who departed this life October 1, 1795, aged" - here the stone is broken off and the remainder gone. On another, the top part of the stone containing the name is gone, but on the bottom part is recorded in German the fact that the person to whose memory it was erected died December 15, 1794, etc."*

It is regrettable that the owners of this property did not see the benefit in preserving this early burial ground. Whatever became of the headstones is unknown. Had the markers not been uprooted and discarded, and the land tilled over, additional names and dates of those early settlers could have been ascertained. Two people who may be interred in this cemetery are David and Catherine Catherman, progenitors of many of the Catherman's who have resided, and continue to reside in Buffalo Valley.

The headstones from those early burial grounds were simple, unadorned and made from readily available materials. Over time they were made from various materials, which were designed to extended the life of a headstone. Those materials included slate, marble, lime-

(Continued on page 2)

Field Notes, by WCO Dirk Remensnyder



Deputies from the North Central Region recently completed a two and a half day training session, which increased their overall knowledge, professionalism, and commitment to protecting wildlife and serving the public. During this intense training session topics covered included: Night Vehicle Stop Procedures, Taser training, Handcuffing, First Aid, Hunting Related Shooting Incident reconstruction and various other topics.

I can report citing a number of individuals for shooting bottles on a State Game Lands parking lot.

(Continued from page 1)



The photograph above shows one of two bedsteads located in the Rays Cemetery. This one belongs to Corp. Joseph Ruhle (1841-1863).

stone, zinc and granite. Today many headstones are made of polished granite, which offers a range of options for those inclined to place a unique motif or etching on their headstone.

The style and appearance of headstones and monuments has also changed over the years. A stark contrast between styles and shapes is readily apparent when traveling west of the borough of Hartleton on Route 45. Approaching the summit a casual observer can easily distinguish the new section of the graveyard from the old section. The old section contains large obelisks, pedestal tombs (some with urns or vases on the top) as well as large headstones or monuments with a die, base and cap. The tallest headstone in this cemetery is 8 feet 6 inches in height. The new section of this cemetery is made up primarily of markers 3 feet high and under.

While some headstones merely have the name and dates, others include more detailed information about the individual buried beneath the sod. Through the years headstones have become a place of memorializing the deceased with more than basic information, such as name

and dates of birth and death. The information on headstones can be useful for descendants as well as historians and genealogists.

An epitaph was originally an oration that was said over the deceased at the time of the funeral. A speech made by the living over the grave. Shortened versions were sometimes etched in the headstone. I have seen epitaphs that were profound as well as those that are lighthearted.

It is not uncommon to see a Bible, both open and closed, as well as Bible verses or text etched in headstones. Other examples of religious symbolism I have seen on headstones include praying hands, crosses and Christ at Gethsemane. Modern headstones include wedding dates or perhaps an etching of a pet, home or farm or a scenic view. Some also have individual or family photographs made from ceramic material and embedded into their headstone.

The cemeteries of the West End hold the remains of soldiers and veterans of various wars, including the War of 1812, Civil War, Spanish American War, WWI, WWII, Korea and Vietnam. There are also a few Revolutionary War veterans interred in a couple of the older graveyards. Some of these soldiers died in the line of duty, making the ultimate sacrifice for their country, for which we should all be indebted and pay our respects from time to time.

There are fifteen known cemeteries in the area that encompasses Hartley and Lewis townships along with Hartleton Borough. In this issue I will examine Ray's, Laurel Run, Keister and the Hartleton Union Church cemeteries.

Rays Cemetery is also known as St. Peters Lutheran and Reformed Cemetery and is situated on land provided by George Ray (Reeg) in 1801. The remains of George (1743-1802) and Margaret (1755-1822) Reeg (Ray) lie buried next to the site of the original hewed log church located inside the fence.

Many of the older headstones in this cemetery are white marble or limestone. Some are easy to read while others are more difficult to read due to effects of aging. Some of the early headstones that were readable when Mrs. Martha Bartol recorded the names and dates in August 1915 and also in the 1960's when Mary B. Lontz recorded them include: Rosina Spigelmyer (1759-1814), Elizabeth Wohnseidler (1763-1846), Mary Rhinehart (1766-1849), John Wilson (1766-1836), Nancy Wilson (1767-1852), Abraham Mench (1774-1861) and Peter Morningstar (1775-1856). Headstones, such as those belonging to Johannes (1754-1820) and Rosina (1759-1814) Spigelmyer are etched in German.

There are two marble bedsteads in the Rays Cemetery. One is that of Corporal Joseph R. Ruhle (1841-1863) and the other belongs to Catherine Strickler (1794-1863). Ruhle was killed July 1, 1863 during the first day of fighting at Gettysburg. A unique feature concerning Ruhle's headstone is the place where his photograph was once mounted. For the era in which this headstone was erected this is a distinctive feature.

Joseph's brothers Samuel and Valentine also served their country during the Civil War and are buried in the Rays Cemetery. Etched on Samuel Ruhle's headstone is a flag, a sign of his patriotism and military service. His headstone includes the same epitaph as etched onto Joseph's: "*When the shrill voice of war was heard In thunder tones throughout the land His patriot soul with zeal was stirred He gladly joined the gallant band.*"

Private George W. Zimmerman (1894-1918), killed in WWI in the Argonne Sector of Germany on November 10, 1918, is buried in Rays. His untimely death occurred one day prior to the signing of the armistice. His epitaph reads: "*The Brave Soldier Trusts in God And Fights For What Is True, The Bravest Were The First to Fall, To Fall For Me and You.*"

Another local soldier who died in WWII is Robert Erdley. According to a local newspaper account Erdley's death in 1942 in the Solomon Islands was the first causality of the war from Union County. A headstone for 21 year-old Robert Erdley was

(Continued on page 5)

Exploring the Bald Eagle State Forest For Mushrooms



When you think about exploring the Bald Eagle State Forest (BESF) what often comes to mind is a ride or a walk along a long winding mountain road or perhaps a hike on one of the many maintained trails. Perhaps you are more interested in bird watching, scouting and hunting wild game, fishing or camping. But have you ever considered mushroom hunting? This has become one of my favorite pastimes while Tony and I are out and about exploring the BESF.

My interest in mushroom hunting began about five years ago. It has blossomed in recent years after Tony purchased a *Field Guide to Wild Mushrooms of Pennsylvania and the Mid-Atlantic* by Bill Russell for me for Christmas a few years ago. I had earlier purchased two Peterson Field Guides: *Edible Wild Plants Eastern / Central North America* and one simply entitled *Mushrooms*. All three of these books have proved beneficial in recognizing their habitat, growth characteristics, time of the year they are available and appearance of many wild mushrooms that grow locally.

While we are looking for edible wild mushrooms, it's also good to be able to identify the non-edible species. We've found that mushrooms come in many different colors, shapes and sizes, along the roadside and deep in the forest. The BESF is decorated with a plethora of mushrooms!

Wildlife in the BESF enjoy mushrooms too. I've read that deer, mice, rabbits, squirrels, slugs, snails and insects will eat mushrooms. In August 2013, Tony and I took a hike along Penns Creek in Mifflin County. While hiking we came across a wood turtle nibbling on a mushroom. We had observed many mushrooms that had obviously been chewed on prior to our discovery, and wondered what was eating them. We were excited to come across the mushroom-nibbling turtle enjoying his / her meal.

Before heading out into the forest landscape there are a few things we do. First we get into our hiking clothes that have been previously sprayed with Permethrine. This product claims to repel (and kill) ticks on contact. We also take walking sticks, which are beneficial on the rough terrain, and for poking around before reaching for a mushroom. I take my fanny pack that contains brown paper bags, vinyl gloves, a knife, bug spray, camera and canvas tote bag. We also take my favorite wild mushroom guide, Bill Russell's *Field Guide to Wild Mushrooms*. We always plan for a harvest, but it doesn't always turnout that way.

When we find a mushroom that we are certain is edible, and have ruled out the possibility that it is copycat, I don the gloves and cut the mushroom at the base. Never pull mushrooms out from their base as this could be detrimental to future growth. I flick off as much of the soil and dried leaves as possible, place the mushroom into a brown paper bag and then into my canvas tote bag and we move on in search of the next edible species of mushroom we can find.

Just this year, in early September, we set out in search of hen of the woods mushrooms. And we found them! Both Tony and I were pretty excited by our find! The large mushroom I am holding in the photo weighed just over 2 ½ pounds. That's a lot of mushroom. There are a few ways to safely preserve harvested mushrooms. I first soak the mushrooms in salt water for about half an hour. This helps to draw out any bugs that might be in the crevices. Then I slice the mushroom. This hen of the woods was blanched for 5 minutes and then placed in zipper sandwich bags. I've also sautéed them in butter for 30 minutes and packaged the same way. Chill and then freeze. Mushrooms can also be dehydrated. I haven't tried that yet.

On page 4 you will find a recipe for Seafood Bisque, in which I also used wild hen of the woods mushrooms. I've also made chicken marsala and mushroom risotto using edible wild mushrooms. And, they are also delicious in omelets.

My brother, Jim Dorman of Hartleton, is an experienced mushroom hunter, and he has been gracious enough to take Tony and I to some locations where he has found hen of the woods and chicken mushrooms. Die-hard mushroom hunters can sometimes be protective of "their territory", especially those who know where to find morels. It's similar to protecting



Wildlife enjoy eating mushrooms as well. Shown above is an adult Wood Turtle with a mouth full of wild mushroom.

(Continued on page 4)

Recipe of the Month

By Janice (Dorman) Shively

Seafood Bisque

¼ C. celery, chopped
 ¾ C. onion, chopped
 1 C. fresh mushrooms, sliced
 1 C. fresh broccoli, chopped
 1 clove garlic, minced
 ¼ C. margarine
 ¼ C. flour
 ¼ tsp. dried thyme
 ⅛ tsp. pepper
 3 C. chicken broth
 1 C. light cream
 ⅔ C. Swiss cheese, shredded
 2 c. assorted seafood, chopped (scallops, imitation crab,

clams, shrimp)

In a 3-quart saucepan, cook celery, onion, mushrooms, broccoli and garlic in margarine until crisp-tender. Blend in flour, thyme and pepper. Add chicken broth and cream all at once. Cook and stir until thickened and bubbly. Add seafood. Cook and stir until scallops are cooked thoroughly. Add cheese; stir until melted. Makes 6 ½ cups.



This recipe came to me by my friend, Fay Richard of Mifflinburg. It is a great comfort food! Instead of using the store purchased fresh mushrooms, I used some wild hen of the woods mushrooms that I harvested and froze this year. And this time I used shrimp and scallops, but you can use any combination of your favorite seafood.

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:

Sat. Oct. 13, 1945—Strong wind this morning. Went to Mr. Hackenburg's sale on the Haupt farm, but did not wait until the sale started. I have been cold for the last few days and I made out I would better not stand around at a sale. This is the first I have had a cold for quite a long time. Billy (Shively) went hunting ducks with Elwood Showalter.

Sun. Oct. 14, 1945—Temperature remains about the same. I am unable to read the thermometer any more unless it is in bright light.

"The Home a School of Christian Living". Deut. 6:4-8. Luke 2:51. Eph. 5:22-25, 6:1-4. G.T. Eph 4:32. Bro. Lemon taught the class and spoke on Self Examination. Pres. 58. Con. \$8.23. Billy (Shively) was alone to S.S. He went back to the hospital this evening. He works in a dispensary now at the hospital. Edmunds (Shively) were here a while this evening. Rained a little during the day.

Mon. Oct. 15, 1945—Clear, rained a little last night. Worked on the corn crib floor and oiled it.

Reported over the radio there was an awful storm went through Okinawa where Kenneth (Shively) is stationed. Sank many ships and blew down the barracks and leveled nearly everything on the island.

Tues. Oct. 16, 1945—a nice day. Worked most of the day in the garage.

Wed. Oct. 17, 1945—A very beautiful day, 68 at 6 P.M.

Thu. Oct. 18, 1945—74 at 2 o'clock. Was a beautiful autumn day. Laird Shively and wife of Ohio were here on a visit. Bucyrus is where they live.

Fri. Oct. 19, 1945—a very beautiful day. I took advantage of the nice day and cleaned the toilet.

Sat. Oct. 20, 1945—Another beautiful day. John Royer called for a short visit this afternoon. Cleaned up around the buildings.

(Continued from page 3)

hallowed hunting ground I suppose. Tony and I have yet to locate any of these coveted spring mushrooms. We know people that have, but none of them have been willing to share their harvest locations with us.

To learn more about wild mushrooms, get yourself a field guide or two and begin reading and studying the characteristics of wild mushrooms. There are so many mushrooms out there, and Tony and I only know a few with certainty. Don't give up if you don't find what you're looking for. It's taken us years to become successful and confident. Be on the look out for snakes and rough terrain. It's best if you take someone with you. Whatever you do, don't eat a mushroom you are not certain of and never eat wild mushrooms raw! Keep in mind, there are deadly poisonous mushrooms right here in the BESF.

There are many reasons to explore the BESF. Hopefully sharing about our wild mushroom adventures has opened your eyes to a new area of exploration. We are blessed to be surrounded by such natural God-created beauty. While you're enjoying the fall foliage this Autumn, keep your eyes peeled for some colorful mushrooms throughout the Bald Eagle State Forest.



Shown above is a photo of a Shaggy Mane, a very edible and delicious wild mushroom.

JLS

(Continued from page 2)



Shown above is the headstone of William H. Bingaman, son of William H. and Priscilla, who died Feb. 21, 1889, age 7 years, 10 months and 7 days. The insert shows a view of the top of the headstone where a child's hand is clasped to a Bible.

erected in this cemetery, although his remains are interred in Hawaii. Private Andrew M. Eisenhower (1924-1944), killed in action at Cicino, Italy during WWII is interred in Rays Cemetery.

Some of the more heartbreaking headstones are those of young children, plucked from their parent's lives at a tender age. The headstone of seven-month-old Ruben Morningstar is etched with this epitaph: "*Budded on earth to bloom in Heaven*". The headstone of George Swengel, son of William and Gudila Swengel, who died in 1871, shows a young hand laying on an open Bible.

Rays Cemetery is situated in Lewis Township on a long narrow strip of land adjacent to fast moving traffic on Route 45. It is encircled with a fence with only a few openings. While parking your vehicle and entering or exiting this cemetery you are advised to use caution.

The Laurel Run Cemetery is located just east of the village of Laurelton off Laurel Road. This is an old cemetery that dates to the early 1800's. The original church that sat adjacent to this cemetery was made from hewed logs, and was erected on land provided by John Glover in 1814. Glover, who is buried here, was born in Donegal, Ireland on December 25, 1744, emigrated to America in 1765, settling in what is now Hartley Township in 1772. According to the large granite monument erected in his memory, Glover served under Washington at the surrender of Cornwallis. John Glover died in 1825. His wife Sophia Glover (nee Duncan) is also interred here.

One of the earliest headstones in this cemetery is that of Melchior Smith (1752-1816). Smith and his family settled in the neighborhood of Hoover Lane off Fairground Road in 1792. His son, John Melchoir Smith (1783-1841), operated a hemp mill along Laurel Run near this location. The mill made use of a large stone to grind the hemp. Hemp mills produced fiber, which was used in the manufacture of clothing and rope. The stone that ground the hemp at Smith's mill was used as the pedestal for the large monument of Michael (1808-1878) and Mary (1811-1894) Schnure in the Laurel Run Cemetery. Mary was the daughter of John Melchoir Smith.

Silby Smith (1738-1823) is buried in the Laurel Run Cemetery. According to information I have gathered for this article her date of birth is the earliest of any legible headstones in the West End. Martha Bartol recorded that date in 1915.

Another early burial in this cemetery is that of Adam Winkleblech (1797-1819). His stone is in remarkable condition for its age (nearly 200 years). The lettering is quite legible, although some of it is written in German.

Other old headstones include Christian Braucher (1758-1842) and his wife Susannah Braucher (1761-1834) are buried here. Christian was a veteran of the Revolutionary War. John Schnure (1763-1827), Elizabeth Smith (1768-1863), Balsler Kline-smith (1769-1840), Engel Schrader (1769-1841), Mary Paul (1770-1845), Mark Halfpenny (1774-1847), Paul Conrad (1774-1834) and Elizabeth Schnure (1776-1852).

There are two plots in this cemetery enclosed with wrought iron grave fencing. Unfortunately some of the while marble or limestone headstones are becoming difficult if not impossible to read. Some are discolored or they have algae and lichens growing on the face.



Shown above is the headstone of John Klackner who died in 1829 at age 76. Despite its age the lettering is quite legible.

The Keister or Dunkard Cemetery is located about 2.4 miles west of Laurelton off Weikert Road. A subscription school was built near here circa 1795. During that era schools also served as houses of worship. Exactly when the cemetery was started is unknown. People sometimes associate this graveyard with the Hartley Meeting House (Church of the Brethren or Dunkards) that was located on the opposite side of the highway from the cemetery. However, there was no direct connection between the two. The Hartley Meeting House was used for a relatively short period of time in the mid 1860's before the congregation merged with the Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren. People were interred in the Keister Cemetery long before the Dunkard church was erected in 1861.

Some early headstones in the Keister Cemetery recorded by Mary B. Lontz during the summer of 1964 (when the temperature was 98°) include: Abraham Zimmerman died 1813, Elizabeth Boop 1815, Elias Keister 1815 and John Reed 1815. Other headstones where both the birth and death deaths can be ascertained include John Klackner (1753-1829) (presumably the man who chiseled the surname in this stone spelled it the way he pronounced it), Margaret Gilaspie (1753-1836), John Keaster (1766-1839), Henry Corl (1764-1851), William Reed (1767-1846), Jane Reed (1768-1846), John Showalter (1770-1835) and Lydia, wife of John Kister (1772-1854).

It is reported that sometime following WWII, brothers Howard and Samuel Boop were sad-

(Continued on page 7)

Blessings from the Bible

By Brenda Weaver

*“A merry heart doeth good like a medicine:
But a broken spirit drieth the bones.”*

Proverbs 17:22

She climbed up the ladder and stood looking down, deciding if she was brave enough to advance. She considered that she had not yet experienced doing this thing. For years she did not have the opportunity; when she did, she was too afraid. *Yes, I will do it, she decided, I may not have the opportunity again.*

With that thought, she tucked her skirts beneath her and went down a sliding board for the very first time.

This adventuresome gal was none other than my eighty-four year-old mother! She and other seniors had gathered for a picnic at a local pavilion. After lunch they visited and played games. But the sliding board kept tempting my mother. Having never slid down one before, she was surprised how fast she whizzed to the bottom. Being unfamiliar with the proper procedure, she arrived at the bottom of the slide with an unceremonious plop. No broken hips, just a startled spine and a few sore muscles the next day.

As it turned out her adventuresome spirit was contagious. Several of her senior friends and her ninety-year-old husband went down the slide as well! Although I heard that two friends stood board-side to slow down the whizzing seniors, and soften their landings.

In this day of modern medicine, when American seniors take a plethora of pills, I am grateful some of them still benefit from an ages old remedy: laughter.

* * * * *

*“If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me.
Yea, the darkness hideth not from thee; but the night shineth as the day:
the darkness and the light are both alike to thee.”*

Psalm 139:11-12

“It seems like someone is always mowing grass in Millmont.” So says my mother. Mom was born and lived most of her years in the country. If she heard a lawn mower running it was usually her own. Now in our small village she often hears a mower running. This summer, with abundant moisture, has been especially full of the purrs of lawn mower motors—at all hours of the day.

Last evening a lawn mower hummed its way around munching on grass from 8 to 9 p.m. How does one mow lawn after dark? Very carefully and with lots of squinting, I discovered. When errands kept me from mowing my lawn at an earlier hour, I wheeled the mower out of the garage as the shadows grew long and the last rays of sunshine died away. Never mind the end of September is nearing, the grass keeps growing like it is spring! Each day that passes makes the lawn more difficult to mow. So I pulled the mower to life and set a hearty pace around the lawn, promising myself I’d do as much as I could before I couldn’t see where I was mowing.

To my surprise—and probably to my neighbors’ wonderment—I finished mowing the lawn (except for a few skippers I noted this morning) after dark! Light from my porch and several dusk- to-dawn lights provided enough light to keep me pushing that mower.

When I was finished I considered calling Mom to see if she heard someone mowing at bedtime. Instead, I decided to celebrate my accomplishment by starting a fire in the fire ring and toasting myself a few marshmallows for a bedtime snack. Rest and relaxation is made richer by challenging labor. Even though it was a party for one, I enjoyed those minutes of warmth and rest, reflecting to the sound of the crackling fire.

Here are a few of my reflections:

At the beginning of the summer I complained about having to mow the lawn myself. Gone were the days when my husband or children did the mowing. Gradually I accepted mowing as my job again, although grudgingly. But on this chilly September evening I found myself caught up in the challenge of seeing how much I could get done. No pining for the past. No pity party for one. No giving up when the going got harder (and darker).

What difference *surrender* makes! When I complain and despair about the lawn life has lain before me I am hampered, and progress stalls. But when I chose to *accept* the challenges and set the mower humming I am blessed with the peace and rest *surrender* brings.

I thought about how I might answer an optometrist sometime in the future, should I become one of the growing numbers of older folks who gradually loses their vision. If he asks if I read books in dim lighting I can reply, “Not often, but I did mow lawn during that amazing summer of 2014!”

One of my last reflections, when only coals glowed red, was of how far I’ve traveled on the journey of grief. October marks three years since my husband’s passing. Life is very different than I expected it to be. Katy-dids answered calling

(Continued on page 7)

(Continued from page 6)

crickets; the smell of newly mown grass surrounded me; I pulled a warm jacket around my shoulders and thanked God for leading me gently, faithfully the past 1082 days.

"It is a good thing to give thanks unto the Lord, and to sing praises unto thy name, O most High: to shew forth thy loving-kindness in the morning, and thy faithfulness every night," Psalm 92:1-2.

Prayer for Today:

Oh Lord, thank You for the sweetness of surrender. Thank You for leading me gently through grief. And thank You for helping me smile about mowing lawn in the dark.

Thank You for courage in the lives of those I love.

Thank You for laughter and the important part it plays in healing and health.

(Continued from page 5)

dened by the condition of this graveyard that held the remains of their ancestors. They turned their sadness into action as both men went to work clearing underbrush and trees from the cemetery and reset headstones that were toppled or leaning.

Harry Snook (1928-2014) informed me that Samuel Boop (1876-1972) of Laurel Park, when nearing his 90's, walked from his home to the cemetery with his push mower in order to mow the grass at this cemetery. Samuel's mortal remains are interred in this cemetery, perhaps one of the last interments to be made here. His parents, John (1839-1908) and Sophia (1840-1901) Boop are buried here, as are numerous other relatives. When Sam Boop could no longer tend the cemetery Mr. and Mrs. Guy Oberlin continued to maintain this small graveyard. Some West End folks referred to this place as "God's Acre".



Headstones showing a hand and a finger pointing towards heaven are common, especially in the Hartleton Union Church Cemetery. This headstone belongs to Lavina C. Huntington who died December 12, 1858 at age 25.

The Hartleton Union Church Cemetery is located off Catherine Street in the borough. The church was erected circa 1841 for use by various denominations. The cemetery here surrounds the old brick church on three sides. In all likelihood the cemetery was laid out about the same time the church was erected. The earliest legible headstones in this cemetery, as recorded by Mrs. Martha Bartol, include 16 from the 1840's and 16 from the 1850's.

The earliest interment according to existent and legible headstones is that of Amos Harris who died March 3, 1843. He, like numerous other people buried here, was born in the 18th century. Those people include Susanna Myers (1760-1846), Nathan Kinman (1763-1847) his wife Jane Kinman (1767-1846), Michael Peters (1768-1843), Catherine Grove (1769-1848), Abraham Reamer (1774-1858) and Mary Ann Lucas (1775-1849).

Like other old cemeteries some of the headstones are difficult to read. There are also fieldstone markers with no etchings. Located here are a number of headstones that show a hand with one finger pointing toward the sky. This represents the pathway to heaven, heavenly reward, or perhaps to let people know the deceased's soul has gone to heaven. I found at least 10 such headstones in this cemetery. Another unique trait is that of a sheep or lamb curled up and sleeping etched into the face of the stone. There are also a couple that have a sheep lying on top of the headstone. These are usually always seen on the headstones of someone who died at a very young age. I have also seen wreaths, weeping willow trees, drapery and flowers etched onto some of the headstones in this cemetery.

Two longtime Hartleton physicians and their spouses are interred in this cemetery: Dr. Thomas Weirick (1805-1843) and Dr. William Seebold (1817-1901). Etched on the headstone of Margaret Weirick (1808-1883) (Thomas's wife) is the epitaph *"Pardoned by the blood of the Lamb"*. Nearby by is the headstone of Samuel Conrad Wilt (1806-1882). His headstone includes the epitaph: *"Given to hospitality"*.

TLS

In Part II we will look at various aspects of other cemeteries, including the new Hartleton Cemetery, Lincoln Chapel, Old Cedar, Pike, Hironimus, Long Lane as well as a few Mennonite cemeteries.

Sources: Tombstones Inscriptions of Union County, Pennsylvania by Mary B. Lontz 1967,1992; early tombstone inscriptions preserved by Martha Bartol who visited a number of cemeteries in the West End during 1915 and recorded dates from some of the early burials; Atlas of Union & Snyder Counties Pennsylvania published by Pomeroy & Beers of Philadelphia 1868; newspaper articles about cemeteries in the West End written by Helen Bauer and Union County Heritage Volume XIV, 1994, published by the Union County Historical Society.

The small photograph in the upper left corner of page one shows the headstone of Adam Winkelblech that is located in the Laurel Run Cemetery near Laurelton. While some of the engravings on this headstone are written in German, the date of his birth and death are clearly visible and easy to read. Adam was born in 1797 and died at age 22 years in 1819.

Penlines *From my* *Kitchen to Yours*

by Lucy Hoover

Dear Readers,
Mahlon and Emma Horning have a son named Anthony. Grandparents are Phares and Anna Horning and Earl and Ann Hoover.

Bethany Grace Shirk was born to Duane and Grace Shirk. She has three brothers and one sister. Grandparents are Eli Shirk and Anna Shirk and Henry and Martha Oberholtzer. Isaac came in for a Band-Aid because he had cut his finger. A little while later he came in again and his toe was bleeding. I asked "what did you do now?" He said, "I tripped over the tree's muscle."

September 4, 2014

Chris Brubacker's three daughters from KY are here. We had a Mt. pie supper and invited their girl cousins and school friends. There were 26 girls plus myself and Isaac. He (Isaac) did not seem to notice that he was the only boy in the crowd. (Being surrounded by girls is just the "way of life" for him).

September 6

Lewis Ray Hoover and Amy West's wedding day! Amy took up church membership at Beavertown God's Missionary Church last week. They plan to go to Israel for their honeymoon trip, along with their pastor and his wife. Amy wants to be baptized in the "River of Jordan" while they are there. We have a lot of travelers of our family in the area over the time of the wedding.

Alvin and Lizzie Sensenig moved into their house along Ridge Road. Their son, Aaron Michael and Annetta Sensenig will move on the farm that was vacated sometime next week.

September 11

Today is the wedding of Loren Ray Zeiset and Diane Martin. They will have the wedding reception at his parent's home on September 21st.

Zimmerman's Harness Shop is closed today while they move their shop across the street into their new building. We have so many toads around here that we need to be careful that we don't step on one when it's dark. One evening I opened the living room door to come in and a big toad hopped in ahead of me!

Amos Brubacker of Middleburg was trying to get a heifer into a cow stanchion so that he could vaccinate her. She stepped on his ankle and sprained it. He will need to use crutches for up to six weeks.

Two couples are published to marry: Jonathan Zimmerman, son of Noah and Elsie Zimmerman, to Regina Martin, daughter of Leon and Marian Martin, on October 9, 2014. And, Neil Zimmerman, son of Aaron and Susie Zimmerman, to Malinda Martin, daughter of Vernon and Norma Martin, on October 16, 2014.

Looking Back

The following newspaper article was originally published in the Lewisburg Chronicle on October 13, 1863.

Mass Meeting at Laurelton

Last Saturday morning, we had a double dense fog on the River, which became less as we rode on west, and the sun broke out at Mifflinburg, where we found about 25 vehicles, loaded with wide-awake Union men and women, brave lads and lovely lasses, flags and banners, filling the main street with life and beauty, and moving off with cheers and shouts. From the Limestone region, an eight gray horse team filed in. At Hartleton were met by 25 or 30 hearty young fellows on horseback. Passing on, there came in from Lewis township a sixteen black horse team with a big load of sturdy voters to match. Small teams joined in here and there, until by the time we had reached Laurelton, we suppose there must have been 60 to 75 vehicles in line. Dr. Knight, Judge Simonton, and John Hays, we noticed acting as Marshals, and the long road from Halfpenny's Factory to below U. Weirick's, was filled with the Union demonstration. It was cold, and a few dashes of rain fell, but the enthusiasm of the multitude was "up." The stand, below town, was ornamented, and some ladies—from Middleburg or Mifflinburg, or both—gave us a good Union song. The following were chosen Officers of the day: President Col. Alva Marston. Vice Presidents Samuel Strayhorn, John Betz, Joseph Miller, John Snyder, Charles Swengel, John Ruhl, John Frederick, Jacob Smith. Secretaries R. V. B. Lincoln, R. V. Glover, Calvin Hays.

E. L. Mowry, Frank Rupium, and Wm. VanGezer addressed the people, with good effect, and the meeting broke up at an early hour.

It was judged there were over 1500 persons on the grounds—by far the largest concourse ever assembled in the region—and a happy time they had of it. It was a great day for Old Hartley, and well enjoyed. The ladies were out in their glory—and a Yankee bachelor with us said if he was not provided with a cheese maker up in York State he should try his luck in Buffaloe Valley—sure!

The Woodward party had a meeting at the same time: they organized and had the Band; but their numbers we judged was not over a third as large as ours.

There is no longer liquor sold in Laurelton by law: consequently, very little disturbance, and all moved peaceably and pleasantly. One chap from Centre county came to our crowd with a Cop badge, but the

(Continued on page 9)

(Continued from page 8)

boys pitched him out, and our officers with difficulty saved him from a thrashing. The afternoon was delightful, and the rays of the sun on the leaves—not only on the orchards and shrubbery of the princely farms, but on the mountains on either side—made one of Autumn's most attractive scenes, long to be treasured in memory.

Searching for information relative to Master/Maister/Masters and Eberharts

A couple people have contacted me by email in recent weeks looking for information about their relatives, with the surname Master/Maister/Masters. Justin Masters has been researching his family history for some time, and is trying to locate information about John Masters, including his birthplace, siblings, parents etc. A trip to Union County in 1996 in search of information had him visiting the Union County Courthouse, a library, and a late night foray through the Rays Cemetery in his quest to put pieces of his family puzzle together. Anyone with information that might prove useful is encourage to contact Justin at the following email address: jmasters1@sbcglobal.net

Barbara Eberhart has worked in conjunction with Justin over the years on the Eberhart line. She is searching for additional information on that side of the family. Anyone with information about the Eberhart family is encouraged to contact Brabara at the following email address: beberh5501@gmail.com

Are You Ready for Some Pot Pie?

Millmont PA – Members of Christ's United Lutheran Church, also known as the "Four Bells Church," are getting ready to make and serve their renowned pot pie again. We will be serving three types of pot pie (beef, ham and chicken) on Saturday, November 1, 2014, starting at 3:30 p.m. Patrons can either eat in or take out. Meals include apple-sauce or pickled cabbage, roll, beverage and dessert.

Pot pie quarts are available for take-out. Christ's United is located three miles west of Mifflinburg on Route 45.

Worship services start at 9:00 a.m., followed by Sunday School. All are welcome. For more information on this and other events, call us at (570) 922-1860, email at: culc@dejazzd.com or visit our website at: www.4bellschurch.com.

Bingo Fundraising for the Hartley Township Recreation Center

Bingo will be held on Saturday, October 11th and 25th, and Saturday, November 8th and 22nd at the Hartley Township Recreation Center. All proceeds from Bingo are used to support the activities of the Rec. Center located on Ball Park Road, next to the West End Library.

Anyone who would like to come out and enjoy an evening of fun while at the same time support their local community recreation center is welcome to do so. The doors will open at 5:45 p.m. and the Bingo games will begin at 6:30 pm.

Food and beverages will also be available for purchase. For more information you can contact Lori Jo Showalter at:

lshowalter@westendlibrary.org



If any readers recognize, and can identify, any of these Laurelton baseball players, or the date this photograph was taken, please contact me at the address on page 10. The only identified person in this photo is Cecil Hironimus standing in the back row on the far right (not in uniform) .

Thank You!

I would like to thank the following people for their very generous donations toward the newsletter expenses: Clifford and Diane Valentine and Lulu Hoffman all of Millmont.

I would also like to share my sincere thanks to those who have contacted me by mail, email, or by telephone to express their concerns about the impending retirement of this newsletter in April 2015. While it would be nice if someone would step forward with a desire to continue The Millmont Times, that has not happened.

Over the past 15 years I have written articles about a lot of people and places from the West End of the county. Unfortunately the remaining six issues will not provide me with sufficient time to write about all the people and places I had hoped or planned. I apologize for that, but hopefully everyone will understand.

The Millmont Times is distributed during the first week of each month. The newsletter is also available at Shirk's Country Store in Millmont. Their telephone number is 570.922.4222. The single issue cost is \$1.50.

Internet subscriptions can be obtained FREE by visiting: www.millmonttimes.com

All of the newsletters published between January 2004 through the current issue are now available on the website. Please use the following address if you are interested in contacting the editor, making a donation or changing your address: Tony Shively, Post Office Box 3, Millmont PA 17845, telephone: (570) 922.4297 or E-mail: tshively@dejazzd.com

October Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 – Wendy Bilger	14 – Eugene & Grace Antol - 1950	27 – Pauline Shively
1 – Diane Zeiset	14 – Kenneth Catherman	27 – Alvin Nolt
2 – Zachary Kline	14 – Annetta Oberholtzer	28 – Kim & Carol Yarger – 1972
2 – James Maust	15 – Marcellus Brungart	29 – Shirley Diehl
3 – Peggy Aikey	15 – Kathy Groff	30 – Arlene Martin
4 – Dale Dorman	16 – Ralph Aikey	30 – Denise McClintock
4 – Michael Aikey	17 – Bill & Anne Little - 1980	
5 – Catherine Hassinger	17 – Kenneth & Kathy Groff - 1970	
5 – Sherry Osborne	17 – Janet Renninger	
5 – Carole Jacka	19 – Henry & Naomi Aurand – 1963	
5 – John & Janet Renninger – 1968	19 – Laura Dorman	
7 – Delight Showalter	20 – Maria Brubaker	
7 – Harry Aikey	20 – Elisa Beaver	
8 – Miles Schrader	20 – Randall Stover	
9 – Betty Shoemaker	24 – Mary Louise Jones	
9 – Teresa Yoder	24 – Scott Feaster	
10 – Renda Shively	26 – Ella Mae Maust	
11 – Carol Yarger	26 – Sara Dorman	
12 – Mildred J. (Moyer) Hostrander	27 – Karl Eberhart	

The Millmont Times

P. O. Box 3

Millmont, PA 17845