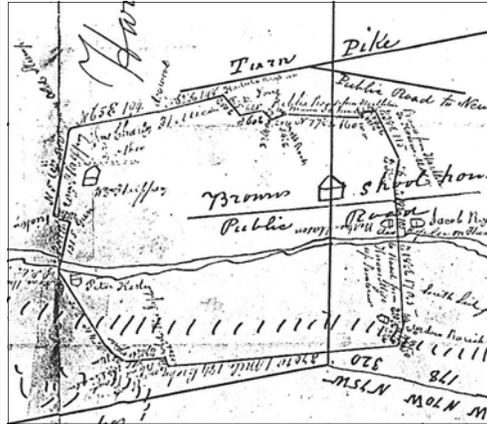




The Millmont Times

Brown's School



The survey above was produced in 1871 by the committee assigned by the Union County Court of Common Pleas to study the possibility of creating the Brown's Independent School District. The Hartley/Lewis Township boundary running through the middle of Brown's School can be seen on this survey.

Courtesy of Robert and Dianne Lynch of Mifflinburg.

Prior to the enactment of the Free Public School Act of 1834, the schools across the West End of the county were subscription schools. A subscription school was private and available to students whose parents had the financial resources to send their children to that school. This meant that students of poor families did not have access to basic education.

Pennsylvania Governor George Wolf signed the Free Public School Act on April 1, 1834. This legislation allowed local municipalities to decide by popular vote whether to accept or reject the Free School system. The voters of "Old Hartley", which at that time included Lewis Township and Hartleton Borough, rejected Free Schools by a vote of 144 to 30. The vote in favor of public schools did not occur until 1842, when it carried by a slim majority.

Following the adoption of the Free School the new school directors of Hartley Township met as a body on April 2, 1842. Members of the school board included Solomon Knauss, Melchoir Smith, John Spigelmyer, Henry Roush, A. B. Cummings and John Smith. Their first order of business was

to authorize the erection of ten new schools in the district, including one at Brown's, which replaced the subscription school at the same location. The contractor for Brown's School was William Young, and it was erected at a cost of \$187.50. In addition to Brown's the combined expenditure for the ten new public schools in Hartley Township during 1842 totaled \$1,850.50.

Brown's School was located on the eastern boundary of the farm owned by John and Catherine (Wise) Brown. Although the building has long since been removed, the site of this school was on the northwest corner of Shirk Road and Creek Road. John Brown (1786-1846) and his wife Catherine lived in the farmhouse just west of the Millmont Covered Bridge. The Brown's home at 1890 Creek Road is no longer standing.

John Brown was a benevolent individual who had no lineal heirs. In his will (see Looking Back on page 6) dated September 1, 1846, he directed that one fourth of his estate be provided to the schoolhouse that bore his name. That one-fourth portion was to remain a lien on his estate for a term of twenty years, during which time the interest was to be paid to the trustees of the school. Those trustees were instructed to apply those funds in a Christian like manner. At the end of the twenty years the principal was to be distributed to the trustees, and those funds were to be applied for either church or school purposes, wherever the majority of the school board directors decided.

(Continued on page 2)

Field Notes, by WCO Dirk Remensnyder



Why people think they know what's best for animals continues to amaze me. During a recent incident an individual decided that they were going to take a mother duck and her nest of eggs from the location she chose because it was in the middle of town. The individual then put the eggs in an incubator to hatch and the mother in a pen. End of story is that not all eggs hatched and the mother duck decided she didn't like being cooped up in a pen in an enclosed fence. She flew away leaving what ducklings did hatch motherless and going for a ride to a rehabilitation center.

(Continued from page 1)

Because no one had the legal authority to receive the bequest, it took an act of the state legislature in order to authorize the Union County Court of Common Pleas to appoint a trustee. As a result of that act the court appointed Richard VB. Lincoln as trustee in 1859. Lincoln used the interest from the bequest to provide funding for an additional three months of summer school instruction at Brown's School, in addition to the regular three-month term.

When Lewis Township was carved from Hartley Township in 1857, the dividing line between the two municipalities ran through the middle of Brown's School. This dual control caused considerable consternation between the school directors of these two municipalities. Arguments over the teacher and the length of the school term and other issues were continuous obstacles between the two boards.

In 1861, a petition was circulated among the taxable inhabitants of Hartley and Lewis townships living in close proximity to Brown's School. That petition, which was submitted to the Union County Court of Common Pleas, advocated the formation of a new independent school district exclusive to Brown's School. The petitioners wanted the new district to be called "Brown Independent School District". The petition stated: *"This joint control is the source of incessant and vexatious annoyances and quarrels respecting the employment of teacher, length of school term, series of school book, necessary repairs etc."*

The petition garnered twenty-six signatures when it was filed in 1861. In December of that year the court appointed three impartial men to examine the request of the petitioners and make their report. That committee consisted of Paul Geddes, James Marshall and George Gebhart. They were sworn by the court to perform their duties of this appointment with impartiality and fidelity, to view and inquire into the propriety of granting the prayer of the said petitioners and to make a draft or plot of the proposed new school district. Their proposal, which was unanimously in favor of the new district, was presented to the court in February 1862.

Residents living in that section of Hartley and Lewis townships outside the proposed independent school district emphatically objected to the proposal. According to Richard VB. Lincoln - *"the people of those portions of the two townships outside of the proposed independent district raised such a wild howl of indignation, that the judges of the Court quailed before it, and refused to confirm the report of the viewers"*. As a result those supporting the proposed independent school district were discouraged and abandoned their efforts.

The school directors of Hartley Township relinquished control of the school and turned it over to the directors of Lewis Township School Board in 1867. In the process they erected a new schoolhouse alongside Creek Road east of Laurel Park on land that was then owned by Samuel Weidensaul. Being situated adjacent to the western boundary of Richard VB. Lincoln's farm this school became known as the Lincoln School. It was around this time the vacant Bingaman School, on Creek Road between Laurel Park and Glen Iron, was also abandoned.

Minutes from the Hartley Township School Board reveal that the ownership of Brown's School was not transferred to Lewis Township School Board until August 1873. At that time Lewis Township paid Hartley Township \$40.00 for the school.

The public school at Brown's was in use from 1842 until 1885. During the summer of 1885 school directors of Lewis Township opted to construct a new red brick schoolhouse north of Millmont. The new school was closer to the village and eliminated the need for students from Millmont to walk the railroad tracks in order to get to school. The last teacher at Brown's was James Sanders. He was also the first teacher at the Millmont Red Brick School during autumn of the same year.

During its 44-year history many scholars, and teachers, made their way through the doors of Brown's School. According to Samuel F. Blyler (1860-1933), he was one of 110 pupils attending the school in 1876. That is a considerable number of students in a one-room school under the control of just one teacher.

Brown's School is where Bethel Mason (1822-1892) conducted a writing school that aroused an interest in penmanship

Subscription and Public Schools in "Old Hartley", which included Lewis & Hartley Townships and Hartleton Borough:

Bingaman's a.k.a. Factory (Hartley Township 1842-18**)
Bingaman's (Kaiser Run Rd Lewis Twp. prior to 1871)
Brick School (Swengel 1842-1889)
Brown's (subscription school prior to 1842)
Brown's (1842-1885)
Center Point (1896-1919)
Fees (1842-1919)
Glen Iron (1895-1930)
Halfpenny's a.k.a. Winfield Woolen Mill (1854-1884)
Hartleton (east subscription prior to 1842)
Hartleton (west subscription prior to 1842)
Hartleton (east public school 1842-1862)
Hartleton (west public school 1842-1862)
Hartleton (two story school 1862-1953)
Hartley Township High School (brick school 1884-19**)
Hironimus (original 1842-1898)
Hironimus (just west of the church 1898-1942)
Keister (subscription 1795-1842)
Laurel Run (subscription prior to 1842)
Laurel Run a.k.a. Slabtown (pubic school 1842-18**)
Laurelton (consolidated school 1884-1953)
Laurelton Elementary (1953-2011)
Lewis Township High School (1899-1953)
Lincoln (1867-1919)
Millmont Red Brick (1885-1953)
Oak Grove (subscription prior to 1842)
Oak Grove a.k.a. Rock Oak (1842-1871)
Orwig's Mill (subscription prior to 1842)
Orwig's Mill (public school 1842-1871)
Penns Creek (1887-1921)
Pike (Lewis Township 1871-burned 1931)
Pine Grove (1866-1918)
Reish's (1842-18**)
Rezner's (1842-18**)
Salem (1871-1951)
Spring Creek (1871-1930)
Swengel Red Brick (1889-1953)
Turnpike (Hartley Township 1842-1854)
Pike (Hartley Township 18**-1917)
White (at Dunkard Cemetery 1842-1893)
White? (Weikert Rd. & Trails End Rd. (1898-1918)
Editor's Note: This is an incomplete list of the names and dates of the subscription and public schoolhouses that operated in Hartley and Lewis townships and Hartleton Borough. Where asterisks are shown indicates the year is not known.

(Continued on page 4)

Coincidental Foxdale Village & West End Connections 2014

by Emilie F. Jansma



This photograph of Tyler Potterfield and Emilie F. Jansma standing alongside Penns Creek at Windy Inn was taken May 19, 2013. Sadly less than one year later (April 25, 2014) Tyler Potterfield passed away suddenly and unexpectedly at age 55.

The Free Dictionary describes coincidence as "A chance occurrence of remarkable events" while in the Thesaurus of the English Language, Collins uses the words "stroke of luck", "happy accident", and "fortuity". I think they all apply to what I am about to share with you.

The year beginning mid-2013 and ending mid-2014 was indeed a strange year for me in many ways. I did not realize just how strange until significant coincidences occurred one after another throughout the year. Searching my memory, I cannot recall even a year when I experienced two such events to say nothing of five happenings. Three of those five coincidences relate to our residence at Foxdale in State College and the West End of Union County. It was near Little Mountain in Union County where my husband Dean and I owned a cottage along Penns Creek. Those three coincidences will be shared in this article.

Whether it was because lately I have gained an interest in synchronicity and color and an openness to many new and different things or pure happenstance, I will never know. But, happen they did!

Knowing that I would quickly begin to forget the details if I did not make at least a sketchy outline,

I wrote the facts. Two of my favorite reader/editors, Beth Westgard and Bill Westgard, Sr., read the notes to be sure they contained enough details and could be understood later by someone who was not a direct participant at the time. They encouraged me to add some additional clarifying bits of information and share the stories with the people involved.

Several great authors have said this much better than I can put into words. Neil Gaiman in *Anansi Boys* said, "Stories are webs, interconnected strand to strand, and you follow each story to the center, because the center is the end. Each person is a strand of the story". Ursula K. Le Guin wrote, "There have been great societies that did not use the wheel, but there have been no societies that did not tell stories".

Subjects of these stories kindly read and corrected the early versions and gave me permission to use their names. While I owe thanks to many people for their help, the errors are my own. Sharing the serendipitous occasions with so many wonderful friends and acquaintances has given me great joy in an otherwise bleak year.

Foxdale Village, our home community, is the connector for us in all of the stories. Penns Creek in western Union County is also significant in several of the episodes. For me there has always been a magical atmosphere along the creek. To discover another such place, Foxdale, opens many new possibilities for opportunities of connectivity among friends/Friends.

Here, then, are three of those stories:

T. Tyler Potterfield, a fishing buddy, fellow historian, and city planner from Richmond, VA was part owner of the cottage, Windy Inn. Windy Inn is located along Penns Creek near Pardee, which is downstream from a cottage my husband Dean and I owned at Little Mountain. We named our cottage "Serenity". Graciously, Tyler had recently sent me a copy of his book entitled, *Nonesuch Place, a History of the Richmond Landscape*. Previously, I had sent Tyler a copy of my book, which was a collection of oral histories about cabins on Penns Creek that I transcribed from the original oral interviews conducted by Louise Goehring Scott. Louise had included a lengthy interview with Tyler and his recollections of earlier days at "Windy Inn".

Several residents of our community, Foxdale Village, with ties to Richmond had borrowed my copy of Tyler's book to read. I also mentioned his book to several of my relatives who had paternal ancestors buried in Richmond's historic Hollywood Cemetery. Maura, his wife, and Tyler's home is located near the Hollywood Cemetery on Cherry Street in Richmond.

Sadly, Tyler died most unexpectedly at age 55 in Late April 2014.

When our Foxdale friend, Lon, was preparing for a "Road Scholar" course in Richmond in June, I loaned him Potterfield's book, "Nonesuch Place" to take along on his trip for use during the course as a reference. Lon took the book and during the

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Recipe of the Month

By Janice (Dorman) Shively

Homemade Tomato Soup

1 pint canned tomatoes (undrained)
2 - 3 C. milk
1 - 2 T. butter
pepper to taste
1 tsp. baking soda

Combine tomatoes, milk, butter and seasonings in large kettle. Stir over med-high heat and bring almost to boiling point. Add baking soda. Turn off the heat and stir well.

Make sure your kettle is big enough because the baking soda will foam up when you add it. I usually add 2 cups of milk, but if you want the soup to stretch further, or have a lesser tomato taste, use 3 cups of milk.

This was a fairly common meal when I was a child. It

originated with my Great Grammy Elsie Sheesley. My grandfather, Earl VonNeida, always shared the yield from his gardens with many from Hartleton, and especially with family. My Mom, Linda Dorman of Hartleton, canned a lot of



tomatoes when she and my Dad, Henry Dorman, raised the family of five children. This tomato soup was a quick and inexpensive way to feed the family. Add a toasted cheese sandwich and you have a complete meal.

Mom and Dad still enjoy this soup, and I do too. It brings back fond, fond memories of my childhood.

ENJOY!

(Continued from page 2)

among the scholars. In addition the school was also noted for its debating society and their spelling bees, which afforded the neighborhood a rich and varied social life. Brown's School, like many of the schoolhouses in "Old Hartley", was also open and available for preaching.

As was stated earlier, the interest from one fourth of John Brown's estate was used to support summer school at Brown's School for a period of years. At the expiration of the twenty years mentioned in his will (1866) the principal of the bequest became due. School directors held a meeting to discuss how the principal from Brown's bequest was to be spent. The majority voted that the money should be used for church purposes. Sometime later (quite possibly years later) money from Brown's estate helped to fund the construction of a brick church at the corner of Third Street and Penn Street in the village of Millmont. Since Millmont was not founded and plots were not surveyed until 1874, it seems logical to assume that the principal from Brown's will was not expended toward the erection of the church until the mid 1870's. The deed from Jacob E. Royer to the Evangelical Church is dated June 3, 1876.

According to Richard VB. Lincoln, the church continued to serve the residents of Millmont and the surrounding area until the ownership became a matter of violent controversy between the Esherites (followers of Bishop John J. Esher) and the Dubites (followers of Bishop Rudolph Dubs).

While the quarrel between the bishops was on a larger national setting, that division became local and personal. The differences between the two rival factions ended up splitting the Millmont congregation. On Monday, January 30, 1899, flames mysteriously destroyed the church, which according to a newspaper article belonged to the Esherites. Also lost during the blaze was the neighboring home of Mrs. Katie Hironimus. Sadly, John Brown's generosity and benevolence was reduced to rubble and was not rebuilt.

Public education has changed considerably since the days of the one-room schools. Today the Mifflinburg School District is comprised of eight townships and boroughs, including all of "Old Hartley", and encompassing roughly 217 square miles of Union County. Approximately 2,000 students, from all ages, are confined to four district school buildings. Those buildings include the elementary, intermediate, middle and high school.

The only one-room schools in the West End of the county are the private schools operated by the Old Order Mennonites on Kaiser Run Road, Cold Run Road and Pollock Road. There is also a private school operated by Calvary Chapel alongside Orchard Road, Millmont as well as a school at the Hartleton Mennonite Church along Laurel Road.

My thanks to Robert and Dianne Lynch of Mifflinburg for providing me with much of the historical information used in this article.

Other Sources: Union County Heritage 1994, published by the Union County Historical Society; Minutes of the Hartley Township School Board 1842-1856; Old Hartley Teachers Association minutes from 1860-1863; Union County Sesquicentennial - The Story of a County 1813-1963; the History Of The Schools Of Union County Pennsylvania by Mary Belle Lontz 1984 and the office of Union County Register and Recorder.

1844 Hartley Township School Facts

There were twelve schools in the district. All of the teachers in those schools were male. The total number of students was 480 (273 male and 207 female). The average number of students attending each school was 40. The total cost of teaching each scholar was .45 cents per month. The average number of students learning German was 40. Receipts from the state of Pennsylvania for the year was \$399.00. The amount collected from taxes and other sources was \$392.00 Expenditures for the year were \$672.00 for instruction and \$62.48 for fuel. School term began in December and was three months duration.

TLS

(Continued from page 3)

week happened to ask Ed. S., the course leader and architecture critic for the city's weekly alternative newspaper, if he ever heard of Tyler's book. Ed replied that not only did he know of Tyler's book, but that he had served as "best man" at Maura and Tyler's wedding. Really small world.

Dora and Stu moved to Foxdale Village to an apartment next door to ours about two years ago. Although, Dora and I had met briefly many years ago when I was a substitute in one of her bridge clubs, I remembered her but she did not remember me.

One day, early in their residence in our community, Stu and Dora were walking into the apartment building as my husband, Dean, and I were walking out. We were loaded down with gear and supplies for a long weekend at our camp, Serenity. Stu asked if we were going on vacation. We explained that we were headed off to our camp in Union County.

When Stu asked, "Where in Union County the camp was located?", I gave a brief geographic description that I normally provide that usually suffices for those not familiar with the area. Most people say, "Oh, yes" and that usually ends the conversation. But, Stu continued to ask more questions and more specific directions to our locale. In short, it turned out that Stu knew our camp's exact location in Hartley Township. For many years he has belonged to a camp just a few miles away and has frequently fished along the stretch of Penns Creek that flows past our door.

Soon after, Dora and I discovered that we were not just Foxdale and Penns Creek neighbors, but we had both grown up in Easton, PA. My mother's family homestead was just a few city blocks from Dora's parents' home near the Northampton County Courthouse. We both had to have Leone's rolls for our steak sandwiches and Jimmy's Hotdogs!

After we continued to spend neighborly time together, I had an increasingly strange feeling that I recognized Dora's maiden name and family members' names from some source other than our brief acquaintance during that bridge club so many years ago.

As Dora, Stu and I sat out conversing on our balcony one afternoon, I asked Dora if she had ever worked at Alpha Portland Cement Company in Easton, the same place I worked during summer school vacations. Although she replied, "No" she went on to tell me that her sister, Olga, worked nearby on South Third Street at the Sears and Roebuck Company. The connection very quickly became clear. Dora's sister, Olga, worked side by side with my father, Edward Freer, for more than 25 years at Sears.

As Foxdale, Penns Creek and Easton neighbors we share memories that started more than sixty years ago with the "Sears Family".

On a rainy spring afternoon in March 2013, Bella, our friend Lillian's Cavalier King Charles Spaniel and I were out for a walk around Foxdale, our senior residential community in State College. Bella and I stopped at the apartment of our friends, Myra Belle and Jeanne, to deliver a newspaper photograph and article about Jeanne.



On the opening day of trout season in April 1995 (at Serenity along Penns Creek at Little Mountain) Emilie Jansma took this photograph of Joe Humphreys and Betsy Ametti, seated. Standing left to right: Tom Miller, Russ Bowersox and Dean Jansma.

At our knock, their apartment door was opened by a nice looking white haired, white bearded man who invited us to come in. We went in only as far as the front entrance hallway, as Bella and I were both wet from having been out on our walk. The man exclaimed about getting the chance to see the beautiful ruby colored dog he had heard so much about from Myra Belle and Jeanne.

We introduced ourselves and then Bella and I left. The man we had just met was Myra Belle's nephew, Tom Miller, from south central Pennsylvania. For several days I was preoccupied by this meeting. While there are many Tom Millers in this part of Pennsylvania, this man with the short white beard and white hair seemed curiously familiar to me. However, I could not recall any connection.

Shortly thereafter I received a very sad email notifying me that Gloria, a friend of more than forty years, had died following a yearlong battle with a terminal illness. Another name listed in the address line of the e-mail was that of a Tom Miller. Knowing that Myra Belle's nephew, Tom Miller, was an avid fly fisherman, as were so many of Gloria's friends and acquaintances, I boldly took the chance to email him to inquire if he was the Tom Miller we had met

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so recently at Foxdale. Indeed. He answered that he was that Tom Miller.

Things started to click in my mind and I went quickly to one of our old camp scrapbooks. There, after a brief search, I found a photograph of Tom Miller - no beard - and only a few white hairs. The photograph, taken nineteen years ago on the "Opening Day" of trout season, shows Tom Miller, Dean and me, and our friend and fly fishing legend, Joe Humphreys, gathered on the front lawn of our camp, "Serenity".

Nineteen years later, while at the reception following Gloria's service we renewed our acquaintanceship and marveled at how our life circle's intertwined.

Editor's Note: My thanks to Emilie F. Jansma for sharing Coincidental Foxdale Village & West End Connections 2014 . Emilie and her husband, Dean, are residents of the Foxdale Retirement Village in State College. Although they live in Centre County, the Jansma's have many friends in the West End and Tight End of Union County. Emilie's first visit to the Tight End occurred in 1973. She fell in love with that section of the county as well as its residents. In 1979 and 1980 she resided in an isolated cabin west of Cherry Run, which is as far west as you can go and still be a resident of Union County. In 1986 she purchased a cabin alongside Penns Creek near Little Mountain that she named "Serenity". She owned this cottage until 2013.

Emilie was the inspiration for the highly successful Weikert Heritage Day that was held May 15, 2004. She was also responsible for organizing the interesting and informative West End Heritage Bus Tour on June 26, 2006. Over the years she has been tireless in her efforts to preserve the history of the West End and Tight End of the county. Some of her projects included her self-published *The Community of Weikert, PA: Homes and Homesteads – Cabins and Camps*. In addition she also transcribed Louise (Goehring) Scott's oral interviews into book and CD format. Emilie wrote a two-part series of articles for *The Millmont Times*. That series was entitled *Railroad Dream, A Dream of a Ride on the L & T*.

Remembrance

Eunice M. Swain, 70, of Orchard Road, Swengel for the past 50 years, entered into rest at 10 p.m. Wednesday, August 6, 2014, at RiverWoods, Lewisburg, surrounded by her family.

She was born September 1, 1943, in Millmont, a daughter of Vada (Dorman) Erdley, of Mifflinburg, and the late Miles Erdley. In 1964, she married Richard H. Swain who survives.

Eunice was a 1961 graduate of Mifflinburg High School. She was employed at Spectro Knit, Mifflinburg, for 22 years.

Eunice enjoyed living a simple life. She took great pride in her home and her house was immaculate. She enjoyed many activities. She was an avid reader and enjoyed puzzle books. She created many crafts for the decoration of their home or to give as gifts. She was a wonderful cook and enjoyed planting flowers and decorating for the holidays.

In addition to her mother and her husband of 50 years, she is survived by two daughters and one son-in-law, Denise R. Chappell, of Northumberland, and Annette S. and Alan Drick, of New Berlin; two grandchildren, Seth A. Drick, of Lewisburg, and Whitney M. Chappell, of Taylor; four sisters and brothers-in-law, Mary Lou and Richard Dorman, of Millmont, Ruth and Charles Reber, of Mifflinburg, Verna and Robert Weller, of Mifflinburg, and Laurie and Douglas Reich, of Beavertown; and one brother-in-law, Donald Dorman, of Millmont.

She was preceded in death by one sister, Faith Ann Dorman.

Looking Back

John Brown's Will

In the name of God Amen.

I John Brown of Hartley Township Union County Pennsylvania, do make and publish this my last will and testament. And first I direct that my body be decently interred in the burying ground of the Laurelton Evangelical Lutheran Church in said township. And as to such worldly estate as it hath pleased God to entrust me with, I dispose of the same as follows; First I direct that all my debts and funeral expenses be paid as soon after my decease as possible out of the first moneys that shall come into the hands of my executors, from any portion of my estate, real or personal; Also I direct that a fair evaluation or appraisal be made by three indigent neighbors of all my said estate including my household furniture, and after being signed with their names, that a copy of the same shall be given by them to each of my executors.

And to effectuate this my intention, I do hereby vest in my executors full power and authority in as full and large manner in every respect as I could myself do, if living. Also I direct that the whole of my personal property shall be and remain the absolute property of my beloved wife Catherine shall be sold by public auction for good currency money by my hereafter mentioned executors to be divided or applied as follows. Viz. The one fourth of my estate to be divided in equal shares between William Wise or his legal heirs, Jacob Wise or his legal heirs, John Wises' legal heirs, Elizabeth Erley's legal heirs and Barbara Shively's legal heirs (They being my wife's legal heirs (kin) share & share alike.

The one fourth of my estate shall be put to interest which shall annually be paid to my sister Elizabeth Gillhouse. Should she the said Elizabeth live longer than her husband. Then in that case she, at her husband's death shall receive the principal with interest. But should she the said Elizabeth die before her husband then at her death it shall be paid to her legal heirs. The one fourth of my estate shall be applied to support of the Laurel Run Church & Hartleton Union Church, to be divided among said churches as follows, three fifths to the said Laurel Run Church two fifths to the said Hartleton Union Church. The one fourth of my estate shall be applied to the use of the school house on the east line of my farm (commonly called Brown's

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Blessings from the Bible

By Brenda Weaver

*“The earth is the Lord’s and the fullness thereof,
the world and those who dwell therein”*

Psalm 23:1 ESV

The change of season always sets me in a pensive mood—especially the wane of summer into autumn. Remembering my years as a student, I still tend to think of this time of year as a mile marker, a challenging adventure, a new beginning. Then there were the twenty plus years of raising students; I remember the rush to get clothing and school supplies ready, then the sudden hush that descended on the house when the children left for the first day of a new school year. More recently, I remember this season as one of illness and encroaching death for close family members. Little wonder I turn a little melancholy when I see other things turning.

The corn begins to turn brown; the tomatoes red; and the pumpkins blush orange. The garden turns to looking spent or neglected as harvest takes priority. Bright mornings turn to the mystical fogginess of Indian summer. And of course the leaves turn into their autumn colors.

Serious, quiet reflection is a positive addition to the season, provided we don’t miss the beauty surrounding us when we are lost in thought. For the beauty of autumn is a balm to the senses and a source of rich joy!

In recent years our central PA autumns have lacked some of the usual luster. Experts gave this or that reason for the colorful leaves not being at their height of glory. I find myself wondering what glories this autumn will hold after an A+ summer and plenty of moisture. Will a comfortable, gorgeous autumn bless us as well? Thankfully, while I am canning pickles and pizza sauce, and freezing the last vegetables from my small garden, I do not need to worry about dressing the world around me for this lovely season of the year. God takes care of those details; I shall leave the palette to Him.

* * * * *

*“But understand this, that in the last days there will come times of difficulty...
Indeed, all who desire to live a godly life in Christ Jesus will be persecuted,
while evil people and impostors will go on from bad to worse,
deceiving and being deceived.”*

2 Timothy 3:1, 12

The urgent prayer request came to me mid-morning. It arrested my attention and bolted into my heart with a jolt. *Oh how terrible! Of course I will pray!*

Although they are unknown to me, the people requesting prayer are my brothers and sisters in Christ. They live in a country where Christians are now being severely persecuted for their faith. The request said they were facing beheading. I can only imagine their distress. No, I can’t even imagine what it must be like to be running, hiding, hunted, and killed mercifully.

I prayed earnestly. I prayed several times through the day. I implored God to give them strength and courage or a way of escape. But I have to admit I also prayed questions. *Why am I so blessed? Why do we have so many freedoms? Why do some Christians suffer so intensely? What would I do if our circumstances were reversed?*

Persecution comes in many forms. It can be brutal and barbaric. It can be senseless and persistent. Or it can be subtle and insidious.

As night falls and I feel safe and well-blessed in my home, I think of my dear persecuted fellow-believers in Jesus. My heart aches for them. I pray they feel God’s arms of love and strength around them, even as they face horrible treatment. I think also of my Anabaptist forefathers, hunted and persecuted around the time of the reformation. Many of them died a martyr’s death, burned at the stake, or drowned, used as torches, or drug through the streets until they died in a crumpled heap of torn flesh. *Oh God! How can You allow these things to happen to Your own dear children?* my flesh cries. Yet deep in my heart I know scripture speaks reverently of martyrs, and shores up the soul to face persecution. The earliest believers in Jesus also suffered intensely. Many of them were beaten and killed. Yet the church grew. The gospel advanced.

Even now we see how persecution brings sincerity among believers and causes the church to grow and spread. People are still attracted to that which is worth dying for!

A clear call comes to believers everywhere. Steel away and pray. Search the scriptures. Commit them to heart and memorization. Know that God is good even when He allows bad things to happen. He uses even persecution to bring more souls to salvation.

Tonight I will lay my head on a pillow. My fellow believer may lay her head on a cold stone.

I think of the subtle, yet clearly advancing, loss of Christian freedoms in my own country. She thinks of the life she may soon lose, and the One who carried his own cross, so that others may be comforted in bearing theirs.

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Prayer for Today:

Oh God, I am so very blessed, while my brothers and sisters are in great distress. Oh God, I do not always understand Your ways, yet I believe You can use even this horrible persecution to accomplish Your purposes among believers. Oh Lord, ever give us of Your strength! And comfort those who mourn, and run, and die tonight because they have chosen to believe in Jesus. Dear Jesus, thank You for carrying Your cross, so that we might better bear our own.

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:

- Fri. Sept. 2, 1938. West End (school) boards met at Laurelton & decided to build.
- Sat. Sept. 3, 1938. Worked in the garage. Got some specimens ready for the West End Fair.
- Sun. Sept. 4, 1938. Taught my class, Mervyn (Mensch) spoke.
- Tues. Sept. 6, 1938. District Board met. Only three present. Decided to unite with Hartleton High School. Decided to meet again on Friday to confirm resolution.
- Fri. Sept. 9, 1938. Met with Hartleton relative to uniting with Mifflinburg. The official church board met at our home.
- Sat. Sept. 10, 1938. Busy in garage. Printing and working about the place the rest of the day.
- Sun. Sept 11, 1938 Taught my class and preached from Jeremiah 26:13, mend your ways etc.
- Tues. Sept. 13, 1938 Met with members of Hartleton board, only three of our board members present. Mr. Burd is not in favor of building elementary school. Architect present.
- Wed. Sept. 14, 1938. I called on Prof Boyer in regard to school. Boyer was not home so could do nothing.
- Thur. Sept 15, 1938. Met at Prof Boyer's relative to school project. Chas. Ruhl, R.C. Miller, Newton Sanders, Eberhart, Stout and Prof.
- Fri. Sept. 23, 1938. Attended a meeting of Hartley & Lewis Township School Boards. Passed a resolution for the association with Hartleton Boro. Their organized joint district officers, President Printzenhoff, Vice President Paul Mitchell and Burd Treasurer.
- Mon. Sept 26, 2938. This morning at 6:00 Mr. & Mrs. Daubert, Frank Printzenhoff and I went to Harrisburg about the Elementary School. Prof. Boyer visited State Dept. Arrived home at 4:00.



The photograph above was provided to me by Jane (Ely) Foster of Camp Hill. The photograph is one from her collection that she would like to put a name to the face. If anyone knows the name of this Civil War soldier please contact me at the address on page ten of this issue.

Thank You!

I would like to thank all those who renewed their subscriptions through April 2015, and for the kind words about the newsletter that were shared with their renewal notices. I would also like to thank Sharon Denisen of Millmont for donating a number of Mifflinburg Telegraph newspapers from the 1980's.

In Search of Information and Photographs

Members of Christ United Lutheran Church are looking for historical information and old photographs relative to their food stand on the grounds of the West End Fair Association. Anyone with information about when the building was erected and who was responsible for constructing it, as well as early photographs of the building are being sought. If you have information or photographs you wish to share please contact Beverly Catherman at 570.922.1640.

The small photograph in the upper left corner of page one shows a view of Oscar and Annie (Coleman) Bowersox riding in their Stanley Steamer automobile. The photograph was taken in front of the 18 Penn Street Millmont home. The Bowersox's were the first residents to install the telephone, and they were also among the first residents to purchase an automobile.

Penlines From my Kitchen to Yours

by Lucy Hoover

July 19, 2014

Daniel and Esther Nolt of Lewisburg have a daughter named Sara Lynn. She has four brothers and three sisters. Grandparents are Floyd and Jane Nolt and Reuben and Ella Reiff.

July 20

Amos and Carolyn Zimmerman of New York were at church today.

July 22

Menno and Elaine Zimmerman of Hartleton have their sixth daughter. Her name is Marilyn. They also have seven sons. Grandparents are Esra and Lydia Ann Zimmerman and Phares and Anna Horn-
ing.

Daniel and Naomi Martin of Middleburg had a fire in the kitchen during the night. It was started by the electric wiring at the gas stove. Daniel extinguished the fire himself. But the kitchen walls are dam-
aged.

July 27

Floyd and Esther Weaver of Lewisburg had the wedding reception for their son Floyd Ray and Pauline.

August 1

Lewis and Verna Hoover of Lewisburg were almost home, traveling north on Dreisbach Church Road with their horse and cart, when the shafts of the cart broke off, throwing them both on the road. The horse ran home and went into its stall with the shafts attached. Lewis has road burns and Verna is bruised and sore.

August 2

Phares and Ada Zimmerman of Mill-
mont recently moved in the house at the end of their lane. Today they have public auction to sell their extra things.

We took Marie to the ER tonight. She has a tick bite, which resulted in Lyme Disease and Bells Palsy.

Melanie (2) daughter of Eugene and Christine Martin is wearing a body cast. She broke her leg while on the trampoline.

(Continued from page 6)
schoolhouse).

Viz. The same one fourth of my said estate shall remain in lien on my estate for the term of twenty years, during which time the interest of the same shall be paid to the trustees thereof, to be applied by said trustees, in a Christian like manner, at the expiration of said twenty years it shall be left to vote of the present district paid to the trustees who shall apply the same to school or church purposes, wherever the majority of this school district shall choose.

I do further bequeath to the use of the Sabbath school that may be con-
tinued at said school house, two dollars & fifty cents annually to be paid to the treasurer of said school for twenty years from my death for the pur-
pose of purchasing good books. Also I do as an extra bequeath to Sarah Hower fifty dollars, over and above her share as an heir of Barbara Shively.

And to Sarah Hisce (daughter of Martin Hisce) fifty dollars.

And to Elizabeth Pontius (daughter of Peter Pontius) fifty dollars.

And to John Knarr, fifty dollars.

And to Loah Kester, fifty dollars. Provided the said Loah shall faithfully serve my wife until she be eighty years of age. Should my wife die before said time then the said Loah be paid a portion of her time that she shall have served.

And it is also my will that there shall at the death of my wife be four pair of headstones, ie one pair for my father, one pair for my mother, one pair for my wife & one pair for myself in a plain order. And I do hereby make and ordain my esteemed neighbors Jacob Braucher & Samuel W. Wilt executors of this my last will and testament.

In witness whereof I John Brown the testator has to this my will written on one sheet of paper, set my hand and seal this first day of September in the year of our Lord, one thousand eight hundred and forty six.

John Brown (seal)

Witness George Braucher

John Rule

Editor's Note: The following codicil was added to John Brown's will on December 24, 1846:

Codicil to my last will and testament made and signed and sealed on or about the second day of September in the present year (1846).

Whereas I have omitted & forgotten to enjoin require, authorize, and demand my thence mentioned executors shortly after my death to for rea-
sons best known to myself, to enter satisfaction which shall be a full dis-
charge to Elias Gillhouse his heirs and assigns in and about a certain judg-
ment or claim for about sixteen hundred dollars in the Court of Common
Pleas of Union County be the same removed to any other court of the
United States notwithstanding.

Also I do hereby authorize my aforesaid executors at the death of my wife Catherine to sell, convey, transfer, release assign and make title for all my real property or estate to such person as shall pay the highest and best price for the same, or as the law shall direct.

Also for reasons best known to myself. I do hereby will to Sarah Hower of Hartleton, fifty dollars and not to her husband. She having been re-
membered in my last above notwithstanding. In witness whereof I have
hereunto set my hand and seal this twenty fourth day of December in the
year of our LORD, one thousand eight hundred and forty six.

John Brown (seal)

Witness present

John Rule

Jacob Moore

The Millmont Times is distributed during the first week of each month. The newsletter is 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

September Birthdays & Anniversaries

1 – Kathryn Steimling	11 – Kafy Long	23 – Theron W. Conrad
2 – Pat Libby	11 – Mary Bingaman	23 – Donald Kahler
2 – Carl “Bup” & Jeanne Sampsell – 1950	12 – Henry Aurand	23 – Tiffany Radel
3 – Dale and JoAnn Dorman - 1976	13 – Mallory Kerstetter Sampsell	23 – Bernie Schmader
3 – Bridget Catherman	15 – Emily Oberholtzer	24 – Kenneth Groff
3 – Martha Hoover	16 – Doug & Lisa Bowersox - 2004	25 – Eleanor Hackenberg
4 – Fred and Rachel Keister - 1976	16 – Shayna Fultz	25 – Richard Rothermel
4 – Mary Jane Brungart	16 – Bryce W. Koonsman	25 – Betty Stamm
4 – Joe & Kimmy Smith - 1993	17 – Mervin & Pat Kline - 1965	26 – Maryann Losik
4 – Matthew Brubaker	18 – Morgan Richard	26 – Joanna Vanatta
4 – Rosalie Badger	18 – Earl Frantz	27 – Karl Hassinger
5 – Brad & Angie Walter - 1988	20 – Doris Walter	27 – Leroy S. Zimmerman
5 – Darlene Hackenberg	21 – Harry & Terry Mensch – 1974	27 – Truman Motter
5 – Marjorie Bowersox	22 – Cam Hironimus	28 – Eugene Hackenberg
5 – William & Connie Bastian – 1957	22 – Nancy Katherman	28 – Lulu Hoffman
6 – Ruthann Cooper	22 – Tiffany Fultz	29 – Ryan Osborne
6 – Sue Hassenplug	22 – Kyle Fultz	29 – James Camp
8 – Ronald Koonsman, Jr.	22 – Julie Klingman	30 – Brenda Ilgen
8 – Orvie Zimmerman	23 – Wayne M. Hess	30 – Seth Weller
8 – John & Betty Stamm - 1951	23 – Steve Libby	30 – Christian Brubaker
10 – Marvin Englehart		

The Millmont Times
P. O. Box 3
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