



Greene Shively at work in his broom factory. Photograph courtesy of Donald L. Shively, Millmont.

# Shively's Broom Factory

Elected minister in 1894, Elder Greene Shively (1870-1954) spent nearly six decades of his life ministering to his flock at the Buffalo Valley Church of the Brethren. While this was his life's calling he received no salary for his ministerial services to his congregation. Except for an occasional monetary gift for performing a wedding, or presiding at a funeral, or for his evangelistic work outside of the Brethren Church, Shively needed to find a way to support his family financially. While he followed in his father's footsteps on the family farm, the income derived from that way of life was insufficient. To augment his income Shively began making and selling brooms, which developed into a fulltime business.

Greene Shively first began making brooms around the turn of the 20<sup>th</sup> century at his farm near the village of White Springs. The business

began as a result of Shively's inability to find anyone locally who could turn his small crop of broomcorn into a usable product. As a result he decided to learn the trade and subsequently produced brooms for his own use, as well as making them for others. Shively learned the trade from a gentleman by the name of Haire.

Formerly a resident of Snyder County, Haire relocated to the Whites Springs area around 1900. Knowing that Haire had previously been involved in the manufacture of brooms, Shively went to visit him. He informed Shively that he had quit the broom making business, while at the same time expressing his willingness to sell him all of his equipment and his stock of broom handles. Although he knew nothing about the broom making process, Shively purchased Haire's broom making outfit, and his supplies for \$5.

After disassembling several brooms in order to see how they were put together, Shively went to work fabricating brooms. In the beginning the brooms he made were primarily for personal use. As word spread throughout the neighborhood, that

*(Continued on page 2)*

# The Millmont Times

MARCH 2011

## Hartleton Mailbox by Postmaster Gail Hanselman

For a short time we thought spring was here...but not so. It's still winter. ☺

March 6-12 is National Consumer Protection Week - The office of Consumer Affairs and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service work to educate consumers about identity theft and fraudulent schemes and provide them with the information needed to combat these illegal activities.

Examples of fraudulent schemes: The Mystery Shopper Scam - A letter invites you to become a paid mystery shopper in your area and the letterhead and check appear to come from a legitimate U.S. company. However, the listed phone numbers originate in Canada.

Reshipping Scams - You're asked to receive packages at your home or business and mail them to someone else...don't do it!!!

Work-at-Home Scams - Criminals post phony job announcements and/or respond to resume postings on Internet career sites offering positions such as merchandising manager or package processing assistant: A criminal has purchased merchandise with stolen credit cards and needs your help to smuggle the goods out of the country. The company is fake.

Caution - these fraudulent re-shippers also lurk on dating websites known as Sweetheart Scams.

Scammers buy merchandise on Internet auctions or classified advertisement sites using

*(Continued on page 2)*

(Continued from page 1)



Photograph of the Shively Broom Factory when it was located in White Springs. A 1908 calendar pad was attached to the photograph and most likely handed out to his customers. Note the sign on the building states "Shively's Broom Farm".

Photograph courtesy of Donald L. Shively, Millmont.

Shively was making brooms, folks began bringing their crop of broomcorn to him in order to have their supply made into brooms.

In order to increase the availability of broomcorn Shively started passing out packets of seed at public auctions. This was an effort to get farmers to cultivate more of the raw material used in the manufacturing process. Following the harvest Shively spent that winter turning out over a thousand brooms.

Shively charged about 20 cents each for manufacturing brooms from the corn furnished by the customer. The production and sales of brooms augmented the little income he earned from operating the family farm. Sales of his brooms were adequate enough that he employed the services of Augustus Pick, who helped him in the broom manufacturing process. When his sons, Jacob G. Shively (1901-1970) and Edmund D. B. Shively (1904-1966) were old enough to assist their father they also helped in the family business. Greene wound the brooms while his sons sewed them by hand. For their efforts, Pick and the two young Shively boys each earned 2 cents per broom.

In addition to local farmers bringing their broomcorn to him for processing Shively also began cultivating a large crop of broomcorn each year. By

1910 he had nearly six acres of his farmland planted with broomcorn.

In March 1917 Shively purchased the James Oberlin farm, not far from White Springs. He, his family, and the broom business moved to their new location. However, their stay on the Oberlin farm was short lived. They decided to quit farming altogether and concentrate their energy on the manufacture and sale of brooms. The following year (spring of 1918) they moved to the village of Millmont.

Shively's move to Millmont was quite likely the result of his friendship with Emmaus A. H. Royer. Years earlier Emmaus and his wife, Henrietta (Mohler) Royer, owned the building near the corner of Millmont Road and Maple Street where the broom factory would be located. This building was built by Royer to house his large general store, the first such establishment to open in the village of Millmont. The west portion of this building was used as a single-family residence.

In 1918 when Shively purchased the property Newton Shirk and his family were tenants in that section of the

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 1)

counterfeit checks or stolen credit accounts to pay. Then they send a counterfeit postage-paid label for shipping or it was bought with a stolen credit card.

**Reshipping Fraud Prevention:** Don't respond to suspicious mail; Don't accept packages at your address for people you don't know; Be wary of anyone asking to send you a mailing label purchased online; Stop all communication with operators that try to solicit your help in reshipping items; if you already have merchandise from such an offer, don't mail it; Keep all correspondence (e-mails, faxes, etc.) related to these scams; Contact Postal Inspectors at 877-876-2455.

**Fraud on the Internet** - Be suspicious of email that appears to be from banks or online auction sites; Never use a link in an email to visit a website; only purchase goods and services from sites you visited on your own; Examine all on line offers before buying anything. When you are on line, be on guard. Don't respond to suspicious email; Never provide your personal information (social security number, credit card account, etc.) unless you initiated the communications.

New Forever stamps coming in March...Latin Music Legends - on sale March 16<sup>th</sup>, available in 5 designs on a pane of 20; Neon Celebrate - on sale March 25<sup>th</sup>, available in a pane of 20; Jazz - on sale March 26<sup>th</sup>, available in a pane of 20.



# BIRD TALK

by Jim McCormick

As I've said many times before, the best thing about February is that it is the shortest month of the year and this year nothing about February has changed my mind! It has been a long, long winter this year and I am longing for the coming of spring. There are signs everywhere, of course, that spring is near, but it just can't come soon enough. There was a brief respite when we had an almost spring-like day or two, when the Creek melted and the snow disappeared, but that illusion was crushed with a six-inch snowfall and a return of arctic air. But, enough of the whining.....!

The birds have to live twenty-four hours a day in the elements and they take it all in stride. They just know it is time to get on with their business of breeding. Last month I said I hadn't seen any House Finches in Millmont all winter, so, of course, the next time I stepped out the door I heard a couple of them singing on the wires in my alley. I find the enthusiastic, happy song of the House Finch so infectious each year. Everywhere you look the birds are actively moving about. Some may just be desperately looking for some scrap of food to get through the day, but there are signs that the breeding season is beginning. When birds start to sing, the "cycle of the seasons" is announced: "It is time to move on to the next season! Get ready!" It all has to do with the increasing daylight and that is a positive sign for sure.

Early in the month we had a snowfall, followed by a rainstorm, followed by a deep freeze; all of which left an ice-encased winter landscape, somewhat beautiful to the eye, perhaps, but a disaster for the poor birds. I watched as they struggled to find anything that might have fallen on the surface of the ice. There was no way they were going to penetrate that barrier. I tried to walk across a frozen field but it was quite a challenge; I was too heavy to walk on the ice and it was real work to push through the ice. I only saw a few deer tracks, so they must have had trouble too. I watched as a small group of Wild Turkeys slipped across the field; they hardly left a mark on the ice. I reached a thicket on the edge of the field and watched as a male Cardinal and a White-throated Sparrow were fighting over some small patch of something on the ground. The smaller Sparrow didn't have a chance against its larger foe, but it put up a good fight. When I approached, crashing through the ice-crusting snow, they both flew away only to be replaced by another White-throated Sparrow who didn't seem to be as bothered by my presence. Its beauty is the subject of this month's photo. Enjoy!



Photograph of a White-throated Sparrow courtesy of Jim McCormick.

## 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)

(Continued from page 2)



Photograph of Sam Crabb loading his horse drawn wagon with Shively's Brooms. The Millmont Railroad Station is in the background.

Photograph courtesy of Mary Louise (Shively) Jones.

building. The large storeroom section of the building was vacant, as Henry R. Ream had discontinued his general store business about one year earlier. While waiting for the Shirk family to make other accommodations Shively moved his family into one half of the double home located at 119 Maple Street. His broom manufacturing business was set up in the vacant storeroom. The building in Millmont was considerably larger than the previous shops that housed Shively's Broom Factory.

Farmers from throughout the area were soon bringing their broomcorn to Shively to have it manufactured into brooms. Although they now had ample space to operate the business one of the drawbacks to moving from the farm to the village of Millmont meant that Shively was no longer able to cultivate his own crop of broomcorn. As a result he had to buy locally grown broomcorn from farmers, or purchase bales from large distributors.

Some of the large distributors who supplied broomcorn to Shively's operation included Danzinger's Broom Corn Company in Pittsburgh; M. J. Goellers & Sons of Circleville, Ohio; Tarbox Broomcorn Co. of Matton, Illinois; C. Day Broom Co. of Millersburg, Pa; and New York Broom Supply Company, located in New York City. One of Shively's largest suppliers of broomcorn, handles, twine and other products used in the manufacturing process was George Harryman & Bro. They had offices and warehouses in Baltimore, Maryland; Liberal, Kansas; and Matton, Illinois.

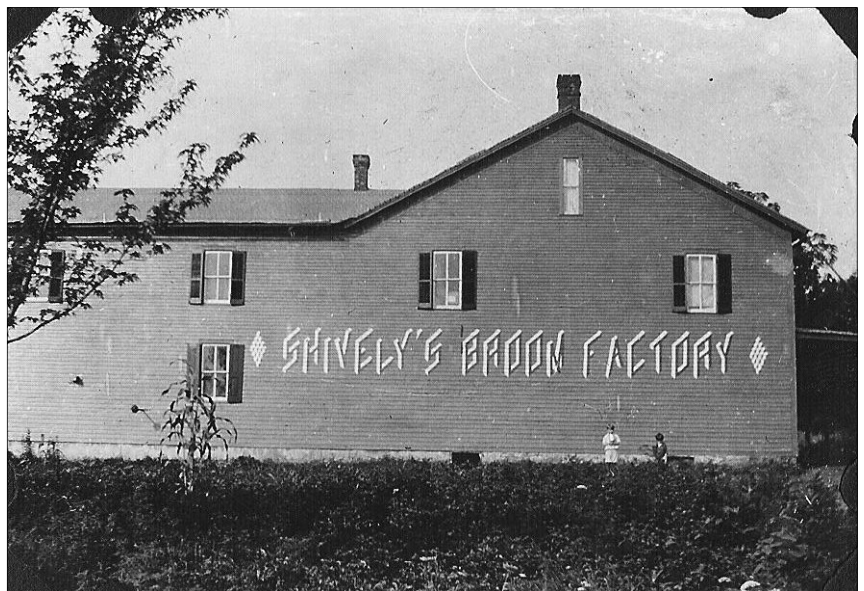
Bales of broomcorn, weighing anywhere from 250 to 350 pounds each, were shipped via railroad and arrived at the Millmont Railroad Station,

directly across the street from Shively's Broom Factory. The price of broomcorn varied depending on the quality. Invoices from 1919 show that Harryman's were selling their best Illinois hurl broomcorn to Shively for 13 cents per pound.

Within a year of moving their operation to the village of Millmont they purchased a Baltimore sewing machine at a cost of \$850. While this was a considerable outlay, this new piece of equipment dramatically increased productivity. Brooms that were once sewed together by hand could now be sewed on a machine. Jacob Shively recorded that both he and his younger brother were capable of sewing 60 (4 seam) brooms per hour with their Baltimore sewing machine. The year 1919 also proved to be the zenith of Shively's Broom Factory as production and sales during that year exceeded 12,000 brooms.

Brooms manufactured by Shively's were wholesaled to stores and retailed to the general public throughout Union County as well as into neighboring counties. During the 1920's the wholesale price for brooms was between \$4.80 and \$7.20 per dozen, depending on the type of broom. By 1924 "Shively's Best" No. 8 heavy weight six string house brooms were selling for .60 each. In addition to the larger brooms used for everyday sweeping, Shively's Broom Factory also produced whiskbrooms as well as miniature brooms for young children to use.

According to Jacob Shively, Sam Crabb was their best broom salesman. Crabb could load up his horse-drawn wagon with six-dozen Shively brooms and peddle them throughout the area. He often arrived back



Shively's Broom Factory building that was located on Maple Street in Millmont. This building was razed in the mid 1970's.

Photograph courtesy of Mary Louise (Shively) Jones.

(Continued on page 5)

*(Continued from page 4)*

the same day having sold his entire stock. In addition to manufacturing the brooms Jacob Shively also was a traveling broom salesman. He loaded as many as 12 dozen brooms into his 490 Chevy and then headed north to Clinton County, south to Perry County, or west to Centre and Mifflin Counties peddling their brooms. He paid his father the wholesale price for the brooms while retailing them to stores or individuals for an additional 20 cents each. He later wrote that the money he received from the sale of the brooms rarely covered his automobile expenses. As he put it, he was usually "in the hole" at the end of each trip.

Broom factory invoices from the 1920's indicate that Shively brooms were being sold at local stores and businesses such as A. R. Sholter General Merchandise, Weikert, Pa; Josiah Partridge & Sons Company, Lewisburg, Pa; and Buffalo Valley Stock Farm of Lewisburg, Pa, J. L. Reitz proprietor. Distant retail outlets for Shively's brooms included A. B. Kauffman, Swineford, Pa (near Middleburg); Charles C. Brungard General Merchandise, Loganton, Pa (Clinton County); Hosterman & Stover Hardware, Millheim, PA (Centre County); W. H. Holman & Sons of Shamokin, Pa; F. C. Henry General Store, Lewistown, Pa (Mifflin County); and J. Emery Fleisher, Newport, Pa (Perry County). A copy of an invoice from the Masontown 5 and 10 Cent Store (Fayette County) was the most distant location of any that I was able to locate.

In conjunction with his broom manufacturing business, Greene Shively applied for a patent for what he referred to as an "article holder" in 1920. An earlier attempt (1909) to obtain a patent for the article holder had been rejected. After making minor changes to the design, and renaming the device, Shively resubmitted his proposal to the U. S. Patent Office in Washington. On June 29, 1920 he was awarded patent # 1,344,728 for a unique device of his own design known as the "Perfection Article Holder."

Shively's attempt to find a reputable company capable of manufacturing, promoting, and marketing his invention proved futile. He then went to work designing and making his own dies necessary to produce the holders. Newt Schreckengast, a resident of Millmont, allowed Shively to use his blacksmith shop in order to accomplish that task. Once the dies were made, he was capable of producing as many as 200 article holders daily.

With the award of his patent for the article holder Greene decided to sell the broom business to his son Jacob, while he turned his attention toward the production and sales of the article holders. He made numerous trips via rail to sell his Perfection Article Holders to storekeepers, shops, and door-to-door sales.

The article holders came in a variety of sizes, and were capable of holding small tools to large round handled objects. Although the device had numerous practical uses, depending on the size of the opening, its primary use was that of a broom holder. Fastened against a wall the device was ideally suited to hold round handled objects such as shovels, rakes, pitchforks, and especially - brooms. A standard size article holder, capable of holding one broom, retailed for about 25 cents. Sales of the Perfection Article Holder were brisk for a period of time. As a result Shively spent considerable time and effort making and marketing his invention.

Over time the market for the article holders began to wane. Sales of Shively's Best Brooms were also on the decline. By the mid 1920's competition from penitentiaries and schools for the blind were causing serious problems for Shively's Broom Factory. As Jacob Shively traveled about from town to town in an effort to sell his brand to retail establishments he discovered that his customers were stocking other brands of brooms. These brooms were priced anywhere from 29 to 39 cents each, which was less than the material cost for the Shively brand. It became difficult for Shively's Broom Factory to compete with the lower priced broom makers. Another hardship they faced was the fact that local farmers were



The photograph above shows the last broom manufactured at Shively's Broom Factory. The five seam broom, along with the sewing cuffs and a stalk of broomcorn, are on display in the Shively Family Collection in Millmont.

*(Continued on page 7)*



# Meanderings

by

*Hertha S. Wehr*

## Those new light bulbs

I saw in the daily paper a few days ago where the light bulbs we've used for years will soon not be available. We will only be able to buy the new energy saving bulbs. My newest purchase says: "reveal". I'm not sure if that is the trade name for GE or if that is what they are all called. Anyway they are to save \$59.00. It doesn't say if that is in the life of the bulb, which is to last 5 years, or if that is another time period. They are sort of vague about that. The 100 watt I bought, which is more expensive than the regular ones, is supposed to only use 25 watts of current. I find they are rather dim when first turned on. They do get brighter after they are on for a few minutes. I have been replacing the less efficient bulbs over a period of years and I still have a few of the older style and I have no intention of discarding them until they no longer light when the switch is flipped.

Like most things that are mandated we growl and grumble at first but gradually become used to the change and accept it. My concern is that we accept so

many things as they are mandated and wonder when it will stop. I can recall when we were no longer able to buy leaded gas. It was to help the environment and we accepted it, even though it cost more per gallon. I can think of a number of things that fell into the same category.

Back in October of '09 I read a news article about an Ohio utility company that had a plan to distribute energy-efficient light bulbs to all of their customers. The plan backfired when the recipients learned they would have to pay for the bulbs, but they would also have to pay the utility company for electricity they would not be using. At least someone was wide-awake, as the governor sent a letter to regulators who pulled the plug on that idea.

If you are wondering how I have the above bit of news. I often save things that I think will be of use sometime. When I saw the article about light bulbs a few days ago I remembered I had something tucked away about the subject. My memory isn't always so good about details, nor is it infallible about where I put all the things I expect to use sometime. I had to check two drawers until I found the article I was hunting. After I found it I couldn't believe it was as far back as 2009.

So, with the new light bulbs you can turn on the light, then the children can hunt their homework, you can find your paper or the book you want to read, the recipe you want to check, and, you don't need to feel guilty about using those few minutes of current. By the time the hunt is over the light should be bright enough to use.

Well February is over and we won't need too much light in the evenings but think bright and happy about all the current you'll be saving next fall.



## Field Notes, by WCO Dirk Remensnyder

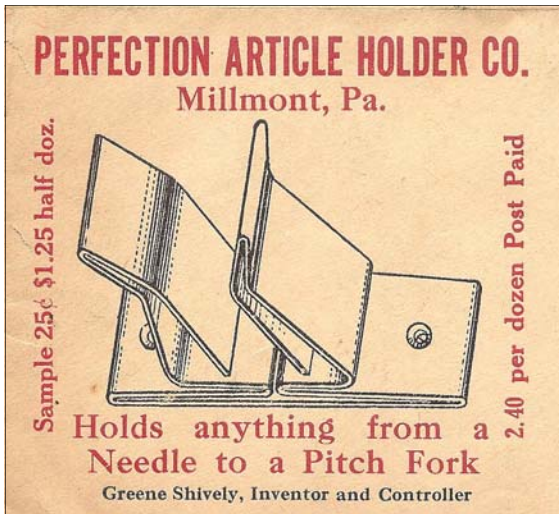
Now that a new deputy candidate has passed his initial entrance exam the hard part to becoming a deputy is about to begin. The candidate must go through training in the game and wildlife code, firearms to include handgun and shotgun, defensive tactics, handcuffing, one intense week at the Game Commissions RLSC academy, 80 hours of ride-along, take a couple hundred question test and be on probation for 12 months. This just shows how dedicated PGC deputies are to protection of the states wildlife resources.

Winter is a great time to put together and build nesting boxes for wildlife that can be put up in the spring.

The small photograph in the upper left hand corner of page one shows another view of the Shively Broom Factory building when it was originally located at White Springs. The Shively's manufactured brooms in White Springs from 1900 until 1918 when they relocated their business to Maple Street in Millmont.

Photograph courtesy of Mary Louise (Shively) Jones of Mifflinburg.

(Continued from page 5)



Shown above is an advertisement for Greene Shively's Perfection Article Holder.

no longer cultivating broomcorn. Those who were growing broomcorn were doing so in small plots, usually just enough for their personal use.

In 1926, as production of the Shively broom continued to dwindle, they decided to sell the Baltimore broom machine to David Heddings of York County. They reverted to sewing their brooms together by hand; the same method of broom making Greene used when he first started the business. As the decade of the 1920's drew to a close, orders for brooms were so slack that it was no longer profitable to remain in business. In 1929 Jacob Shively sold the remaining broom machinery and equipment to Heddings, and Shively's Broom Factory was now history.

By the time Greene Shively reached his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday the broom factory had closed and his article holders were no longer being produced. He spent the remainder of his life preaching the Gospel both at his home church and holding evangelistic services throughout the area. For a period of time he worked at the Millmont Box Factory, and he also assisted his son, Jacob, at another family business located in Millmont - Shively's Garage.

TLS

Sources: A Brief Biography of Elder Greene Shively 1870-1954, published by Jacob G. Shively in 1965; the Shively Family Collection; and the diary kept by Jacob G. Shively.

## Looking Back

The newspaper article below was originally published in an April 1894 edition of one of the local newspapers.

### Creek School House Entertainment March 27.

All the necessary arrangements were made for an entertainment. The schoolroom was tastefully decorated with spruce and artificial flowers, the walls were hung with beautiful wreaths and pictures and a beautiful motto helped to break the monotony of the bare white walls at the front end of the room. The whole combined to make a school-room cheerful and home-like, as well as cultivates a love for the beautiful in the scholars. The appearance of the school-room was certainly a credit to Mr. Spigelmyer and pupils.

The audience was called to order about 7:30 by the teacher.

The program was as follows:

Son, Yes, the school-room; Address of Welcome, Rhoda Rockwell; Recital, The Drunkard's Bondage, Clinton Doebler; Recital, Give me the Grains of Corn, Mother Bessie Catherman; Dialogue, the Farmer who became Drum-major, Lucinda Rockwell and Mabel Young; Song, We are Sailing; Recital, Robin, Mamie Blyler; Who was She, Emma Catherman; Recital, Washington, Bertie Kaler; Recital, Brown's Mistake, Alfred File; Recital, Nobody's Child, Mabel Young; this was well spoken. Recital, The Patter of the Shingle, Olie Womer; this piece well rendered and everybody enjoyed a good laugh. Song, Rally round the Flag, Boys; Recital, Paul Revere's Ride, Orie Blyler; Recital, Dot Baby of Mine, Linn Catherman; Song, My Dove, Wm. Spigelmyer; Recital, Flowers, Rhoda Rockwell; Recital, Old Iron Sides, Mabel Young; Play, The Black Schoolmaster, Wm. Spigelmyer, Linn Catherman, Clayton Catherman, Olie Womer, and Will Bridge; the lessons given by the school-master in mathematics, geography and astronomy, together with his advice, were very amusing, and the different parts were well rendered by the teachers and pupils. Song, The Kingdom Coming; Song, the Banjo's Silent now, Wm. Spigelmyer; Recital Little Tommy Tucker, Earl Catherman; Recital, Love come to me, Edna Kaler; Recital, Little Children, Vergie Rearick; Recital, Who made the Stars, Lucinda Rockwell; Recital, Pass under the Rod, Lizzie Frederick; Dialogue, Going to School, Effie Pick and Lucinda Rockwell; Recital, How little Katie knocked at the Door of Heaven, Susie Pick; Recital, The Soldiers Prayer, Effie Pick; Dialogue, The two-storied Head, Lloyd Womer and Onnie Rockwell; Song, The little white schoolhouse has Come; Dialogue, The two new Quarters, Bessie Catherman, Mabel Young, and Clinton Doebler; Play, Mischievous Mose, William Spigelmyer, and three pupils; This last was

(Continued on page 8)

**Recipe of the Month**  
**by Janice (Dorman) Shively**  
**Southwestern Pasta & Cheese**

3 ½ C. uncooked bow tie pasta  
1 medium sweet red pepper, chopped  
8 green onions, chopped  
1 T. olive oil  
¼ C. all-purpose flour  
1 tsp. chili powder  
1 tsp. minced chipotle pepper in adobo sauce  
½ tsp. salt  
½ tsp. ground cumin  
2 ¼ C. fat-free milk  
1 C. (4 oz.) shredded sharp cheddar cheese, divided  
4 center-cut bacon strips, cooked and crumbled  
2 T. minced fresh cilantro

Cook pasta according to package directions.

Meanwhile, in a large skillet, sauté pepper and onions in oil until tender. Stir in the flour, chili powder, chipotle pepper, salt and cumin until blended. Gradually stir in milk. Bring to a boil; cook and stir for 2 minutes or until thickened. Stir in ¼ C. cheese until melted.

Drain pasta; toss with sauce. Stir in bacon and cilantro. Transfer to a 2-qt. baking dish coated with cooking spray. Sprinkle with remaining cheese. Bake, uncovered, at 400° for 20 – 25 minutes or until bubbly.

The chipotle pepper in adobo sauce adds quite a zing to this

dish. If you don't like so much spice, try the recipe without the chipotle pepper. If you've never tried chipotle peppers in adobo sauce, please do! They have a smoky taste, along with the spiciness of the pepper. You can find the peppers with the international foods at the grocery store.



Goya is the brand we have locally. This recipe calls for a pretty small amount, 1 tsp., of the peppers. With the leftover peppers from the can, I line ice cube tray cells with plastic wrap and fill the individual cells with peppers and sauce. Then, when frozen, simply remove from the ice cube tray, wrap tightly and put in a freezer bag for use later.

This recipe comes from the *Taste of Home, Healthy Cooking* magazine. On occasion, when I've made this recipe, I've used bacon bits in place of the bacon strips.

If you are feeling adventurous and want to try something new, try this recipe! It is delicious!

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:

*Sunday March 9, 1941. The temperature varied very little throughout the day. It snowed last night to the depth of about 4 inches. I cleaned paths this morning around the house and out to the barn, and up the road. I thought mother wanted to go to church, but she decided to remain at home. I went along to church with Jacob and the boys. Present 27. Contribution \$1.44. Lesson: "Taking our stand for Christ" - Luke 20: 9-21. Golden Text: Matthew 5:11. I taught my class. Mervyn had charge of the service. He read the 12th chapter of Romans and took for his subject, "Success". This is the outstanding objective in most everybody's life. Eleven chapters of the book of Romans the apostle devotes to emphasizing what God has done for us, plainly teaching the fact that God has done his part, and that our part consists in presenting out bodies "A living Sacrifice, holy acceptable unto God", and God will give us power and furnish the means to build up his Kingdom. Closing hymn "Give of the Best you have to the Master".*

*As I am writing this item the thermometer is at 35 degrees at 8:00 p.m. David was here for dinner. The children called this afternoon, and Jacob was here a little while this evening.*

*Monday March 10, 1941. Clear at dusk and 45 degrees. The snow melted considerably this afternoon. It was red in the evening sky, indicating fair weather tomorrow. Edmund sent Edgar to give me "One Foot in Heaven" to read, requesting to have it returned by this coming Friday. So I spent most of my time today reading. The author of the book is Artzell Spence.*

(Continued from page 7)

the crowning piece of the evening, and was made very laughable by the ludicrous gestures of the players, and brought forth peal after peal of laughter from the audience. Closing address, Emma Catherman.

The school deserves to be commended for the orderly and masterly way in which the exercises were carried out. We hope all were not only entertained, but have heard something that may be instructive.

W. F. Wilson, Sec.

# Penlines From my Kitchen to Yours

by Lucy Hoover

## January 16, 2011

Bishop Ammon Weaver and some of his siblings of Lancaster Co. were at church. They were invited to Paul and Lucy Weaver of Lewisburg for lunch.

## January 20

Our neighbors, Roy and Sarah Weaver and son Waylon, moved to Middleburg.

James and Verna Reiff have twin babies, Josiah Aaron and Julia Ranae. They have one other daughter. Grandparents are John Aaron and Lydia Reiff and George and Edna Martin.

## January 24

Jerry and Lorraine Hoover of Mifflinburg have a daughter named Lynelle Jean. Now they have three girls. Grandparents are Mrs. Mary Hoover and Floyd and Esther Weaver.

## January 27

Yesterday afternoon Ervin and Carolyn Hoover of Mifflinburg had a chimney fire in the house. They called the fire company and there wasn't much damage, except for smoke. This afternoon a group of women gathered to help clean the house.

Andrew Oberholtzer (2) son of Noah and Rosella of Mifflinburg had one-day surgery.

## February 2

Earl and Lisa Reiff have a daughter names Jacinda Faye. She is their first child. Grandparents are Allen and Dorothy Reiff, and Nathan and MaryElla Martin.

## February 5

Our children were playing with their toy animals. Marie looked at the bottom of a cow and read, "Made in... Before she could finish, Isaac (2) quickly said, "China!" (That was a good guess, but it was actually made in Hong Kong.)

## February 11

Jonathan and Barbara Ann Martin of Millmont have a son named LeAlan James. He has two sisters. Grandparents are Thomas and Lydia Martin and Allen and Lovina Zimmerman. Baby LeAlan was born on his grandma Lydia's birthday.

## February 15

Roy and Sarah Weaver of Middleburg have a son named Lealan. He has one brother. Grandparents are Paul and Lucy Weaver and David and Ruth Hoover.

Roy and Sarah's son, Waylon (3), has a broken collarbone from falling off a chair.

## Remembrance



Bruce R. Shirk, 92, of Lewisburg, passed away at 1:46 a. m. Monday, February 14, 2011, at Buffalo Valley Lutheran Village, Lewisburg, where he had lived since December 29. Before entering the village, he had lived at Elmcroft for 15 months, and before that, Dinius Avenue, Middleburg.

He was born May 8, 1918, in Hartley Township, Union County, a son of the late Ray F. and Sarah (Kleckner) Shirk. In 1942, he married the former Jenetta J. Bilger, who preceded him in death in 1982. In 1984, he married Lois E. Smeltzer Phillips, who passed away in 2008.

He was a graduate of Laurelton High School and was a World War II veteran who served in the Army.

Bruce had farmed as well as working at the Laurelton Foundry and the Herbster's Feed Mill, Laurelton. He retired in 1978 as a dairyman at the Laurelton Center.

He had attended Emmanuel United Methodist Church, Mount Pleasant Mills, and had served as president of the Hartleton Cemetery Association.

Bruce enjoyed hunting and fishing, especially hunting rabbits and deer. He also enjoyed spending time at his cabin, driving his tractors and caning chairs.

He is survived by one daughter and son-in-law, Nancy L. and Orville Wagner, of Millmont; one son and daughter-in-law, Donald L. and Kay Shirk, of Mifflinburg; four grandchildren; eight great-grandchildren; two great-great-grandchildren; and one sister, Lois Pick, of Laurelton.

He was preceded in death by one sister, Betty Jean Koller. Burial was in Hartleton Cemetery.

## *What's Happening at Christ United Lutheran Church*

Located at the intersection of Old Turnpike and Four Bells Church Roads  
By Beverly Catherman

A Pot Pie Supper will be held at the church on Saturday March 5. Ham, Beef, and Chicken/Turkey Pot Pie will be available beginning at 3:30 p.m.

Beginning on Monday March 7, and continuing on every Monday through April 18, the church will be making and selling chocolate covered peanut butter and coconut eggs. The cost of the eggs this year is \$4 for six eggs. Singles are priced at 75 cents each.

A Pancake and Sausage Supper will be held at the church on Tuesday evening March 8 beginning at 5:00 p.m.

A Chicken & Waffle Supper will be held on Saturday April 2 from 4:00 until 6:00 p.m.

# Blessings from the Bible

By Brenda Weaver

*“The voice of the Lord is upon the waters:  
the God of glory thundereth: the Lord is upon many waters.  
The voice of the Lord is powerful; the voice of the Lord is full of majesty.”*

Psalm 29:3-4

In the early hours of the day as February marched toward spring I saw a flash and heard a familiar rumble. Thunder. *The first thunder storm of the year*, I thought; *spring is coming!* It seemed a fitting morning for a thunder storm, as my mind was grumbling about the current circumstances of my life. As I mixed up a pan of baked oatmeal, I thought back to my childhood and how terrified I was of thunderstorms. Somewhere along the way I began to relax and enjoy them. Our family was taught to respect such storms and we carefully closed windows and doors and stayed away from the phone and water if at all possible. Since lightening had struck our house and phone we had reason to be apprehensive. Then I remembered the storm where the huge tree in our yard came crashing down to the ground and missed hitting the house. I remember seeking refuge in my mother’s arms as she tried to calmly explain what happened.

I’d heard someone explain with a chuckle that thunder was the sound from God’s chariot wheels rumbling across the sky. Maybe that myth fostered my feeling the nearness of God during a storm. Over the years I began to enjoy these displays of God’s power. So on this morning when I needed to be reminded of the nearness of God, I smiled at the arrival of an old friend—almost like seeing the first robin in the spring.

Circumstances of life affect our perception of things. I think of an acquaintance who was struck by lightening a few years ago. I often breathe a prayer for her during a storm because I imagine the sound that comforted me this morning must strike terror in her heart. When life hands us difficult things we face the arduous task of dealing with our fears. We can cower before them and be crippled by our fears, real or imagined. Or we can deny them and, pasting a smile on our faces, pretend nothing is wrong. Or we can stand face to face with our fears knowing God is at our side.

Were you ever encouraged to memorize Bible verses about fear? We tend to think it is a good thing for children who are afraid of thunderstorms, but memorizing scripture is of great value (and power!) to adults as well. Consider these:

*“What time I am afraid, I will trust in thee.”* Psalm 56: 3

*“I sought the Lord and he heard me and delivered me from all my fears.”* Psalm 34:4

*“The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?”* *The Lord is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?”*

Psalm 27:1

*“Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the right hand of my righteousness.”* Isaiah 41:10

*“For I the Lord thy God will hold thy right hand, saying unto thee, Fear not: I will help thee.”* Isaiah 41:13

Facing cancer evokes fear. As our family travels this journey we have much to be grateful for: improved symptoms, tolerance of chemotherapy, controlled side effects, and a deep trust in a God who’s “perfect love casteth out fear.” How does it do that? Well, when we understand and accept His perfect love we can cast off fear, realizing nothing will come upon us that does not first pass through His loving hands.

Verses to help us conquer fear abound. If the circumstances of life have you fearful, take courage and look them up! Post them around your house. Memorize them. And be ready to share them prayerfully with someone whose day is thundered with adverse circumstances.

Prayer for Today:

*Dear Lord, when I am afraid help me to put my trust in You, knowing You will hold my hand and help me. Thank You that Your perfect love casteth out fear. I accept Your love. I cast my fears upon You.*

## 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.

## Upcoming Union County Historical Society Events

The Union County Historical Society will host a demonstration of Maple Sugaring on Friday and Saturday, March 11 and 12 from 9 AM to 4 PM at the Dale/Engle/Walker House, 1471 Strawbridge Road, Lewisburg.

Joe Sharp will discuss tapping as well as the sugaring down process for making maple syrup and maple sugar. The presentation will be on-going both days as Mr. Sharp boils maple tree sap collected from the property's trees. Maple syrup will be available for purchase.

Home school, private and public school classes are welcome. This is a free, public program of the Union County Historical Society. For more information, please contact 570-524-8666 or [hstoriel@ptd.net](mailto:hstoriel@ptd.net). and visit the Society's website: [www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org](http://www.unioncountyhistoricalsociety.org).

\*\*\*\*\*

The Union County Historical Society Spring Program and Dinner will be on Thursday, April 14 at 6:00 PM at the Union County Sportsmen's Club in Weikert.

Bob Gaines will present "Christy Mathewson," a program on the famed baseball pitcher Christy Mathewson (1880-1925). The year 2011 marks the 75th anniversary of the first inductees into the National Baseball Hall of Fame; Mathewson was one of the first five players inducted in 1936, along with Babe Ruth, Ty Cobb, Walter Johnson and Honus Wagner.

Christopher Mathewson entered Bucknell University in 1898 where he played baseball, basketball and football; was an honor student, class President, and member of the Glee Club, Band and Phi Gamma Delta fraternity. Mathewson began playing for the NY Giants in 1901, and in 12 seasons won 20 or more games per season. He joined the Cincinnati Reds as manager in 1916. His career was interrupted by service in WWI as Captain in the Army Chemical Warfare Division in France, after which he returned to the Giants in 1919 as assistant manager and pitching coach. He was in treatment for TB (a result of gas exposure in WWI) and then served as president of the Boston Braves. Christy Mathewson, his wife, Jane Stoughton of Lewisburg, and their son Christopher are buried in the Lewisburg Cemetery.

A buffet dinner will be included with the program. Prepaid reservations are required. For more information, please contact the Union County Historical Society at 570-524-8666 or [hstoriel@ptd.net](mailto:hstoriel@ptd.net).

## Thank You!

I would like to thank the following people for making monetary donations toward the publication of this newsletter: Galen Graham of Lewisburg; Eugene Wertz and Dan and Barb Snyder of Millmont; Ruth Lenhart of Mifflinburg; Russell and Carriemae Bailey of Selinsgrove; Carol Loss of New Berlin; Ruth Kostenbader and Steve and Pat Libby of Lewisburg; and Karl and Catherine Hassinger of Danville.

I would like to welcome the following new subscriber: Dolores Reeves of Akron, Ohio; Kathryn Steimling and Sandra Keister of Mifflinburg; and Karl and Catherine Hassinger of Danville.

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 Ruth Fahmer for emailing me a photograph of the Oberlin family from 1914; and Elizabeth Diehl of Milton for providing me photographs and additional information about the Sand Mountain Fire Tower and the small cabin that was situated nearby. Diehl's information will be shared with the readers in an upcoming issue.



## Remember When

The photograph to the left shows several Weikert men standing alongside a cider press. Perhaps these men were in the process of making some of their own sweet tasting cider when this photograph was taken sometime during February 1916.

Left to right: Lyman Libby, William "Billy" Bettilyon, A. W. Longer (tall gentleman in the middle holding the jug), and to the right is Ambrose Bettilyon.

This photograph is from the collection of August "Pop" Barnett of Harrisonburg, Virginia.

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 (formerly Dorman'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 address below 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)

### March Birthdays & Anniversaries

2 – Donald G. Shively  
3 – Roger Catherman  
3 – Charlene Yarger  
4 – Mervin & Esther Nissley - 1950  
4 – Donald Ruhl  
4 – David Hoover  
5 – Russell Zimmerman  
6 – Rita Kuhns  
7 – Glyn Hassenplug  
8 – Ervin Oberholtzer  
8 – Curvin Oberholtzer  
8 – Matthew Dorman, Jr.  
9 – Sandi Failor  
10 – Janet Fegley  
12 – Jacob Walter  
12 – Rick Kerstetter  
12 – Betsy Gordon  
12 – Garrett Bingaman  
13 – Roger & Donna Catherman  
14 – Ashlee Osborne  
14 – Patricia Catherman

14 – Michael Shively  
15 – Roxanne Lyons  
15 – Pearl Strickler  
16 – Warren Emery  
16 – Mary Martin  
17 – Wayne M. & Betty L. Hess - 1951  
17 – Quinten & Connie Dorman - 1960  
17 – Christine Whitesel  
18 – Megan Hackenberg  
18 – Richard Hassenplug  
18 – Luke Bilger  
18 – Tobias O. Catherman, Jr.  
18 – Karen L. Fultz  
19 – Doug Peffer  
19 – Laura Peffer  
20 – Michael Potoeski  
20 – Melanie Starr  
20 – Donald L. & Kathryn Shively -1953  
21 – Douglas Lyons  
21 – Kaitlyn Erdley  
22 – Joseph Martin

22 – Heather Smith  
22 – Crystal Smith  
22 – Laura Smith  
23 – Breonna Catherman  
23 – Helen Hugar  
24 – Barry & Ruthann Cooper  
24 – Matthew Jones  
24 – Norman & Evie Groff - 2002  
24 – Norman Groff  
25 – Robert M. Catherman  
25 – Ruth Zimmerman  
26 – Brad Catherman  
26 – Sharon Hartman  
26 – Don Fornwalt  
26 – Zac Salter  
27 – Donald & Ellen Kahler – 1971  
27 – Ray D. Bowersox  
28 – James Greene Shively  
30 – Ida O. Moyer  
31 – Richard Swain

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

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