CURATOR'S REPORT

THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

JUNE 14, 2016

SPRINGTIME IN NORTHAMPTON TOWNSHIP!

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

THE VILLAGE OF GLENCOE

JACK DICKEY SHARES HIGH SCHOOL SPORTS MEMORIES!

Jack S. Dickey, a 1948 graduate of Berlin Brothersvalley High School, is pictured above visiting the John and Lucille Lichvar Sports History Archives at BAHS on May 16, 2016. That same day Jack allowed us to copy his personal notebook archiving Berlin Football for 1946 and 1947 as well as Berlin Basketball seasons of 1946-1947 and 1947-1948. His sports notebook is shown in the picture. While our volunteers enjoyed visiting with Jack, we were fortunate for the opportunity to copy his interesting sports notebook and add a copy of it to the John and Lucille Lichvar Sports History Archives. Coach Lichvar was a young coach while Jack played sports at BBHS.

COLLECTION OF BOOKS DONATED

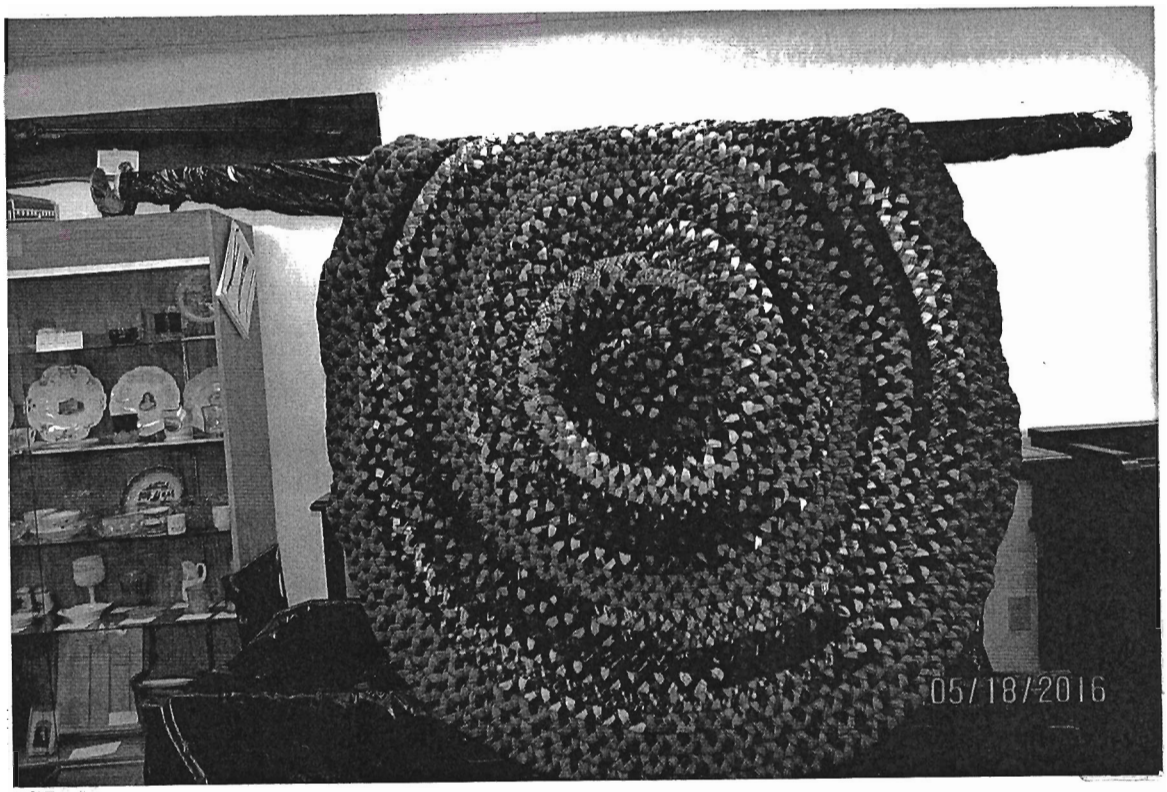
Rick and Marge Coddington have donated a collection of books in memory of their daughter, Kris (Coddington) Delancy. Many of the books pertained to history and genealogy and were collected by Kris. The donated books include:

Garrett County, Maryland, Graves – Volumes one and two (1987 and 2004)
History of Garrett County, Maryland
1884 History of Bedford, Somerset, and Fulton Counties
Early Families of Somerset and Fayette Counties
Three Archaeological Sites of Somerset County (1939)
Garrett County, Maryland – A history of Maryland's Tableland
Miscellaneous additional books.

OTHER DONATIONS:

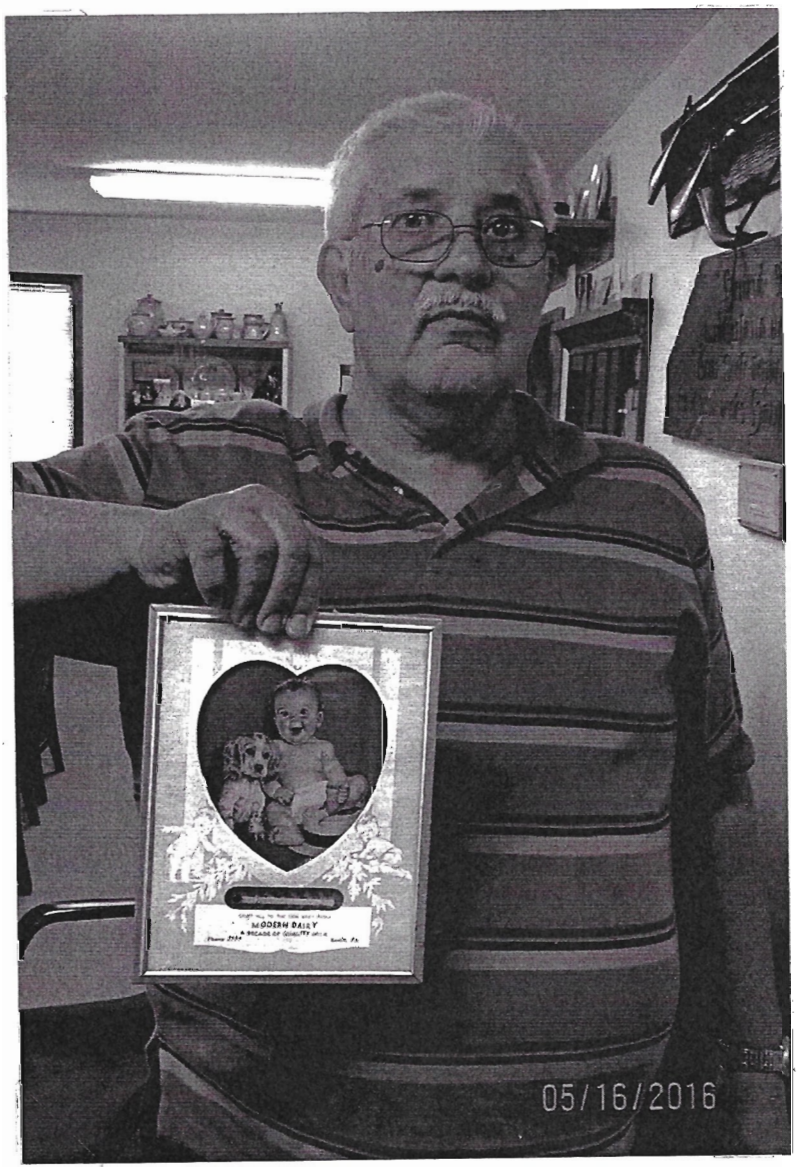
Barbara Miller donated two rationing tokens. **Larry Pritts** donated post cards. The **Confluence Office of Somerset Trust Company** donated a First Philson Bank N.A. money pouch. Additional items have been added to the **Berlin Fife & Drum** display area.

JEAN OGBURN'S HAND-BRAIDED RUG DONATED TOWARD BBHS 2016 RAFFLE



BARRY LANDIS'S DONATIONS

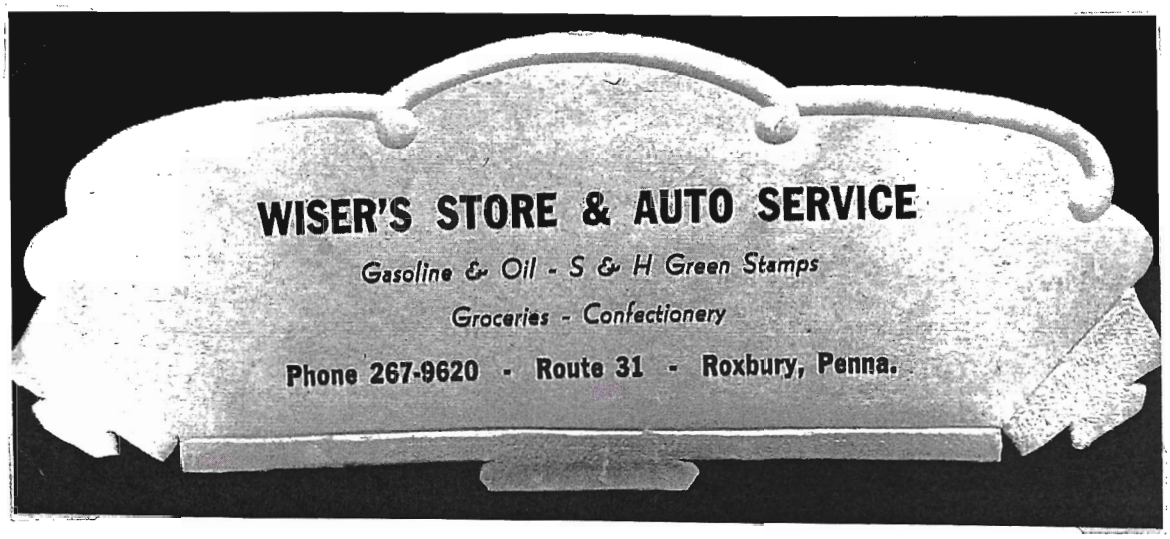
Barry Richard Landis has donated a table cloth that originate from the former home of Budd and Maude Painter, barber and beautician of Berlin, as well as news clippings. Barry also placed on loan the Modern Dairy thermometer shown in the picture. On the back of the thermometer is listed information about Barry's birth. Modern Dairy issued similar advertising thermometers to other customer families with new born infants during the 1950s.



ACKERMAN FAMILY GENEALOGY

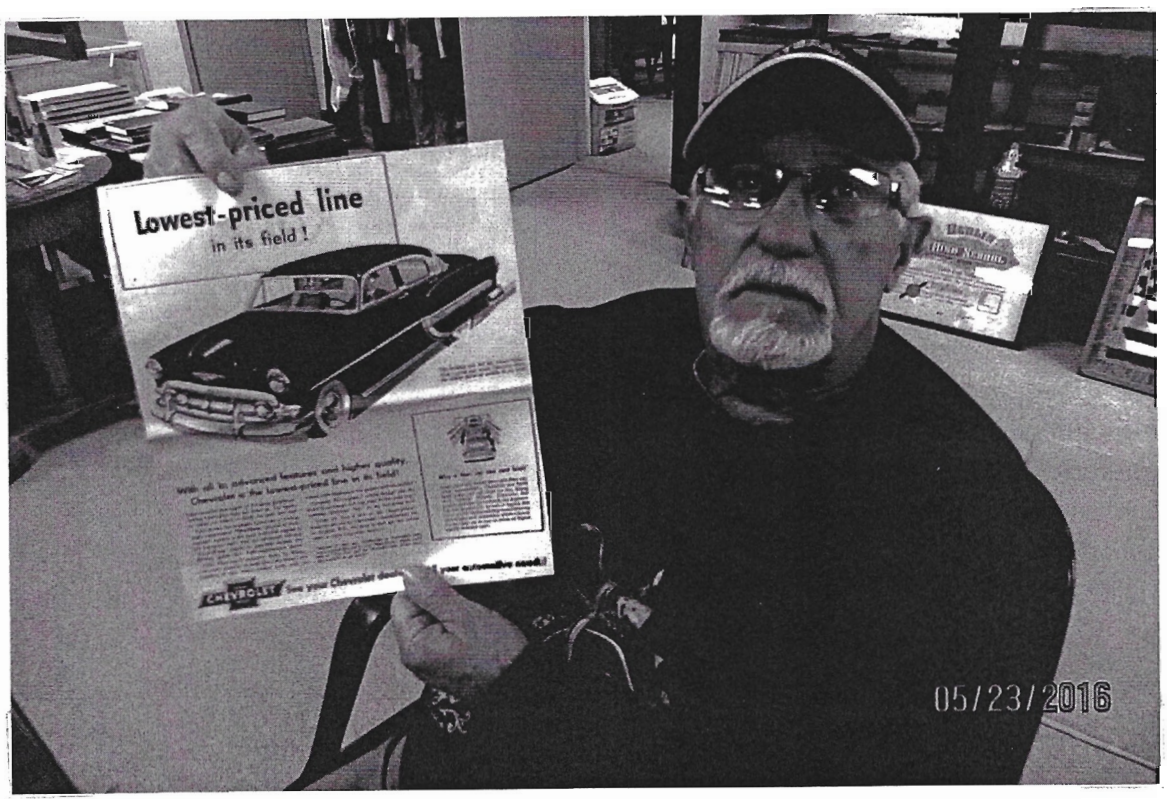
Irvin F. Muritz donated the Heinrich Ackerman Family Outline. The Ackerman pioneer immigrated from Seifertshausen, Germany.

WISER'S STORE & AUTO SERVICE



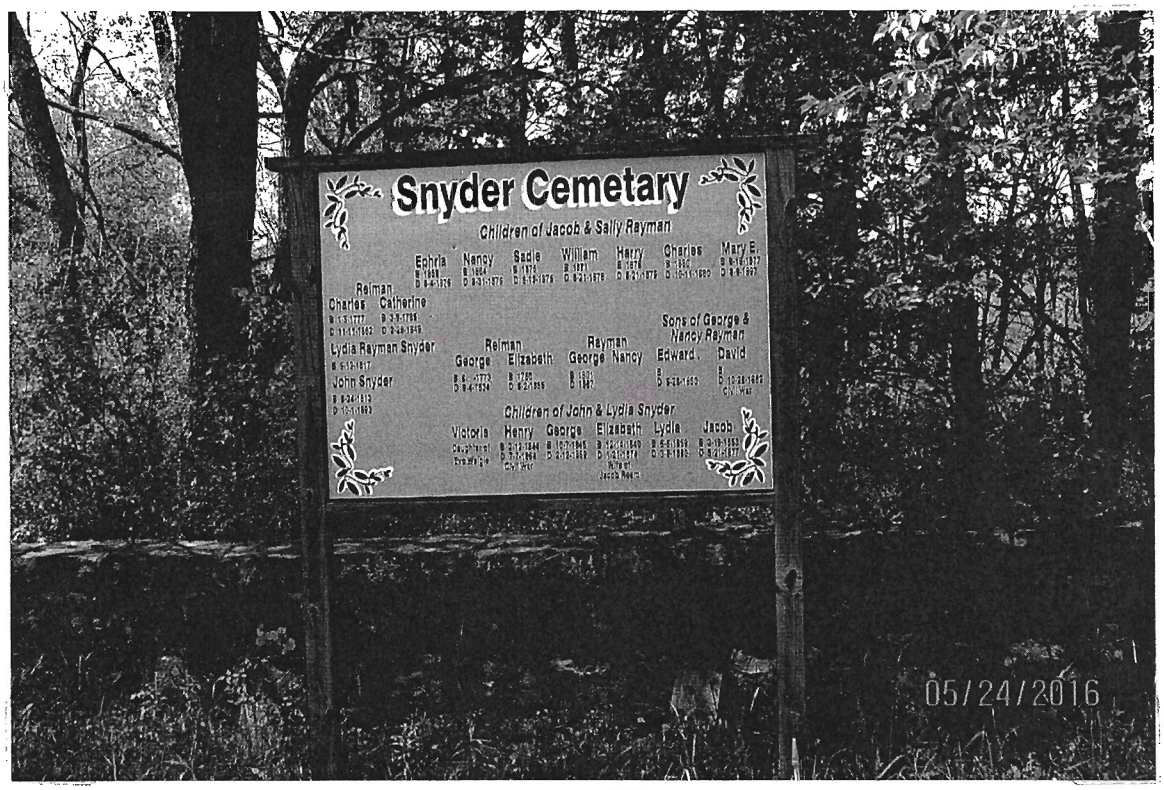
The above advertisement was donated by **Beverly Truscott**. Her dad, Sam Patsy of Macdonaldton, enjoyed patronizing the Roxbury area store when it was owned by David 'Bucky" and Grace Wiser. Beverly also donated a September 1953 issue of *The American Weekly*, which included the below featured advertisement for the 1953 Chevrolet.

A REMINDER OF ONE OF LARRY PRITTS' EARLIEST AUTOS!



Larry R. Pritts has fond recollections of driving his Pap's (step-grandpa John Edward Keller) green-with-a-white-top 1953 Chevy auto to Wiser's Store to buy gas and other special treats inside the neighborhood store. He remembers David "Bucky" and Grace (Gloss) Wiser operating the Roxbury area business, which Grace later operated herself. Later Larry Pritts obtained John Keller's standard 1953 auto on a trade for a 1953 automatic Chevrolet.

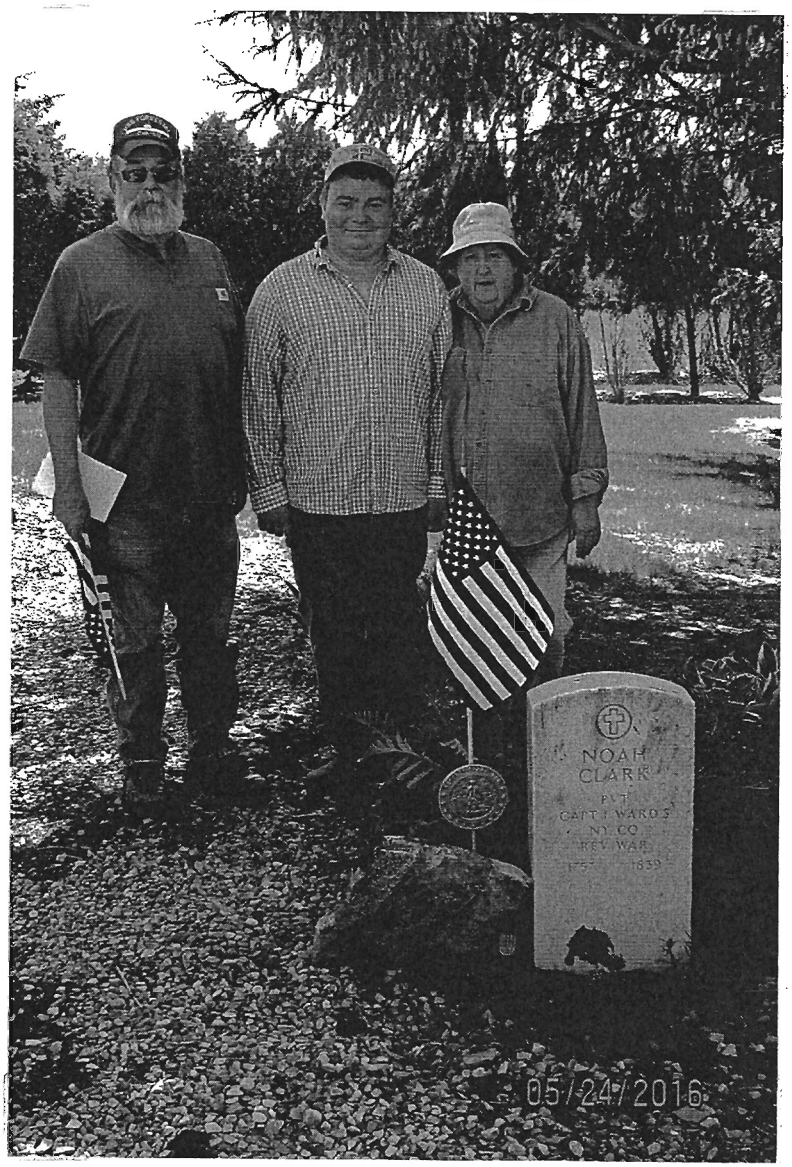
THE SNYDER CEMETERY NEAR CAMBRIA FUEL MINES IN STONYCREEK TOWNSHIP!



REMEMBERING PRIVATE NOAH CLARK

On May 24, 2016 a visit was made to the small cemetery (likely the Clark burial grounds) that is located on the back lawn at the home of Nevin and Diane (Berkebile) Deist in Stonycreek Township. Standing (l to r) in the photo are Richard Berkley, who places a flag on the grave of the Revolutionary soldier every spring, Chase Miller, a grandson of Nevin and Diane Deist, and Diane Deist, who raises horses and enjoys caring for the outdoors at the couple's mountain residence near Downey.

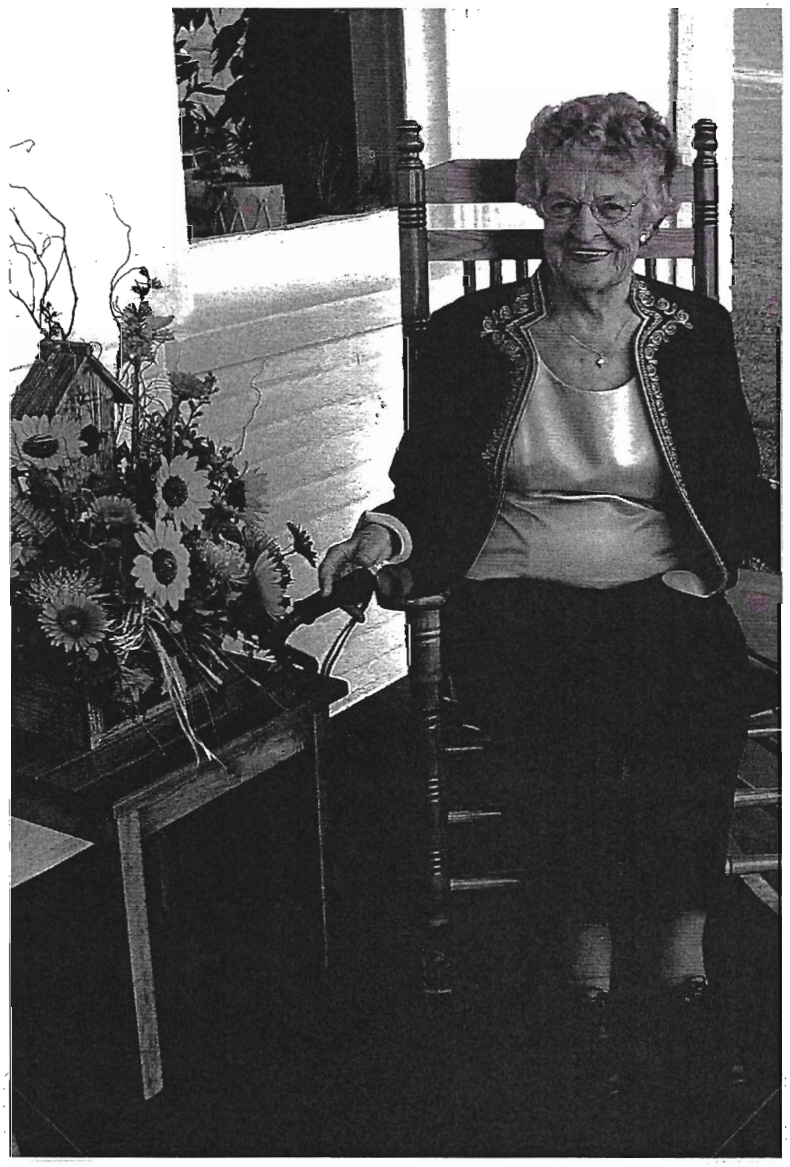
Noah Clark (1757-1939) is believed to have once operated the inn or store in Roxbury. Also buried in the cemetery is his wife, the former Crissie Ann Ross (1759 - 1844). Twin children (Samuel and Sarah) were killed in a fire and are also believed to be buried in the same farm cemetery.



BROTHERTON PIKE CEMETERY (Through Brenda Walker) has donated updates on burials and a map showing sales of cemetery lots.

FERNE HAY CELEBRATES 100TH BIRTHDAY

Ferne Grace Hay of Somerset was the guest of honor at a 100th birthday party held in her honor May 7, 2016 by family members at St. Paul's United Church in Somerset, where she and her family have been members for many years. Ferne was born on May 8, 1916 on her parents' farm along the East Mud Pike Road in Brothersvalley Township, a daughter of John H. and Grace M. (Brant) Hentz.



FERNE GRACE (HENTZ) HAY

LONG-TIME WIFE OF

JENNINGS B. HAY

She is a 1933 graduate of Berlin High School and attended California State Teacher's College 1933-1935, where she earned a teaching certificate in 1935. Ferne enjoyed a long career as an elementary school teacher, having taught the one-room Flickinger School in her childhood neighbor, the Berlin Elementary School and the Kingwood Elementary School in the Rockwood Area School District. While teaching full time, Ferne took evening classes at Cal U in the winter and a full schedule of classes in the summer to earn her bachelor's degree in 1963.

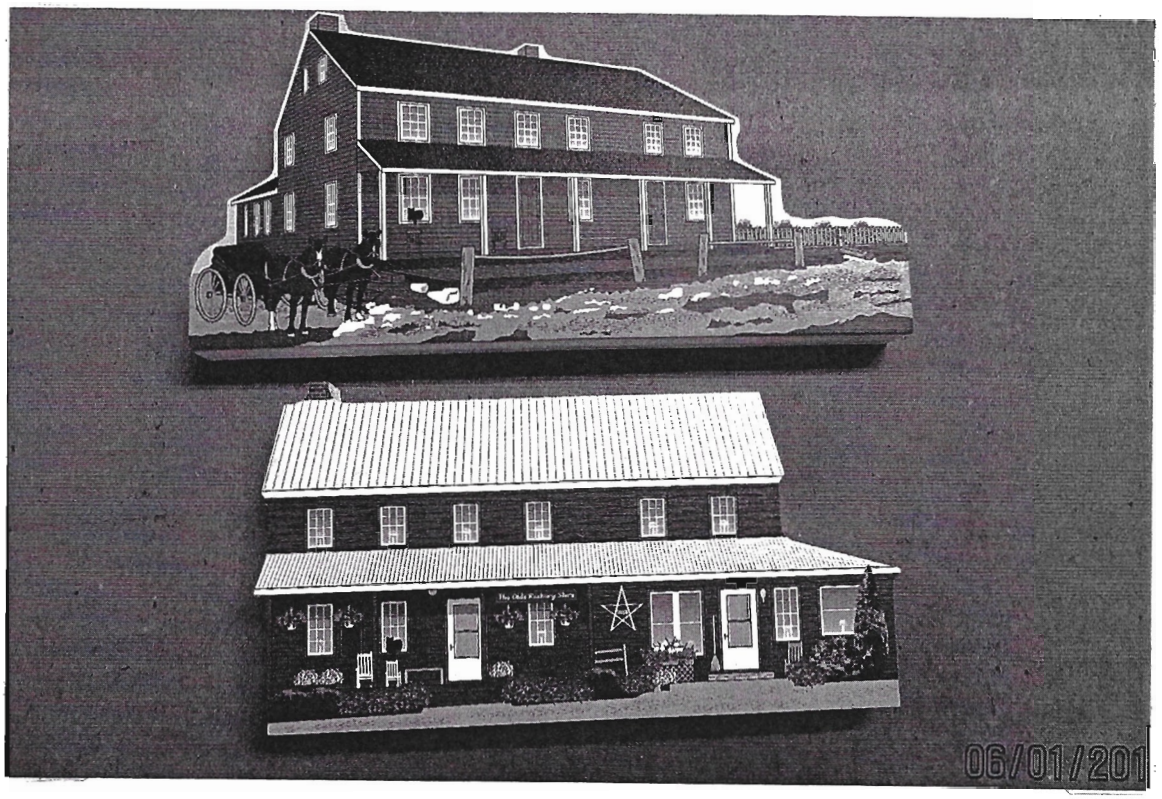
She was married on July 31, 1939 in Winchester, VA to the late Jennings B. Hay, a long-time farmer in Milford Township. He was born in the Lavansville area of Somerset Township, a son of the late William Joseph Rupp (W. J. R.) (Potato Bill) and Nellie (Mason) Hay. The couple raised their five children: Audrey M., George W., Grace, Bryan H. and John M. while operating their dairy enterprises. Today Ferne's family has grown to include five grandchildren, five great grandchildren, and 1 great, great grandchild.

In 1987, Ferne and Jennings joined the snowbirds in the Venice, Florida area, where Ferne was known as a champion shuffleboard player and noted for her lemon pies. Ferne was a caregiver for her husband for six years until his death on August 9, 1987 at the age of 78 years. They were married 48 years.

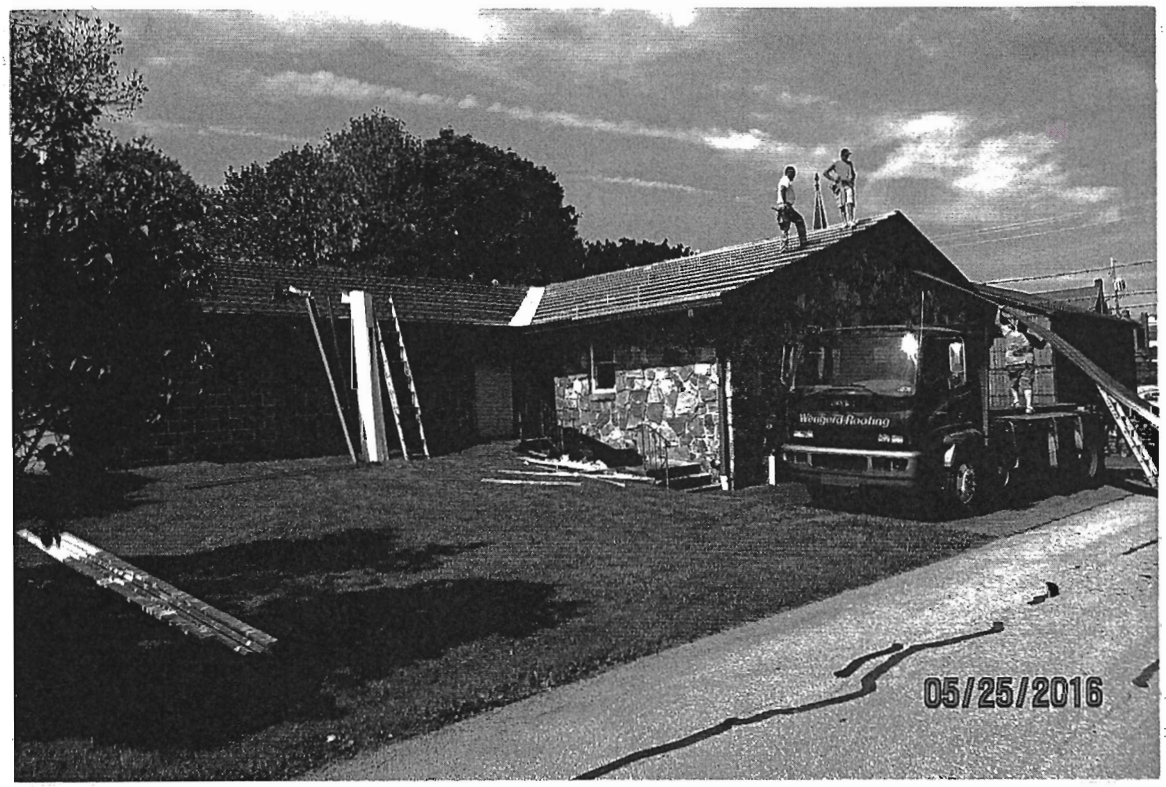
Along with being a member of the Berlin Area Historical Society, Ferne has a long history as a member, elder and Sunday school teacher at St. Paul's United Church of Christ in Somerset. She served 6 years on the Board of Directors at the Penn West Conference. She has been a volunteer for 12 years at Somerset Community Hospital. Ferne has traveled to all 50 states, Canada, Israel, Italy and Switzerland.

SARAH MILLER DONATES TWO DIFFERENT CATS MEOWS OF OLDE ROXBURY STORE AND 1700'S STONYCREEK STATION!

We have others for sale on consignment for Sarah!



NEW ROOF INSTALLED ON GENEALOGY BUILDING BY WENGERD'S ROOFING OF ELK LICK TOWNSHIP!



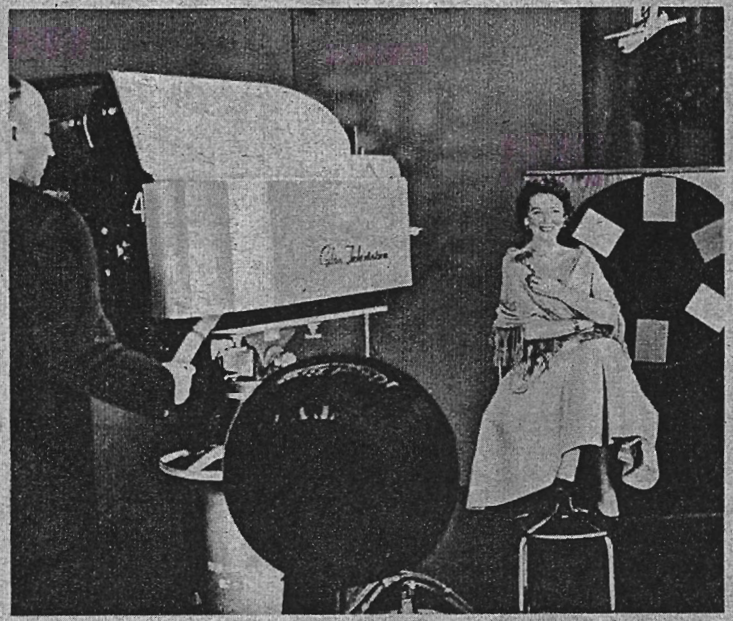
Thanks to all our volunteers for their continued service! Bob Platt has donated the William Berkley family genealogy.

David R. Hay, Curator

COLOR TV is here!

How soon can you buy a set? How much will it cost? Here are the answers

by Curtis Mitchell 1953



TV engineers and technicians worked for years to perfect a system of transmitting the true colorings of various objects and pretty girls like Marie McNamara.

Color TV is here. I recently watched a test program. The 14-inch picture was aglow with exquisite color. A redhead with golden, gleaming skin posed among pirouetting dancers. Nanette Fabray sang from a balcony drenched in the greens and yellows of springtime. The miracle of color made the picture more lovely than nature itself.

Thousands of people have already attended special color showings arranged by the Radio Corporation of America, and their comments are significant: "It was gorgeous" . . . "It was breathtaking" . . . "How soon can I get a color set?"

The answer lies in the hands of the Federal Communications Commission in Washington. Their approval is expected before Christmas this year. Once the green light flashes, this will happen:

1. Manufacturers will start to make sets.

2. Networks will start transmitting some programs in color.

3. During the first year, about 50,000 sets will be built on experimental production lines.

4. Then, mass production methods will bring prices down—probably in 1955 or 1956.

Until then color sets will cost big money. In 1954, the color set showing a 14-inch picture is expected to cost from $800 to $1,000. Later, a 21-inch tube will be available.

One chance exists that this figure is high, based on the Lawrence color tube. Two years ago, Ernest O. Lawrence, at California Institute of Technology, made a five-inch brass and beeswax tube that could be manufactured cheaply. If it lives up to its promise, prices may slide faster than expected. Those who know have this to say about the future:

General David Sarnoff says, "RCA and NBC have the know-how to broadcast color programs, to build equipment for color broadcasting, and to build sets that will receive these programs. We are prepared to commence color-casting immediately after the FCC approves compatible standards."

H. Ward Zimmer, president of Sylvania, says, "Our company will start commercial production of sets within nine months of FCC approval."

William Balderston, president of Philco, says, "The first trickle of color television sets will begin to appear the latter part of 1954. Quantity production will not be accomplished before 1956."

Color TV raises many questions.

Query: Can I convert my black and white set so it will receive color?

Answer: Yes, but a converter will cost so much you will probably prefer to buy a new color set.

Query: Will a special aerial be needed?

Answer: Your present aerial will pick up color.

Query: Why must a color set cost so much?

Answer: The tri-color tube which is the heart of the new proposed color system will cost about $200 wholesale. By comparison, the 21-inch black and white tube costs about $22. Another reason is that black and white receivers use about 10 small vacuum tubes less than color sets.

Query: Will my black and white set receive a color telecast?

Answer: Yes, says the FCC, but you'll see the color program in black and white.

Query: How far from the sending station can one receive a color signal?

Answer: Just as far as black and white signals.

Query: If color sets have more tubes in them, won't they need more maintenance?

Answer: Almost certainly a color set will require at least three or more times as much service.

Query: Will color sets be smaller than present models?

Answer: The color tube is a little longer but the over-all cabinet is about the same size.

Query: What programs will be in color?

Answer: NBC plans to convert two shows each week during the first year. The Columbia Broadcasting System and other networks are also initiating color broadcasts in order to be prepared for the FCC green light. Many special color events will also be televised, among them such spectacles as Niagara Falls under floodlights and the Tournament of Roses at Pasadena.

Query: Will all stations broadcast all programs in color?

Answer: Networks will lead the change to color. Small stations cannot afford color cameras (about $25,000 each) for every program.

Query: My present set is old and I have been planning to buy a big screen. Shall I wait until color sets come on the market?

Answer: Buy your new black and white set now. You can enjoy big-screen TV for at least a year or two or three before mass production brings down prices on color sets. Right now, a decision to buy a color set depends on three things: (1) do you have $1,000 to spare; (2) will you be content with a 14-inch picture in color as opposed to the 21- or 24-inch black and white image you now get for less money; (3) do the color programs being offered by the networks interest you? If you can answer "yes" to all questions you may begin to shop for a set either this Christmas or early in 1954. ◄◄

SEPTEMBER 20, 1953 The AMERICAN WEEKLY

From a donation from Beverly (Patsy) Truscott