

**Turkeyfoot
Valley
Historical
Society**

PASS IT ON
Share our history

Volume 18, Issue 1 & 2

1st & 2nd Quarters 2019

Pass It On
is a quarterly
publication of the
Turkeyfoot Valley
Historical Society

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NOTE TO MEMBERS

If you are interested in
receiving your copy of
Pass It On electronically,
please contact the
Society at
tfvhs@tfvhs.com

Volunteers Needed

No experience is necessary. We trust that you will consider giving some volunteer time to the Historical Society. Even if you can come and sit for an hour or two. This would keep the building open for visitors. Please check with Pastor Ron Schaeffer if you can help out. His home phone number is 814-395-5168. Please leave a message, or you can call or text his cell phone number at 814-233-0117.



pumpkinfest
2019

Pumpkinfest is almost here...

We will once again offer baked goods to the public for a donation during Pumpkinfest. If you would like to bake some goodies, it would be greatly appreciated. You may bring them in on early Friday evening or early Saturday morning. As far as donating time, we have college students volunteering in order to get their hours in for their scholarships. However, if you would like to volunteer, please check the schedule or see Pastor Ron Schaeffer for scheduling.

Please stop by to visit as there will be other organizations joining us.

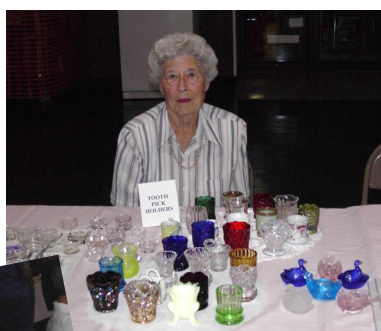
The Addison Historical Society
The Great Crossings Daughters of the American Revolution
Book Signing—Toby Koontz



Photos By The Republican

LETTERMEN ON THE 1959-60 basketball squad at Turkeyfoot Valley joint high school number six. They are in turn backed by eight other candidates for the Ram edition. In the front row, left to right, are pictured the returning lettermen as follows: James Bower, Jim McClintock, Todd Augustine, J. D. Keslar, Rick Smith and Roger Hoover. Second row candidates are: Terry Hayman, Randy Holliday, Warren Hostetler, Mike Getty,

Sam Black, Ray Tressler, Bob Wolfe and Terry Bower. Nine of the above players are seniors and the remaining six are juniors. All but one of the above players has had varsity or junior varsity experience. He is senior Warren Hostetler. The squad includes one three-year letterman, four two-year lettermen, one a junior and one one-year letterman. When this picture was taken the Rams had just donned their new white jerseys for the first time.



Remember our Collectors Show in 2004

From left to right:
Florence Phillippi, Louise Koontz,
Don Fike, Ruth Humbert





Thank you to all who donated items and visited the Somerset Historical Society to see the We Can Do It! WWII Exhibit. It was a great success!!!



NEWS FROM OUR H.C. HARNED SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENT

Dear Members of the Confluence Historical Society,

My name is Emilie Wheatley. I am the 2015 recipient of the Joe Harned Scholarship. I am a senior at the University of South Carolina where I will graduate with a Bachelor's of Science in Public Health. Upon graduation this December, I will spend 18 months researching and learning the political aspect of health-care as I acquire a Master's Degree in Healthcare Policy and Management. I will then apply to either medical school or for my PHD in the same field.

I would like to thank each and every member of the Confluence Historical Society as you have made my future as a healthcare professional possible. I appreciate that you have trusted me to further my education and positively represent the town of Confluence, PA. Moving from a small town to a capital city emphasizes the significance of a tight community. The support provided by the Confluence Historical Society, such as this scholarship, allows students to make a difference in their own lives and ultimately the world. You have all made a difference in my life and I will always appreciate your support.

Thank you for all that you continue to do for us.

**Sincerely,
Emilie Wheatley**

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 13 1941

400 Hear Shelly At Confluence

DISTRICT ATTORNEY AND
WORLD WAR HERO CITES DUTIES
OF AMERICAN PEOPLE IN
THESE DAYS OF WORLD CHAOS.

Churches Well Filled

An Armistice Day crowd of some 400 stood in a chilling wind in Confluence's Memorial Circle Friday morning to hear an address on national defense by District Attorney Carl B. Shelley of Harrisburg which warmed the cockles of every veteran's heart.

It was an address deep-rooted in constitutional government with spirit-

ual and governmental liberty under the dictataes of the American form of democracy its theme.

Although he spoke for only 25 minutes, the fiery district attorney of Dauphin county, himself a veteran of the World War and a national defense committeeman, took his listeners through the entire history of the United States, its trials and tribulations, its wars and its victories. He said in part:

"The Union army won the Civil War and the union was preserved because the Confederate army was as weak and unprepared as the Union army. The United States was able to bring Germany to her knees in 1918 because the Allied armies held the Germans in check until our troops and armies could be adequately trained in the United States. Again, as always, the United States is unprepared for conflict and it is now our duty to prepare for the holocaust into which we will soon be hurled."

Following a mass parade of American Legion and VFW veterans, led by four Somerset county high school bands, the crowd gathered at the Circle at 11 a. m. for the brief, but impressive service, which headlined the day's activities of the annual reunion.

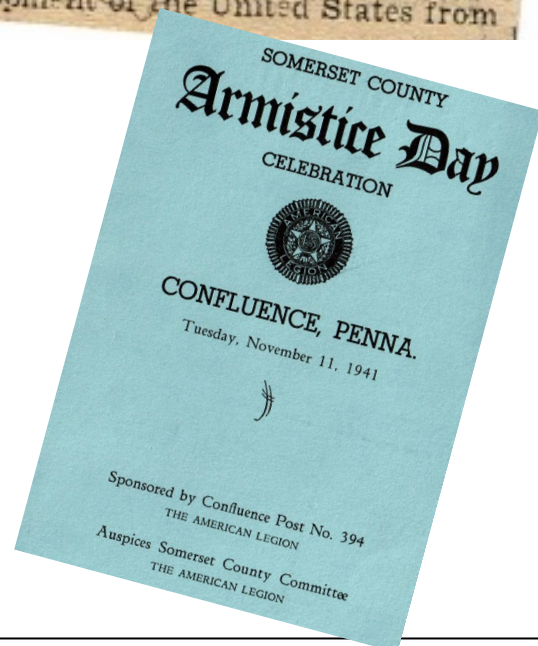
Observe Silence

After a moment of silence, the program started with the singing of the Star Spangled Banner by the entire group. The Rev. Sherman L. Burton of Confluence pronounced the invocation and the audience sang "America", accompanied by the bands.

The Hon. Charles H. Ealy of Somerset, state senator and a member of the national defense council of Pennsylvania, introduced the speaker of the morning, Attorney Shelley, in glowing terms, reciting his World War records as a private first class and his citation with three croix de guerres.

After the brief introduction, Attorney Shelley took his place before the public address system microphone. First he honored Senator Ealy and Secretary of Internal Affairs William S. Livengood, Jr., as two Somerset countians who are now at the helm of Pennsylvania's government.

Then he plunged directly into the heart of his address, giving the impression that he felt every word of his address as fervently as he pronounced each syllable. He traced the development of the United States from



SOMERSET COUNTY TIMES

the activities of the founding fathers to the present.

His address kept the audience patiently waiting in the coldest weather thus far this fall. Snow whistled through the air, but most forgot they were old until after the speaker concluded his remarks.

The program ended with the bands playing "God Bless America."

Hundreds of veterans and their families registered at the Confluence high school building and the Pore building for the all-day sessions.

Cold Cuts Attendance

Cold weather and threats of snow somewhat curtailed the expected attendance. However, there were representatives from all sections of the county attended the get-together.

The parade was the highlight of the early morning program. A state motor police patrol car headed the line of march, followed by a color guard of Legionnaires and Veterans of Foreign Wars flanking District Attorney Shelley and Senator Ealy.

The Salisbury high school band headed the organizations, followed by a group of veterans. Next came the Somerset high school band and the Rockwood high school band. Another feature of the parade was the Confluence majorette school of some 35 members. The students ranging from tiny tot to high school girls, twirled batons with varying degrees of talent. Ending the line of march was the Confluence high school band.

Forming at the Confluence high school building, the parade moved down to Memorial Circle and then across the Youghiogheny river and then back to the Circle for the program.

At the close of the program, the guests divided into three groups for dinner. Meals were served in the Baptist, Methodist and Christian churches, with capacity crowds reported at all three

Program



- 8:30—Registration.....High School Building
- 10:00—Parade.....Forming at High School
- 11:00—Silence
- 11:02—Star Spangled Banner
- Invocation.....Rev. Sherman L. Burson
- Song, "America".....Accompanied by Band
- Introduction of Speaker Hon. C. H. Ealy
National Defense Council of Pennsylvania
- Address, National Defense C. H. Shelley
National Defense Council of Pennsylvania
- Song....."God Bless America"
- 12:00—Dinner at Baptist, Methodist, Christian churches. All Legion and V.F.W. members, their immediate families and bands.
- 1:15—Band Concert
- 2:00 & 4:00 Motion Pictures Liberty Theatre
- 2:30—Bicycle Races, with prizes
Our Wife
Boys under 14 years.
Boys 14 years to 18 years.
Girls under 14 years.
Girls 14 years to 18 years.

Program—Continued



- 2:00—Conducted Tour of Youghiogheny Dam
- 7:30—Dance.....Rascona's Tavern
- 8:00—Meeting County Committee American Legion.....High School Building

During afternoon, horse-shoe pitching. Afternoon and evening, Bingo. All veterans should be prepared to show either 1941 or 1942 membership cards.

GOOD FOR ONE MEAL
Dinner Ticket

CHRISTIAN CHURCH
CONFLUENCE, PA.
ARMISTICE DAY, 1941

COURTESY HARRY LIGHTY, POST NO. 384, THE AMERICAN LEGION, CONFLUENCE, PA.

ADMIT ONE TO

Motion Picture Show

LIBERTY THEATRE
CONFLUENCE, PA.
ARMISTICE DAY, 1941

COURTESY HARRY LIGHTY, POST NO. 384, THE AMERICAN LEGION, CONFLUENCE, PA.

ADMIT ONE TO

Armistice Day Dance

RASCONA TAVERN
CONFLUENCE, PA.
ARMISTICE DAY, 1941

COURTESY HARRY LIGHTY, POST NO. 384, THE AMERICAN LEGION, CONFLUENCE, PA.



Elsie Spurgeon of Confluence holds one side of the bicentennial quilt that is to be on permanent

display in Washington, D.C. (Photo by Gay N. Brownlee)

Confluence quilt to be displayed in the DAR's Constitution Hall

By GAY N. BROWNLEE
Correspondent

CONFLUENCE—An original quilt made by a Confluence woman who placed every stitch in it herself is headed for Constitution Hall, Washington, D.C., where it will be on permanent display in the Baylies Centre.

Elsie Spurgeon, a retired school-teacher and vice regent of the Great Crossings Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR), made the quilt in celebration of the U.S. bicentennial in 1976. She says that just making the quilt top took one year of work.

Choosing an ecru background for the top, Miss Spurgeon made large padded liberty bell flowers in dominant red and complimentary green and yellow, and placed them around the quilt's outer border. In the center, of course, the padded bald eagle is poised with arched wings.

Miss Spurgeon wanted her quilt to bring recognition and attention to the Great Crossings Chapter of the DAR, hoping to somehow generate a new wave of interest among women to join the group. A dwindling membership is of concern to the 39 members in the local chapter.

In mid-April when the four-day Continental Congress convenes in Constitution Hall, (a property owned by the National Society of the DAR) Miss Spurgeon's creation will make its debut, hanging prominently in the hall. It will be identified by an engraved plaque with both her name and that of the local chapter.

Eldred M. Yochim is the president-general of the National Society of the DAR. While she attended the Pennsylvania state conference last fall, Lois Lemley, Somerset, the regent of the local chapter, had an opportunity to discuss the quilt donation with her. Mrs. Lemley had with her a snapshot of the quilt to support her request. Yochim was enthusiastic. She accepted the donation for the National Society. The fact that she accepted the quilt is considered a great honor for Miss Spurgeon and the Great Crossings Chapter of the DAR. They began the arrangements for getting it to Washington.

Needles of any kind seem to put magic in the fingers of Miss Spurgeon, whom Mrs. Lemley calls a "perfectionist." Miss Spurgeon says she likes to be original and to redo things. She might use a gold thread, for instance, for a unique effect on a quilt top.

"I read," she says, "but I can't stand to be idle." In fact during her several hospitalizations, Miss Spurgeon says her needlework went with her to pass the hours of convalescence.

She worked in Fayette County and in the Turkeyfoot Valley School district for 48 years as a teacher. Her home had been in Somerfield until the place was put under the waters of the Yough Dam. Then, she says, her family moved into Confluence.

"I brought art to the Confluence schools," she states. Although she taught various subjects, it seemed that her superior observed how she always incorporated art into her lessons. He was impressed and

began the art department.

She says her ideas about classroom control haven't changed since her retirement. Someone once asked her how she had handled the problem. She answered, "Keep 'em busy! Always look for something new."

Disappointing to her are the statistics she too often hears about the reading level of today's students. "I always had oral reading in order to dramatize the story," she says.

She is working on her third crocheted American flag. The Betsy Ross flag is finished. So is the centennial flag. The final one is the 50-star flag of today. They are bright red, white and blue.

Raising money is a difficult challenge for the women of the Great Crossings DAR Chapter. Besides the low membership dues received, strict guidelines rule out many fund-raising ideas.

Right now the biggest financial undertaking the members face is having the exterior stone of the Addison Toll House worked on by specialty engineers. They are called Colonial Restoration Engineers, and the fees are costly. However, Mrs. Lemley says the work is necessary. She says the Addison Toll House is the only one of the original six in Pennsylvania that is built of stone. The six were each 15 miles apart along Route 40.

During Old Pike Days celebration on May 19, Mrs. Lemley says the women will hold a bake sale. Many spectators gather during that time to catch a glimpse of conveyances from former days such as the covered wagon and mules.

Membership News...

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

John & Christine Hutchin

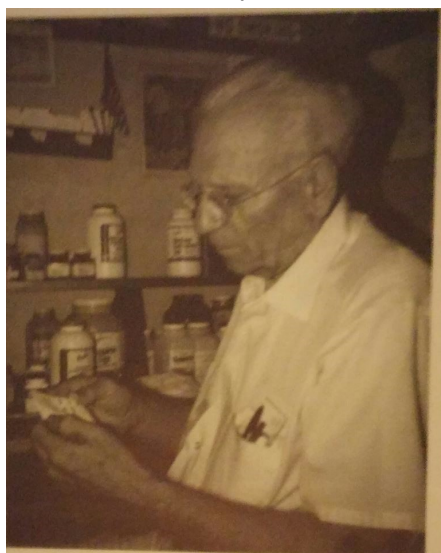
Dave & Josie Yockey

Membership Renewal

We have 69% of our memberships who have renewed thus far for this 2019-2020 year. Thanks so much. And we hope the other 31% will renew soon.

Our sympathy to the family of Nancy Muma who passed on July 29, 2019.

Remember to stop in and see us at Pumkinfest! You can find out more about Dr. Price and purchase a book about Price Hospital.



Dr. Price



Thank You!

We thank the following for their corporate donations to the Historical Society which have paid for the July 2019 to June 2020 year.

Beggs Brothers Printing
Frances Thompson – Hanna House
Sechler Sugar Shack

