

Cocalico Pride

Fall 2018

Volume 7, Issue 1

SAVE THE DATE

Alumni Association Events:

Board Meetings - 3rd Wednesday
of the month

Bus Trip: 11/4/18

Cocalico Education Foundation:

Extraordinary Give - 11/16/18
Spring Yard Sale - 4/27/19

Cocalico School District:

10/14 - HS Fall Concert
11/17 - Trivia Night Fundraiser for Post
Prom
12/1 - HS Art Show & Fall Play
12/16 - HS Holiday Concert

High School Library Hours: Thurs 3-5 pm



Alumni In the Spotlight Tracy (Miller) Smith Class of 1981



Technically speaking, you could say Tracy (Miller) Smith has been in the wine business since she was a child. Her grandfather made wine for many years. Tracy adds, "I remember going to my grandparent's on Duke Street in Ephrata and they had grapevines. My sister, Carla, and I would go to and pick the grapes. Grandma's grapes would go to the wash basin in the laundry room and grandpa's grapes would go to the basement. My sister and I never knew what was going on in the basement because we weren't allowed down there." Tracy believes that she and her sister were the chosen pickers because they were just the right size. She professes, "I had a lot of cousins and none of them remember picking grapes. I'm not sure how low we were so low on the totem pole, but that was something we always did with grandma & grandpa. It's a nice memory." When you became drinking age, Tracy's grandpa would share his wine with you. Tracy's husband, Bill, also received wine, and one visit he asked Tracy's grandfather if he would like to share his recipes. Tracy remembers, "Grandpa said, 'No'. He said he would take the recipes to the grave, and he did!" Tracy's husband was determined to honor her grandfather's recipes. Over the years, through trial and error, he did, and he actually made them better. Tracy admits, "When you make homemade wine, there are a lot of floaties and cloudiness because you don't have the right equipment. After a while, Bill's wine got better than grandpas. He tried for a long time and when he thought he had the recipes right, he entered the State Amateur Wine-Making Competition at Mt. Hope and came away with all the prizes!" This was in 2009. Bill won 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place, and Grand Champion of the state as well. The following year Bill entered the competition again and won them all again! After the second big win, the judges determined that Bill was no longer an "amateur." Bill was told he either sells the recipes or go commercial. At this time, both Tracy and Bill were employed full-time - Bill at Zook's Molasses in Honey Brook and Tracy at Vanguard in Malvern. But Bill thought he would like to make wine making a career. Tracy shares, "Bill tells me he wants to do this for a living and I say, 'What do we know about owning a winery?' You can't just google it. So I gave him three rules: #1 - No making wine in my house; I'm tired of the stuff everywhere. #2 - Nowhere further than 15-20 minutes from our home. #3 - A place with character. You can buy a glass of wine anywhere, but you need to make people want to come back and sit and enjoy their glass of wine."



In 2013, they found Ridgewood, and it would become their new home away from home. All of Tracy's criteria were met. There was somewhere to make the wine other than her home's laundry room. It was 14 minutes from home, and it definitely had character! After a year of renovations, Ridgewood Winery was open to the public. Tracy is in charge of everything customer related but the wine-making. The winery hosts many events including: painting parties, trivia nights, bingos, kitten yoga, murder mystery parties with a local theater company, concerts, weddings, private parties, ghost tours, and much more. Tracy's background planning employee events at Vanguard has helped, and it is something she

believes comes natural to her. She reiterates, "The reason I keep doing all of these events is to keep people coming back. We get new people all the time, and then they come back and bring their friends. Right now everyone is going nuts over the wine slushies. They sit here next to the fire pit and just enjoy the evening."



Ridgewood Winery is on the National Historic Registry. It was part of the Underground Railroad and Lenni-Lenape Indian tribe. Tracy clarifies, "We are the only winery making its own wine in a National Historic Registered House. There are other wineries that sell within a historic site, but do not produce it." Ridgewood was built in 1725 by the Lewis family, and the addition was added in 1811 by the Jacob Dick family. For Tracy, history was not something she was interested in during high school. Now, Tracy loves sharing history and the history of the winery with children who may be visiting with their parents. "The kids are bored because their parents are wine tasting so I ask them what they are learning in school. I ask them if they know about the Underground Railroad, and then I will give them a tour of the building. You can read about it in books, but until it's in front of you, it doesn't hit home. Hopefully you can get through to the kids. We get upset that people are trying to erase history. We need to learn from it." At one time, the property had been slated for demolition. The local

community saved it by having it listed on the National Registry. Before the Smiths' purchased the building, it had been vacant for 10 years. Tracy adds, "It was supposed to be torn down because it was in bad shape, but all of this history would be gone. I will show the kids the windows with the hand-blown glass. They don't see that anymore. They look through panes that come from Lowe's and don't see the sand particles. They didn't have Lowe's in 1700, everything was hand made."

Not only does Tracy handle the day-to-day operations of Ridgewood she also does off-site outings. She continues, "I get to meet a lot of people. I take wine with the staff, and we go to a lot of places with some of our business partners. We do wine tastings at events and places like Daniel Boone Homestead, Joanna Furnace, Colebrook Railroad, and other historic places. It's nice because it's connected. We go a lot of places other wineries don't." It's not as simple as packing up and heading out though. There are many rules and regulations when the wine is taken off-site. Tracy has to submit an application for a permit so the state knows where they are going. They also have to be careful about sponsorship especially when approached by school districts. Tracy concurs, "The schools come to us for donations, but what does it look like when a winery is giving a wine basket for a school district or putting Ridgewood Winery on a cheerleading outfit? First of all, I can't, because we have to watch our image and how it can be perceived as something different." Tracy is also the president of the Berks County Wine Trail. The BCWT was started in 2005 as an outreach to locals and visitors from all over Pennsylvania and the nation. It now includes 15 wineries.



Although Tracy owns a winery selling her husband's wine, she is not a wine drinker. She laughs, "The wine drinkers are the rest of the staff and the customers." When asking people to try new wines Tracy and Bill never ask people what they like about the wine; they ask what they don't like. She adds, "You can always get compliments on how great it is, but if you don't know what they don't like, you can't change it." Ridgewood is definitely doing something right. In addition to local, state and national awards, Ridgewood has won three international awards for their wine. To Tracy, the scariest part about starting a winery was the "not knowing." Tracy explains, "80% of wine drinkers are women. What will bring women here? What will they like? How much money will we need? Are we going to lose everything? You are also dealing with the PA Liquor Control Board, the ATF, The Food and Drug Industry, because of the product we are making."



Tracy and Bill have three children: Brandon, Jeremy, and Jessica. They also have 7 grandchildren. Tracy shares, "They all remember growing up with their dad making wine. They all know how to make wine, and they will sometimes come around to help, but they don't have an interest right now. We are in the process of opening a new location, so who knows." Last year, Tracy's oldest grandchild helped and she admits it's so different working with this new generation. She adds, "The cellphone, the social media, when you talk to this generation you talk to them differently. But if you want to know what the newest social media trend is, you ask them!" With clientele in all different age groups, social media is important for small businesses including the winery. Ridgewood's Facebook has 5,000 followers that customers rely on to know what's happening at the winery. Tracy does all of the social media posting, and she sometimes struggles with her "Lancaster County Accent." She adds, "People tell me about my accent all the time, but I don't hear it. I write the way I talk.

I think our customers like the relevance. They say when they read something I wrote, 'I hear Tracy talking to me.'"

With 18 different flavors and types of wine and Tracy's endless fun events, a trip to Birdsboro isn't really that far from Denver!

Join us on the Cocalico Alumni Bus Trip on 11/4/18 to meet Tracy and tour the winery. Ridgewood winery is one of the stops on our trip!



Cocalico Alumni Bus Trip Peddler's Village & Wineries Saturday November 3rd

- 8:00 AM Arrive at the Cocalico High School and check in
- 8:15 AM Bus leaves the school
- 10:00 AM Arrive at Peddler's Village, Lahaska PA
- 2:00 PM Be back at the bus to load shopping bags
- 2:10 PM Bus leaves Peddler's Village
- 2:30 PM Arrive at Sand Castle Winery, Erwinna PA. Group splits in half for tour & tasting
- 4:00 PM Bus leaves Sand Castle Winery
- 4:45 PM Arrive at Spinnerstown Hotel Restaurant & Taproom, Quakertown PA. for dinner
- 5:50 PM Bus leaves Spinnerstown
- 6:30 PM Arrive at Ridgewood Winery, Birdsboro PA for wine tasting
- 8:00 PM Bus leaves Ridgewood Winery
- 9:00 PM Return to Cocalico High School

See Next Page for Registration Form or visit www.cocalicoalumni.org/AllClassBusTour.

Registration deadline is Friday, October 26, 2018.



**Cocalico Alumni Bus Trip
Peddler's Village & Wineries
Saturday November 3, 2018**

Please join the Cocalico Alumni Association for a day of shopping, wine tasting, dinner and catching up with old friends. This trip, which we hope will be the first of many, is scheduled for 11/3/18. To get the day started, we will meet our motor coach at the Cocalico High School at 8:00 AM.

Our first stop will be Peddler's Village in Lahaska PA. This historic village has charming colonial-style buildings, beautiful gardens, shopping and dining. Start your Christmas shopping at the 60+ shops ranging from comfort food shops to trendy fashions, home goods, unique toys, local artisans and Fine Art Galleries. The Village will be hosting its annual Apple Festival on this day, meaning that there will be plenty of apples themed items and stands for you to enjoy.

After four hours of shopping, we will board the bus and take a short trip down to the Sand Castle Winery in Erwinna, PA. This 10,000 sf. castle includes an art gallery, a garden pavilion, and an expansive tasting room in their wine cellar. At Sand Castle we will take a tour of their winery and get a lesson on how this family produces award winning wines as well as a tasting.

The bus will then take us to dinner at the Spinnerstown Hotel Restaurant and Taproom. Here we will have a large meal that will include an appetizer, warm artesian rolls & butter, an entrée with two side dishes, dessert and nonalcoholic drink of your choice. (Menu: Mixed Greens Salad, choice of either Beef Tenderloin Tips or Stuffed Chicken Breast, Roasted New Potatoes, Green beans with Almonds & Bacon, and Warm Apple Pie ala mode.

After dinner we will waddle back on the bus and have time for our bellies to settle until we stop at our last destination which is Ridgewood Winery in Birdsboro, PA. This winery is owned by one of our very own Cocalico Alum Tracy (Miller) Smith, Class of '81 and her husband William and is located on the Historic Ridgewood Farmstead. There we will be tasting several of their award winning wines.

The cost for this trip will be \$100 per person. Includes, deluxe motor coach & tip for the driver, tasting & tour fee at Sand Castle Winery, dinner at Spinnerstown Restaurant and tasting fee at Ridgewood Winery. This trip is for Cocalico Alumni, which includes all former students and staff of the Cocalico School District, Cocalico Union, East Cocalico and Denver High Schools and 1 guest.

Register – fill in the form below or go to www.cocalicoalumni.org/AllClassBusTour and register.

Name _____ Class of _____

Email _____ Phone _____

Attending _____ X \$100.00 = \$ _____ total owed Payable to **Cocalico Alumni Association**

Meal choice for each person attending _____ Beef Tenderloin Tips with Burgundy sauce

_____ Stuffed Chicken Breast w/bread filling and gravy

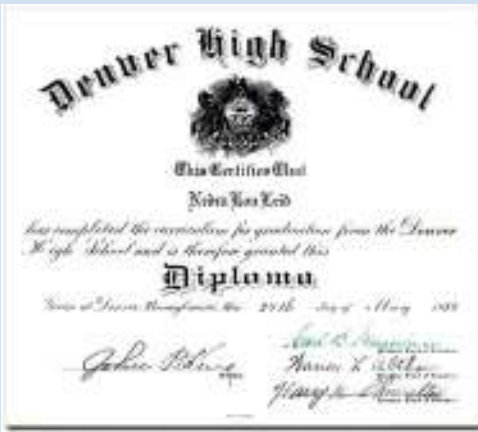
Mail to Cocalico Alumni Association, PO Box 177, Denver PA 17517.



Brief History of Cocalico School District

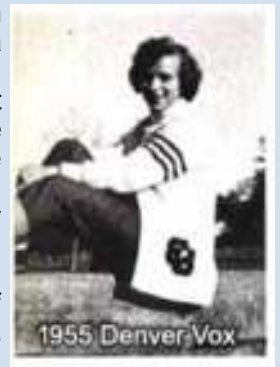


Recently a few thoughts and questions came up with the Alumni Association. We spent several weeks tracking down the answers and thought we'd share them with you.



First was how we came to be Cocalico Union. In 1950 it was put to a vote of the people to unite three school districts: East Cocalico Township, West Cocalico Township (including the Borough of Denver) and the Adamstown students who, at the time, were attending the Governor Mifflin School District. In 1953 the school board started entertaining bids for building the new Cocalico Union Jr.-Sr. High School which is currently the elementary school on South Fourth Street in Denver. That building was open for students for the 1955-56 school year.

Starting with the 1951-52 school year, Denver High School and East Cocalico High School became part of a larger entity. Denver High School, East Cocalico High School as well as the elementary schools in East Cocalico and West Cocalico Schools Districts were consolidated into the Cocalico Union School District. The East Cocalico students attended the East Cocalico High



School building. The students in the West Cocalico School District and the Borough of Denver attended the Denver High School building. Students from the two high schools attended common commencement exercises and received diplomas according to the school they attended. Class trips were taken together. Each school held their own prom in their respective school. The class of 1955 (DHS and ECHS) held their commencement exercises in the new Cocalico Union Jr.-Sr. High School auditorium. The athletic teams and the cheerleaders from the two high schools combined to compete and cheer as Cocalico Union.

The school year 1955-56 saw the students from East Cocalico Township, West Cocalico Township, the Borough of Denver and the Borough of Adamstown attending school together, for the first time, in the new Cocalico Union Jr.-Sr. High School building which now serves as an elementary school.

The 1965-66 class was the last class to graduate as Cocalico Union. Since our name was Cocalico Union, our initials were, of course, CU. At that time, legislation deemed that the initial "U" in the name of an educational institution must stand for "University." So starting with the 1966-67 school year, we became known simply as Cocalico. This, however, created a problem for our school's alma mater since several lines referred to "dear CU." After conferring with Dennis Sweigart, Cocalico Union class of 1959, the words were changed to "and to the White and Blue forever we'll be true."

Another thing we were asked to look into was how we became known as the Eagles. We had a mounted eagle in the trophy case in the main lobby of the Cocalico Union High School but we thought that eagle was there because Mr. Harry Schaeffer, teacher and baseball coach, found the eagle and had it mounted. However the timeline didn't quite fit but that was overlooked at the time. The association started looking into the story of the eagle and we ended up speaking with Nedra (Leid) Bearinger, Denver High School class of 1955. She informed us that the eagle was our mascot because around the start of the 1954-55 school year, a vote was taken and it was decided the eagle would be our mascot. Nedra had a copy of the "Denver Hi-Notes" which was the Denver Hi newspaper. On page 4 of VOL. XXVII is a write-up of several Cocalico Union baseball games for that year. In the articles the team is referred to as the Eagles (see article on next page). The eagle pictured above was found in the district circa 1938 and mounted that year. For years the eagle stood in the gymnasium of the Denver High School on Walnut Street in Denver. When equipment was moved into the new Cocalico Union High School, the eagle was moved and it was placed in the display case in the main lobby of the new Cocalico Union Jr.-Sr. High School. Hence we became the Cocalico Union Eagles and later evolved to the Cocalico Eagles. That eagle, our original mascot, now occupies a space in a small trophy case in the gym lobby along with the trophies from the 1974 basketball team.



Some interesting history can be read in the 1954 Denver High School yearbook, the 1955 Denver High School yearbook, the 1956 Cocalico Union yearbook, and the 1955 Dedication Booklet for the Cocalico Union High School. These can be found in the "Yearbooks" section and in the "Cocalico History" section of the alumni website at www.cocalicoalumni.org.

• history

We, the class of 1954, entered the East Cocalico High School building in 1949.

As we began the 1950-51 term, we had, as our home room advisor, Miss Fry. Room 1 became the home of forty freshmen. We elected our yearly class officers with: Theodore Schlegel, President; Carl Lorah Vice President; Betty Miller, Secretary, and Janice Horst, Treasurer. We were the last class to have E. C. H. S. on our freshman rings. Parties, hayrides, and dances were scheduled throughout the year. A trip to Hershey Park ended our freshman year.

Room 2 became ours in our sophomore year; this was supervised by Mrs. Graham. Of twenty-six enrolled in the class the following officers were elected: Theodore Schlegel, President; Leroy Witmer, Vice President; Gloria Hornberger, Secretary, and Kay Fritz, Treasurer. Blue and gray were selected as colors for class jackets. We had the honor of wearing the first Cocalico Union jackets. We completed the year with a trip to Hershey Park.

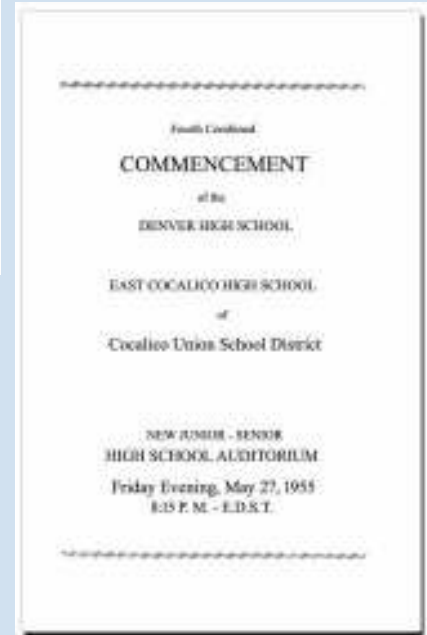
To the class of 1954:

School boards over the entire nation are facing a challenge which demands both courage, and leadership. The public school population of the country is almost 30 million pupils. There is a shortage of over 300,000 classrooms to house these pupils and an additional 70,000 qualified instructors are needed to teach them. Careful planning to meet the needs of this expanding enrollment has been one of the objectives in our own district. The new Junior-Senior High School, now in the process of construction, is evidence of this planning.

Even though your class graduates too early to benefit directly from the improved facilities offered in the new building, you have acquired a background which can make you tomorrow's leaders in the constant struggle to maintain our democratic way of life by providing the coming generation with the most efficient educational opportunities.

CARL MUSSELMAN, Pres.
Cocalico Union School District

ECHS Yearbook



TO THE CLASS OF '55

Denver Hi-Notes

HAPPIEST, GOOD LUCK AND SUCCESS!

VOL. XXVII MAY 25, 1955 No. 6

Senior Activities Near End

TERRE HILL

The first game of the season for Cocalico was an engagement with Terre Hill on the home diamond. Sonny Long and Ray Sweigart did mound work for the Eagles while Skip Bender toiled for the Hillians. Cocalico was victorious 7-6.

LITITZ

Thank you to Sam McQuate for all the time that he put into researching Cocalico's history for this article. He spoke with different alumni and scoured through many documents. Do you have something to add? Please contact us at: kfirestone@cocalico.org.

Class of 1988 - 30th Reunion

Saturday, October 13, 2018

Harding & Yost Building - 142 Walnut Street, Denver



Social Hour 6:00 pm

Dinner 7:00 p.m.

\$30.00 Per Person

Includes appetizers, dinner & drinks.

Please RSVP by 9/28/18

Send checks to "Cocalico Class of '88

303 Stonecrest Court, Stevens

CUSTOM LETTERED BRONZE PLAQUES

For Your
HISTORIC HOME



ERIE LANDMARK COMPANY
NATIONAL REGISTER PLAQUES
MEDALLIONS TO ROADSIDE MARKERS

CALL FOR FREE BROCHURE
800-874-7848
WWW.ERIELANDMARK.COM



The Cloud Chaser



By Peter W. Riffle

Peter is a nationally recognized teacher of special needs children; but more importantly, he is also a person with multiple learning disabilities. He knows what it's like to be challenged on "both sides of the desk." *The Cloud Chaser* is a "grass-roots" approach for teachers of children with disabilities and for parents of special needs kids. Log on to thecloudchaser.net to learn more.



**COCALICO
EDUCATION
FOUNDATION**
Community Supporting Education

More than *4,965* youth impacted over the last five school years

- **Books for Babies**
Children's books for infants, provided to new parents through a partnership with WellSpan Ephrata Hospital
- **Books to Grow On**
Children's books for preschool children in the Cocalico School District, provided through annual mailings in the years they are one, two, three, and four years old
- **K-2 iPad Initiative**
A set of five iPads provided for each Kindergarten, First Grade, and Second Grade classroom in the Cocalico School District
- **High School Maker Spaces**
3-D printers, laser cutters, robotics kits, Virtual Reality goggles, video-conferencing equipment, and a green-screen room, all available to high school students for use with various projects
- **Classroom Grants**
Field trips, flexible seating, family nights, coding programs, oratory initiative
- **Family Fund**
Clothing, various medical needs, counseling services, school lunches, club/sport activity fees and school trips, all provided to low-income children in need

More than *12,193*

People employed in Cocalico Community whose companies have been or will be impacted by the enrichment of the future workforce

More than *21,696*

Cocalico Community Members impacted by the enrichment of the youth in the Cocalico School District

The Cocalico Education Foundation is a nonprofit organization that provides support for educational enhancement in the Cocalico school community.

P.O. Box 177, 800 South Fourth Street, Denver, PA 17517 | (717) 336-1413

Obituaries



Erica D. Heilman, 35, of Ephrata, passed away peacefully with her family by her side on Friday, June 15, 2018 at the Hershey Medical Center. She was a daughter of Donald L. and Linda D. (Remp) Heilman of Adamstown. Erica grew up in Adamstown and was a 2001 graduate of Cocalico High School. She was a waitress at the former Doneckers Restaurant and most recently worked at Redners in Ephrata as a cashier. She enjoyed shopping, crocheting, and puzzles. Erica's greatest treasure was her family. She showered her nieces and nephews with endless love. Erica was a gift-giver, always bringing multiple presents for everyone. She also loved her pets of all kinds. In addition to her parents, Erica is survived by her grandmother: Dorothy Heilman; five siblings: Jessica Horst (Darwin), Michael Heilman (Nicole), Amanda Ferrari (Josh), Kevin Heilman (Sara), and Heather Heilman; nieces and nephews: Dezeræ Shives, Dallas Heilman, Dixie Heilman, Cyrus Solt, Ryker Ferrari, and Levi Heilman. Also special to her was her companion: Lester Enck, Jr.; and his parents: Lester and Dawn Enck, with whom she resided.

Carl Leroy Meckley, 72, of Schuylkill Haven, passed away Tuesday, June 26, 2018, at his residence. Carl was born in Seven Valleys on Sept. 8, 1945, a son of the late Lottie M. (Hirsch) and George E. Meckley. He was the husband of C. Beth (Meck) Meckley; they were wed Aug. 18, 2000. He was a member of Faith Church, a graduate of Spring Grove High School and received his master's degree from Millersville University. He worked as a science and physics teacher at Cocalico High School for 35 years. He was a scoutmaster in Ephrata. He was a member of the Orwigsburg Lions Club and was very active in the Hope Initiative at Faith Church. He would have celebrated 35 years of sobriety on June 28. He loved hunting with his son and fishing with his friends. Carl adored his grandchildren. Carl is survived by two daughters: Erika Aldridge; and Cindy, wife of Jarrad Bernitsky; two sons: Brian, husband of Khymn Meckley, of Germansville; and Gary Heim; a sister: Gloria Krebs; and sister-in-law: Adrienne Meckley; and grandchildren: Lucian Meckley, Morgan Aldridge, and Bella Bernitsky. He is predeceased by his brother: Paul Meckley.

W. Randall Kegerise, Denver, passed away at home July 9, 2018. Born November 3, 1930 in Denver, PA, to the late Warren and Elva (Becker) Kegerise, he was the husband of Evelyn (Gehman) Kegerise with whom he celebrated 67 years of marriage June 16, 2018. Randy was employed at Wickes Lumber as an Inventory/Purchasing Manager for 39 years. He was an active member of Ephrata Lodge #665 (served as Worshipful Master), Lancaster Lodge of Perfection, Reading Scottish Rite, Rajah Shrine and Children's Dyslexia Center of Lancaster, where he served for 14 years; 4 as Vice President and 4 as President. He received the honor of a 33° A.A.S.P. Mason on September 28th, 1999. He was an active member of St. John's UCC, Denver, where he held various positions within the church throughout his 73 year membership. In addition to his parents, Randy was preceded in death by a brother, Gene Kegerise; daughter-in-law, Vickie Kegerise; and grandson, Keith Hepfer. In addition to his wife, he is survived by a daughter, Susan Hepfer (husband Charles), sons, Kim Randall, Noel (wife Lori), and Peter, daughter, Heidi McDonough (husband John), and son, Jon (wife Jill); grandchildren, Corey Hepfer, Artis and Martin Kegerise, Melissa and Shawn Burky (wife Heather), Jon Randall and Benjamin Kegerise; great-grandchildren, Bryce and Everett Burky; brother, Craig Kegerise and sister, Colleen Hornberger (husband Phillip).



John Alan McComsey, 74, of Denver, passed away on Monday, Aug. 6, 2018, at the Gardens of Stevens. Born in Chester County, he was the son of the late Harold and Mildred (Rissinger) McComsey. He was the loving husband of Marnell (Getz) McComsey. Surviving, in addition to his wife, are four children and eight grandchildren: son: Brian (Karen) McComsey, granddaughters, Brittany and Jada; daughter: Angie (Marty) Slickers, granddaughter, Alyssa; son: Charles (Brandie) McComsey, granddaughters, Madison, Keira and Leila; son: Chad (Jen) McComsey, granddaughter, Alana and grandson, Evan. Also surviving are two brothers: Robert McComsey and Lavern (Marion) McComsey. In addition to his parents, John was preceded in death by two brothers: Charles and William McComsey; and a sister: Midge Sult. A veteran of the U.S. Navy, John went into law enforcement becoming a police officer for 30 years before retiring as Chief of Police in Denver Borough. He then went on to work as a toll collector for the Pennsylvania Turnpike for 12 years, retiring in 2006. John was a life-time member of the Reinholds VFW, the Denver Fire Company, and was an avid member of the Denver Lions Club. He enjoyed spending time with his family, working games for the Cocalico School District, and talking and visiting with friends and folks around town.

Margaret Ann (Cross) Englert, 86, of Denver, Pa, passed away Monday, July 16, 2018 at Landis Homes, Lititz where she most recently resided. Ann was the devoted wife of the late Jerry H. Englert who passed February 1, 2005. Born in Mill Hall, Pa, she was the daughter of the late Ernest J. "Sam" & Eva (Whitmyer) Cross. Ann graduated from Mill Hall High School, class of 1950. She was the editor-in-chief of the school yearbook and an active member of the drama club, school newspaper and choral club. After residing in San Antonio, Texas during her husband's 8-years with the United States Air Force (Kelly AFB and Randolph AFB) and residing in Johnstown, Pennsylvania, Ann and Jerry raised their family in the Denver area. Ann was an active member of the Peace United Church of Christ, Swartzville, Pennsylvania, singing in the choir, serving on church council, and volunteering on numerous church committees. Ann was formerly a member of the Adamstown Women's Club, volunteered for the East Cocalico Lions Club of which her husband was a former member, and actively supported the Adamstown Library fundraising campaigns. Ann was an assistant librarian at Cocalico Senior High School for many years where she greatly enjoyed spending time with the students and supporting their learning each and every day. Ann was a talented artist, enjoyed painting, sewing, wood crafts and most recently, quilting. She was a lifetime member of the Eastern Star (Shertz, Texas chapter). Ann was proud of her family and treasured every moment spent with her family, especially her grandsons. Ann is survived by a loving family and many dear friends.



Obituaries



Richard G. Stewart, 82, of Ephrata, passed away on Sunday, Aug. 19, 2018, at Hospice & Community Care, Mount Joy. He was born in Ephrata to the late Frederick "Reese" and Helen (Givler) Stewart, and was the husband of the late Shirley Faye (Friend) Stewart, who died in 2015. Richard was a graduate of Denver High School and Temple University. He was a member of the Brickerville United Lutheran Church and a member of Ephrata Blue Lodge #665 F & AM, where he was a past Worshipful Master, Ephrata Lions Club, Junior Chamber of Commerce, former president of Ephrata Borough Council, and former president of Council of Government. He served on the boards for Ephrata Public Library and Cocalico Historical Society, where he was a past president and treasurer. He served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War, and then worked as an estimator for High Concrete Structures, Inc., for 33 years prior to his retirement. Richard is survived by three sisters: Karolyn Johnson of Vineland, N.J.; Jean Cammauf of Ephrata; and Freda Fasnacht of Stevens; several nieces and nephews; and great-nieces and nephews.

Clyde Ebersole, 93, of Ephrata, entered into rest at his home on Aug. 17, 2018. He was the son of the late John and Mabel (Fahnestock) Ebersole. He is survived by his high school sweetheart and loving wife of 72 years: Bea (Coldren) Ebersole. He was a farmer and later spent 25 years working for the U.S. Postal Service in Stevens. During his retirement years, he worked for Warren Weaver Realty in Lancaster. He was a life member of Mohler Church of the Brethren in Ephrata Township. He was a graduate of East Cocalico Vocational School in 1942, where he captained the basketball team. Following high school, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and served during World War II. He was a past president of the Cocalico School District board of directors. He was a member of the East Cocalico Lions Club, the Ephrata Lodge #665, Free and Accepted Masons, Reading Lodge of Perfection and Reading Consistory. He was an avid fisherman, boating dozens of different waterways from the Arctic watershed to the Florida Keys. He and Bea traveled extensively and were happy snowbirds in Bradenton, Fla., for the past 25 years. He enjoyed watching the Phillies and college basketball. Also surviving is a daughter: Darlene, spouse of James Heian, Sarasota, Fla.; and a son: Craig, spouse of Debra, Ephrata; and five grandchildren: Ellen, Laura, Derek, Mark and Siri; and six great-grandchildren.



Allen P. Garner, 82, of Denver, passed away surrounded by his loving daughters on Sunday, Aug. 26, 2018, in WellSpan Ephrata Community Hospital, after being in the hayfield that afternoon. He was the loving husband of the late Ardel F (Showalter) Garner, who passed in April. Born in Sinking Spring, he was the son of the late Arthur and Mary (Blatt) Garner. He was a graduate of Cocalico High School, Class of 1955; worked as a mason until 1961, when he joined the former Sperry New Holland, now CNH. He retired as a machinist after 30 years. After retirement he enjoyed farm life, operating his Ox Yoke Stables in Denver, training, boarding, showing and teaching riders of all ages. Horses were always part of Allen's life. He also enjoyed spending time at his mountain home and warm winters in Florida for the past 12 years. He was an avid hunter, taking annual trips to Colorado. Allen had a fun competitive spirit and loved playing games and cards. Most of all, he adored the special relationship he had with his great-grandchildren. He was a member of Cocalico Sportsmen's Club., Ickesburg Sportsmen's Association, Masonic Lodge, Ephrata Lodge, Cochran Hunt Club, Millerstown Moose, Mount Pleasant Fire Company, and the Reinholds VFW. Allen is survived by three daughters: Vicki Garner-Sweigart, wife of Michael; Kathy G. Wilson, wife of Kenneth of Honeybrook; and Heidi G. Ulrich, wife of Chad, of Denver; a granddaughter: Kelsey E. Gray, wife of Michael; and a grandson: Tyler Ulrich; three great-grandchildren: Ava, Waylon, and Lane; three step-grandchildren: Kenny Wilson, Julie Wilson, and Beth Drupp; and a brother: Robert Wenrich.

Carl of Reinholds; Kathy G. Wilson, wife of Kenneth of Honeybrook; and Heidi G. Ulrich, wife of Chad, of Denver; a granddaughter: Kelsey E. Gray, wife of Michael; and a grandson: Tyler Ulrich; three great-grandchildren: Ava, Waylon, and Lane; three step-grandchildren: Kenny Wilson, Julie Wilson, and Beth Drupp; and a brother: Robert Wenrich.

Robert "Bob" L. Redcay, 64, of Denver, passed away on Friday, Aug. 24, 2018, at Hospice & Community Care, Mount Joy. He was born in Ephrata to the late Paul and Mary (Kramer) Redcay, and was the husband of Bonnie J. (Strohl) Redcay, with whom he shared 42 years of marriage. Bob was a machine operator for Kalas Manufacturing for 42½ years. He was a graduate of Cocalico High School, class of 1972. He enjoyed hunting, watching NASCAR, and riding his Harley Davidson. In addition to his wife, Bob is survived by his mother-in-law: Helen; and brother-in-law: John.



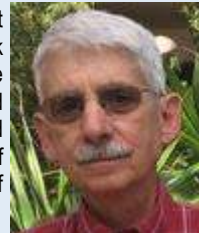
Frederick "Fred" B. Plowfield, 75, of Elizabeth Township, passed away unexpectedly on Tuesday, Aug. 21, 2018, at University Medical Center, New Orleans, La. Born in Reading on May 17, 1943, he was the son of the late Charles Frederick and Kathryn (Scheetz) Plowfield, and was the husband of Doris "Dory" M. (Binkley) Plowfield. She was the love of his life and celebrated 54 years of marriage on June 6. In addition to his wife, Fred is survived by a sister: Patricia Ann Plowfield of South Setauket, N.Y. Fred attended Cocalico High School, graduating in 1962; he then enlisted in the United States Navy, serving from 1962 to 1966. In 1967, he joined the Lancaster County Sheriff's Department and attended the National Sheriff's Institute/Southern California College and the FBI National Academy/University of Virginia. He was elected Justice of the Peace in Denver, serving between 1968 and 1971. In 1967, he was appointed as a Deputy Sheriff and then promoted to the position of Chief Deputy in 1970. In 1972, he was elected Sheriff of Lancaster County, the youngest person elected to that position. After retiring from government, he joined the private sector by purchasing his father-in-law's insurance business, Melvin S. Binkley Insurance, in 1980 and later sold the business in 1990 to retire. After retirement, he spent his time handling real estate holdings and The Plowfield Foundation, and supporting charities: Shriners Children's Hospital, Make-A-Wish, and St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. He was the recipient of the Outstanding Young Man of America, J. Edgar Hoover Memorial Award, WSBA Citation of Achievement, The Lancaster City Police Official Commendation, the Ten Foot Tall Award-PA Region 2, and honorable citations from Tennessee, Louisiana and Arkansas. Fred was a member of Ephrata Blue Lodge #665 F.&A.M. for 54 years, Northern Masonic Jurisdiction, USA, 32nd degree Consistory; Shriners International, Rajah Shrine Center; Royal Order of Jesters, Allentown, Court No. 128, where he held office as past director and Royal Constable, as well as honorable membership in numerous other courts. He was also a member of the Lancaster County Shrine Club; Kachina Klub; The Order of Sobib; Cloister Post #429, American Legion; Slumbering Groundhog Lodge of Quarryville; National and Pennsylvania Sheriffs' Associations, committees on legislation and training; FBINAA 99th session; Pennsylvania Magistrates Association; MRA Police Firearm Instructor; Lancaster County Constables Association; Honorable Order of Kentucky Colonels; Lebanon Country Club; USGA Cocalico Jaycees (director) and a charter member director of Bames Hall and the Lancaster County Prison. Fred was also an active Republican Committeeman in Denver Borough. He was campaign chairman for the re-election of Senator Clarence Manbeck, a member of the Lancaster

Obituaries



Mary Elizabeth Martin, 94, of Lititz, formerly of Stevens, passed away peacefully with family members by her side, on Tuesday, Aug. 28, 2018, at United Zion Retirement Community. She was born in West Earl Township on Oct. 1, 1923 to the late William and Barbara (Musser) Burkhart, and was the wife of the late I. Homer Martin, who died in January 2017. They had shared 72 years of marriage. Mary was a member of Mill Creek Community Church. She and her husband loved to travel and were in all of the states, except Alaska. They also traveled to Spain, Rome, Mexico and El Salvador. She enjoyed sewing, crocheting, needlepoint, and cross stitch. She had also enjoyed being a Cocalico 4-H leader. She was a graduate of Ephrata H.S., Class of '44. Mary worked as a cafeteria worker for Cocalico High School, and had also worked at the Triple G. Store. She and her husband owned and operated a nut and dried fruit stand at Green Dragon for a number of years. Mary is survived by two sons: Rev. Clyde L., husband of Sharon L. (Kilhefner) Martin of Akron; and Jay H., husband of Barbara (Engstrom) Martin of Waseca, Minn.; a daughter: Beverly J., wife of George Martin of Stevens; eight grandchildren; and 25 great-grandchildren.

Charles "Chuck" Strohl, 72, of Brownstown, passed away peacefully on Friday, August 31, 2018, at Hospice and Community Care, Mount Joy. He was born in Ephrata to the late Charles and Kathryn (Weaver) Strohl and was the husband of Wanda J. Strohl (Mowrey). Chuck was a graduate of Franklin and Marshall College and Cocalico Union High School. He was a veteran of the US Army, serving during the Vietnam War. He worked his entire career for CNH in New Holland as a systems analyst. Throughout his life, his passion was local and New York theatre. He enjoyed reading biographies, working crossword puzzles, spending time with his family and grandchildren, and watching baseball; he was an avid Phillies fan. In addition to his wife, Chuck is survived by a son, Christopher, husband of Maria Strohl of Harleysville; a daughter, Stephanie, wife of Mathew Smith of Whitehall; 2 grandchildren, Jakob and Morgan Strohl; a sister, Pat Fortna of Landisville and a brother, Tom Strohl of Denver. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by a sister, Charlotte Deyer.



Gordon L. Schweitzer, 71, of Stevens, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, Sept. 9, 2018, at home. He was born in Reading to the late Edwin and Annabelle (Fritz) Schweitzer, and was the husband of Erla Mae (Balmer) Schweitzer, with whom he celebrated 17 years of marriage on June 3. Gordon was a long-time pinochle player with his buddies from Denver, and also collected baseball cards. Gordon was a 1965 graduate of Cocalico Union High School. He served with the U.S. Navy during the Vietnam War. He worked for Kalas Manufacturing and prior to that Bollman Hat Company. In addition to his wife, Gordon is survived by four siblings: Michael Schweitzer, companion of Joleen; Melinda, wife of the late Donald Anderson; Scott Schweitzer, husband of Alyce; and Melissa, wife of Doug Coldren. He was preceded in death by a stepson: Jimmy Haller.

Heidi A. Diskin. (née Shober), passed away Sept. 7, 2018. She was born and raised in Ephrata. She was the beloved wife of Jonathan "JD" Diskin; and loving mother of Jackson and Dylan Diskin. She was the loving daughter of Mary and the late Randell Shober; and sister of Tammy Graybill and Michelle Shober. Services were held Sept. 12 at D'Anjolle Memorial Home of Broomall. Interment was in Glenwood Memorial Gardens, Broomall. In lieu of flowers, the family requests that contributions be made in Heidi's memory to Bringing Hope Home, 641 Swedesford Road, Malvern, PA 19355.



It is with great sadness that the family of Dennis A. Rupp announces his passing after a long illness on Sept. 5, 2018. Dennis was born on July 27, 1940 in Allentown. He attended Cocalico High School in Denver. After high school, Dennis went to serve in the United States Navy; from there he worked for the United States Postal service where he retired after 26 years of service. Dennis was an avid baseball player, and enjoyed his cabin in Vermont where he hunted with family. He also enjoyed gardening and doing yardwork. Dennis will be lovingly remembered by his children: Dennis J. Rupp of Nashua, N.H.; Kimberly J. Thomas and her husband Kurt of Amherst, N.H.; Cheryl L. Rupp of Tewksbury, Mass.; and Denise H. Rupp of Amherst, N.H.; brother: Dwight I. Rupp of Ephrata; nine grandchildren; 11 great-grandchildren; and his former wives: Claudia Antolini and Sandra M Lyon. He was predeceased by his daughter: Tia Lyn Rupp; his parents: Earl F. and Sarah B. Rupp; and his sister: Dolores A. Rupp, all from Pennsylvania.

Dawn L. Hary, 63, of Ephrata, Born Aug. 18, 1954, in Ephrata, she was a daughter of the late Raymond Reitz Jr. and Josephine Reitz, who survives. Tuesday, Aug. 14, 2018 at 19:23 hours, one of the strongest women I've ever known lost her battle with cancer. Pilot, SCUBA diver, blackbelt, swordswoman; Dawn Hary left this place behind to join her sister, Deb; her father, Raymond; and God in Heaven. In addition to her mother, surviving are her husband: Timothy Hary; sister: Dianne, and husband, Benjamin R. Zoll Jr.; nephews: Tyler and Casey Zoll; and niece: Laney Zoll. She was predeceased by her sister: Deborah Reitz Skoglund; as well as her father.



Obituaries



Sylvia A. Hackman, 82, of Ephrata, passed away on Saturday, September 8, 2018, at Keystone Villa. She was born in Blainesport to the late Levi and Helen (Shober) Gensemer. She was a member of Faith United Lutheran Church, Denver. Following high school graduation she completed the Bryland School of Cosmetology course. She enjoyed gardening, and the beach house in Lewes, Delaware. Sylvia worked as a hairdresser, secretary, and an account manager for Weinhold, Nichol, & Co. Sylvia is survived by 2 sons, Michael J., husband of Wilda Hackman of Denver, David L., husband of Robin Hackman of Mohnton, 2 daughters, Cheri L., wife of James Rozetar of Denver, Beth A., wife of Dean Witmer of Ephrata; 9 grandchildren, 2 step-grandchildren; 9 great-grandchildren; a great-grandson to arrive soon; 2 step-great-great-grandchildren; a sister, Jeanette Bomberger of Mount Joy; and 2 nephews. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by companion, Walter Detterline, and a great-grandson, Adem.

David B. Heinaman, 71, passed away peacefully after a long illness in the presence of his family on Sunday, August 12, 2018 & is now at rest in the presence of our Lord. David is survived by his beloved wife of nearly 50 years, Joyce, his brother Robert, and his children Ilsa, Mike and Matt, along with their spouses and six grandchildren. Faith in Christ was a cornerstone in David's life & he was always aware of God's grace in all things. He considered the time since his diagnosis a blessing, and saw a son married, several new grandchildren & many new friends after moving to Luther Acres. David touched many lives during his 30 years in education & followed it with years of hard work in his consulting business. He was an avid runner & could be regularly seen on long walks with Joyce & a family dog tugging on the leash. He was grateful for the staff & care he received at Fox Chase Cancer Center & Luther Acres. David loved Jesus, his family and his friends, and led his life accordingly. He will be greatly missed, but we take comfort in that he is with Jesus and we will see him again.



Fred Carl Zuercher, 76, of Irvington, Ky., passed away at Vanderbilt Medical Center in Nashville, Tenn., on Friday, Aug. 31., 2018. He was born May 10, 1942 to Frank and Phoebe Zuercher in Lancaster. He was a member of the Cocalico High School Class of 1959. Fred was a graduate of the University of Kentucky and was a retired physical therapist for Breckinridge Home Health. He covered many of the surrounding counties and truly enjoyed his work. In 2003, Fred donated a kidney to his daughter, Annie. He devoted his time to gardening, carpentry, reading, and studying history. He was preceded in death by two brothers, Frank and David Zuercher. Fred is survived by his wife of 56 years: Carolyn (Ziener) Zuercher; two children: Fred Scott Zuercher and Annie Grace Payne (Jeremy); grandchildren: Joshua and Abraham Zuercher; Nora, Ava, and Marissa Payne.

Cocalico School District
 P.O. Box 800
 Denver, PA 17517
 Phone: 717-336-1413
 Email: alumni@cocalico.org



DID YOU KNOW?

Senior Citizens, age 65 & over and living within the Cocalico School District, are eligible for special lifetime passes which admit them without charge to all HOME sporting, drama, and musical events. These passes can be obtained by visiting the Administration Office at the front of the senior high school during normal business hours.



WE NEED YOUR HELP!

The Alumni Association is trying to identify the team mates in the above picture. Pictured is the 1953 Section IV Championship team. Do you know anyone in this picture? Drop us a line at alumni@cocalico.org.

