



Letters

Historic Bloomingdale church needs funds to rebuild

Editor: The Bloomingdale United Methodist Church is one of the oldest churches in Luzerne County. According to the County's records, the church building itself was erected in 1846 as the Bloomingdale Methodist Episcopal Church. (However, according to the account of L.T. Seward, Esq., the date was 1848.)

But the history of the church goes back further than either of these dates. The church got its start in 1796 when an itinerant preacher began meeting with seven people in a log schoolhouse (the old Wolfe School House) near where the church now stands.

Throughout its history the church has been part of different Methodist circuits. When it was still a "class meeting" it was taken into the Wyoming Circuit by Rev. Ephraim Chambers in 1800. After that it was part of the Harveyville Charge. In 1869 it became the Bloomingdale Charge with other

preaching "places" (often school houses) at Cragle Hill, Van Horn Hill, The Rock (at Oakdale) and Muhlenburg. Today the Bloomingdale Church and the Hunlock Creek Church are together.

The Bloomingdale United Methodist Church has been known for both its ice cream socials and its graveyard. (Hopefully the one has not led to the other!) Everyone who is familiar with the area knows of the long white building where the ice cream socials are held. This building, next to the church, is just as important to the life of the people as the church building. And those who are not afraid to give a hint about their age will tell you that at one time the whole building sat upon large pillars so that those who came to the socials in their horse and buggy could park underneath and escape any inclement weather.

Yet the Bloomingdale Church might also be known for its down to earth, helpful people. This help-

ful spirit even reached a young couple thousands of miles away from nation of Germany. In the summer of 1989 Nadja Hanke and her fiance Josef Kunze were visiting the family of Richard and Lois Cragle. Nadja had been an exchange student living with the Cragles some years earlier. While here, they decided to get married at the Bloomingdale Church. Nadja wrote about how the church helped people in trouble such as when someone's house burned down. She continued,

"I loved the ice cream socials because these people really worked for holding the community together. And then our wedding was something special because everybody tried to make it a beautiful day for us and they didn't even know Josef. Things like these are what I understand as acting like Christians."

However, hard times have recently fallen upon the Bloomingdale Church. We have all heard

people say, "It's been so long since I've gone to church, that if I did go, the roof would fall in. Well, one of those persons must have been to our church, because the roof started falling in."

For about three months worship services were held at the social hall. The roof has finally been fixed and we are back in the church. But there are other repair works needed on this 145 year old building, the total of all being over \$10,000.

This is a lot of money for a very small rural church. We have already received help from not only our church members but friends in the community for which we are grateful. If anyone else would like to help us, your contribution would be greatly appreciated. Donations, made payable to The Bloomingdale United Methodist Church, may be sent to Judy Williams, R.R. 1, Box 263, Hunlock Creek, Pa. 18621.

Rev. Wm. Lukesh
Hunlock Creek, Pa.

Urges United States to shake off chains of oil 'market'

Editor: Mr. Bartizek's call for a "real" energy policy in the March 13 issue is an extremely well considered plea for reason in a nation that seems to have misplaced its sensibilities.

In lieu of simple conservation and continued research for alternative energy, the United States continues its pursuit of cheap oil through reliance and total dependence on the unreliable and highly volatile "Market."

It was in our attempt to regulate the marketplace, i.e. the Mideast, that a half million young Americans were placed in harm's way

and that at least 100,000 human beings died in horrible ways.

Because of the "Gulf War", a heavy financial burden of billions of dollars has been forced upon not only Americans, but nearly the entire world. How much simpler it would have been to have spent those billions of desperately needed dollars on research and funding of already available clean energy technology: solar, geo-thermal, wind, hydro, etc.

As Mr. Bartizek wrote: "The rush of pride at having defeated a weak opponent will soon pass; the results of an ambitious energy policy would compound endlessly."

I would only add that the "rush

of pride" is the result of a shallow military victory. But unless and until Mr. Bush and Congress frees us of our enslavement to oil and violence, we will never feel the real

pride of true economic and political freedom.

John Allen
Sweet Valley

Cites honesty of finder of wallet

Editor: About three months ago I lost my pocketbook in the Dallas Area near Bankovich's in Dallas.

I've been trying to locate the young man who found and returned the pocketbook with all the contents in it. I just located his name yesterday. I've rewarded him

but I'd like the public to know the honesty of this young man, Jeff Bankovich of 114 White Birch Lane, Dallas.

It's good to see the honesty of young people in our area.

William Bell
Shavertown

HWI the friendly ones

Swing into Spring Sale

Bonus buy
9⁹⁷

32 Gallon Trash Container has tough, heavy wall construction. Withstands sub-zero temperatures or hot steam cleaning. Slate blue or chocolate. 600 946-2894(4), 608 634-2894(4)

3⁷⁷ Each

Vining Broom
House Broom, Sponge Mop or Dust Mop is sturdy & well constructed. Designed to give years of use. 647 429-1028(2), 120 630 767-2031(2), 630 507-2121(2)

Get a head start on planting

2⁹⁷ Seed Starter makes a light, fertile bed for seeds or transplanting. 10 qt. 700 825-3010(4)

1²⁷ Each
Gardener's Delight 11" x 21" Plant Tray or Four 18 Unit Plant Trays. Polystyrene. 704 105-1050(8), 704 113-1554(3), 716 949-7247(9), 716 949-7247(9)

3⁹⁷ Mini Greenhouse includes clear humidome. 72 cell pak & 21" x 11" tray. 701 629-7049(9), 120

3⁹⁷ Each
Also available with metal tines

AMES Garden Tools

Lawn & Leaf Rake. Polypropylene. 22" wide head has 22 tines. 48" hardwood handle. 754 776-1920(4), 722(1), 180

Garden Hoe with enameled welded head & maroon poly ferrule. 6 1/2" x 4" blade. 704 105-1050(8), 704 113-1554(3), 716 949-7247(9), 716 949-7247(9)

Round Point Shovel has sturdy & well constructed. 47" handle. 8 1/2" x 11 1/2" blade. Size 2. 704 113-1554(3), 716 949-7247(9), 716 949-7247(9)

Garden Rake. Enameled head & poly ferrule. 54" handle. 14 teeth. 704 113-1554(3), 716 949-7247(9), 716 949-7247(9)

Bonus buy
3 pkgs. / 1⁸⁸

Gardener's Delight Peat Pots. Twelve 2 1/4" or eight 2" pots. Roots grow through pot. 721 783-0711(9), 721 731 717-0704(4), 721 731 717-0704(4)

2⁴⁷ Each
Soil Conditioners. 10 quart bags. 729 570-1652(4), 729 589-1602(1), 729 600-1550(3), 729 600-1550(3)

1⁹⁷ Grass Seed for new or established lawns. 3 pounds of annual & perennial grasses. 701 676-1296(1), 120

8/1⁰⁰ Vaughan Seed

Vegetable & Floral Seeds
Planting directions on package. 716 652-WX8000(1)

MARIGOLD 55¢
LETTUCE 55¢
MARGOLD 55¢
RADISH 55¢
ZINNIA 55¢
TOMATO 55¢

.97
3 Way Soft White Bulb
Medium base bulb provides 50-100-150 watts. 512 915(1), 120

1⁰⁰ Pkg. of 5
Tree & Shrub Evergreen or Fruit Tree Stakes
Pre-measured, with slow release fertilizer. 703 966-2100(3), 703 962-1032(3), 703 950(1), 120

3⁵⁷ Carlisle Plastics
10' x 20' Textured Plastic Sheeting
Easy open, easy spread sheeting. 107 476-M127(6), 107 484-M127(6), 107 484-M127(6)

8⁸⁸ STANLEY
Ratchet Screwdriver Set
3 position ratcheting. Five bits.

Pre-Easter Sale!

\$9.99 Regular to \$44.00 Dresses Casual Knits S-M-L	\$19.99 Reg. to \$39.00 Blouses Rayon & Solid & Print Sizes 8 to 14
\$18.99 Slacks Rayon & Twills Reg. to \$49.00 Sizes 6 - 14	\$15.99 Jackets & Skorts Coordinates Reg. to \$28.00 S-M-L

Name Brand Spring Career Dress and Sport Fashions arriving Daily with Savings Up to 50% - I-V-Y - Outback. Red - D.K. Gold

Charlene's
FASHION CENTER
DALLAS SHOPPING CENTER
(Next to Ye-Oldie Clock Shoppe)
HOURS: Mon.-Sat. 10 A.M.-9 P.M.
Sun. 12 P.M.-5 P.M.

Easter Basket Of Fresh Spring Flowers \$12.50

Cash & Carry
EVANS-KING FLORAL INC.
1280 Wyoming Ave., Forty-Fort, PA
822-1128 • 288-3671

NOW INSTALLING!
New & Unique Retaining Wall Systems

- Versatile - Durable - Attractive
- No Maintenance - No Deterioration
- Rock Finish In Gray & Earthtone
- Residential and Commercial

Free Estimates
Call **Hillside** Retaining Wall Systems
Dallas, Pa • (717) 696-3579

Yalick's Farm Market
Memorial Hwy., Dallas 675-3755
Opening March 22

Easter Flowers
Including Azalea, Mums, Tulips, Hyacinths & Lillies

OPEN DAILY 9 A.M. TO 7 P.M.

DALLAS CENTRE HARDWARE
42-44 Main Street, Dallas
675-4101
Parking & Rear Entrance Off Rt. 415
HOURS: Mon. - Fri. 8 - 7; Sat. 8 - 5; Sun. 10 - 3