

Inside: money for Historic Distric STOR

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This week's \$1 news prize goes to Dorothy Wasko, of 299 Rivermoor Drive, Marietta, for sending us the photo and information about Mrs. Kuzemka's tomatoes [story on page 11].

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Disease killing pets in Marietta; people can catch it

Cats and dogs in Marietta are becoming ill lately.

The disease is dangerous and is believed to have caused pet deaths. We

were told by Dr. Fayez Awad, veterinarian in Mt. Joy, that it is caused by a corona virus which is under study by researchers at

Cornell University in New York. They are trying to develop a vaccine.

In the meantime, local pet owners should be on the look out for loss of

apetite in their pets. Dr. Awad suggests that pets be taken to a veterinarian immediately if the animal refuses food.

The virus can also infect humans, who will show the usual symptoms of a cold; fever and aches, as well as diarrhea and possibly an upset stomach.

In small animals the disease is more dangerous than for humans and their temperatures will rise up to 108 degrees.

Birchland Ave. residents blast Mount Joy Borough Council

Mount Joy's borough council was pelted with complaints by a phalanx of citizens from Birchland Avenue at last week's regular council meeting.

"Not one of you councilmen — nor you, Mr. Bateman — would put up with what we have," said one of the approximately 20 irate people who had come

to complain about rain-water washing into their basements with every recent downpour.

Several people muttered accusations that council

was pandering to monied interests during the sometimes heated protests. The councilmen remained calm under the onslaught.

At one point councilman Paul Bower sounded for order with his gavel. The man who had been speaking said, "I believe I am in order."

"Yes, you are," Bower replied. "Just calm down."

The Birchland Avenue residents all said that water runoff from a nearby area was causing serious problems. One woman said she had taken off from work to

tell the council that her home had cracked walls and a possibly unstable foundation as a result. Another person said, "We are going to be washed down the Chiques if there's a really good rain."

The land off which the rainwater is flooding is not in Mount Joy Borough, but in Mount Joy Township.

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Miss Catherine Zeller retires!

Miss Catherine Zeller announced last week that she will retire from teaching after 36 years in local schools. This created a problem for the staff at the school district office.

They wanted to send her a letter, thanking her for her years of service to the community, but they were very nervous about the prospect of actually sending the letter. What if it contained a grammatical error, or, worse yet, a misspelling? Everyone in the office proofread the letter at least once. Then, with trembling hands, they finally mailed it.

"I sure hope there's nothing wrong with it," says secretary of business Peggy Nissley, "because if there is, she'll spot it at a glance."

Mrs. Nissley, a former student of Miss Zeller's, adds, "If you couldn't learn from her, you couldn't learn from anyone. Even to this day, there are times when I call her to check the wording of something."

Miss Zeller brought to her classes the erudition of Noah Webster, the stage presence of Sarah Bernhardt, and the enthusiasm of a whirling dervish.

"If you pronounced the word 'detail' with the accent on the wrong syllable, she would get really excited," former student Newt Kendig recalls. "She got excited whenever anybody said anything that

was grammatically incorrect. If I had to pick one word to describe her, I think that 'excitement' would be the word.

"Once there was a huge bumblebee in the room, and she was trying to kill it. She kept trying to hit it, and missing, and each time she missed, she became more beside herself until the whole class was in stitches. We had never seen anyone get so excited about a bumblebee.

"Maybe that's why her classes were so interesting; she was excited about what she taught, and she made the students excited about it, too."

Ramona Sell, who graduated from DHS three years ago, says, "She's the best English teacher I ever had; and she's full of life, unpredictable. When she was in a good mood, she'd do crazy things."

Ramona recalls that Miss Zeller once portrayed all three witches from the opening scenes of *MacBeth* "complete with sound effects. You know, bubble, bubble, and all that. She liked reading Shakespeare aloud, and when the script called for a scream, she'd let one rip—and I mean a loud one."

Ramona adds: "Her favorite expression is, 'Ring the alarm bell!' It's a line from a famous play, but I forget which one. She can really say that one with feeling. On second thought, that's not her favorite ex-

pression. Her favorite expression is, 'Never put a preposition at the end of a sentence.'

"She didn't like to be distracted while she was teaching. If somebody knocked on the door during a class, she'd explode, even if the poor guy at the door was just delivering a message from the office. Afterwards, she'd say, 'Oh, my goodness, I wonder if he got the wrong impression. I'm not really angry at him.'

"There were no discipline problems in her class. I don't know how she did it. With her voice, I guess."

Peggy Nissley related one of her husband's stories about Miss Zeller: "One day she said that she was so sore, she just felt like hitting someone across the face. My husband said, 'Well, go ahead.' She said, 'I'm serious.' He didn't believe her, but he told her, 'So am I. Go ahead and hit somebody.' So she smacked him one. Then he

knew she was serious.

He reminded her of that a while ago, and she acted sort of embarrassed. I guess she had forgotten. He thinks she's great."

Two more comments, from people who didn't want to give their names:

"When I was in her classes, I hated them, because she made us work so hard. Then, after I graduated, I realized that she was the only teacher in the school who had taught me anything."

"I have the impression she was always playing practical jokes on Mr. Drenner, but I can't give you any details."

And finally, from Clair Mummau (who thinks he once almost convinced Miss Zeller that spring water was a cheap substitute for anti-freeze): "I heard that, if you had her for English, you'd never have any problem in college. I didn't have her, luckily, 'cause then I'd have had to study."

Alumni game

is scheduled for Friday

Hear ye! Hear ye! All former DHS football players—the annual Odds vs. Evens Donegal Alumni Football Game will be

decided on August 25th, at 8:30 PM. That's a Friday evening. If you'd like to play, it's not too late to join a squad; but don't delay!

Marietta Council Downtown Marco's a 'nuisance'?

A seven-unit Marietta apartment building owned by Lloyd Miller, a Mount Joy R3 developer, has been declared a public nuisance and unfit for human habitation.

Marietta Borough Council made the announcement Tuesday, saying that the property, located at 534-536 E. Front St., endangered the welfare of borough residents and must be abandoned.

Council heard reports on cockroaches, rats, excessive garbage, furnace hazards and a general lack of repair and then authorized its owner to take steps to ensure the property is rehabilitated before further occupancy.

Miller said Wednesday that the building "is as nice as anything in Marietta" and stated that council "Doesn't like me personally and has been trying to get me."

He conceded that two tenants have given him problems.

"But that doesn't make the building unfit for human habitation," he said.

He cannot understand council's position although he recently repaired a waterline leak that had knocked out some plaster.

Explaining his belief that council is out to "get" him, Miller said that in 1976 borough officials "arrested me 11 times in one day" for alleged deficiencies at the E. Front St. dwelling and two other properties in Marietta.

That action stemmed from such "small things" as a cracked step, mold on a bathroom ceiling and an excessive number of people in one apartment.

Miller added, "It bothers me that these housing inspectors get 16 hours of schooling and then say they are experts."

After a tour of the building, Housing Inspector Ralph Shope said there were "thousands of cockroaches...I mean they were in people's food and everywhere else."

Along with being very rundown generally, there were dead rats in the cellar.

"It's not fit for any human being to live in there," said Shope. "It's terrible."

Near the end of July the seven tenants were given 15 days to vacate the building says a borough spokesman. According to Miller, all but one of the

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