

Jonathan Swab, Carol Gerloch, Rusty Geesey, David Deitrich

Riverview School studies eye care

by Dorcas Knorr

For the past two years the fourth grade sections of the Riverview and Maytown schools of the Donegal School district have been studying eye health and safety under the direction of Mrs. Dorcas Knorr, the school nurse.

The program is sponsored by the Lancaster Co. Blind

Association with the cooperation of the Marietta Lions Club which picks up the tab for supplies, materials, and prizes for the poster contest.

The special guest for today's program was Mr. Hennig from Manheim and his "seeing eye" dog, Konia.

The winners of the poster contest were as follows:

1st prize (\$5.00), David Deitrich; 2nd prize (\$4.00), Rusty Geesey; 3rd prize (\$3.00), Carol Gerloch; and honorable mention (\$1.00), Jonathan Swab.

Mr. Art Zuch presented the awards.

Nature in your own backyard

by Ralph Miller

Can you imagine anyone growing up in an area bounded only by brick, concrete, asphalt, glass and steel, with the nearest greenery, an oasis of grass and trees several miles away, seldom to be visited, and the only wildlife consisting of flies, cockroaches, dirty pigeons, a few house sparrows, and rats in the darker places? Where one has to stretch his head and neck upward for the sight of a small patch of occasional blue sky and to see a gull and hear its refreshing cry!

Essentially, this is life for hundreds of thousands of New Yorkers. Actually, there is more of nature's varieties to be seen by those who seek and look, as attested to in books written by several distinguished naturalists on natural life in and around New York.

How much more fortunate are we who live here in these natural surroundings of lawns, shrubs and trees, of field, orchards and small woods, of small streams, of the river and its bordering hills. Nature's gifts are so lavish that we too tend to overlook many of them or pay scant attention to them.

Any boy or girl growing up in this area can undertake a study of any number of natural history subjects in a veritable laboratory surrounding him or her, whether it be tracing the growth of frogs from egg to tadpole to adult, of butterflies and moths from egg through caterpillar, pupa and then adult, or from eggs to fledgling nestlings to adult birds, to name a few. Flowers, plants, shrubs and trees are profuse in number

and could provide a lifetime of work. There is still room for study on the mammals in the area, and as for fish, they always seem to get a proportionately smaller amount of attention. Insects? Where does one begin?

For those a little further in life, there is much pleasure to be had, as well as a form of education, in seeing and enjoying what we have. Some are aware of this and prominent among the pleasures enjoyed apparently is that of watching birds, for quite a few people around Marietta give occasional time to it. For any others who might wish to indulge in this peaceable and pleasant pastime, an inexpensive bird guide will greatly increase their enjoyment, for there is a certain satisfaction to be derived from being able to identify some new bird, or even an old one whose name was not known before.

The Susquehanna River valley is part of the great migration route for birds on the east coast. And here on Fairview Avenue we are fortunate to have sufficient lawns with trees and shrubs to attract some of the migrating birds as well as to induce a few resident birds to nest.

In late March, our usual residents, consisting of blue jays, cardinals, grackles, white-throated sparrows, juncos and others, were unexpectedly joined in the evening hours by a cedar waxwing in the tall pyrocanthus by the library window. The following day we saw 12 to 15 of these handsome birds in one of the maples in

front. In form somewhat like a cardinal, these are crested, brown birds with a broad band of yellow on the end of the tail. In succeeding weeks, we saw a band of four or five of these birds about on the trees. Then, on the 10th of May, we found one of the cedar waxwings lying in the middle of the lawn badly wounded about the head with the right top half of its skull exposed, possibly mauled by a cat. It survived for 24 hours in a box filled with dry grass, water, and seed, but its ultimate death was a foregone conclusion. Since then we have seen no more waxwings.

In early March, the woodpeckers were arriving or passing through, including the downy and hairy woodpeckers, yellow-bellied sapsuckers, and flickers, the last of three or four of which have apparently decided to make their home in this vicinity. At the same time, a number of golden-crowned kinglets and ruby-crowned kinglets spent some weeks here and in a rather rare occurrence, the ruby-crowned kinglet was in song on several occasions. Its song is mellow and flute-like and its warble is intricate in design. The song is so loud that one expects to see a large bird instead of a diminutive four-inch bird, almost half of which is tail. And if one doesn't move too quickly, the kinglet will flit from branch to branch, moving closer each time until it is within three or four feet of the observer's head, as if it decided to look you over too.

(To be continued)

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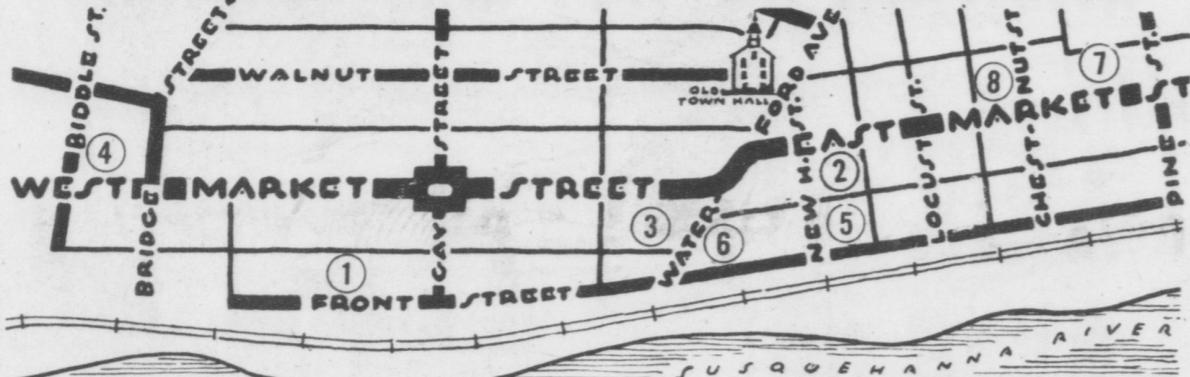
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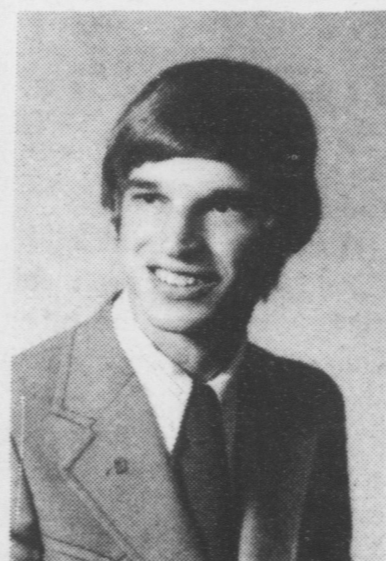


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Hoffer joins Triangle Realty



Robert E. Hoffer

Triangle Realty, Inc., 1576 Lititz Pike, Lancaster, announces the association of Robert E. Hoffer. Mr. Hoffer is a licensed Real Estate Salesman and is actively engaged in the sale of Residential Real Estate. He is a graduate of Donegal High School and the Dale Carnegie Sales Course where he was awarded the Human Relation Award.

Bob's hobbies include basketball, tennis, and golf. He is a member of St. Mark's United Methodist Church where he serves as steward.

Bob is a Realtor Associate with the Greater Lancaster Board of Realtors and received Real Estate training from Penn State University, Continuing Education, on the York Campus.