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Intelligencer
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'The Quitter' vs. 'The Zipper': winner takes all!

One of the great things about the American form of government is our election process, which allows almost anyone to be elected, regardless of how bizarre.

A prime example is former professional wrestler Jesse "The Body" Ventura, who defeated the Republican and Democratic candidates to win the Minnesota governor's race.

The only explanation I have for this phenomenon is that the people of Minnesota were utterly intimidated.

The bullet-headed Ventura is an imposing figure, and while I don't watch professional wrestling on TV as part of my regular routine, I've seen enough to know these guys yell a lot.

Even between the matches, with the announcer so close he's almost sticking the microphone down their throats, they scream and rant and, often, froth at the mouth.

Let's rumble

If loud campaigning was Ventura's strategy, it worked. Who'd have thought that?

Museum showcases items made in Mount Joy

Society opens to public on Sunday afternoons

Tom Knapp
Intelligencer Journal Staff

At first glance, there doesn't seem to be a common theme connecting the collection of old combs, thermometers, faded photographs and carpentry tools in the former Mount Joy church.

But the Mount Joy Area Historical Society Museum & Research Center is packed with thousands of items with one thing in common.

"Everything is either advertising Mount

Joy or made in Mount Joy," said Vera Albert, a founding member of the 25-year-old historical society. "There's nothing else in here. So this truly is Mount Joy."

The society has been housed at 120 Fairview St. in Mount Joy Borough since 1976, but the doors were just opened to the public during an open house last month.

The museum is open from 1 to 4 p.m. each Sunday. There is no admission fee.

Housed in the former Macedonia African Methodist Episcopal Church, the museum has been transformed into a collection of borough memorabilia.

"We started the collection 25 years ago," Albert said. "It was a gradual process. People gave, we bought."

The exhibit was prepared by local historian Charlie Maurer, Albert said. "He religiously and systematically put all this together."

The historical society was created in 1973 to prepare for bicentennial celebrations, she explained. Once the nation's 200th birthday was past, the group decided to stay together and focus more on local history. Currently, the society lists 160 members.

Many of the museum showcases are packed with advertising goods and memorabilia.

Some shelves are stocked with pens, key-rings, coin pouches, paperweights and other items advertising local businesses.

There is a collection of locally made tools, old tavern licenses and police badges. There are plenty of old photos of people, places and events from the borough's past.

See, for instance, a broom from the old Sumpman Broom Factory and a horse-drawn sleigh from G. Moyer Coach Works. Compare cherry stoners from Universal Hardware Works with food grinders from Rollman Mfg. Imagine doing the laundry with a wooden barrel washer from the Du-

More **MUSEUM** on **B-2**

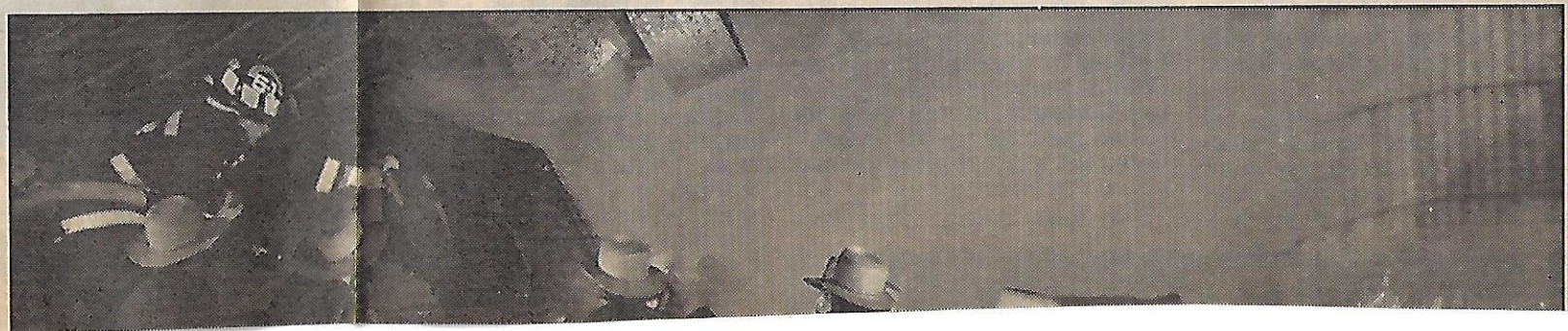
Lititz Pike crash kills city woman

Brian M. Christopher
Intelligencer Journal Staff

A Lancaster woman died Tuesday morning after her car slammed into a utility pole in Manheim Township, police said.

Eirlyn Michel Perez, 19, of 1 Garden Court, Apt. 4, was pronounced dead shortly after she arrived at Lancaster General Hospital, Manheim Township police said.

Perez's southbound Pontiac



New station runs ahead of schedule

Laura Knowles
Intelligencer Journal Correspondent

The reproduction of the Lititz Passenger Depot and Express Station is ahead of schedule and completion may occur months before the dedication scheduled in April.

The work may be wrapped up as early as February.

In just a few weeks, the train station located at the entrance of Lititz Springs Park has made a dramatic presentation with its steeply pitched roof and gothic lines.

Jim Wynkoop, chairman the park project committee, said progress has been much better than expected.

"We're lucky. The weather has been very cooperative," said Wynkoop. "We're very excited about how things are going."

The building is framed with wood, and brickwork is about to be done.

Based on photographic research by Robert "Sketch" Mearig, masons were found to erect stone masonry at the base of exterior brickwork. The photograph

also helped the crew reproduce the chimney that was on the original structure.

"We want the building to be as authentic as possible," said Wynkoop.

The station is part of the renovation work being done in the park. So far, new sidewalks have been put in and pathways have been improved. The park committee expects the improvements and the new station will make the park an enhanced focal point in the community.

According to Wynkoop, other improvements in the Lititz Springs Park Capital Improvement Project include constructing a maintenance building, refurbishing the band shell, restoring the round house and restoring the log cabin.

The original station was built in 1884 along the Reading & Columbia Rail Road. It was a Victorian gothic building designed by Frank Furness of Philadelphia and located at the site of Wilbur Chocolate Company. At that time, the station featured red brick and a slate roof, which is what the new station will look like.

For many years, Lititz area

passengers rode the train to Reading, Ephrata, Columbia and other points. The last passenger train came through Lititz carrying presidential candidate Adlai E. Stevenson in 1952.

By the time the station was torn down in 1957, most people recalled that it was painted in yellow and brown, which were the colors of the railroad at that time. Memorialized in numerous paintings, drawings and photographs, the station had been an integral part of Lititz' history and many people wanted to see it rebuilt.

It was just an idea until December 1993, when the board talked to the Lititz Ambucs about doing a building study that would determine the interest and feasibility of rebuilding of station. In May 1995, the proposal was completed, and the fund drive was started to raise \$650,000 for the station and other improvements in the park. Ground breaking for the new station took place on July 4, 1998.

Those who still remember the old station, will notice that the reproduction is smaller. It's being built to an 80 percent scale, sometimes referred to as "Disney scale." That's because the new building must fit into a narrow space between the railroad tracks and the entrance to Lititz Springs Park, which was built after the station was torn down.



Intelligencer Journal photo by Dan Marschka

Vera Albert holds the Mount Joy Newspaper Museum & Research Center. The collection was started 25 years ago and put on public display last month.

Museum: Mount Joy showcase

Continued from B-1

plex Washer Co.

There is a set of Buchmeyer, Mishkey & Co. flatirons, a Mount Joy High School band uniform, packaging from the Bachman Chocolate Mfg. Co. and Betty Crocker's Candies and axes from

aries dating back to 1901, and Albert said that database will soon be extended into the 1800s. Cemetery and marriage records will also soon be filed.

"So many people come in for cemetery information, it's unreal," Albert said.

Museum showcases items that were either made in or advertise Mount Joy

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There is a set of Buchmeyer, Mishkey & Co. flatirons, a Mount Joy High School band uniform, packaging from the Bachman

Chocolate Mfg. Co. and Betty Grosh's Candies and axes from Grey Iron Works.

Local newspapers and census data are available on microfilm, local tax records are gathered in books and newspaper scrapbooks are available for browsing. Alumni records from the former Mount Joy High School (later absorbed into Donegal School District) are carefully filed and updated, and old high school sports trophies fill a showcase.

Society members have computer records of 6,000 local obituaries dating back to 1901, and Albert said that database will soon be extended into the 1800s. Cemetery and marriage records will also soon be filed.

"So many people come in for cemetery information, it's unreal," Albert said.

The major focus of the group right now is expanding those records, she added.

"We want to keep building on the computer files for now," she said. "That's the main thing."

The society is also compiling journals on local features and personalities such as the Cedar Hill Seminary, a private girls' school in the mid-1800s, and Kauffman T. Keller, a Mount Joy native who, as president of Chrysler Corp. in the 1940s, was at one time the highest-paid executive in the United States.

There is also a 14-minute video highlighting features of Main Street, Albert said.