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DEATHS REPORTED

- ✓ **Cubic, Andrew E.**
70, husband of Linda L. (Gehman) Cubic, of Ephrata. April 23, 2008. Roseboro Funeral Home, 336-6531
- ✓ **Kelchen, Allan R. Jr.**
50, of New Providence. April 21, 2008. Dewald Funeral & Cremation Services, 786-3530
- ✓ **Kidd, Elsie W. ***
87, Elizabethtown. April 18, 2008. Heilig Funeral Home, 653-4371
- ✓ **Kirkwood, Donald T. ***
88, Quarryville Presbyterian Retirement Community. April 20, 2008. Reynolds Funeral Home, 786-3272
- ✓ **Madigan, Eileen K. (Wunsch)**
59, wife of John Madigan, 575 Conestoga Blvd., Lancaster. April 22, 2008. Thompson Funeral Home, Inc. 272-0701.
- ✓ **Martin, Ruth K.**
87, of 333 Wheat Ridge Dr., Ephrata. April 22, 2008. Groff-High Funeral Home, 354-0444
- ✓ **Shoemaker, Carmie Leigh**
41, of Lititz. April 22, 2008. Charles F. Snyder Jr. Funeral Home and Chapel, 560-5100
- ✓ **Smith, Henry S.**
89, husband of Grace Naomi Myer Smith, of 4441 Green Park Drive, Mount Joy. April 23, 2008. Spence Funeral Services, 664-2270
- ✓ **Snook, Edith M.**
80, of Susquehanna Valley Nursing Center, Columbia. April 23, 2008. Young Funeral Home, 299-7371
- ✓ **Snyder, Peggy L.**
63, of Columbia. April 21, 2008. Charles F. Snyder Funeral Home, 393-9661
- ✓ **van der Klooster, Frits**
60, of Findlay, OH. April 22, 2008. Coldren-Crates Funeral Home, 419-422-2323
- ✓ **Van Zant, Allen C.**
59, of Akron. April 20, 2008. Roseboro Funeral Home, 336-6531
- ✓ **Wood, Ruth E.**
66, wife of Ronald R. Wood, Sr., of 41 Summer St., Salunga. April 22, 2008. Kearney A. Snyder Funeral Home, 394-4097
- ✓ **Zimmerman, Ronald A.**
60, husband of Peggy L.

OBITUARIES

Henry S. Smith

Henry S. Smith, 89, of 4441 Green Park Drive, Mount Joy, PA, formerly of the Manheim area, was called home to be with his Lord on Wednesday, April 23, 2008 at Lancaster General Hospital on his 89th birthday. He passed quietly and peacefully with his family by his side after struggling with an extended illness. Born in Denver, PA, he was the son of the late Samuel Z. and Mary Ellen Whitman Smith. He was the husband of Grace Naomi Myer Smith for 61 years on September 7th.

Henry and his siblings experienced the death of their father at an early age. After living at an orphanage until the age of 12, Henry went to live with the Ephraim Geib family and learned to work with his hands and learned to farm. Later, he and his wife owned their own farm in Mastersonville. During World War II, he served as a technical sergeant in the United States Army Air Corps in the South Pacific. He was discharged with distinction and honors.

He was a member of Chiques Church of the Brethren. In his earlier years, he served the church as a deacon, sang in the men's chorus, and taught Sunday school. He was employed as a mechanic by Sico Oil Company in Mount Joy. He was a member of the Young Farmers Association of Manheim. His determination to learn and his passion for reading resulted in Henry being a self-educated man.

In addition to his wife, he is survived by two daughters, Anna Mary, wife of Richard Thompson of Leola, and Esther, wife of Edward Keyser of Mount Joy; three sons, Henry Smith of Rockford, IL, John Smith and James Smith, both of Ephrata; 13 grandchildren; 13 great grandchildren; five sisters, Edith Hollinger of Lititz, Kathryn Musser of Carlisle, Olive Harnish and Blanche "Kitty" Knipple, both of Lancaster, and Ida Wade of Florida; and a brother, Warren Smith of Kennett Square. He was preceded in death by two grandchildren,



Eileen K. (Wunsch) Madigan

Eileen K. (Wunsch) Madigan 59, of 575 Conestoga Blvd., Lancaster, PA 17602 passed away at her home, The "River House," on April 22, 2008 after a courageous battle with Leukemia.

Eileen was preceded in death by her parents Linus and Kathryn Wunsch of Scranton.

She is survived by her husband John Madigan, stepdaughter Michelle Shriver of York Haven and her cousins Peggy Martin and Cathy Savant of Lebanon.

Eileen was the Chief, Health Care Services Review, Division of the Bureau of Workers Compensation of Pennsylvania since 1998. She was well known and respected by the workers compensation insurance industry in Pennsylvania. During her time with the Bureau, she was prominent as a public speaker on a variety of workers compensation health care matters throughout the Commonwealth.

Her Bachelor's Degree in Communication Arts from Marywood University served her well in helping her prepare her very interesting presentations. After a brief stint at teaching, she graduated from the University of Scranton with a Masters Degree in Medical Rehabilitation.

Prior to her work with the Bureau, she had over 19 years of experience in the insurance industry in management, rehabilitation counseling, marketing, and managed care programs.

Eileen had many professional affiliations, most notably Outstanding Young Woman of America 1983, and Who's Who of American Women 1984-1989.

First in Eileen's interests was her "River House" and its park like setting. She enjoyed cooking, reading and sports car racing, where she regularly attended races at Summit Point, Mid Ohio, Nazareth and the Duryea Hill Climb.

Mass of Christian Burial Friday at 10 a.m. from St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, 125 S. Spruce, Annville, PA 17003.



Ruth E. Wood

Ruth E. Wood, 66, of 41 Summer St., Salunga, PA went to be with her Lord Tuesday, April 22nd, at home after a courageous battle against cancer. She was the wife of Ronald R. Wood, Sr. with whom they would have celebrated 48 years of marriage on July 16th, 2008. Born in Columbia, PA, she was the daughter of the late Roy and Alice Brown Thomas. She retired in 1995 from Charles Chips after twenty-five years of service. Known as "Nan" to everyone, her life was built around her family. A caring person to everyone, she loved animals and especially her grand-dog, Buddy. She particularly enjoyed cooking.

Besides her husband, she is survived by two sons, Ronald Jr., husband of Jacqueline Wood of Cornwall, PA and Scott, husband of Bonnie Wood of Peace Valley, MO; three grandchildren, Corinne Ruth Wood of Cornwall, PA, Jordan Wood of Peace Valley, MO and Kendra Sims of Kansas City, MO; two great-grandchildren, Gabrielle and Javen Sims of Kansas City, MO; three sisters, Virginia Miller of Lancaster, Olivene, wife of Dale Hammer of York, PA and Jane Thomas of Elizabethtown, PA; three brothers, Haines Thomas of Wrightsville, PA, Lindberg Thomas of Otumwa, IA and Frank, husband of Claire Thomas of Tampa, FL. She was preceded in death by Charles, Roy and Burton Thomas.

Private funeral services will be held at the convenience of the family. Please omit flowers. If desired, contributions in her memory may be sent to Hospice of Lancaster County, 685 Good Dr., P.O. Box 4125, Lancaster, PA 17604-4125 or the Humane League of Lancaster County, 2195 Lincoln Hwy. East, Lancaster, PA 17602. Arrangements are by the Kearney A. Snyder Funeral Home, 394-4097. To send an on-line condolence, please visit www.kearneysnyderfuneralhome.com

Private funeral services will be held at the convenience of the family. Please omit flowers. If desired, contributions in her memory may be sent to Hospice of Lancaster County, 685 Good Dr., P.O. Box 4125, Lancaster, PA 17604-4125 or the Humane League of Lancaster County, 2195 Lincoln Hwy. East, Lancaster, PA 17602. Arrangements are by the Kearney A. Snyder Funeral Home, 394-4097. To send an on-line condolence, please visit www.kearneysnyderfuneralhome.com

Ruth K. Martin



Frits van der Klooster

Frits van der Klooster, 60, of Findlay, OH, died at 3:20 p.m., Tuesday, April 22, 2008 at the Blanchard Valley Hospital, Findlay. He was born on August 21, 1947 in Eindhoven, The Netherlands to the late Willem and Cornelia (Starink) van der Klooster.

He is survived by Sue van der Klooster of Findlay; a daughter, Annelies Condon of Westerville, OH; sons: Benjamin van der Klooster of California and Bart van der Klooster of Columbus, OH; sisters: Ingrid, Els and Hanneke; son-in-law, Matthew Condon and grandsons, Kees and Kasper Condon; paternal aunt, Cor; maternal aunt, Bep; many nieces, nephews and a family of friends. Frits was a general partner with Advanced Blending Technologies. He was very active in the United Way of Hancock County. His passion in life was taking care of his friends and family and spoiling his grandsons, and he will be deeply missed.

Visitation will be held from 2-4 p.m. and 6-8 p.m., Thursday, April 24, 2008 and 2-4 p.m. Friday, April 25, 2008 at Coldren-Crates Funeral Home, 205 West Sandusky Street, Findlay, OH 45840.

A funeral service will be held at 4:00 p.m. Friday following the visitation at Coldren-Crates Funeral Home. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the United Way of Hancock County, 245 Stanford Parkway, Findlay, OH 45840, in his memory.

Online condolences may be made at: www.coldrencrates.com

Ronald A. Zimmerman

Ronald A. Zimmerman, 60, of Lancaster, entered into rest on Tuesday, April 22, 2008 at the Essa Flory Hospice Center. He was the husband of Peggy L. (Moss) Zimmerman with



Edith M. Snook

Edith M. Snook, 80, formerly of 104 Circle Ave., Lancaster, passed away Wednesday, April 23, 2008 at Susquehanna Valley Nursing Center in Columbia. She was born in Landisville, the daughter of the late George and Fannie (Tomb) Shemberger.

Edith worked for 20 years at Lancaster General Hospital in the kitchen department; she was an avid bingo player at Columbia #1 Fire Company.

She is survived by her son, Harry married to Peg Shemberger of Washington Boro; her daughters, Barbara married to Eugene Allmond of Lancaster, Betty Snook companion of Sheila of Quarryville, Edith married to William Oppele of Lancaster, Suzanne married to Kevin Newcomer of Manheim; and adoptive daughter, Cass Gebhard of Lancaster; and nine grandchildren, 19 great grandchildren and one great great granddaughter. Also surviving is her brother, George Shemberger of Columbia, and her sister, Elsie Hower of Columbia. Mrs. Snook was preceded in death by her son, George Snook, Jr., and her sisters, Mary Angloes, Carrie Smith, Elizabeth Greenly, and Rosie Stauffer.

FUNERAL SERVICES will be held Friday, April 25, 2008 at 2 P.M. from Young Funeral Home, 317 E. Orange St., Lancaster PA with Pastor Dale Palmer officiating.

VIEWING will be held at Young's Friday from 1-2 PM. BURIAL will be in Conestoga Memorial Park. Online condolence may be sent to www.youngfuneralhome.com.



Allan R. Kelchen, Jr.

Allan R. Kelchen, Jr., 50, of New Providence entered into rest on April 21, 2008. Born in Lancaster, he was the son of



59, of Akron. April 20, 2008. Roseboro Funeral Home, 336-6531

Wood, Ruth E.
66, wife of Ronald R. Wood, Sr., of 41 Summer St., Salunga. April 22, 2008. Kearney A. Snyder Funeral Home, 394-4097

Zimmerman, Ronald A.
60, husband of Peggy L. (Moss) Zimmerman, of Lancaster. April 22, 2008. Andrew T. Scheid Funeral Home, 872-2266

* No Obituary appears

SERVICES TODAY

Craft, James E.
Christ Lutheran Church, 66 South Main Street, Manchester, Thursday, 1 PM. William E. Little Funeral Homes, Inc.

Grossman, B. Alice (Neff)
Grace Lutheran Church, 517 North Queen Street, Lancaster, Thurs., 11:00 AM. Gundel Funeral Home, Inc.

Gutjahr, Frederick B.
Dove Christian Fellowship, 1755 West Main St., Ephrata, Thurs., 11:00 AM. Stradling Funeral Homes

Mohn, Alfred L., Sr.
Dengler Funeral Home, Inc., 144 N. Spruce St., Birdsboro, Thursday, 10:30 AM.

Trimble, James David
New Providence Church of God, Thursday, 11 AM. Dewald Funeral & Cremation Services.

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Mount Joy, Missouri, Henry Smith and James Smith, both of Ephrata; 13 grandchildren; 13 great grandchildren; five sisters, Edith Hollinger of Lititz, Kathryn Musser of Carlisle, Olive Harnish and Blanche "Kitty" Knipple, both of Lancaster, and Ida Wade of Florida; and a brother, Warren Smith of Kennett Square. He was preceded in death by two grandchildren, one great grandson, a brother, Paul Smith, and a sister, Coreta Hollinger.

A funeral service will be held on Saturday, April 26, 2008 at 11:00 AM at Chiques Church of the Brethren, 4045 Sunnyside Road, Manheim, PA with Pastors J. Becker Ginder and Ronald Strickler officiating. Interment will be in Mastersonville Cemetery. Friends may call at the church on Friday evening from 6-8:00 PM and on Saturday morning from 10:00 AM until the time of the service. If desired, contributions may be made to Chiques Church of the Brethren Benevolent Fund. For directions and additional information, visit www.spencefuneralservices.com

Peggy L. Snyder

Peggy L. Snyder, 63, of Columbia died Monday night, April 21, 2008 at Lancaster General Hospital. Born in Lancaster, she was the daughter of the late George W. and Mary S. Eckman Snyder.

Mary was a homemaker and lived with her two nephews, Eugene and Earl Raihl.

Surviving is a brother, Kermit Snyder, of Lancaster, nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by seven brothers: Simon, James, Harold, Willis, Paul, Charles, Marlin Snyder, and one sister, June Snyder Raihl.

A memorial service will be held at the Charles F. Snyder Funeral Home, 414 E. King Street, Lancaster on Monday, April 28, 2008 at 1:00 PM. Interment will be in Millersville Mennonite Cemetery. Friends may pay their respects to the family at the funeral home on Monday, from 12:00 noon-1:00 PM. Contributions may be made in Mary's memory to The American Diabetes Association, 3544 N. Progress Ave., Suite 101, Harrisburg, PA 17110. To send online condolences, please visit: www.snyderfuneralhome.com

First in Eileen's interests was her "River House" and its park like setting. She enjoyed cooking, reading and sports car racing, where she regularly attended races at Summit Point, Mid Ohio, Nazareth and the Duryea Hill Climb.

Mass of Christian Burial Friday at 10 a.m. from St. Paul the Apostle Catholic Church, 125 S. Spruce, Annville, PA 17003. Viewing hours Thursday evening from 7-9 at the church, and Friday morning from 8:30-9:30 at Thompson Funeral Home, Inc., 126 S. 9th St., Lebanon. Private family interment.

In lieu of flowers, contributions may be made in Eileen's name to Marywood University Fund, Office of University Advancement, Maria Hall, 2300 Adams Ave., Scranton, PA 18509. Share a memory with the family at our on line guest book at www.thompsonfuneralhomelebanon.com

Andrew E. "Andy" Cubic

Andrew E. "Andy" Cubic, 70, of Ephrata, unexpectedly entered into rest on Wednesday, April 23, 2008 at Ephrata Community Hospital. He and his wife, Linda L. (Gehman) Cubic, would

have been married 22 years on October 17. Born in Pittsburgh, he was a son of the late Andrew and Alice (Leahy) Cubic, Sr. Andy had worked for F.W. Woolworth and retired from Pfaltzgraff. He enjoyed putting puzzles together, watching sports on TV, and spending time with his dog, Tasha.

Surviving in addition to his wife is a son Mark (Kim) Cubic, Indiana; grandchildren, Lucas and Samantha; sisters, Donna Mae Molka and Maryann (Ken) Snarey, both of Pittsburgh; and brothers, John (Kathleen) Cubic, Pittsburgh, and William (Sharon) Cubic, San Diego, CA. Andy was predeceased by a son, Michael Cubic.

The Funeral will be on Friday at 10:00 AM, viewing 9-10 AM in the Roseboro Funeral Home, 533 Walnut St., Denver. Interment in Mellinger's Cemetery, Schoeneck. Those desiring may make contributions in Andy's memory to the American Cancer Society, 314 Good Dr., Lancaster, PA 17603. www.roseborofuneralhome.com

Humane League of Lancaster County, 2195 Lincoln Hwy. East, Lancaster, PA 17602. Arrangements are by the Kearney A. Snyder Funeral Home, 394-4097. To send an on-line condolence, please visit www.kearneyasnyderfuneralhome.com

Ruth K. Martin

Ruth K. Martin, 87, of 333 Wheat Ridge Dr., Ephrata, formerly of Ridge Ave, Ephrata, died Tuesday, April 22, 2008 at Fairmount Homes after a brief illness.

Born in Goodville, she was the daughter of the late Nathaniel S. and Fannie (Kurtz) Martin. She worked for 28 years as a Nurses Aide at Ephrata Community Hospital until her retirement in 1983. Prior to nursing, she worked on the family farm in Goodville.

She was a member of Weaverland Mennonite Church, Weaverland Conference.

She is survived by many nieces and nephews.

Preceding her in death were four sisters, Marian K. Martin, Emma K. Martin, Alice K. Fisher, and Frances K. Buckwalter; and eight brothers, Elam K., Frank K., Samuel K., Christian K., Amos K., Nathaniel K., Jacob K., and William K. Martin.

Funeral services will be held on Monday, April 28, at 1 p.m. at Fairmount Homes Wheat Ridge Chapel, 333 Wheat Ridge Dr., Ephrata, with further services at Weaverland Mennonite Church at 1:30 p.m. with the Bishop Amos G. Martin officiating. Interment will be in the adjoining cemetery. Viewing will be held on Sunday at Wheat Ridge Chapel 5-8 p.m. Kindly omit flowers. Contributions may be made to Fairmount Homes Sharing Fund, 333 Wheat Ridge Drive, Ephrata, PA 17522. Arrangements by Groff-High Funeral Home, New Holland.

Ronald A. Zimmerman

Ronald A. Zimmerman, 60, of Lancaster, entered into rest on Tuesday, April 22, 2008 at the Essa Flory Hospice Center. He was the husband of Peggy L. (Moss) Zimmerman with whom he was married 30 years on February 17.

Born on July 13, 1947 in Williamsport, PA, he was the son of the late Miles and Myrtle (Meily) Zimmerman. Ron was a printer for Veitch Printing Corporation, Lancaster.

Ron proudly served his country in the U. S. Army.

Surviving in addition to his wife are three children, Jonathan M., of Mountville, Nicole L., of Lancaster and Leslie A., of Alabama; three grandchildren and a brother, Robert Zimmerman, of Lebanon.

In keeping with Ron's wishes, there will be no visitation or formal services. Kindly omit flowers. Memorial Remembrances can be made in Ron's memory to Hospice of Lancaster County. Arrangements entrusted to the Andrew T. Scheid Funeral Home, 320 Blue Rock Road, Millersville, PA, 717-872-2266. For on-line condolences, directions or other information, you are welcome to visit our website at: www.scheidfuneralhome.com



Memorial Park. Online condolence may be sent to www.youngfuneralhome.com.

Allan R. Kelchen, Jr.

Allan R. Kelchen, Jr., 50, of New Providence entered into rest on April 21, 2008. Born in Lancaster, he was the son of Harriet Yuninger Kelchen of New Providence and the late Allan R. Kelchen, Sr. Allan worked 30 years for C. J. Charles Lumber Co. in New Providence and enjoyed hunting and fishing in his spare time.

Surviving besides his mother are brothers, Steven M. husband of Virginia, Charles W. husband of Cindy, and William E. along with a sister, Lucy Wiley. Also surviving are grandmothers, Viola Yuninger and Lona Bruce, plus 3 nephews, 1 niece, 3 great nieces and a friend, Teresa Boling.

MEMORIAL SERVICES: Friday, April 25th, at 11:00 from New Providence Church of God, 269 Cinder Rd., New Providence. **VISITATION:** 1 hour prior to the service. Interment will be private. Please omit flowers; the family wishes contributions to help with expenses be made to Dewald Funeral & Cremation Services (memo: Allan Kelchen Memorial), 227 W. 4th St., Quarryville, PA 17566.

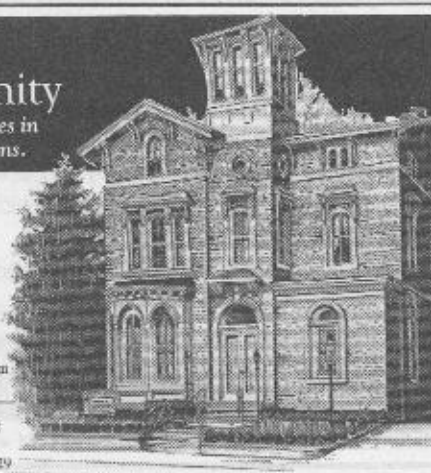
OTHER OBITUARIES ON PAGE B4

Offer your condolences and sign the guest book at LancasterOnline.com.
Keyword: obits

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Young FUNERAL HOME

Charles S. McWilliams, III
SUPERVISOR

Scott C. Brubaker
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

717.299.7371

317 East Orange Street
Lancaster, PA 17602

OBITUARIES

Carmie Leigh Shoemaker

Carmie Leigh Shoemaker, 41, of Lititz passed away Tuesday, April 22, 2008 after a courageous battle with cancer. Born in Lancaster, she is the daughter of Carmelita E. and the late George H. Shoemaker. Carmie is the life partner of LaRae Allen.

Carmie graduated from Penn Manor High School in 1985 and participated in the marching band and softball. Carmie was a caring and compassionate nurse for 22 years. She was employed by Brethren Village. She previously worked for Luther Acres and Mennonite Home. She coached little league softball for 8 years and was an All Star player in High School herself. Carmie volunteered for Relay For Life. She enjoyed making pottery, jewelry and candles. Her closest friends: Rose Ream of Penryn, Sherri Parson of Penryn, Dolores Miller of Lititz, Cathy Hurst of Lititz, and Philomena Behmer of Millersville.

Surviving in addition to her mother and partner is a daughter, Tianna C. Bates, of Lititz; 2 brothers, Drew Shoemaker husband of Ruth of Millersville and Jeff Shoemaker Sr. of Refton, PA; and a sister, Melissa Samac of Florida.

She was preceded in death by a brother, Gregory S. Shoemaker.

In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made in Tianna's name to Bank of Lancaster County for a college trust fund.

A Funeral Service will be held Saturday, April 26, 2008 at 11 a.m. at the Charles F. Snyder Jr. Funeral Home and Chapel, 3110 Lititz Pike, Lititz 17543. Friends will be received Friday, April 25, 2008 from 7-9 p.m. and again on Saturday from 10-11 a.m., both times at the funeral home. Interment will take place at Witness Park. A luncheon will follow at Bloomfield Square Restaurant.

To send an online condolence or for more information please visit:

www.snyderfuneralhome.com

Allen C. Van Zant

Allen C. Van Zant, 59, of Akron, unexpectedly went home to be with his Lord on Sunday, April 20, 2008. Born in Rutland, Vermont, he was a beloved son of the late G. Paul Van Zant and



Janice G. (Martin) Van Zant, Akron. He served as a Parole Agent for the Pennsylvania Board of Probation and Parole for 15 years, and was Chief Instructor of E-Company, Small Arms Readiness Group, Fort Dix, NJ. He was a member of Swamp Lutheran Church, Reinholds, where he formerly served on Church Council. An active member of the Army Reserves Unit, Allen was a US Army veteran of the Vietnam War and a recipient of the Bronze Star Medal. He was a graduate of Ephrata High School and Penn State University. Allen loved being a father to his children and adored his granddaughter, Melia A. Van Zant. He had many interests and enjoyed traveling, foreign languages, and the Asian culture.

Surviving in addition to his mother are his children, Alex C., husband of Melissa K. (Blatt) Van Zant, Little Rock Air Force Base, Arkansas, and Allison K. Van Zant, Florence, Italy; brothers, James H. (Janet) Van Zant, New Freedom, PA and David P. (Judith) Van Zant, Virginia Beach, VA; sisters, Susan E. (Donald) Colbert, Perineville, NJ, G. Patricia (William) Koontz, Reading, and Cheri A. Van Zant, Akron; 13 nieces and nephews; and his former wife, Susan M. (Binkley) Van Zant, Denver.

The Celebration of Allen's Life will be on Saturday at 2:00 PM in Swamp Lutheran Church, 275 Swamp Church Rd., Reinholds, PA 17569. The family will receive friends following the service. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Allen's memory may be made to his church.

www.roseborofuneralhome.com

Foster care could be wrenching for Texas polygamist sect children

BY MICHELLE ROBERTS
Associated Press

SAN ANGELO, Texas — Many of the children have seen little or no television. They have been home-schooled essentially all their lives. Most were raised on garden-grown vegetables and twice-daily prayers with family. They frolic in long dresses and buttoned-up shirts from another century. They are unfailingly polite.

The 437 children taken from a polygamist compound in West Texas are being scattered to group homes and boys' and girls' ranches across the state, plunged into a culture radically different from the community where they and their families shunned the outside world as a hostile, contaminating influence on their godly way of life.

The state Child Protective Services program said it chose foster homes where the youngsters can be kept apart from other children for now.

"We recognize it's critical that these children not be exposed to mainstream culture too quickly or other things that would hinder their success," agency spokeswoman Shari Pulliam said. "We just want to protect them from abuse and neglect. We're not trying to change them."

The children were swept up in a raid earlier this month on the Yearning for Zion Ranch run by the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints, a renegade Mormon splinter group that believes in marrying off underage girls to older men. State child-welfare authorities said there was evidence of physical and sexual abuse at the ranch.

The youngsters are being moved out of the crowded San Angelo Coliseum and will be placed in 16 temporary facilities around Texas — some as far away as Houston, 500 miles off — until individual custody hearings can be held.

Those hearings could result in a number of possibilities: Some children could be placed in permanent foster care; some parents who have left the sect may win custody; some youngsters may be allowed to return to the ranch in Eldorado; and some may turn 18 before the



Associated Press

Members of the Fundamentalist Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints are assisted by law enforcement officials as they board a San Angelo Independent School District bus which was used to relocate them from Eldorado, Texas, to San Angelo, Texas, April 6.

case is complete and will be allowed to choose their own fates.

Several attorneys for FLDS children called Wednesday for custody cases to be spread out among family law courts across Texas — venue changes that, they acknowledged, would likely require authorization from the Texas Supreme Court.

"It's one court that's bogged down with 437 children. There is no possible way that my client's needs ... can be addressed in a timely fashion," attorney Laura Shockley at a Dallas news conference.

Children raised on the FLDS compound must wear pioneer-style dress and keep their hair pinned up in braids, reflecting their standards of modesty. For the same reason, they have little knowledge of pop culture. They must pray twice a day. They tend vegetable gardens and raise dairy cows, and must eat fresh food. And they are exceedingly polite, always saying "please" and "thank you."

In contrast, many other children in foster care have a certain worldly swagger, and are there because they have used drugs or committed other crimes.

Experts and lawyers say foster care will change the sect children.

"These children who have lived in a very insular culture and are suddenly thrust into mainstream culture. There's going to be problems," said Susan Hays, who represents a toddler in the custody case. "They are a throwback to the 19th century in how they dress and how they behave."

Ken Driggs, an Atlanta lawyer who has long studied and written about the FLDS, said that if kept away from their parents' culture long enough, the children may begin to emulate those around them.

Pulliam said the temporary foster care facilities have been briefed on the children's needs. "We're not going to have them in tank tops and shorts," she

said. Authorities will try to obtain the youngsters' traditional clothing from their parents, and also arrange for visits from some of the adults, state attorney Gary Banks said.

In addition, CPS has sent instructions to the foster homes to feed the youngsters fresh fruits and vegetables, chicken, rice and other foods that may have been grown on the 1,700-acre ranch.

"They don't eat a lot of processed food, and we're not going to encourage that," Pulliam said, but noted that if the children want to eat processed or junk food, no one is going to stop them.

Those who cling to the old traditions may pose another problem for the state — they might run away. Driggs said polygamists' children have fled foster homes before because "they want to go home, and they want to go to people and circumstances they're used to."

again on Saturday from 10-11 a.m., both times at the funeral home. Interment will take place at Witness Park. A luncheon will follow at Bloomfield Square Restaurant.

To send an online condolence or for more information please visit:
www.snyderfuneralhome.com

Church, 275 Swamp Church Rd., Reinholds, PA 17569. The family will receive friends following the service. In lieu of flowers, contributions in Allen's memory may be made to his church.
www.roseborofuneralhome.com

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Those who cling to the old traditions may pose another problem for the state — they might run away. Driggs said polygamists' children have fled foster homes before because "they want to go home, and they want to go to people and circumstances they're used to."

Congress close on bill to ban genetic discrimination

WASHINGTON (AP)—Lawmakers have agreed to make it illegal for employers and insurance companies to deny applicants jobs and health-care coverage because DNA tests show they are genetically disposed to a disease.

Supporters of the Genetic Information Nondiscrimination Act said Wednesday that the Senate planned to vote on it today. The House also is likely to give quick approval to the bill, sending it to President Bush for his signature.

A similar bill passed the House by a 420-3 vote a year ago. The White House, at the time, indicated its support for the legislation.

Sponsors reached an agreement Tuesday with Sen. Tom Coburn, R-Okla., who had been blocking Senate action on the

bill.

The compromise tightens language to ensure there is a "firewall" between the part dealing with health plans and the section regarding employment so as to discourage inappropriate claims.

It also makes clear that, while individuals are protected from discrimination based on genetic predisposition, insurance companies still have the right to base coverage and pricing on the actual presence of a disease.

Sens. Olympia Snowe, R-Maine, Edward Kennedy, D-Mass., and Mike Enzi, R-Wyo., and Rep. Louise M. Slaughter, D-N.Y., have been pushing the issue for years, asserting that dramatic advances in genetic research make it crucial that people are protected from discrimination.

Atlantic City to ban smoking on floor of casinos

BY WAYNE PARRY
Associated Press

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. — Gamblers on the floors of Atlantic City casinos will soon have to give up at least one vice: smoking.

Ending a battle that lasted more than a year, the City Council voted 9-0 Wednesday to end the last major loophole to a tough statewide ban on smoking in public buildings that had conspicuously exempted gambling halls.

But patrons still will be able to light up in unstaffed smoking lounges away from the table games and slot machines if the 11 individual casinos choose to build them. The ban takes effect Oct. 15.

Casino workers — many wearing T-shirts with the slogan "Nobody deserves to work in an ashtray" — burst into ap-

plause when the votes were counted and chanted, "Thank you, thank you, thank you."

"The employees of Atlantic City's casinos have hit a jackpot of their own tonight," said Dr. Arnold M. Baskies, chief medical officer for the American Cancer Society in New Jersey and New York. "Hardworking casino employees have been keeping Atlantic City's multibillion-dollar casino industry on a roll but have been gambling with their lives for far too long."

Marybeth Litchholt, a dealer for 21 years at Trump Plaza Hotel and Casino, said it's about time that casino workers' health is as valued as those of other workers in New Jersey.

"Because of cigarette smoke, I have sinus problems," she said. "There are times when I'm working in the smoking section when I'm short of breath. You can just

feel it in your lungs. My clothes stink."

More than two dozen states nationwide regulate smoking inside casinos, eight ban smoking altogether inside the gambling halls and two others will impose a total ban starting in 2009, according to Karen Blumenfeld, policy director of the New Jersey Group Against Smoking Pollution.

In January 2007, Atlantic City tried to pass its own law banning smoking in the casinos but backed down under withering pressure from the casino industry, which claimed the measure could cut revenue by 20 percent and mean the loss of as many as 3,400 jobs. The City Council then enacted a compromise law restricting smoking to no more than 25 percent of the casino floor.

But that hasn't worked. The smoking areas are still not walled off and separated from nonsmoking areas, as last

year's law had called for, and smoke still wafts throughout the casino floor. Smokers still feel persecuted, and casinos still fret about losing business in an already bad economic climate, which is being worsened by the growing success of slots parlors in nearby Pennsylvania and New York.

Kim Hoverman, a smoker from Stone Creek in Cumberland County, said she plans to take her business elsewhere.

"I don't think there should be separate areas," she said as she played a slot machine and puffed on a cigarette at the Trump Taj Mahal Casino Resort. "I won't come here at all; I live closer to Philadelphia, anyway. And I hate smoking outside."

Tom McGuigan of Philadelphia also was sampling the slots at the Taj Mahal. But he, too, will stick to slots parlors in his hometown once Atlantic City's smoking ban takes effect in October.

"I like to smoke," he said. "I'll do it in Philadelphia."

But Kim Hesse, a Caesars dealer and smoking opponent, predicts people like McGuigan will be the minority.

"There are lots more nonsmokers than smokers," she said. "I see it every day at my table; I'd say it's about 80-20 in favor of nonsmokers."

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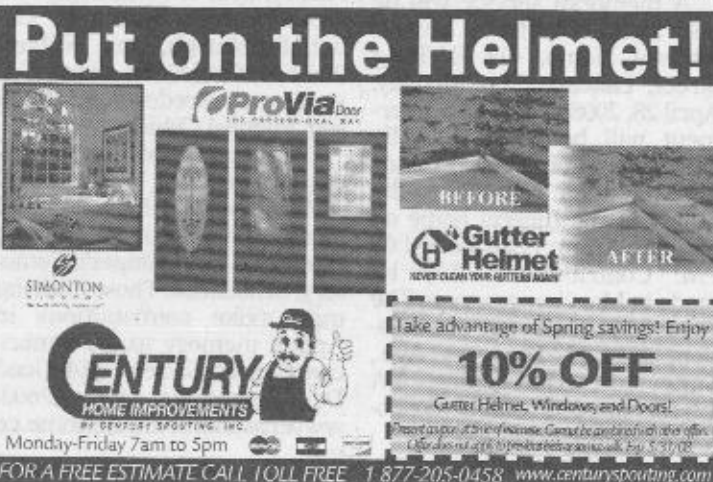


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