

DEATHS REPORTED

Beats, Bradley P., Sr.
37, husband of Tracy Lynne Smith-Beats, of Lancaster, March 5, 2008. Andrew T. Scheid Funeral Home, Millersville, 872-2266.

Colton, Charles Edward
69, husband of Pat Colton, of Lancaster, March 4, 2008. Kearney A. Snyder Funeral Home, 394-4097.

Diem, Anna V.
85, 1088 Narvon Rd., Narvon, March 5, 2008. Groff-High Funeral Home, 354-0444.

Eichmann, Jean E.
77, of Lancaster, March 2, 2008. Fred F. Groff, Inc., 397-8255.

Hehnly, Harry W.
84, of Stevens, March 6, 2008. Roseboro Funeral Home, 336-6531.

Hershberger, Esta (Miller)
85, of 523A Gibbons Road, Bird-in-Hand, March 5, 2008. Furman Home for Funerals, 656-6833.

Hua, Nha
88, Leola, March 4, 2008. Andrew T. Scheid Funeral Home, 872-2266.

Loew, Jane I.
85, wife of Franklin A. Loew, of Lancaster, March 5, 2008. Charles F. Snyder Jr. Funeral Home and Chapel, 560-5100.

Reach, Margaret J.*
63, of Honey Brook, March 4, 2008. The Labs Funeral Home, Inc., 610-273-3914.

Rubino, Florence P. (Busillo) Thies*
92, of Maple Farms Nursing Center, Akron, March 6, 2008. Good Funeral Home, 336-4909.

Shertz, Elizabeth C.
71, of Donerville Road, Lancaster, March 4, 2008. Andrew T. Scheid Funeral Home, 872-2266.

Shirk, Elmer M.
97, husband of Susan E. Strickler Shirk, of Mount Hope Nazarene Retirement Community, Manheim, March 5, 2008. Sheetz Funeral Home, Inc., 653-5441.

Elizabeth C. Shertz

Elizabeth C. Shertz, 71, of Donerville Road, Lancaster, went to be with the Lord on Tuesday evening, March 4, 2008 at her home. Death was due to respiratory complications of many years.

She worked most of her years on the family farm which she managed. She raised spring onions, asparagus, turnips and other vegetables which she sold to various vendors. She had also sold Avon products for many years in the area. Elizabeth was a great lover of flowers and animals and exercised her gift of giving to many people in many ways.

Born on April 16, 1936 in Manor Twp., she was the daughter of the late Aaron N. and Mabel N. (Charles) Shertz. She was formerly a member of Life Mennonite Fellowship, Conestoga and most recently attended the Neffsville Mennonite Church. Elizabeth enjoyed playing her piano, listening to recorded music and singing. Earlier in her life, she participated with choral groups.

She is survived by three siblings, Anna C., with whom she had lived, Norman C. married to Verna E., of Lancaster and John C. Shertz married to Alma L., of Durham, NC. She was preceded in death by a brother, C. Charles Shertz.

Funeral Services will be held at the Millersville Mennonite Church, 437 Manor Avenue, Millersville, PA on Saturday, March 8, 2008 at 2 PM with Pastor Phil Shertz, Bishop Abram H. Charles and Pastor Mark Schlabach officiating. Interment will be in the adjoining church cemetery. Friends may view at the Millersville Mennonite Church on Friday evening (TONIGHT) between 6 and 8 PM and also on Saturday between 1 and 2 PM. Memorial Remembrances can be made in Elizabeth's memory to Gideons International. 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



Harry W. Hehnly

Harry W. Hehnly, 84, of Stevens, entered into rest on Thursday, March 6, 2008 at the Essa Flory Hospice Center.



Born in Stevens, he was a son of the late Evan and Ella (Weitzel) Hehnly.

Harry's wife, Mary E. Hehnly, died May 11, 2001. He was a self-employed masonry contractor for 37 years and worked part-time at the Sharp Shopper. A member of Wiest Memorial U.M. Church, he was a US Army veteran serving in WW II. He was on the Board of Mellinger's Cemetery and enjoyed gardening, horseback riding and riding motorcycles.

Surviving are his children Doris A. McNally, Ephrata, Larry L. (Helen F. Magni) Hehnly, Stevens, Ronald E. Hehnly, Denver, Rodney L. (Marge Gordon) Hehnly, Robesonia, and Deborah A. (Fred C.) Trout, Stevens; 13 grandchildren; 7 great grandchildren; a sister Lottie Lesh, Fivepointville; and a brother Clair P. Hehnly, Lititz. Harry was predeceased by a great granddaughter, Heather Gerhart.

The funeral will be on Sunday at 7:00 PM, Viewing 5-7 PM in Wiest Memorial U.M. Church, 48 S. King St., Stevens (Schoeneck). Interment in Mellinger's Cemetery, Schoeneck. Those desiring may make contributions in Harry's memory to Hospice of Lancaster County, Box 4125, Lancaster, PA 17604-4125. www.roseborofuneralhome.com

Leonard C. Stramara

Leonard C. "Lenny" Stramara, 64, of Lancaster, PA passed away on Wednesday, March 5, 2008 at Cambridge Nursing Home.



Lenny was born in Tamaqua, PA. He was the son

OBITUARIES

Anna V. Diem

Anna V. Diem, 85, 1088 Narvon Rd., Narvon, died Wednesday, March 5 at her home. She was preceded in death by her husband, Irvin C. Diem in 1987.

Born in East Earl Twp., she was the daughter of the late Harry F. and Eva (Schober) Boley.

Anna was a cook for the former Victor F. Weaver, Inc., retiring in 1986 after 15 years.

She was a member of Bridgeville E. C. Church and attended Mt. Culmen E. C. Church.

She enjoyed cooking, reading, flowers and gardening, watching birds, cats and dogs.

Surviving are four children: Franklin C. married to Barbara Diem, Narvon; Lorraine married to Clarence Jones, Narvon; Barry L. married to Donna Diem, Lancaster; and Brenda married to Alan Barker, Overland Park, KS; a step-son Irvin G. Diem, Narvon; 11 grandchildren and numerous great-grandchildren.

She was preceded in death by her brothers and sisters: Mary Parmer, Pearl Koons, Frank Boley, William Boley, and Gladys Bannan.

Her funeral will be held on Monday, March 10 at 2 PM at the Groff-High Funeral Home, 145 W. Main St., New Holland with Pastor F. Kenneth Hoffer officiating. Interment will be in Bridgeville Cemetery. A viewing will be held at Groff-High on Monday from 1 to 2 PM.

Jean E. Eichmann

Jean E. Eichmann, age 77, of Lancaster, PA, passed away on Mar. 2, 2008.

She was an active member of St. John's Lutheran Church and the church choir.

Surviving is a brother, Charles Leon Eichman of Landisville.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Jean's Life Celebration graveside service at Greenwood Cemetery, Lancaster, PA, on Monday at 9:30 AM with Rev. Margaret Kassess officiating.

Chuck Colton
Soccer Referee

Charles Edward "Chuck" Colton, 69, of Lancaster, died Tuesday, March 4, 2008 at the Essa Flory Hospice Center. Born in Albany, N.Y., he was the son of the late Ruth and Jim Colton. He survived by his wife of 41 years, Pat, who he met while serving in the US Navy.

Chuck graduated from Albany Academy, Hamilton College, and Colgate University where he received a Master's degree. He spent 39 years at nine educational institutions as a teacher, counselor, coach, and administrator. He also was an advisor on college student aid to local, state, regional, and national agencies.

As a member of St. Thomas Episcopal Church, Chuck was a vestryman, lay reader, chalice bearer, and Sunday school director. He was active with his wife, Pat, for more than ten years in the Episcopal expressions of Marriage and Engaged Encounter, where they were a presenting couple and treasurers for the eastern United States.

Chuck played secondary and collegiate soccer, making All-State and honorable mention All-American. In addition he played semi-pro soccer in Albany and Rochester, NY. Chuck started refereeing in 1965 and was licensed for both secondary school and USSF matches. He particularly enjoyed working with younger players and was honored by his peers in 1995 and 2001.

Surviving in addition to his wife, Pat, are his daughter Becky Colton, of Mexico, and her partner Sergio Perez and stepson Diego Perez, and his daughter Kristie Colton of Massachusetts and her partner Betsy Robertson and their son Jac Colton. He is also survived by his sisters, Susan Gibbons and Elizabeth Colton of Haver-town, PA.

A celebration of Chuck's life will take place on Friday, March 14th at 11 am at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, St. Thomas

Esta Miller Hershberger

Esta (Miller) Hershberger, 85, of 523A Gibbons Road, Bird-in-Hand, went home to be with the Lord on Wednesday, March 5, 2008. She was born near Winesburg, Ohio, on May 24, 1922, daughter of the late Jacob M. and Drusilla Keim Miller. She had lived in Bird-in-Hand for the past ten summers.

Esta grew up on a farm east of Walnut Creek, Ohio, and married Simon D. Hershberger in Kalispell, MT, during his years of alternate service in Glacier National Park. They celebrated 62 years of marriage on December 22.

Esta was a homemaker, known for her fine quilting stitches, custard pies, and cinnamon rolls. Many guests enjoyed her delicious meals and she was a caring neighbor and friend. She was a member of Walnut Creek (OH) Mennonite Church and an associate member of Stumptown Mennonite Church and Sunnyslope Mennonite Church in Phoenix, AZ, where she and her husband spent 20 winters. Esta participated in the sewing circles of all three churches. In 1975 Esta and Simon served in Buckeye, AZ, in voluntary service and Esta also volunteered at Ten Thousand Villages.

A devoted mother and member of a closely knit extended family, she loved her family dearly and spent much of her life caring for them. Surviving in addition to her husband, are two daughters Joanne, wife of Steve Yoder, Glendale, AZ, and Myrna, wife of John Smucker, Bird-in-Hand; six grandchildren Alex and Alicia Yoder and Hans, Anny, Heidi, and Carrie Smucker; one brother, Joe J. Miller, husband of Emma and a brother-in-law, Moses A. Kaufman, all of Sugar Creek, OH; and eleven nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by an infant son, Jonas, and a sister, Mary (Miller) Kaufman.

Services will be at Walnut Creek Mennonite Church, Walnut Creek, Ohio, on Sunday, March 9, at 3 pm with a viewing preceding the service from 1-3



Shirk, Elmer M.
97, husband of Susan E. Strickler Shirk, of Mount Hope Nazarene Retirement Community, Manheim, March 5, 2008. Sheetz Funeral Home, Inc., 653-5441.

Stramara, Leonard C.
64, of Lancaster, March 5, 2008. Charles F. Snyder Jr. Funeral Home and Chapel, 560-5100.

Townsend, Margaret T.*
84, of Lancaster, Mar. 5, 2008. Fred F. Groff, Inc., 397-8255.

* No Obituary appears

evening (TONIGHT) between 6 and 8 PM and also on Saturday between 1 and 2 PM. Memorial Remembrances can be made in Elizabeth's memory to Gideons International. 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

OTHER OBITUARIES ON PAGE B4

SERVICES TODAY

Cote, Victoria Grace
Zion Church of Millersville, 317 North George St., Millersville, Fri., 7:00 PM. Andrew T. Scheid Funeral Home

Duvall, Margaret Ellen
Faith United Evang. Lutheran Church, 357 Walnut St., Denver, Fri., 11:00 AM. Roseboro Funeral Home

Eberhardt, H. Alfred III
Toppitzer Funeral Home, 2900 State Road, Drexel Hill, Fri., 2:00 PM.

Eby, John Martin
Trinity United Methodist Church, South Broadway & Church Street, Pennsylvania, NJ. Fri., 12:00pm. Laughrey Funeral Home.

Fitzkee, John A.
Heilig Funeral Home, 21 W. Main St., Mount Joy. Fri., 2:00pm.

Geesey, Mary Ann
Smedley Funeral Home, 29 N. Gay St., Marietta. Fri., 11:00am.

Hahn, Scott A.
Fred F. Groff, Inc., 234 W. Orange St., Lancaster. Fri., 11:00am.

Hursh, Curtis W.
Meadow Valley Mennonite Church, Meadow Valley and Royer Road, Ephrata, Fri., 9:30 AM. Stradling Funeral Homes

Johnston, Bayard S.
Trinity Lutheran Church, 31 S. Duke St., Lancaster, Fri., 2:00 PM. Auer Memorial Home and Cremation Services, Inc.

Long, Ruth L.
Crossroads Community Fellowship, 1060 E. Newport Road, Lititz, Fri., 2:00 PM. Stradling Funeral Homes

McMillan, Bruce A.
Miller-Stewart Funeral Home, 1003 South Main Street, Middlebury, IN, Fri., 5:00 PM.

Morgan, Virginia M.
Bachman Funeral Home, 7 South Decatur Street, Strasburg, Fri., 10:30 AM.

Munoz, Juan G.
Andrew T. Scheid Funeral Home, 320 Blue Rock Road, Route 999, Millersville, Fri., 2:00 PM.

Niznik, Claire M.
St. Anthony of Padua Catholic Church, 501 Orange St., Lancaster, Fri., 11:00 AM. Charles F. Snyder Funeral Home

Persing, Sr. Andrew (Lily)
Assisi House, 600 Red Hill Rd., Aston, Fri., 11:00 AM. Kevin M. Lyons Funeral Service

Reich, Annie S.
Hahnstown United Zion Church, Glenwood Dr., Ephrata, Fri., 11:00 AM. Good Funeral Home & Cremation Centre

Stoltzfoos, Elias L.
Late home, 5162 Newport Road, Gap, Fri., 9:00 AM. Shivery Funeral Home

Weaver, Ruth G.
Mellinger Mennonite Church, 1916 Lincoln Highway East, Lancaster, Fri., 10:00 AM. Furman Home for Funerals

ra, 64, of Lancaster, PA passed away on Wednesday, March 5, 2008 at Cambridge Nursing Home.

Lenny was born in Tamaqua, PA. He was the son of the late Martin Jerome Stramara and Nellie (Karpf) Stramara. After graduating from Pottsville Area High School he entered the U. S. Navy. He was aboard the USS Enterprise.

After retirement he moved to Delray Beach, FL where he lived for several years. He recently moved back to Lancaster to be closer to his two sons and other family and friends.

He is survived by two sons; Mike Stramara married to Colleen of Lancaster and Jason Stramara of Philadelphia. Also surviving are three sisters Regina Garber of Shillington, PA, Dorothy Smulligin of Tamaqua, PA, Vivienne Hunsicker of Lehigh, PA, one brother Martin Stramara of Margate, FL, and four grandchildren.

A Memorial Gathering for family and friends will take place in the Grand Ballroom at the Eden Resort Inn, 222 Eden Rd., Lancaster, PA 17601 on Sunday, March 9th from 2:30-4:30pm. Memorial contributions in Lenny's memory may be made to Compassionate Care Hospice, 100 E. Brown St. Suite 23, Middletown, PA 17057. Arrangements are under the care of Charles F. Snyder Jr. Funeral Home and Chapel, 717-560-5100. For additional information or to send an online condolence please visit: www.snyderfuneralhome.com

In Loving Memory of
Alberta S. (Bert) Williams
Jan. 11, 1934 - Mar. 4, 2004



When you went to rest I wanted to rest. He knows best. He said, "If I follow the pearly gates, then we can rest".

*I Love You Mama
Your daughter and her siblings*

Surviving is a brother, Charles Leon Eichman of Landisville.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend Jean's Life Celebration graveside service at Greenwood Cemetery, Lancaster, PA, on Monday at 9:30 AM with Rev. Margaret Kassess officiating. If desired, memorial contributions may be sent to St. John's Lutheran Church, 223 W. Orange St., Lancaster, PA 17603. Fred F. Groff, Inc., www.lifecelebration.com

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Corrections may be submitted to Classified by first calling 291-8711, then submitting the written correction either by e-mail (obits@LNpnews.com) or by fax (717-291-8728), Monday-Friday, 8:30-9:45 a.m.

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In Loving Memory of
*Our Precious Son,
My Brother, Our Uncle*
Travis Alan Mickel
Aug. 14, 1978 - March 7, 2004

Remember Me
Remember me when flowers bloom
Early in the spring,
Remember me on sunny days
In the sun that summer brings,

Remember me in the fall
As you walk through leaves of gold,
And remember me in the winter time
In the stories that are told.
But most of all remember
Each day - right from the start
I will be forever near
For I live within your heart.

*We love you Travis, We miss you more than ever.
Mom & Dad, Tonya & Dave
Vanessa & Michael*



daughter, Kristine Colton of Massachusetts and her partner Betsy Robertson and their son Jac Colton. He is also survived by his sisters, Susan Gibbons and Elizabeth Colton of Haverstown, PA.

A celebration of Chuck's life will take place on Friday, March 14th at 11 am at St. Thomas Episcopal Church, St. Thomas Road, Lancaster, with Fr. Peter Greenfield officiating. Friends and family are invited to a reception immediately following the service in the church's fellowship hall.

In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to Milagro House, 320 South Christian Street, Lancaster, PA 17602.

Gaudemus Igitur.
Arrangements are by the Kearney A. Snyder Funeral Home; (717) 394-4097. For further information or to send an on-line condolence, please visit our website at www.kearneyasnnyderfuneralhome.com

Jean E. Golicher
12-30-26 ~ 3-7-96



You are not forgotten nor will you ever be. As long as life and memory last, we will remember you. We miss you now, our hearts are sore. As time goes by, we miss you more. Your loving smile, your gentle face, No one can ever take your place.
*Love,
Bob, Squeaker, Carol, Gary and the entire Golicher Family*

brother-in-law, Moses A. Kaufman, all of Sugarcreek, OH; and eleven nieces and nephews. She was preceded in death by an infant son, Jonas, and a sister, Mary (Miller) Kaufman.

Services will be at Walnut Creek Mennonite Church, Walnut Creek, Ohio, on Sunday, March 9, at 3 pm with a viewing preceding the service from 1-3 pm. Interment in Walnut Creek Mennonite Cemetery. In lieu of flowers, memorial remembrances can be made to Hospice of Lancaster County, PO Box 4125, Lancaster, PA 17604-4125.

In Loving Memory of
Travis Mickel
Aug. 14, 1978 - Mar. 7, 2004

My grandson, my friend and like a son.
Grandma Mickel

Young FUNERAL HOME

Charles S. McWilliams, III
SUPERVISOR

Scott C. Brubaker
FUNERAL DIRECTOR

717.299.7371

317 East Orange Street
Lancaster, PA 17602

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Mark C. DeBoed, Supervisor
Phone: 394-4097
www.kearneyasnnyderfuneralhome.com

BRANCH OFFICE
Richard A. Sheets Funeral Home
2024 Marietta Avenue, Lancaster
Randy L. Stoltzfus, Supervisor • Phone: 397-6329

OBITUARIES

Nha Hua

Nha Hua, 88, of Leola, died Tuesday, March 4, 2008 at LGH.



She was born on December 24, 1919, in Canton, China.

She was of the Buddhist Faith.

She is survived by two sons, Man-Sien Luong, of Hong Kong, Hong Luong, of San Francisco, CA; two daughters, Carrie Wu, of Leola, PA, and Tu Luong, of San Francisco, CA; eight grandchildren and five great grandchildren.

Funeral Services will be held at the Andrew T. Scheid Funeral Home, 320 Blue Rock Road, Route 999, Millersville, PA, (717)-872-2266 on Saturday, March 8, 2008 at 9 AM. Cremation will follow. Friends may visit with the family at Scheid's between 8 and 9 AM on Saturday. The funeral procession will leave for the crematory in Leola at 10 AM. For on-line condolences, directions or other information, you are welcome to visit our website at:

www.scheidfuneralhome.com

Elmer M. Shirk

Elmer M. Shirk, 97, formerly of Sun Hill Rd., Manheim, passed away on Wednesday, March 5, 2008 at the Mount Hope Nazarene Retirement Community Manheim. Elmer and his wife, Susan E. Strickler Shirk were married 75 years last December.

Elmer was a farmer in East Hempfield and Rapho Townships. A bricklayer by trade, Elmer built homes in Lancaster County. In addition to farming and building, Elmer was a bishop of the Old Order of River Brethren Church, Lancaster District.

Born in Ephrata Twp., he was the son of the late Jacob M., and Emma Landis Martin Shirk.

In addition to his wife Susan, he is survived by daughters Catharine M., married to David C. Wampler of Chambersburg; and Naomi married to David J. Fidler of Manheim; son in law J. Richard Myer of Manheim, 13 grandchildren, 42 great grandchildren and a great-great granddaughter. He was preceded

Bradley P. Beats, Sr.

Bradley P. Beats, Sr., 37, of Lancaster, died unexpectedly



on Wednesday, March 5, 2008 at home. He was the husband of Tracy Lynne Smith-Beats for 11 years.

Born December 9,

1970 in Lancaster, he was the son of Paul T. Beats, Jr., of Ocean City, MD and Judy Marie (Hart) Beats, of Lancaster. He was working at Nissin Foods. Brad was a former member of St. Joseph Catholic Church and an avid NASCAR and football fan.

Surviving in addition to his wife and parents are six children, Lauren Wirth, Bradley P., Jr., Brittani, Kelli, Brandon and Chelsea; two siblings, Darrell, of Marietta and Christi, of Berlin, MD, maternal grandfather, John H. Hartl, of Lancaster; paternal grandparents, Paul T., Sr. and Virginia Beats, of Pequea; his in-laws, John T. Miller, II and Linda Sollenberger-Miller, of Brunswick, GA and a host of family and friends.

A Christian Prayer Service will be held at the Andrew T. Scheid Funeral Home, 320 Blue Rock Road, Route 999, Millersville, PA, (717)-872-2266 on Tuesday, March 11, 2008 at 7:30 PM. Interment will be private. Friends may visit with the family at Scheid's on Tuesday between 6:30 and 7:30 PM. Kindly omit flowers. Memorial Remembrances can be made to Hospice of Lancaster County. For on-line condolences, directions or other information, you are welcome to visit our website at:

www.scheidfuneralhome.com

Jane L. Loew

Jane L. Loew, 85, of Lancaster died Wednesday night at



Mennonite Home. Born in West Reading, she was the daughter of the late John H. and Laura Tobias Wise. Jane was married to

Franklin A. Loew for 19 years. She was preceded in death by her first husband, Charles Kline who died in 1988. Jane was controller of Way Oil Company for 18 years and retired in 1985. She was a member of First Reformed Church in Lancaster.

Surviving besides her husband are three daughters; Phyllis A. wife of Douglas Clelan of Lititz, Janet L. wife of Robert Miller of Arnold, MD. Suzanne L. Wike of Lititz, four grandchildren, two great grandchildren, stepson; William E. husband of Dawn Loew of Sinking Springs, PA, and one step grandchild. Jane was preceded in death by three sisters; Ruth Edge, Erma Sterner and Edna Kulp.

Funeral services will be held at the Charles F. Snyder Jr. Funeral Home and Chapel, 3110 Lititz Pike, Lititz, PA on Monday, March 10, 2008 at 11:00AM with Rev. William Worley officiating. Interment will be held in Epler Cemetery in Leesport, PA. There will be a viewing at the funeral home on Monday from 10:00-11:00AM. Please omit flowers. Contributions may be made in Jane's memory to First Reformed Church-United Church of Christ, 401 E. Orange Street, Lancaster, PA 17602 or Hospice of Lancaster County, P.O. Box 4125, Lancaster, Pa. 17604. To send online condolences, please visit

www.snyderfuneralhome.com

CAMPUS NEWS

GRADUATIONS

◆ Leonard Hershberger of Conestoga graduated from Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, Mich., with a bachelor of science degree.

DEAN'S LIST

◆ Barbara Crill Denlinger was named to the dean's list

the fall semester at St. Vincent College in Latrobe, where she is a freshman majoring in communications.

A 2007 graduate of Elizabethtown High School, she is the daughter of Steven and Patricia Turner of Elizabethtown.

◆ Patrick McCafferty

Check-cashing scams target 'secret shoppers'

BY MARC LEVY
Associated Press

HARRISBURG — If you've ever wanted to be a secret shopper, or if you need a part-time job paying an extra \$500 or more a week, this is not your chance.

Unfortunately, authorities say hundreds of people have fallen victim to a scam in which they think they're signing up to be "mystery shoppers" — regular folks who are paid to evaluate retailers. Some have lost thousands of dollars after cashing counterfeit checks and wiring money back to scammers, usually in Canada or another foreign country.

The Pennsylvania attorney general's office said it began receiving complaints late last year about such schemes, and the pace of the complaints has picked up since. It issued a warning to consumers last month to be wary of the offers.

The letters or advertisements look official, containing telephone contact numbers and more. The names of the fake companies vary — scam letters have borne "Express Shoppers" and "Mystery Shopper" company logos — and may even mirror the name of a real company.

Victims who received checks were told to cash them and then wire money as part of a training mission to evaluate a Western Union or check-cashing outlet at a Wal-Mart. But the checks have bounced, leaving the victims on the hook for the amount of the cashed checks.

"It would be a financial education for most people who fall

for it, but it's not the kind of education that people want," said spokesman Nils Frederiksen of the attorney general's office.

Harold Cameron, a Scranton man who runs a consumer help Web site, said he has been contacted in recent weeks by people from at least a half-dozen states, from Nevada to Michigan, who were scammed by or saw advertisements by a company called "Master Research Inc."

In October, the Mobile, Ala., police department reported it was investigating an alleged secret shopper scam involving fraudulent checks sent out by Master Research that were cashed at a pawn shop.

No one answered a call from The Associated Press on Thursday to one of the company's advertised telephone lines in Alberta, Canada.

At another number, also in Alberta, a woman answered and said the number was for Master Research. Told the company was being connected to a scam involving fraudulent checks, she hung up. A second call went unanswered.

The checks may look authentic and may even bear the name of an actual bank or credit union and a telephone number where the person answering supposedly verifies that the check is valid.

One credit union whose name has been used, Country-side Federal Credit Union in Syracuse, N.Y., returned four checks Thursday morning as fraudulent, president and chief executive officer Gerd Henjes said.

"The question is, did the financial institution on the other

end put the appropriate financial holds on it?" Henjes said.

An industry group, The Mystery Shopping Providers Association, says real companies do not pay anyone before they do actual work and that mystery shopping is not a way to make a large sum of money quickly.

The Dallas-based organization also provides information on how to become a mystery shopper on its Web site, www.mysteryshop.org, and a list of its members. Master Research is not among them.

Authorities have made some inroads.

On Feb. 21, Canadian authorities announced the arrests of two scam operators, but estimated that hundreds of U.S. residents lost at least \$150,000 to the scammers.

Doug Bem, a U.S. Postal Inspection Service spokesman, said the secret shopper scams are a variation of a more widely used scheme that victimizes a person who receives a counterfeit check from an unknown person, cashes it and wires back a portion of the cash.

In October, the agency announced an international crackdown that seized more than 540,000 fake checks with a face value of \$2.1 billion. Dozens of arrests were made, mostly in the Netherlands and Nigeria.

"What we're trying to do is to get people to stop and ask themselves, 'Why would any business or employer or promoter ... ask you to accept their check and then turn around and wire money back to them?'" Bem said.

Feds look to improve electric grid in mid-Atlantic, Southwest states

BY DEVLIN BARRETT
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — New power line construction is more likely in the mid-Atlantic states and the Southwest after

runs from Virginia and Washington, D.C., north to include most of Maryland; all of New Jersey and Delaware and large sections of New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Vir-

The corridor designations may increase pressure on state regulators to grant permits to private industry to build new lines. Utilities have complained that state authorities are reluct-

Shirk. In addition to his wife Susan, he is survived by daughters Catharine M., married to David C. Wampler of Chambersburg; and Naomi married to David L. Fidler of Manheim; son in law J. Richard Myer of Manheim, 13 grandchildren, 42 great grandchildren and a great-great granddaughter. He was preceded in death by a daughter, Martha E. Myer and a grandson Joseph Myer. The last of 8 children, his siblings, Moses, Amos, Ada, and Fannie Shirk, Mary Forry, Lizzie Zimmerman and Anna Sauder preceded him in death.

Relatives and friends are invited to attend the funeral from Evangelical Christian Baptist Church, 462 West Orange St., Lititz on Monday, March 10, 2008 at 10 am with Bro. David Sauder, Bro. John Kniesly and Bro. Samuel Shirk officiating. Interment to follow in Longenecker's Brethren Cemetery, Warwick Twp. A viewing will be held from the Sheetz Funeral Home, Inc., 16 East Main Street, Mount Joy on Sunday evening March 9, 2008 from 6 to 8 pm and again on Monday morning at the church from 9 until 10 am. Please omit flowers. Memorial contributions to Mount Hope Nazarene Ret. Comm., 3026 Mt. Hope Rd., Manheim PA, 17545 would be deeply appreciated by his family. Sheetz Funeral Home, Inc., Mount Joy.

GRADUATIONS

◆ **Leonard Hershberger** of Conestoga graduated from Central Michigan University, Mount Pleasant, Mich., with a bachelor of science degree.

DEAN'S LIST

◆ **Barbara Crill Denlinger** was named to the dean's list for the fall semester at Grove City College, where she is a junior majoring in Spanish and psychology.

A graduate of Manheim Township High School, she is the daughter of Del and Sally Crill-Denlinger.

◆ **Melissa Kroll** of Lancaster was named to the dean's list for the fall semester at Hofstra University, where she is studying creative writing and literature.



Melissa Kroll

Kroll is a 2007 graduate of Penn Manor High School.

◆ **John Henry** was named to the dean's list for the fall semester at the University of Pittsburgh where he is a freshman majoring in political science.

A 2007 graduate of Lancaster Catholic High School he is the son of John and Eileen Henry of East Earl.

◆ **Dustin Musselman** was named to the dean's list for the fall semester at Carnegie Mellon University, where he is majoring in engineering.

A graduate of Solanco High School, he is the son of Mark and Sharon Musselman of New Providence.

◆ **Kathleen Turner** was named to the dean's list for

the fall semester at St. Vincent College in Latrobe, where she is a freshman majoring in communications.

A 2007 graduate of Elizabethtown High School, she is the daughter of Steven and Patricia Turner of Elizabethtown.

◆ **Patrick McCafferty** of Manheim Township was named to the dean's list for the fall term at the University of Pittsburgh, where he is a freshman in the College of Business Administration.

A graduate of Manheim Township High School, he is the son of Mary and Joseph McCafferty.

◆ **Amanda N. Nagy** was named to the dean's list for the fall semester at Widener University, where she is a freshman majoring in nursing.

A 2007 graduate of Manheim Township High School, she is the daughter of Al and Joan Nagy of Lititz.

◆ **Jessica Freidly** was named to the dean's list for the fall semester at Moravian College, where she is a sophomore.

A graduate of Hempfield High School, she is the daughter of Bruce and Judy Freidly of Manheim.

◆ **Megan Norcross** of Willow Street was named to the dean's list for the fall semester at Hofstra University, where she is studying print journalism with a minor in history.

E-mail campus news items to jroberts@lnpnews.com or mail them to Jack Roberts, c/o Intelligencer Journal, 8 W. King St., P.O. Box 1328, Lancaster, PA 17608-1328. Please include an SASE for photos that need to be returned.

Groups oppose proposed coal-fired power plant

BY DAN NEPHIN
Associated Press

PITTSBURGH — A planned waste coal-fired power plant in Washington County will lead to increased pollution and is not needed, according to environmental groups who want to stop the plant.

The Sierra Club, the Washington-based Environmental Integrity Project, a nonprofit public interest group, and others notified Robinson Power Co. on Thursday of their intent

to sue over the \$425 million Beech Hollow power plant.

Robinson Power has failed to file required construction plans with the state Department of Environmental Protection, according to Tom Wolper, the Sierra Club's energy initiatives chair in Pennsylvania.

The notice was filed under the Clean Air Act, which contains a provision that lets citizens bring enforcement lawsuits after notifying the alleged violator and state and federal environmental agencies.

in mid-Atlantic, Southwest states

BY DEVLIN BARRETT
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — New power line construction is more likely in the mid-Atlantic states and the Southwest after the government on Thursday said it was pushing ahead with a plan to expand and modernize the electric grid in those areas.

The U.S. Department of Energy formally denied requests for a rehearing of a previous decision making it easier to build power lines in the designated areas, saying challenges by those who oppose new line construction were meritless.

The Energy Department has designated two "National Interest Electric Transmission Corridors" over the objections of many local and state officials.

Local groups often resist such proposed lines in their communities, saying they are ugly and unnecessary and diminish the quality of life. Advocates for the corridor law say it's necessary to avoid future blackouts. The nation's energy grid, they say, is aging too rapidly to meet the rising demand for electricity.

The federal government's mid-Atlantic power corridor

runs from Virginia and Washington, D.C., north to include most of Maryland; all of New Jersey and Delaware and large sections of New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia.

The Southwest corridor consists of seven counties in Southern California and three in Arizona.

In deciding to go forward with the two corridors, the department issued a statement Thursday saying the findings of energy congestion in the areas "are well-founded and based on data and studies."

Under a 2005 energy law passed by Congress, the federal government can approve new power transmission lines within the corridors if states and regional groups fail to build such lines. The law was passed partly in response to the 2003 blackout, which left 50 million people in southern Ontario and parts of the northeastern United States without power.

In that event, a failure on transmission lines in Ohio set off a chain reaction that knocked the Canadian province of Ontario off the power grid, along with parts of New York, New Jersey, Connecticut, Michigan, Pennsylvania and Massachusetts.

The corridor designations may increase pressure on state regulators to grant permits to private industry to build new lines. Utilities have complained that state authorities are reluctant to approve new lines, often because of local opposition.

If state authorities do not approve any construction after a year, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, or FERC, may intervene and approve a grid project if the new line is deemed necessary to satisfy national power needs. Such approvals could, in theory, include the use of eminent domain law to compel private owners to sell their property.

The FERC has had such authority for years in considering applications for gas lines, but this is the first time it will also be available for electricity transmission, officials said. The new law does not give the FERC eminent domain power over state or federal lands.

In New York, local community activists, preservationists, and environmentalists are fighting a proposal to run a line nearly 200 miles from the center of the state toward populous New York City suburbs. Local lawmakers have vowed to fight the plan in Congress and in the courts.

Broken gas line caused house explosion that killed man, injured his granddaughter

BY RAMESH SANTANAM
Associated Press

PLUM — A broken gas line caused a suburban Pittsburgh house explosion that killed a man and injured his 4-year-old granddaughter, officials said Thursday.

Holiday Park Fire Chief Larry Glass said the line in front of the house had deteriorated before Wednesday's explosion, which leveled the building and damaged 14 other homes, some beyond repair.

Richard Leith, 64, was killed, and his granddaughter, Gianna Pettinato, suffered a broken leg. A hospital spokesman said the family requested that no information about the girl's condition be released.

Karl Gunther, a pipeline-accident investigator with the National Transportation and Safety Board, confirmed there was a broken gas line. The pipe, which he estimated to be at

least 40 years old, will be sent to Washington, D.C., where metallurgists will inspect it.

"There is a broken 2-inch steel line with a crack in it. We don't know why it cracked," Gunther said.

One of the mysteries, Gunther said, was that no one reported the smell of gas ahead of the explosion. Natural gas is odorless, but gas companies insert a chemical to ensure that people will be able to smell it and be alert to suspected leaks.

Elmore Lockley, a spokesman for gas utility Dominion Peoples, confirmed that the explosion involved one of its lines, but said the cause had not been determined. He said there had been no Dominion crews and no reports of odors in the area recently, and that a routine test on the line last month confirmed the natural gas passing through it had an odor.

After Wednesday's explo-

sion, pieces of burnt insulation and debris were scattered over a 1,000-foot area. All that remained of the home was a charred foundation wall, and part of its roof was perched precariously on a nearby tree.

Houses on both sides were heavily damaged and will have to be torn down, Allegheny County Emergency Management Chief Robert Full said. Twelve other homes had less severe damage.

Also Thursday, a school about a mile from the house that blew up was evacuated due to a gas leak. Students at Adlai Stevenson Elementary School were taken to a nearby middle school for several hours until the leak was repaired.

Dave Spigelmyer, an Equitable Gas Co. spokesman, said Thursday's school evacuation was traced to a leaky valve and was unrelated to Wednesday's house explosion.

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