



By Larry Alexander

MOUNTAIN, continued on **A4**



By Laura Knowles

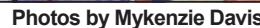
In the 1944 EHS Cloister-
RHOADS, continued on **A7**

By Michael C. Upton

Photo by Michael C. Upton

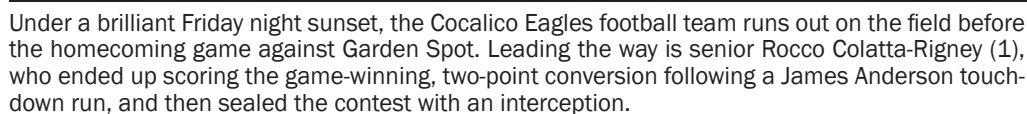
By Brenden Curry

“This intersection warrants
INTERSECTION,
continued on **A4**



By Sydney Campbell

The Messiah University-
HOMECOMING, continued on **A4**





Photos by Laura Knowles
Picture frames show (left to right) Jane Rhoads with her dog Topsy; Jane at 20; Jane and Robert Rhoads on their wedding day.

Rhoads

From page A1

ette yearbook that she has so lovingly cared for all these years, she is listed as Jane Wingenroth.

As the yearbook says, “Jane is a flashing blonde with blue eyes and a charming smile. She can talk and study at the same time, and do both very efficiently. She’s one of the high ranking members of the class and in addition types for the ‘Mountaineer’ and the ‘Cloisterette.’ Not only is she a whiz at typing, but also in her other commercial subjects. We feel sure Jane will meet success in the business world.”

At that time, Rhoads was planning a career in office work. Looking back, she now said, she might have wanted to be a librarian.

“I was very studious and I loved to read. I still do,” said Rhoads, noting that she especially enjoys non-fiction, history and books about World War II like “A Bridge Too Far” and “The Longest Day.” She is currently reading a 700-page book about General Douglas MacArthur.

Other classmates turning 100

Amazingly, Rhoads is aware of three other classmates who are also celebrating their 100th birthdays this year. Kathryn Kilhefner Sweigart’s birthday is Nov. 18 and she lives at Ephrata Manor, Doris Mohler Verna lives in Cincinnati, Ohio, and Pauline Usner Martin lives in East Petersburg.

“We used to keep in touch, but I have lost track of them over the years. I don’t think any of us ever expected to make it to 100. I know I didn’t,” said Rhoads.

Early years

While she was in high school, Rhoads worked at Eby Shoes in Ephrata. Ironically, it’s the same property that now houses Keystone Villa, where she currently lives. At Eby, she worked as a bookkeeper.

Rhoads was the daughter of Amy and Lloyd Wingenroth, who owned the Pontiac car dealership in Ephrata. Her brother Jack Wingenroth is six years younger, celebrating his 94th birthday.

She married Robert Rhoads in July of 1948. The two knew each other in high school and he lived across the street from her on East Main Street in Ephrata. Her husband served during the Korean War, although he did not go overseas. Later he was in the Army Na-



Jane Rhoads looks at her yearbook with daughter Bobbiann Fletcher.

tional Guard, serving in the medical division as an Army Corporal.

The couple lived in Indiana, where Jane worked for the U.S. Army as a file clerk for the 28th Division in Germany, at the Indiana office. When the Rhoads family returned to Ephrata in 1952, Robert worked for Denver & Ephrata Telephone and Telegraph as a plant engineer. Jane worked at Sperry New Holland and at Eby Shoes in the office, until they started their family.

Jane and Robert had three children, Bobbiann, Bruce and Barbara. Rhoads now has two grandchildren and three great grandchildren, with one more on the way.

Working until 98

In 1973, when her children were grown, Rhoads went to work at Royer’s Flowers. She worked there for more than 50 years.

“I was 98 when I retired from Royer’s and I had my own bill-collecting business,” said Rhoads, who explained that the secret to handling overdue bills was to be patient, persistent and persuasive in order to convince people to set their debts in order.

As Rhoads added, “I was never mean. I listened to their stories and then I would say, but you still have to pay for your flowers. And they usually did.”

Rhoads admitted that she never expected to be 100.

“I never felt old. I don’t feel old inside. I always exercised and kept busy. I read and stay engaged. Oh yes, and I follow politics. I read the news and keep informed,” said Rhoads,

adding that she went to the gym every day, until she broke her hip, and now does physical therapy.

When she was born in 1926, Calvin Coolidge was President of the United States, and three years later, the Great Depression began. When she was old enough, Rhoads voted in every election and looks back on some of the presidents who made a positive difference in the country.

“Franklin Roosevelt brought us out of the Depression and guided our country through World War II. I liked Eisenhower for everything he did to bring the country together and for the interstate highway system. And I liked Obama for what he did for affordable healthcare,” said Rhoads.

The secret?

As for the secret to a long life, Rhoads thinks it might have something to do with having a positive attitude. She looks back on the special experiences of life, like sailing on the Queen Elizabeth II to England and flying home on the Concorde, after seeing “The Phantom of the Opera” in London for their 50th anniversary.

“We had a very happy marriage,” said Rhoads. They were married for 64 years, until his death in 2012.

Over her 100 years, Rhoads has developed her own philosophy of life.

“Life is a learning experience,” she said. “Even when you make mistakes, you learn from them. Everything in life teaches you something.”

Laurie Knowles is a correspondent for The Ephrata Review

gifted this \$15,000 cart to help learners of all ages learn just a little more about food safety. This cart is equipped with the tools to make delicious food and treats for all. So while festivities are still being planned to decide how best to honor the dedication the Friends have had to making the Adamstown Library a better place, a sweet treat might have to be involved.

All year long

Throughout the year, several events go on to support the Friends and the mission they carry. Every Tuesday at the library, the group sells donated books at a discounted price to help make education affordable. The Friends also run Basket Bingo, where participants are hoping to win a handmade, Amish-made, durable basket filled with prizes and treats.

“We’ve been doing Basket

Bingo for 24 years and we’ve raised \$172,153,” said Harting. “We get between 175 to 200 people at that and we usually make anywhere from \$6,000 to \$8,000” states Harding.

And of course, who could forget the Blue Jeans and High Heels auction dinner held at The Village Haus? This event has everything — from live auctions, to 50/50 raffles and even a wine mystery table. Participation at events like these and donations help to make all the Adamstown Library’s dreams a reality.

So the message at the bottom of it all was said best by Harting herself: “When Margaret calls, say yes.”

You might just find yourself making your community shine just a little bit brighter.

Sydney Campbell is a senior at Cocalico High School and a correspondent for The Ephrata Review

Hillside

From page A1

Creek Country Club, he started looking into cocktail recipes from notable national bars and modified the concoctions into what he thought his customers would like.

“I got a good reputation,” Andrew Gerofsky said. “And eventually, other places wanted me to do the same thing — create martini bars.”

The current signature cocktails at Hillside Spirits are the Hillside Cosmopolitan, Blackberry Vodka Lemonade and the French Kiss Martini. Andrew Gerofsky’s new favorite drink to make is his “old-fashioned Manhattan,” which he says is neither of those two classic cocktails. On Saturdays, the drink special is a trio of mini-martinis.

The establishment may make a name for itself with refined cocktails, but the spot is not meant to be stuffy or elite. It defines its style as elevated pours with an Ephrata soul.

“We wanted it to feel a bit elevated from the average bar menu, but we wanted a place where people could come in and feel comfortable,” said Lauren Gerofsky, who works behind the scenes at Hillside Spirits. “We wanted the food to be a bit more than your average burger.”

In the kitchen, Spencer Vanroy worked at the Belvedere for three years before coming to Hillside. He reimaged the menu for a unique twist on tavern food featuring kabobs, flatbreads and a white bean chili of which he is particularly proud.

“I really like pub food,” Vanroy said. “I wanted to get back to comfort basics because that is what I liked when I was a kid.”

Vanroy is also a family friend, so it was easy for him to incorporate a family recipe, Mom G’s Homemade Cheese and Macaroni,



Photo by Michael C. Upton
The exterior of Hillside Spirits.

into the new menu.

“That’s my mother’s recipe we are using,” Andrew Gerofsky said. “It’s what I grew up on. There is so much cheese in it I decided to call it cheese and macaroni. And Spencer makes it as good as I can remember.”

When Gerofsky bought the restaurant, he also came into possession of the spirit brand. In 2018, distiller Steve Funk started Hillside Spirits in Paradise, and the libations got their start at the former Piccola Italian Bistro in Kinzers. The brand’s emphasis is on flavored vodka, gin and rum.

Upon his entrance, Gerofsky added new flavors to the lineup—like chocolate, coffee and citrus—to aid in his martini creations.

“A distiller’s license, by default, creates limited hours (of operation),” Lauren Gerofsky said.

Hillside Spirits is open Wednesday through Saturday only, from 4 p.m. to 11 p.m.

“This will not become an all-night club on a Saturday. That set some parameters for us that felt right.”

The distillery license allows the Gerofskys to sell bottles of their products on-site, but it also limits the beer, wine and spirits poured at the bar to Pennsylvania-made products.

3rd annual Barktoberfest benefit set for Ephrata’s Hillside Spirit Co., Oct. 17

Phoenix Assistance Dogs group will host event

Phoenix Assistance Dogs of Central PA will host its third annual Barktoberfest on Saturday, Oct. 17, from 6-9 p.m. at Hillside Spirit Co., 333 N. State St. in Ephrata.

The family-friendly fall fundraiser will bring together dogs, drinks, food, raffles, volunteers, service dog teams and community members for an evening benefiting PAD’s work with people with disabilities and their assistance dogs.

There is no admission fee or ticket required, and Hillside Spirit Co. will donate 20% of sales from the evening to Phoenix Assistance Dogs.

“Barktoberfest is really about bringing our community together,” said Linzey Zoccola, founder and director of Phoenix Assistance Dogs. “People see the finished service dog working beside someone with a disability, but they don’t always see the enormous amount of time, training, veterinary care, supplies, volunteer support and financial resources it takes to get that team there.”

Professionally raised and trained service dogs can represent an investment of tens

of thousands of dollars. Across the assistance dog industry, organizations report costs commonly reaching \$20,000 to \$50,000 or more per dog, with some programs reporting costs exceeding \$50,000. Those expenses can include breeding or acquiring appropriate dogs, health testing, veterinary care, food, equipment, hundreds of hours of professional training, public access preparation, individualized disability related task training, matching, handler education, and ongoing support.

For many people with disabilities, those costs create a significant barrier to obtaining a properly trained service dog.

Phoenix Assistance Dogs has evolved its programming to focus primarily on an Owner Trainer model, supporting people with disabilities as they actively participate in training their own assistance dogs with professional guidance. PAD also breeds and starts carefully selected puppies, educates handlers, provides individualized training and support, and helps teams work toward safe, reliable public access and disability related tasks.

“Service dogs can provide an incredible amount of independence, but quality training is expensive,” Zoccola

“It’s made me become very creative, especially with the martinis,” Andrew Gerofsky said.

For beer drinkers, Hillside Spirits pulls 20 taps. The venue, which seats 115 people in three sections, offers music, an open-mic night, trivia and football on Sundays, and has some upcoming special events. On Oct. 31, a Halloween party welcomes guests in costume. “Halloween Happenings” will feature games, drink specials and a DJ.

Longtime residents of Ephrata will remember 333 N. State St. as the former Restaurant at Doneckers, which opened in 1984 and closed in 2013. The Gerofskys want to honor the space.

“One of Andrew’s favorite things is working in historic spaces,” Lauren Gerofsky said.

“I love playing with old buildings and bringing a new life to them,” Andrew Gerofsky said. “I turn myself into a minimalist when it comes to old buildings and use what I have.”

Michael C. Upton is a freelance writer specializing in arts and leisure. He welcomes comments at somepromcu@gmail.com and [facebook.com/SomebodiesProductions](https://www.facebook.com/SomebodiesProductions).

‘Friends’

From page A2

approved what they thought was an ideal gift for the Adamstown library — a Charlie Cart. Part of the Charlie Cart Project, this cart is a fully stocked mobile kitchen, aiming to equip its users with the knowledge of food preparation. The goal of the Charlie Cart Project is to inform the community about food safety and to provide access to quality food. So this seemed like the perfect gift to support both the library and what the Friends are all about.

“If there’s something they would like or need, or that would enhance their services but it’s not in the budget and can’t be afforded, we step in and help them get it,” Harting said.

And that’s exactly what they did. The friends generously

Lincoln Fire Company

Oct. 4: Building; 100 block of North State Street in Ephrata Borough; Cooking related

Oct. 5: Vehicle accident; Rothsville and Miller roads in Akron Borough; Fire police assist

Oct. 5: Pedestrian struck; 7th and Main streets in Akron Borough; Fire police assist

Oct. 6: Fire alarm; Wellspan Ephrata Community Hospital

Oct. 7: Fire alarm; Ephrata High School

Oct. 8: Vehicle accident; Route 272 and Lauber Road; Reported entrapment; Assist West Earl Fire Company

Oct. 8: Gas leak; 1000 block of Hammon Avenue in Ephrata Township; Other odor

Oct. 8: Fire alarm; 800 block of Academy Heights Avenue in Ephrata Borough

Oct. 8: Vehicle accident; 1700 block of West Main Street in Clay Township; With injuries

Oct. 8: Vehicle accident; Springfield and Pleasantview roads in Ephrata Township; Motorcycle with injury

All story ideas are welcome,
contact ANDY FASNACHT at 717-721-4421