

**CURATOR'S REPORT**  
**THE BERLIN AREA HISTORICAL SOCIETY**

**DECEMBER 8, 2020**



**WILLIAM & BARBARA LANDIS'**  
**FARM HOUSE**

**BROTHERSVALLEY TOWNSHIP**





**EDWARD M. AND ETTA (SPANGLER) LANDIS**



**YESTERYEAR ON THE  
EDWARD & ETTA LANDIS  
FARM. (NOW BILL &  
BARBARA LANDIS'  
FARM!**



## DONATIONS FROM LESTER & LaVERNE (SUDER) COSLIC



**DAN COSLIC OF ANCHORAGE, ALASKA, IS SHOWN WITH THE ORIGINAL BOX THAT HIS GRANDPA HARRY SUDER'S NEW TELEVISION CAME IN 1949. DAN ALSO DISPLAYS THE ORIGINAL RECEIPT FROM COXY'S NATIONAL LINCOLN SERVICE STATION. (THE COSLIC FAMILY DONATED THE TELEVISION SOME YEARS AGO, WHICH IS DISPLAYED IN OUR BASEMENT DISPLAY AREA).**

**O**n November 9, while Lester and LaVerne Coslic's son, Dan of Anchorage, Alaska, was visiting with them, the Coslic family also donated numerous items that were displayed in the basement of the Coslic home. The items originally came from the former homes of the couple's fathers, the late Harry Suder and John Coslic.

These items will be worked into various displays in our barn. The items include augers and a corner brace used for tapping maple trees; a milk stirrer and a cream stirrer; a meat saw; blacksmith tools; a drain snake; a fox trap; pincher; a meat hook; a chain hook; various tools including files and wrenches; sheep shears; a lead ladle; a grapple; a meat hook; and a variety of pulleys.



# A GLENCOE WATERMELON PARTY 1921



Children (front row – l to r): Frank Leydig, Betty Spicer, Emma DeLozier, and Carl W. Leydig.

Back row (left to right): Marion Leydig, Grace Leydig, Dr. Joseph Spicer – a Cumberland physician, married to Leah Leydig –; Lula Leydig; \*(hard to see) – Fred DeLozier; Leah (Leydig) Spicer; Simon R. and Cora (Raupach) Leydig; Anna (Coleman), wife of I.D. Leydig – store owners in Glencoe; John D. Leydig, and Elizabeth Leydig, who later married Fred DeLozier. Elizabeth (Leydig) and Fred DeLozier were the parents of Marion Virginia (DeLozier) Cowan of Mission, Texas. Marion donated this picture in early November 2020. It likely came out of the album of her mother, Elizabeth (Leydig) DeLozier, a former resident of Connellsville and Elyria, Ohio.

\*The hard to see person between (and back of) Lulu and Leah Leydig is Fred DeLozier. His face isn't visible. Fred DeLozier married Elizabeth Leydig and they were the parents of William DeLozier and Marion (DeLozier) Cowan.

This photo was donated by Marion (DeLozier) Cowan of Missions, Texas, who often enjoyed spending her summers in Glencoe. Her family owns the former John W. and Mary (DeLozier) Hartman home.



# Long receives Berlin Lions Outstanding Citizen Award

**SANDRA LEPLLEY**  
Daily American Correspondent

John F. Long, 82, of Berlin received the Berlin Lions Club's 32nd annual Outstanding Citizen Award during a banquet at the borough's community building Nov. 5.

Long was presented with the award by Lions members John Hartman and Bill Landis during the evening ceremony and Long's family and friends were there to show their support.

Long was born Oct. 21, 1938, to John W. and Lillian (Landis) Long. His first home was in Somerset, but they later moved to Berlin, where he would spend the remainder of his life.

He has one sister, Shirley (Long) Cunningham. Growing up, both siblings were very musical. John played the trombone and was in the marching band and Shirley was in band as well. Both played in the orchestra.

Long loved his shop classes in high school. He graduated in 1956 and gave up a chance at college so he could do woodworking. It wasn't long until he had his own shop and did small jobs for people.

Long's first job was at Heiple Supply Co. in



Photo by Sandra Lepley

John F. Long, 82, of Berlin received the Berlin Lions Club's 32nd annual Outstanding Citizen Award at a banquet in Berlin Nov. 5, from Lions Bill Landis and John Hartman. He is shown in the front row with his wife, Eloise, and also Riley Critchfield and Dave Long. Second row: Shirley Cunningham, Erin Campbell, Selina Critchfield, Deb Lehman, Susan Long. Third row: Dick Cunningham, Lauren Rhoades, Krista Long, Brian Critchfield, Ethan Critchfield and Doug Lehman.

the mill. From there, he moved on to Woodwork Specialties which was a cabinet shop. There he learned how to get a very smooth finish to whatever he was making. Both places he worked with older men who taught him a lot and served him well with many good experiences.

Long then went into partnership with William Engle. They did a

lot of remodeling and built numerous houses around the county. Long later went into business for himself and continued to build many homes in the area.

He was a member of the Home Builders Association for many years and the Berlin Businessmen's Association.

In 1958, John married Eloise (Gill) Long. They recently celebrated their

62nd wedding anniversary.

They made their first home in an apartment above her parents. He thought paying rent was a waste so he started building their first home on Salco Road near his home place.

Their first child, Dave, was born in 1961 and sister Deb came in 1964. John and Eloise now have six granddaughters,

one grandson and nine great-grandchildren.

"John is always ready to lend a helping hand to anyone who needs it," said Bill Landis of the Lions Club during the ceremony. "His passion for helping others is shown in his many years of dedicated service to others and his community."

Long has been a member of the Berlin Fire Department for more than

60 years. *2020*  
He is a member of the Berlin Brethren Church for the past 58 years, serving as a deacon for 51 of those years and has been a church trustee as well.

He has traveled to Jamaica on a mission trip where he used his abilities to help build houses. He has gone to Charlotte, North Carolina, many times to help pack shoeboxes for Operation Christmas Child.

He served on the school board for one year and was later elected to the Berlin Borough Council, serving there for 28 years, being president for 16 of those years.

He was also a part of the Somerset County Boroughs Association. He was a member of the Berlin Lions Club and continues to deliver for Meals On Wheels.

"Whether John will ever truly retire is up for debate," said Landis. "He likes to keep busy. If he's not working in his shop making something for someone, he's taking care of his rental units or visiting a few months in winter in Florida at their place in New Smyrna Beach, Florida," said Landis. "He's been an outstanding citizen and we are thankful for his service."



## ***Unmarked Slave Cemetery***

***Located approx. 4/10 of a mile East of this location, an unmarked cemetery is found in a grove of trees located at the edge of the field on your right.***

***A 1934 WPA cemetery survey states that it contains about 18 graves marked only with native stones with no inscriptions. Local historical lore identifies the cemetery as the burial grounds used for African Americans who were or had been slaves associated with the James Black family. The 1790 federal census counts one slave in the James Black household. The 1800 and later census showed free African Americans, but no slaves in the Black family household.***

***James Black (1743-1803) was the father of Henry Black, and was the owner of a large plantation and tavern on this property.***

***Henry Black (1783-1841) served in the Pennsylvania House of representatives and was an associate judge of Somerset County from 1820 to 1840, and was the father of Jeremiah Black.***

***Jeremiah Black's many achievements are noted on the memorial stone to the left.***

***The Black family cemetery is located directly across Rt. 31 from this location.***

***This marker was installed and is maintained by the Berlin Area Historical Society.***



# Jim Suder: Learning from the positives of history

Nov.  
16, 2020

MADOLIN EDWARDS  
medwards@dailyamerican.com

When Jim Suder retired as the Berlin Area Historical Society's president earlier this year, he left a legacy of hard work and leadership.

"Jim Suder has been a pillar with the Berlin Area Historical Society since its early years," member David R. Hay said. "Not only has he served 18 years as president of the society, but earlier he served as society secretary. He's a go-to person for so many things about the society and the community; greatly knowledgeable of local history."

During those 18 years as president, Suder was also in-

## AREA PERSONALITY

involved on the society's building program committee to plan its current office and museum area as well as with the later addition to the same building.

"Having worked many decades in the public sector, Jim knows many of the community families on a personal basis. Jim was involved in assisting with the building of the society's headquarters (genealogy building and office), as well as the barn, and knows about the stories and

history associated with the society's buildings and many of the acquisitions through the years," Hay said in an email.

He continues to serve in many other capacities, including mentoring the current president, being on the board, and writing and editing stories for the society's publication, "Memos."

"Jim is always searching for ideas and information to preserve history in stories written for the 'Memos,' the quarterly publication of the society," Hay said. "Although he stepped down from being president, Jim continues to assist wherever needed as well as being a member of the society's board of directors."

The Berlin Historical Society

has more than 1,000 members.



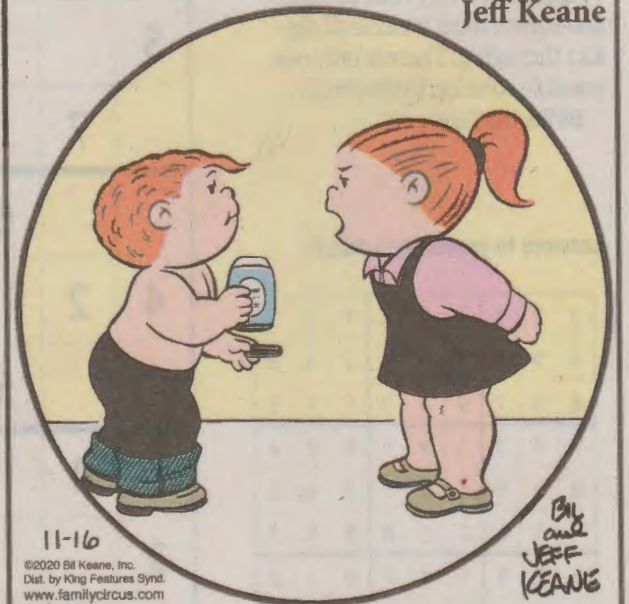
Submitted photo

Jim Suder

**Barbara Miller** donated a Ken Lafferty Chevrolet hot pad and a collection of Philson bank bottle caps. **Mid-Atlanta Signs** has completed the replacement sign for the slave cemetery near Brotherton. The reading on the original one was fading.

### THE FAMILY CIRCUS

By Bil and  
Jeff Keane



11-16

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Bil  
and  
JEFF  
KEANE

"You're too little to use deodorant, Jeffy. You haven't even learned to sweat yet."



## ON THIS DATE:

**January 14, 1970** – Diana Ross and the Supremes performed their last concert together, at the Frontier Hotel in Las Vegas.

**January 14, 1914** – Ford Motor Co. greatly improved its assembly-line operation by employing an endless chain to pull each chassis along at its Highland Park, Michigan, plant.

**January 14, 1929** – Civil Rights leader Martin Luther King, Jr. was born in Atlanta.

**January 14, 1943** – Work was completed on the Pentagon, the headquarters of the U.S. Department of War (now Defense).

**January 13, 2021** – Siegfried Fischbacher, namesake partner in the iconic entertainment duos Siegfried & Roy, died in Las Vegas at age 81 years.

**January 14, 2021** – Joanne Rogers, an accomplished concert pianist who celebrated and protected the legacy of her husband, the beloved children's TV host Mister Rogers, died in Pittsburgh at 92 years of age.

# Suder

*(Continued from A1)*

Suder's interest and knowledge of local history has made a great contribution to the historical society with both the operation and sharing history with visitors. He serves as a source of reliable information about the community.

"I've been involved in B.A.H.S. since in the 1970s, and yes, it is very important that the history of all the area be preserved and kept alive," Suder said in an email. "Understanding where we came from and some of the hardships that our forefathers endured are necessary parts of effectively living our lives today."

Suder said the society was formed during 1975. For approximately eight years during the society's earlier years, he served as secretary to the board of directors. He was first elected to serve as B.A.H.S. president in 1998, following the retirement of the late Calvin M. Will.

He served in that position until 2005, when Robert Schmucker was elected as his successor. Schmucker retired in 2008, and in 2009, Suder was re-elected as board president and continued to serve in that position until the beginning of 2020.

"History is very important to all of us so we can learn and advance using the positives from former eras and also learning from our mistakes, so we hopefully don't repeat them," he said.

James I. Suder was born in Brothersvalley Township to Norman

and Ellen Suder. He had two brothers, Robert and Edward. He grew up on the family farm and worked on the farm through graduation.

He married the former M. Kay Scheller in 1955.

"Kay and I met at her dad's service station where she worked," he said.

They have three children, Penny, Dan and Kim. They have seven grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

He decided to buy the farm and continued dairy farming. He remained a dairy farmer until 1968. When Suder quit farming, he became a USDA inspector for Dairylea of New York.

"I was offered a job with U.S.P.H. doing milk sanitation work that I couldn't refuse," he said.

Two years later, he sold the farm and moved into Berlin, where he started Somerset County Real Estate with two associates. He worked in real estate until 1984, when the business was sold.

Suder moved on to insurance and began working for Highland Mutual Insurance Co. He then started Suder Agency. He retired from Highland Mutual in 1993, but continued operating his own agency.

Suder's son, Dan, bought the agency from him in 1999. Jim still helps Dan with the day-to-day operations.

He was consistory president at Trinity United Church of Christ. He was also a singer in the Trinity UCC choir and quartet, the Harmonaires.

"I am the only living member of the Harmonaires, so it is no lon-

ger in existence," he said.

He was also a volunteer instructor for the 55 Alive senior driving course.

In the early 1960s Suder received the Outstanding Young Farmer Award, sponsored by the Somerset Jaycees. On Aug. 18, 2004, he received the 16th annual Outstanding Citizen of Berlin Award from the Berlin Lions Club.

Suder enjoyed intarsia, a wood-on-wood inlay technique and is both craftsman and artist. He created wood art and frames for historical displays.

"I don't do much intarsia anymore. Surgery on eight of 10 fingers has slowed that down," he said.

He enjoys doing research on the many one-room schools in the area. His dad was a teacher in two schools in the area, Sugar Grove School and the Walker School. Suder also has an interest in the early industries of the area.

He said the lost industries of pulley works, shoe factory, box manufacturing company and several cigar manufacturers are good examples of the community's industrial era.

"Sharing what kind of schools our parents and grandparents attended is an educational experience that today's youngsters are interested in," he said. "Knowing what amenities were available in our community is both educational and entertaining. 'Boy, aren't you glad we don't have to do that today?' or 'gee, wouldn't it be nice to go back in time to experience that firsthand?'"

**WITH THE DEDICATION AND SERVICES OF MANY VOLUNTEERS, WE HAVE HAD A PRODUCTIVE 2020!**

**Thank you! David R. Hay, Curator**