



# homefields

Homefields Incorporated  
150 Letort Road  
P.O. Box #41  
Millersville, PA 17551  
www.homefields.org

## SPECIAL HAPPENINGS

**Mr. and Mrs. James Determan**, Homefields' parents and board member, celebrated their 55th wedding anniversary in February.



**Scott Brenneman**, Trainee Supervisor, and **Lorena**, his wife, welcomed baby girl **Anna** into their family.

## 2001/2 Hall of Famers

Kathleen Conrad  
Caroline S. Nunan  
Joseph & Marianne  
Coover

Dennis Dougherty  
G. Benjamin & Cherie  
A. Dillow

Jennifer B. Downey  
Mrs. Betty Jane Ames  
Groff

Karen L. Herr  
Christian Herr, Jr.  
Timothy & Brenda  
Kauffman

Mrs. Helen S. Hostetter  
David & Jennifer Knapp  
Sharon Lachapelle  
Mrs. Ruth Lehman  
Mrs. Dorothy L. Lyet  
Pat Newton

Col. George & Claressa  
Resh

Shirley C. Richardson  
Rosemarie V. Seminara  
Michael C. Scheetz  
Darla K Schorr  
M/M Wm. E. & Joyce  
Smedley

Samuel E. Smith  
Richard & Mary Grace  
Taber

Anthony J. Toth  
Robert E. Trostle  
C.L. Vogt

Gerald & Suzanne Ganse  
Family Foundation

Intercourse News  
Jackie's Beauty Salon /  
Jacqueline P. Wissler  
Pure Energy/A. Tamasin  
Sterner

St. Mark's United Church  
of Christ  
Lancaster County  
Foundation

**United Way Drive**  
02-03:

Kay L. Brown  
William D. Brown  
Lois Chimienti  
Mr. Albert E. Duncan  
Stewart M. Ireland  
Stefan K. Latshaw  
William J. Moshos  
Scott Snyder  
PR Tobiassen

**David Strauss & Tamiko Amaker, Tea Party May 19**

Peter Sieger & Bassam  
Abed  
Roberta Baldini &  
Barbara Birmingham  
Asha & Darrin Behr  
Kimberly & Robert  
Capers

Joan E. Golden, Ph.D.  
Audrea S. Johnson  
Ronald & Gloria Knowles  
Johnny Webb &

Samantha Hidelbird  
Lesley L'Amey  
Stephanie Marshall  
Karl A. Nyberg & Jef  
Frasco

Yun Pang & Deepak  
Gopinath

David & Gina Pfund  
Clarence & Darlene  
Plummer

Unn Hidle & James

Richardson  
Carole Saltz & Steve  
Scharf  
Leyli Shayegan &  
Richard Lew  
Ms. Deborah Felicia  
White

**Ms. Shirley C. Richardson's Party for Homefields, June 15**  
Sadie & Roberto Codling  
Nathaniel & Vilma  
Griffith  
Joan A. Theus  
Catherine C. Jenkins  
Gloria & Ron Knowles  
Alphonso M. Leonce  
Joyce Lovett  
Hortense & Marshall  
Cole

**In-Kind**  
M/M Peter & Suzanne  
Ollar  
Plain & Fancy Farm and  
Dining Room

**Tournament Sponsors as of July 12, 2002**  
amishlandinfo.com  
Brenneman Printing  
Certified Carpet  
Community Services  
Group  
Cutler Camera  
Frank Sald Salvaging  
Center, Inc.  
Gibbel, Kraybill & Hess  
Goodwill Industries of  
Southeastern  
Pennsylvania  
Interiors 2000  
Jones Pontiac  
The Lyet Family  
Miller's Smorgasbord  
Plain & Fancy Farm and  
Dining Room  
Scheid Produce  
Shelly Moving & Storage  
Simon Lever &  
Company, CPAS  
Sloan's Pharmacies  
The Strauss Family  
Town & Country Leasing  
Trout, Ebersole & Groff  
LLP CPA  
Wm. J. Patrick Building  
& Renovation

**DINO Hosts**  
Miller's Smorgasbord  
Plain & Fancy Farm and  
Dining Room  
Rohrer's Hardware  
Willow Valley Resort

**A very special thanks to Community Services Group, Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Pennsylvania, The Lancaster County Office of Mental Health and Mental Retardation, Office of Community Services, Goodwill at Homefields, Homefields' Board of Directors and all those who have helped Homefields create options for adults who flourish with your support.**

## Riding High



Robbie Hammel from Washington, NJ picks up his new bike from Alan Friedlander, Vehicle Sales Manager, Classic Harley-Davidson/Buell of Reading.

**Robbie Hammel** is a young man who enjoys riding bikes, especially around the Delaware Water Gap near his home. During a trip to Lancaster County, Robbie purchased one raffle ticket for a Harley-Davidson, hoping to upgrade his set of wheels for \$5.00. Robbie is an excellent example of someone who is a wise investor for, not only did he win a new, blue 2001 Harley 883 Sportster purchased from Harley/Davidson/Buell of Reading, he helped Homefields help others. Thank you, Robbie.



## MEET NATHAN

**Nathan Ayers** is a Goodwill at Homefields "founding farmer"; harvesting and "growing" since the first seeds were sown in 1999. He rises at 5:00 in the morning to arrive at the fields by 8:30. His good humor and operational knowledge blend well as he works with fellow trainees, supervisors, and volunteer shareholders. Nathan loves harvesting, creating colorful vegetable displays, observing, and sharing as the community comes to behold and enjoy his product.



## SINGING MELODY'S PRAISES

The Arc of Lancaster County honored **Melody Edwards**, Residential Program Supervisor, at their annual membership meeting and awards banquet in March. The families and residents of Homefields were present to congratulate Melody as Brian Bixler presented the award which read: *2002 Staff Person of the Year—Melody Edwards—In recognition and appreciation of your outstanding support of individuals with mental retardation.* Melody is responsible for the health and well-being of the 6 people who live at Homefields and our staff, and is the liaison between the homes and corporate office. Melody sums it up best; she is there for us 24-7.



Tom Strauss, President of Homefields, accepts the Central Penn Business Journal award from Robert Romako of McKonly & Asbury, LLP

## Homefields Tops AMONG INNOVATIONAL NONPROFIT PROGRAMS

We were honored by the Central Penn Business Journal in March, at the Harrisburg-Hershey Marriott. This was in cooperation with McKonly & Asbury LLP Waypoint Bank, The Greater Harrisburg Foundation, The Lancaster County Foundation, York Foundation and Novinger Group, Inc.

An independent panel of judges evaluated 28 finalists and selected Homefields, Inc. as the top ranking organization in the category of Program—for innovation and originality, effectiveness, measurability, efficient utilization of resources, and potential as a model. Accompanying this wonderful honor was a check for \$1,500 and an etched glass plate. Their criteria included innovation in daily operations—by establishing original, forward-thinking and effective means to overcome challenges.

Five years ago we wrote that, *"This new and independent life with personal homes is a joy for the residents, a model for other families throughout the state to visit and follow, and a source of pride for Lancaster County and The Office of Mental Retardation. But this is only a beginning."* Today, we are proud to have others repeat that sentiment.

Many of you receiving this newsletter are new friends. A synopsis of our history may be of interest: Homefields, Inc. was founded in 1993 by parents of adults with mental retardation, along with professionals from within the Lancaster County community. Families pooled their resources, incorporated, and purchased an 8.7-acre farm property in Millersville, PA in 1994.

Two separate programs coexist on the land. One acre is dedicated to homes where six adults with mental retardation live. Community Services Group, the agency responsible for staff and program, has been with Homefields since our first home opened in June 1995.

In October of that year, Homefields' proposal for an on-site vocational farm program was introduced to all Lancaster County vocational providers. The Board of Directors of Goodwill Industries of Southeastern Pennsylvania voted around Thanksgiving 1999, an appropriate holiday, to become the vocational provider agency to partner with Homefields.

*Goodwill at Homefields* was formed and the first vegetables grown at Homefields were presented to the public in the spring of 2000.

Homefields is an all-volunteer organization, donating land, buildings, labor, equipment and tools. We are dedicated to creating new options for people with mental retardation and developmental disabilities. All of the money we raise through fundraisers is channeled back into the programs.

### Homefields Mission Statements

**Residential** Our mission is to create a financially secure, long-term home in a safe, family-like setting where there is respect for the individual in a holistic sense and fun and creativity are revered as basic human needs.

**Vocational** Our mission is to provide agricultural/horticultural facilities for individuals who prosper with supported employment; to nurture integration through community interaction and to cultivate a spirit of volunteerism within our community.

# Goodwill at Homefields

Every year just gets better at Goodwill at Homefields, a co-operative farm program that provides a horticultural/agricultural work environment for adults with developmental disabilities. **Peter Emerson**, Farm Manager, and **Scott Brenneman**, Trainee Supervisor, guide up to ten trainee farmers through the daily challenges of operating this small business.

this and more by mid-June for the price of a share. What could be better: the satisfying experience of working side-by-side with the people who grew your vegetables, or knowing that you are supporting a program that supports others?

Word of the success of this training program keeps spreading from our Lancaster County community to the national level, and now Goodwill at Homefields has won the attention and respect of Goodwill International. Three separate groups representing Goodwill International traveled to Millersville in the spring of 2002 to



Over seventy people have purchased a share of produce this year, the third growing season for Goodwill at Homefields, with as many as 100 shareholders anticipated by 2003.

Basil, beans, beets, broccoli, cabbage, cauliflower, carrots, cilantro, cucumbers, eggplant, flowers, garlic, herbs, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce (red, green and romaine), onions, peppers, potatoes, rhubarb, strawberries, snap peas, summer squash, Swiss chard, tomatoes—all

assess this one-of-a-kind program and compare it with other Goodwill programs. All groups were so impressed that Goodwill at Homefields was featured in the spring issue of *Working*, a publication of Goodwill Industries International, Inc.



Farm Manager **Peter Emerson** loads up his new seeder apparatus.

# The Going Got Tough

AND THE TOUGH ACTUALLY STOPPED TO ASK FOR HELP!



**NEED:**

Greenhouse #2 and Equipment shed.

**PROPOSAL:**

(1) Build and finance a new equipment shed. (2) Move farm equipment out of incomplete greenhouse into proposed shed. (3) Complete greenhouse #2 by the spring of 2002.

**CHALLENGE:**

(1) Rock outcroppings the size of Mt. Rushmore running through our property.

**SOLUTION:**

Work longer and harder as we always do when faced with an obstacle.

**RESULT:**

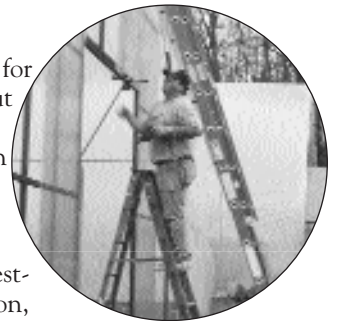
The rock won. We called upon **Paul Risk Associates**, Quarryville, to take over the shed project and get the job done while Homefields' volunteers completed the construction of greenhouse #2.

**FINAL OUTCOME:**

The new equipment shed was finished, secured, and ready for the vocational program to use by February. A volunteer who came to Homefields through Community Services applied the last coat of paint in April.

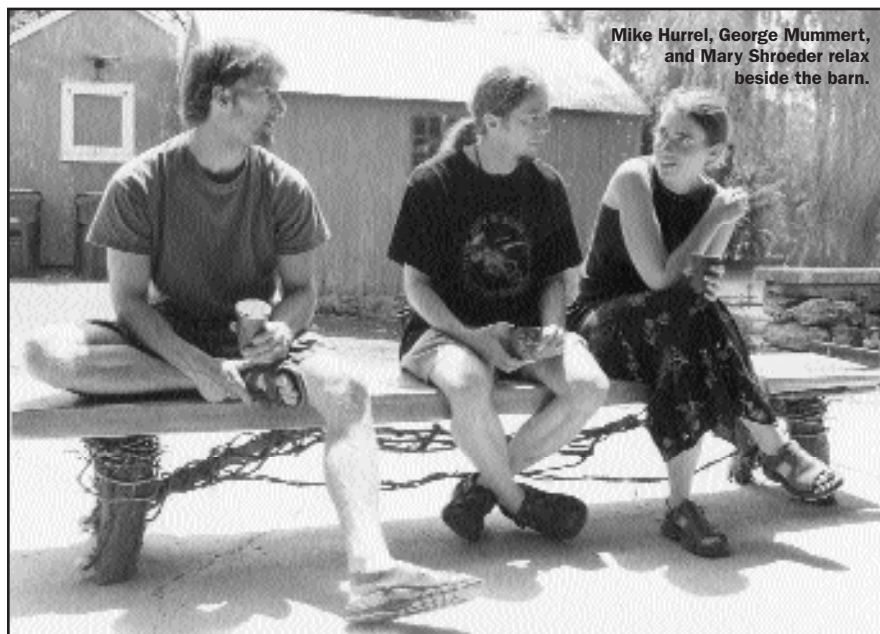
Greenhouse #2 wasn't quite ready for spring seedlings but it is up and running now although we must wait for cooler weather to add wiring.

The tools requested by Peter Emerson, Farm Manager, have been purchased and put to great use this season. Tools, equipment, and seedlings; a place for everything, everything in its place.



**Leon Bixler**, Homefields parent and chair of the property committee, puts together the second greenhouse.

# POTLUCK PICNIC



**Mike Hurrel, George Mummert, and Mary Shroeder** relax beside the barn.

Shareholders came together on a Saturday afternoon in June to partake of delectable dishes, socialize, and receive an informative tour of the farm given by Peter Emerson, Farm Manager. Everyone had a wonderful time and look forward to the next potluck picnic and pumpkin picking in September.



**BOARD MEMBERS**

- Thomas E. Strauss, President
- Stewart M. Ireland, Vice President
- Linda Strauss, Secretary
- Christian R. Herr, Jr., Treasurer
- Leon Bixler
- Jerry Determan
- Dennis P. Dougherty
- Allison G. Hawthorne
- Stefan Latshaw
- Mrs. Dorothy L. Lyet
- Joyce Scout Smedley
- Kay A. Welty

**Kohl-slaw**

- 6 medium size kohlrabi, peeled and grated
- 1 cup finely shredded cabbage
- 1 small red onion, diced
- 1 Red Delicious apple, cored and diced
- 1/2 cup currants
- 2 teaspoons olive oil
- 1/4 cup apple cider

Combine first 5 ingredients in large bowl. Gently toss in oil and cider. Cover and refrigerate a few hours to blend flavors. Toss before serving. Six servings.

# That Minty



It is like Jurassic Park in Lancaster County these days for a DINOSAUR bank has been on the move, devouring coins in support of Homefields while distributing brochures. You may have seen the Big Blue Guy at **Rohrer's Hardware**, Lancaster. You missed him? Track him down at **Willow Valley Resort**, Willow Street; **Plain & Fancy Farm and Dining Room**, Bird-In-Hand; or **Miller's Smorgasbord**, Ronks and please bring coins. It is the only way to keep him happy.

**Christian R. Herr, Jr.**, chair of the fundraising committee, and **Susan Dougherty**, friend of Homefields, at Willow Valley Resort



## Mountville Days 2002

Homefields pitched a tent and took our winning opportunities to the Mountville Carnival in May. Seen here is board member **Joyce Smedley** with her husband **Bill** selling Winner's Choice and Harley raffle tickets, offering brochures for the Goodwill at Homefields farm program, and sharing information about Homefields.

## UNITED WAY DRIVE

\$5,363 was designated to Homefields through the United Way of Lancaster County 2001 campaign. Thank you so much for writing in Homefields, Inc. when making a contribution.

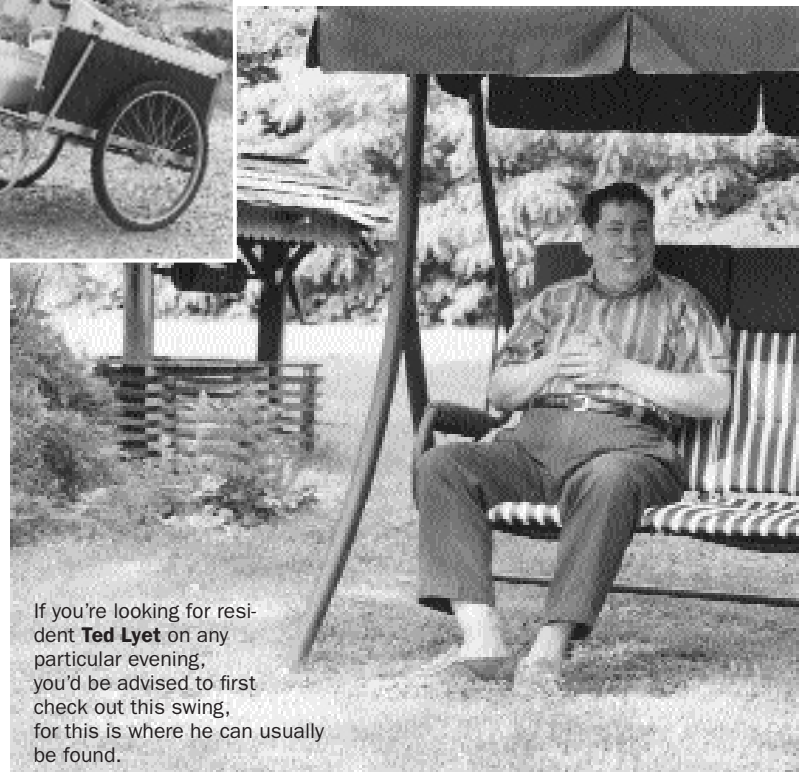


▲ In the barn, **Lisa Pankey**, residential staff member, and **Stefan Latshaw**, resident, pull the winning ticket for the 2001 Harley-Davidson raffle.

Resident **Victor Lyet** whacks a mole at ► the Millersville carnival.



Okay, the weekly CSA share isn't quite this big. **Ruth Lehman's** just showing how a good shareholder helps out around the farm.



If you're looking for resident **Ted Lyet** on any particular evening, you'd be advised to first check out this swing, for this is where he can usually be found.



## Don't Be a Scaredy-Cat!

Homefields will host its 6th Annual charity golf tournament at Overlook Golf Course, Lancaster, on Lucky Friday, September 13, 2002. We invite golfers of all abilities to put superstitions aside and hit the driving range at 10:00 a.m. Golfers tee off for a noon shotgun start and must face the **Bad-Luck Mirror Target Practice**, **Saltshaker Putting Challenge**, and **13th Hole Surprises**. The only surprise on hole #16 will be a delightful one as you swing to win a Buick from Jones Pontiac Buick, Lancaster. If you meet the challenge and live through the course of the day, you will be rewarded with prizes and served your choice of a **Pig Roast** or chicken dinner with veggies from Homefields. All proceeds benefit the programs and people who work and live at Homefields, so please join us.



## Two New Winning Opportunities

### 1 WINNER'S CHOICE RAFFLE

**Golfer's Dream:** PING i3 0 - size irons, titanium driver with graphite shaft, #3 and #5 fairway woods, L8 + stand bag; Two rounds of golf for 2 (one each at Lancaster Country Club & Bent Creek Country Club)

OR

**Lancaster County "Heart of Roses" Quilt:** Hand-quilted and applied by local artist C. Jean Horst. Original design of the artist. Colors: Hunter, Burgundy, Navy, Rose and Sage Green. Queen size, 96" x 112"

First drawing winner has choice of prizes. Second place winner receives remaining prize.

### 2 RED 2002 HARLEY-DAVIDSON SPORTSTER XL 883 RAFFLE

A brand new Harley-Davidson from Harley-Davidson/Buell of Reading.

All winning tickets will be drawn Valentine's Saturday, February 15, 2003 at Homefields. Proceeds benefit Homefields' programs. Winner need not be present. Interested golfers should contact Overlook Golf Course at 717-569-9551 or [info@homefields.org](mailto:info@homefields.org) for additional information or registration materials.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_  
 Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

**Yes! Send me:** \_\_\_\_\_ # of Winner's Choice tickets @ \$5 each  
 \_\_\_\_\_ # of Harley tickets @ \$5 each \_\_\_\_\_ I don't want tickets, but here's a donation  
 Total \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check  MasterCard  Visa  Discover/Novus  American Express

Card # \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to Homefields, Inc. and mail this coupon in the envelope provided. Credit cards will be processed free of charge by Miller's Smorgasbord. Your donations are tax-deductible.



## Meeting of the Minds

After they graciously accepted Homefields' invitation to hold their regular monthly meeting in our barn, the Steering Committee of T.E.S., Inc. (parent company of **Miller's Smorgasbord** and **Plain & Fancy Farm** and Dining Room) had a tour of both the homes and the vocational program. It was our pleasure to show what we've been doing to the folks who have sold so many raffle tickets for Homefields and donated so much personally. Annual meetings are planned so that we can explore new fundraising ideas together and show what the funds are being used for.

Steering Committee of T.E.S., Inc., left to right:  
 William Moshos  
 Christina Coates  
 Kris Lawrence  
 Albert Duncan  
 Donald Trout  
 Cindy Ledwith  
 Tina Trimble  
 Randy Tobiassen  
 Jay Groff (Chair)  
 Stewart Ireland  
 Thomas Yatsko  
 Ruthann Kauffman

## New York ♥ Homefields

In an effort to "get the word out," friends of Homefields held informational fundraising parties in New York City over the past few months. The two parties introduced over 150 people to Homefields and raised over \$1,500.

"We weren't sure how people who've never heard of Homefields, or even seen it before, would connect, but their response was really enthusiastic," said **Tamiko Amaker**, who threw the first party. "We've got friends who are asking for a tour of the property and offering to help any way they can."

Unsolicited, **Shirley Richardson**, Tamiko's aunt, held a party at her house shortly after, introducing a whole new set of friends to our programs. **Dave Strauss** gave a brief presentation at both parties and left behind brochures and newsletters.

Plans are underway to make this presentation a portable "kit" so that it can be shipped to friends of Homefields in other areas, making our network even stronger.

## SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

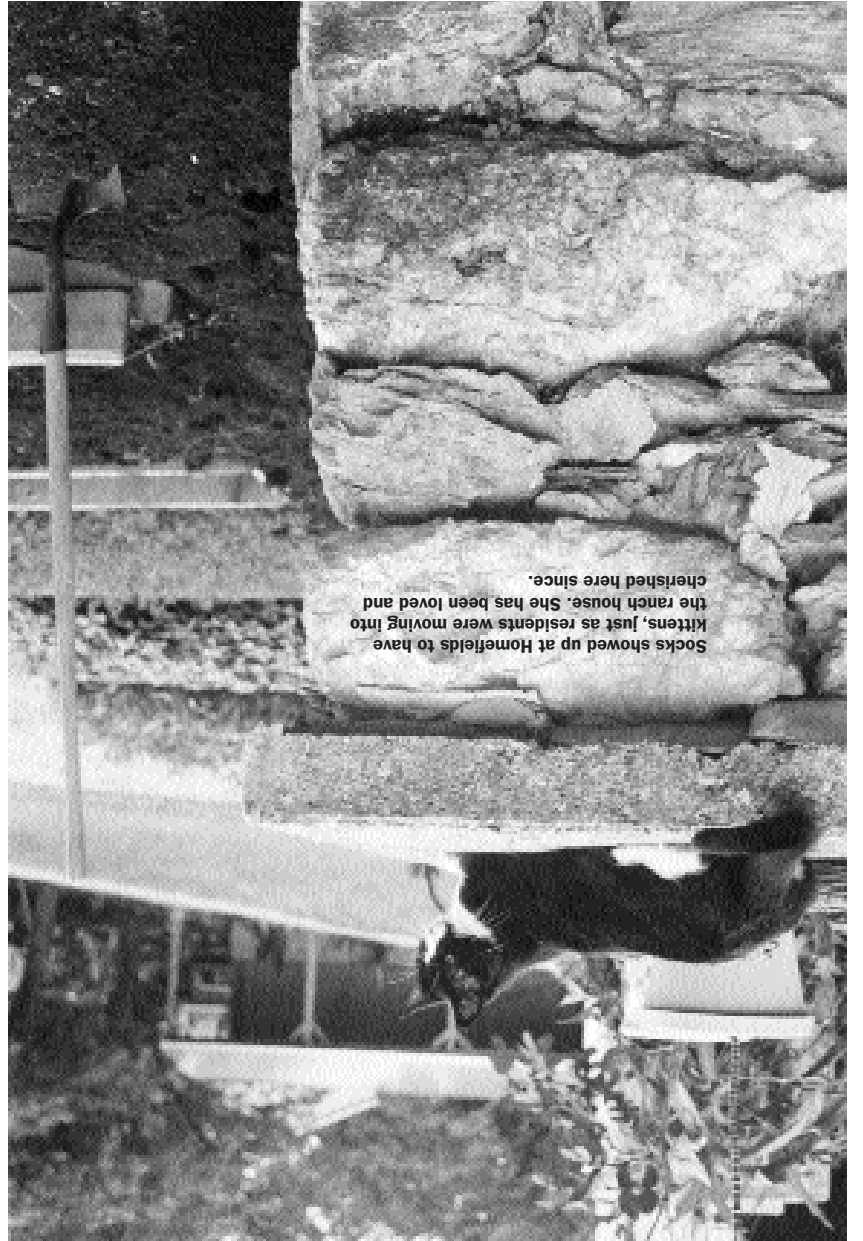
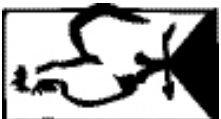
**Brian Bixler**, a gentleman who resides at Homefields, is always thinking of what he can do to help others. After coming home from his job at **Veitch Printing Corporation**, Brian heads to the **Millersville Fire Company** twice a month where he joins in meetings and supports the men in every way he is able. **Keith Eshleman**, Fire Chief, says that everyone really likes Brian. He helps at fundraisers such as the Fire Company Festival, dinners, and he cleans the apparatus. Would that we would all be a bit more like Brian.

Left to right: Earl Smith, Michael Weiler, Brian Bixler, Robert Howells, and Joe Giordano at the Millersville Fire Company.



Non-Profit Organ.  
 U.S. Postage  
 PAID  
 Lancaster, PA  
 Permit No. 1928

**Homefields**  
 150 Letort Road  
 P.O. Box #41  
 Millersville, PA 17551



Socks showed up at Homefields to have kittens, just as residents were moving into the ranch house. She has been loved and cherished here since.