

# The Leader

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## WHAT'S INSIDE

Wilmington Area  
High School  
Homecoming Court

## Firemen's Auction October 4

By Tom Bair  
Globe Leader Contributor

In May 2007, The New Wilmington Volunteer Fire Department proudly purchased a new pumper tanker. The rig was designed to serve the community in two ways: first as a Class A pumper, with a powerful 2,000 gallon-per-minute (GPM) pump and a hose bed large enough to carry more than 1,000 feet of hose; second as a water tank truck, with an 1,800 gallon water tank. This pumper-tanker cost approximately \$373,000.

In past years, several new purchases were also made, improving the quality and safety of both fire fighters, and the community.

The question is, how can the New Wilmington Volunteer Fire Department afford these expensive pieces of equipment?

The answer: The Volunteer Firemen's Auction.

Fifty-three years ago, the department began the firemen's auction to solve the financial problems affecting the influx of money to the fire department. As the support and the size of the auction expanded, the money raised for the equipment fund increased.

With that growth, the time necessary for planning it has increased. Volunteers from the community have stepped in to contribute their time.

Please see Auction, page 10

## Quote of the Week

Chosen by Darlinda

Love looks not with the eyes, but with the mind.  
- William Shakespeare

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# The Royal Court



Photo by Frank Parrish

Wilmington Area School District celebrates Homecoming 2008 on Friday, October 3. The evening includes the annual homecoming football game at 7 pm. The Hounds will host the Sharon Tigers. The Homecoming queen will be crowned at the game.

Pictured above are the lovely, young ladies on the Homecoming Court. They are: (L-R) - Alyssa Burns, Katie Flynn, Heather Deems, Alle Cioffi, Lindsay Trott, Leslie Hoye, Amanda Mickley. For more photos and information, please see page 2.



Contributed Photo

Westminster students, Vanessa Kriley (L), and Melissa Huyett collect macroinvertebrates from McClure Run.

## Something Smells Fishy Here

### Westminster College students investigate fish kill in local stream

Westminster College students in a Reading the Environment cluster course recently helped solve a mystery of what was killing fish and causing strong odors in McClure Run, a stream that runs through the campus.

Students collected samples of contaminated water, dead

fish, sediment, invertebrates, and plant life for chemical and biological analysis.

Results suggested the presence of a volatile organic compound that was causing a strong odor and killing the fish. The Department of Environmental

Please see Fish Kill, page 13

## Hand Made - Self Made

### Miller's life chronicled in his workman's hands

By W. Robert Jackson,  
Globe Leader Writer

He's got big hands, strong hands, a workman's hands.

He's spent the biggest part of his life working with his hands. He's done volunteer mission work with his hands.

And he's got albums and albums of pictures showing the products of his hands.

Bill Miller grew up on a farm at the dividing line between Lawrence and Mercer counties, just north of New Wilmington Borough where High Street becomes Bethel Road.

Early on he learned his working career would depend on what he could do with his hands.

As a carpenter he's built houses, furniture, staircases, kitchen cabinets, and just about everything else a paying customer would want. He's repaired what was worn out, and the mistakes made by those who got into work over



Photo by Frank Parrish

Bill Miller

as a carpenter.

After his discharge from the Navy, and after a severe attack of appendicitis, he was ordered not to do any lifting for a long period of time.

His first real job as a civilian was in 1947, doing carpentry and cement work at a locker plant in New Wilmington, owned by the late Wendell and Art Garrett.

He later went to work for Phil Campbell at the Campbell Lumber Co. in New Wilmington.

It was in September of 1947 that he opened a small shop in the machinery shed of the family farm and went into business for himself. The shop was tiny and confining but it was his.

He had never gone to carpentry school. "I was told you would be wasting your time. Now I wish I had (gone to school). But I learned through trial and error and with the help of some old timers I learned a little bit of everything."

Please see Jackson, page 12

their heads.

Bill Miller is 81. He served in the Navy Seabees from May 18, 1945 until he was discharged in June, of 1946.

It was at Samar, a small island off the Philippines, in the late summer of 1945 that he and three Filipinos were teamed to build a radio station on the island.

"I remember pouring footers and the mud was so deep they had to pull us out," he remembered.

And he remembered when a Navy lieutenant told him, "You look like a farm boy," and delegated him to chores