



Third Haven Friends Meeting

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Easton, Maryland 21601

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FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

"The humble, meek, merciful, just, pious, and devout souls are everywhere of one religion; and when death has taken off the mask, they will know one another though the divers liveries they wear here makes them strangers."

William Penn

Faith and Practice p.89

The Tuckahoe Neck Meetinghouse at Denton

August 16, 1798, a group of Friends asked Third Haven to permit them to hold an "indulged" meeting – which meant that no business meeting would be held. In less than a year, the group asked Third Haven (through the Tuckahoe Preparative Meeting) to "take under consideration the expediency of a meeting house built for their use."

However, it was not until 1802 that a site was chosen in June and other Monthly Meetings were asked to contribute \$60 each toward the cost of the new building. Thus on the 26th of September 1802, the first meeting for worship was held in it. By 1877, the Neck Meeting had established a school under the care of the Meeting but by 1880, the school had closed.

Third Haven recorded minute in 1897 that for years no preparative meetings had been held and it was the judgment of Third Haven Monthly Meeting that the Tuckahoe Neck Meeting be discontinued. In 1898, Third Haven gave the Dunkards permission to hold meetings for colored people. By 1899, the meetinghouse was rented for a public school by the people of West Denton.

Finally in 1901, the property was sold to Edward Tylor, whose relatives had been active in the Neck Meeting. He later sold it in 1949 to Choptank Electric Cooperative. The Cooperative did some maintenance on the building since it was purchased (with a small graveyard); but as the years progressed, the building gradually deteriorated to the point that there was fear of its collapse.

This is the oldest house of worship still standing in Caroline County. Many local families' names can found in the records of the "Neck" Meetinghouse.

Members of the local community and the Caroline County Historical Society became interested in its restoration. Since it is the private property of Choptank Electric Cooperative, we had to ask their permission and thankfully they have been very helpful. It should be completely renovated by late Spring 2006 – thanks to the efforts of both Third Haven and the Caroline County Historical Society who both raised the necessary funds for the project.

Friends will be asked to have a program of celebration after its completion.

submitted by Frank Zeigler Jan. 2006

(Information from *QUAKERISM ON THE EASTERN SHORE* by Dr. Kenneth Carroll)

Computer Adoption

Donna is a very disabled, low income single parent. A new (to her family) computer was just delivered to Donna's household. The computer was donated by Winslow and Helen Womack after upgrading their computer equipment. If you upgrade and wish to donate your old computer, please contact Ralph Young (410-819-0050). It will be impossible to retrieve any information from your old hard drive because Ralph will completely erase it and install a new operating system before the computer is given a new home.

Directory Privacy Statement

This is the text of the privacy statement prepared by Tom Corl to be used in the Third Haven Directory: "This Third Haven Friends Directory is intended solely for the use of our members and attenders for communications within the Meeting. The contact information in the Directory is private and may not be distributed outside of the Meeting or used for other purposes. The Meeting may share some of this information, such as mailing addresses, with other Quaker organizations if such use is approved in a meeting for business, based upon the discernment benefits for Meeting members and attenders and the Quaker organization."

A few words about the **Impact of Hospice** on the lives of Ginger Howell and her family *by Peggy Paul*

It was hospice that enabled Ginger to live out her life at home, as she so ardently wished. The nurses who visited and monitored Ginger virtually every day – the home care staff who came to bathe Ginger when she become too weak to leave her bed – the social worker and her bereavement counselor who listened and responded with help and guidance – and not last and not hardly least, the volunteers who made themselves available to stay with Ginger, even on Christmas Eve Day – (not to mention the supply of the hospital bed and other equipment). And

all of this T.L.C. is free to our community. If any of us know of others who care for the Howell family, but may not be aware of the role of Hospice, the opportunity is there to make a contribution to Hospice in memory of our Ginger.

The Talbot Hospice Foundation, 586 Cynwood Dr., Easton, Md. 21601, 410-822-6681

Meet a Friend: Candace Shattuck

Candace has recently accepted the post of assistant clerk. The meeting is extremely lucky to have such an intelligent and dedicated person who has wholeheartedly accepted and tries to live by Quaker principles.

In 1993, the Shattuck family moved to the Eastern Shore in hopes of finding a more peaceful, restful, honest society than they were finding in the Connecticut suburbs of NYC. But it was also important to Candace to find an intellectual and stimulating environment. She also was looking for a place to worship that fit her needs and goals.

One fall day, Meredith Watters invited her to Meeting and the fit was natural. Candace became immediately active in many areas. She especially liked working with her friend Marilla McCarthy in The First Day program. Later she became Clerk of First Day School where (picture right) she works today. Candace became interested in Godly Play which she has studied and then introduced to our own program. Currently she is working with other Quakers in PYM and BYM to make these stories “fit better” to Quaker beliefs.



Besides being a massage therapist at Evergreen Cove, Candace has many other hobbies. She is an avid reader on a wide variety of topics. She loves to knit prayer shawls, sweaters, vests, whatever. She is active in studying the philosophy of Carl Jung and is in a few book groups. Candace also belongs to several ladies' groups whose missions involve both sociability and helping others. She loves to garden and be outdoors. When she has time, Candace enjoys sailing with her husband Bob. Her lovely daughter Sarah who now lives in Seattle is the apple of her eye.

We at Third Haven are lucky to have such a caring person as our assistant clerk. *By Bob Shattuck*

**Third Haven Friends Meeting
Minutes of the 1st Month 8th, 2006 Meeting for Business**

Attending: Ken Carroll, Larny Claggett, Lorraine Claggett, Susan Claggett, Tom Corl, Mary Cotton, Joe Davis, Doreen Getsinger, John Hawkinson, Marsie Hawkinson, Susan Leibman, Beth Mufson, Jim Paul, Peggy Paul, Sumner Parker, Dee Rein, Anne Rouse, Jim Rouse, John Schreiner, Candace Shattuck, Karin Stoker, Norval Thompson, Cathy Thompson, John Watters, Meredith Watters, Winslow Womack, Ann Williams, Frank Zeigler, and Joyce Zeigler

Clerk of the Meeting Anne Rouse clerked the meeting for business. The meeting opened with a period of silent worship.

Query for First Month: The first query was read from Faith & Practice and the Clerk asked for reflections. A Friend described our worship as deep and rewarding and encouraged participation in the upcoming session of Southern Quarter, where we will be led in a worship “experiment” recreating the original ideals of worship envisioned by George Fox. A Friend spoke of living in the spirit, and reflected upon Ginger Howell’s memorial as a witness to our faith and practice. It was a memorial of a life lived positively, and celebrated with joy and laughter. Another Friend suggested that Ginger, while not a member of our meeting for long, had been a “full” member and encouraged Friends to consider whether they are full members of the meeting.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the 12th Month 2005 Meeting for Business were approved with addition of the name of Cindy Brown to the Testimonies & Concerns report contained therein.

Clerk’s Correspondence: Anne thanked outgoing Clerk Marsie Hawkinson for her years of service to the meeting. Upcoming Philadelphia Yearly Meeting (PYM) dates include: interim meeting on 1st Month 26th; a teacher workshop on bullying on 1st Month 28th; and a threshing session on the PYM budget on 1st Month 28th. We have received a grant from the PYM emergency fund in the amount of \$1000.00 for a meeting family in need. Greg Leibman made a \$200.00 donation on behalf of the Meeting to the American Friends Service Committee (AFSC) for hurricane Katrina relief.

Meeting Treasurer Joe Davis gave the Treasurer’s Report. Income for 12th Month 2005 totaled \$13,257.20 and expenses totaled \$5,158.63, for a net income of \$8,098.57. Significant expenses this month include the quarterly payment to PYM of \$3547.50 and \$556.00 to the Town of Easton for trash pick-up. For the fiscal year-to-date, the Meeting has had roughly \$34,000 of income and \$27,000 of expenses. Contributions stand currently at 62.5% of budget, overall expenses at 50%. Property & Grounds committee is at 61.5% of budget due to expenditures for painting the brick meetinghouse and prepaying heating oil. The Communications committee is at 27% of budget due to savings realized through electronic distribution of the newsletter. The balance sheet as of 12th Month 31st shows total assets totaling roughly \$62,000.00. Some carriage shed sale monies are still earmarked for common room improvements, for the First Day School Godly Play curriculum, and development of a children’s garden. The Meeting APPROVED this report with thanks to the treasurer. A Friend suggested that we request a report from the Trustees following their annual meeting in March.

Budget & Finance committee clerk Winslow Womack noted that 25 individuals made first time contributions to the Meeting this year, and expressed hope that others will follow suit. The committee had been asked to evaluate a request from the Interfaith Housing Development

Corporation (IHDC) that the Meeting be a guarantor for a loan to cover administrative expenses for an upcoming project. While the committee was fairly comfortable with the financial aspects of the request, some questions persisted about the construction and rental phases of the proposed project. These questions will be taken up with IHDC executive director Paul Washo. Winslow encouraged the Meeting to consider whether we share a concern for affordable housing, and, if so, what part we should play in advancing this concern, since we have been only minimally involved with the IHDC until this recent request. Several Friends voiced their support for the Meeting's involvement in principle; some Friends feel that we have already stated our concern for affordable housing, and we were reminded of a past financial contribution to the IHDC. Friends APPROVED the continued consideration of this specific request to act as guarantor, asking that the committee return to us with the results of their deliberation.

Anne reported that the annual report of Overseers will be presented next month. The Meeting determined to request that Overseers plan the customary luncheon for new members and attenders, with 3rd Month 19th as a possible date. The Clerk has received notice of Katherine Johnson's intention to transfer her membership from Annapolis Friends Meeting. As is customary, we will wait to receive an official transfer from Annapolis before taking further action.

Worship & Ministry: Cathy Thompson reported that the committee is working on finalizing Advices for the Meeting for Business, and intends to present these at the 3rd Month's meeting for business.

Mary Cotton gave the annual report for the Library & Outreach committee prepared by outgoing committee clerk Anne Rouse. The report is attached to these minutes and will be published in the newsletter. The Meeting APPROVED the report with thanks.

Mary Cotton then reported that the Nominating Committee continues to work to fill the clerkship of Overseers. The Meeting thanked Mary and the committee for their efforts on behalf of the Meeting.

Testimonies & Concerns: Lorraine Claggett, clerk of the committee, reported on the Habitat for Humanity Apostles Build project. Despite two fundraisers, the Apostles Build coalition was somewhat short of their financial goal for this project, and each participating faith community has been asked to contribute an additional \$200.00. Our commitment has already been fulfilled by a gift from Molly and Richard Burgoyne. The Meeting thanks the Burgoynes for their generosity. Lorraine reminded friends of the AFSC speaker from the Border Project who will be joining us at the end of this month. The committee is sponsoring fourth Friday family movie nights in the common room. A Friend requested a one-page summary and status report of the projects that Testimonies & Concerns currently oversees or administers.

Susan Claggett reported for the First Day School committee. The children's Christmas program was an enjoyable activity for all. Susan and Candace Shattuck plan to attend another workshop on Godly Play, the current FDS curriculum. Nearly 20 children participated in FDS this morning, including several new attenders.

Property & Grounds Committee Clerk John Schreiner reported that the committee accepted a bid for replacement of the furnace in the brick meetinghouse. Work will be scheduled shortly, and will be done mid-week to minimize disruptions to the worship schedule. Planning for some plant cover around the new oil tank is underway. This year we will undertake several roofing projects on the property. Both the west side of the old meetinghouse roof and the south side of the brick meetinghouse roof require replacement. The committee is considering an attractive synthetic shake for the old meetinghouse, but must consult with the Maryland Historical Trust to

determine the material is allowable for a historic building. Gathering bids for these projects has proved frustrating for the committee and the clerk welcomes the assistance of Friends with connections to local roofing contractors. Finally, the workshed roof is leaking. The committee will likely propose replacement with a metal roof, perhaps as a meeting work project. The committee also intends to evaluate the caretakers' compensation, and may bring recommendations to the meeting as a result. John gratefully acknowledges the efforts of Winslow Womack, who has been tirelessly and adeptly handling myriad small projects on the grounds. Friends strongly encouraged the committee to assemble a list of needed projects for presentation to the Trustees at their annual meeting in March.

Committee clerk John Hawkinson reported that the Communications committee has nearly completed updates for the new directory. Members with recent address, phone, or email changes are encouraged to contact John with this information as soon as possible. The meeting website has been updated with new material, including the draft advices on the Meeting for Business prepared by Worship & Ministry committee and all committee reports that have been forwarded to John. Publishing and distributing the newsletter electronically has decreased the number of printed and mailed copies to less than 50. The committee aims to produce the newsletter in a timely fashion so that all members receive their copy well in advance of the next meeting for business. Emails containing announcements are distributed weekly, typically Tuesday evening or Wednesday morning. A Friend wondered if the website includes the excellent synopsis of Quakerism and Friends' practice that was contained on the posters developed for the open house, and suggested that it be included as a regular feature of the website.

Hospitality committee clerk Ann Williams thanked all Friends for their contributions to the memorial service for Ginger Howell.

Frank Zeigler reported that the Friends Committee on National Legislation (FCNL) has requested our meeting roster for the purpose of sending information about FCNL and fundraising appeals to our members and attenders. Friends were not immediately in unity about providing this information. Some Friends felt that only addresses should be provided, not phone numbers or email addresses, and other Friends were concerned that people be given the opportunity to "opt out" of receiving this information. Some Friends felt that we should provide members', but not attenders', information, while other Friends felt that everyone should have access and exposure to the complete scope of Friends' activities. After a lengthy discussion, Friends APPROVED providing a copy of our mailing labels (addresses only) to FCNL. The meeting further APPROVED inclusion of a statement in the printed directory to the effect that directory information is to be used only for meeting purposes, but that it may be provided to Friends' organizations upon minuted action of the meeting for business.

Southern Quarterly Meeting gathers next on 1st Month 15th. Seven people from Third Haven plan to attend. Friends may contact Susan Claggett about ride sharing.

New Business: The Clerk will be away from 1st Month 13th through 22nd; Friends may contact Candace Shattuck during that period. Committee clerks should contact Anne the Wednesday before business meeting Sunday if they have items of business to bring before the Meeting. It is the intention of the Clerk to try limiting the agenda to committees with business items; it is not necessary that every committee report each month.

No further business appearing, Friends concluded with a period of worship, purposing to meet next on 2nd Month 12th, 2006.

Respectfully submitted, *Susan Hersemann Leibman, Recording Clerk*

Third Haven Friends Meeting

PYM Notes from Interim Meeting on December 1, 2005: A major task coming to completion is the effort to make sure we are creating as safe an environment as possible for all our children. Prompted first by concerns for the safety of our children and also by liability concerns, this has been a critical priority for us for two years now. We are completing the policies and procedures needed to make sure (insofar as that is possible) all PYM volunteers working with children are people we can trust; that we manage safe programs ; that we are giving help to our Monthly Meetings to achieve the same; and that we as a community are considering these matters in the positive manner we should be with the first concern being the welfare of our children.

Other reports are that planning for PYM's residential Yearly Meeting in July, 2006 is moving along .

Planning has begun for a special session on March 25, 2006 – a day of workshops and activities which will help us focus in practical ways to build stronger Meetings that can grow in numbers and witness... this work is to help creating the future of this Yearly Meeting.

Announcements for Third Haven Monthly Meeting

February 1 (fourth day) 5:30pm meeting for worship

February 5 (first day) 10am meeting for worship

February 8 (fourth day) 4:30pm Budget and Finance Committee meets in common room

February 11 (seventh day) 9:30am Worship & Ministry Committee meets in common room

February 12 (first day) 10am meeting for worship and meeting for business. Committee reports due: Overseers and Recorder

February 15 (fourth day) 5:30pm meeting for worship

February 19 (first day) 5:30pm meeting for worship

Missing book: "Teaching Godly Play" about 8.5" x 11", paperback, 0.5" thick. Please return to Beth Mufson (410)820-4752

Let us know of e-mail address changes - send announcements to hawkjm@goeaston.net

Reminders

- Anne Rouse would like to receive all agenda items by the Wednesday preceeding for monthly meeting for business.
- Place book donations for the detention center in the chest in the common room.
- Sign up with a friend to provide Hospitality following meeting for worship.
- Donate non-perishable food for the Neighborhood Service Center
- Apostles Build program: Saturdays January 21 & 28 and February 4,11,18, & 25. Our Coalition will work the afternoon shift (12-4) in January and the morning shift (8-12) in February. Lunch and snacks will be served.
- List all scheduled committee meetings or gatherings on the common room calendar.
- Send a contribution payable to: Third Haven Monthly Meeting

Mail to Third Haven Treasurer, PO Box 2379, Easton, MD 21601

Marilla's Lunches being prepared in our Common Room.

Since June of 2005, on the first Wednesday of each month, Third Haven has been responsible for preparing and delivering lunches to low income shut-ins in Easton. In January 2006, 45 lunches were delivered. This effort is an attempt to extend Asbury Methodist Church's winter soup



kitchen to the rest of the year. Other Wednesdays during the month were the responsibility of other churches including St. Marks Methodist Church, Christ Episcopal Church Easton, Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of Easton, Trinity Episcopal Cathedral and Grace Lutheran Church. Within the Third Haven Meeting, this effort is referred to as Marilla's Lunches because the late Marilla McCarthy spearheaded this effort before her death. Originally, the Testimonies and Concerns Committee was allocated \$500 for this effort. Very little of this money was used because of the generosity of Third Haven members and attenders. No records of this effort are maintained. Simply relying on memory, the following is a list of Third Haven members and attenders who participated in Marilla's Lunches during 2005. It is hoped that if you did participate and are not on the list, that you will forgive the writer of this article. Participants thus far: Monimia Barker, Molly Burgoyne, Lorraine

Claggett, Larney Claggett, Susan Claggett, Katie Claggett, Evan Claggett, John Hawkinson, Nancy Mullen, Sam Mullen, Sumner Parker, Ann Rouse, Karen Stoker, Norval and Cathy Thompson, Ann Williams, Helen Womack, and Ralph Young. Monthly we are ably assisted by Blanch and Ida Mae of Asbury United Methodist Church and Marianne and Terry Stackpole from the Easton community. During the winter months, Asbury will be operating their soup kitchen and Third Haven will have a role in assisting them on the first Wednesday of each month. On the first Wednesday In April we will resume responsibility for preparing and delivering the lunches. *Ralph Young*

Two of the pleasures of delivering these lunches each month on the west side of town are sharing the friendship and caring spirit of those who ride around with me, as well as greeting people we have known in the past who are grateful to receive our offerings. *John Hawkinson*

Annual Report of the Library & Outreach Committee for 2005

The Library and Outreach Committee met most months in 2005 on the Wednesday before Monthly Meeting. The Committee was composed of Frank Zeigler, Lorraine Claggett, Peggy Walbert, Mike Mullen, Tylor Wrightson and Anne Rouse.

In the past year, the library has received several donations including books from the estate of Manila McCarthy. A Friend gave several titles she felt should be in our collection and we received a couple of "historical" volumes. We also purchased two books to initiate our shelf on parenting. We are very grateful for these additions; however, space continues to be an issue and limits what we are able to display.

We established the Library Table in the front of the meeting room to display new accessions, Friends Journal, the most recent Pendle Hill Pamphlet and newsletters from other Quaker organizations. From time to time, we have placed articles in the newsletter.

Our biggest project under outreach was the Poster Day open house. We are grateful for the enthusiastic participation of the rest of the Meeting, especially the Ministry and Worship Committee that developed the various posters used during the event. We anticipate that this year's focus will be marking the 350th anniversary of Friends in Maryland. We also set up a schedule for corresponding with visitors who sign the guest book.

We hope to assist the Meeting in growing inwardly through our library and outward through outreach.

Anne Rouse, Clerk January 8, 2006

A Prayerful Thought *by Nancy Mullen*

I've been thinking lately about division and divisiveness. It seems to me that people in our culture define themselves based on which side they are on – which side of an issue, which political party, which opinion of a movie (especially a documentary) or a book or a television show. If you read the letters section of the newspaper you will find increasingly few thoughtful and respectfully submitted offerings from people who simply wish to offer an idea meant for public, polite consideration. The letters more often seem to be from people who assume everyone has a right to their opinions or have a tone daring anyone to submit an opposing viewpoint or blasting someone for submitting one.

There is the increasing tendency in American culture to foment an argument where one does not exist. Take, for example, the recent "controversy" over whether one should, at the holidays, wish

someone else a Merry Christmas. I couch the term in quotation marks because, in my (humble) opinion, this issue was manufactured by a faction (do you see the terms to which we are reduced?) which felt the need to raise the stakes in an ongoing cultural debate over Christianity in our society. It seemed to me that the idea was to make that part of our population who take a neutral or at least non-confrontational stance on religious inclusion take a side. Do you think it's wrong to say Merry Christmas to someone not knowing what his religion is? And (more furious): Don't you think it's terrible how angry people get when you say Merry Christmas? Now, I don't know about you, but I have never once met a Christian person who took offense when wished Happy Holidays. Neither have I met a Jew or Muslim or Buddhist or Atheist who balked at being told Merry Christmas. Maybe it is just the company I keep. But, really, I think people have better things to do with their time and attitude than to be offended by well-wishes offered in technically incorrect denotation. So I leap carelessly to the conclusion that there is a segment of our society, or at least a mind set, which does not know what to do when there is not a side to be taken. What on earth would we do if we all agreed on something?! I'm starting to think that there really are some people who would be lost. They would have lost the terms by which to define themselves if it were not for the argument at hand. And here is why I think THAT is: an argument presents an opportunity to be correct, to be right, to be (and here is the clincher) validated. In one's own opinion or in that of others is a whole separate discussion. But human beings historically have exhibited an intrinsic need to be agreed with. This has been the impetus behind every kind of confrontation – family disputes to wars. If I can get someone to agree with me I can feel that I am right. That makes me worthwhile as a person. If I cannot, I need to fight for that position – so that I can feel right, therefore worthwhile as a person. If you (husband, friend, other country) deprive me of that feeling, you leave me no choice other than to force you to agree with me.

Whether the topic is religion, politics, or the best brand of potato chips, there are just some people who cannot thrive unless there is a point to be made, fussed over, and agreed upon whether by threat or by debate. It seems that this group of people grows either ever larger or ever louder. The theory of agreeing to disagree is, for these people, right out. My way or the highway. If you're not with us, you're against us. Are you one of us or (gasp) one of them?

Where does this leave us who choose not to engage? What of the Quaker method of reaching unity rather than majority? What happens to those of us who realize that we can like or even love someone with whom we wholeheartedly disagree? Why is it becoming harder for us to remain comfortable in this society? Maybe Quakers need to buy time on national television and host a teaching session. You don't all have to be proven right. It's much more important to get along and respect each other as fellow human beings, in spite of our differences.

Southern Quarterly Meeting

DID YOU KNOW. . . There are other Quakers besides Third Haven gathering just off Rt. 50? They are called the Delmarva Quakers and you are a part of them.

Right off Rt. 50 in Salisbury, MD is the Wicomico Friends Meeting House. Wicomico Friends are small in number, around 19 adults but are a warm, committed bunch and were

delighted to host a handful of Third Haven Friends and others at the January 15 Southern Quarter Meeting of Delmarva Quakers.

Just off Rt. 50 in Chestertown is the Chester River Meeting. These folks made a concerted effort to travel to Wicomico for Southern Quarter. Finally, our oldest (age of Meeting, not age of people!) Friends are found meeting in Camden, DE. Camden Meeting was high in attendance at Southern Quarter by sending 12 of their 42 members to Wicomico.

With all these Quakers gathered from 4 different areas of the Eastern Soure, you can imagine the energy! Every Southern Quarter Meeting has a rich worship, delightful lunch and a program. The program at Wicomico this past January was entitled "Experiment with the Light" led by Pendle Hill staffer Marcelle Martin. We tackled questions like "What did early Friends mean by <The Light?>" "How does it lead us?" Then the entire group tried a meditation based on the practices of George Fox and other early Quakers.

The ever evervesent group called Delmarva Quakers is alive and well, meeting for worship and interest groups all up and down Rt. 50. Third Haven IS a wonderful haven, but I will suggest getting to know our wider circle of Friends--just up the road.

The next Southern Quarter Meeting is this Spring, 3rd Sunday in May, hosted by Camden Friends. Any questions regarding Southern Quarter, ask away. . .

Your SQM rep, *Susan Claggett*

PS I am in need of an assistant to attend the Southern Quarter coordinating committee gathering on Feb 19, 2006. Can anyone help? Contact Susan at (410) 822-5964

Third Haven sights in 2005



Christmas wreaths in the works



Summer camp sing along



Habitat workers make a difference



Open House opens minds



Newlywed visitors