



PHOTO PROVIDED

Piper aircraft, old and new

A bright yellow 1946 Piper J-3 Cub landed last week at Piper Airport in Lock Haven, the same day that a brand-new Piper Meridian M600 arrived. The Meridian M600 is the newest top-of-the-line aircraft being built by Piper Aircraft Inc. in Vero Beach, Fla. The Cub, built in Lock Haven in 1946, flew in from Penn Yan, N.Y. and had been purchased new 70 years ago by the Penn Yan Flying Club — which owns it to this day. The Cub has flown more than 1 million miles since then. The new Meridian M600 costs nearly \$2.8 million, more than 1,000 times the cost of a Cub in 1946. Buddy Sessoms of Piper Aircraft Inc. flew the Meridian here. He was on his way to show the plane to a Piper distributor in Connecticut and stopped to visit the Piper Aviation Museum. Penn Yan club members James Alexander and Josh Sharaf piloted the Cub here, also to visit the museum. All had lunch at a downtown restaurant. Airport Manager Ed Watson said, “It was interesting that the old and new met on our ramp at The William T. Piper Memorial Airport by chance today!”