

“WE WERE HAMMERED TO THE WALL”

Criticized for raising property taxes in 2010, Londonderry Twp. embarks on a plan to chart tax increases for the next 10 years

By Daniel Walmer
Press And Journal Staff

For 14 consecutive years, Londonderry Twp. had given its taxpayers good news: no tax increase.

But in December 2010, with their financial backs against the wall, the supervisors compensated for previous years by nearly tripling property taxes from 1.07 to 2.93 mills – and were criticized by residents for the large tax hike in no uncertain terms.

“We were hammered to the wall,” said supervisor Chairman Ron Kopp.

Township manager Steve Letavic calls the anger directed toward the board at that December meeting a “travesty of local government,” and he’s creating a 10-year financial plan for the township to make sure they do not need to enact such a large jump in

taxes in one year in the future.

The plan will say when and if tax increases will be necessary, Letavic said at a meeting on Monday, April 1 – and will show when refusing to increase taxes would be an act of political cowardice.

When municipalities do not “raise taxes when you have to, even when it’s not popular,” he said, they end up in the difficult situation the supervisors faced in 2010.

Letavic hopes to complete the plan by the end of the year, and said he will be able to defend the figures leading to his 10-year recommendations on when and if tax increases will be needed.

“You can have a pretty open and candid conversation about the financial situation of the municipality,”



Ron Kopp
Chairman of supervisors

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HAMMERED, Page A6

LOWER DAUPHIN SCHOOLS

Board picks LD grad to fill vacant seat

By Noelle Barrett
Press And Journal Staff

Eight residents of Hummelstown and South Hanover Township vied for a seat on the Lower Dauphin School Board, but after interviews during a meeting on Monday, April 15, the decision to pick one of them to fill an unexpired term was easier than anticipated.

In a 7-0 vote, the board selected Eric Samples, a longtime resident and professional sales representative for Pfizer, a pharmaceutical company. Board member Marcela Myers was absent.

Samples fills a seat vacated by Rodney B. Nissley last month, one day before Nissley, 47, was charged by Hummelstown police with child rape and incest.

During the interview process, the potential board members were asked a series of eight questions, including their views on ways the district could improve, priorities that the board should set, and decisions that the board should make regarding taxes and program cuts.

Samples graduated from Lower Dauphin in 1989, received his undergraduate from Penn State and earned his MBA at Lebanon Valley College. A resident of Hummelstown for 41

years, Samples described himself as a “great believer in Hummelstown and Lower Dauphin.”

He lives in the borough with his wife, Cindy, their 6-year-old daughter who attends Nye Elementary, and their 17-month-old.

Samples is a member of the Hummelstown Recreation Board and helped to start “Hummelstown’s Got Talent,” and serves as a soccer referee.

“I see a lot of great things come out of Lower Dauphin, and I’d like to be a part of that,” he said.

As a board member, Samples said his priority would be the students first, followed by the budget, and added that he would be willing to make tough

decisions.

When asked if there was anything he would change about the school district, Samples said he would like to see the students become more “hands-on” in the community.

“Lower Dauphin is so diverse ... there are still those kids who don’t see college (in their futures),” Samples said. “I’d like to see more opportunities to be an apprentice ... more exposure to more opportunities [to work with] local business leaders.”

Before the board selected Samples,

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Eric Samples
New board member



Photo by Phil Palanzo

Bill Gaudette, 92, flashes the thumbs-up sign while running in the Hershey 10K race as granddaughter Nicole Gaudette accompanies him.

Bill Gaudette did it for charity. “No way I was going to fail,” he said.

By Noelle Barrett
Press And Journal Staff

When 92-year-old Bill Gaudette ran 6.2 miles in the Hershey 10K, something about him stood out.

It wasn’t his age, but his smile, his spirit, his drive and determination to get to the finish. As he ran past rollercoasters, barreled across the Boardwalk and looped around the arena and stadium, he waved to crowds of people, flashed the thumbs-up sign, and continued to look forward.

“My thoughts were I was going to finish regard-

less of what happened. There was no way I was going to fail,” said Gaudette, of Hummelstown. Sure, he wanted to finish for himself, and he did, in 1 hour and 42 minutes, but completing the biggest race of his life was something he wanted to do for others.

As a volunteer with the Ronald McDonald House Charities (RMHC), Gaudette knew he needed to be a part of the race. Proceeds from the Hershey 10K benefit RMHC of Central Pennsylvania, along with several other local charities.

The Ronald McDonald House provides a place for families of seriously ill or injured children a place to stay while the children receive treatment.

“The McDonald House is one of the finest charities in the area ... It’s a wonderful organization,” said Gaudette.

He has volunteered there for more than two years, spending several afternoons each week working in the kitchen, washing dishes and making beds, among other jobs.

“I enjoy the satisfaction I get from helping people that are less fortunate than me,” he said. The race was meaningful to Gaudette – not just for the cause, but because it was an opportunity to spend time with his family. Two of his grandchildren, William and Nicole, ran side-by-side with Gaudette, while others were there to support him.

“It was a special moment. Anytime you get to do something with your grandfather is special,” said William. “It was a great moment for our family.”

But there wasn’t a doubt in Gaudette’s or his family’s mind that he would finish. Their confidence stemmed from months of training and preparation.

“He’s very disciplined in his training regimen,” said William. “We knew he was going to finish

Please See **RACE, Page A6**



Photo by Noelle Barrett

Bill Gaudette crosses the finish line along with his grandson, William Gaudette.

MIDDLETOWN

New director hired for public library

By Daniel Walmer
Press And Journal Staff

The Middletown Public Library has a new director.

The library’s Board of Directors has hired Stacey Mulligan, who has worked in libraries at an elementary school and the Central Intelligence Agency, as director of Middletown’s library.

“I think she will do wonderful. We are all happy,” said Sandy Robbins, board president. “She’s a young, vibrant kind of person. She’s interested in kids’ programs and the whole library field.”

Mulligan replaces Christine Porter, who resigned in February to pursue an acting career. She will officially begin serving as director on May 13, Robbins said.

Mulligan has a degree in library sci-

ence, and her experience ranges from elementary school library to reference and research librarian for the CIA, Robbins said. She moved to the Middletown area in 2009, Robbins said.

Mulligan takes over during a critical period for the library, which is facing funding and logistical challenges after transitioning from a borough department to an independent nonprofit organization beginning in January. But Robbins believes she’s up for the task.

“We’re just pleased with her background that she’s willing to come here, and she has some very good ideas,” said Robbins. “She likes fundraising and seems to be eager to try a lot of different things.”

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LOWER SWATARA TWP.

OFF THE STREETS

Police recover loaded guns stolen from unlocked cars

By Noelle Barrett
Press And Journal Staff

Police have quickly recovered five loaded handguns stolen from unlocked cars in Lower Swatara Twp. earlier this month, and three juveniles will be charged with the theft, said township Police Chief Richard Brandt.

Township police arrested three 16-year-old males, and will be charging them with five counts of theft



Submitted photo

Police quickly recovered these five loaded handguns that were stolen from unlocked cars in Lower Swatara Twp.

of a handgun, reckless endangerment and theft, said Brandt.

The five handguns – three 9 mm handguns, a .45 pistol, and a .380 pistol – were taken from unlocked cars on Market Street Extended and Hanover Street sometime between late Tuesday, April 9 and early morning on Thursday, April 11.

“All they had to do was open the door,” said Brandt.

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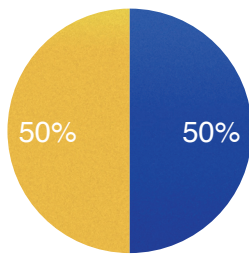
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Quick NEWS

Food pantry opens in Steelton

The Monumental African Methodist Episcopal Church in Steelton has begun a monthly Express Food Pantry at the church to be held the third Friday of each month for residents in need of food.

“There was a need for a pantry of this sort in Steelton,” said Ina Alcendor of Monumental AME. “We’re trying to get ministries going that can benefit the communities ... and this is one way that we, at this point and time, are doing it.” There are no income restrictions for using the food pantry, but those interested must pre-register and must live in the 17113 ZIPcode, Alcendor said. People interested in pre-registering or volunteering can e-mail the church at monumentalame@verizon.net or call 717-939-2339.

Crop Walk set to help needy

Several Middletown area churches will stage a Crop Walk on Sunday, May 5 to benefit the Middletown Food Pantry and others in need.

The walk will begin at 1 p.m. at the pantry at 201 Wyoming Street in Roy-alton, and walkers will proceed to Middletown Area High School and back, with a rest stop at Frey Village. Participants can walk a shorter distance. They raise funds by being sponsored for each mile that they walk. Money raised benefits worldwide charitable organization Church World Service, and 25 percent of the funds will be returned directly to the Middletown pantry, according to Donald Potter, pastor of Presbyterian Congregation of Middletown. Readers who are interested in participating can contact one of the churches involved or Potter at 717-944-4322.



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Obituaries

Dr. Dorothy Pomraning



Dr. Dorothy Eisenhower Pomraning, went peacefully to be with her Lord on Thursday, March 21, at Thornwald Nursing Home.

Dorothy was born September 18, 1931 to Horace B. and Mary F. Eisenhower.

She was preceded in death by her husband Leroy Pomraning. Dorothy and her husband operated a fruit and vegetable farm in Newburg and attended the West Shore Farmers Market in Camp Hill for 40 years. During that time, they also opened Mountain Lakes Farm Market in Carlisle and expanded to include the floral shop, Flowers by Mountain Lakes. Dorothy's professional life was centered on education. She graduated from William Penn High School in York at age 16 and then attended Gettysburg Seminary, receiving a degree in

Christian education. She earned her home economics degree from Hood College in Fredrick, Md. and for over 30 years she taught home economics at Big Spring High School in Newville. During that time she also earned her masters and doctorate degrees from Penn State University. She went on to teach home economics at James Madison University for 10 years.

Upon retirement from teaching she returned to the family business for many years. Dorothy was a member of AARP, PSEA, VSTA, AHEA, NEA, FHA, BPOE and many others. She was a longtime member of Zion Lutheran Church in Newville and more recently a member of Big Spring Presbyterian Church, also in Newville.

She was preceded in death by sisters Louise Gallagher, and Helen Mueser, brother-in-law Leighton Pomraning (Alice), sister-in-law Mary Bechtel; and nephew George Pomraning.

She is survived by her son Keith Pomraning; daughter Mary Geisweit and grandchildren Sarah, Katherine, Adam and David Geisweit; brothers-in-law Neil Gallagher (Lolin), and Alan Mueser; niece Pamela Badzinski (Gary); nephew Harold Pomraning (Linda); and stepbrother Robert Hobaugh and family.

Private Burial services will be held in York at the convenience of the family.

A Memorial and Celebration of Life service will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, April 28 in Big Spring Presbyterian Church, Newville, with her pastor William Beck officiating.

To send online condolences please visit www.eggerfuneralhome.com or www.pennlive.com/obits.

Kay Morris

Kay A. Turns Morris, 65, of Montclair, N.J., went to be with the Lord on Wednesday, April 10, at the Daughters of Israel Rehab Center in West Orange, N.J., following a long courageous battle with cancer. She passed while in the care and thoughts of many loving supporters with special thanks to Barb Dalton.

She was born July 20, 1947 in Harrisburg and is the daughter of Ann Beck Turns and the late Samuel L. Turns Sr.

She graduated from Middletown Area High School in 1965 and attended Albright College. Thereafter, she worked in the travel industry in Pennsylvania and as law firm administrator for several law firms in Houston, Texas. Kay was the law firm administrator for Rabner Allcorn Baumgart & Ben-Asher of Upper Montclair, N.J. from 2001 to April 2013. She brought extensive knowledge, capabilities, and dedication to the law firm.

Kay will be greatly missed by her family and friends. She was extremely well regarded for her independent spirit and strength of character. She took genuine interest in and gave attentively to others. We remember her for her large contributions to our lives. Kay will always be a part of us, and we will always be a part of her.

She is survived by her mother; brother Samuel and wife Karen of Middletown; and her many beloved aunts, uncles, and cousins.

A Tribute to Kay's life will be held at 11 a.m. on Saturday, April 20 at New Beginnings Church, Riverside Chapel, 630 S. Union St., Middletown.

Kay deeply loved her dogs and cats and was a friend to many others. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Humane Society, 7790 Grayson Rd., Harrisburg, PA 17111 or to The Cancer Center, 95 Old Short Hill Road, West Orange, NJ 07052, in honor of the loving care given by Dr. Delia Radovich and Dr. Raquel Wagman.

Burial will take place at the convenience of the family.



Dale Young

Dale K. Young, 78, of Waldorf, Md., and formerly of Middletown, entered into rest on Monday, April 8, in Washington National Hospital, Washington, D.C.

He was born on May 14, 1934 in Middletown and was the son of the late Harry S. and Irene Shriner Young.

He was proud to be from Middletown, graduating from the former Middletown High School Class of 1952 and was the best daddy anyone could ask for.

He was a former member of First Church of God, Middletown. He served in the United States Air Force and spent most of his working career as an air traffic controller in Washington, D.C. and also drove "Red Top" cabs in the D.C./ Virginia area for many years. He was a member of the Hershey Drum and Bugle Corp., and was a member of the Royal Order of the Moose, the Elks Lodge, the American Legion and the VFW, all of Waldorf, Md.

He was preceded in death by his wife Dorie Puckett Young, brother Harry Young Jr., and sister Faye, wife of Harry Hartman.

He is survived by his children: sons Steven, husband of Mary Ann Young of Harrisburg, Randy Young, and Anthony Young; daughters Dawn, wife of Gregory Dyess of Waldorf, Md., and Cheryl, wife of Lenny Lewis of Godwin, N.C.; seven grandchildren; six great-grandchildren; sisters Goldie Mae, wife of Richard Pelletier of Middletown, and Kaye F., wife of Richard Campbell of Somerdale, N.J.; and brother Jack R., husband of Bonnie Young of Royaltown.

A Tribute to his life was held on Tuesday at the Frank E. Matinchek and Daughter Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Inc., Middletown, with the Rev. Kimberly Shifler officiating.

Burial with military honors was in Middletown Cemetery.

Condolences may be sent to www.matinchekanddaughterfuneralhome.com.

Alice Cochran



Alice "Micky" H. Cochran, 91, of the Middletown Home and formerly of Cypress St., Middletown, entered into rest on Sunday, April 14, at the home.

She was born on November 2, 1921 in Pottsville and was the daughter of the late Robert H. and Sally O'Boyle Hannaway.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband Henry E. Cochran, who passed away on October 7, 1969, two sisters Dorothy Swartz and Florence Boltz, and two brothers Bob and Jack Hannaway.

She was a member of Seven Sorrows of the Blessed Virgin Mary Catholic Church, Middletown, and a former member of the Middletown American Legion Auxiliary. Alice was a fun, outgoing person who loved to tell jokes to her family and friends. Dancing and golf were her two favorite pastimes.

She is survived by her son Michael J. and wife Lois Cochran of Middletown; three daughters Sallie J. and husband Robert Evans of Middletown, Bonnie A. and husband Malcolm Meinsler of Glen Burnie, Md., and Margie A. and husband Gary Vogel of Mount Joy; eight grandchildren; and 18

great-grandchildren, all of which she loved dearly.

In keeping with Alice's wishes there will be no service.

Arrangements by Frank E. Matinchek and Daughter Funeral Home and Cremation Services, Inc., Middletown.

Condolences may be sent to www.matinchekanddaughterfuneralhome.com.

“Dramapalooza” set at Lower Dauphin

Lower Dauphin High School's drama club will celebrate its second annual "Dramapalooza," a night of student-directed one-act plays, at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 25 in the school auditorium.

General admission tickets will be sold at the door.

Student directors of the five one-act plays are senior Zach Johnson (who also wrote his play), juniors Erin Hereshko (who adapted her play) and Aly Chambers, sophomore Maddy Waters (who also wrote her play) and freshman Devon Viola. Senior Matt Peck will be the host for the evening's performances.

A dozen new actors will be participating in this year's Dramapalooza along with 20 actors returning from last year's show.

The plays will include:

"Nobody Famous" – Directed by Viola and written by D.M. Larson, this play tells the story of a pair of young women at a psychic's parlor who seek to know their future and what fame and fortune it might hold. It features actors Jacquie Burnham, Maddie McCann, Kari Dettorre, Chris Brian, Morea Friedrich and Adam Rish.

"Echo" – Directed by Chambers and Zoe Irving and written by Joseph T. Shipley, this play opens with a man having dinner with his girlfriend and discovers that she has made him into her ex-boyfriend. It features Stephen Slimak, Rachel Chambers, Kevin Breisch and Leah Miller.

"Scenes from an Italian Restaurant" – Written and directed by Waters, this

play is loosely based on the Billy Joel song of the same name featuring five couples in various stages of their relationships. It features actors Jordin Haslup, Luke Mummau, Rachel Bitner, James McDonough, Jacque Beacham, Evelyn Cuevas, Cammy Witmer, Sam Hipszer, Taylor Costik and Jana Chung-Church.

"The Third Witch" – Directed and adapted from a Barbara Leonie Picard fairy tale by Hereshko, this play tells the story of a king who falls in love with the youngest of three witches, but finds his love remains unrequited. It will feature Taylor Costik, Kelsey Klinger, Jesielle Hertzler, Emily McKissick, Amanda Waxman and Kat Ward.

"Against the Sun" – Written and directed by Johnson, this original play similar to German legend Faust tells of several characters who make deals with the devil with disastrous consequences. It features Mary Kate Hoag, James McDonough, Luke Mummau, Katie Rynearson, Evelyn Cuevas, Nikki Potts and Hunter Scherr.

Prizes will be awarded for best play, best actor, best actress, best supporting role and best new performer. Judges will be Lower Dauphin faculty members Vickie Feinstein and Laurie Coleman plus two LD grads, Meredith Nazar Pedia (Class of 2000) and Justine Hilbert (Class of 2012).

For more information, readers may contact Doug Grove, high school English teacher, at dgrove@ldsds.org or 717-566-5330.

New development authority offers glimpses of its goals

By Daniel Walmer
Press And Journal Staff

Middletown's newest governmental agency, the Industrial and Commercial Development Authority (ICDA), took little action at its first meeting on Thursday, April 4, but gave a few glimpses of how the authority could inject new life into the borough.

"Our duties and responsibilities are to give a new birth to the city of Middletown," said member Christopher McNamara, who is also president of Borough Council.

McNamara views the ICDA, which has the power to acquire buildings and borrow money, as a "vehicle to move Middletown forward."

Derry Township has an ICDA, and member Salvatore Bauccio – a business attorney who was appointed the

authority's president – pointed to the Giant Center, a 10,000-seat arena near Hersheypark, as the sort of project that can be facilitated and funded through an ICDA.

"Will we get a Giant Center? Probably not. But we'll try our best," Bauccio said.

For example, McNamara said, the ICDA may look for uses of properties where houses are being demolished as part of the Harrisburg International Airport noise buyout program because they are in the flight path of airplanes taking off and landing. He also suggested the authority look into improvements of the borough's baseball fields, parks and playgrounds.

But the next steps for the authority will be smaller ones. Bauccio said they plan to meet with other ICDA's to discuss possible strategies for identifying projects, and will work on acquiring a small amount of "seed money" to fund operations.

In fact, members said they have no planned agenda at this point beyond recognizing the need for development improvements in Middletown.

"There is no plan," McNamara said. "All we know is, something needs to be done."

Resident Dawn Knoll, who attended the meeting, agreed that improvements need to be made to Middletown, but said she hopes the ICDA will listen to residents in making decisions.

Also at the meeting, the authority approved McNees, Wallace and Nurick as its solicitor and Herbert, Rowland and Grubic as its engineer. The authority agreed to meet the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m.

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NEWS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

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We are halfway done with this month! How do we feel about that? Seems this year we are behind in the yard work department. Part of the problem: Who wants to be freezing outside while you are trying to pull weeds and cut off dead perennials? Not me.

We still have plenty of time, so don't rush it. For those of you who already pruned, trimmed, dug and raked, good job – and it looks great!

Have a super terrific warming-up week.

Birthdays

Daniel Reese of Lower Swatara Twp. is celebrating his last teen birthday as he hits 19 on Wednesday, April 17. Hope it is lots of fun, Daniel.

Happy 23rd cake day to **Lauren Light** of Lower Swatara. She celebrates on Friday, April 19. Have a ball, Lauren.

Marley Kinsey of Lower Swatara turns 12 on Friday, April 19. Hoping you have a wonderful confetti-popping weekend!

Happy 25th birthday to **Devan Williams**. He celebrates on Friday, April 19. Best wishes to you, and hoping for the best for you and all you do.

If you see **Terry Lupia** out and about Lower Swatara on Friday, April 19, please be sure to give this sweet lady a huge happy birthday holler.

Justin Musser of Lower Swatara will observe his legal-eagle birthday on Saturday, April 20. Enjoy this special day, Justin.

Evan Grogan of Lower Swatara observes his razzle-dazzle birthday on Sunday, April 21. He is 11. Best wishes to you, Evan.

Give a shout out to Pat Krebs of Lower Swatara on Sunday, April 21. He is 22! Happy cake and ice cream day, Pat.

Samantha Romberger of Lower Swatara will hear the birthday song on Sunday, April 21. Happy 15th to you, and may God richly bless you, Sammie.

Aubrey Carberry of Lower Swatara hits 20 on Sunday, April 21. Enjoy your special balloon-flying weekend.

Julia Hughes of Lower Swatara will blow out eight candles atop her birthday cake on Sunday, April 21, a most popular day to be born. I hope you get tons of treats, Julia!

If you see **Andy Cargill** out and about – maybe at Target – on Monday, April 22 be sure to give him a warm and jolly happy birthday holler. Happy 23rd.

Hope Cook turns 24 on Monday, April 22. Best wishes to you on your very special me-holiday.

Michelle Eby marks her frosty-filled cake day on Tuesday, April 23. Hope this 22nd cake day is extra-special for you.

Smiles and surprises are sent to **Jackie Leonard** of Lower Swatara on Tuesday, April 23 as he celebrates his 32nd birthday. Have a super fine week.

Happy belated 16th cake day to **Shawney Stauffer** of Middletown. Nan and Pap are thinking about how special you are. I hope your Thursday, April 11 beep-honk-beep day was the best yet!

Anniversaries

Best wishes for a wonderful anniversary to **Sam and Karen Turns** of Middletown as they celebrate on Thursday, April 18.

Tim and Joan Nissley of Lower Swatara celebrate their 12th romantic heart day on Sunday, April 21. Enjoy!

Happy 24th wedded bliss day to **Joe and Karen Bendgen** of Lower Swatara on Monday, April 22. Congrats!

Best wishes to **CD and Cathy Farr** of Lower Swatara as they observe their

18th anniversary.

Supper is ready

The Middletown First Church of God's monthly dinner will be served at 4:30 p.m. on Monday, April 22 at the church, 245 West High St. The menu is roast turkey, whipped potatoes, filling, veggies and dessert.

Yard sales

Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 20 – Old Reliance Farms will hold its annual spring yard sale from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The annual Woodridge Yard Sale will be held at 7:30 a.m. Saturday, May 4. Stop by and shop for furniture, toys, household items and clothes. Woodridge is a community of over 200 homes just off Spring Garden Drive by the Star Barn.

Township meetings

The following meetings will be held in the Lower Swatara Twp. municipal building at 1499 Spring Garden Drive: Board of Commissioners, 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 17 and Municipal Authority, 7 p.m. Monday, April 22.

Pancake breakfast

The Lower Swatara Lions Club will hold its annual All-U-Can-Eat Pancake and Sausage Breakfast at 7 a.m. on Saturday, May 4 at the Lions building in Shopes Gardens.

Before you start your day, come down and get all the pancakes and sausage you can eat along with coffee and orange drink. Please support our Lions Club – it's projects like this that help them put so much back into our community.

Congrats to students

Two local students have been selected for a Sutton Scholars academic achievement scholarship at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.

Students must apply to be considered for the program and are chosen following a competitive interview process.

Started in 2012, the IUP Sutton Scholarship is funded by private gifts the Foundation for IUP received from university alumni, friends and employees. IUP's Class of 2012 also

designated a portion of its class gift to this scholarship fund.

The local Sutton Scholars students are:

• **Katlyn Flowers**, of Middletown, daughter of Phil and Tina Flowers. She will graduate from Middletown Area High School and attend IUP in the fall as a nursing major. She was a member of her high school's homecoming court as well as the Key Club, student council, Link Crew and field hockey and softball teams.

• **Emily Waggoner**, of Hummelstown, daughter of John and Dawn Marie Waggoner. She will graduate from Hershey High School and attend IUP in the fall as a marketing major. She is a distinguished honor roll student and a member of the National Honor Society. She was involved with her high school's mini-THON to raise money for the Four Diamonds Fund.

Golden Group trips

All are invited to join the Golden Group on these various adventures. For reservations or more information, readers may contact Dorothea at 717-944-9808 or at fur9@comcast.net:

• Thursday, April 25 – "American Treasures," a guided tram tour of unusual American memorabilia and more

• May 21 – "Mystery Trip" (can't say where, but you'll learn a lot!)

• June 20 – Sight and Sound, return of "Noah" with back stage tour and lunch at Huckleberries

• July 11 – Gettysburg Battlefield tour, visitors' center diorama and lunch with President Lincoln.

• Aug. 6 – Allentown Playhouse to see "Annie" and shopping at Ashcombe Farms.

• Sept. 19 – "Mystery Trip" (oh, this is a good one!! Lots to learn, and very different from the May Mystery Trip)

• Oct. 17 – Farewell performance of the legendary King Henry and the Showmen. Don't miss it!

• Dec. 4 and 5 – Christmas at Ocean City, Md. Festival of Lights, an over-

night trip that includes meals, theater, a visit to Assateague Island and a chance to win some money at Dover Downs casino.

Sunshine Barbecue Chicken

• 1 cup barbecue sauce
• 1/4 cup orange juice
• 8 skinless chicken pieces

Mix barbecue sauce and orange juice. Pour over chicken and coat well. Place everything in casserole dish. Arrange chicken in an even layer. Bake 40 to 45 minutes at 350 degrees or until chicken is tender. Makes four servings. Great with baked potatoes and baked beans.

Quote of the Week

"How far that little candle throws his beams! So shines a good deed in a weary world."

– William Shakespeare

Question of the Week

What do you do to help the environment or to celebrate Earth Day?

"When I was in preschool they gave us little trees and I planted those. A lot of times I make magnets of the earth and put Band-Aids on it. I also recycle all the time and try not to litter." – **Katie Camilli**, 9, Harrisburg.

"My grandpa and I clean up this little grassy area by his house that no one takes care of, that lots of trash gets into." – **Minda Rhodes**, 7, Hummelstown.

"I recycle anything and reuse things to make sure I make things last." – **Alex Pryor**, 9, Rutherford.

"I try to reuse water bottles whenever possible and use washable glassware that is low impact on the environment." – **Donald Bowers**, 24, Lower Swatara.

"Recycle, plant trees, don't throw cigarette butts out the window." – **Harry Arndt**, 23, Chapel Hill, N.C.

"I put newspaper, magazines and junk mail out to be recycled." – **Scott Ackerman**, Lower Swatara.

Proverb for the Week

(Do not set foot on the path of the wicked.) They eat the bread of wickedness and drink the wine of violence (4:17).

Students of the Month

LOWER DAUPHIN HIGH SCHOOL



Submitted photos

Melanie Weidner

Lower Dauphin High School senior Melanie Weidner has been named Young Woman of the Month for March by the Hummelstown Women's Club, while senior Samantha Schug has been named Young Student of the Month for March by the Rotary Club of Hummelstown.

Weidner, the daughter of Kevin and Cathy Weidner, is an accomplished student, athlete and musician at Lower Dauphin.

She is a four-year member of the state champion field hockey team and the school's various choral groups, and was recently named to participate in the All-State Choral Festival in April.

She has also participated in the spring musical for the past four years, and for two years in the Tri-M Music Honor Society.

Weidner is also a member of the band was a member of Student Council.

In the community, she has studied dance at the Hershey School of Dance since she was in first grade and she is an assistant tap teacher this year. She has been a Lower Dauphin youth field hockey volunteer coach for the past three years. She is a mentor in the Club Ophelia program with Lower Dauphin



Samantha Schug

Communities That Care.

She plans attend Harrisburg Area Community College and then transfer to Kutztown University where she plans to earn a bachelor's degree in art education.

Schug, the daughter of Mark and Debbie Schug, is an accomplished student and athlete at Lower Dauphin.

She is a co-captain and four-year member of the state champion field hockey team. She also participated in swimming and lacrosse.

She is president and a three-year member of the National English Honor Society, a three-year member of the National Honor Society and a two-year member of the National Art Honor Society.

Schug is a member of Student Council and has been a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes, National Spanish Honor Society and Math Honor Society.

In the community, she is a member of the Mount Calvary United Methodist Church youth group. She also served as a volunteer coach in the Lower Dauphin youth field hockey program.

She plans to major in business at the University of Delaware.

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Middletown Area Middle School

Honor Roll

The Middletown Area Middle School has announced the Honor Roll for the third marking period.

Distinguished Honor Roll

Grade 6

Hayli Akakpo-Martin, Scott Ash, Anna Buffington, Devon Finsterbush, Alexis Fischer, Mason Garza, Joseph Gusler, Alexandria Kennedy, Marley Kinsey, Kaitlyn Knaub, Jasmine Myers, Cameron Parkhill, Aayushi Patel, Collin Rullo, Jaxson Senior, Aiden Sessa, Clayton Wagner, Abigail Wisniewski, Lynnsey Woodley, Noah Yeich

Grade 7

David Alcock, Isabella Fegley, Kayla Finsterbush, Adrienne German, Morgan Kennedy, Alexcia Kolish, Keely Lombardi, Shelby Luther, Zachary Souders, Jacob Spear

Grade 8

Nikol Burrows, Mai Dang, Kelsey Dworchak, Aaron Fischer, Jimmy Fitzpatrick, Blake Gill, Nathaniel Gingrich, Donna Gudoski, Lydia Hursh, Bianca Jasper, Kelly Moyer, Caleb Ocker, Celeste Osayi, Shannon Reese, Serena Rizk, Jessaca Rusnov, Erin Templeton, Abby Yohn, Muskan Zaidi

Honor Roll

Grade 6

Tanner Albright, Dino Amendolaro, Ryan Berstler, Nathan Brady, Kenneth

Britcher, Hunter Buck, Joshua Burrows, Brian Carrera, Marie Chambers, Nathan Check, Bethany Cordova, Samuel Coughlin, Brayden Erickson, Edward Evans, Riley Favinger, Stephanie Finsterbush, Jilian Fischer, Alexandria Fish, Colton Glaser, Celeste Grob, Alexis Harmon, Angela Hernandez, Terrance Jefferson, Sierra Kamara, Morgan Killen, Jocilyn Koser, Ceajay Lawrence, Sherybeth Maldonado, Chandler Martin, Hunter Martnishn, Ethan Miller, Shaqua Neals, Timothy Nevil, Adrianna Ordaz, Cameron Peters, Ian Pirkey, Christopher Reed, Ameena Santana, Cole Senior, Jade Senior, McKayla Tucker, Jesse Van Eik, Marcus Williams, Valerie Wilmath, Sophia York, Lexi Zimmer

Grade 7

Lauren Banks, Donovan Brady, Zoey Bright, Georgie Britcher, Khaisai Cornish, RayShawn Dickey, Aja Edwards, Sarah Fluke, Joshua Frehse, Deborah Gantz, Madison Garber, Caitlyn Gingrich, Luke Golden, Autumnn Helsel, Jordina Hughes, Ryan

Hughes, Zeryab Ibrahim, Blake Jacoby, Julia Johns, Jared Knaub, Tre' Leach, Mitchell Lee, Thomas Lee, Brittany McGlone, Sean McGovern, Grayson Meyer, Morgen Miller, Steven Mosher, Jerrod Myers, Nathaniel Nelson, Kamryn Noon, Desia Perry, Lauren Rastovac, Marissa Redline, Matthew Schopf, Kyle Shatto, Amir Simmons, Alasia Stevenson, Christian Suderman, Alayna Thomas, Myles Trexler, Cayden Troike-Klhar, Kyle Truesdale, Amanda Truntz, Gabriel Wisniewski, Zachary Zimmerman

Grade 8

Jacob Barrett, Abel Botterbusch, Jacob Brandt, Joshua Brown, Mitchell Carson, Elizabeth DeVelin, Jarod Frekot, Connor Gambini, Tyler Glaser, Cole Golden, Heidi Gudoski, John Hursh, Jessica Knisely, Arianna Kurtz, Sidonie LaPlante, Brayden Lighty, Anina-Marie Martin, Michael Mattes, Marisa Mayhew, Britany McGuire, Brandon Miller, Lita Moose, Luke Mrakovich, Hope Murray, Kylee Nester, Malik Noon, Cortney Quaca, Alissa Reid, Jasmine Rivera, Rowan Sessa, Noel Shabelski, Michelle Shields, Chase Snavely, Joshua Stahl, Thomas Staker, Logan Stoltzfus, Braedon Thomas, Camryn Williams, Sarah Yost, Dylan Zimmerman, Riley Zimmerman

Jane,

Happy Birthday. Enjoy your day.

Thanks for all you do for us.

Love, Hugs, Kisses
Your Family

Love recognizes no barriers.
It jumps hurdles, leaps fences,
penetrates walls to arrive
at its destination full of hope.

~Maya Angelou

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GENEALOGY

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Column No. 688/April 17, 2013

History Of Schuylkill County - By Bob Espinosa

Another of my finds online is the book titled, “History of Schuylkill County, Pa.” by Munsell (1881). I looked in the book for all references to the surname Keefer plus various spellings.

The First reference comes on page 76 and it refers to State Senators. It reads: “State Senators (Schuylkill and Berks one district 1812-15; Schuylkill and Columbia, 1836-43; Schuylkill, Carbon, Monroe and Pike, 1844-49; Schuylkill, 1850-74; and since then two districts). Oliver P. Bechtel, 1874; Luther R. Keefer, 1877.”

The second reference is on page 140 and is of Henry I. Keefer in Company B of the Ninety Sixth Regiment established in Pottsville by Col. Henry L. Cake in 1861. It only lists his name in a roster. On page 143, there seems to be another listing for this same soldier, though it shows his middle initial differently. This time H. J. Keefer, Co. B is one of the killed; probably in the battle at Chancellorsville from the 5th to the 16th of May 1864.

Next is a reference on page 215 to a Township named Pitman which “Contains a post-office and store kept by a man named Hass, an Old Fellow’s hall, shoe and clear cigar shops, one blacksmith shop, a church building belonging to the Weinbrennarians, and thirteen dwellings houses. The settlement was formerly known as Zimmermanstown after an early settler. Its present title was given to it when the post office was established. Statistics: the Township contained in 1860, 943 inhabitants: In 1879, 968; and in 1880, 1,159. In 1870 its agricultural statistics showed 6,879 acres of improved land, farms and farming implements valued at \$403,750; livestock to the value of \$56,614, and farm products valued at \$145, 300. The school districts in 1880 were five in number; building five, condition poor. The township officers for 1880 were: Supervisor John D. Hepler, Jess Geist, Simon Helper; town clerk George H. Neisenger; auditors, Augusts Weizel, Lewis Bensinger, B. H. Hass; treasurer, Frank Kehler; Justices, E. H. Wetzel, M. Keefer.”

On page 248, there is a reference to an Andrew Keefer, who was superintendent of a Sunday school at the Evangelical Church in Cressona in 1855 and 1856. On the next page 249, there is a reference to a Sunday school at the Lutheran and Reformed Church, which was organized, with L. R. Keefer superintendent.

Next, on page 250, under the Secret Society information, it mentions that the Cressona Lodge, No. 426, A.Y.M. was instituted November 5, 1868, in Thomas’s Hall. The charter members and first officers included Luther R. Keefer, George E. Juebler, W. D. Darcas, Lucian Miller, and Aaron Miller. Successive presiding officers also included L. R. Keefer who was listed as treasurer.

On page 254 under the St. Matthews’s Evangelical Lutheran Church history it mentions, “The original members numbered twenty-nine. Of these Andrew Keefer more than any other man was the father of the English movement.” He was the first superintendent of the Sunday school.

On page 255 is mentioned the Page Lodge, No. 270, Free and Accepted Masons, which was constituted and instituted June 7, 1853. Two of the Masters listed were John B. Keefer and F. D. Sterner. I included the Sterner name because of a theory that the “Sterner” name I’m searching for may be “Sterner” or possibly another spelling. There are a number of Sterner’s listed in this book.

There is one listing for a Keifer on page 310: April 1, 1867, in partnership with Mr. Keifer, Mr. Weissinger opened a market in Schuylkill Haven.

There are a few Keifers listed on page 324 in Porter Township, “In 1803 one Daniel Green, of Reading, Pa., wandering into this boundless expanse of timber located on the top of Broad Mountain, and built the first house, a log one, which afterward became known as the Keiffer Tavern Stand. In 1805, becoming disgusted with his venture, Green sold out to one Christian Bartsche, who the next year sold to Joseph Keffer. Keffer continued in possession until about 1830, when he removed to Milton, Pa.

The Keiffer Tavern, being situated on the road running from Tulpehocken, in Berks County, to Sunbury, in Northumberland County, became a landmark known of all men.

It was the rendezvous of teamsters, cattle drovers, and country produce dealers generally. During the war of 1812, or rather what was then called the Baltimore War, it was the hiding place of drafted men. The sawmill at the back of the tavern was their retreat.

The Keffer Tavern, after Joseph Keffer left it, was occupied continuously as a tavern until 1880, when it was destroyed by fire. Emanuel Jenkin resided there at the time of the fire. The sawmill still stands, but is in a dilapidated condition.”

On page 343 there is some historical information on roads, “The first road leading into Fox’s Valley connected with the Reading and Sunbury road at the house of Emanuel Jenkins (later Keffer’s Tavern) and passed between Tremont and Donaldson, and through the township to Pottsville. This road was never surveyed. It was the first used as a log and shingle road, and was extended as necessity required.

Volume XXI, Issue 3, September 2008, Page 29.

May 4 - 2013 Spring Genealogy Conference
Pa. Chapter Palatines to America

The Academic Forum on the Kutztown University Campus, Kutztown, Pa. Registration: 8:30 a.m., Conference: 9:15 a.m. to 3 p.m. Vendors will remain open; 3:30 p.m., optional tour of the Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center.

Conference fee includes morning refreshments and hot buffet luncheon. Conference speakers: Lawrence Medaglia, Register of Wills for Berks Co., Pa., will discuss “Researching Early Wills.” James C. Landis, genealogist and historian, will discuss “Understanding Deeds for Genealogical Research.” Gerald H. Smith CG, genealogist, will discuss “Quarter Sessions Records in Genealogical Research.”

Pre-registration required before April 24, 2013. Registration form is available at <http://www.palam.org/pennsylvania-palam-chapter.php>. E-mail: PaChapter_palam@verizon.net.

Church

Evangelical United Methodist Church
Middletown

Welcome all. May God’s light shine upon us as we gather to worship. May the brilliance of his light and his wisdom fill us. May it be a lamp to our feet and a light to our path.

Evangelical Church meets on the corner of Spruce and Water streets at 157 E. Water St., Middletown, south of Main St. behind the Turkey Hill convenience store.

The ministries scheduled at Evangelical United Methodist Church from April 10-16 are always open to everyone.

Wed., April 17: 10 a.m., Spring Bible Study; 6:30 p.m., Senior Choir rehearsals.

Thurs., April 18: 5:30 p.m., Girl Scouts meeting; 7 p.m., Spring Bible Study.

Sun., April 21: 9 a.m., Sunday Church school, with classes for all ages. Adult Sunday school devotional leader for April: Bill Harris; 10:15 a.m., worship service. The worship center is handicap and wheelchair accessible. Greeters: Robert Miller, Paul and Lalitha Alexander. Nursery Helpers: Deb Lidle, Joyce Moyer. The altar flowers are given in memory of sons Jeffrey and Chad Derr, father James Derr, and parents Lester and Martha Bowman presented by Sylvia Derr and daughter Laura Richards.

Mon., April 22: 4:30 p.m., Community dinner at Church of God. Meal will be turkey.

Tues., April 23: 5:30 p.m., Girl Scouts meeting; 6:30 p.m., United Methodist Men’s dinner and meeting.

Open Door Bible Church
Middletown

“I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: For whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ. (Philippians 3:8).

Open Door Bible Church, located at 200 Nissley Drive, Middletown, invites you to worship Jesus Christ with us this week.

Our April 21 Sunday worship service commences at 10:40 a.m. with a 9:30 a.m. Sunday school hour with classes for all ages. Children from

ages 4 to second grade are welcome to participate in Junior Church during the morning worship service. We also welcome you to join us at our 6:30 p.m. service. Childcare is provided for children under age 4 during all services and classes.

Wed., April 17: 7 p.m., Patch the Pirate Clubs for ages 4 through grade 6, and Prayer meeting.

For more information call the church office at 939-5180 or visit us online at www.odbcpa.org. Better yet, come worship with us in person.

First Church of God
Middletown

First Church of God, 245 W. High Street, Middletown, invites you to join us for worship at 8 a.m. and 10:30 a.m. this Sunday. Childcare is provided. Sunday school for all ages begins at 9:15 a.m. Classes for special education are also available.

Sunday mornings at 9:15 a.m. classes are available for Youth (grades 6-12), FROG Pond (kindergarten through 5th grade), Nursery (infants-age 3), and Adult classes, which offer a variety of Bible studies and electives.

Sundays: A Collective Service at 6 p.m., with dinner at 5:15 p.m. In April we are studying the Sermon on the Mount. We will explore the concepts of humanism, authority and how to dress better than the flowers. Come explore and discuss with us. You are not alone in your faith, your doubts and your desires.

Wednesdays: Wednesday Night Live: Come join us for supper at 5:30 p.m. (no charge, donations accepted). Wednesday Night Live classes for everyone, birth to 100, begin at 6:30 p.m. Winter class lineup: The Gospel of John; The Essential Jesus Class; Contemporary Culture Class; Craft/Quilting Class; Parenting Class; Youth group (Grades 6 thru 12), Children’s classes for Grades 4 and 5; Grades 1

New Beginnings Church
Middletown

New Beginnings Church invites you to worship with us each Sunday at 10:30 a.m. Nursery and children’s church provided. Our congregation meets at Riverside Chapel, 630 S. Union St., Middletown, next to the Rescue Hose Company. Sunday school for all ages is at 9 a.m. We are handicap accessible via ramp at the back door. For additional church information call 944-9595.

Nonperishable food items are collected every Sunday for the Middletown Food Bank.

Followers of Faith Bible Study meets every Monday at 10 a.m.; Intercessory Prayer Group is held every Thursday at 7 p.m.; The Craft Group meets every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m.; Youth Fellowship meets Sundays from 5 to 7 p.m.

Our Sunday worship service will be broadcast on the MAHS radio station WMSS 91.1 FM at 3 p.m. every Sunday afternoon. Listen on the radio or the Internet at www.pennlive.com/wmss/audio.

Our Youth Fellowship will be “Putting Feet To Their Faith” on Sunday afternoon April 28 assisting our church members with small jobs they need done. They will also be participating in the Middletown CROP Walk on Sun., May 5.

Acolyte for April is Colin Graham. Children’s Church leader is Michelle Strohecker.

Pastor Britt’s parting words each Sunday: “Nothing in this world is more important than the love of Jesus Christ.” We invite you to come and experience this love.

Presbyterian Congregation of Middletown
Middletown

The Presbyterian Congregation is a body of Christian people who reach out to others by sharing God’s word, love and fellowship. Join us for worship on April 21, at 10:30 a.m., the Fourth Sunday in this Easter Season. To assist you during worship there are Blue Listening bags for children in the back of the sanctuary, filled with a variety of worksheets for children. Leave the bag on the pew when you leave. Hearing devices are also available from the sound technician for those who wish to use them. The sanctuary is also handicap accessible from the Water Street side ramp. Visitors are most welcome and expected.

From 9:15 to 10:15 a.m., there is Church school for children in the Morrow Room, teens in the Teen Room and adults in Fellowship Hall.

The adults are doing a Bible Study on Genesis led by Phil Susemihl and Pastor Don Potter. The study is using “Genesis from Scratch” by Don Griggs and Eugene Marsh. Come even if you don’t read the book.

Sun., April 21: The Presbyterian Youth Connection is going to the Ronald McDonald House.

Tues., April 25: 1:30 p.m., The Afternoon Book Club invites you to read “A Higher Call” by Adam Makos. Discussion will be at the home of Joe Mater.

Parents are reminded to register their children or teens for summer camping at Krislund. Camp brochures are available at the church on the bulletin board near the Morrow Room.

Mon., April 22: 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., Community dinner at the Church of God, Middletown. Menu is turkey.

For further information go online to www.pcndt.org, www.facebook.com/PresbyterianCongregation, or call the church office at 717-944-4322.

Special Events at St. Ann Church

St. Ann Byzantine Catholic Church, 5408 Locust Lane, Harrisburg is sponsoring a halupki (stuffed cabbage) dinner on Wed., April 24 at 4:30 p.m. until sold out. Dinner includes halupki, potatoes, another vegetable, and beverages. Takeouts are available. For more information call 350-8866.

The meal is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus #15107, which is involved in projects at St. Ann Church and in the community.

The Knights of Columbus is sponsoring the Our Lady of Guadalupe Icon that is traveling from California. This icon will be at St. Ann Church on June 16, 17, and 18. Times and devotions will be announced.



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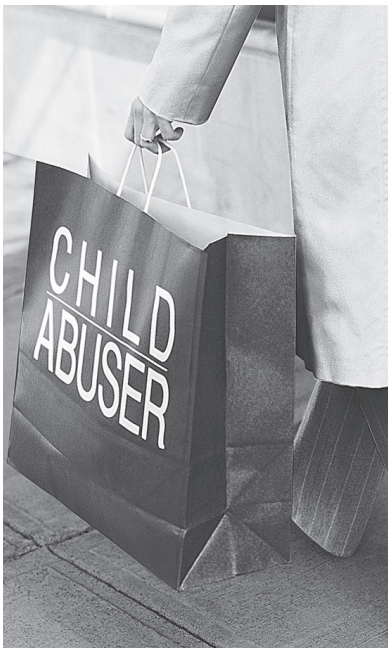


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CHURCH DIRECTORY

Calvary Orthodox Presbyterian Church 10 Spruce Street • 944-5835 Sunday School - 9 am • Morning Worship 10:15 am Evening Worship - 6 pm www.calvaryopc.com	Glad Tidings Assembly of God Route 283 @ N. Union Street, Middletown Phone 944-1042 REV. JOHN LANZA, Sr. Pastor REV. ANDREW JORDAN, Student Ministries Pastor REV. BEN GRENIER, Children’s Pastor Sunday School - 9:30 am • Worship - 10:30 am Small Groups - Various Locations Wednesday Family Night - 7 pm Wednesday AXIS Student Ministries - 7 pm www.gtagpa.org
Ebenezer United Methodist Church “Love God, Love People, Make Disciples” 890 Ebenezer Road, Middletown (Corner of 441 & Ebenezer Road) Phone 939-0766 8:30 am - A Spirited Traditional Service of Worship 9:45 am - A Time for Education and Spiritual Nurture (Children, Youth, Adults) 10:45 am - A Second Worship Service in a Contemporary Style Christian Child Care - 985-1650 REV. JOHN OVERMAN, Pastor www.ebenezerumc.net	New Beginnings Church at the Riverside Chapel 630 South Union St., Middletown Sunday School - 9 am • Worship Service - 10:30 am Pastor Britt Strohecker <i>Everyone Is Welcome!</i>
Evangelical United Methodist Church Spruce & Water Sts., Middletown REV. ROBERT GRAYBILL, Pastor Sunday School (all ages) - 9 am Sunday Worship - 10:15 am	Open Door Bible Church 200 Nissley Drive, Middletown, PA (Located In Lower Swatara Township) Pastor JONATHAN E. TILLMAN Phone 939-5180 Sunday School - 9:30 am • Morning Worship - 10:40 am Evening Worship - 6:30 pm Wednesday Prayer Service - 7 pm
First Church of God 235 W. High St., Middletown REV. KIMBERLY SHIFLER, Pastor 944-9608 Sunday School - 9:15 am • Worship Services - 8 & 10:30 am Classes for Special Education (Sunday Morning & Thursday Evening) Ample Parking Nursery Provided	Presbyterian Congregation of Middletown Union & Water Sts., Middletown • 944-4322 Church School - 9:15 am • Worship - 10:30 am
List Your Church Service Here Contact the Press and Journal 20 S. Union Street, Middletown E-mail: info@pressandjournal.com Web site: www.pressandjournal.com Call 944-4628 for more information.	St. Peter’s Evangelical Lutheran Church Spring & Union Sts., Middletown Church Office 944-4651 REV. DR. J. RICHARD ECKERT, Pastor Saturday Worship With Spoken Liturgy - 5 pm Sunday Worship - 8:15 & 11 am • Sunday School - 9:45 am Worship Broadcast on 93.1 FM - 11 am



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File photo

Tuesday's major drill at Three Mile Island will be evaluated by the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

Major TMI drill involves counties, schools, municipalities

By Noelle Barrett
Press And Journal Staff

Three Mile Island conducted an emergency preparedness exercise involving off-site agencies in a 10-mile radius on Tuesday, April 16. While TMI routinely holds drills throughout the year, this drill involving school districts, municipalities, counties, the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and state police is done every two years to test the effectiveness of the plans set in place to deal with emergencies, said Ralph DeSantis, spokesman for TMI.

“What makes it unique from some of the others (drills) we do

is it’s going to involve not just TMI, but it’s going to involve five counties around TMI, 36 separate municipalities, and a dozen school districts,” said DeSantis.

TMI is evaluated by the Nuclear Regulatory Committee, while off-site agencies are graded by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), based on their ability to respond quickly and effectively to a real plant emergency.

DeSantis couldn’t reveal the topic of the emergency scenario, but said it would involve “more law enforcement than normal.”

“All of this is to demonstrate how we can protect the health and safety of the public in the event of an emer-

gency at TMI,” said DeSantis.

The drill helps emergency responders, gives people important training and feedback on how they do, and establishes a communication link.

“Communication is a key to emergency plans,” said DeSantis. “These plans can also be used for non-TMI events – chemical spills, weather events, and other types of emergencies.”

Off-site emergency sirens were not used during the simulation, although residents may have noticed an increased amount of emergency vehicles on-site.

Noelle Barrett: 717-944-4628, or noellebarrett@pressandjournal.com



Photo by Phil Palanzo

From left, Pam Vesce, RMHC of Central PA's Volunteer Coordinator, Bill Gaudette, Ann Mahalik, Ronald McDonald Family Room Coordinator, and Nicole Gaudette, Bill's granddaughter.

RACE

Continued From Page One

with a good time ... we had it all planned out.”

From exercising at the gym and running outside to Pilates, Gaudette made sure he was ready for the race. “I ran everyday two to four miles,” he said. “I think most people could do it if they tried.”

Running isn’t new to him. Since he was young, Gaudette enjoyed a lot of sports, especially boxing. As a paratrooper in the Army, Gaudette stayed in shape.

He enjoys being active. “Primarily I run for enjoyment,” he said. “I like to fish, I like to hunt, and I like to go to the gym.”

But more importantly to Gaudette, he loves to be with his family, and help others. At the Hershey 10K, he was able to do both.

In speaking to Gaudette, you could see his selfless nature shine through.

During the interview, he pauses, and diverts attention from his running accomplishment and himself.

“I don’t want to take anything away from the Ronald McDonald House because it’s important,” he insisted.

Gaudette encourages everyone to take the time to volunteer, something he describes as rewarding.

“They are always looking for volunteers,” he said. “Even if you can commit only a few hours a day, they always need help.”

That selflessness, coupled with his upbeat spirit, is one reason why he is so inspiring.

“He’s just a wonderful man,” said William. “He’s an unbelievably special person ... We couldn’t be more proud.”

So what’s next?

“I feel great,” Gaudette said with a smile after the race. “I could do another one.”

Noelle Barrett: 717-944-4628, or noellebarrett@pressandjournal.com

GUNS

Continued From Page One

Police recovered one of the stolen handguns on Friday, April 12, and obtained a search warrant for a residence in the 400 block of Swatara Street, Steelton, based on interviews with several people, said Brandt.

Three handguns and a computer were found during the search, which led to the recovery of the fifth handgun Friday evening in Highspire, police said.

The teens will be charged as juveniles, and one is currently being detained in a juvenile facility, according to a press release from the Lower Swatara police.

It is common for someone to walk down a street and “go in every car and see if it’s unlocked. If it’s locked, they move on to the next car,” he said.

In this case, the juveniles “went through a lot of cars ... quite a lot were unlocked,” Brandt added.

Having that many handguns stolen from such a small area is unusual, Brandt said.

“It was so bizarre we had so many guns taken over two nights,” said Brandt. “I’ve been doing this a long time and I can’t remember anything like this that has happened. I’m still baffled.”

Brandt said he is happy the weapons are off the street, and were recovered quickly.

“It was basically Det. (Robert) Appleby who did the investigative part ... once again, he did an excellent job,” said Brandt. “The officers did a good job initially of getting the facts and information. Patrol officers recovered the first weapon. It was a team effort and they all did an excellent job.”

But he hopes these thefts will teach a lesson.

“The best advice I can give is to lock your cars,” said Brandt. “Don’t leave anything of value in your car, and if you do, don’t leave it in sight. If you leave it unlocked, don’t expect it to be there.”

No other reports of thefts in that area have been made, but if any residents discover something stolen, they can contact Lower Swatara Twp. police at 717-939-0463 or 717-558-6900 after hours and weekends.

HAMMERED

Continued From Page One

he said.

One additional expense the municipality needs to address, in Letavic’s opinion, is the need for additional support staff.

“We are understaffed in every department,” he said, and the township’s staff is so strained that “something may fall through the cracks.”

Staff will be compiling a list of additional staffing needs by mid-April for the supervisors to consider, he said, and the additional personnel should be within the constraints of the township’s 2013 budget.

In other township news, the township has requested bids for the demolition of 10 township properties along Swatara Creek Road that were damaged in Tropical Storm Lee in 2011, borough engineer Andrew Kenworthy confirmed.

The demolitions are part of the town-

ship’s participation in the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program, a program in which the state and federal government provides funds for municipalities to purchase flood-damaged properties, demolish them, and maintain the land as open space.

The township has completed all the necessary steps to purchase nine of the 10 homes, according to township solicitor Peter Henninger, and is working out issues involved with purchasing the 10th home.

If those issues are not resolved quickly, the township will not allow them to hold up the demolition of the other nine homes, Henninger said.

The supervisors also approved an extension for plans of Phase I of the Lytle Farm Development, a planned development of over 1,600 homes, until July 9.

Daniel Walmer: 717-944-4628, or danielwalmer@pressandjournal.com

BOARD

Continued From Page One

President Todd Kreiser urged the other seven board members to run for seats in the future, and added that he had been in their position before.

“A number of us sat through that process,” Kreiser said. “I didn’t make it that way. I had to run.”

Superintendent Sherri Smith said this was the first time the board’s decision was definitive, without discussion, but said any of the eight residents would have been great board members.

“I couldn’t have asked for more dedicated community members,” Smith said. “It’s why I adore this district and community.”

Samples took his seat on the board for the remainder of the meeting.

“I’m honored because this is home for me,” said Samples. “I’m happy to be a part of it and to help the students and communities.”

The other seven candidates included:

- Astrid Berry, a social worker with NHS Human Services
- Greg Czarnecki, executive director of the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) Wild Resource Conservation Program, adjunct professor at Lebanon Valley College, and freelance writer/photographer
- Oliver Dreon, a professor at Millersville University
- James Malone, a private practice medical doctor
- Kevin Busher, director of government affairs at Pennsylvania State Nurses Association
- Eric Fogel, a teacher in the Central Dauphin School District
- Kerrin Lutz, an office manager at Oak Park Cabinetry.

Noelle Barrett: 717-944-4628, or noellebarrett@pressandjournal.com

Town Topics



News & happenings for Middletown and surrounding areas.

All-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner

An all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner, benefiting the Middletown Area High School softball team, will be held at the Main Street Gym, 32 W. Main St., Middletown, from 4 to 7 p.m. on Saturday, April 20.

See any player for tickets or call Dawn at 717-329-7267.

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Kids Trout Derby

Sportmen Limited presents its 20th anniversary Kids Trout Derby on Saturday, April 20 at the Middletown Reservoir, Roundtop Road, Middletown. Registration from 7:30 to 10 a.m. Fishing ends at 11 a.m.

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Middletown Area Historical Society meeting

The Middletown Area Historical Society will hold its monthly meeting at 7:30 p.m. on Monday, April 22 at Riverside Chapel, 630 S. Union St., Middletown.

.....

Arbor Day celebration

The 21st annual Highspire Arbor Day Celebration will be held at 4 p.m. on Sunday, April 21 at the Highspire Borough Office, 640 Eshelman St., Highspire.

For more information or directions, readers may call the borough office at 717-939-3303.

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Sportsmen's flea market

The Highspire Boat Club will hold a Sportsmen’s Flea Market from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, May 18. Vendors are needed. For more information, readers may visit www.highspireboatclub.com or e-mail webmaster@highspireboatclub.com.

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Mother/Daughter tea

PAWS Tea 2013 will be held on Sunday, May 5 at the Hershey Pantry, 801 E. Chocolate Ave., Hershey. Seating will be at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. Reservations required. RSVP by Friday, April 26 to 717-957-8122, mailbox #5 or e-mail tea@pawsofpa.org.

.....

“Dramapalooza” set at Lower Dauphin

Lower Dauphin High School’s drama club will celebrate its second annual “Dramapalooza,” a night of student-directed one-act plays, at 7 p.m. Thursday, April 25 in the school auditorium.

General admission is \$3 per person.

ROYALTON

Market St. parking limited

By Noelle Barrett
Press And Journal Staff

Royalton residents will no longer be permitted to park vehicles along marked areas of Market Street.

Borough Council has approved an ordinance 6-0 to prohibit parking “at all times in certain locations.” Council members Joyce Vigilante and Carl Hrescak were absent.

In February, council members determined there wasn’t enough space for larger vehicles to access the street during emergency situations, and asked borough solicitor Steven Miner to draft the ordinance.

Signs will be posted designating the no parking zones.

Council President Tildon Sides said with the no parking zones, there is still sufficient parking, including driveways at residents’ homes.

Spring

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MIDDLETOWN BASEBALL

Raiders salvage bad week with 2-0 win over Hershey

By Larry Etter
Press And Journal Staff

Middletown Coach Mike Carnes was not having a good week. Some minor situations in his personal life, dealing with some difficulties at his job as assistant principal at the high school, and a pair of baseball losses had Carnes looking for some positives in a trying week.

A terrific victory over Hershey by his youthful baseball team on Thursday, April 11 turned out to be just the positive needed to lift his spirits.

Smiling broadly following Middletown's 2-0 triumph over the Trojans, Carnes felt much better. "That was a great win for us," he said, reflecting on the efforts of his squad, now 4-4.

Carnes starts just two seniors in his game-day lineup (third baseman Dylan Bower and outfielder Eddie Finsterbush) along with a couple juniors. The remainder of his starting group are sophomores.

So far, the team has played well and now has recorded wins over Susquehanna Twp., Palmyra, Mechanicsburg and Hershey.

"We're not hitting very well, but our pitching and defense has been really good," Carnes said.

The Blue Raiders will be tested during the next two weeks, however, with six games scheduled during a 10-day span.

Middletown 2, Hershey 0

Sophomore righthander Nathan Ocker drew the start against Hershey and pitching ace Zach Drayer at the breezy Middletown sports complex. And the two did not disappoint, as they staged a very good pitching duel throughout the Keystone Division contest.

Although Drayer struck out 11 Middletown batters and yielded just two hits, Ocker nearly matched those numbers with 7 strikeouts while also allowing just a pair of Trojan hits in the victory.

Along the way the Raiders manufactured the only two runs of the game.

Following a hitless first inning—both Ocker and Drayer set down their opponents in order—the Trojans put the first two batters on base on an error and bloop single to start the second. But catcher Cody Fox threw out Eric Marrero on a steal attempt at third, and then did the same to Vinny Pasquini at second following Ocker's strikeout of Zach Warren, ending the threat.

The Raiders went down in order in the bottom of the second and third frames, as did the Trojans in the third and fourth.

With two outs in the home half of the fourth inning, Middletown's Jordan Flowers singled and stole second to set up the game's first run. Flowers scored from second when Nick Drawbaugh was safe on an error, giving the Raiders a 1-0 lead.

With solid defensive work behind him,

Ocker limited the Trojans to one hit and a walk through the fifth and sixth frames as the Raiders held on to their lead.

In the bottom of the sixth, the Raiders picked up an insurance run. Fox led off with a walk and was moved to second on a sacrifice bunt by Kyle Finsterbush. After advancing to third on a wild pitch, Fox raced home on a clutch sacrifice fly by Flowers.

With the 2-0 lead in their hands, the Raiders needed just three more outs in the top of the seventh to lock down the win. Ocker was still in command of his pitches, and Bower, the third baseman, made a great stop on a hot grounder by Kevin Kremer—and first baseman Drawbaugh made an important scoop of his throw—to get Hershey's leadoff batter.

Marrero took a called third strike for out No. 2 and Ocker induced a soft grounder back to the mound for an easy toss to first to ice the big victory.

Shippensburg 3, Middletown 0

The Raiders hosted non-divisional opponent Shippensburg at home on Monday, April 8. Heading into the game Carnes was not sure how his team would fare against the Greyhounds, who are having a good season. Following the loss, Carnes was disappointed with the outcome.

Please See RAIDERS, Page B2



Photo by Jodi Ocker

Middletown third baseman Dylan Bower (2) and pitcher Nathan Ocker (10) celebrate on the mound after the Raiders beat Hershey, 2-0. Bower's defense and Ocker's pitching—only two hits and 7 strikeouts—stifled the Trojans.

MIDDLETOWN SOFTBALL

ANOTHER COMEBACK

Raiders score 7 in third, vanquish Crusaders, 12-8

By Daniel Walmer
Press And Journal Staff

For most high school softball teams, an early 5-0 deficit would be daunting to overcome. But Middletown Coach Mike Thomas knew his team had Keystone Division rival Bishop McDevitt right where they wanted them.

"I have confidence in these kids," Thomas said. "They really should be called the Comeback Kids."

Thomas's confidence was well founded. The Raiders (2-3) stormed back with a 7-run third inning en route to a 12-8 victory over McDevitt on Tuesday, April 9 in Middletown.

Hungry for a win after a two-game losing streak, the afternoon did not start off the way Middletown would have liked.

The Crusaders (2-4) opened the scoring with a run in the top of the first, then really got their offense into gear in the second inning.

After a walk, a throwing error on a grounder and a stolen base put Crusaders on second and third with one out, a pitch got away from catcher Emily

Mattes, scoring pinch runner Emily Breski. McDevitt's Michelle Rohrer then scored from second on another throwing error.

Bishop McDevitt had scored two runs in the inning without a solid hit—but Abby Marzzacco ended that trend by blasting a triple to right-center field, knocking in another run and giving the Crusaders a 4-0 lead. Bishop McDevitt tacked on another run in the third to pad the lead to 5-0.

Meanwhile, Middletown had threatened in the first two innings—runners at first and third with no outs in the first and runners at first and second with no outs in the second—but came away empty. Still, Thomas was encouraged that his team was hitting the ball well.

"I knew, at some point, we were going to make a comeback," he said.

The floodgates opened for Middletown in the bottom of the third stanza.

The table-setters at the top of the lineup started the rally as Halle Marion hit an infield single and Ava Mrakovich drew a walk. The hits just kept com-



Photo by Don Graham

Middletown's Halle Marion slides safely into second base during a victory over Bishop McDevitt

ing: An Emilee Ernst grounder found a hole to score Marion, a line shot to center by Mattes scored Mrakovich, and pitcher Sarah Gossard hit an infield single to load the bases.

The Crusaders tried to stop the bleeding by throwing home on a Michaela Shaver grounder, but an errant throw allowed both Ernst and Mattes to score and cut the Bishop McDevitt lead to 5-4.

The Raiders weren't through: Carlie Wolfe belted a triple to deep center field, bringing home Gossard and Shaver and putting the Raiders in the lead to stay, 6-5. A Rachel Applegate bloop single to right scored Wolfe, giving Middletown a 7-5 lead after three innings.

After Gossard sent the Crusaders down in order in the top of the fourth, Middletown kept its momentum going in the bottom half of the inning. Ernst led off the inning with a single to center and reached second on a Mattes bloop single to right. Gossard then grounded a single to right, scoring Ernst, and another hit by Wolfe scored Mattes. Gossard would score on a groundout to cap the rally and give the Raiders

a 10-5 lead.

Middletown would tack on another run in the home half of the fifth on an Ernst RBI single that scored Marion, boosting the lead to 11-5.

Bishop McDevitt wasn't done fighting, however. With two on and two out in the top of the sixth, the Crusaders' Marzzacco grounded back to Marion, but a throwing error scored Elizabeth Noss and Megan Hartwell. Marzzacco would score on a double to cut the lead to 11-8.

But Crusaders' pitching just could not stop the irrepressible Middletown offense.

In the bottom of the sixth, Shaver socked a triple that bounced up to the right field wall. She scored on a Wolfe sacrifice fly.

Gossard retired three of four Crusaders in the top of the seventh to secure the win.

To Thomas, the prolific offensive showing is a result of hard work paying off.

"We've been really, really practicing hitting," he said. "The hitting has definitely come along."

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RAIDERS

Continued From Page One

“That was a winnable game for us, but we just couldn’t come up with the hits to do it,” he said. “We’re only batting .209 as a team and that hurt us.”

Despite a pretty good pitching effort from Drawbaugh, who threw six innings, the visitors were able to produce all three of their runs in the first two innings, enough to hold on for the win.

Drawbaugh scattered 7 hits during his stint on the mound but was able to hold the Greyhounds to the three runs. He recorded 7 strikeouts in the game.

Drawbaugh got into a bit of trouble right from the start as Shippensburg loaded the bases on an error, a single and a walk with no outs. A one-out fielder’s choice pushed in the first run before Drawbaugh ended the inning with his second strikeout.

In the bottom of the first, Middletown’s Zach Sims ripped a two-out double to left but overran the bag and was picked off trying to get back, ending the early Raider threat.

In the second inning, the Greyhounds parlayed a leadoff double and a pair of singles into a 3-0 lead. Shippensburg threatened to pad its lead in the third and fourth innings but Drawbaugh and the defense prohibited further damage.

After Fox came on in relief in the top of the seventh and kept the score unchanged, the Raiders tried to rally in the bottom of the final frame. Sims led off with an infield single, made it to second on a passed ball and went



Middletown’s Jordan Flowers takes a lead off first base after hitting a fourth-inning single against Hershey. Flowers stole second and scored the Raiders’ first run in the 2-0 victory over the Trojans.

to third on a one-out hit by Flowers. With two outs, Middletown’s Ethan Kell walked to load the bases, but the rally died on Fox’s groundout.

Bishop McDevitt 4 Middletown 2

On Tuesday, April 9 at Penbrook, the host Bishop McDevitt Crusaders scored two runs in the bottom of the first inning and two more in the home half of the third to post a 4-0 lead over the Raiders.

The Middletown nine came back with a pair of runs in the top of the fifth and threatened in the sixth and seventh innings but could not come

up with the clutch hits needed to pull out a win.

Sims took the hard-luck loss despite fanning 7 McDevitt batters. He also yielded 7 hits in his six innings of work.

McDevitt’s Noah Spangler drove in the first runs with a 2-run single with two outs in the bottom of the first to stake the hosts to the early lead. A pair of singles and a Middletown error in the third led to the other two McDevitt runs.

Trailing 4-0 in the top of the fifth inning, the Raiders finally got the offense moving. Bower led off the frame with a double down the left field line. After Kyle Finsterbush singled and moved Bower to third, Ryan Popp’s one-out fielder’s choice drove in Bower for the first run. Flowers knocked in Finsterbush for the second run.

With two outs, Drawbaugh singled and Sims walked to load the bases. But Spangler struck out Ocker to stop the Raiders from adding more runs.

After three straight singles loaded the bases with Crusaders in the bottom of the fifth, Sims pitched his way out of trouble, inducing a double-play grounder and getting another groundout to turn back the McDevitt threat.

The Raiders put a pair of runners on base off a McDevitt error and single by Fox in the top of the sixth, but again the Middletown nine was denied.

And in the top of the seventh, a pair of walks again gave the Raiders another opportunity to extend the game. But a fielder’s choice force-out at second closed out the win for McDevitt.

Larry Etter can be reached at larryetter66@gmail.com



Middletown’s Cody Fox scores an insurance run against Hershey. Fox, the Raider catcher, also threw out two Trojan baserunners on attempted steals in Middletown’s victory.

COLLEGE BASEBALL

12 IN A ROW

Lions sweep SUNYIT, thump Bible and edge E-town

By Tom Klemick
For The Press And Journal

Penn State Harrisburg’s Travis Crammer and Brian Balshy hit home runs as the Lions swept a doubleheader from SUNYIT, 7-1 and 4-1 on Sunday, April 14 in Middletown.

The sweep extended the Lions’ winning streak to 12.

The Blue and White (18-9, 7-0 in the North Eastern Athletic Conference) started the day strong and were in control the entire afternoon. Pitcher Dustin Rutt threw a complete game, giving up only four hits.

Offensively, the Lions got started early, scoring 4 runs in the first inning. The top of the order wasted no time putting the ball in play and brining in base runners.

Balshy kept things going in the second inning with a 2-run homer, his fifth of the season.

Crammer also continues to smash the ball and notched his seventh HR of the year in the bottom of the fourth inning, a huge shot over the left field wall.

The Lions’ defensive effort kept the Wildcats (8-13, 2-5) off the scoreboard until the top of the seventh when they gave up a charity run to the visitors.

Sophomore Will Chaney took the mound in game two and, according to him, he “couldn’t find” his curve. Still, he threw a complete game, struck out five Wildcats and won his third win of the year.

The Lion hitters got another early lead, scoring one run in the second, two in the third, and their final run in the fourth inning. Big hitters for game two were Colton Houseal, who went 2-for-4, and John Cataldo, who hit two singles, scored a run, and drove in a run.

Lions 2-8 Lancaster Bible 1-3

Lion pitchers Clint Hicks and Jim Klingerman threw complete games to sweep Lancaster Bible (5-16, 1-5) on Saturday, April 13 in Middletown.

The first game of the doubleheader was truly a pitching and defensive battle. Hicks gave up only six hits in his seven innings, getting the win. Rutt was hit by a pitch and stole two bases before scoring the first run of the game on a throwing error. Crammer had the game’s only RBI in the fifth inning.

Penn State Harrisburg’s bats came alive in game two.

Lions 7, Elizabethtown 6

It was the scenario of which every



Photo by Bill Darrah

Penn State Harrisburg’s Travis Crammer turns the double play in a victory over Elizabethtown. Crammer’s bat helped the Lions extend their winning streak to 12 games.

baseball player dreams. Scored tied. Bottom of the ninth inning. Bases loaded. Into this ideal scenario stepped Penn State Harrisburg’s Rutt.

Elizabethtown had just overcome a two-run deficit and tied the score at 6-6 in the top half of the final inning in a game Wednesday, April 10 in Middletown. The Blue Jays had seemingly swung the momentum back in their favor and now needed just three outs to extend the game.

Then Rutt swung.

The Harrisburg sophomore turned on a Josh Sollenberger pitch and put the ball through a hole on the right side of the infield. Dalton Trolinger trotted down the third base line as his Blue and White teammates mobbed him at home plate.

The Lions led, 6-4, when the Blue Jays put together a last-chance rally in the top of the ninth. Mike Stobbe reached base on an error and Dillon Tagle walked. Sean Jones ensuing single cut the deficit in half when Stobbe scored and a wild pitch advanced Jones and Tagle to second and third. Parke Martin’s RBI single up the middle tied the game, but Penn State Harrisburg reliever Tom Chaney got Ian Smith to line out to Baker in left and gave his offense a chance in the bottom half of the inning.

Trolinger got things started with a single to center and Crammer followed him up with a single to left field. Houseal laid down a bunt that

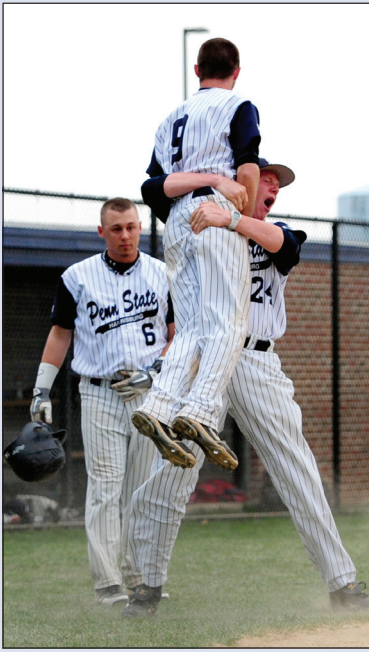


Photo by John Diffenderfer

Penn State Harrisburg’s Dalton Trolinger (9) is hoisted into the air by teammate Will Chaney (24) after Trolinger scored the winning run in a 7-6 victory over Elizabethtown.

was fielded by Sollenberger but no Elizabethtown fielder covered first base. With the bases full, Rutt stepped into the box and worked a 2-0 count.

One swing later and the Lions were victorious.

STANDINGS

BOWLING
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200 games				
No. Name	Games			Series
1 Sherry Enterline	204			
2 Theresa Green	211			

550 series				
1 Sherry Enterline	204	189	164	557

Lower Paxton Golden Age - ABC East

Senior Men Games over 240				
No. Name	Games			Series
1 Henry Solt	258			
2 Woody Wagner	268			

Senior Women Games over 200				
1 Shirley Shatto	210	223		
2 Judy Souders	212			
3 Colette Wagner	213			

Senior Men Series over 600				
1 John Campbell	200	199	205	604
2 Mel Davis	192	206	218	616
3 Paul Fasolt Jr	223	236	174	633
4 Henry Solt	182	199	258	639
5 Cork Speraw	238	202	182	622
6 Woody Wagner	268	205	225	698

Senior Women Series over 550				
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COLLEGE SOFTBALL

Surging Lions win 7 of last 8

By Tom Klemick
For The Press And Journal

After falling to North Eastern Athletic Conference foe St. Elizabeth 6-2 in the opening game of a doubleheader on Sunday, April 14, Penn State Harrisburg used a big first inning and big last inning to win the finale 10-6 in Middletown.

In the first game, the Screaming Eagles got home runs from Madellyn Rodriguez and Kelly O'Dell and the Lions stranded nine runners on base. That failure to score runs at opportune moments spelled doom for the home team.

Penn State Harrisburg (9-17, 4-6 in the NEAC) got a run in the bottom of the first when sophomore Erika Love singled to centerfield, driving in fellow sophomore Gabrielle Wolfe.

Love picked up her second RBI of game one when her sacrifice fly to centerfield plated senior Kara Boyd in the bottom of the third.

Wolfe went all seven innings inside the circle, giving up 6 runs and six hits to go along with her five strikeouts.

Love was 2-for-3 with two RBIs while Wolfe went 2-for-4 with a run scored. Boyd was 1-for-3 and scored a run.

The nightcap didn't start well for the Blue and White. St. Elizabeth (7-8, 2-7) got 4 runs in the top of the first inning thanks to three Lion errors.

The difference in the second game, however, was the Lions' ability to answer back. Wolfe led off the bottom of the first with a single and Boyd moved her to second with a single up the middle. Freshman Riele Loch singled to left field and Love drew a bases-loaded walk to get the home team on the board.

Freshman Sydney Eelman followed with a single down the left field line, driving in Boyd and Loch. Junior Alisha House singled up the middle to plate Love, and freshman Jasmine Yanich drew a bases-loaded walk to give the Lions their first lead of the day, 5-4.

Freshman Jennifer Bear worked the third bases-loaded walk of the inning, scoring senior Danielle Ringel to give Penn State Harrisburg a two-run advantage, 6-4, in the bottom of the first.

The Screaming Eagles cut the deficit in half in the top of the second when Noelle Grande launched a solo shot to left field. St. Elizabeth tied the game at 6-6 in the top of the third and the scored remained tied for the next three innings.

Then the Lions put together a two-out rally in the bottom of the sixth. Wolfe singled up the middle and Boyd reached base on a St. Elizabeth error. Wolfe scored from first on the play and the Blue and White grabbed the lead back.

Love singled through the left side two batters later, scoring Boyd and upping the advantage to 8-6. Eelman put one through the left side of the infield and Loch scored from third. Ringel capped the scoring when her base hit to center field plated sophomore Alli Trutt and made it 10-6 Penn State Harrisburg.

Boyd pitched a complete seven-inning game, allowing five hits and



Photo by Bill Darrah

Penn State Harrisburg's Riele Loch dives back into first base, beating a St. Elizabeth throw. The Lions split a doubleheader with the Screaming Eagles.

just two earned runs in addition to her nine strikeouts.

Lions 4-6, Gallaudet 1-3

Wolfe threw a complete game in the opener on Saturday, April 13 in Washington, D.C., allowing five hits and just 1 run in addition to striking out seven Gallaudet batters. She also went 3-for-4 from the plate with two doubles and two runs scored.

Penn State Harrisburg left runners on base in each of the first two innings of the first game before finally breaking through in the top of the third. Wolfe led off with a double to center field and Boyd drove her home with a triple. Loch followed with a triple that scored Boyd to make it 2-0, Lions.

Loch took advantage of a Gallaudet error and scored to give the visitors the early three-run advantage.

The Bison got one back in the bottom of the third but the Lions answered back in the top of the fourth when Wolfe doubled again and eventually scored on a wild pitch.

The score held from that point forward as Wolfe shut the door on Gallaudet's offense.

Boyd and Loch each went 1-for-4 with an RBI and a run scored. Love picked up an RBI and Ringel notched the team's seventh hit of the game.

Loch, Love and Ringel performed at the plate in the nightcap as well. Loch and Love both went 2-for-4 from the plate, each scoring an RBI.

This time it was Boyd who turned in a stout performance inside the circle. She went the distance, throwing seven innings and giving up four hits, five walks and 3 runs and recording nine strikeouts.

The Lions actually fell behind early when Gallaudet scored a lone run in the bottom of the first. It took them four innings to draw even with the home team.

Loch and Love notched back-to-back singles in the bottom of the fourth and Ringel's single to right field plated Loch and tied the score at 1-1.

Boyd worked out of a jam in the bottom of the fifth. With the bases loaded and two away, she got Gallaudet's Chelsea Lee to strike out to end the stanza and the threat.

The final inning belonged to Penn State Harrisburg.

Ringel worked a walk to start off the

top of the seventh. Senior Kat Bernardi's pinch hit double to right center field drove her in and gave the Blue and White its first lead of the game. Trutt spelled Bernardi on the base path and freshman Rachel Fisher plated her on a single to left field.

Wolfe walked and Loch singled to centerfield, bringing home Fisher and Wolfe.

Love singled through the left side and Loch scored to make it 6-1, Penn State Harrisburg.

The Bison didn't simply roll over, however, and responded with two runs in the bottom of the stanza. In the end, Boyd got Gallaudet's Rachel Sweigart to fly out to centerfield, giving the Lions the victory.

Lions 7-5, Notre Dame (Md.) 5-0

A stout relief appearance on the rubber from Boyd? Check. A fantastic outing inside the circle by Wolfe? Check. An offense that continued its recent trend of putting up crooked numbers? Check.

Those three ingredients led to two Penn State Harrisburg victories over Notre Dame of Maryland on Tuesday, April 9 in Middletown.

After the Gators scored 5 runs (two unearned) in the first two innings of game one, the Blue and White got the bats going in the bottom of the second. House reached base on an error and Bernardi drove her in with a single to centerfield.

Penn State Harrisburg got a two-out rally going when Wolfe's single to left field plated Bear and Boyd's single to right field drove in Ringel. Loch's ensuing triple cleared the bases and tied the game, 5-5.

The Lions took their first lead of the day in the bottom of the third when another Notre Dame error allowed House to score from second base.

The team's seventh run of the game was scored by Loch in the bottom of the fourth inning when the Gator catcher made an errant throw back to the pitcher.

After surrendering 3 earned runs to being the opener, Wolfe was excellent in game two. She went the distance, allowing just three hits in seven innings and striking out a season-high 12 Gators. Wolfe sat Notre Dame down 1-2-3 in three of the contest's

With regulars Evgeny Matigullin, Tyler Miller and Warriner missing singles play, several Penn State Harrisburg players moved up from their original slots while Manley Wong and Tyler Loy made their first appearances of the spring.

The Lions didn't miss a beat. Leibig moved up two spots and won the battle of each team's No. 2 man, defeating George Chacko 6-1, 6-2

while Lepore moved up from the No. 5 position to the No. 3 spot and bested Roughton.

Koltun found himself in the No. 4 slot where he topped Angel Negron 6-2, 6-3.

Wong showed no first-match jitters when he defeated Smoker 6-2, 6-2 in the No. 5 position. Loy was just as strong in his first showing, sweeping Seifrit 6-0, 6-0 at No. 6.

COLLEGE MEN'S TENNIS

Subs shine, Lions bounce Berks, 7-2

By Tom Klemick
For The Press And Journal

On the road in Reading, taking on a Penn State Berks squad that had yet to drop a North Eastern Athletic Conference match, and without the services of two of its lineup regulars, Penn State Harrisburg faced quite a challenge on Saturday, April 13.

Despite those potential roadblocks, the Lions answered the call.

The Blue and White saw some fresh faces step up and guide the Lions to a 7-2 victory over Berks.

Sophomore Zachry Warriner battled through the after-effects of illness and joined junior Vincent Lepore III to down Berks' No. 2 doubles team of Steve Roughton and Creston Smoker, 8-6.

Ben Leibig and Alex Koltun gave the Lions (10-3, 4-1 in the NEAC) a 2-1 advantage when they won the No. 3 doubles match 8-3 over Jerrad Seifrit and Jeremy Emami.

BASEBALL MID-PENN CONFERENCE Keystone Division			
W	L	OVERALL	
Lower Dauphin	4	1	6-3
Middletown	4	1	4-4
Mechanicsburg	3	2	7-3
Bishop McDevitt	3	2	5-5
Palmyra	2	3	5-3
Hershey	2	3	5-4
Susquehanna Twp.	2	3	3-5
Harrisburg	0	5	0-6

Last week's games
Shippensburg 3, Middletown 0
Bishop McDevitt 4, Middletown 2
Middletown 2, Hershey 0
Lower Dauphin 9, Mechanicsburg 6
Lower Dauphin 8, Susquehanna Twp. 2
Chambersburg 6, Lower Dauphin 5
This week's games
Thursday, April 18
Middletown at Lower Dauphin, 4 p.m.
Thursday, April 23
Middletown at Susquehanna Twp., 4 p.m.
Harrisburg at Lower Dauphin, 4 p.m.

Capital Division			OVERALL	
W	L			
West Perry	5	0	9-0	
Camp Hill	5	0	6-2	
Northern	3	1	5-2	
East Pennsboro	3	2	4-3	
Trinity	1	3	2-4	
Susquenita	1	4	2-6	
Milton Hershey	0	4	1-5	
Steelton-Highspire	0	4	1-6	

Last week's games
Steelton-Highspire 11, Bible Baptist 6
Trinity 10, Steelton-Highspire 5
Susquenita 11, Steelton-Highspire 0
This week's games
Thursday, April 18
Steelton-Highspire at Northern, 4:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 20
Lebanon Catholic at Steelton-Highspire, 4:15 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23
Steelton-Highspire at East Pennsboro, 4:30 p.m.

SOFTBALL MID-PENN CONFERENCE Keystone Division			
W	L	OVERALL	
Lower Dauphin	5	0	5-1
Mechanicsburg	1	7-2	
Palmyra	3	1	7-2
Susquehanna Twp.	2	3	4-4

STANDINGS for 4-17-13

Middletown	2	3	3-3
Harrisburg	2	3	2-4
Bishop McDevitt	1	4	2-6
Hershey	0	4	0-8

Last week's games
Middletown 12, Bishop McDevitt 8
Middletown 13, Hershey 2
This week's games
Thursday, April 18
Lower Dauphin at Middletown, 4:15 p.m.
Monday, April 22
Milton Hershey at Middletown, 4 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23
Susquehanna Twp. at Middletown, 4:15 p.m.
Lower Dauphin at Harrisburg, 4:15 p.m.

BOYS' TENNIS MID-PENN CONFERENCE Colonial Division			
W	L	OVERALL	
Camp Hill	7	0	9-0
James Buchanan	5	1	11-1
Middletown	5	3	6-4
Trinity	4	3	5-4
East Pennsboro	3	6	3-8
Bishop McDevitt	2	6	2-7
Susquenita	0	7	1-10

Last week's matches
Camp Hill 5, Middletown 0
Middletown 4, Bishop McDevitt 1
Middletown 3, East Pennsboro 2
This week's matches
Wednesday, April 17
Middletown at Susquenita, 3:30 p.m.
Friday, April 19
James Buchanan at Middletown, 3 p.m.

Keystone Division			
W	L	OVERALL	
Hershey	6	0	9-1
Lower Dauphin	2	1	6-5
Susquehanna Twp.	2	2	3-5
Palmyra	2	4	3-9
Mechanicsburg	1	2	7-4
Harrisburg	0	0	0-0
Gettysburg	0	2	1-6
Northern	0	3	3-9

Last week's matches
Lower Dauphin 4, Palmyra 1
Mechanicsburg 3, Lower Dauphin 2
This week's matches
Wednesday, April 17
Central Dauphin at Lower Dauphin, 3:30 p.m.
Thursday, April 18
Gettysburg at Lower Dauphin, 3:30 p.m.
Friday, April 19
Lower Dauphin at Carlisle, 3:30 p.m.
Monday, April 22
State College at Lower Dauphin, 3:30 p.m.

GIRLS' LACROSSE MID-PENN CONFERENCE - Keystone Division			
W	L	OVERALL	
Central Dauphin	1	6-1	
Hershey	1	3	7-2
Lower Dauphin	3	2	6-2
Central Dauphin East	2	2	3-3
Palmyra	0	4	0-7

Last week's games
Lower Dauphin 17, Carlisle 9
State College 17, Lower Dauphin 14
This week's games
Thursday, April 18
Governor Mifflin at Lower Dauphin, 7 p.m.
Saturday, April 20
Chambersburg at Lower Dauphin, 12 noon
Monday, April 22
Lower Dauphin at Red Lion, 4:15 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23
Lower Dauphin at Central Dauphin East, 4:15 p.m.

BOYS' LACROSSE MID-PENN CONFERENCE - Keystone Division			
W	L	OVERALL	
Hershey	6	0	9-0
Central Dauphin	2	4-4	
Palmyra	3	3	6-4
Lower Dauphin	1	5	3-5
Bishop McDevitt	0	5	2-6
Central Dauphin East	0	5	0-6

Last week's games
Carlisle 10, Lower Dauphin 4
State College 3, Lower Dauphin 2
Lower Dauphin 10, Northern 8
This week's games
Thursday, April 18
Lower Dauphin at Chambersburg, 7:30 p.m.
Saturday, April 20
Lower Dauphin at Elizabethtown, 1:30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 23
Central Dauphin East at Lower Dauphin, 4:15 p.m.

BOYS' VOLLEYBALL MID-PENN CONFERENCE - Keystone Division			
W	L	OVERALL	
Hershey	3	0	6-0
Lower Dauphin	3	0	5-1
Red Land	2	1	5-2
Mechanicsburg	1	2	2-4
Cedar Cliff	0	3	0-4
Northern	0	3	0-6

Last week's games
Lower Dauphin 3, Spring Grove 0
Lower Dauphin 3, Mechanicsburg 0
Lower Dauphin 3, Carlisle 0
This week's games
Tuesday, April 23
Hershey at Lower Dauphin

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EDITOR'S VOICE

A strange way to operate

Middletown Borough Council has voted to spend \$290,000 to renovate the Behney Building, the home of the borough's electric department, into the headquarters for the police department without a design plan, blueprint or, to the public's knowledge, even a sketch plan of the project. It's strange to us that a council that presents itself as fiscally responsible would spend such a sum without knowing, through designs by an architect, what the project would cost. It's a bad way for government to operate.

Two councilors voted against the expenditure — John Brubaker and Scott Sites. Two other councilors were absent. Brubaker and Sites said they voted against the expenditure because they had not seen any designs for the project. Sites, in fact, had questioned the majority's decision in January to spend \$20,000 already budgeted for police department renovations at the borough building on renovations to accommodate the police force at Behney, insisting that \$20,000 was not enough. — a contention that was met with disdain.

Three months later, Council President Christopher McNamara is strangely laying blame, if indeed there is to be any, on the hefty expense on councilors who voted for the project as presented in January. "We took a vote in January to move the department down there . . . so this part of this falls on you folks," he announced to council the night it approved the \$290,000 project.

That is not a good reason to move forward with the project.

Perhaps the renovations have grown in scope since Police Chief Steven Wheeler was asked to be involved in the plans. Wheeler, hired just a couple months ago, recommended that the new headquarters include two sound-insulated interview rooms, a secure evidence room, a holding cell and a locker and shower room for officers. These seem like reasonable requests — and Wheeler has decades of experience in law enforcement, so he should know the basic needs of a police force. "You have to trust some people," said Councilor Barbara Arnold, who voted for the \$290,000 expenditure. Well, yes, and no.

It's council's job to manage the people's money. Council has the last word, is the final authority, possesses the responsibility to make sure the people's money is spent wisely. Should governments blindly rubber-stamp everything that its department heads request? There should, at least, be design plans before council approves such a hefty expense. Is \$290,000 a reasonable amount to spend on the Behney renovations? We don't know — there are no design plans yet. We doubt that council knows, either.

This council, despite its insistence that it is more fiscally responsible than past councils, seems to have a penchant for spending money and launching projects without plans. It voted to de-fund the Middletown Public Library last summer, then made the public wait for months before it revealed more substantial plans to create a nonprofit corporation to run it. In November, it cut down trees in the downtown business district before a consultant could complete a design plan for the renovation of the district. What it will look like, and how it will be financed, is still unclear.

What's equally disturbing is the fact that the \$290,000 Behney project was not on council's agenda — it was brought from the floor after the public's chance to comment about borough business. The same thing happened when council de-funded the library, and closed the borough's emergency communications center. This council has a habit of clandestinely moving forward with its plans by avoiding the public as best it can — even though it is the public's money, the public's assets and the public's property it is managing.

That is not a good way for government to operate, either.

READERS' VIEWS

Commit an act of kindness

Editor,

April has always been a special month for me because my late mother, former Pennsylvania First Lady Mary Jane Leader, and I celebrated April birthdays. April has not been the same since she passed away in 2011.

Throughout her life, Mother was a daily example of kindness to others and she inspired us to do the same for our families and in our communities. She and Dad — former Pennsylvania Gov. George M. Leader — founded Country Meadows Retirement Communities upon treating people with kindness.

In her honor, my family and I encourage all our neighbors to practice random acts of kindness, particularly in April.

We feel it only appropriate that her memory live on by encouraging others to remember the little things that can truly brighten someone's day.

Random acts of kindness can be as simple as smiling at a stranger, helping someone with their groceries or just paying a visit.

Mother loved to surprise family and friends with an unexpected gift — like delivering homemade fudge or a pecan or rhubarb pie.

Mother gets the credit for bumper stickers on our organizations' vehicles that read, "Practice Random Acts of Kindness." This phrase was a favorite of hers and one that she practiced often.

I invite you to visit the front desk of your local Country Meadows Retirement Community location where you can pick up free window clings and bumper stickers displaying this simple yet powerful message. You can find us at 451 Sand Hill Road in Hershey.

Everyday we try to make life better at our organizations — and whether the grantor or recipient of a kind act, the generosity of the human spirit provides great rewards.

I encourage all readers to pay it forward with a random act of kindness.

Michael Leader
Hershey

(The writer is president and CEO of Country Meadows Retirement Communities.)

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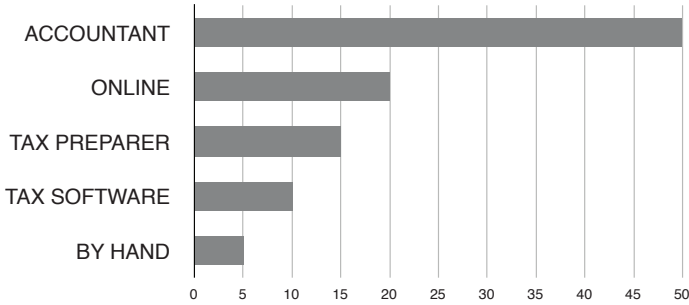
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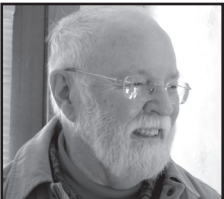
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PAUL HEISE

Guns? Gays? Guys, stop ignoring the Big Stuff



calls the Obama Agenda. These are all non-issues and constitute what I call the "politics of distraction." This deliberate distraction from real issues is why we are in long-term, serious, financial, environmental and political trouble.

None of the issues the politicians are dithering over affect the budget, any large voting group or the source of political money. That is, they do not matter to politicians since they do not affect their potential election.

The politicians take strong stands on gun control and gay marriage because it is safe to. They can avoid the debt because it has been subsumed under or disguised as entitlements and taxes where ideology guarantees much talk and no action.

The politicians are deliberately using non-issues to distract us from the hard stuff that no one is ready to pay them to tackle.

It isn't just President Barack Obama, though he plays the game very well. Congressional Republicans and Democrats practice similar avoidance patterns. Both parties are quite ready to distract the people. The hard stuff, the stuff that really threatens civilization, like global climate change, cyber warfare or possible pandemics never get dealt with.

Our politicians act as though this interlude between the fall of the Soviet Union and the point where China develops enough to become a military threat gives them time to ignore reality. Or, as Sen. John McCain said last week, "I don't understand it. What are we afraid of? . . . If this issue [or any of the current issues] is as important as all of us think it is . . . why not take it up and debate?"

If there is not an identifiable human enemy (and corporations may be persons but they are not humans for this purpose), then our politicians can't work up the crowd enough to make it worthwhile politically.

In the meantime, real threats do in fact exist: Our banks have stolen our economy, the middle-class is in danger of collapse, income and wealth inequalities divide America, globalization and the Trans Pacific Partnership undermine our rule of law, the social and economic infrastructure of health and welfare is near collapse. The list could go on for many pages but nobody has cataloged or prioritized it. Instead, we are deliberately distracted from it by people who profit from the dysfunctional status quo.

America has to set some priorities. I am reminded of the Defense Department's hierarchy of threats/response reflected in its Defense Readiness Condition, "defcon 1-5," which is the level of military response to a given threat. An analogous ranking might be appropriate for an economic and political threat/response system. This sifting would indicate the size of the threat but not its likelihood, which is just as important and

even more difficult to determine.

The Defense Department uses "defcon 1" for an immediate threat of nuclear war. Then a "Political Readiness Condition" of "policon 1" would describe an existential threat to the U.S. That would include nuclear war, a large asteroid, global climate change or a pandemic. Just because these are the stuff of horror movies does not mean we can neglect them.

Policon 2 would indicate a threat to our national security and independence. This could arise from a worldwide depression with a collapse of international trade and communication; a cyber attack that brought our electric and electronic infrastructure crashing down; or the surrender of constitutional rights as in NAFTA and the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

Policon 3 would reflect a threat to our economic and political structure such as could arise from a domestic insurrection, a genetic threat to agriculture, the Euro and the yuan becoming international reserve and transaction currencies.

Policon 4 would be a threat to our standard of living and an effective democratic capitalism. This category would include a major depression, the end of a middle-class that is reasonably secure in civil and property rights, collapse of the social safety net, extreme inequality of wealth and income, pricing household goods out of reach of the average family and a dysfunctional tax system.

Policon 5 would be the usual state of political and economic affairs where difficulties, more than threats, arise from the normal working of the political and economic system. This list would be long and include problems from corporate power and crowded prisons to healthcare, Iran and a minimum wage.

OK! OK! I recognize the intensely political nature of these categories, the problems chosen and the priorities assigned. But the political process specifically exists to make those decisions, and it is not presently doing so.

It is time to get serious about our responsibilities to ourselves, to our country and to our world. Politicians who would sooner distract us than serve us should be made to focus on what is important, not what would get them re-elected.

Paul Heise, of Mount Gretna, is a professor emeritus of economics at Lebanon Valley College, Annville, and a former economist for the federal government.

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We want to hear from you.

Send your letters to:
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Letters may be edited for accuracy, clarity, and length.

OTHER VOICES

Toomey's gun bill: kudos, ire

Sen. Pat Toomey, a conservative Republican from Pennsylvania, surprised constituents, and perhaps his colleagues, when he reached a surprising bi-partisan compromise last week on a bill that would expand background checks on certain gun sales.

Toomey and Sen. Joe Manchin III, D-W. Va., two allies of the National Rifle Association, drew up the bill, guaranteeing it would reach the Senate floor for debate.

The bill would expand background checks on gun sales at gun shows and online. It also would preserve a record-keeping provision that law enforcement officials say is needed to track gun use in crimes.

Reaction to the compromise ranged from applause to opposition to purposeful no-comment.

• **Chris W. Cox, executive director, NRA Institute for Legislative Action:**

As we have noted previously, expanding background checks, at gun shows or elsewhere, will not reduce violent crime or keep our kids safe in their schools. Given the importance of these issues, votes on all anti-gun amendments or proposals will be considered in NRA's future candidate evaluations.

Rather than focus its efforts on restricting the rights of America's 100 million law-abiding gun owners, there are things Congress can do to fix our broken mental health system; increase prosecutions of violent criminals; and make our schools safer.

• **Thirty-three family members of the victims of the Sandy Hook Elementary School shooting:**

While nothing can be done to bring back our loved ones, we are deeply encouraged by the leadership demonstrated yesterday by senators Manchin and Toomey. Their bipartisan compromise to expand background checks will help keep guns from falling into the wrong hands, and most importantly it will help save lives. The senators who have vowed to filibuster this bill should be ashamed of their attempt to silence efforts to prevent the next American tragedy. Their staunch opposition to sensible gun reform is an affront to the 26 innocent children and educators who were murdered in Newtown.

No one should have to experience the pain we have endured — common-sense gun laws will help spare others from the grief we live with every day.

We thank senators Manchin and Toomey for coming together to honor the memory of the victims of Sandy Hook, and we urge their colleagues in Congress to join them."

• **Teri Adams, president, Independence Hall Tea Party:**

While we understand the legitimate concerns of many of our friends in the center/right coalition, we also think that Sen. Toomey, by taking a leadership role in developing this bill, has done a superb job in defending the Second Amendment from those liberal Democrats who support outright bans on certain weapons and on magazines.

Sen. Toomey's bill creates a defensive national registry to deter the sale of weapons to terrorists, criminals, and the mentally disabled. The law does not establish a pro-active national registry of gun owners — as some on the right have argued.

Because reasonable conservatives can differ on the Toomey/Manchin bill, our group will remain neutral on its status.

• **President Barack Obama:**

I applaud senators Joe Manchin and Pat Toomey for their leadership on forging a bipartisan agreement around common-sense background checks that will make it harder for dangerous people to get their hands on a gun. This is not my bill, and there are aspects of the agreement that I might prefer to be stronger. But the agreement does represent welcome and significant bipartisan progress.

It recognizes that there are good people on both sides of this issue, and we don't have to agree on everything to know that we've got to do something to stem the tide of gun violence.

• **Bruce Castor, Republican candidate for governor and former Montgomery County District Attorney:**

In my more than two decades in law enforcement, I found the best way to deter gun violence was to prosecute aggressively those who committed gun crimes. I respectfully suggest, and I'm sure that with all his former law enforcement experience Gov. Corbett would agree, that is the direction in which Sen. Toomey and his colleagues ought to go rather than simply penning new laws that may or may not be enforced by the Obama Justice Department.



House votes to privatize liquor sales

The House recently voted to support of a measure to end full government control of wine and spirits sales in the Commonwealth. House Bill 790 would make 1,200 licenses available to sell wine and spirits, with beer distributors given the first opportunity to obtain a license. After the first year, the remaining licenses would be sold to the public.

The current state-controlled wine and spirits stores would be phased out gradually, as the number of privately operated outlets grows.

Under this legislation, grocery store wine licenses and wine-to-go permits would also be created. Beer, however, would not be available for purchase in grocery stores, unless they have a restaurant license.

To help guarantee that minors are not purchasing wine, House Bill 790 would forbid customers purchasing wine in a grocery store from using the self-checkout lane.

In addition, to maintain the safety of all residents across Commonwealth, this legislation would increase monetary penalties for all liquor violations, require all new licensees to use an ID scanner before selling alcohol, and increase funding for the state police's Bureau of Liquor Control Enforcement.

Furthermore, this bill would also allow consumers to purchase growlers, six-packs or 12-packs at beer distributorships. Under current law, only full cases of beer may be purchased from distributors. The only way to act as a "one-stop shop" for beer, wine and spirits is to be a beer distributor and obtain a wine and spirits license.

House Bill 790 now heads to the Senate for consideration. More information is available at www.PaHouseGOP.com.

Fire assistance grants

Applications are now available for Volunteer Fire Assistance Grants through the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR).

The grants are made available in coordination with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. They are designed to facilitate a partnership with state officials in an effort to organize, train and equip local forces in preventing, controlling and suppressing fires that have the potential to threaten human life, livestock, crops, pastures, woodlands, orchards and farmsteads.

The grants are available to rural areas or communities with fewer than 10,000 residents.

Grants can be used for the purchase of wildfire suppression equipment, wildfire or structural protective gear, wildfire prevention and mitigation, wildfire training and related necessary tools.

Funds may also be used for certain projects involving the conversion and maintenance of federal excess vehicles received from the Bureau of Forestry and used for fire suppression.

Financial assistance on any project during any fiscal year cannot exceed 50 percent of the actual expenditures, including expenditures of local, public and private nonprofit organizations participating in the agreement.

Because of high demand and limited funding, there is a 5-year waiting period between the years a fire company is eligible to receive grants.

For complete grant guidelines or to apply, visit my website, www.RepPayne.com, and click on "PA-At Your Service."

John D. Payne is a Republican member of the state House of Representatives. He represents the 106th District.

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SOUND OFF

Submissions to Sound Off appear as written. The Press And Journal edits only for clarity and punctuation.

Additional comments and audio versions of some Sound Off comments are available at www.pressandjournal.com.

"I would like to say, "Go, Bobby Givler ...". (Listen online at www.pressandjournal.com)

"I was in downtown Middletown Friday night ...". (Listen online at www.pressandjournal.com)

"If you read the community section school roundup ...". (Listen online at www.pressandjournal.com)

"To the Middletown School Board: Please tell the Middletown taxpayers ...". (Listen online at www.pressandjournal.com)

"Yes, I'm calling in reference to the downtown revitalization ...". (Listen online at www.pressandjournal.com)

"When you took the wagon out of the trash on Ridge Avenue ...". (Listen online at www.pressandjournal.com)

"When you use the 'tilde' symbol (~) between every sentence (or, in your case, throughout) instead of actual punctuation you look very uneducated. The content of your right-wing posts also make you look uneducated (as well as redneck), but the tilde symbol is the worst!"

"Rachelle Reid has no clue what goes on with the council. She is part of the problem that the borough is dealing with now. Stop hanging out at the Press And Journal and having them tell you what to say and what to do. Do the borough a favor – don't get involved. You already help destroy the borough finances."

"Why would Mr. Rhen want to be mayor and a councilman?"

"I did not agree what this council was doing, but after being at the meeting Thursday we cannot afford to change council. They are doing what needs to be done, as hard as it is. Hats off, and thank you for doing a tough job."

"Mark Morgan, you just lost all credibility with me. Shame on you."

"My car was broken into while parked in Middletown. I fixed it myself and only lost some spare change. I won't call the town police because I know they won't do anything. So sad. You guys need a significant PR campaign."

"The Journal did a good job investigating Mark Morgan's lies at recent town meetings. One of them that was not brought to light was his comment on electricity rates tripling if the borough continues on this path. As Mr. Handley explained in his letter to the editor, untruthful comments like that are used as scare tactics by this group without merit. If you research previous council minutes, Morgan explains that 1 cent of electric increase results in \$700,000 in revenue. If we are paying 10 cents for electric right now, and that rate would have to triple as he suggests, it means the borough would have an additional \$14 million in revenue per year. The question to council should be, what increases to the borough's future general fund budget would create such a shortfall requiring an additional \$14 million, especially when that budget is only \$5 million now? More lies from a group I no longer trust!"

"Is there any way we can get a policeman downtown on Social Security or market days to direct traffic near the banks and Karns? That used to be done and it was

wonderful. I think the policeman was Greene."

"Once 'Magic' Mark Morgan submits his much anticipated Act 47 recommendations to DCED, he will go quietly into that good night. After all, Mr. Morgan is a businessman and needs to find his next big paycheck, which won't be from Middletown. Mr. Morgan also has a good reputation in the area, so when Big Brother comes knocking at the door, Mark Morgan will be a distant memory."

"The borough secretary/director of communications will perform his job to the best of his abilities. After all, he is making a very good salary and takes home a vehicle every night. How can you blame the guy?"

"To the people that don't acknowledge homosexuality or view it as sinful, the sky is blue and the grass is green. Are you going

to get all of your beliefs from a man in the sky or a thousand-year-old book? Let me introduce you to a concept called evolution. You will die and those who accept others will outlive you. It's why women can vote and why an African-American is president. If you can't live in a world where others deserve to be happy and treated equally, then by all means – see you later."

"So the Behney Building will cost Middletown taxpayers well over a \$1 million. Serious? Where does that fit into the structural deficit? Ah, yes – no library, but pouring money into a perfectly good building to inflate egos, THAT'S helping the public."

"Middletown isn't nice enough to pay high taxes or triple electric rates. I'm leaving this place if they start jacking up the taxes, electric, etc. They better figure out which overpaid person they want to lay off, is my suggestion. It's completely unfair to the people to hold them hostage and overcharge them – a regular business person would go to jail for that. And they don't ask for tax, they take tax. Yet again, another thing you have no choice in paying. How do you think the average American can afford this? IT'S RAPE!"

"My electric bill is lower – maybe a couple of bucks – but what else have we lost? Library, police, commissions and boards that are now staffed by the same people. Oh, yes the biggest loss for my town – respect from every other municipality and official and resident. Put a spin on THAT structural deficit."

"Now, there's one thing you might have noticed I don't com-

Sound Off is published as a venue for our readers to express their personal opinions and does not express the opinions of the Press And Journal. Sound Off is published in the Viewpoints sections but is not intended to be read as news reports. Sound Offs are published at the discretion of the Press And Journal.

plain about: politicians. Everybody complains about politicians. Everybody says they suck. Well, where do people think these politicians come from? They don't fall out of the sky. They don't pass through a membrane from another reality. They come from American parents and American families, American homes, American schools, American churches, American businesses and American universities, and they are elected by American citizens. This is the best we can do, folks. This is what we have to offer. It's what our system produces: garbage in, garbage out. If you have selfish, ignorant citizens, you're going to get selfish, ignorant leaders. Term limits ain't going to do any good; you're just going to end up with a brand new bunch of selfish, ignorant Americans. So maybe, maybe, maybe, it's not the politicians who suck. Maybe something else sucks around here, like the public."

"OK, so how dumb are we? Building a new high school when it really sounds like we can't afford the old one. That's like saying you can't afford your old Pinto, but you're buying a new Jaguar. Think about it."

"What's up with this town? Are we trying to prove Darwin wrong?"

"If the school is short on budget, they should make the parents buy their books and supplies like the kids do in college – give them a list and let them shop around."

"I wish the Press And Journal would publish the PA Health Inspection restaurant violations. It's interesting to see who's compliant and who's bad! Stop being afraid of losing advertising and call these reckless restaurants out!"

"I would like to know how anyone moving into the borough a few

You may call the Sound Off line at 948-1531 any time day or night, or e-mail us from our Web site at: www.pressandjournal.com.

years ago thinks he is now qualified to run for mayor. Jim Curry has not lived in this borough long enough to even know most of the citizens and how they feel about the town. Now he wants to run for mayor. Hmm, could it be that he is one of McNamara's boys?"

"You, Christian Left, seem pretty quick to judge, too. The anti-gay marriage comment was simply stating a biblical fact and the biblical ramifications for sinning. I think I'll stay on the Right."

"Mr. McNamara was on council about 10 or 15 years ago and claimed back then the borough was on the verge of bankruptcy. We made it 10 or 15 years without a hitch and now he claims bankruptcy again. I do believe this whole thing is manufactured and when the truth finally comes out this council and Mr. Morgan should all face the consequences of their actions. Prove me wrong, Mr. McNamara! Show the INDEPENDENT audits from Mr. the last couple of years, not Mr. Morgan's."

"It does not make sense to move a strategic operation such as

the police department to a location that is subject to flooding. In 1972, the Behney Building was flooded with several feet of water. When another flood occurs, everyone in the department will be busy trying to move what they can to higher ground instead of doing what is needed to protect the citizens of Middletown. Since most of the powers-that-be are not lifelong citizens of Middletown, they probably don't know this building is in the flood plain. Homeowners are not allowed to upgrade their properties in flood areas of Middletown, so why should council spend money they don't have to move the police to a building with this danger when the building they are in now is in a secure location? They should not be allowed to borrow money for this project, or use state or federal funds. I guess this move helps to substantiate the rumor that they are planning on selling the Community Building/MCSO and lease back the office space that they need. Since they are leasing everything else, even lawnmowers, it just shows that they plan on selling all borough assets. I'm sure the electric department is next since they will be evicted from their new headquarters with the police move."

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Highspire Police News

Following is a compilation of reports from the Highspire Police Department.
Please be aware all those charged/cited are presumed innocent unless proven otherwise in a court of law.

Robbery
Matthew McNece, 32, of the 600 block of E. Main St., Middletown, was charged with robbery, theft by unlawful taking and criminal mischief after he allegedly broke into a cash register at the AP Food Mart in the 200 block of Second Street, Highspire, and took an undisclosed amount of cash, on Jan. 7, police said. McNece was identified by surveillance camera footage, police said.

DUI
Joel Valez-Reyes, 31, of Harrisburg, was charged with DUI and DUI-high rate after he told police he was drunk and to arrest him. Valez-Reyes refused to submit to a preliminary breath test after being stopped for drifting over the yellow line while driving on Second Street at 2:27 a.m. on Dec. 30, police said. Police took him to Harrisburg Hospital, where his blood alcohol level was .141, police said.

Steven Jackson Jr., 45, of Willow Street, Highspire, was charged with DUI, DUI-high rate, driving while operational privilege is suspended or revoked and no rear lights after a traffic stop at 2:456 a.m. Jan. 5. Police said they noticed a broken brake light on Jackson's vehicle in the area of Second and Franklin streets. When police pulled him over, the officer detected a strong odor of alcohol. Police performed field sobriety testing, which Jackson failed. Jackson was taken to Harrisburg Hospital, where a blood test revealed a blood-alcohol level of .153, police said. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for April 26 before District Judge Kenneth Lenker.

Michael Brown, 48, of Elizabethtown, was charged with DUI, DUI-highest rate, possession of marijuana and use/possession of drug paraphernalia. Police found Brown in a running vehicle parked at the Stadium Club at 3:48 a.m. Jan. 6. Brown was taken to Harrisburg Hospital, where a blood test revealed a blood-alcohol level of .182, police said. A formal arraignment is scheduled for April 29 in Dauphin County Court.

Ricardo Ochoa Gonzales, 35, of Harrisburg was charged with DUI, DUI-high rate; driving without a license and careless driving after he was stopped near Second and Franklin streets on Jan. 13 when police noticed his vehicle weaving on the road. Gonzales failed a field sobriety test and was taken to Harrisburg Hospital, where a blood test revealed a blood-alcohol level of .136, police said. Gonzales produced a Peruvian passport and expired North Carolina driver's license, and told police he had been living in the U.S. illegally for 10 years. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for April 19 before District Judge Kenneth Lenker.

Latonia Perry-Thornton, 39, of the 100 block of Second Street, was charged with DUI, DUI-high rate and disregarding traffic lanes after police stopped her for drifting over the yellow line several times around 2 a.m. on Jan. 19. Perry-Thornton failed a field sobriety test and was taken to Harrisburg Hospital, where a blood test revealed a blood-alcohol level of .139, police said.

Denise Grant, 42, of the 400 block of Jessmaine Avenue, Steelton, was

charged with DUI, DUI-high rate and driving an unregistered vehicle after police spotted her parked along Broad Street with her engine running, leaning out the driver's side door and vomiting. Grant failed a field sobriety test and was taken to Harrisburg Hospital where a blood test revealed a blood-alcohol level of .130, police said. A preliminary hearing is scheduled for April 12 before District Judge Kenneth Lenker.

Public drunkenness
Felicia Matriccino, 27, of the 100 block of Second Street was charged by police with public drunkenness after a domestic dispute near Royal Mart at 4:12 a.m. on Dec. 26.

Jeffrey Fletcher, 20, of Harrisburg, charged with public drunkenness, disorderly conduct, making terroristic threats, institutional vandalism, resisting arrest, purchasing alcohol as a minor, intentional possession of a controlled substance and use/possession of drug paraphernalia after a dispute with another man in the 600 block of Eshelman Street on Jan. 12. Fletcher damaged a police car while being arrested, police said. The charges were filed with District Judge Kenneth Lenker's office on Jan. 13.

Drug possession
Cody Moll, 20, of Lebanon was charged with drug possession, disorderly conduct and driving an unregistered vehicle after police stopped his vehicle for an expired registration near Eisenhower Boulevard on Dec. 22, police said.

Harassment
Stephen Oseen and Amanda Gorman, both of the 600 block of Willow St., were charged with harassment on Christmas Eve after getting into a physical altercation in the presence of children, police said.

Theft
Someone hacked into a resident's electronic stock trading account on

two separate occasions and took \$985, police said. The owner notified police on Feb. 5.

A Hoover steam-cleaning system was taken from a residence in the 500 block of Eshelman St. on our about Jan. 12. The system is worth about \$280.

More than 130 tablets of Oxycodone were taken from a residence in the 100 block of Jury St. on Jan. 17.

A handgun worth \$300 was taken from a residence in the 100 block of Roop St. The owner reported the theft on Jan. 14, a few weeks after it was discovered missing, police said.

Burglary
Someone broke into the AP Food Mart in the 200 block of Second Street and took several cartons of cigarettes on Jan. 24, police said.

Someone forced their way into the garage of a residence in the 100 block of Wolf Street on Feb. 10 and took a Sony PS3 gaming console with controllers and about 20 games, police said.

Vandalism
Three male juveniles, ages 12 to 14 years old, were charged with criminal mischief after vandalizing an electric box at a residence in the 400 block of Second Street on Jan. 16.

Three male juveniles were charged with criminal mischief after throwing eggs at a home in the first block of Cherry Avenue on Jan. 16.

Someone vandalized a vehicle in the 400 block of Second Street on Jan. 19. The caller told police someone spray-painted ethnic slurs of intimidation and damaged the steering wheel, seats, stereo, rear view mirror and gearshift.

Someone damaged a window and entrance door to a business in the 400 block of Willow Street on Jan. 27, police said.

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