

# Letters To The Editor

## Responds To Local Comments About Obama

To the Editor:  
Just a short note regarding the letter to the editor in last week's paper concerning comments on Obama from three Fulton County citizens.

To Charles Sipes: Remember the song, "Red and Yellow, Black and White, We Are Precious In His

Sight." Sing along if you know it.

To Don Peck: Do some research on your ancestors. You might have some "foreign" in you.

To Bill Watson: In your world, ignorance must be bliss.

Vickie Bookheimer  
McConnellsburg

## Democrats Caused The Financial Mess

To the editor:

I saw a poll last week that indicated that 67 percent of Americans thought that the Democrats were better on the economy and/or fixing our financial problems. How can that be when it's clear that their policies and practices were the primary cause of the mess? Rep. Barney Frank (D-Mass.), Sen. Christopher Dodd (D-Conn.), Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) and others did nothing to protect us from those unscrupulous government-sponsored enterprise CEOs who cooked the books and walked away with millions in bonuses and severance pay. Chief among them was Franklin Raines, President Clinton's budget director. Raines alone received almost 100 million in bonuses from Fannie Mae. When the Bush administration tried (several times) to bring about reform in Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac, Frank and Dodd said (during hearings) that both companies were solvent and they didn't need any more regulations. Frank went on to say that more regulation would just prevent low-income individuals

from receiving loans. What a joke! Dodd got a sweetheart mortgage deal and has received more campaign donations from Fannie Mae than any other member of Congress (#2 is Obama). Frank even got his friend a senior executive job at Fannie Mae. How can we trust these same people to fix the problems that they created?

Sen. McCain warned of the potential for serious financial problems in Fannie Mae and Freddie Mac back in 2005/6. He cosponsored a bill that would have established proper regulation and oversight. The Democrats blocked passage of this bill; so let's put the blame where it belongs. Quit trying to blame Bush and the Republicans for everything bad that happens. We are sick and tired of doom and gloom politicians. This country is still the best in the world. How long we remain free and independent is up to us.

Mary Gracey  
Waterfall

## Obama's The Most Anit-Gun Candidate Ever

To The Editor:

Obviously, Erwin (letter to the editor October 9, 2008) is lambasting the NRA to trick local people into thinking Obama is not anti-gun. I have this to say about that notion: Hogwash!

Obama is the most anit-gun candidate to ever run for president. Witness below:

Fact: Obama has supported banning hundreds of rifles and shotguns commonly used for hunting and sport shooting. *Illinois Senate Debate #3: Barack Obama vs. Alan Keyes, 10/21/04.*

Fact: Obama voted to allow reckless lawsuits designed to put the firearms industry out of business. *S.397, vote 219, 7/29/05.*

Fact: Obama supports a mandated national registry of all firearms owners. "No News In Obama's Consistent Record" *Obama campaign Web site, 12/11/07.*

Fact: Obama voted to ban almost all rifle ammunition commonly used for hunting and sport shooting. *S. 397, vote 215, 7/29/05.*

## Obama Can't Be Trusted To Lead The Country

To the Editor:

Sen. Barack Obama's record shows beyond any doubt that he is an opponent of the Second Amendment. Here are just a few of his easily verifiable positions regarding firearms:

Obama opposes four of the five Supreme Court justices who upheld an individual's right to keep and bear arms. He voted against the confirmation of Alito and Roberts and said he would not have appointed Thomas or Scalia.

As an Illinois senator, he voted to ban and confiscate "assault weapons." This bill would have banned most semiauto shotguns as well.

Obama voted to allow reckless lawsuits designed to bankrupt the firearms industry.

Obama endorsed a complete ban on handgun ownership.

This represents only a small part of his anti-gun record. Of course now that he is running for president, he is trying to appear more moderate. Based on his record, this man cannot be trusted to lead our country.

Obama is a socialist trying to masquerade as a centrist. Please don't be fooled by this dangerous radical. He is a person who sat in a church pew for 20 years and claims he didn't know his pastor was spewing racist nonsense. He began his political career in the house of and

served on a board with a known terrorist and claims he didn't know about his past. He served as a lawyer for ACORN, the infamous voter registration organization now in the news for voter fraud. He took campaign contributions from Fannie Mae while his friends there were peddling worthless paper to investors. He voted against a bill that would have cared for babies who survived an abortion attempt, in effect supporting infanticide. He favored surrender to the terrorists and said the troop surge wouldn't work. When it did work, it took him months to grudgingly admit it. Poor judgment is a trademark of liberals like Obama and Biden.

We are all known by the company we keep. Obama chooses to associate with Marxists, terrorists and racists. What is it about people who hate America that Barack Obama admires so much?

If you want socialism, ACLU-type judges, voter fraud, higher taxes, infanticide, the complete destruction of traditional values and even bigger government and less freedom, then Obama is your guy.

John McCain was serving in the U.S. Navy while Barack Obama was serving with ACORN. If you want to elect a patriot who will put America first, vote for John McCain.

Vince Joyce  
McConnellsburg

## Would Follow Obama's Lead In Voting for Illinois Senate Bill 99

To The Editor:

I'd like to thank Mr. Land for starting a discussion on the issue of sex education of our children in school. His October 9 letter to the editor referred readers to Illinois Senate Bill 99 and to an editorial commentary of the legislation in the "National Review." Unfortunately, the Web links provided were the most accurate information in his letter. I read the bill in its entirety and I encourage others to do the same.

The bill contains three major sections: sex education, family life and a comprehensive health education program. Each section is prefaced with the clause, "All course material and instruction in classes that teach sex education and discuss sexual activity or behavior shall be age and developmentally appropriate." Each section requires that ab-

stinence be emphasized. There is a clause allowing parents to examine the course materials and each section allows parents to prevent their children from receiving the instruction. As a father of three children, I am confounded as to why I would want to withhold any of this useful information from them.

The "National Review" article provided a lengthy analysis about the machinations in getting the bill to its final form. Mr. Obama did not create the legislation, he just voted for it. I would have done the same.

For a different point of view I have included these links:

<http://www.newsweek.com/id/158314>

[http://www.factcheck.org/elections-2008/off\\_base\\_on\\_sex\\_ed.html](http://www.factcheck.org/elections-2008/off_base_on_sex_ed.html)  
Jack Mundale  
Needmore

## Tony Barr Will Represent County Well

To the Editor:

Tony Barr is coming to McConnellsburg. He comes to McConnellsburg whenever there is an event where he can take his case directly to the people, one on one, door to door. You might have already met Tony at firehall dinners and country barbecues, every county fair, every event where he could meet Fulton County voters personally since he began to run for Congress in the spring of 2006. He knows Fulton County and will represent it in the U. S. Congress well.

He will be here for the Fulton Fall Folk Festival, and will, as usual, run the parade route alongside the float bearing the Tony Barr Singers (the Fulton County Democratic Club) and the phalanx of live donkeys, shaking every hand extended along both sides of the street, an amazing physical accomplishment. He's running hard for U. S. Congress and wants your vote on November 4.

Our congressman is Bill Shuster. Bill inherited his job from Bud, the father, Shuster when the elder Shuster needed to hide out from the Congressional Ethics Committee. It's been "Shuster" in Congress from Fulton County for 36 years. You can check this out: Shuster votes with Bush 90 percent of the time, supporting policies that have brought this country and this county to its present state economically and every other way, so it's not surprising that we are losing jobs here fast.

Shuster is a millionaire living on a 100-acre estate. The money supporting the Shuster campaign comes from corporate lobbyists.

The money supporting Tony's campaign comes directly from people like you and me in small donations. Shuster outspends Tony in this campaign 10 to 1 or worse. Tony

supports his young family teaching school in Everett, runs for Congress because we need better representation in Congress. He is willing to join with other congressmen to bring better government to our nation, and has the kind of personality and courage that can galvanize people to do the right thing instead of selling influence. We have had way too much of that influence peddling in Congress for decades! The people deserve better!

Tony got on the ballot two years ago as the Democratic candidate in a populist write-in campaign, and secured the nomination this time using the regular petition process and the support of the county Democratic committees. McConnellsburg and the surrounding precincts gave Tony Barr 51 percent of the vote in 2006, and Tony hopes the rest of the district will do the same in 2008. The district, Pennsylvania's 9th Congressional, includes all of Fulton, Franklin, Bedford, Huntingdon and Bedford counties and parts of 10 other counties.

If you haven't met Tony yet, stand along the parade route in McConnellsburg on Saturday, Oct. 18. Tony will come by and briefly introduce himself. If you would like to talk to a real challenger for United States Congress, and a probable future congressman, come to the "Buck a Cup" chili fest at Democratic Headquarters in McConnellsburg (123 South Second Street on Rte. 522) after the parade and tell Tony how the government should be run when he gets to Washington to represent Fulton County.

Tony is a true man of the people. He will listen to you.

Jack Hendricks  
McConnellsburg

## Let's End Shuster Dynasty

To The Editor:

In 2004 a one-man-band drove 40,000 miles and spent \$15,000 campaigning across our Congressional District.

Predictably, I lost 2-1, the Republican registration margin.

But I met wonderful people, made some folks think and had a blast.

In 2006, Bedford County special education teacher Tony Barr ran a last-minute primary write-in, and in November garnered 40 percent against incumbent Bill Shuster.

At a Chambersburg town meeting I introduced Tony as a man "who's done things most men only talk about doing ... when they've had too much to drink."

He once bicycled from Chicago to Alaska.

And this year he's running again! With his lobbyist friends, Shuster can outspend Tony 50-1.

But should we elect a Congressman for his ability to blow money?

Shuster's accomplishments:  
Voting 90 percent Bush.

Photo-ops distributing cardboard checks - our share of our taxes - something every Congressman does routinely.

Wall Street bailout? He was "against it before he voted for it."

Tony, meanwhile, has run a grass-roots campaign.

Former county resident,  
Paul Politis  
Greencastle

## What Is Going On In McConnellsburg?

To The Editor:

I am a once-a-year volunteer for the Fulton County Historical Society during the Fall Folk Festival. The society has done a lot for the county and the Fulton House. This includes, but is not limited to, preserving the Winegardner School, maintenance of the Big Spring Cemetery, maintaining a history room in the local library. My favorite is educating the fourth-grade students on the history of Fulton County by distributing the book "My Home is Fulton County" to every fourth-grader in the county.

I have been dismayed by things I have learned about the way McConnellsburg Borough Council is treating the Fulton County Historical Society and the Fulton House, which houses the society's museum collection. As I understand the history, the Fulton House burned in the 1940s and was in danger of being razed. The Historical Society was formed to save the Fulton House. Several citizens organized, raised money and cleaned it up. In the 1970s McConnellsburg Borough bought it for approximately \$15,000, and it was used for borough offices. The deed says that the borough is responsible for maintenance.

The Historical Society has a lease on the east end of the building, consisting of a log cabin, four rooms, an attic and the basement under the log cabin. I don't know when this lease expires, but the FCHS needs a permanent place for its museum.

I do know that the Fulton County Historical Society has spent thousands of dollars repalcing the roof of the Fulton House and at a later date repainting the roof. The log cabin has been restored. Recently the FCHS had the Fulton House stonework repaired and repointed at an astronomical cost, mostly financed with a grant the FCHS ap-

plied for and received. The cost of all this ran at least \$250,000.

At one point the borough asked the FCHS to purchase the building. The society didn't have money to do so at the time. As I understand it, after a year or so of debate and research, the Historical Society board applied for a grant that would allow it to purchase the building. The grant was approved. When the Historical Society approached the borough, the society was told that the building was worth more than what was originally asked and Borough Council refused to sell. The grant had to be returned. Since the FCHS put the money into the building that raised the value, why does it not get credit? The last figure I heard quoted as a selling price was \$500,000, well above the assessed value of the building.

My dismay comes from the fact that the borough cares so little for the building that it seldom puts forth the time and money required for its upkeep. A donation was given to the FCHS to clean and repair the toilets in the basement, which had been out of commission since the 2004 flood. Work was done under the auspices of the FCHS, not the borough.

In addition, the borough complains about not having enough room. Why on earth didn't they sell the Fulton House to the Historical Society, take the money and buy the old hospital for offices and rent the rest for income? And then, I've been told that there was another property in town that could have been purchased and was never considered? And the last foolish move of eliminating the police force, which, incidentally, is currently housed in the Fulton House.

So, once again I ask, what is going on in McConnellsburg?

Erin D. Cromer  
Schellsburg, Pa.

## FFF Parade

From Page One

Doug says he loves Fulton County "because it's the best place to live." He credits his bosses at the pharmacy, "Ben and Dave," as helping him out in life. "They are great bosses," he says, and he also praises all his friends at Peckie's Auto Body for their friendship during the years.

Although all of this may make him seem too busy for anything but work, he admits, with a twinkle in his eye, to having a girlfriend, "Julie," whom he met four years ago at the Fulton County Medical Center auction at the Hustontown Firehall.

As for this weekend, Doug says he loves all the tractors and he will definitely be spending some time at the Grease, Steam & Rust show at the fairgrounds.

Changes to this year's parade and lineup have been announced by the parade cosponsors, the Chamber of Commerce & Tourism and the Grease, Steam & Rust Association. Due to the relocation of Fulton County Medical Center, a portion of Lincoln Way will remain open before, during and after the parade for emergency vehicles. The first block of the parade from First Street to the traffic light at Second Street (Route 522) will have one lane open. People viewing the parade from that section will have to sit on the south side of Lincoln Way. There will also be an area roped off in front of the Fulton House for the long-term care residents from the Medical Center. This year, all tractors will line up on North First Street. Bands, marching units, floats and antique cars will line up on South First Street. The area between First Street and Second Street will be congested because of the changes and residents are urged to avoid this area, if possible. Local traffic only will be permitted and residents are asked to utilize off-street parking on parade morning.

Doug Ray will be front and center on Main Street during Saturday's 10:30 a.m. parade. Look for him in a "special-made" ball cap as he proudly leads tractors (including this year's featured tractor, Massey Harris), floats, antique autos and bands up the street of his hometown.

## Convention

From Page One

eradicated when seen as they quickly multiply in number and also pose a threat to local habitat. In addition to feral pigs posing a problem, complaints of all-terrain riders destroying farmer's fields between the village of Northcraft and the municipal building have been surfacing in Union Township. Calls on the matter should be reported immediately to the Game Commission or state police.

Jamie Brambley of the Fulton County Library reminded township officials a renovation project is currently under way at the McConnellsburg facility, paid in part by a private donation and a Keystone Recreation Grant. Brambley noted the renovation was much needed as they were running out of space for books, and will allow for the creation of a special teen area, more computer areas and meeting rooms. Both families and children, Brambley stated, frequently use the library during economic hardships to access free Internet access as well as books and various resources.

Brambley also touched briefly upon the library's long-range plan, which includes the creation of a branch in the southern end of the county.

Local building code enforcement officer Clem Malot answered frequently asked questions pertaining to the permitting of commercial, residential, recreational cabins and agricultural buildings and structures. Malot urged the township supervisors to forward him information on any recreational cabins being built in their area as several specific guidelines and requirements must first be met. Specifically, the facility can never become a full-time residence.

In regard to commercial properties, Malot said almost anything commercial requires a building permit. The permitting is also extended to a change in building occupancy and uses.

In conclusion, Malot indicated anyone seeking assistance from the local Commonwealth Construction Code officers should visit their new location at 201 Lincoln Way West in the Antietam Iron Center. Office hours are normally Tuesdays from 10 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and by appointment.

Others speaking at the October 13 annual convention were Cory Adams, Kenneth Grimes and William Hawk of PSATS; county commissioners Bonnie Mellott Keefer, Dan Swain and David Hoover II; Alan Smith of the Area Agency on Aging, Penn State Extension agent Judy Chambers; Emergency Management Agency Director Vince Joyce and Jason Hawkins, chief executive officer of Fulton County Medical Center.

**TO PLACE AN AD CALL  
485-3811 OR  
FAX IT AT 485-5187**

## Slice, Dice

From Page One

entertainment.

If you still haven't had enough food or enough variety of food, then show up again on Sunday morning at 11:00 a.m. for the all-you-can eat buffet, an event that brings out more than 500 hungry folks. The menu is extensive and includes roast beef, oven-fried chicken (their number one specialty), ham, turkey, meatballs, liver and onions, vegetables, mashed potatoes, stuffing and gravy, various salads and assorted desserts.

According to Tice, on Sunday, which is their busiest day, they will go through 100 pounds of roast beef, 200 pounds of chicken, 60 pound meatballs, 120 pounds of ham, 50 pounds of beef and chicken liver and 75 pounds of turkey. And the amazing thing is that they will sell completely out around 2:00 p.m., they say.

Tice and Crouse say they keep a guest register for visitors to sign and they are amazed at how many people return each year. "We get tourists and natives, but far more tourists," they said. They have regulars who attend each year from as far away as Michigan and as close as Altoona, Lancaster and Washington, D.C.

They work as a team and they seem to have a schedule in their heads as well as little notes stuck everywhere in their kitchen. They start Tuesday doing the pickled eggs and from then on work pretty much day and night. Each knows their job, and they know that Sarah Shaw does the stuffing, Shirley does the meatballs and everyone else also has a task of his/her own. In fact, the six pizza cutters used to cut the potpie dough are already at the ready on a counter in the kitchen.

The question was posed, "How long have you done this?" and the answer was, "for as long as there has been a festival." Since this is the 35th annual folk festival, it isn't that difficult to do the math. The auxiliary formed in 1968 and currently has no more than 25 members, but not all are active in the preparation and serving of food for the many banquets held each year. "We need more members," both Tice and Crouse said and pointed out the fact that they have five banquets scheduled in October in addition to the festival. "We will cook 500 pounds of chicken in October," Tice said referring to the fact that their oven-fried chicken is the menu favorite.

Although the amount of food prepared and served may seem to translate into a good profit, the members say there is always someplace the money is needed. They pointed to various renovations made recently to the kitchen and banquet room as well as added refrigeration and oven units to handle the volume of food being cooked.

Tice currently serves as president of the organization. Betty Hann serves as vice president; Charlotte Crouse, secretary; Sarah Shaw, treasurer; Fran Hoover, financial secretary; and Betty Shotts is the officers' assistant.

By Sunday's end, the team will go home very tired, they will have made the company a little richer, but, perhaps, they will have also been made richer by the old friends they have seen again and the new ones they have made.

## Something For All

From Page One

pet parade at 12:30 p.m., fashion show at 1:30 p.m., special music at 2 p.m. and a raffle drawing at 3:30 p.m. Displays in Waterfall include a historical both, information from the Coal Miner's Museum, antique Ford tractors, a Christmas village display; while demonstrations will range from felting and open-kettle popcorn to hair painting.

Not far away in Burnt Cabins, buckwheat and regular pancakes along with sausage will be whipped up for Burnt Cabins Grist Mill visitors, who can also take in a craft and flea market, tour the mill and listen to a little music offered by country, bluegrass and gospel artists.

Sure to line the streets of McConnellsburg Borough, the Fall Folk Festival parade of tractors will get under way at 10:30 a.m. Saturday and wind its way through town to the Fulton County Fairgrounds, where tractors and equipment will be put on display aside daily demonstrations of grain threshing, shingle making, lumber sawing and straw bailing. Horse pulls and lawn mower races will also be feature attractions at the fairgrounds throughout the weekend. Daily admission is \$5. Children ages 12 and under are free.

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