

# Letters To The Editor

## Thanks Community For Successful CROP Walk

To the Editor,  
Despite the fact that the world produces enough food each year to provide a healthy diet to everyone on the planet, over 800 million people go to bed hungry each night. Church World Service uses money raised from CROP walks to fight hunger and poverty all over the world. This organization is working in some 80 countries to provide emergency food aid and long-term development assistance.

On October 5, 40 people participated in the Fulton County CROP Walk held at Cowans Gap State Park. The walkers raised more than

\$2,500. To help fight hunger locally, Church World Service will donate 25 percent of the money raised through the Fulton County CROP Walk to the Fulton County Food Basket.

I'm very proud of each person who participated in the CROP Walk, and very grateful to the people of this community for their generous donations. Thank you so very much for making this year's CROP Walk a success.

Patty Hall  
Fulton County  
CROP Walk  
Coordinator

## Consider This Question Before Voting

To the editor:  
OK, OK. In the current vernacular, let's all just chill for a minute. Presidential campaigns are always charged with a great deal of emotion. How 'bout we just stop, take a breath and make a few cold, unemotional observations and ask ourselves a question.

First: As I said in the "interview" with the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, admittedly George Bush has turned out to be an embarrassment to his party, his country and the world. But George Bush is not running for re-election. He's history. His cabinet and advisors are history. His policies are history. And everyone in a potential McCain administration would be painfully and keenly aware of how things ended up in the shape they're in. John McCain is not George Bush!

Second: There is little question that Barack Obama does indeed lack credible experience. And as noted columnist Thomas Sowell pointed out, he is a candidate "... who cannot cite a single serious accomplishment in his entire career..."

Third: There is also little question that Sen. Obama is determined to

gut the Second Amendment. He has no respect for it or the Supreme Court's decision that "to keep and bear" is an individual right. Certainly, we're not all one-issue voters but, let's suppose he is elected and takes a dim view of another law of the land, designed to protect another freedom we enjoy.

Fourth: Obama's background and past associations raise some legitimate questions. His comments about this nation's symbols alone leave room for doubt about his patriotism as well. There are no such questions about McCain.

All that aside - the economy, our dependence on foreign oil, education, healthcare, Roe v. Wade, taxes, capital gains - all of it aside. If we don't consider the answer to the next question very, very carefully, all of it won't amount to passed-gas in a windstorm.

The question is this: Suppose you are a terrorist nation, bitterly determined to destroy the U.S. one way or the other. Who would you rather be up against?

Bill Watson  
Hustontown

## Pleased About LIHEAP Program Expansion

To The Editor:  
I am writing today to express my gratitude toward Gov. Ed Rendell for not only allocating \$280 million in state funding toward the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), but also for expanding the eligibility requirements so that more Pennsylvanians can take advantage of this assistance.

I had similar goals in mind when I introduced House Bill 2021 last month. I was pleased that the bill garnered 48 cosponsors from both sides of the aisle, but I am even more pleased that the governor was able to expand on that plan, in terms of

both funding and eligibility. Working families who are struggling to make ends meet can rest a little easier. With the new guidelines, a family of four making up to \$44,443 may be eligible for this program.

The LIHEAP program opens on November 3, and I encourage your readership to contact their local county assistance office or call the LIHEAP hotline at 1-866-857-7095 for more information.

Sincerely,  
Scott Conklin  
Centre County  
State Representative

## FFFF

From Page One

while Kevin Leshner was handed a first-place finish in the antique car division. Sheila Fraker and Dick Miller garnered respective second- and third-place wins.

Meanwhile, at the Fulton County Fairgrounds, which marked the final destination of the parade route, attendance was reportedly down slightly overall with Saturday boasting the largest number of visitors. Estimates show the three-day festival drew in a crowd of 6,500. Schmidt stated the change in attendance numbers has also been indicative in other shows and events conducted at the fairgrounds over the summer months.

The Massey Harris collectors, who were organized by chair people Terry and Sandy Kessel, put on an "excellent display" around and in the feature tent with multiple tractors and items on display and for sale. A social gathering was also held both Friday and Saturday evening

at the feature tent with food and refreshments available.

"We thank the Kessels for their efforts. We had a total of 531 registered items, tractors, equipment, gas and steam engines," Schmidt stated.

The 4X4 truck pull Friday night was also a hit with pickups, triaxle trucks and semitractors pulling. In fact, the pull that ended at 2:20 a.m. the following morning also set a pull record with a total of 157 hooks or pull attempts recorded. "The Saturday pulls were also well attended with a large group of farm stock tractors and steam engines. We had four engines that pulled and put on great spark shows for the evening pull that lasted until 11 p.m.," Schmidt added.

"We even had great weather, a little dry and dusty, but much better than the past two years when we were rained out on Friday," he concluded.

In initiating preparations for the 2009 Fulton Fall Folk Festival, the Grease, Steam and Rust Association has selected the Minneapolis-Moline brand of tractors and equipment as their feature. Furthermore, the Prairie Gold Rush Convention is slated to return to the fairgrounds as well with exhibitors hailing from all over the United States and Canada.

Friday's Youth Day held in McConnell Park drew in a large crowd of little ones and their parents, event organizers and vendors reported. Pumpkin painting, face painting, birdfeeders made from recyclables, magic shows and the lollipop tree were offered, while Saturday's festivities in Waterfall included lots of handmade food ranging from hot sausages and chicken corn soup to apple dumplings. In addition to kettle corn demonstrations and craft vendors, event organizers also offered visitors a chance to witness or participate in a candy scramble, the Second-Time Around fashion show and a pet show.

The Dale Gordon Memorial 5K Run/Walk held Saturday in Needmore boasted more than 100 participants with about half of the participants being runners. The event raised over \$9,000, which will go toward the operation of the Fulton County Community Christian School, "a small multi-denominational parochial school."

One hundred and twenty eight entries in various mediums, including watercolors, pastels, photographs and oils, were judged in the community room of the former Fulton County Medical Center as part of the Fulton County Art Club exhibit. Cindy Smith of Waynesboro was awarded "Best Of Show" with her watercolor entitled "Narcissus."

## Peggy Ann

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he said they would live.

She told the audience that Hollenbaugh had no remorse and showed absolutely no compassion to any living thing. She said that no matter what she said to him, she could not please him and that he talked very little, often just grunting. After killing Anderson, he felt she should be grateful to him that he would kill someone to save her. She said he was very bitter with society and felt that he had been unfairly treated by law enforcement. She said he was proudest after he killed Anderson and the dog. At the time, Anderson was only the ninth FBI agent to be killed in the line of duty. Today, Bradnick Jackson stays in touch with Anderson's family and said that his two sons followed in his footsteps by becoming FBI agents.

Bradnick Jackson recounted how they would sometimes be close enough to searchers to "reach out and touch them" and that she could hear them light cigarettes and smell the smoke. Although she knew there were search parties looking for them, she did not know anything else and said she feared for her family that they might all be dead.

On the final day, Hollenbaugh shot Francis Sharpe, a Cambria County deputy sheriff who had spent the night at a friend's cabin on Gobbler's Knob while joining in the search. Hollenbaugh forced the deputy, who had been wounded in the abdomen, to drive the pair down to Route 522 near the Fort Littleton area and the turnpike exchange. At the Rubeck farm, Sharpe alerted state troopers who were stationed there and in the ensuing gun battle, Hollenbaugh was shot and killed. Program emcee David Hoover recalled how Hollenbaugh was brought to Fulton County Medical Center. Although already dead, he was handcuffed to the gurney, Hoover said. Bradnick was also taken to the Medical Center, where she spent a week recovering from cuts, scrapes, bruises and severe dehydration. She had lost 14 pounds during her week in captivity.

The theme of her story now is one of trying to give back all she can to a community that she said "saved her with its prayers." "I became a Christian when I was seventeen years old," she said. "When you are abducted, fear takes over and all common sense is gone," she said, "but all of your prayers were felt by me - without them, I would not be here tonight."

She spoke lovingly of her late parents, saying that on the day she was abducted her mother was able to give a perfect description of what she

was wearing. "How many parents can do that today?" she asked. She was also joined briefly on stage by her daughter, Alicia, whom she called "the light of my life."

She remained quiet for many, many years after the abduction. "You can't fix what's been broken," she said, "but I'm OK and I am at peace - I have worked hard to become a person I could be happy with when my life ends." Expressing compassion for her abductor, she said she has often wondered how difficult it must have been for him to have no one to care about him and no one to love him. "I'm just so sorry that anyone had to die," she said, and one gets the sense that she includes Hollenbaugh in that sorrow.

Now living in Three Springs, she manages the senior citizen center there, but she said when she retires, she hopes to work as an advocate for those who have a mental illness. She speaks in high schools and colleges and admonishes students to stay connected to their parents, to always leave a note or let them know where you are. She also encouraged everyone not to take the same routes to work every day and not to do things in the same way, to avoid patterns that criminals can study and use to harm you. "You don't realize what can be taken away from you until it happens," she added.

Following her remarks, Bradnick Jackson took questions from the audience which included questions about "Cry In The Wild," the movie made of her abduction. She rejected the script 16 times and had resisted consulting on the project until the film's producers persistence wore her down. She was asked about Robert Cox's book, "Deadly Pursuit" and said, "I never read it." Cox went on to win a Pulitzer Prize for his coverage of the story for the Public Opinion. She also very strongly set the record straight about the many rumors that were talked about after her rescue.

Prior to Bradnick Jackson taking the stage, Hoover recounted many of the events leading up to the abduction. For several years, there had been strange occurrences and shootings in the area and although Hollenbaugh was suspected, it was never proven until after his death that he was the perpetrator.

After receiving a standing ovation at the end of the program, Bradnick Jackson told the very large crowd that the turnout and the reception "is overwhelming to me - I guess because we're neighbors and we stick together and it is so heartwarming. Thank you all from the bottom of my heart," she said, as she stood strong and stoic before the crowd, many of whom had offered prayers for her safety all those years ago. Locally she will now be remembered forever as a survivor, never a victim.

Franklin County Bar Association, approximately 150 full-time attorneys work in Franklin and Fulton counties. Any of those attorneys wishing to throw their hat into the ring for either of the two judge's positions can cross-file for the May 2009 primary election.

## Judge

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Even though Fulton County currently only has one courtroom and routinely hears Court of Common Pleas matters every Tuesday, Franklin County could encounter some space constraints with the addition of a fifth judgeship. Franklin County has only four courtrooms and is hoping to finalize plans to address needs for judge's chambers and office space for assisting staff such as a law clerk and secretary. According to reports from the

## Thomas Ford

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will offer domestic vehicles as well as imports.

In the meantime, Robertson said the dealership will continue to sell off new-car inventory at cost in order to move them off the lot. The sale of the new vehicles will continue until the details of turning in the franchise have been completed or for approximately 30 to 45 days.

In August 2007, when Thomas Chevrolet announced it would close its Chevrolet franchise in McConnellsbury, Thomas officials cited the fact that "the auto industry has been plagued for years with declining sales based on domestic and international pressure" as the reason for giving up the franchise. It is believed that loss of that franchise marked the first time since the 1920s that Chevrolets had not been sold in Fulton County.

Robertson said that other Thomas locations, including the Chevrolet and Cadillac franchises in Bedford and the Buick franchise in Johnstown, will remain open and will not be affected by the closing of Thomas Ford here.

To Place  
Your Ad Call  
485-3811  
or fax it to  
485-5187 by  
Monday at  
4:00 p.m.

## Good Samaritans Make Over 500 Lbs. Of Sauerkraut



A group of Good Samaritans make sauerkraut last week at McConnellsbury Motor & Implement that will be distributed among local churches for the needy. Chopping and grating cabbage above are, left to right, Dr. Joanna Brady, Reubin Brady, Bill Kies, Sam Buterbaugh and Marvin Davis. Helping out, at right, are Elana and Hannah Brady, Joanna Brady's daughters. The group has met twice to make the fermented cabbage that is favored by so many, turning out 230 pounds in the first go-round and 360 more pounds in the second.



## Md. Woman

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path of a 2006 Toyota Corolla driven by Hartman. The two vehicles collided, causing Hartman's southbound vehicle to be pushed off Route 522 and into a nearby garage.

Prior to state police arriving on the scene, the affidavit states, Shoemaker allegedly told an eyewitness and at least one emergency responder she never saw the stop sign when she approached the intersection of Thompson Road and Great Cove Road in the village of Needmore at 7:24 p.m. In her conversations with police and responders, Shoemaker added Hartman's car "came out of nowhere," the affidavit said.

Later at Fulton County Medical Center, where her blood alcohol con-

tent level was recorded at .179 percent, Shoemaker informed state police she had drunk three or four beers at the Hancock Gun Bash. While she was unable to initially tell state police why she was driving through Fulton County, if she was indeed returning to her home in Hagerstown from Hancock, Shoemaker eventually told them she and her husband had visited the home of her husband's friend.

Husband Donald Elwood Shoemaker Jr. had also been transported to Fulton County Medical Center by ambulance for treatment of injuries.

The casual factor of the collision was recorded as Shoemaker's "failure to stop for a posted stop sign and ... failure to yield to other traffic." State police were able to determine there were "no pre-existing mechanical defects ... that contributed to the cause of the crash."

## Car Crash Kills Pa. State Senator, 66

By MARC LEVY  
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

HARRISBURG, Pa. (AP) - Longtime state Sen. James J. Rhoades died Saturday from injuries he suffered a day after the car he was driving collided head-on with a pickup truck.

Rhoades, 66, and his wife were headed to an official event Friday evening in Monroe County, an aide said.

"It is impossible to properly express how much we will miss him personally, and how much the Senate of Pennsylvania will miss his presence," Senate President Pro Tempore Joe Scarnati and Senate Majority Leader Dominic Pileggi said in a joint statement.

The seven-term Republican senator from Schuylkill County represented northeastern Pennsylvania's coal country and was the longtime chairman of the Senate Education Committee. A big man with a booming voice, Rhoades had helped craft every major education initiative in recent history, including the Pennsylvania Safe Schools Act and the Head Start Supplemental Assistance Program, Scarnati and Pileggi said.

"Jim's passing is a tremendous loss for Pennsylvania," Gov. Ed Rendell said in a statement. "He was a great person and a tremendous fighter for school children in the commonwealth."

According to police, the accident happened around 7:30 p.m. Friday near Brodheadsville. Rhoades was traveling north on Route 209 and his Cadillac collided with a pickup truck traveling the other way. After the initial crash, Rhoades' car then struck a third vehicle that had pulled onto the shoulder.

Rhoades was going to a ceremony where he was to be thanked by the Pleasant Valley School District for raising state money for the district, said an aide, Champ Holman.

Rhoades and his wife, Mary, were taken to Lehigh Valley Hospital in Allentown.

Holman said a funeral was being planned and that Rhoades' family

did not want any further details released. Senate aides said Rhoades wife's condition was not believed to be life threatening.

Rhoades had served in the state Senate since 1981 and was seeking an eighth four-year term in the Nov. 4 election. He also served as a member of the Appropriations, Transportation, Law and Justice, and Environmental Resources and Energy committees.

His district covers Schuylkill County and parts of Berks, Monroe, Northampton, Lehigh and Carbon counties.

Rhoades taught and coached at Pottsville and Mahanoy City high schools, and was the principal of Mahanoy Area Junior High School before being elected to the Senate's 29th District seat in 1980.

"Jim was a one-of-a-kind senator," Pileggi and Scarnati said. "His down-to-earth approach to solving problems reflected his roots in Schuylkill County."

State Republican Chairman Robert A. Gleason Jr. called Rhoades "a great party-builder and supporter."

"He anchored the Republican Senate, an expert on education, a leader of the Senate," Gleason said. "He was going to retire this year and people talked him into going for one term. He was running hard."

Rhoades was facing two challengers in the upcoming election, Democrat P.J. Symons and independent Dennis Baylor. Symons' chief of staff Jeremy Mullen said the Democrat's campaign is being suspended until after Rhoades' funeral.

Rhoades' death leaves the seat in uncharted territory, little more than two weeks before the election.

Senate Republican officials met Saturday to discuss the matter and made no decision on what to do about Rhoades' candidacy, said spokesman Erik Arneson.

Senate GOP officials believe a state court's permission would be needed if they were to seek to replace Rhoades on the ballot with another candidate.

Republicans hold a 29-21 major-

ity over Democrats in the Senate.

"We were counting on him to be re-elected. I don't know what happens now," Gleason said. "He'll be missed by everyone in the Republican Party."

## Carlisle Man Suing Police Over Stun Gun Incident

CARLISLE, Pa. (AP) - A man is suing the Carlisle police department stemming from a 2006 incident in which he says officers used a stun gun on him.

Richard Shultz says in his federal lawsuit that he suffers from a seizure disorder.

He says he was having a seizure in a fast-food restaurant when officers forced him to the ground and used a stun gun on him at least four times, causing burns, then handcuffing him.

Shultz is seeking compensation and unspecified damages.

But his attorney, Debra Mehaffie, says the main point of the lawsuit is to send a message that police should be better trained about disabilities.

## Pa. Woman, 64, Run Over By Own Car, Killed

CONNELLSVILLE, Pa. (AP) - Police say a southwestern Pennsylvania woman is dead after she was trapped after her own car rolled onto her.

Police believe 64-year-old Nancy Paduone, of Conneltsville, got out of the car while it was still running in an alley and may have been trying to feed a dog. The car was still in gear and drifted forward onto the woman, pinning her beneath it on Sunday afternoon.

Fayette County Coroner Dr. Phillip Reilly has yet to rule on the cause of death.

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