

Letters To The Editor

Rotary Club Information

To The Editor,
The Rotary Club of Hancock Md., hopes to form a Rotary Club in Fulton County, Pa. Rotary is a service club with 1,200,000 members in 200 countries worldwide. There has never been a club in Fulton County and hopefully this will soon change.

Rotarians meet weekly to fellowship, learn through programs and carry out service projects in the local community and internationally. Rotarians exemplify the four-way test in the daily life.

- First, is it the truth?
- Second, is it fair to all concerned?
- Third, will it build goodwill and better friendships?
- Fourth, will it be beneficial to

all concerned?

This became a creed to live by and use in all business dealings. Rotary was formed in 1905 by a businessman in Chicago. Often times businesses provide members which participate in the club. However, membership is not limited to business owners but also encompass all interested citizens in a community.

Both women and men become Rotarians.

Why not join an organization with the motto "Service Above Self?"

Please call Melinda Golden at 717-294-6186 to find out more or to ask questions.

Melinda Golden
Hancock, MD

Benefit Dance For Liberty Crouse

To The Editor:
There will be a benefit dance this Saturday night, August 1, from 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m. in the alumni community center gym. This dance will benefit Liberty Crouse, a 6-year-old girl who has recently been diagnosed with a cancerous brain tumor.

Liberty has been in and out of Hershey Medical Center since school has been out. She just finished kindergarten at McConnellsburg Elementary. She will be having radiation and chemotherapy for the next 12 to 15 months at Hershey Medical Center, which is at least two

hours away. She has already started her radiation treatment. Liberty has recently suffered a stroke and is now having seizures.

It is amazing how our lives can change in such a little time. This benefit dance is for everyone to attend. Donations of money, gas cards, baked goods, water, soda, hotdogs, barbecue, etc. are needed and can be dropped off at the center after 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. If you or anyone can help or if you have questions please contact me at 485-0221. Together we can make a difference.

Kathy J. Kendall

Entitlement Run Amuck

To The Editor:
Responding to Debra J. McMullen's "Has Issues With New Medical Center" (7-23-09 issue):

Debra McMullen's letter to the editor last week is a perfect example of a liberal's sense of entitlement running amuck. Anyone with an ounce of compassion is sympathetic about the condition of her daughter. However, Ms. McMullen demonstrates stunning impudence with her criticism of Fulton County Medical Center. After admitting that she had no money, she questions the professionalism of the emergency room physician, com-

plaint about the noise, room temperature and then whines about not getting a private room when her daughter is admitted. Perhaps the FCMC should have evicted a paying customer. She goes on to grumble about not getting her usual free lunch. Let me get this straight: is free food (along with healthcare) also a right?

Ms. McMullen wrote that she prays that her daughter does not get sick again. I'll join her in that prayer, my taxes are already too high.

Jerry Land
Fort Littleton

Good Things In Fulton County

To The Editor:
First and foremost JLG hiring back all the people is great.

Mildred Mellott at 98 - way to go. I knew her when I grew up. My township of Wells has remained about the same in population, that is good.

Dan Swain takes over Dick Wible's job after a distinguished commissioner tenure. You are fortunate to have him.

Dick Wible, I hope he enjoys retirement and does okay with the medical problems. He was one year behind me in high school.

The Fulton County Fair is still going to go on, and I trust the state budget issues will get worked out. Clem is quite right. When I grew up both my Mom and Dad were on the board. Mom was secretary, and Dad was a director. Lots of sweat equity on his part and that of Emil Mellott, Bob Barber, Gil Deshong, Lester Carmack and others in those days. Everyone always thought those guys were making all this money - as Clem says not true. We depended

heavily on state then as now for paying good premiums to attract both in-county and out of county exhibitors. If the money crunch is not solved, I hope that at least reasonable premiums can be paid to the 4-H and FFA folks. They are the best, no offense to us adults who like to take things as well.

Some of this was offset by the departure of the Chrysler Dealership. But, I am glad to see that other aspects are staying open.

Last but not least, a challenge to the Forbes Road Class of 1969 - 40th reunion, August 8, 5:30 p.m. at Hustontown Firehall. Now if I can come from Kansas and another classmate can come from California, those folks from Hustontown and Burnt Cabins who have not come in the past can surely make it! That is my challenge and you know who you are. Thanks to Nancy Keebaugh Traxler for taking care of the administrative stuff like she always does.

Dennis Mosebey
Emporia, KS

I-70 Culvert

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light lane closures will occur but no long-term delays are expected.

The contractor for this \$1.7 million project is C.H. & D. Enterprises Inc. of New Stanton. The project is being funded with 100 percent state funds and is expected to be completed by mid November.

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PUBLISHER

Jamie S. Greathead

STAFF WRITERS

Lindsay R. Mellott • Chanin Rotz-Mountz • Jean Snyder

SUPPORT STAFF

Charles Dean • Trudy Gelvin • David Gregory • Robin Souders

417 E. Market Street, P.O. Box 635

McConnellsburg, PA 17233

717-485-3811 or 485-4513 Fax: 717-485-5187

E-mail: fultoncountynews@comcast.net

On the Web @ fultoncountynews.com



Young walkers trek the alleyways in McConnellsburg.

-PHOTO BY WILLIAM W. SMITH

Reader Suggests "Get Out And Walk"

McConnellsburg is representative of a lot of towns both large and small across America today with respect to what there is to do for entertainment.

So it is that we hear such phrases as, "there is nothing to do around here." There is, in fact, something to do around here that is free fun as well as healthy. It is simply walking.

Walking is a way to get and stay healthy, reduce stress, occupy idle time, make friends and discover new things. Walking can be done by oneself or with someone else. Walking with others is a great opportunity for discussion and togetherness, much like the quality time we often hear existed around the supper tables of the past.

It can be the basis for discovery, exploration and a new way of seeing the familiar around us. Across the planet, people walk for all of these reasons and as a result are much healthier and happier for it.

While living in Europe, I was exposed to a culture where people in the evening and on the weekends would walk upon paths that wound through vineyard, field and forests. I participated in a club expressly meant to promote walking as a group

sport.

This allowed me to see sights and places that I would never have seen otherwise. McConnellsburg and the surrounding county have a beauty that can be experienced in a new way by getting out and walking the streets, roads and trails of the county.

There are already many people in the area who know this and they can be seen out walking about the town and surrounding county. Special equipment is not generally necessary, comfortable, well fitting shoes being the main exception.

Some manner of carrying water is advisable as well, also be smart about the sun and wear protection, as you will more than likely be exposed to it for extended periods. It is also advisable for some people with known or potential health issues to check with their doctor before starting any recreational walking.

Also, be sure to follow all safety rules for pedestrians while walking along road sides.

Both long and short walks can and do provide these benefits, so now you know too.

William W. Smith

President's Health Care Option Scary

To The Editor:

Congress is rushing to pass the president's public healthcare option before the August 3 congressional recess. Introduced in the House on July 14, with less than 17 days of debate, this legislation would be a government takeover of the healthcare system, which is six percent of the U.S. economy. Our healthcare decisions would be put in the hands of presidential appointees. Dr. Ezekiel Emanuel, appointed as health policy advisor at the Office of Management and Budget and a member of Federal Council on Comparative Effectiveness Research, wrote last year that "vague promises of savings ... are ... more for show and public relations than a true change."

Douglas Elmendorf, Congressional Budget Office (CBO) Director, confirmed that the congressional Democrats' government takeover of healthcare will drive costs even higher for American families. Remember, this \$1.5 trillion plan over 10 years will continue to be law and cost taxpayers year after year.

According to the Associated Press (AP), the healthcare plan seeks to provide coverage to nearly all Americans by subsidizing the poor and penalizing individuals and employers who don't purchase health insurance. Did you get that? Low income families, those earning up to 4X the poverty level, \$88,000 for a family of four, will receive a monthly deposit into their bank account. If you happen to fall within these guidelines, this may sound pretty good to you, but this is redistribution of wealth, also known as socialism. Why is this in a healthcare bill? And, you and your employers will be forced to purchase insurance. Failure to comply will result in financial penalties up to \$2,500 and then you will be assigned a healthcare plan. Small businesses not offering insurance will have penalties up to 8.5 percent of their income. How many jobs will this create?

"If you like your healthcare plan, you can keep that too" according to President Obama in the Rose Garden July 15, 2009.

Not true! The nonpartisan CBO reported 23 million Americans would lose their current plans if the Senate Democratic healthcare "reform" bill is enacted. "White House officials suggest the president's rhetoric should not be taken literally: what Obama really means is that government isn't about to barge in and force people to change their insurance." (AP) But, if there are any changes in your insurance after the government option becomes effective, such as the insurance company's changing copays or deductibles or you changing jobs, you will be required to go into a government plan. (See pages 16-17 of the House plan). But, members of the House and Senate are exempt from the plan as it's currently written. If it's a good plan for everyone, why is Congress exempt?

Dr. Eumanitarianism believes that "communitarianism" should guide decisions on who gets care. He says medical care should be reserved for the nondisabled, not given to those "who are irreversibly prevented from being or becoming participating citizens ... an obvious example is not guaranteeing health services to patients with dementia." He plans a nationwide federal hospice program. And, the elderly will be required to have counseling by a government psychologist every five years. Is that to prepare you for hospice, no more healthcare, and a dignified end of your life? According to our president, after a certain age, you can't have surgery; you should "take a pain pill instead." If you fall and break your hip, do you go to a hospice for pain pills instead of a hospital for surgery? It'll be based on age, not quality of life. At what age are you too old?

Wake up! This plan should scare you to death, maybe literally. Pick up your phone and call your representative and senators today. I have. Sen. Arlen Specter, 202-224-4254; Sen. Robert Casey, 202-224-6324; Rep. Bill Shuster, 202-225-2431.

Sue Schooley
McConnellsburg

FCMC

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percent. The report estimates the total income generated by health services in Fulton County at nearly \$25 million with 586 jobs provided at FCMC, by other health professionals and by other health and medical services such as assisted living, hospice, pharmacies, etc.

The community engagement committee consists of elected officials, hospital staff, board members, physicians, local human services agencies, community citizens and consumers, and business leaders.

Doekson and Schott praised FCMC CEO Jason Hawkins for being open to allowing the Rural

Health Center and the community to critique his organization. Hawkins responded by thanking the engagement team for their time and for being part of what he called a very worthwhile process both for FCMC and the community.

The team will meet again in September to assist in the development of the 15-20 minute telephone survey that will be conducted as a next step. The survey will collect responses from at least 200 households to use in the study and citizens are asked to please participate if called. More details on the survey process will be made available after the September meeting. Meetings will also be held in October and November.

Jobless Rate

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Pennsylvania's seasonally adjusted total nonfarm jobs count was down 3,400 jobs in June - the smallest decrease over the past 10 months - to 5,630,700 jobs. More than half of the 11 supersectors showed

job growth in June, though the majority of the overall growth was limited to education & health services - up 7,400 - which can often be affected by shifting seasonal patterns in private education.

Since June 2008, Pennsylvania jobs were down 3 percent. Nationally, jobs were down 4.1 percent over the same period.

SFSB

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to attend the KEYTA Conference held June 17-June 19. In addition, Superintendent Ralph Scott was scheduled to attend a meeting of Blendedschools.net on July 28-29. Participation cost is covered by the organization.

Building and Grounds

Warfordsburg Area Youth Soccer was given permission to utilize athletic fields from August 14 through October 1 from 6:30 p.m. to 8 p.m. Usage will be coordinated by the district's athletic director.

The board decided to move forward with the plans laid forth in the Energy Conservation Services Program. It was noted this is the final step in the process before it could cost the district money. The superintendent shared he did not want this program to get in the way of any potential renovation project and urged the board to be cautious in spending money to save money. "When you have to be careful is when you spend \$600,000 to save \$600,000," said Scott, who added there are guaranteed savings through the program.

Policy

The second reading of the following policies was approved: Policy 304, Employees, Employment of District Staff; Policy 504, Classified Employees, Employment of Classified Employees;

Ben K-5K

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shirts from Manor Care as well as a medal compliments of the Knepper family. Switching up the award process from previous years, the top 50 finishers to cross the line received medals donated by Sue and Barb Thomas, who also contributed green participant ribbons for the remaining competitors.

Companies, organizations and residents sponsoring this year's annual race included Forbes Road Lions Club, Center United Methodist Church, Newman's Market, Edgewood Pro Hardware, Tinman Body Shop, Barnett's Self Storage, Wen-Brooke Contracting Inc., Community State Bank of Orbisonia, Sandy Ridge Market, Waterfall Cable, Rotz-Mountz families, Second Time Around, Spring

Rum Lumber Barn, Charles Cook and Sarah Hawkins, Ketchum family and Black's Garage. Others receiving special recognition from Newman for their assistance were New Enterprise REC, Zack and Becky Newman and Don Pierrot.

Aside from sponsorships, donations and T-shirt fees associated with the Ben K-5K netted over \$5,000 for the Ben Knepper Scholarship Fund. Money from the fund is awarded annually to at least one deserving senior from Forbes Road High School, who, like Ben, is interested in furthering their education. This year's scholarship recipients were 2009 graduates Haley Strait and Jamie Stoeby.

"I really need to thank all of the sponsors, volunteers and participants," concluded Newman. "Without everyone's involvement, the event wouldn't be possible."



Winners at the annual Ben K-5K awarded (left to right) Eric Broadwater (male 17 and under), Cody Myers (overall male and 18-39), Tim Novick (male 40 and over), Deanne Baker (female 40 and over), Jenna Hollenshead (female 17 and under) and Courtney Newman (overall female and 18-39).

89th Annual FULTON COUNTY FAIR

August 16-22, 2009

ANIMAL SHOWS • EXHIBITS • BARNYARD OLYMPICS
DEMOLITION DERBY • TRUCK PULL • FAIR QUEEN CONTEST
LITTLE MISS FAIR QUEEN CONTEST • LAWN MOWER RACES
HORSE SHOW • PRIZE GIVEAWAYS • MIDWAY
PLENTY OF GOOD FOOD • FELLOWSHIP WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS!

