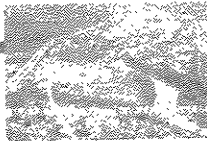


SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY



FLOOD HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING PROCESS February 6, 2008

Why a Flood Mitigation Plan?

- ❑ Susquehanna County received a grant to support the development of flood mitigation plan, a key element of the County's all-hazards mitigation plan.
- ❑ A flood mitigation plan will ensure the social and economic wellbeing of Susquehanna County and the boroughs and townships within the County.
- ❑ Floods strike the County more than any other other hazard.
- ❑ Because there is money for flood mitigation projects.

What is Hazard Mitigation?

- ❑ FEMA defines Hazard Mitigation as "any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate the long-term risk to human life and property from hazardous conditions."
- ❑ Hazard Mitigation = Reduced Risk
- ❑ Mitigation Measures must be cost-effective and environmentally sound.

Examples of Hazard Mitigation Measures

- ❑ Land Use and Building Code Enforcement
- ❑ Acquisition and demolition of flood-damaged homes ("buy-outs")
- ❑ Stream Bank Maintenance
- ❑ Debris Management
- ❑ Drainage System Maintenance
- ❑ Storm water management
- ❑ Public Education and Awareness Campaigns

Purpose of Flood Mitigation Plan

- ❑ A thoughtful, comprehensive flood mitigation plan will identify areas prone to flooding (based on a Hazard Vulnerability Analysis, historical flood data, and flood maps), prioritize the threat and potential impacts of flood damage, and outline a strategy to reduce or eliminate the potential affects of future floods.

Goals of Flood Mitigation Plan

- ❑ Protect Life and Property
- ❑ Reduce Future Flood Damages
- ❑ Support Emergency Services
- ❑ Increase Public Awareness about Threat of Flooding and Flood Damage in County
- ❑ Preserve Natural Systems and Resources, such as Floodplains, Creeks, Rivers, Aquifers, and Watersheds
- ❑ Encourage Partnerships and Collaboration
- ❑ Enhance Planning Activities

Planning Roles and Responsibilities

- Municipalities -- Townships and Boroughs
- Susq Co
 - EMA
 - Planning Commission
- Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency
- Federal Emergency Management Agency

Municipal Roles and Responsibilities

- Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Assessment
- Capabilities Assessment
- Hazard Mitigation Project Opportunity Identification and Form -- for flood mitigation projects only
- Adopt, Implement, Maintain, and Update Flood Mitigation Plan -- update required every 5 years.

Susq Co Roles and Responsibilities

- EMA:
 - Communicate with Planning Stakeholders
 - Municipal officials
 - Local EMA Coordinators
 - Media
 - Data Collection
 - County Owned Facilities (risk assessment)
 - County Programs (capability assessment)
 - Completed Municipal Assessments
 - Coordination
 - Hazard Mitigation Planning Team
 - County Plan Approval
 - PEMA and FEMA

Susq Co Roles and Responsibilities, cont'd

- Planning Commission
 - Technical Assistance
 - Data Collection
 - Analysis
 - Hazard Identification and Vulnerability Assessment
 - Capability Assessment Findings
 - Policy Recommendations

PEMA Roles and Responsibilities

- Communications
 - Group Email Distribution of Policy and Program Changes and Requirements
- Data
 - State Owned Facilities (risk assessment)
 - State Agency Programs (capability assessment)
 - Completed Hazard Mitigation Projects
 - Man-Made Hazards Threat Assessment
- Coordination
 - Federal and State Hazard Mitigation Requirements
 - State Plan Approval and Update

FEMA Roles and Responsibilities

- Flood Mitigation Assistance and Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 implementation policy guidance
- Plan Review
- Plan Approval
- Plan Updates

Method of Hazard Vulnerability Analysis

- ❑ History - an inventory or review of past flood events, including frequency and severity.
- ❑ Vulnerability - the exposure of a community to death, injury, physical damage, and the disruption of economic and governmental activities as a result of floods/flooding.
- ❑ Maximum Threat - "worst case scenario" in the event of a major flood.
- ❑ Probability - how often does a flood impact the County?

Flood Mitigation Plan Timeline

- ❑ Pace will be very brisk - - most of the work is done. Need to add detail and graphics.
- ❑ Plan will be completed in 8 weeks - - by end of March.

Hazard Mitigation Plan Timeline, cont'd

- ❑ February 6, 2008, Kick-off Meeting
- ❑ Week of February 18, First Draft of Plan Distributed for Comment
- ❑ February 29, 2008 Comment Period for First Draft Closes
- ❑ March 10, 2008, Second Draft of Plan Distributed for Comment
- ❑ March 14, 2008, Comment Period for Second Draft Closes
- ❑ Week of March 17, Final Draft of Plan Presented at Second Public Meeting.
- ❑ End of March/Early April, County and Municipalities Adopt Plan. Plan to PEMA/FEMA for Approval

Questions???

- ❑ Contact Information:
 - Mark Wood, Coordinator, Susq Co EMA
278-4600, ext. 257
emadirector@susqco.com
 - Robert Templeton, Director, Susq Co Department of Planning and Development
278-4600, ext. 291
Susqplan@susqco.com
 - Donna Erat, Disaster Recovery Specialist
206-755-9707
d_erat@speakeasy.net

PLEASE SIGN IN

SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY FLOOD HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING PROCESS

February 6, 2008

PRINT NAME	REPRESENTING	ADDRESS	PHONE	SIGNATURE
LI HUEK MEAN	BRIDGEWATER	Rt 4 Box 30 MINTHUSSE	278-1358	Li Huek Mean
MARY WEN	"	"	"	"
Jim Carpenter	New Milford	PO Box 213 New Milford	465-3004	Jim Carpenter
Sue Abbott	New Milford	229 Smith St.	465-3265	Sue Abbott
Barbara S. James	New Milford	40 Hartford Rd	465-3174	Barbara James
Sharon Wilcox	Hallstead	RR 2 #2413	8909 0908	Sharon Wilcox
Bill Goddard	LIBERTY	RR#3 BOX 174E HOUSTON	967-2472	Bill Goddard
David Dawson	Greenblin	RR#3 MINTHUSSE	967-3555	David Dawson
Sharon Zaluski	Forest Lake	RR5 Box 1304 MINTHUSSE	934-2749	Sharon Zaluski
Connie Kufi	Greenup Twp.	RR5 Box 224 MINTHUSSE	934-2451	Connie Kufi

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SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY FLOOD HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING PROCESS

February 6, 2008

PRINT NAME	REPRESENTING	ADDRESS	PHONE	SIGNATURE
Henry Rosenkrans	Franklin Twp	RD3 Box 932 Montross	907-2555	Henry Rosenkrans
Jane Bick	New Mills	33 Union St. Milford New	465-7356	Jane Bick
Henry Waptnan	Franklin Twp	RD3 Box 818 Montrose	878-4953	Henry Waptnan
Ted Plevinsky	Liberty	176 Box 665 Hillstone	879-5180	Ted Plevinsky
TERRY VAN GORSEN	HARRIS TWP	P.O. BOX 954 HARRIS	434-2401	Terry Van Gorsen
Paul Henry	Hop Bottom Boro	Box 85 Hop Bottom	289-4145	Paul Henry
Ronald BASHNIKOVICH	Hop Bottom	Rt#1 Box 1687 18441	289-4645	Ronald Bashnikov
KEVIN RYAN	Clarks Twp	Hwy 225 Lenora, Pa	722-3309	Kevin Ryan
John F. Bovic	Bridgewater Twp	RD1 Box 158 Mount Rose	278-8380	John F. Bovic

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SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY
FLOOD HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING PROCESS

February 6, 2008

PRINT NAME	REPRESENTING	ADDRESS	PHONE	SIGNATURE
Bonnie Lippert	Hop Bottom Boro	25 Main St Hop Bottom	289-0921	Bonnie Lippert
Deborah Fox	" "	Bd-1702 RR1 Friendsville	289-5036	Deborah Fox
William David	Chocoma	RR1 Box 1462 Friendsville	553-2469	William David
Jack Davis	" "	RR1 Friendsville	553-2081	Jack Davis
Cash Doolittle	Chocoma	RR1 Box 1494 Friendsville	553-2146	Cash Doolittle
Steve Wilson	Sigsbee	245 Main, Mardross	278-6397	Steve Wilson
Mark Wood	Sigsbee	31 Public Ave, Mardross	278-4600	Mark Wood

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SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY
FLOOD HAZARD MITIGATION PLANNING PROCESS

HMP Team Meeting

February 6, 2008

PRINT NAME	REPRESENTING	ADDRESS	PHONE	SIGNATURE
Mary Ann Shreeves	4601 SHERIFFS OFFICE	11 MAPLE ST. MONTROSE PO BOX 218 MONTROSE	278-4600	Mary Ann Shreeves
LAUCE BENOICT	PLANNING OFFICE	31 PUBLIC AVE MONTROSE	278-4600	Louise Benoit
BOB TEMPLETON	COMMISSIONER OFFICE	' '	' '	Bob Templeton
LEON ALLER	ARC	6 Public Ave Montrose	278-1437	Leon Aller
Becky Naylor	URPLA	PO Box 248 Montrose	778-284	Becky Naylor
Larry Souder	EMH	RR1 Box 153 Montrose	278-2848	Larry Souder
Jack Husher	EMH - County	31 Public Ave, Montrose	278-4600	Jack Husher
Mark Wood	Cons District	31 Public Ave	278-4600	Mark Wood
Jim Garner				Jim Garner

Flood mitigation planning process begins

Susquehanna County will hold its first public meeting at 7 p.m., on February 6, to begin the process for developing a flood hazard mitigation plan - a plan for reducing or eliminating the impacts of flooding in the County. The meeting will be held in the Emergency Management Conference Room, located in the basement of the County

Office Building, in Monroe. This plan will mirror the planning effort the County undertook last year, but while that process addressed all natural hazards that threaten the County and its municipalities, this plan will focus exclusively on the history and risk of flooding. According to the Federal Emergency Management

Agency (FEMA), the all-hazards mitigation plan developed for Susquehanna County is the best plan in the entire Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Every year, FEMA, through the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program, gives away grants for the development of plans or the implementation of projects that will reduce the threat or

risk of flooding. Last year, Susquehanna County applied for and received a grant to develop this plan. In the future, once the flood mitigation plan has been developed and adopted, Susquehanna County, and any municipality that adopts the plan, may apply for funding to implement flood reduction projects, such as elevating homes or floodproofing businesses. Participation in this planning process, like the all-hazards mitigation process, is completely voluntary.

The planning process offers Susquehanna County and the townships and boroughs within the County the opportunity to assess community and economic development against the threat or impacts of flooding.

Over the last forty years, Susquehanna County has been impacted by 22 major floods, which have displaced residents, destroyed infrastructure, and impacted the economic health of the County. Severe and repetitive flooding in the County has impacted residential property values and therefore reduces the revenue the County can raise for public programs. The losses and impacts of floods - socially, environmentally, and financially - are no longer sustainable to the County.

For more information about the planning meeting or the planning process, contact Mark Wood, Susquehanna County Emergency Management Coordinator, at 278-4600, ext. 257.

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Multiple crashes caused by black ice

By Staci Wilson
Susquehanna County 911 received 24 calls in a one and one-half hour period the morning of January 29. Most of the calls were weather related. Black ice covered the roadways making driving and walking treacherous in some areas.

Nine major accidents were reported between 8 to 9:30 a.m. One crash shut Route 29 north, near the New York State border for hours. Advisories were in effect to deter people

from all unnecessary travel in the area.

A car traveling on Route 171 between Oreel Bend and Susquehanna went off the road and hit a house. In the Bridgewater area, a truck traveled off the road and hit a barn along Route 706.

Ambulances from the Broome County, N.Y. area were called for assistance with the multiple incidents.

No serious injuries were reported as a result of the crashes.

Flood Mitigation planning process begins

Susquehanna County will hold its first public meeting at 7 p.m., tonight, February 6, to begin the process for developing a flood hazard mitigation plan, a plan for reducing or eliminating the impacts of flooding in the County. The meeting will be held in the Emergency Management Conference Room, located in the basement of the county office building, Montrose.

This plan will mirror the planning effort the County undertook last year which

addressed all natural hazards that threaten the County and its municipalities, and this plan will focus exclusively on the history and risk of flooding.

Every year, FEMA, through the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program, gives away grants for the development of plans or the implementation of projects that will reduce the threat or risk of flooding. Participation in this planning process, like the all-hazards mitigation process, is completely

voluntary.

The planning process offers Susquehanna County and the townships and boroughs within the County the opportunity to assess community and economic development against the threat or impacts of flooding.

For more information about the planning meeting or the planning process, contact Mark Wood, Susquehanna County Emergency Management Coordinator, at 278-4600, ext. 257.

Meth dealer to serve 9 years in prison

SCRANTON — A Susquehanna County man was sentenced to serve nine years in federal prison after pleading guilty to participating in a methamphetamine trafficking conspiracy between 2002 and 2006.

Donald Overfield, 47, pleaded guilty in October, admitting to distributing methamphetamine in the Susquehanna County area with an associate, Jacky Ann Snyder,

according to a statement released by Martin Carlson, acting U.S. attorney for the Middle District of Pennsylvania. Ms. Snyder received a three-year prison sentence.

U.S. District Judge Thomas J. Vanaskie ordered Mr. Overfield to spend five years in supervised release after serving his term and to forfeit property in Rush Township.

Scranton Times Tribune report

Powers and Duties of the Susquehanna County Planning Commission

By Robert Templeton, Susquehanna County Planning Director

Editor's Note: This is the second of a two part series.

The Susquehanna County Planning Commission is charged with protecting the rights of all citizens and landowners of Susquehanna County with regard to their

enjoyment and use of their land as they see fit, as long as it is done legally. This includes a landowner's right to subdivide or develop their land.

The single land use regulation tool that the County Planning Commission has available at this time is the Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, which is governed by Pennsylvania State law (the Municipalities Planning Code, Act 247 of 1968 as amended).

A planning commission assists the governing body in and assumes primary responsibility for developing the ordinances necessary to guide future growth. A planning commission can merely act as an advisor in the governing body (County Commissioners) in defining how the community should grow. However, the governing body may, by ordinance, delegate approval authority to a planning commission for subdivision and land development applications. In practice most of a planning commission's time is devoted to the administration of the subdivision and land development ordinance.

A County may enact a zoning ordinance. In Pennsylvania all but a few zoning ordinances are enacted at the municipal level which provides the greatest local control over land use. Certain townships and boroughs in Susquehanna County are moving toward adopting zoning

ordinances.

The difference between subdividing and zoning is often misunderstood. Zoning regulates the specific types of uses allowed in a given area. A subdivision is the act of dividing land into 2 or more lots or parcels. Land Development regulations control how a particular use (such as a retail store or manufacturing plant) is physically placed on that particular parcel of land. Because the County has a Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance only, the Planning Commission cannot, under its Ordinance, tell someone they cannot propose a specific type of development on a specific piece of land. The Planning Commission may only regulate how that specific piece of land might be developed with the proposed type of development, such as through setbacks and buffers, in order to mitigate the effect it would have on neighboring property.

The Planning Commission invites and encourages all citizens and landowners of the County to attend its meetings. Meetings are held on the last Tuesday of each month beginning at 7:30 p.m. in the Conference Room of the County Office Building, 31 Public Avenue, Montrose. For more information you can call the Susquehanna County Department of Planning at (570) 278-4600, ext. 290, Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Get ready to give the gift of life

The Susquehanna Chapter of the American Red Cross has two blood drives coming up. The first is 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 14 at St. Paul's Episcopal Church, Church and Chestnut Sts., Montrose. What a great day to give from the heart!

On Tuesday, Feb. 19, you can donate blood at a new location - Taylor Rental, at RT 29 and Ellsworth Drive, in South Montrose. Same hours - 11:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Blood donors are urgently needed. Wouldn't you want blood to be available if you or a loved one were injured? This happens in someone's life every day. You can make a big difference in someone's life by giving a pint of your blood and it doesn't take long.

Walkins are accepted or you can call 1-800-GIVE LIFE (1-800-448-3543) to schedule an appointment. Donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 lbs. to give blood.

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2 - SUSQUEHANNA COUNTY TRANSCRIPT, Wednesday, February 6, 2008

To The Editor

Opinions expressed in Letters To The Editor and correspondence received are not necessarily those of the County Transcript management. All submissions must include a daytime phone number for verbal confirmation.

Inconvenient Facts

After a thoughtful column about modern life's effects on the family (Jan. 16), I see Bob Scroggins has unfortunately returned to a topic on which he is woefully uninformed. This week it's another chapter of "War According to Scroggins."

His Jan. 9 column sought to teach us all about America's "great wars," or 75% of them anyway, and how they were all "bad" wars. I say 75% because he somehow overlooked the Revolutionary War, arguably our most significant since without it there'd have been no others. Surely such an intelligent though sadly misguided mind could not have forgotten our little scuffle with King George (twice the duration of any of our other "great" wars), so why no mention of it?

Because as with so many of his political topics, Mr. Scroggins starts with a predetermined axe to grind - he then picks, twists and sometimes even flat-out creates the facts necessary to support his conclusion. On Jan. 9, the point of the sermon was that all wars are bad, at least if the United States gets involved. The Revolutionary War hardly tends itself to that argument and he so conveniently ignores it, hoping no one will notice. Readers, beware this common ploy when Bob preaches the political - no contrary evidence allowed. As a result, it's often what he doesn't say that speaks the loudest.

Of the three wars he did discuss in that column, none were recognizable to me, a lifelong student of American history. Without going into detail, as that could fill several volumes, suffice it to say that Bob's views on the causes and effects of those three wars were nothing more than hearty servings of unsubstantiated nonsense. It was pure fiction - not history - cooked up in his ultra left wing mental kitchen along with his usual fare of 1960's ideological leftovers. As always with Bob's political ravings and rantings, it's "Blame America and George Bush First."

Predictably, in his Jan. 23 column, we were told the U.S. was to blame once again, this time in the recent Iranian speedboat incident. Never mind that our ships were in international waters, exactly where they had a perfect right to be. Struggling mightily to find America at fault, Bob dismissed the threat to our ships and sailors by claiming the Iranian craft were merely "unarmed, outboard-motor speedboats." To begin with, he hasn't the slightest idea if they were unarmed or not, nor did the captains of our three warships at the time. More ominously, it was just such a small, "unarmed" boat, secretly laden with high explosives, that blew a hideous hole in the side of the U.S.S. Cole in 1998 and killed dozens of American sailors in the process. From that moment on, any U.S. Navy commandet who allows an unidentified craft, no matter how tiny or "unarmed" it may appear, to venture anywhere near his vessel is derelict in his duties and should be immediately relieved of command. When any such boat, Iranian or otherwise, makes threatening gestures and refuses to heed repeated directions to keep its distance, the U.S. captain is entirely justified - indeed obligated - to protect his ship by promptly vaporizing the intruder. The safety of American lives and vessels far outweighs the need to indulge some Iranian fruit loop out for his idea of a luncheon on the water. Fortunately, on January 6, one Iranian literally recognized his danger, backed off and thus kept those 64 virgins waiting a bit longer. Wise choice.

Then we're treated to some vintage Scroggins. Incredibly, just after informing us those U.S. warships had nothing to fear from the Iranian boats, Bob is quick to describe how, in some unidentified "\$250 million war game," Iran's "swarming scores of speedboats" handily defeated a U.S. armada on paper, sinking "16 American vessels, including a carrier." Which is it, Bob? Either Iran's speedboats are harmless, as you first claim, or they're the new terrors of the ocean, merrily erasing American carrier groups at will. You can't have it both ways and still impersonate someone who makes sense. So you take the Iranian speedboats, I'll take the U.S. Persian Gulf fleet and we'll see what kinds of odds Vegas gives us if/when you're getting a ton of points.

This unidentified war games debacle remains vague and shadowy because facts, at least those he hasn't made up, are Bob's worst enemy. When was this? Where? What American ships and fleets were involved? And most important, how can this reader independently verify your version of events? I ask because many readers - all of them, I hope - have learned over time that your grandiose recitation of "facts" is often nothing more than a figment of your anti-American imagination gone haywire.

This one is a bit hard to swallow, even for a Scroggins pile. Had a bevy of Iranian speedboats truly proved capable of sinking 16 American warships in these war games as he claims, it would represent, on paper, the greatest U.S. naval defeat in history, worse than Pearl Harbor by far. This is pure "Scroggins-nonsense" yet again - he apparently believes that if he shocks us with outrageous and unsubstantiated "facts" often enough, we'll eventually grow immune to the utter absurdity of his claims, thus granting them an aura of credibility by default.

In the recent Strait of Hormuz incident, two of the U.S. ships involved were state of the art guided missile cruisers, aside from our own carriers likely the most lethal package afloat. In 1994 I had the honor of touring one of these vessels in port in Norfolk, VA. The technology even then was far beyond anything else on the sea, truly awesome - what it is today is hard to imagine. At the end of the tour, which included a full-scale simulation of the ship's combat capabilities, the retired admiral who had accompanied us took questions. Thinking of my father's service aboard a World War II destroyer in the North Atlantic, I asked the admiral how this ship would have fared in that conflict. He smiled

Flood Mitigation Meeting Tonight

Submitted By Mark Wood, EMA Coordinator
Susquehanna County will hold its first public meeting on Wednesday, February 6, at 7 p.m., to begin the process for developing a flood hazard mitigation plan - a plan for reducing or eliminating the impacts of flooding in the county. The meeting will be held in the Emergency Management Conference Room, located in the basement of the County Office Building, in Montrose.

This plan will mirror the planning effort the county undertook last year, but that process addressed all natural hazards that threaten the county and its municipalities, and this plan will focus exclusively on the history and risk of flooding. According to the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), the all-hazards mitigation plan developed for Susquehanna County is the best plan in the entire Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Every year, FEMA, through the Flood Mitigation Assistance (FMA) program, gives away grants for the development of plans or the implementation of projects that will reduce the threat or risk of flooding. Last year, Susquehanna County applied for and received a grant to develop this plan. In the future, once the flood mitigation plan has been developed and adopted, Susquehanna County, and any municipality that adopts the plan, may apply for funding to implement flood reduction projects, such as elevating homes or flood-proofing businesses. Participation in this planning process, like the all-hazards mitigation process, is completely voluntary.

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For more information about the planning meeting or the planning process, contact Mark Wood, Susquehanna County Emergency Management Coordinator, at 278-4600, ext. 257.

Madigan To Hold Local Outreaches

State Sen. Roger A. Madigan (R-23) will host outreach events in February to give Susquehanna County residents a chance to ask questions or discuss issues concerning state government.

"Constituents are invited to stop by and discuss any problems or questions they might have about state issues or state programs," Madigan said.

The Senator stated that a staff member will be available to speak with constituents on February 15 and February 29, from 11 a.m. until 12 p.m. at the Susquehanna County Office Annex, 31 Public Avenue, Montrose and from 2 p.m. until 3 p.m. at the Hattstead-Great Bend Public Library, 201 Franklin Street, Hattstead.

No appointment is necessary.

The senator added that constituents who are unable to attend but would like to speak with him or a staff member should feel free to call either of his district offices, located at One Progress Plaza, Suite 13, Towanda, (570) 265-7448, and 330 Line St., Williamsport, 1-800-443-5772.

lightly and replied, "With just one of these boats in the U.S. fleet, World War II would never have happened." If Bob Scroggins honestly believes the U.S. and other coalition navies are powerless to keep the Strait of Hormuz open in the face of Iranian speedboats trying to close it, then he is indeed walking down a "Road Less Traveled" - without a map or a clue.

Mr. Scroggins, being an official columnist now does not give you journalistic license to ignore, create, cherry-pick or twist the facts in order to fit your predetermined political agenda. Leave the misleading of the public through liberal bias to the professionals, the national media. If you must assault our intelligence with your fantastic claims doled as "facts," at least back them up with readily verifiable sources.

Sincerely,
Sam W. Lewis
Montrose, PA

Take Back America

How can we justify if not some lame excuse, by paying over \$3.00 for one gallon of gasoline? I thought the trickle-down economics used widely by the Republican party would have allowed some of the 60-plus cents a gallon windfall come back to us. Instead, 60-plus cents is going into the economy to a very few businesses who are not spending it (evidently). I wonder if the new stimulus package adds up to all the 60 cents we are spending in our economy. This is gone for good from the American economy.

The American people are not dumb; I am confused as hell on this and we need to build ethanol plants now, make our own work here. Get together and start small business in every town and city, and take back America. Let's make some trickle-down trickle down to who truly needs it.

We know where and when to spend it.
Sincerely,
Peter A. Seman
Thompson, PA

TREHAB Opens Resource Center

As of January 14, TREHAB Workforce Development Services has opened a Resource Center at 61 Church Street (Community Bank & Trust Building). The center offers core services to all area job seekers and will also be the site of the Work Certified Program, an intensive job readiness preparation class for Welfare to Work participants in both Susquehanna and Wyoming counties. The facility will eventually provide enrollments and services for all Workforce Investment Act and Welfare to Work programs.

Resource Room services will be available at the Center from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday. Call (570) 278-5250 for more information.

TREHAB has Learning Center offices in Great Bend, Susquehanna County, and in Tunkhannock, Wyoming County, which will continue to offer Workforce Development services to residents of the two counties.

"MVSD" From Page 1

spoke very highly of the school's level of implementation, which is much greater than that of some other districts. For this reason Mountain View was invited to present at the state conference. The instructors and Mr. Yost were publicly acknowledged at the meeting for their role in this success, and the kids were recognized for their responsibility with the equipment.

In the second hearing of visitors, Mr. Ron Phillips spotlighted another school program, applauding its focus on life skills instruction. A former board member, he stated that he used to wonder if the district were adequately preparing students for life post high school. This year the departments collaborated to work with the seniors on just this problem. They were required to create a resume and an assembly, which brought in community business leaders to discuss interview skills, was held while the younger students were testing.

Mr. Phillips tied this success in with the Business Education department. He felt that students might not realize all the material which the business education department covers, that they, like he in times past, might think the program was only for secretaries and accountants. He stated that he felt a curriculum objectives introduction, to tell students what different educational tracks would help prepare them for, would be beneficial to students in general.

There was actually very little discussion at the meeting, compared to some past sessions. One of the few topics of widespread debate was that of the school calendar draft. Mrs. Jesse questioned why the district always started its year two days late, and then took away from Easter break to compensate for snow days. It was explained that many staff members and students worked at the Harford Plant, which is why the start of the year is delayed. Others present wondered why the district had the second day of deer season off. This year, that day was utilized for parent conferences. Mrs. Voigt acknowledged their concerns, and stated that the calendar had been designed such that Martin Luther King Junior day was the first snow makeup day and Holy Thursday was the second. After that, however, further days would be tacked onto the end of the year. The district had preferred the Monday after Easter for families which might go away during that time.

Susquehanna County Transcript

212-216 Exchange Street
Susquehanna, PA 18447 • USPS 013733

Phone: 570-853-3134 • 570-853-4744
1-800-372-7051 • FAX: 570-853-4707

email: suqtran@epix.net

www.susquehannatranscript.com

Hours: M - F 8:30 am - 4:30 pm

PUBLISHER/EDITOR, Charles Ficarro
ADMINISTRATIVE EXECUTIVE, Rita Ficarro
ADVERTISING & PRINTING REPRESENTATIVES:
Andrew Ficarro and Lauren P. Ficarro
WORD PROCESSING, ACCOUNTING,
SUBSCRIPTIONS, Barbara Whitehead
COMPUTER DESIGN, Andrew Ficarro
CIRCULATION, Dan Ehardt
GENERAL NEWS STAFF:

Gary Gray, Ted Brewster, Barbara Whitehead
Melinda Darrow, Carole Canfield, Stephanie Everett
SPORTS: Tom J. Robinson

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