

Jeffrey Varnes Resigns from School Board

“It’s been a great experience,” Jeffrey M. Varnes says of his more than 15 years as a member of the York Suburban School Board. “I’m proud to have been part of an extremely successful district in providing quality education to the community.”



Jeffrey M. Varnes

The Executive Director of the York County Chapter, American Red Cross, Jeff has been appointed CEO of the Southern Nevada Chapter of the American Red Cross and is moving to Las Vegas, Nevada. He submitted his resignation from the school board with an effective date of December 31.

Elected to the first of his four terms on the school board in 1991, he served as president of the board from 1994 to 2002.

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Tax Panel Suggests PIT, Public Hearing Favors EIT

The York Suburban School District Tax Commission presented its recommendation at a public meeting in November. The commission favors a tax shift to a 1.1 percent Personal Income Tax (PIT) from the current property-based tax system.

On December 4 the board held a public hearing to take testimony from residents of the York Suburban School District. The majority of the more than 100 people attending the meeting supported by generally a wide margin the Earned Income Tax over the Personal Income Tax as a ballot referendum. Given those choices, they would prefer neither a PIT nor an EIT and would rather keep the current property tax arrangement.

That may be an option.

The Tax Study Commission was mandated by the state’s Act 1 and had to come up with a non-binding alternative to the current tax system.

The York Suburban School Board will make the final decision based on the tax commission’s recommendation and the views expressed at the public meeting. The school board can decide to accept the recommendation or come up with its own referendum to be placed before voters this May.

If voters pass the referendum, the new tax plan will go into effect on July 1, 2007. If it is rejected, the current tax formula remains in effect.

What’s What

PIT – A Personal Income Tax would include all incomes currently taxed under state’s Personal Income Tax.

EIT – An Earned Income Tax would place a tax on all incomes currently taxed under the state’s Earned Income Tax.

Property Tax – A tax on all real property owned by an individual in the York Suburban School District.



Teacher Sarah Rodenburgh is shown with fundraising container and Zulu Grass necklaces that are helping to raise funds for a school for women in Africa.

Students Empowering Women in Africa

Women’s Studies is an elective course open to students through the York Suburban High School social studies department.

One of the objectives of the course is to encourage students to participate in a project that will provide opportunities for women and their children to receive an education.

Teacher Sarah Rodenburgh and her students – along with members of the York Suburban Chapter of the National Honor Society -- have created RENEWW – Resources Encouraging the Necessary Education of Women Worldwide.

The nine students in the class and the 30 currently in the honor society are conducting a number of fundraisers to “help build a school in Africa – probably Kenya,” according to Sarah.

(continued on page 7)

In Memory of Deborah Kuntz

The following have made contributions to the Deborah L. Topper Kuntz Memorial Scholarship Fund:

Mr. and Mrs. John H. Altland	Jennifer L. Grove	Richard and Gloria Long	Arlene T. Schmitt
William E. Altland	Mr. and Mrs. Timothy E. Grove	Tom and Carol Loucks	Mr. and Mrs. Keith A. Shaffer
Chuck and Jill A. Amspacher	Marilynn and Dick Guyer	Earl and Elizabeth Lucius	Bob and Norine Shaw
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Anderson, Jr.	Doris Hart	Larry and Kathy Ludwig	Mr. and Mrs. Ronald G. Simmers
Diane Andrews and Jane Leinbach	Dr. and Mrs. William R. Hartman, Jr.	Deryl and Linda Lutz	Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Smith
Mr. and Mrs. Bernard H. Anthony, Jr.	Joseph F. Hasenfuss	Mr. and Mrs. James Magilton	Dave and Deb Smyser
Mr. and Mrs. Eldred W. Atkinson	Louise Hasenfuss	Laura Billet McClure	Joyce Stambaugh
Mr. and Mrs. David P. Baker	Mr. and Mrs. Dean Henry	Ms. Pamela R. McIntosh	Donald Stankus
Gloria M. Barnhart	Jane E. Herrman	Mr. and Mrs. Randel Mercer	Lee and Carol Stare
Mr. and Mrs. Stephen C. Besecker	Beverly and Andy Hershey	Mr. and Mrs. Bradley N. Mercer	Tammy, Barry, Jarret and Justin Stehr
Mr. and Mrs. J. W. Beveridge, Jr.	Mr. and Mrs. Brian Hershner	Mr. and Mrs. Terry Mercer	Mr. and Mrs. Larry Stutts
Jim and Barb Bonner	Michael and Kendra Hilty	Mr. and Mrs. Steven B. Meyer	Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey E. Thomas
Portia Potter Brian	David M. Hoffman, Sr.	Sherri L. Miller	Brenda K. Topper
Patricia A. Bubb	Mr. and Mrs. Frank P. Huttel	John and Barbara Mohr	Mary E. Topper
Mr. and Mrs. Fred Burkins	Jo Ann Hyson	Laura A. Morrison	Mr. and Mrs. Joseph R. Triggs
Milton and Barbara Bushey	Indian Rock Casual Day Fund	Mr. and Mrs. Arthur T. Murphy, III	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas L. Trone
Mr. and Mrs. Garson Caruso	Mr. and Mrs. J. Donald Jackson	Mr. and Mrs. William L. Neidhammer	Georgia Valero
Dean and Jan Cheesebrough	Billie and Bob Jensenius	New Salem Elementary School Staff	Dr. and Mrs. Peter J. Van Giesen
David and Eary Coombs	Mr. and Mrs. Michael Johnson	Kate and Russ Orban	Mr. and Mrs. Charles F. Vaughn
The Crawford Family	Jack and Virginia Joll	Martha M. Pavlick	Rev. and Mrs. Bob Wallace
Mickey Cuffaro	Mr. and Mrs. Mark W. Jones	Jane and Peter Piepmeier	Mr. and Mrs. Dick Walters
Mr. and Mrs. John Cusma	The Ketterman Family	Susan Pirrello	Wanda K. Wandress
Elizabeth Wolf Davis	Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey L. Kibler	Mr. and Mrs. Mike Poster	Mr. and Mrs. Roger Wetzel
Mr. and Mrs. Raymond A. Delp	Dr. and Mrs. Erich Kim	Mr. and Mrs. Ronald Provard	Dr. Sharon Whittle
Mr. and Mrs. David E. Dorwart	Kimman's Co.	Natalie "Lee" Lobach Pucillo	David E. Wickenheiser
Robert L. Dovey	Mr. and Mrs. Richard H. Kling	Mr. and Mrs. Richard E. Rea	Jim and Sue Wolschleger
East York Elementary School	Mrs. Joan E. Klinke	Pam, Shawn and Jason Rehm	York Educational Federal Credit Union
Mr. and Mrs. Bruce Eaton	Mr. and Mrs. Ivan Kranich	Susan Reich	York Suburban Band Parents Association
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Eicher	Mr. and Mrs. Martin Krebs	Stephany B. Reihart	York Suburban Middle School Faculty
Mr. and Mrs. Paul Englert	Bonni Kuner-Roth	Fred and Mary Reiss	York Suburban School Board
Ellen and Gordon Freireich	Mr. and Mrs. Joshua Landau	Gerald and Gale Robison	Mr. and Mrs. Frank J. Young
Linda Funk	Mrs. Cynthia A. Landis	Barbara and Roy Rollman	White Rose Chaper, I.A.A.P.
Dr. and Mrs. Douglas Geiselman	Ms. Lynne C. Lecrone	Mr. and Mrs. Jeffrey A. Ruby	Mr. and Mrs. Richard Ziegler
Dr. and Mrs. John S. Gerstmyer	Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Lehman	Shel and Linda Rupert	
Barry Girling	Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Lehman	Robert and Myrna Schaszberger	
Mr. and Mrs. Brian E. Goodling	Betsy B. Lehner	Mr. and Mrs. Raymond W. Schmidt	
Mr. and Mrs. Rees Griffiths	Brian E. Lippy		
Mitchell Grossman	Pete W. LoBianco		



Ryan Barton and Katie Johnescu receive their "Student of the Month" certificates from Rotary Club of York President Kent Ketterman.

Rotary Club of York Honors 2 Students

Two members of the Junior Class at York Suburban High School were honored as "Students of the Month" during November by the Rotary Club of York.

The students are: Katie Johnescu, daughter of Douglas and Teresa Johnescu; and Ryan Barton, son of Michael and Elizabeth Barton.

Katie participates in cross-country, track and field, the Student Council, and the Ski Club at York Suburban. She is in the top 10 percent of the Junior Class.

The recipient of a Volunteer Award from York Hospital, Katie plans to attend medical school and become a pediatrician.

Ryan also participates in cross-country, track and field, and the Ski Club. In addition, he is a member of the Best Buddies program and is an assistant in the science lab.

He is very involved in Boy Scouting and has completed his project of building an observation platform at Nixon County Park to be eligible for his Eagle Scout Award.

Ryan plans to study engineering in college.

Contributions to YS Dollars for Scholars

The following contributions to York Suburban Dollars for Scholars were received during November.

In memory of Clarabeth Grossman from:
Rosemary Badders
David H. Coombs
Laurel A. Cornell
Gerri R. Corsa
Richard Eicher
Jennifer L. Grove
Mary Beth Grove
Donna H. Haun
Judy Brown-Hershner
Cindy Hodge
Beverly A. Hogan
Billie Jean Jensenius
Cheryl Johnson
Susan M. Joiner
Joan E. Klinke
Donna Krane
Bonni Kuner-Roth
Cynthia A. Landis
Barbara Lefoe
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Alice L. Lomax
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Kay L. Matthews
Laura K. McClure
Pamela R. McIntosh
Kathy J. Meals
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Cathy A. Molin
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Richard Petersen
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Jane Piepmeier
Susan Pirrello
Ronald Provard
Linda Ruppert
Kathy S. Stankoski
Sharon Stutts
Alyce R. Tapp
Patricia Walters
Wanda Wandress

Kathi J. Wentz
Merrilyn F. Whipkey
David E. Wickenheiser
Debra J. Young

In memory of
Howard Haiges from:
Faith Bitterolf
Donna Soule

For Casual Day from:
Wendi Bulgarelli
East York Elementary School
Lisa Eckenrode
Laura McClure
Patricia Murray

General donations from:
Brigitte B. Birch
Lisa Arcuri-Brosi
Eary JF Coombs
Stephanie Crumbling
Suzanne Cyr
Shelley D. Drahusz
Lisa Eckenrode
Jamie L.M. Evans
Jill C. Feltenberger
Colleen Ferrington
R. Leigh Foy
Linda Funk
Kent E. Gable
Amy Hare
William R. Hartman
Louise M. Hasenfuss
Jane Herman
Beverly H. Hershey
Dev Idgunji
Nancy Karkoska
Dana L. Kitting
Joyce Landis
Charles E. Lehman
Brian J. Marshall

Amy C. Mason
Kay L. Matthews
Susan McDowell
Susan Mellinger
Michele A. Merkle
Edward Moyer
Joyce Myers
Kate Orban
Karen M. Page
Kelly D. Paraskevacos
Jeffrey L. Pflaum
Joan Pison
Siri C. Rainone

Jonnie W. Regan
Pam Rehm
Daniel Roesch
Patricia A. Schwartz-Vidra
Barbara L. Thompson
Mary Topper
Ronald Trayer
Thomas A. Triggs
Linda D. Vangiesen
Patricia Walters
Robert Wetzal
James M. Young
Jane Young

YORK SUBURBAN DOLLARS FOR SCHOLARS MISSION

To provide financial assistance for eligible York Suburban students to continue their education (based on financial need, scholastic merit, and achievement of academic potential), and to ultimately help students to become responsible, dependable, capable community citizens and future community leaders.

OPEN TO THE COMMUNITY

YSMS Multicultural Festival Set Feb. 22

The York Suburban Middle School Multicultural Festival will be held on February 22, 2007, from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

The program is sponsored and arranged by the school's Parent Support Organization and the Middle School Staff.

The first half of the event will begin in the auditorium featuring N'Bonye Dance and Drum Ensemble from Lancaster, featuring the heartbeat of Guinea and West African dance. The second half of the evening includes visits to booths set up in the gymnasium representing more than a dozen countries, such as Cuba, Israel and Switzerland. Each booth will have desserts to sample. There will also be entertainment featuring the East York Chorus and cultural performances by The York Suburban Middle School Students.

A cookbook featuring all the desserts and coffee from various countries will be available for purchase.

Pamela Patel, coordinator of the event says, "this festival is educational and fun for the entire family. It is a celebration of the diversity within our district and a way to appreciate what different cultures can contribute to our society."

The event is open to the public and there is no admission charge.

CLASS REUNIONS

Class of 1962 -- 45th Reunion, Friday, September 28, 2007, and Saturday, September 29, 2007. The class members are seeking to locate Sandra L. Bailliere Hoke, Robert K. Baublitz, George M. Bush II, Sandra E. Eppinger Drybaugh, Charles A. Gillenwater, Trudy R. Hildebrand Beeton, Dave Kent, Clifford Smith, Jill Snyder Hinson, and James A. Zeigler. Individuals with information should contact Bill Cooley at (717) 854-6221 or email him at w_c_cooley@hotmail.com.

Class of 1996 is planning its 10th Reunion. Email addresses for members of the Class of 1996 should be sent to Elisabeth (Derewitz) Bland at sunniedayz3@yahoo.com.

For Information...

For information on the York Suburban Dollars for Scholars or if you are interested in serving on the Dollars for Scholars Board, contact Douglas Bare, Esquire, at 854-1900. The website is: www.yshs.k12.pa.us/admin/scholars.html.

Holiday Concert Fill the Season



For the first time this year, Middle School presented a concert featuring the 230 members of the other highlighting the instruments.

The two-part program was designed to accommodate the large crowds of students who attend the concerts.

Once again the East York Middle School Rock Elementary School

concert before a standing-room-only audience at York Suburban High School.

The senior high school organizations concluded the concert with a program on Sunday.

"Sounds of the Season" filled the auditorium when the Knights Concert Band filled the stage.

YS Singers give a rousing rendition of "Goin' to Bethlehem."



The Middle School Flute Ensemble



Sounds of Tomorrow don Santa hats for "Home for the Holidays."



Holiday Concerts Air with Sounds

year, the York Suburban
two Holiday Concerts: one
ers of the choruses and the
instrumental musicians.
n was designed to accom-
of relatives and friends who

ork Elementary and Indian
ols presented a combined
room-only audience at the
ool.

l choruses and instrument
ne holiday series of concert
y, December 17.



The combined East York Elementary School and Indian Rock Elementary School Band swing out with "Feliz Navidad."

The York Suburban Concert Choir performs "Light the Lights."



performed "Silver Bells."



The Brass Ensemble plays in the lobby of the York Suburban High School prior to the Holiday Concert.



The Elementary Strings play "Toyland."

YORK SUBURBAN COMMUNITY SWIM LESSON PROGRAM

Spring 2007

Spring 2007 Swimming Lessons will begin on Monday, March 19, and end on Thursday, May 10.

Classes are limited to 15 students per class. Swim Classes meet once a week for a ½ hour for 8 weeks.

Registration is Tuesday, March 6, 6:30- 8:30 p.m and Wednesday, March 7 and 8, 6:30- 7:30 p.m.
in the High School Cafeteria.

DO NOT MAIL REGISTRATIONS

Monday

6:00-6:30 P.M. Level I
6:30-7:00 P.M. Level II
7:00-7:30 P.M. Level III
7:30-8:00 P.M. Level IV
8:00-9:00 P.M. Adult Lap Swim

Tuesday

6:00-6:30 P.M. Parent & Tot
6:30-7:00 P.M. Level I
7:00-7:30 P.M. Level II
7:30-8:00 P.M. Level III
8:00-9:00 P.M. Adult Lap Swim

Wednesday

6:00-6:30 P.M. Level I
6:30-7:00 P.M. Level II
7:00-7:30 P.M. Level IV
7:30-8:00 P.M. Level V, VI, VII
8:00-9:00 P.M. Adult Lap Swim

Thursday

6:00-6:30 P.M. Parent & Tot
6:30-7:00 P.M. Level I
7:00-7:30 P.M. Level II
7:30-8:00 P.M. Level III
8:00-9:00 P.M. Adult Lap Swim

Please notify instructor of any physical restrictions or handicaps. Parents are not allowed on pool deck during classes. They will be allowed to watch the last day of class.

SWIMMING REGISTRATION FORM – Spring 2007

MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: YORK SUBURBAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

(Please print)

SWIMMER'S NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____ E-Mail Address: _____

CITY: _____ ZIP: _____

PHONE: _____ AGE at Start of Class: _____

CLASS LEVEL: _____ DAY: _____ TIME: _____

FEE: Swim Lessons (1/2 hour lesson - once a week) Residents: \$50 Non residents: \$60
Adult Lap Swim (1 hour swim - four times / week) Residents: \$65 Non residents: \$75

(Late registrations will only be accepted the first night of classes if space is available.)

“There has been a great change in terms of student population,” he says of his years on the board. “We’ve grown by 35 percent (in student population). That has impacted not just the infrastructure, but the number of teachers we’ve hired.

Those changes were evident from his first board meeting. “My first night I was required to vote on a major issue facing the district: making Valley View a kindergarten, transition and first grade building. I joined four other new members and voted ‘aye.’ I think that decision has served the district well.”

Filling the Vacancy

The York Suburban School Board will select the person to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Jeffrey Varnes. The person selected will fill the year remaining in Mr. Varnes’ term and – if he or she so chooses -- run for a full four-year term in the May Primary and November General Elections in 2007.

Jeff also says the board made the correct decisions in renovating its facilities to meet modern educational needs, rather than constructing new buildings. Every building in the district has been renovated or enlarged since Jeff has been a member of the board. “It’s a more cost-effective move,” he notes.

Looking back on his school board career, he points to several achievements made by the board:

- “We came up with a Quality Assessment tool for the district. Not just test scores, but other items as well to include things such attendance and extra-curricular activities. We’re still using that tool.”
- A professional staff utilization study was conducted “basically for the secondary schools.”
- “The Substance Abuse Task Force. For the first time we publicly recognized that York Suburban students are not immune from substance abuse and that programs should be introduced to influence behavior.”
- A cooperating district effort, which Jeff chaired. “We discovered some areas where schools can cooperate such as support areas.” He sees consolidation of areas – such as human resources and finances – as cost effective measures for the districts.

During his years on the board, Jeff and his wife, Judith, had a close-up view of the York Suburban School District; their daughter, Heather, graduated from York Suburban High School.

Jeff and his wife will be moving to Las Vegas in January.

Canisters are being placed at sporting events to solicit donations and students are selling brightly colored Zulu Grass necklaces for \$8 each. Sarah and business teacher John Beach solicited sponsorships and per-mile pledges for both of them to run in the Harrisburg Marathon.

“Project Harmony gave us a large donation to get started,” Sarah said. The York Suburban Middle School is conducting a “Penny War” with a goal of raising \$3,000 for RENEWW.

“Our goal is to raise as much money as we can,” said Sarah, who began teaching the Women’s Studies program – a junior and senior elective course -- this year.

Schools are key to educating women “who want to become economically self-sufficient,” Sarah noted.

RENEWW was created by Sarah as part of the study program. She said some schools in Adams County have contacted her about replicating the program.

York Suburban School District residents interested in contributing to RENEWW or purchasing a Zulu Grass necklace should contact Sarah Rodenburgh at the high school.



Fifth grade students at Indian Rock Elementary School demonstrate how the new “traffic signal” designation indicate the healthiest foods in the cafeteria. From front are: Austin McMillan, Andrew Weisser, and Aaron Loucks. Head cook Pam Rice is behind the counter.

‘Traffic Lights’ Helping Students to Eat Healthy

Green, yellow, and red traffic lights are directing students to healthy food choices in the cafeterias at East York and Indian Rock Elementary Schools.

Joan Klinke, York Suburban School District’s Coordinator of Food Services, explains the traffic signal signage help students “identify with what you eat – make healthy choices.”

Green stands for “healthiest foods.”

Yellow signifies “healthy items.”

Red means “eat only in moderation.”

“Red snacks have been removed from the elementary schools. Yellow and green snacks are now grouped together and labeled.”

Snack labeling will take place in the secondary schools later in the school year.

The program is part of the Wellness Policy Initiative in the school district.

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*****ECRWSS
RESIDENTIAL CUSTOMER

YS Budget Meetings Scheduled

Because of changes in Pennsylvania law, all school district budgets must be adopted by April 16, 2007. In past years, the deadline was the end of May.

To meet the new regulations, the York Suburban School Board has scheduled the following budget meetings. A public meeting in March will also be scheduled.

January 8 – The Preliminary Budget for 2007-2008 was scheduled to be presented at the Board Planning Meeting.

January 22 – Adoption of the Preliminary Budget and adoption of a Tax Referendum Ballot Question at Board Regular Meeting.

February 5 – Budget Discussion at Board Planning Meeting.

February 26 – Budget Discussion at Board Regular Meeting.

March 12 – Budget Discussion at Board Planning Meeting.

March 26 – Budget Discussion at Board Regular Meeting.

Keeping Tabs on Economics

Teams of York Suburban High School students in Kevin Willson's Economics, Marketing and Management are competing to collect soda can tabs for the Ronald McDonald House in Hershey.

Last year one class collected 250,000 tabs. This year there are two classes and their goal is 500,000 pop-top tabs.

During the first few months of school several cartons of tabs have been collected – weighing more than 150 pounds.

The Ronald Mc-

Donald House uses the money from the re-

cycled tabs to supplement its operating budget.

Residents who would

like to help with the tab collection project can con-

tact Kevin Willson at the high school.



Dan Wecker, left, and John Kreuer show just a small portion of the soda can tabs collected to date. The thermometer on the wall to the left tracks the progress towards 500,000 tabs.