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Opinion & Commentary

Introducing Patriot Intern Dan Clark...

My name is Dan Clark and I am a professional writing major at Kutztown University. From now until the end of the 2013 spring semester, I will be completing a full-time internship with *The Kutztown Area Patriot* and writing for the other papers that make up Berks-Mont Newspapers.



Dan Clark

I have always loved writing and my interest in it peaked in middle school after I kept getting good grades on my English papers. I did not take a journalism class until my freshman year at Kutztown University. After my first journalism class I immediately became involved with the KU student-run newspaper *The Keystone*. There I covered everything including, crimes and fires on campus, the teachers' union negotiations with the Pennsylvania State System of Higher Education.

I have always been interested in news and hyper-local activity within specific communities. Right before this semester started I worked with a daily paper in Norristown, where I focused on issues that were important to specific communities. I wrote about everything from Norristown's search for a new police chief to a nut factory/candy shop in Conshohocken that was hidden in a neighborhood out of sight from the main street. I hope that I will be able to accomplish the same goal in writing on local points of interest in a

fair and objective way with Berks-Mont Newspapers. I believe that good journalism begins with good questions and a thirst for knowledge that can only be quenched with good answers. I am someone who wants to know every detail of an operation or a policy. I also believe that good journalism begins with good people. Too often we end up watching or reading news about murders, robberies and other crimes. There is a time and a place for news where people are doing something good for the community and I believe that is where the community paper comes in; to let the community know about those who are standing out in the crowd and trying to make a positive change.

With Berks-Mont I will be covering local meetings, writing feature stories and writing a weekly column about local music called "The Local Groove." I have always been drawn to various types of music, and how it makes people feel. It will be a weekly column that is essentially a diary of my journey to find new and exciting music that comes from Berks County and Montgomery County. I have always been interested in music and after realizing that I will not be a rock star I still have a dream that others who make music will be able to advance beyond their local scenes.

I hope to take this opportunity to learn more about the local government in this region of Pennsylvania and find out what issues are important to the people who make up Berks County.

To contact Dan Clark, call *The Patriot* at 610-683-7343 ext. 0. Or email via editor Lisa Mitchell at lmitchell@berksmontnews.com.

Summit

From A3

of State Police coverage through state taxes and fees.

It was suggested at the Summit that state legislators consider legislation to charge municipalities who rely on state police coverage a fee, perhaps based on population, to cover the costs for that service. Thus, the costs for public safety would be more equitably distributed among Pennsylvania taxpayers and perhaps there would be more incentive for com-



Judy Schwank

munities to work together to develop and maintain regional police forces rather than relying on state police coverage.

I have long been a proponent of regional efforts to improve or save services and cut costs. However, changing the way public safety services are paid for

and delivered is a big departure from current practice. That's why I'd like to know what you think about this concept.

Please take a few moments to send an e-mail to senatorschwank@pasenate.com with your answers to the following questions:

1. Which does your community rely upon for public safety coverage: The Pennsylvania State Police or a municipal police force?
2. Would you prefer to reside in a community with state police or municipal police coverage?
3. How important is po-

lice coverage to your quality of life?

4. Do you support legislation requiring communities who rely on state police coverage to pay a fee based upon population?

5. If your community currently relies upon state police coverage, would you be willing to pay higher taxes so your community could join a regional police force?

I will summarize the results of the poll and publish them in our next e-newsletter.

Sincerely,
Senator Judy Schwank

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Information Repository

Established For Hamburg

Primrose/Church Streets Lead Site

An information repository for documentation associated with the Hamburg Primrose/Church Streets Lead site has been established at the Hamburg Library. Lead containing materials were found in an area of residential, commercial and church property. The contamination is being addressed under the United States Environmental Protection Agency's Removal Program Authority. Documents pertaining to the actions being taken at the site can be reviewed by visiting the library or the USEPA Region 3 Record Center at the addresses listed below. In addition, information is available by viewing the following web site <http://www.epa.gov/reg3hwmd/npl/PAN000306881.htm>

Site Contacts:

Todd Richardson On-Scene Coordinator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 3 3HS32 1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103 • 215-814-5264
richardson.todd@epa.gov

David Polish
Community Involvement Coordinator
United States Environmental Protection Agency
Region 3 3HS52 1650 Arch Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103 • 215-814-3327

Information about the Primrose/Church Site can be viewed at the following locations:

The Hamburg Public Library
35 North Third Street, Hamburg, PA 19526
610-562-2843

By appointment at:
USEPA Administrative Records Center
1650 Arch Street Philadelphia, PA 19103
Contact: Paul Van Reed • 215-814-3157

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