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## *Summer 2003 ACTION Newsletter*

### **Message from the President**

**By Bob Kettering**

#### **Shaub and Shellenberger Win!**

Incumbent commissioner Pete Shaub and businessman Dick Shellenberger, the two candidates endorsed by Lancaster County ACTION for county commissioners easily won this spring's primary election. Voters selected these two from a field of six candidates and they will go on to represent the republican party in the general election this fall.

This election was definitely about changing direction as voters overwhelmingly rejected the sizeable growth in spending and borrowing that characterized the last four years under chairman Paul Thibault. Dennis Stuckey, the County controller who was supported by Thibault as the "moderate" alternative, came in a distant third.

Dick Shellenberger, the Manheim businessman got the most votes while commissioner Shaub won the second commissioner spot. Apparently, voters didn't care about the petty complaints against Shaub as much as they cared about a more efficient county government. The message Lancaster County voters sent was clear. They elected a businessman who they believe will join with Shaub to provide more efficient county government.

We believe this team will return to a solid financial footing while continuing to uphold the traditional values that are so important to our community. It is indeed a very positive change in the right direction.

The support from members and friends of Lancaster County ACTION was critical in this election and we can all be very proud of the part that we played. A special thanks to all who worked so hard. We are making a difference!

*"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."*

Edmund Burke

## No Stones to Throw

by Michael Geer, President,  
Pennsylvania Family Institute



Let he who is without sin cast the first stone.” With those words, Jesus quickly put self-righteous Pharisees in their place. The life of the prostitute they were about to end was spared, and Jesus taught a lesson on the unrighteousness of all that reverberates through the ages.

Just a few weeks ago, many in the media quickly picked up stones to throw at Bill Bennett, whose compulsive gambling was laid bare by an expose in Washington Monthly and Newsweek magazines. Gleeful libertines jumped at the chance to toss missiles at Bennett, declaring that his transgression rendered his work promoting virtue to be null and void. Not only did they want to kill the messenger, but the message was well. Those who turned a blind eye to the well-publicized misbehavior of our leaders during the ‘90s, suddenly seem to have developed a “moral compass.”

As someone who has been involved in the fight against casino gambling in Pennsylvania for a decade, and who has spoken with people who lost their closest loved ones to gambling-induced suicide,

I was very troubled to hear the news about Bill Bennett. Troubled for him, and especially for his wife and son.

He is one of the most eloquent spokesmen for many of the values and principles that we fight for, and that are necessary if our culture is to survive. His actions certainly hurt those causes, and undercut his credibility.

However, Bill Bennett’s gambling has not invalidated the message of virtue. It did not nullify the fact that marriage is worth extolling and defending. It does not mean that character doesn’t count. Indeed, it clearly shows that integrity is of great value and that we should all strive to have a private life that mirrors our public statements.

That Bill Bennett failed to completely meet that high standard is unfortunate, but frankly, not unexpected. The life of King David, a man after God’s own heart, shows how sinful we all are. Some of us have ours sins broadcast in headlines. The rest may believe they are avoiding notice, but our Father in Heaven is quite aware of our transgressions and wrongdoing. That is why we - why I - need a Savior. Please pray for all those who try to stand for righteousness in the public arena. Such people are under tremendous attack, and desperately need God’s protection. Pray also for the Bennett family, and for strength that Bill Bennett will be able to keep his word, and that, indeed, his “gambling days are over.”

### George Washington Speaks Out Against Gambling

“The last thing I shall mention, is first of importance and that is, to avoid gaming. This is a vice which is productive of every possible evil, equally injurious to the morals and health of its votaries. It is the child of avarice, the brother of inequity, and father of mischief. It has been the ruin of many worthy families, the loss of many a man’s honor, and the cause of suicide. To all those who enter the list, it is equally fascinating; the successful gamester pushes his good fortune till it is overtaken by a reverse, the losing gamester, in hopes of retrieving past misfortunes, goes on from bad to worse, till grown desperate, He pushes at everything and loses all. In a word, few gain by this abominable practice (the profit, if any, being diffused) while thousands are injured”

*The Writings of George Washington from the Original Manuscript Sources, 1745-1799*

## Lancaster County ACTION Quarterly Breakfast Meeting



**Saturday, July 5, 2003**

8:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Leola Family Restaurant, 2491 New Holland Pike (Route 23, Leola)

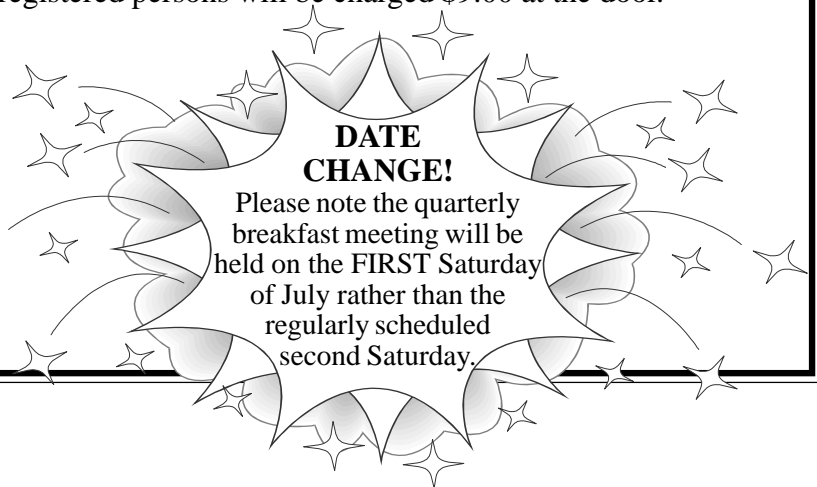
Speaker: Rick Green, Entrepreneur and Texas State Representative

Please reserve your seat at the quarterly breakfast by calling the ACTION office (717-653-6605) by Wednesday, July 2, 2003.

The cost is \$7.00 per person for those pre-registered.

Non-registered persons will be charged \$9.00 at the door.

Rick Green has a solid Biblical worldview and is an excellent teacher of how biblical principles and Christian values relate to current events. He effectively communicates the principles of our founding documents and the patriotic concepts undergirding our nation and our cherished religious liberties. For more information on Rick Green, log onto [www.rickgreen.com](http://www.rickgreen.com).



### A Message from the Treasurer

Matthew 6:21 says, "for where your treasure is, there will be your heart also." Lancaster County ACTION is in good financial shape due to the support of our members and successful banquets. We are not interested in your treasure, but we would like to have a small piece of your heart. By committing to the small dues of \$20.00 per household per year, you will be an integral part of advancing the mission of LCA...to encourage and help elect to public office those candidates who, like you, uphold a Biblical world view. If the number in parentheses on the mailing label of this newsletter is anything other than "2003", please fill out the form below and mail it with your check for \$20.00 to the address given. Thank you for your past and future support.

*Glenn Fadner, Treasurer*

*clip and send*

**I would like to begin/renew (\$20.00 per household) my membership in Lancaster County ACTION.**

(Please make check payable to **Lancaster County ACTION**.)

I'd like to volunteer for the following ACTION Committee(s):

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Church Contact/Prayer | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly Breakfast         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education             | <input type="checkbox"/> Library            | <input type="checkbox"/> School District Coordinator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising          | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter         | <input type="checkbox"/> Voter Guides                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Growth/Membership     |   |  |

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Street: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Township: \_\_\_\_\_ Polling Place: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please clip and return to Lancaster County ACTION, 849 Valley Road, Landisville, PA 17601. Thank you!

## Let's Get Behind the Flag - for real

Few pieces of legislation receive as much scorn from liberals as the proposed constitution amendment that criminalizes burning of the U.S. flag. Few pieces are as misunderstood.

Liberals, and even some conservatives, argue that the flag is little more than a "piece of cloth," that it only represents something important. In and of itself, they claim, the flag is of no importance.

Some opponents even try to turn the tables on amendment supporters, saying "If you ban flag-burning, aren't you undermining the very freedoms that the flag represents?"

Well, no, the proposed law would not undermine the freedom of speech or any other freedom guaranteed by the Bill of Rights. It simply would protect the flag – symbol of those freedoms – from becoming perverted into a vehicle for hate speech.

U.S. law prohibits the painting of swastikas on synagogue walls. It prohibits cross-burning and the painting of racial slurs on homes or other buildings.

If we can protect our people and building from hate speech, why not our flag?

Our enemies around the globe routinely begin their protest by burning, stomping on or spitting at the American flag. Their acts are more than an expression of displeasure with American policy; they are a repudiation of American life itself.

To see the contorted faces of those who light the match and those who cheer as flames consume the bars of red and white to know without doubt that hatred – pure, venomous hatred – motivates these acts.

That form of hate speech should not be tolerated any more inside our borders than out.

Those who wish to protest laws, policies, individual leaders, have every right to do so. They have the right to argue reasonably. They have the right to argue passionately.

But they do not have the right to spew hate - the emotion that all too often foments unthinking violence.

This year, as in years past, the U.S. House has approved a constitutional amendment banning flag-burning. The measure has died in the Senate before, and most likely will suffer the same fate when the Senate reconvenes. That's too bad.

It is a time to ask all Americans to display Old Glory and reflect on all the freedoms we enjoy. We also ask that there be a redoubling of efforts to amend the U.S. Constitution, so that proudly the star-spangled banner may ever wave.

*Used with Permission, Lancaster New Era*

### How to Fly Old Glory

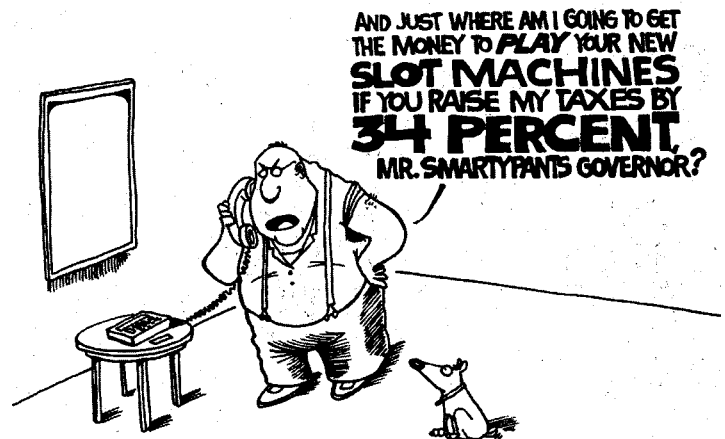
- Always display the flag with the blue union field up; never display it upside down, except as a distress signal.
- Always hold the flag carefully; never let it touch anything beneath it, i.e., the ground, floor, water or merchandise.
- Always carry the flag aloft and free; never carry it flat or horizontally.
- Always keep the flag clean and safe; never let it become torn, soiled or damaged.
- Always dispose of a worn flag properly, preferably by burning it.
- Always treat the flag with respect. Never use it for advertising purposes. Never embroider it on household items or pieces of clothing. Never use it as part of a costume or athletic uniforms. However, it is proper to attach a flag patch to the uniform of military personnel, firefighters, police officers and members of other patriotic organizations.
- The flag should be flown at night only if illuminated.
- The flag should not be flown in inclement weather unless it is made of all-weather material.
- Also, when wearing a pin depicting the flag, it should be worn on the left lapel, near the heart.

Source: National Flag Foundation

## Gambling with Our Future

As you know by now, Governor Rendell thinks casino gambling is a good idea for Pennsylvania. He wants to use the taxes raised to pay for schools. This would be a devastating move for Pennsylvania. We would see increases in bankruptcies, family breakup, teen addiction, and damage to other businesses.

To gain the taxes Governor Rendell wants, Pennsylvanians will have to lose between \$1.7 and \$3 billion a year at the slots. That's billions of dollars lost to the retail economy, causing decline and lost jobs in restaurants, retail establishments, and tourist sites. It's money siphoned from children's college savings accounts or church offering plates. And it's money government will become addicted to, requiring future expansion and advertising to keep our citizens losing. And we haven't even begun to mention the anti-family



programs Gov. Rendell would fund with the gambling money.

Please contact your State Senators and Representatives regarding this issue, and please pray so that with God's help we will be able to protect our families and future generations.

## How to contact political representatives

Names, addresses, and telephone numbers of federal and state legislators representing local residents are listed for persons wishing to contact them.

### FEDERAL

President George W. Bush, The White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20500 (White House comment line: 1-202-456-1111); fax: (202) 456-2461; e-mail [President@Whitehouse.gov](mailto:President@Whitehouse.gov).

Senator Arlen Specter, Room 530, Hart Senate Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (1-202-224-4254); fax: (202) 228-1229; e-mail: See Specter's website.

Senator Rick Santorum, Suite 1, Russell Senate Building, Washington, D.C. 20510 (1-202-224-6324); fax: (202) 228-0604; e-mail: see Santorum's website.

Representative Joseph R. Pitts, (R-16th District), Room 504, Cannon House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515 (1-202-225-2411), fax 1-202-225-2013; Lancaster Office, 50 N. Duke St. (393-0667), fax 393-0924.

### STATE

Governor Ed Rendell, 225 Main Capital Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120; phone: 787-2500; fax: 772-8284; e-mail [governor@state.pa.us](mailto:governor@state.pa.us).

Senator Gibson E. Armstrong, (R-13th District) Room 281 Capitol Building, Senate Box 203013, Harrisburg, PA 17120; phone: 787-6535 or 800-235-1313; 120 S. Queen St., Lancaster, PA 17603; 2997 Cape Horn Road, Red Lion, 17356; [garmstrong@pasen.gov](mailto:garmstrong@pasen.gov).

Senator Chip Brightbill, (R-48th District) Room 350 Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120; phone: 787-5780; fax 787-3455; district office, 222 S. Market St., Suite 103, Elizabethtown, PA 17022; phone: 361-6080; fax: 361-6083.

Senator Noah W. Wenger, (R-36th District), Room 281, Capital Building, Senate Box 203036, Harrisburg, PA 17120; phone 787-4420; district office, 1248 W. Main St., Ephrata, PA 17522; e-mail: [nwenger@pasen.gov](mailto:nwenger@pasen.gov).

Rep. Gibson C. Armstrong (R-100th District), 51A East Wing, Harrisburg, PA 17120; phone: 783-6424; fax: 772-9869; 680B Robert Fulton Highway, Quarryville, PA 17566; phone 786-4551; fax: 786-3645.

Rep. Roy E. Baldwin (R-97th District), 53B East Wing, Harrisburg, PA 17120; phone: 787-1776; 1720 Lititz Pike, Lancaster, PA 17601; phone: 569-5855; fax: 519-4306.

Rep. Scott W. Boyd (R-43rd District), 423 Irvis Office Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120; phone: 783-6422; fax: 787-7731; 1861 Charter Lane, Suite 102, Lancaster, PA 17601; phone: 464-5285; fax: 295-7817.

Rep. Thomas C. Creighton (R-37th District), 53A East Wing, Harrisburg, PA 17120; phone: 772-5290; fax: 772-9869, 47 Market Square, Manheim, PA 17545; phone: 664-4979; fax: 664-4997; 323 Main St., Denver, PA 17517; phone: 336-2199; fax: 336-4522.

Rep. Gordon R. Denlinger (R-99th District), 163A East Wing, Harrisburg, PA 17120; phone 787-3531; fax: 705-1951; district office: 607 East Main Street, Ephrata, PA 17522; phone: 733-4002; fax: 733-3992; e-mail

Rep. David S. Hickernell (R-98th District), 143B East Wing, Harrisburg, PA 17120; phone: 783-2076; fax: 705-1946; 222 S. Market St. Suite 103, Elizabethtown, PA 17022; phone: 367-5525; fax: 367-6425; 236 Locust St., Columbia, PA 17512, phone: 684-5525; fax: 684-2538.

Rep. P. Michael Sturla (D-96th District) 105A East Wing, Harrisburg, PA 17120; phone: 787-3555; fax: 787-0861; 8 N. Queen St., Suite 1100, Griest Building, Lancaster, PA 17603; phone 295-3157; fax: 295-7816; e-mail: [msturla@pahouse.net](mailto:msturla@pahouse.net)

Rep. Katie True (R-41st District), 143A East Wing, Harrisburg, PA 17120; phone: 705-7161; 2938 Columbia Avenue, Manor West Commons, Suite 501, Lancaster, PA; phone: 295-5050.

## Prayer Concerns

**“I thank you all for helping to keep prayer an integral part of our national life...”  
U.S. President George W. Bush**

*The following are excerpts from the remarks President Bush made to the Christian leaders gathered in the White House on the morning of the May 1 National Day of Prayer:*

So many great events in our nation’s history were shaped by men and women who found strength and direction in prayer. The first President to live in this house composed a prayer on his second evening here for all who would follow him. Our 16<sup>th</sup> President, Abraham Lincoln, knew that his burdens were too great for any man, so he carried them to God in prayer. Over the radio on D-day in 1944, Franklin Roosevelt prayed for God’s blessing on our mission to “set free a suffering humanity.”

This past month has been another time of testing for American and an other time of intense prayer. Americans have been praying for the safety of our troops and for the protection of innocent life in Iraq. Americans prayed the war would not be necessary, and now pray that peace will be just and lasting.

We continue to pray for the recovery of the wounded and for the comfort of all who have lost a loved one. The Scriptures say the Lord is near to all who call on him. Calling on God in prayer brings us nearer to each other. During Operation Iraqi Freedom, many Americans have registered online to adopt a serviceman or woman in prayer. Others wear prayer bracelets to remind themselves to intercede on behalf of our troops.

To pray for someone else is an act of generosity. We set our own cares aside and look to strengthen another. Prayer teaches humility. We find that the plan of the Creator is sometimes very different from our own. Yet, we learn to depend on His loving will, bowing to purposes we don’t always understand. Prayer can lead to a grateful heart, turning our minds to all the gifts of life and to the great works of God.

Prayer can also contribute to the life of our nation. America is a strong nation, in partly because we know the limits of human strength. All strength must be guided by wisdom and justice and humility. We pray that God will grant us that wisdom, that sense of justice and that humility in our current challenges, and in the years ahead.

I thank you all for helping to keep prayer an integral part of our national life. May God bless each one of you, and may God continue to bless the United States of America.



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