



History of advocacy

Compiled from
1997, 1999, 2001, 2002, 2003, 2005, 2015,
To be continued...

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DAVID J. BRIGHTBILL
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EUGENE D. SIEGRIST
1900-1957
OF COUNSEL
ROBERT E. SIEGRIST
JAMES R. KOLLER

March 22, 1997

Woodrow H. Sites
Superintendent
Donegal School District
366 South Market Avenue
Mount Joy, PA 17552-2700

Dear Mr. Sites:

By letter of March 10, 1997, you have asked me to indicate the specific information relative to the Clarence Schock Trust of Governor Dick that I request.

Act 168 of 1996 is very clear. The annual report calls for the trustee to "detail" the revenues, expenses, the balance and a statement of activities. My request simply is that you disclose information publicly as set forth in 20 P.S. 7144. Your disclosure clearly did not even attempt to fulfill the letter or the spirit of the law. You should amend that filing and make a suitable public disclosure and have the report available in your office.

Secondly, my suggestion is that as to your admission to me that funds earned by the school district as trustee from your management of the property (at least \$90,000) were intermixed with school district funds and used for school purposes, that you should arrange to return to the trust those funds, in whatever amount they were converted. It is very clear that you, as trustee, cannot deal with the property to your own advantage. You should do a complete accounting and file a report with the court for the benefit of the public.

Third, since you are only a trustee and not the owner of the property, that you establish a mechanism that will in an efficient business-like way carry out the intention of Clarence Schock, an intention which is clearly set

activities. The signs which now abound conceal the fact that you, as trustee, hold this property in a fiduciary capacity "as a playground and public park". I didn't see the word "welcome" on a single sign.

As I told you, this 1000-acre tract is a great public resource that is being neglected by you as trustee. You have done nothing to promote public use or public involvement. In fact, each step you take seems to create a larger barrier. My objective is simply to see the intention of Mr. Schock carried out. I believe he had considerable vision.

My belief is that the time has come to get this area "on track." The first step is, I believe, a public reporting of your activities dealing with the funds involved.

Sincerely,



David J. Brightbill

GOVERNOR DICK PROPERTY							
FINANCIAL ACTIVITY FOR CY 1996							
Balance as of January 1, 1996				\$ 7,644.91			
Revenues							
					NOTES		
Interest Income			\$ 449.25				
Sico Foundation			\$ 3,828.00		Reimbursement for manufacture of signs		
Mount Gretna Bikes			\$ 600.00		Proceeds from Downhill Race		
Total				\$ 4,877.25			
Expenditures							
Strausser Engineering			\$ 580.00	Surveying work			
Donegal School District Gen Fund			\$ 1,981.43	Reimburse for labor, supplies, roadwork*			
Breneman			\$ 80.00	Wood processing			
Breneman			\$ 190.31	Reimburse mileage/seed supplies			
Farm Plan			\$ 934.81	Repair of tractor			
Donegal School District Gen Fund			\$ 2,173.64	Reimbursement of legal services			
Total				\$ 5,940.19			
Balance as of December 31, 1996				\$ 6,581.97			
* break-out as follows: 1,065.67 labor; 420.21 supplies; 228.00 roadwork (Garner & Sons); 267.75 mileage							

Governor Dick plans get \$1/2M boost

By TOM EPLER
Staff Writer

MAY 8 1999

MT. GRETNNA — Improvements to the Governor Dick recreation and nature area have taken a half-million-dollar step toward reality in the form of a state grant announced recently by Gov. Tom Ridge.

Frank Eichler, who chairs a board comprised of Lebanon County and SICO Foundation officials now responsible for the forested park, told the Daily News that a building containing a meeting and storage area, caretaker's quarters, and classrooms for surrounding school districts' use could eventually be built on part of the 1,105-acre tract, which is located between routes 72 and 117 in West Cornwall Township.

The Donegal School District already uses the area for orienteering classes, Eichler said.

"You can't just let an asset like that sit," said Eichler, treasurer of the Mount Joy-based SICO foundation. "I think we've got a group that is committed to do what (park founder Clarence) Schock wanted. It's open to hiking,

but you can really improve and put signs on the trails."

Eichler said the board, which officially formed last year to succeed the Donegal School District as caretaker of the property, is still organizing, and incorporated late last year. The next step is to examine exactly what can be done to improve the property.

William C. Forrey, a planning consultant with the RBA Group in Mechanicsburg, has already looked over the property, as a first step in drawing up proposals for improvements. He is to meet with board members Tuesday with a proposal. A site for the building has not yet been decided, according to Eichler.

As part of Earth Day celebrations last month, Ridge announced \$12.6 million in "Keystone Community Grants" that will be used to improve state park and open-space projects in most of the state's 67 counties, including Governor Dick. While most of the \$500,000 grant will be earmarked for Governor Dick, a small part of it could also be used

(See NATURE, page 5A)

Nature area gets \$500,000 state grant

MAY 8 1999

(Continued from page 1A)

to acquire land for the Lebanon Valley Rails to Trails group, according to county administrator Jamie Wolgemuth.

The Rails To Trails organization is awaiting word on another \$500,000 state grant, which would also be used to purchase land. President John B. Wenger was unavailable for comment yesterday afternoon.

No timeline has been announced for the building project at Governor Dick, but the trustees, who include county commissioner William Carpenter, West Cornwall Township secretary Carol McLaughlin and local attorney Tom Harlan, are set to begin more serious discussions on the issue soon, said

Eichler.

A dispute over who would succeed the Donegal School District as caretaker of the property developed in early 1998, and was solved by the formation of the shared-trusteeship board.

Many are hoping the grant, originally applied for by the county commissioners, marks the dawn of improved opportunities at the park, basically a wooded section of the South Mountains crowned by a concrete observation tower.

"It's exciting for Governor Dick, because this will allow the county and the SICO foundation to make this an even better facility for the public to use," said Wolgemuth.

Eichler said the public will also be invited to give input on what might work well at the park, during an upcoming "envisionary meeting" to be announced.

Some have seen Governor Dick as an impetus for the county to form its own recreation department. Yesterday, Carpenter said talk of forming such a department might be a bit premature — but that he couldn't rule out doing so in the future.

"It would depend on the type of recreation," said Carpenter, who is up for reelection this year. "I can't see the county getting involved in baseball or soccer ... it would probably be more hiking, biking, environmental teaching, that kind of thing."

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Lumbering, cell tower possible in Governor Dick woods

Tom Knapp
Intelligencer Journal Staff

Parks dept., Mount Gretna residents disheartened

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When Clarence Schock donated 1,105 acres of unspoiled woodland to Donegal School District in 1953, he insisted that it be "maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland."

Now trustees of the land are considering plans to build an environmental center, erect a cellular phone tower, construct new access roads and trails and permit lumbering on the site. And some people are angry that the conditions spelled out in Schock's deed may be violated.

"It was supposed to be woodland forever, for use by persons traveling on foot," said Lancaster County Parks Department naturalist Clyde McMillan-Gamber. "Can't we have some place in southeastern Pennsylvan-

nia that is left alone?"

Frank Eichler, who chairs the board for the Clarence Schock Governor Dick Trust, said there has been opposition to the plan.

"There are people saying, 'Let's keep it the way it is and not do anything with it.'

"Some people are very interested in that area for biking, horseback riding and whatever," Eichler said. "They don't want it disturbed. At the last two meetings, we had quite a large group of people coming out to express their opinions on a few things.

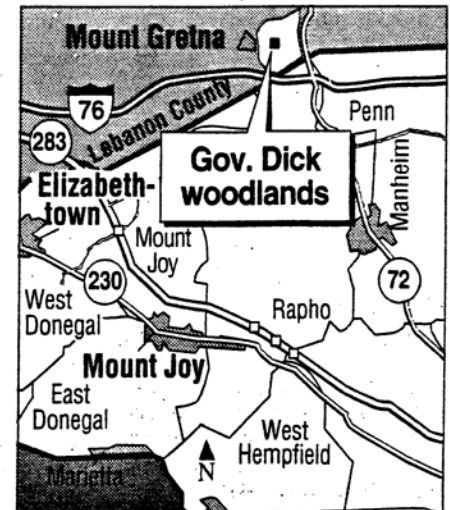
"But to me, the environmental education center will be a better use for that property than just biking and hiking," he said. For instance, he said, school and civic groups could hold meetings there to "share the positive things" about forests.

Lebanon County administrator Jamie Wolgemuth said Tuesday that no study was performed to determine how much interest existed in using a center there.

Eichler agreed, but predicted a good deal of use.

"There are some school districts who use it now, but they don't have a place to congregate," he said. "We think it would be well-used, probably more than we'll have a facility to handle."

According to plans discussed at a Nov. 15 trustee meeting in West Cornwall Township, developers would cut an access road from Pinch Road to a 5- or 6-acre site, where they would build a 2,200-square-foot build-



Intelligencer Journal graphic by Dan Morris

More WOODLAND on B-2

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And they're off ...

**White powder
discovered in**

Woodlands: Building

Continued from B-1

ing with two classrooms and a caretaker's office as well as parking for 24 cars and two buses.

Trustees have approved a building concept and requested more detailed plans, Eichler said. They hope to break ground this spring.

Some mature trees are already being removed to make way for development, he said.

"Funding is a big thing," Eichler said. "We don't really know what the cost will be, but we think we can get away with what we have and what we can raise."

Although construction costs will likely be covered by a state grant, the board has discussed funding the center's annual operating costs by increasing lumbering operations on the sprawling nature preserve and erecting a 200-foot-tall cellular phone tower at the peak.

Much of the opposition has focused on the lumbering proposal. Although it was discussed by trustees Nov. 15, Wolgemuth said he wasn't aware of any plans to raise funds by cutting trees.

Eichler defended the plan, saying careful lumbering makes a healthier forest.

"If you don't do anything to the forest, eventually it will turn into a bunch of rotten logs laying around," he said.

However, McMillan-Gamber noted that fallen logs are beneficial to a woodland ecosystem. Cutting trees destroys habitat and can increase the risk of fire.

Governor Dick is one of the region's last unfragmented forests, unbroken by developments, roads or other manmade divisions, opponents of the plan have said.

New fragmentation there will have a significant impact on the area's "deep-forest birds" such as wood thrushes and some warblers, McMillan-Gamber said.

If the center is used only occasionally, he added, it "is not worth cutting up the forest." And cutting trees down to pay for the enterprise is "going to an extreme that is not necessary," he said.

"I always thought woodland would be there forever," McMillan-Gamber said. "But nothing is sacred and nothing is for sure. ... The bottom line is, it should be set aside, intact, and left alone. Why

can't we do that just once?"

"I'm not happy at all with anything being put up there, really," agreed Mount Gretna resident Pam Williams. "We just like it the way it is, and we always expected it to stay that way."

The deed for Governor Dick mentions a caretaker's cottage, Williams said, "but they've taken that way over the top. They're trying to incorporate something else that really shouldn't be there."

When she heard the plans for an environmental center and tower, "I felt sick," she said.

Williams said many Mount Gretna residents are upset about the proposal, but most are slow to react. Many believe it's too late to do anything about it, she said.

"A few trails through the woods — it's perfect that way," she said. "Lebanon County doesn't have much wild space left anymore."

The cell tower, proposed by Keith Volker, would overshadow the 66-foot-tall observation tower that stands on the densely forested mountain.

Volker, who runs the Mount Gretna Inn and is president of Mount Gretna Fire Company, asked trustees to donate a 10,000-square-foot piece of land for the tower in exchange for about \$1,000 per month for 10 years in revenues. Several phone companies have expressed interest in placing dishes on the tower, he said.

But the fact that towers already exist on neighboring peaks is "all the more reason to leave these forests alone and not erect towers on Governor Dick," McMillan-Gamber said. "It will take away from the pristine environment that is there."

Blinking lights on cell phone towers attract some birds who typically navigate by the stars, he noted. A tower in the middle of Governor Dick, which is in a common migration path, "would be just murder on migrating songbirds."

Eichler said the tower option is still "very preliminary."

"We would want it aesthetically done so that it doesn't interfere with the other 1,100 acres," he said. "We're not about to do anything that will be detrimental to the area."

Dec 5 2001

LETTERS

Governor Dick forest should be preserved as it is

Editor, New Era:

Generations of area residents have hiked the 1,100-acre forest near Mt. Gretna known as Governor Dick. Many climb the observation tower to enjoy the panoramic view. Unfortunately, everything is about to change.

Governor Dick's current trustees are set to implement a plan that will include repeated and frequent logging, a cell-phone tower, new access roads and new construction. The money raised will be used, ironically, to operate an environmental education center containing just two classrooms and a caretaker's office. A state grant will also be used.

As justification for logging, trustees claim there's no value in allowing trees to fall over and just go to waste. But dead and dying trees don't go to waste. They are an essential ingredient of every healthy forest, providing food, habitat, nutrients, and erosion control.

Trustees also seem unaware that forest fragmentation is a serious problem for many species, or that cell-phone towers annually kill millions of migrating songbirds, or that logging dries out a forest, increasing the risk of fire.

A better environmental education plan would be to leave this forest intact.

According to Governor Dick's deed, it is the duty of the trustees, the SICO Foundation (PO Box 302, Mount Joy, 17552) and the Lebanon County Commissioners (Room 207, Municipal Building, 400 S. 8th St., Lebanon, 17042), to preserve Governor Dick as forest — for nature, for us and forever.

If we can't save an already preserved forest like Governor Dick, then there is little hope for the future of any of our remaining wild places. Classroom space can be found elsewhere. Forests like Governor Dick cannot.

Bill Knapp
Lititz

**Thibault never cared
about Manor Twp. before**

trage with his insulting "doesn't take a rocket scientist" remark.

By his own admission, Thibault knew about the Barley landfill deal many months before the rest of us. Back then, he felt no great urge to discuss the issue with our community.

Any local voter who cares about open and honest government will oppose both Barley and Thibault in the spring primary election.

Ed Klady
Conestoga

Golden Plunger award a big hit in Weber family

Editor, New Era:

A tear of joy came to my eye when I heard that Tom Weber received the Golden Plunger award from local political activist Ron Harper. I would like to sincerely say how proud I am of my brother, Tom.

For 13 years, he has worked on the Redevelopment Authority, and we at the Weber house are all delighted that he has received this coveted honor.

I am, however, disappointed at the timing. This holiday, we will now be forced to listen to his constant banter and bragging. He'll talk on and on about how all the people that live in Lancaster are finally appreciating his effort.

There will be no time for me to discuss my third place victory at the Potter County Marathon that took place only 21 years ago. (It's a real hilly course too!) I know my family was looking forward to hearing about the big race again; but now all we are going to hear about is Tom's coveted Golden Plunger award. This is obviously why they don't give out the Nobel Peace Prize in December.

Tom didn't always aspire to such greatness. His side of the room was always dirtier than mine. When he was an altar boy, he always walked the wrong way. In the 80s, his Chevy Vega had an eight track that didn't work.

I'm amazed how he got his life together

to win this prestigious award. It truly is a testament to the human spirit. I would like to celebrate by buying him dinner at the Lancaster Brewing Company. (A shameless attempt at publicity.) Tom is the finest Cabbage Hill has to offer.

Jim Weber
Lancaster

Why not hike pensions of retired teachers?

Editor, New Era:

In all of the weeks since our state legislators gave themselves a nice increase in their future pensions and also gifted an increase to those teachers who have not as yet retired, no one has explained satisfactorily why nothing was done to increase the pensions of those who are already retired.

Shortage of funds is a tired excuse. If this was the case, why didn't our elected representatives cut back on their own increases? It is especially disconcerting to speak with teachers who have been retired for 15 to 20 years or more who are trying to subsist on pensions that put them below the poverty level.

In the past 20 years, we all know that teaching has become increasingly more difficult — in fact teachers have had to retire early because of burnout. It is a disgrace that individuals who dedicated their lives to educating our children are denied adequate pensions.

It is time for our elected officials to stand up, give "name, rank and serial number" and explain their reasoning for or against a cost of living increase. Let the voters in on who is trying to block a COLA for retirees.

In case no one has noticed, Lancaster County voters have become much more discriminating when it comes to issues that affect our community and its citizens.

Catherine G. Havemeier
Lancaster

IN MY OPINION

Doing forest prime evil?

A plea to spare Governor Dick

BY BILL KNAPP
Special to the Sunday News

Governor Dick, just outside of Mount Gretna, has been attracting hikers and nature lovers to its 1,100 acres of forested trails for generations. Many visitors climb the observation tower on the summit for a beautiful view of the surrounding forests and counties. Everything is about to change.

Under the guise of environmental education, the Clarence Schock Governor Dick Trust, acting on behalf of the trustees of Governor Dick (the SICO Foundation and the County of Lebanon), is set to implement a plan that will include new access roads, new construction, a cell phone tower, and repeated and frequent logging that will probably continue forever.

A \$500,000 state grant will cover initial costs. But money for annual expenses such as for maintenance, utilities, and a caretaker's salary (ironically, no naturalist's salary is included) will be raised primarily from logging revenues. As one trustee put it, there's no value in allowing these trees to eventually fall over and just go to waste.

As I'm sure every school child has learned, fallen trees do not go to waste. They are an essential ingredient of every healthy forest, providing homes and food for wildlife, nutrients for the soil, barriers to erosion, and a source of life to the forest itself.

The 66-foot-high observation tower may soon be dwarfed by a neighboring 200-foot-high cell phone tower. This metal monstrosity with blinking lights will sit in a 10,000-square-foot fenced in enclosure surrounded by 4 or 5 small huts and yet another access road. I'm sure few people will find the view enhanced by this addition.

In 1953 Clarence and Evetta Schock had the foresight to preserve Governor Dick for future generations. According to their deed, Governor Dick is to be maintained and preserved forever as forest. Buildings, logging and cell phone towers are inconsistent with the Schocks' vision.

Forest fragmentation is a serious problem for wildlife. Fragmented forests are either too small or too broken up by logging, devel-

PLEASE SEE FOREST, PAGE P4

Forest: Trails, logging

CONTINUED FROM P1

opment, or roads to successfully maintain healthy populations of species that require large forests with deep, dark interiors.

Predators such as raccoons, feral cats, blue jays, crows, and opossums prey on young birds and eggs, primarily within a few hundred feet of forest edges. Cowbirds are also a threat to nesting birds close to forest edges. Birds nesting deeper in the forest have higher reproduction rates. But even access roads and trails can have a negative impact.

Wood thrushes are one example of a species that requires large forests. Recent studies conducted by the Wild Resource Conservation Fund, Penn State, and Hawk Mountain Sanctuary found that wood thrush nesting success decreased significantly as forests shrank. Governor Dick's 1,100 acres would seem sufficient but not if logging, development and roads cut up and divide the forest.

Cell phone towers are also a threat to birds. Most songbirds migrate at night by following the stars. In bad weather they see the flashing lights on these towers and become disoriented. Collisions with towers kill millions of birds.

Environmentalists and naturalists are constantly being told that we must compromise. So every year we give and they take. We are running out of pieces to give. But they keep demanding more.

Governor Dick would seem the last, best place in our area to preserve a large, intact forest. But now we are told we must sacrifice even this prime piece of forest so they can build an environmental education center containing two classrooms and an office. Supposedly this is so they can teach people the value in preserving forests. This, or course, is an example of logic gone completely absurd.

If we can't save a forest like Governor Dick, a forest already set aside as a nature preserve, then there is little hope for the future.

If you care and you believe there's a need for wildlife and wild places, then please write, scream, or even stomp your feet at the SICO Foundation in Mount Joy and at the Lebanon County commissioners. Their duty, as trustees of Governor Dick, is to preserve this forest for nature, for us, and forever. Please hurry as time is running out for Governor Dick.

Bill Knapp, who, lives in Lititz, is a wildlife advocate and writer.



Hawk Mountain
Sanctuary Association
1700 Hawk Mountain Road
Kempton, PA 19529-9379

18 December 2001

Phone: 610•756•6961
Fax: 610•756•4468

Clarence Schock Governor Dick Trust
73 South Zinns Mill Road
Lebanon, PA 17042

Dear Sir/Madame:

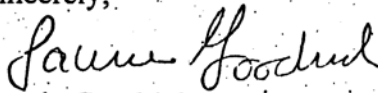
I have recently heard of the proposal to build an environmental education center on the 1,100 acre forested property managed by the Trust. Although the environmental education center sounds like a great idea, I am concerned that the funding options included plans to erect a cellular tower on the property and the plan may also include considerable forest cutting.

Cell towers, particularly lighted towers, are a proven hazard to birds. The lights attract the birds at night, and they die either from striking the tower and wires or from exhaustion. It would seem contrary to the overall mission to be killing birds on an environmental education property. I have attached some references on how towers injure and kill birds, and would be happy to discuss it further at your convenience.

We have conducted considerable research in recent years on the impact of creating openings in the forest on forest nesting birds. It is fair to say that openings benefit some species and have negative impacts on others. Species that do not do well near openings include Wood Thrush, Ovenbird, and other forest-interior nesting species. In addition, some logging approaches can be less intrusive and more selective than others. Large forest tracts (1000 acres or more) are rare in southeastern Pennsylvania, and birds such as Wood Thrush and Scarlet Tanager have declined in recent years. The proposal to log the forest to fund the education center operations, seems as if it will be a short term option for funding at best, and will certainly alter the property and the community of wildlife it supports. Such decisions should be made with careful considerations of the goals for the habitat you supervise. For example, if deer populations are high, the forest will not regenerate after logging and you may create a permanent opening where cutting takes place.

If you do proceed with logging, I urge you to contact the Penn. Bureau of Forestry, Forest Stewardship program and a wildlife biologist, so you can create a long-term vision and plan for the property. If you would like more information on our forest research or cell towers, please contact me.

Sincerely,


Laurie Goodrich
Senior Naturalist

cc: SICO Foundation, Lebanon Cty.





Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Rachel Carson State Office Building
P.O. Box 8475
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8475
January 7, 2002

Bureau of Recreation and Conservation

717-783-2658

Mr. Bill Knapp
667 Brunnerville Road
Lititz, PA 17543-8858

Dear Mr. Knapp:

Thank you for your December 9, 2001 letter regarding the state grant awarded for Governor Dick Park.

The grant made to Lebanon County is very consistent with our Community Conservation Partnerships Program and the Growing Greener Fund legislation. If the application was not eligible or did not score high enough in our rating system, it would not have been funded.

The environmental education center proposal and the timbering activity are consistent with the program guidelines and legislative intent. We have not seen the final design of the center, but understand it has been modified to place less emphasis on the caretaker's residence and more emphasis on a center that will enhance the park by providing the public, especially school children, with more opportunities for environmental education. The County met our requirements to undertake a master plan of the site through a public participation process, and no opposition to the center was voiced at the public meetings.

The timbering is not a problem if it is done in an environmentally sustainable manner and the forest is managed as a renewable resource. We have been informed that a professional forestry consultant will be hired to complete a forest management plan for the park. I am asking our Bureau of Forestry to provide technical assistance with the preparation and review of the plan. Even though the timbering already underway at the environmental education center location is in an area less than five acres of the total 1,100 - acre park, it is being done in a selective manner and will not be clear cut.

Stewardship

Partnership

Service

Mr. Bill Knapp

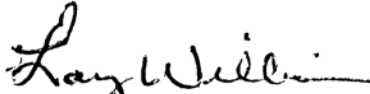
- 2 -

January 7, 2002

Like you, we are concerned about the cell tower proposal and thank you for calling it to our attention. We will be in communication with the County officials to get additional information about the proposal, including whether or not it is even allowable by the deed restriction. Of greater importance to us is the environmental impact the tower will have on the site and the environmental education center.

Please feel free to call me at 717-783-2659 if you want to discuss these issues in more detail. Thank you for your care and concern about the environment.

Sincerely yours,



Larry G. Williamson

Director

Bureau of Recreation and Conservation

Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Pa. official pushes for environmental center in forest

Governor Dick trustees meet Thursday to discuss plans for woodlands near Mount Gretna

Tom Knapp
Intelligencer Journal Staff

A state conservation official has endorsed plans to cut down several acres of a protected forest outside Mount Gretna and build an environmental center.

Trustees overseeing Governor Dick, a 1,105-acre parcel of preserved woodland in Lebanon County, have announced plans to build an environmental center, new access roads and trails.

They also have proposed paying for the

center by opening portions of the nature preserve for lumbering and are considering a plan to bring in extra income by building a 200-foot cellular phone tower on the site.

Trustees for the Clarence Schock Governor Dick Trust will meet at 7:15 p.m. Thursday at the West Cornwall Township municipal building to discuss plans for the site.

Larry G. Williamson, director for the state Department of Conservation & Natural Resources' Bureau of Recreation & Conservation, said his bureau is pushing to have the educational center built as quickly as possible.

"We have given them a grant to build the educational center," Williamson said Monday. "We're trying to push them into faster progress into getting the building done. The contract we have with them is about to expire."

"They should get that building under construction by this summer... or we're going to have a problem."

Williamson said he is not aware of any opposition to the plan, nor is he concerned about any potential conflicts with Clarence Schock's deed.

"That's a problem for the courts to de-

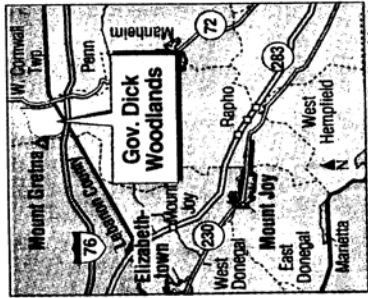
termine," he said. "They (trustees for Governor Dick) certified to us that everything's OK. If that gets overridden, we'll have to take a look at getting the grant back."

If anyone has a problem with the construction plan, Williamson said, "they need to take it to court, I guess."

Williamson said he has no position yet on the proposed cell tower.

"I don't have enough information," he said. "I'm having my regional representative look into that and get the facts."

Please see **FOREST**, page A5



Intelligencer Journal graphic by Dan Morris

Continued from A1

SICO founder and philanthropist Clarence Schock donated 1,105 acres of unspoiled woodland to Donegal School District in 1953, stipulating in his deed that it be "maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland."

However, trustee chairman Frank Eichler recently said the proposed center "will be a better use for that property than just biking and hiking."

Lebanon County officials have said they performed no study to determine how much interest there is in using an environmental center at the site.

State Sen. David J. Brightbill, who represents Lebanon County, said he believes an environmental center is "very consistent with the spirit of the trust."

"I support it 1,000 percent," Brightbill said. The center, he added, will provide "a real chance for people to go hiking and enjoy the woods."

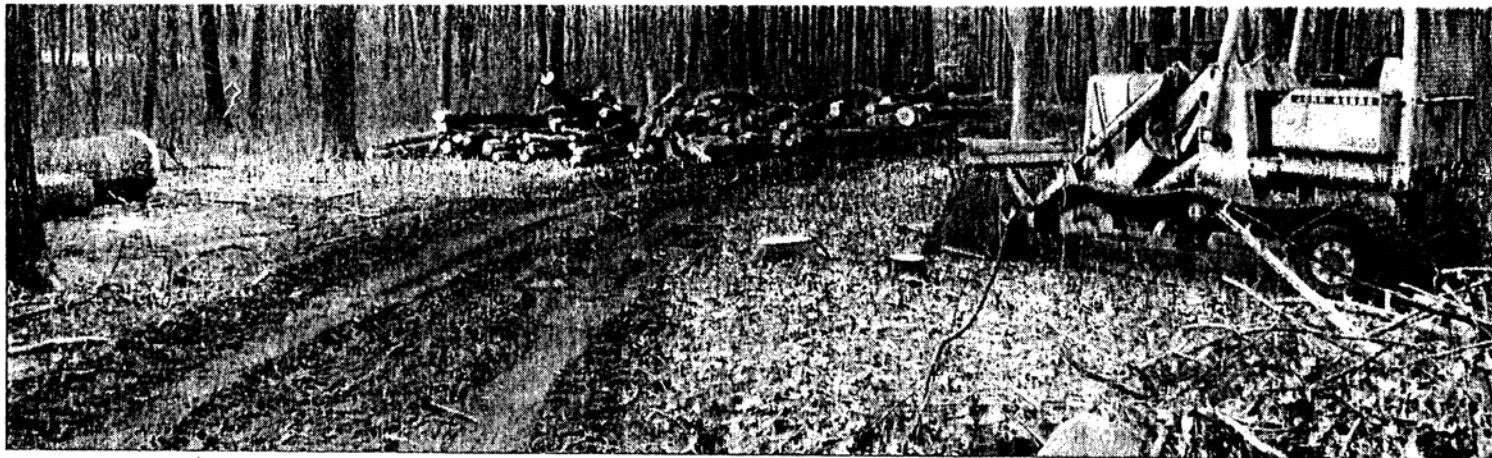
Brightbill said he sees no conflict between the proposal and Schock's wish that the land be preserved.

"I don't think there's a better barometer for what Mr. Schock would have wanted than Mr. Eichler," he said. Anyone who disagrees, Brightbill said, should take the matter to court.

Governor Dick is one of the region's last unfragmented forests, unbroken by developments, roads or other manmade divisions.

Lancaster County Parks Department naturalist Clyde McMullan-Gamber said he is opposed to further forest fragmentation. "Can't we have some place in southeastern Pennsylvania that is left alone?"

Forest: State official



CHRIS KNIGHT / OF THE PATRIOT-NEW

Construction crews carve an access road through Governor Dick park in Lebanon County yesterday. Critics say such logging encourages predators and makes it difficult for songbirds to nest.

Center of controversy

Trustees to discuss Governor Dick park educational facility

BY TOM BOWMAN
OF OUR LEBANON BUREAU

MOUNT GRETNIA — Governor Dick park's board of trustees will meet tonight to discuss plans to build a controversial education center in the 1,105-acre woodlands south of here.

At issue is whether the \$240,000 building complies with the will of Clarence Schock, the benefactor who created the woodland preserve.

Schock's will calls for Governor Dick park to be "maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland." The area is popular with hikers and bikers, but no hunting is permitted.

The education center, said Frank Eichler, chairman of the Governor Dick Trust, would not violate Schock's will.

"The environmental center will allow people to tell the story of Governor Dick," Eichler said last month. "I just think this will be a great way to enhance the area for all people."

But some people, including Bill Knapp of Lititz, say the center would break up the woodland, attract predators, and make songbird nesting more difficult.

"This is one of the last, large unbroken forests in the area," Knapp said. "That makes Gov-

ernor Dick all the more valuable if you leave it alone."

The proposed education center is really just a meeting hall with two classrooms, Knapp said, "a place for people to congregate" without a wildlife education program.

Because similar programs are available daily in other places, including the Middlecreek Wildlife Management Area near Kleinfeltersville, an education center is not needed at Governor Dick, Knapp said.

The trustees received a \$400,000 state grant earlier this year to improve the area and build the center.

Whether the trustees will go ahead with plans to build the center is not known.

Eichler said the trustees met in June 2000 at the Mount Gretna fire hall to discuss the project with residents.

"Nobody had a problem with it," Eichler said.

Eichler said the trustees voted to build the center, but have not contracted with anyone to build it.

Trustees will hear comments at the meeting tonight from people opposing the education center and also hear plans by Mount Gretna Fire Company President Keith Volker to build a for-profit 200-foot cell tower near the observation tower on top of the mountain.

At present, the observation tower is the only structure in the woodland.

Last month, workers began clearing timber for an access road to the site of the education

center.

The building and an on-site sewage system would be located on the east side of Pinch Road opposite the state game land parking lot about 700 feet back from Pinch Road.

A trust was set up to preserve and maintain the land, which is called Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick. Schock was the founder of Sico Co. of Lancaster County and died in 1955.

From 1953 to 1998 Mount Joy

School District, later renamed Donegal School District, was the sole trustee. In 1998, Lebanon County and the Sico Foundation, a philanthropic group took over the trust, with each group seating three representatives as trustees.

The meeting will be held at 7:15 p.m. in the West Cornwall Twp. building, 73 S. Zinns Mill Road.

Tom Bowman may be reached at 272-3759 or tbowman@patriot-news.com

Harrisburg Patriot-News
Jan 17 2002

Gov. Dick trustees face critics, confirm building plans

Tom Knapp
Intelligencer Journal Staff

A decision to raze several acres of preserved woodland at Governor Dick to build an educational center stands despite an outpouring of opposition to trustees Thursday.

More than 60 people crammed into the small West Cornwall Township meeting room to discuss the center, which trustees for the Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick approved last year.

Trustees of the 1,100-acre woodland preserve intend to cut down several acres of the forest for a center and access road. A state grant will pay initial construction costs, and

lumbering on the site will provide revenue for its upkeep.

Although the majority of citizens opposed the plan, trustees said their decision will not be reconsidered. The board allowed only six people to speak, leaving many opponents of the plan irked by meeting's end.

Opponents of the development plan were pleased, however, by a board decision barring cellular phone towers from the mountain. A tower was discussed by trustees late last year as a means of raising additional funds.

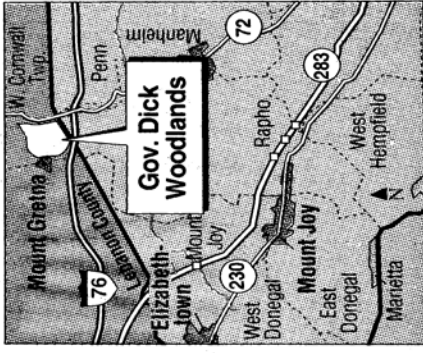
Trustee Ray Bender cited "very little return and the extremely negative impact" of a tower. The board voted unanimously to halt its consideration.

Frank Eichler, chairman of the trustees, opened Thursday's meeting by noting the plan was discussed at the Mount Gretna Fire Hall in June 2000.

"There wasn't any opposition," Eichler said. "But someone decided to stir everything up, and that's why we're here tonight."

Engineering consultant Jeff Steckbeck said the land development plan of phase one will be considered by the West Cornwall planning commission and supervisors over the next several weeks.

Phase one covers 20 acres, with four acres dedicated to the center and surrounding parking lot. That is 0.35 percent of the entire Governor



Intelligencer Journal graphic by Dan Morris

Please see **GOVERNOR DICK**, page B2

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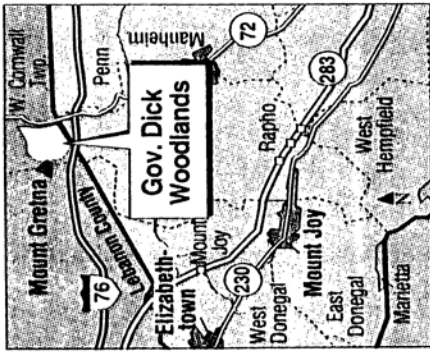
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Please see **GOVERNOR DICK**, page B2



Intelligencer Journal graphic by Dan Morris

Governor Dick: Plans

Continued from B1

nor Dick tract, he said.

Phase two, which has not yet been approved, includes additional walking trails, informational kiosks, observation sites, scattered restroom facilities "and any other pertinent nondisruptive items," Steckbeck said.

Eichler then opened the floor to public comment, but limited the time to 30 minutes and allowed only six people to speak. He said he would first entertain comments from anyone in the audience who knew Schock personally.

An elderly woman, who identified herself only as Mrs. Heisey of Quentin, said she knew Schock and she believed he would oppose this plan.

"He wanted to keep it as it is," she said.

Paul Sellers, Spring Hill Acres, said Clarence and Evetta Schock "would roll over in their graves if they knew the people they entrusted with over 1,100 acres of pristine woodland would consider bastardizing it in this way.

"If he would have wanted a nature center on this land, he would have had the resources and the wherewithal to put one there," he added. "Let nature do what it does best and let it undisturbed."

Sellers suggested building a nature center elsewhere, such as on state gamelands along Route 322.

Local resident Perry Hilbert noted that hunting is banned at the site because Schock's deed prohibits hunting.

"It's also in the deed to be kept woodland forever," he said. "What are you doing? ... You're cutting trees down already."

Tom Stewart, who recently donated 55 woodland acres to a Lancaster County preservation group, said he was "very, very angry" to learn of these plans.

"The duty of a trustee is not to represent himself. A trustee is to represent the people," he said.

"They say time is running out on the grant. Well, let it," Stewart added. "If every generation chops off a piece here and a piece there, there will be nothing left."

Leigh Beamesderfer, an environmental educator with the Lebanon County Conservation District, said she supports an environmental center, but she has no opinion on whether it should be built at Governor Dick.

She also supports lumbering at the site.

"Trees are a renewable resource. Trees need to be managed," Beamesderfer said.

Mark Stanavage of Manheim Township said he doesn't know "how nature ever got along with out us before."

Stanavage said a new environmental facility "is redundant. Ten miles down the road we have another one at Middle Creek."

The Middle Creek facility is fully staffed and has far more resources than Governor Dick can provide, he said. "Let's leave well enough alone."

Later, trustee Carol McLaughlin read from Schock's deed, noting his description of the land as a "playground and public park." That, Eichler said, supersedes the further stipulation that land "which is now forest or woodland shall be maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland."

Schock would support an initiative to cut down trees and erect swingsets, Eichler said.

"Clarence was very interested in education," he added. "He would have added educational rooms to the (former caretaker's) residence, of this I have no doubt. Anyone who thinks otherwise is taking Clarence's words out of context — and never knew the man."

But requests for a new public hearing on the issue were soundly denied. At this stage, trustee Bender said, further public comment is counterproductive.

Later, people outside the meeting hall said they were very dissatisfied by the board's inattention to their concerns.

"They already had their minds set," complained Barb Karsnitz of Lititz.

"The area's fine the way it is," said Jerry Bruckhart of Manheim. "But I don't think this is going to be stopped."

Pam Williams, of Mount Gretna, said trustees "blatantly disregarded the people who made an effort to come here and speak their minds. They didn't pay attention — it was a slap in the face."

Several opponents said they will canvass Mount Gretna residents this weekend to try and get support for another public hearing on the issue. Others said they are exploring legal options to halt the project and uphold Schock's deed.

Trustees will meet again at 7:15 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21.

Harrisburg Patriot-News
Jan 18 2002

PARK/\$400,000 grant to pay for center

From Page B1
house on top of the mountain. That house was destroyed by vandals sometime in the 1960s, Eichler said. The house could have been used for a nature center. "We wouldn't have to build [the center] if someone hadn't torn it down," Eichler said.

Jeff Steckbeck, a civil engineer, told the trustees that plans for the education center should be approved at West Cornwall Twp.'s meeting next month. They call for building a parking lot for 25 cars, a storm water retention pond and a sand mound for on-site sewage.

Steckbeck said four acres of land would be used for building the center, including a 700-foot-long access road leading from Pinch Road east to the center. Logging for that road started last month.

Someone decided to stir things up, that's why we are here tonight," Eichler said. Eichler limited comments from the crowd to 30 minutes. Schock built a seven-story

The trustees received a \$400,000 state grant to pay for the education center. That grant expires in July but can be extended six months.

The Governor Dick park, named for a slave who worked in the area as a charcoal burner, is a wooded recreation area used by hikers and bikers. Schock was the founder of Sico Co., the Lancaster County fuel oil company. He died in 1955.

From 1953 to 1998, Mount Joy School District, later renamed Donegal School District, was the sole trustee. In 1998, Lebanon County and the Sico Foundation, a philanthropic group, took over the trust, with each group seating three representatives as trustees.

Tom Bowman may be reached at 272-3759 or tbowman@patriot-news.com.

18, 2002
rg, Pa.

LEBANON

od morning



EBANON
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Nature center plans opposed

Residents say park facility isn't needed

BY TOM BOWMAN
OF OUR LEBANON BUREAU

MOUNT GRETNA — A crowd of 70 or more residents from Lebanon and Lancaster counties told Governor Dick Park trustees last night that they oppose the trustees' plans to build an education center on the 1,105-acre nature preserve just south of here.

Trustee Chairman Frank Eichler said the board rejected

telephone tower near the 70-foot observation tower on top of the mountain.

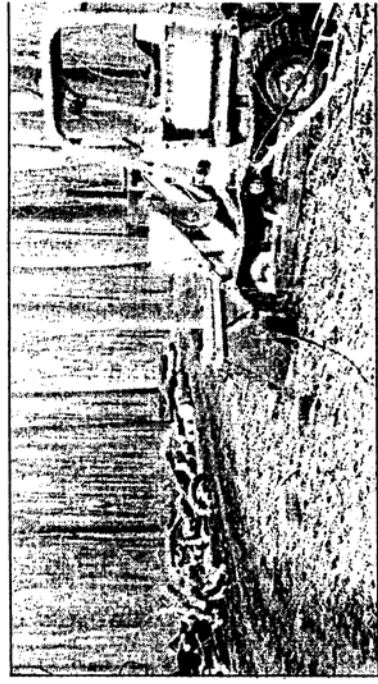
But the trustees refused to reconsider their plans or their previous approval for the \$240,000 education center, with construction set to begin by summer.

During the meeting, residents argued that the center is not needed because there are similar centers in the area, the closest at Middle Creek Wildlife

feltersville. They also said the idea of the center goes against the intent of Clarence Schock, who set aside the wooded area for the public and created the trust to maintain it.

Some said the unbroken woodland — a rarity in southeastern Pennsylvania — would be harmed by building the nature center.

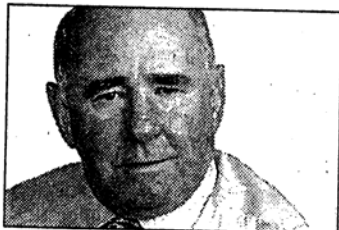
Outside the meeting room, 30 or more people talked about su-



CHRIS KNIGHT / OF THE PATRIOT-NEWS
Construction crews carved an access road through Gov. Dick Park in West Cornwall Twp. in January. Critics say logging for various projects encourages predators and mak-

JANUARY 20, 2002

DAVID HENNIGAN



COFFEE WITH CLYDE

Clyde believes trustees not out of woods

Good morning, Clyde. How's January going?

"There's a lot happening," my jogging friend said Saturday, sipping his coffee, "Barley, Dalzell, and even a little snow. Been quite a month so far.

"And you know what, Mr. Editor, tucked in between all these major stories is a puzzling one about building a classroom in some woods up at Governor Dick."

Saw something on that, Clyde. What's going on?

"Well, from what I understand, back in 1953 Clarence and Evetta Schock turned over some 1,100 acres of woodland at Governor Dick to be preserved as a forest forever.

"Now the trustees of the land want to construct a road and build a learning center there.

"Some folks don't like the idea and are yelling about it."

What are they saying, Clyde?

"That Mr. Schock specifically said in the original deed that he wanted nothing built on the land."

What's it say, Clyde?

"Let me quote it: 'The track of land above described with the appurtenances in trust forever as a playground and public park, upon the following terms and conditions:

'The portion thereof which is now forest or woodland shall be maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland and where possible additional portions shall be planted as forest and woodland.' That's pretty clear, Mr. Editor."

What are the trustees saying, Clyde?

"First, they are saying a previous public hearing was held on this proposal in June of 2000 and there was no opposition. They further argue that the 'playground and public park' designation opens the door for development."

Where's it go from here?

"Well, there's another trustees meeting next month. I don't think these folks are going to go quietly into the night. There's talk of stirring up the troops more, and possible legal action. I guess you could say it's under the heading of: 'To be continued.'"

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IN OUR VIEW

Ironic woods

One of our favorite ironies involves the federal government's decision to construct the largest, most expensive building in Washington, D.C., and name it after Ronald Reagan, the president who ran against big government.

We now have a local story that just might top it.

Last week, trustees for the Clarence Schock Governor Dick Trust voted to carve out several acres of woodland in the forest near Mount Gretna for an educational center and access road. The trustees contend the development is well within the wishes of Schock, whose deed described using the land as a "playground and public park."

The remainder of the deed, however, notes: "The portion thereof which is now forest or woodland shall be maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland and where possible additional portions shall be planted as forest and woodland."

All of the Governor Dick tract, it is worth noting, is forest and woodland.

The irony of the situation might be funny except for the fact that the public is angry about the trustees' interpretation of the deed.

You see, Governor Dick is one of the last unfragmented forests left in this region of Pennsylvania, and is home to dozens of species of plants and animals.

Here's another irony: Plans to alter the nature (pardon the pun) of the 1,105 acres might

never have taken root had a state grant from the Department of Conservation & Natural Resources' Bureau of Recreation & Conservation not been made available.

At Thursday's public meeting, trustees chairman Frank Eichler said Schock's reference to a "playground and public park" supersedes instructions to maintain the land as forest and woodland. He added that Schock was interested in education and that he would support plans to cut down trees to build an environmental center.

But opponents argued that the Governor Dick woodlands are only 10 miles from the Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area, which has an auditorium, museum, hiking trails, a diversity of forest lands and a full-time naturalist.

The concern, of course, is that once new roads and trails are hacked out of this forest, lumbering interests eventually will gain a toehold and reduce an unfragmented forest to a subdivision and woods.

We cannot see that far into the future, but if the trustees truly believe the "playground and public park" language supersedes maintaining and preserving forest and woodlands, then we suspect any vague language to encourage exploitation is possible.

At least the trustees voted not to allow cell phone towers on the land. Perhaps an excuse declaring that the late Mr. Schock loved to communicate with others was too much of a reach even for the board.

RUBY ENGINEERING

P.O. Box 120, 299 Rexmont Road

Rexmont, PA. 17085-0127

Phone: 717-274-2669 Fax: 717-274-2774 Cel phone: 717-571-8046

E Mail: rubyeng@mbcomp.com

2/7/2002

file: Z 16A/Gov Dick 2-7-02.doc

To: Bill Knapp
667 BRUNNERVILLE Rd.
Lititz pa 17543-8858

Re: Dovernor Dick Nature Center

To Those It May Concern:

The meeting of the board for Governor Dick Trust at Twp. Building was very interesting. As V.P. of Quittapahilla Audubon Society, I am very interested in the preservation of this prestine forest.

I was able only to get into the hall outside the meeting room, but after the meeting outside, I along with others went inside for the rest of the meeting. The board unanimously voted not to consider a Cell Tower or Communication tower. They also made a motion to form a Support Committee as had been requested several times by the public. It was unaminusly approved.

It was pointed out that the only paver area will be the from entrance aacross from the game lands parking lot to & including the automobile parking lot near the nature building. There will be a 20' gravel drive way (one way) from tthe end of this lot looping parallel back to the drive way where busses can park.

The newspapers have erroroniously reported selective logging which was suggested but rejected. There will be no new trails cut except 2 ? short trails to connect to the existing trails. No trails will be paved. There were servey flags extending past existing trails which were in error and the board objected to.

The more I thought about this, they are not disturbing the forest. I went back the following week to check the drawings and found they will only disturb 4 to 5 acers of the over 1,100 acers. They have also moved some of the roads, paths, and building to save some valuable trees.

This is the result of 3 public meetings about 2 years ago at the Mount Gretna Fire Hall when they took suggestions and this is the result. They do hope in the future with cooperation to be able to have history of Governor Dick, nature displays (such as insect displays, flora data, bird counts & information, etc. as the public would request or offer) and possably have a naturlist on duty.

This sounds like it has been patterned after Hawk Mountain Sanctuary in it early days and is just what you are asking for. I WOULD SUGGEST YOU RECROUTE SOME VOLENTEERS TO SERVE ON THE Advisory Committee.

I think this is acurate but have not had a chance to check it, since I got your letter in the mail today and am leaving for Florida for a week in 10 minutes.

Sincerely

RUBY ENGINEERING

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "George W. Ruby". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

George W. Ruby, P.E.

Cc: Steckbeck Engineering Inc.
Clarence Schock Governor Dick Trust

Feb. 11, 2002

Dear Mr Ruby,

Thank you for your letter. As you suggested, trustees for Governor Dick may be dropping plans to log the forest. Although I have not heard an official statement, your letter repeats something one board member recently was quoted as saying, while leaving open the possibility of future logging.

However, erroneous news reporting is not to blame. At the November and January meetings and in Harrisburg Patriot and Lancaster Intell articles, Frank Eichler defended selective logging of Governor Dick. Logging was to be their primary source of income. Had we not been so persistent they might not now be backing away from these plans. It was Mr. Eichler who said, "if you don't do anything to the forest, eventually it will turn into a bunch of rotten logs laying around."

Likewise, the cell phone tower was discussed at the November meeting as a source of income. The discussion centered not on if it should be built, but how high to make it. I was glad to hear it voted down in January. Again, if not for our opposition, it may have received the go ahead.

As for no new trails, this is also a new development. As late as the January meeting they were talking about new trails and observation sites. Previously, the Lebanon Daily News reported on a 6 mile long trail circling the perimeter. This would have cut through undisturbed areas. One trustee even mentioned allowing snowmobiles.

I still oppose the nature center (even if it were just like Hawk Mountain). It's the wrong location. Every generation takes one more piece of our remaining preserved forests. I'm sure as a birder you're well aware of the problems of forest fragmentation. If they had chosen a better location, like in Mt. Gretna, I might have supported it.

As for the naturalist, at both the November and January meetings they discussed only the possibility of getting a college intern. And your reference to nature exhibits is the first I've heard of such a proposal. The board members have talked only of history displays.

I don't believe these are the people to be operating a nature center. Their inexperience and ignorance of wildlife and forest ecology issues are all too apparent.

I hope these trustees will continue to modify their plans in favor of wildlife. And although I'll continue to oppose this unneeded building, I would welcome news that they've abandoned plans to selectively log Governor Dick. But we need to remain vigilant. Remember, this is only Phase One of their planning.

Thanks again for sharing with me what you have learned.

Sincerely,

Bill Knapp
667 Brunnerville Road
Lititz, PA 17543-8858

vegetables, Cunningham said. It was arranged for city officials at with the university regularly local issues and, when possible,

programs that would benefit the city and the university.

Please see **TOWN-GOWN**, page B2

Lebanon students raise awareness of woodland project

College group will hold forum Tuesday

Tom Knapp
Intelligencer Journal Staff

A student group at Lebanon Valley College is trying to spread the news about Governor Dick.

Student Action for Earth (SAFE) is sponsoring a public forum Tuesday to discuss plans of Mount Gretna nature preserve trustees to cut down several acres of woodland and build an environmental education center and parking lot on the site.

"We're just trying to spread awareness about what's going on," said student spokesman Ryan Kirko. "We'd like to get the campus involved, as well as the surrounding communities."

Trustees for the Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick have said they will proceed with the project despite a

groundswell of opposition.

Kirko said SAFE representatives may attend the next trustees' meeting at the West Cornwall municipal building, 73 S. Zinns Mill Road, Thursday at 7 p.m.

"We have our own opinions, but we're not trying to sway the public either way," Kirko explained. "We just want to get the information out there."

The student forum will be held at 6 p.m. Tuesday in the Faust Lounge, Mund College Center, at LVC's Annville campus. Kirko said a faculty panel will lead discussions on the issue, with time set aside for comments and questions from the audience.

Opponents of the plan argue that the 1,105 acres of Governor Dick's woodland were set aside by philanthropist Clarence Schock as

Please see **FORUM**, page B2

Forum: Gov. Dick

Continued from B1

a nature preserve.

His deed, written when he ceded the forested tract to the former Mount Joy School District (now Donegal) in 1954, specified that the property "shall be maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland."

But trustees, who were appointed by the SICO Foundation and Lebanon County Commissioners after Donegal School District relinquished the property, maintain Schock would favor a plan to raze trees to make way for classrooms.

Phase two of the plan, which has been discussed by trustees but has not yet been approved, includes a new network of trails, educational kiosks, observation points and public restrooms.

Trustees also have announced their intention to permit logging on the site to pay for upkeep of the classrooms.

Trustee Carol McLaughlin was quoted in a Mount Gretna community newsletter saying no lumber-

ing was planned for the site "other than that required to prepare the construction site. Any additional tree removals will be carried out simply to keep the forest healthy and under the supervision of a licensed forester."

However, logging was still a part of the plan when trustees met in January. No public meetings have been held in the meantime.

Board chairman Frank Eichler has said logging is necessary to maintain a healthy forest. Opponents have argued that Governor Dick is one of the last unfragmented forests in the region and the last refuge in this area for numerous bird and animal species.

Opponents have asked for further public hearings on the issue, but trustees said the time for discussing their plans was at a hearing in June 2000. Eichler said there was no opposition then, but people got upset after "someone decided to stir everything up."

People at the January board meeting complained that the previous hearing was not publicized.

Maple: Sugaring

Continued from B1

Feb 15 2002

All trees have sap that can be drained. Sugar maple trees are the best ones for making maple syrup.

And it takes about 40 gallons of pure maple syrup.

"That's a lot of work to get to the

STECKBECK ENGINEERING & SURVEYING, INC.

ENGINEERS, SURVEYORS & LAND PLANNERS
279 N. ZINNS MILL ROAD, SUITE A
LEBANON, PA 17042

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Brian G. Hockley, SIT
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Associate Robert R. Leibig, P.L.S.
Professional Surveyor #17597E

Mr. Knapp:

Enclosed is a copy of the March 2000 RSA master plan which was approved by the Board of Trustees after a public hearing.

Until four months ago, there was virtually no opposition. The plan has been supported by all 3 Lebanon County Commissioners, Senator Chip Briggbill, and Representative Ed Krebs. The master plan was approved by the DCNR and awarded a \$450,000 grant based on its merits.

I respect you for caring. I suggest you direct your valuable opinions and energies into molding the park into something palatable to you. A positive approach will be more effective than negative.

Jeff Steckbeck

Those of us who have been speaking out against plans for Governor Dick have been accused of exaggerating. But according to the enclosed Master Plan which I received on Feb. 20, 2002 from Jeff Steckbeck, the trustees' engineering consultant, this is not so. This plan includes:

- Increasing field/open areas
- 6-10 foot wide trails with 14 foot vertical & 12 foot horizontal clearances
- 6 foot wide paved trails for handicapped accessibility
- Trails connecting with neighboring properties
- Bicycle races and group camping
- Timber management (logging) to keep the forest "healthy"
- Outdoor open amphitheater and group teaching stations
- Bridge over creek
- Grey water treatment facility
- Installation of a pond
- On-site living quarters & storage/outbuilding
- Septic system

Our concerns have for the most part been dismissed by the Clarence Schock Governor Dick Trust. Board members say we should have voiced our concerns at a June, 2000 public hearing. Unfortunately, there was little publicity about this hearing or these plans. One board member admitted they didn't even contact Lancaster newspapers. Neither I, as a weekly Mt. Gretna visitor, nor anyone I've talked to, saw notices posted at Governor Dick or on Mt. Gretna community bulletin boards. Even a lot of people in Mt. Gretna knew nothing of these plans. If this plan is such a great idea as trustees claim, why weren't they actively promoting it?

At the November board meeting we were told these plans were final and to take complaints to the trustees (SICO Foundation/Lebanon County Commissioners). This has not been easy. The board chairman, Frank Eichler, is also on the SICO Foundation. His son Dave is also a board member and, as I understand it, Governor Dick's paid caretaker and the one who would be living in the caretaker's residence (which is still in the Master Plan).

And when we expressed our concerns to the Lebanon County Commissioners, Vice-Chairman Rose Marie Swanger responded by saying our concerns were being forwarded back to the board. And one board member, Carol McLaughlin, is the secretary for the West Cornwall Township Supervisors, who must approve the building permit.

We also wrote to the DCNR, source of the grant money (ironically, provided by Governor Ridge to celebrate Earth Day) and to Governor Schweiker. The Governor forwarded my letter to DCNR who responded by saying we should take our concerns to the Lebanon County Commissioners who had previously told us they were forwarding our concerns to the same board who had told us to take complaints to the commissioners. (I'm getting a headache.)

Trustees have also tried to dismiss our concerns as a Mt. Gretna/NIMBY problem. This despite opposition coming from surrounding counties and even a letter to the editor from a former resident now living in Huntsville, Texas.

Governor Dick is important habitat for many declining species which require large, unfragmented, undisturbed forests. It's one of the last of its kind in southeastern Pennsylvania. That Clarence Schock had the foresight to preserve these 1,105 forested acres is an important gift to wildlife and to the people of our area who enjoy the inherent beauty of a mature, undisturbed forest. These trustees don't understand this, instead taking recommendations from timber industry specialists rather than from naturalists such as those at a place like Hawk Mountain Sanctuary that doesn't do any logging on its over 2,000 acres.

One board member said most people who use Governor Dick won't see the planned disturbances because they will occur in the undisturbed areas rather than along the major trails. He's apparently worried about the view. But it is the undisturbed areas that are important for wildlife because they are undisturbed. And that is how they should remain.

Board members keep embracing, then denying portions of this plan. But this is the plan as approved by the board and DCNR. Mr. Steckbeck suggests I direct my energy into molding the park into something palatable to me. I'd prefer making it palatable for species that no longer exist in the unsuitable habitats of the surrounding farms, fragmented forests, and developments, and which can't tolerate the disturbances these trustees are planning.

Bill Knapp
667 Brunnerville Road
Lititz, PA 17543-8858
(626 8622, unlisted)

Feb. 22, 2002

in Mount Gretna fight bid to turn woods into public park

Tom Knapp
 Intelligencer Journal Staff

Public opinion continues to run against construction of an education center at Governor Dick.

About 25 people attended a Thursday meeting of trustees for Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick, near Mount Gretna. Many spoke against the plan, which includes clearing trees on 4 acres to build a classroom facility and parking lot.

Local philanthropist Clarence Schock put the 1,105-acre tract in trust in 1954, specifying in the deed that it "be maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland." Opponents say trustees are defying Schock's wishes.

Mount Gretna resident Joe LaMont said Thursday the project gained a life of its own after state funds became available.

"I'm really kind of sad," added Trish LaMont, "because I feel that nobody asked the residents of Mount Gretna what our opinions were before this project really got underway."

Noting the board's concern for vandalism, she said, "it seems like vandalism will be worse once development is completed and more people are coming to the site. You're opening it up to greater misuse."

A building on the site could set a precedent, said resident Kay Hetrick.

"You're talking now about four acres," she said. "Maybe the next board will come along and say they need some picnic facilities. A little bit here, a little bit there."

Paul Sellers, of Spring Hill Acres, said he is "adamantly" opposed to any kind of building, structure, open areas, fields —

any kind of deforestation of that pristine area."

He cited the master plan for the site, approved by trustees in 2000, which included open fields, a new pond, wider trails and an outdoor amphitheater.

"I see this as a segue to further explication that land and do further damage to it," Sellers said.

Trustee Ray Bender said some items on the master plan will not be pursued, and trustee David Eichler said they won't cr

Please see GRETTA, page

Gretna: Residents opposed to planned park

Continued from B1

ate new trails.

Peggy O'Neil, who serves on the Pennsylvania Chautauqua board, said she worries about the extra traffic in Mount Gretna.

"You've planned parking for a certain number of cars," she noted. "What if you decide you need more — will you cut down more trees?"

"I don't understand why we have to take down trees to teach kids about trees," she added. "It's wrong. It's beautiful, beautiful land, and it won't be any more. All you have to do is drive down Pinch Road and see the trees cut — it breaks your heart."

Pinch Road resident Jeff Benedict echoed O'Neil's concerns about traffic. One child and numerous pets already have been killed on that road, he said.

Perry Hilbert accused trustees of "selectively interpreting the will."

The plan had few supporters in the crowd.

"Now that the action takes place and you see a few trees down, it becomes a passionate topic," said Keith Volker, president of the Mount Gretna Heights Association. "Caring after the fact is a wonderful thing, but you've got to be consistent and be here."

"They're only taking four acres," said Russ Gibble, a West Cornwall supervisor. "I don't have a problem with it."

Allan Feldman admitted that residents "fell asleep at the switch."

"I'm sure the meetings were held appropriately," he said. "But many of us, for whatever reason, were unaware of that."

Now, he said, "there's been a fair turnout of people who have questions about this situation. ... There has been a real public outpouring of feelings on this."

Trustee Tom Harlan said the board has acted openly since taking control of the property following Donegal School District's abandonment of the site in 1997.

The SICO Foundation stepped forward, explained board chairman Frank Eichler, because "nobody ever spent a dime on that hill other than the SICO Foundation. We felt we should have something to say about what goes on up there."

Building plans were discussed publicly in June 2000, Harlan said, and "there was no one at that meeting that objected."

Trustees insisted the decision is final. Harlan said the board is adhering to Schock's deed.

"It's not the clearest document that I've ever read," he said. "It requires interpretation."

Schock's writings and his scholarship initiatives indicate a love for education, Harlan said. "He would not be rolling over in his grave if there was a building there."

The West Cornwall planning commission and supervisors will address the issue in March and April. Bids will likely go out in April for the new road, parking lot, septic system, outdoor lighting, signs and storm water work.

TUESDAY, MARCH 19, 2002

LANCASTER, PA., N

OUTDOORS



Wander Furnace Hill park's naturalist in grouse, wild turkey and plants. 7:30-11 Meet at Turkey Hill intersection. Call 2

Gov. Dick: Let it be

Gov. Dick users from Lancaster and Lebanon counties, who didn't hear of the plans until late in the game, have been vocal in their preference for a woods left pretty much alone.

It's very depressing being a naturalist," Bill Knapp is saying. "There's just no places left alone. They always have to 'improve' it." Knapp, a shy, unassuming naturalist from out-



New Era photos by Ad Crable

Bill Knapp sadly inspects an opening carved out of the forest for a nature center at the "Governor Dick" woods.

dark woods. One memorable autumn day, he was on the observation tower and counted more than 600 broad-winged hawks migrating on the ridge in 20 minutes. "The woods here have been pretty much left

Eichler, who knew Schock, is a bit taken aback by all the outcry, which surfaced well after trustees had embarked on their project. And he says misleading and erroneous reports on the extent of changes at Gov. Dick have made their way into the

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Calm marks rescheduled meeting of Gov. Dick trustees

Tom Knapp
Intelligencer Journal Staff

Public opposition to planned construction at the Governor Dick woodland preserve appears to be waning, with fewer than a dozen people attending Tuesday's meeting of trustees.

There was no public discussion during the meeting. At previous meetings, crowds of 50

to 75 people vied for opportunities to speak during the board's 30-minute window for comments.

Some opponents said later the turnout was small because few people were aware of the board's decision to reschedule the meeting. Originally scheduled for Thursday, March 21, the meeting was changed to Tuesday evening "due to circumstances beyond our control," board chairman Frank Eichler announced at the meeting's start.

At issue is the board's plan to build an environmental center on the site. Four acres have already been cleared of trees to make way for the building and parking lot.

Trustees of the Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick have said their plan adheres to the vision of Schock, a local philanthropist who donated the land to the former Mount Joy School District, now Donegal, in 1954.

The current trustees were appointed by

Lebanon County commissioners and the SICO Foundation after Donegal ceded control of the 1,105-acre woodland in 1998.

But opponents argue that a plan that destroys trees for buildings and parking lots contradicts Schock's wishes. Schock, in his deed, stipulated the land be preserved "forever as forest and woodland."

Trustees said the plan will go before West

Please see GOVERNOR DICK, page B2

Governor Dick: Calm marks meeting

Continued from B1

Cornwall Township supervisors for approval on April 8. The board expects to open bids for construction on May 21.

Board member Ray Bender said timbering for the construction site has been completed and all equipment has been removed from the site. Trustees received a check "for the residue on the timber," he said, totaling \$5,200.

Bender said he approached three architectural firms for bids with specifications for building a log structure on the site. The low bidder was Johnson & Associates of Mount Gretna, who came in with a bid of \$19,525.

"That's about half of where we were this time last month," Bender said.

Trustees voted unanimously to forward the bids to Lebanon County commissioners with a recom-

mendation to contract the services of Johnson & Associates.

Bender said he will meet soon with architects to discuss security options for the site. Trustees are extremely concerned with protecting the new environmental center, as well as the current observation tower, from vandals.

"Clearly, we have to have an alarm system," Bender said. Lights triggered by motion sensors are one possibility under consideration, he said.

Also Tuesday, trustee Carol McLaughlin noted she has received about 20 volunteers so far for a community support group.

The formation of the group was announced in February to provide trustees with a core of assistance in the preparation and operation of its environmental center.

In an unrelated matter, trustees granted an easement to residents of Mount Gretna Heights to drill a well about 20 feet inside the Gover-

nor Dick boundary line. Heights president Keith Volker had asked trustees for permission to drill a test well in February.

"This has the possibility of being the best well in Mount Gretna," Volker told trustees.

He also said the water authority for Mount Gretna Heights is exploring a cooperative agreement with the Mount Gretna Borough water authority so that both communities can benefit from the new water supply.

Trustees will hold their next meeting at 7:15 p.m. April 18.

Pagans: 73

Continued from B1

ford in Lancaster March 2.

Prosecutors allege Pagans from Ohio, Pennsylvania, Maryland and elsewhere converged on Long Island and conspired to attack the Hell's Angels event. Hundreds of weapons — including knives, bats, brass knuckles and shotguns — were seized.

Mark Lancaster, a lawyer for the 73 Pagans who were being held

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Lancaster Intelligencer Journal
Mar 13 2002

Botanists have grave concerns about proposals

The Muhlenberg Botanical Society has grave concerns about the proposed changes to be undertaken at the Governor Dick Reserve. Some of these changes are being financed through a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

The society includes professional botanists and trained amateurs, who are most knowledgeable about the plant life and natural areas in this region. We are quite familiar with the large tract of forested land at Governor Dick. Many of our members frequently study botany there.

In this region, where suburban sprawl is a major threat to our natural areas, we know that the few remaining natural areas are becoming increasingly important. We strongly believe that the Governor Dick Reserve should be protected forever in its present state. Many native plant species require large, undisturbed habitats so as to reproduce and maintain their presence in a diverse plant community. This is also

true of many forest bird species, such as wood thrushes and ovenbirds.

We believe the most enlightened, scientifically sound course of action for the trustees of Governor Dick to take would be to preserve and to protect this site from disturbance. This course of action also would seem to be in accord with the wishes of the donor.

The educational value of the Governor Dick Reserve consists of it being a large tract of mature upland forest readily accessible to students of nature of all ages. There are already several environmental education centers in the area that could readily utilize the Governor Dick Reserve. Any funds could better be utilized to subsidize field trips by school students to the site, the development of well-focused teaching resources specific to the site, and the development of a long-term management plan. This plan should concentrate on a thorough inventory of environmental resources available at the site, needs for habitat preservation and

protection, well-considered nature trails, etc. and, possibly, support of a person to implement the management plan and to interface with persons utilizing the Reserve.

The Muhlenberg Botanical Society strongly urges the trustees of the Governor Dick Reserve to consider the above suggestions most carefully. We believe that it is most unwise to remove timber from the site for the purpose of supporting environmental education. This would teach the wrong lesson to children and the wrong lesson to potential donors of undisturbed tracts. From our perspective, any significant alterations of the Governor Dick Reserve would not be true to the intent of the donor nor would they leave a legacy worthy of his generosity. The trustees have a unique opportunity to protect the site and preserve a significant biological community for the benefit of future generations.

*Timothy P. Draude, President,
Muhlenberg Botanical Society*

by helped push it through.

LeB.
daily
news
3/23/02

Gov. Dick designer named

By ERIC LADLEY
And JOHN LATIMER
Staff Writers

The board of trustees for the Gov. Dick Recreation Area has hired a Mt. Gretna firm to design the interior of an environmental center scheduled to be built on the park's grounds, officials told county commissioners yesterday.

Johnston Associates beat out four other Lebanon County firms with its \$19,520 bid. The environmental center will be a pre-fab log building.

Ray Bender, a member of the board, said the trustees decided to go with Johnston because of the cost and quality of its proposal. Ralph E. Kaylor AIA Inc., also of Lebanon County, had done a conceptual design.

"Cost was one factor, possibly the largest factor," Bender said.

Steckbeck Engineering Associates is designing the site plan, which includes parking lots, driveways and landscaping. Bids on that plan will hopefully go out by June, Bender said. Plans call for the building to be done by the end of the year.

Jeff Steckbeck, president of Steckbeck Engineering, said that he will work with Johnston and give him a copy of the site plans.

Some local residents have opposed the center, saying it will disrupt the area's pristine forestland.

Two state officials met with Steckbeck this week at the site to investigate such complaints, but concluded the center would cause minimal environmental disruption.

After expressing general approval, the officials suggested \$50,000 in landscaping improvements, including planting trees in the drainage basin, creating a drop-off point for bus tours and a canopy at the waiting area.

"They said, 'This is really cool, I could envision this,'" Steckbeck said.

Gretchen Leslie, a spokeswoman for the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, said the officials from her department were comfortable with the location and were not worried about any adverse impact on the environmental.

As the project goes forward, Leslie said the department will be involved with the building to make sure environmentally friendly materials are used to construct it and that it's built in a way that uses solar energy.



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For Immediate Release

Contact: Bill Knapp (626 8622 - unlisted phone #)

April 3, 2002

THE FRIENDS OF GOVERNOR DICK (www.governordick.com)
P.O. Box 212, Mt. Gretna, PA 17064

Announcing a new group, a new website, and a public informational meeting

With the rapid loss of natural areas occurring worldwide, many of us were caught off guard by the development plans for Governor Dick, a 1,105 acre forest outside of Mt. Gretna we thought was already preserved forever. Generations of hikers and nature lovers have been attracted to Governor Dick's maturing forest, secluded trails, and large areas of undisturbed wildlife habitat.

The Friends of Governor Dick was formed out of a mutual love for this forest. Our purpose is to keep others informed about ongoing plans for this forest and to encourage an appreciation for the natural beauty and wild inhabitants that make Governor Dick unique, and popular. We believe logging, buildings, cell phone towers, and widened trails are inconsistent with the preservation of this forest, a view we believe Clarence Schock envisioned when he preserved Governor Dick in 1953.

We will be holding a public informational meeting on Wed., April 17 (7 PM) at the Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church. Copies of the development plan will be available. Speakers will address forest ecology issues and will be followed by an open discussion period. Anyone interested in Governor Dick or the preservation of our remaining forests is welcome. We hope members of the press will attend as well.

Our website (www.governordick.com) is intended to serve as a kind of online nature and visitors center for the Governor Dick area. Visitors will find information about the history of Governor Dick, forest ecology, and local plant and animal life. It will also include information about development plans and what concerned individuals can do. Monthly nature notes and trustee updates are among the planned additions. We hope visits to this website will help make actual visits to Governor Dick more educational and entertaining.

The Friends of Governor Dick always welcomes more friends. People interested in learning more, attending trustee meetings, or writing letters may contact us through our website or by writing to us at the above address. But most of all, we want people to develop an appreciation for the wildness that still exists in places like Governor Dick.

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Laying a foundation for park's ruin

Editor:

Trustees for Governor Dick dismiss criticism of their plans for this popular forest as exaggeration by opponents and erroneous reporting by newspapers. This is not true, at least according to their already approved "General Development Plan."

The plan begins by bulldozing four acres of forest to build what will be little more than an air-conditioned clubhouse. As with all forest fragmentation, this will have a negative impact on wildlife far beyond the immediate building site.

But the plans don't stop there. They also include continuous logging, open fields, bicycle races, group camping, an amphitheater, and an assortment of other so-called "improvements." The plan even includes resurfacing trails with stones and turf and widening trails "6-10 feet wide with vertical clearances to 14 feet and horizontal clearances to 12 feet." (For more information: www.governordick.com).

The trustees continue to make contradictory statements, apparently unsure how to put a favorable spin on their unpopular plans. For instance, they voted down a cell phone tower, but now say they won't rule one out. They also planned new trails. Then at their February

To OUR

We'd like to hear your opinion on any subject, either by e-mail PaulBaker@LDNews.com Street, Lebanon, PA 17042 address and phone number

meeting they denied this. An hour later they were discussing a new trail.

Professional and amateur naturalists, teachers and Mt. Gretna-area residents have joined with members of birding, botanical, hiking and sportsmen groups to oppose these plans. Even people who knew Clarence Schock, the man who preserved Governor Dick, say he would not want this.

These trustees obviously don't understand the species that inhabit this forest. They hardly seem qualified to be receiving state money for calling themselves environmental educators, destroying a nature preserve in the process. If they have their way, Governor Dick will no longer be unique. And that's no exaggeration.

Bill Knapp
Lititz

Preserve threatened

Trustees for Governor Dick dismiss criticism of their plans for this popular forest as exaggeration by opponents and erroneous reporting by newspapers. This is not true, at least according to their already approved "General Development Plan."

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These trustees hardly seem qualified to be receiving state money for calling themselves environmental educators, destroying a nature preserve in the process.

BILL KNAPP

Lititz

Ecological jewel

I would like to add my voice to the many who think that the development plans for the Governor Dick Forest Reserve in Mount Gretna will be an enormous and unnecessary loss of an ecological resource.

In 1954, Clarence and Evetta Schock set aside this unique 1,105 acres in a deed trust for a forest reserve. A new group of trustees overseeing the Schock Trust (some of them Lebanon County officials) are threatening this ecological jewel with destructive development plans.

This unnecessary development is funded with taxpayer dollars in the form of a grant from the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. Is it not a contradiction to construct an enclosed environmental center for the study of the local ecology and fund this center with continual forest logging, thus destroy the very environment to be studied?

Recreational parks such as the Swatara State Park, Blue Marsh Federal Recreation Area and Camp Bashore Boy Scout Camp already are available to provide groups and individuals in this region with locations for recreational activities. Why must taxpayer money be dedicated to another project?

PATRICIA E. GIBBLE

Friends of Governor Dick
Palmyra

Harrisburg Patriot-News

Apr 7, 2002



Valley Life

Celebrating
women's health.

Page 1B



Lebanon

Friday, April 6, 2002

Gov. Dick preser

By **ERIC LADLEY**
Staff Writer

A group opposing plans to develop land in the Gov. Dick recreation area has set up a Web site detailing how it believes different species of birds and wildlife would be harmed by cutting down trees there.

The board of trustees for the

Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick, which is located in West Cornwall Township, has already cleared land for an environmental center and has looked at logging and building a cell tower on the property.

The group, calling itself "Friends of Governor Dick," opposes the trustees' plans.

4/5/2002



Sports

Falcons falter at home.

Page 1C



Weather

Tonight: Low 30; Saturday: Mostly sunny; high 44.

Page 7C

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Daily News

www.LDNews.com

50 CENTS

Conservationists launch Web site

'Chicken Little also said the sky is falling.'

—Engineer Jeff Steckbeck

"We believe logging, buildings, cell phone towers and widened rails are inconsistent with the

preservation of this forest, a view we believe Clarence Schock envisioned when he preserved Governor Dick in 1953," the group said.

Jeff Steckbeck, a Lebanon engineer doing the site plan for the center for the trustees, said opponents of the center have not produced any expert testimony to back up their claims.

Several state agencies, including the departments of Conservation and Natural Resources and Environmental Protection, have scrutinized the area and determined there would be no adverse impact from an environmental center.

(GOV. DICK, page 4A)

Gov. Dick partisans launch Web site

(From page 1A)

"Chicken Little also said the sky is falling," Steckbeck said. "They're biased, and the government is not."

However, Bill Knapp, a 42-year-old Lititz resident who contributes to the Web site, said cutting down any trees at the park will harm migratory song birds, salamanders and certain types of plants.

By cutting down the trees and creating new clearings, new types of birds and predators such as raccoons and cow birds will be attracted to the area and could destroy the park's fragile ecosystem, Knapp predicted.

"What the trustees want to do is disruptive to deep-forest species," Knapp said. "The best way to teach nature is to go out into nature, not to disturb

nature. ... What they've done already is disruptive enough."

The Web site, gov-nordick.com, was set up recently by Steve Dove, a Mt. Gretna-area resident, Knapp said. Not only will it deal with the issues presented by the development, but it will serve as an education site with monthly nature notes.

"We want an ongoing presence to speak about wildlife," Knapp said. "Their view is not the only view."

An information meeting will be held at Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church on Wednesday, April 17, at 7 p.m. Scheduled speakers are Tim Draude, a botanist, and Guy Steucek, a biologist.

Two weeks ago, state officials surveyed the site where the environmental center is to go and deter-

mined the impact would be minimal. The trustees have hired Johnston Associates of Mt. Gretna to design the interior of the center, and Steckbeck Engineering is doing the site plan.

The development would take up 4 acres of the 1,150 acres of land, Steckbeck said in January.

The plan has been two years in the making, and officials at a January meeting said people should have brought their concerns to the forefront earlier. Steckbeck said construction on the center should start within three months.

Trustee Chairman Frank Eichler said he has no comment on the Web site because he has not seen it yet. The trustees are still checking all facets of logging there, he said.

Apr 17 2002

New Era
(Addable)
Apr 16 2002

Meeting will address plans for Governor Dick

Will be held in Mount Gretna

BY TOM KNAPP
Intelligencer Journal Staff

A grass-roots organization opposing construction in the Governor Dick nature preserve is taking its message to the people and to the World Wide Web.

The Friends of Governor Dick will host a public information meeting at 7 tonight at Mount Gretna Methodist Church.

Consulting biologist Tim Draude and Millersville University biology professor Guy Steucek will discuss reasons for leaving the 1,105-acre tract untouched by development.

Discussion of a development plan, which includes a 2,200-square-foot building, a paved parking lot, exterior lighting and ongoing logging, will follow.

Land already has been cleared for the proposed environmental center in the park, officially known as the Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick.

The friends group, which isn't affiliated with the board of trustees that oversees the park, also has created a Web site at www.governordick.com.

The site promotes the group's preservation efforts and provides information about park ecology, wildlife and history.

The site also details the impact of development, even on a small scale, on native birds and other wildlife.

"The development is unnecessary," the group states on the site. "This, with the understanding that the deed protects the park from development, the unbearable ecological costs, the lack of any educational plan, the vagueness as to how the running costs are to be met and the inadequacy of the public notification process are among the reasons why the Friends of Governor Dick oppose the proposed development."

LANCASTER, PA., NEW ERA

Apr 17 2002

For the record

Spotlight

(Meetings and community events of note tonight and tomorrow.)

Tonight

GOVERNOR DICK: The Friends of Governor Dick will hold a public meeting on new education center and amphitheater proposed. Meeting begins at 7 in Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church.

MT' PROJECTS: Manheim Township Planning Commission reviews preliminary land development plans for Lancaster Bible College, Eden Road, and for Wawa

store on Oregon Pike. Meeting begins at 7:30 in municipal building on Municipal Drive.

Tomorrow

CHRISTIAN CONCERT: Christian band Jars of Clay brings its "Eleventh Hour Tour" to Hersheypark Arena. Concert, at 7:30 p.m., also features Jennifer Knapp and Shaun Groves. Tickets \$20.50 to \$30.

OU'

Calendar

TODAY

Indoor pistol range, open to public, 7-10 p.m. every Tuesday, Manheim Sportsmen's Assoc., \$5. All pistols up to .45-cal. No magnum loads. Lead bullets only. Sergio Ortega, 664-3669.

Bees and beekeeping talk, 6:30-9 p.m., Environmental Center, Central Park. Call 295-2055.

WEDNESDAY

Preservation of Gov. Dick meeting, 7 p.m., at Mt. Gretna Methodist Church, 4th and Boehm streets, Mt. Gretna. Speakers, development issues on the 1,100-acre recreation land.

Bamboo fly rod making talk, by Ross Gooding, at Donegal Chapter Trout Unlimited meeting, 7:30 p.m., Quality Inn, Oregon Pike. Call Bill Schotta, 626-5330.

THURSDAY

Evening hike during plowing time in Amish country, led by Lancaster Hiking Club. 5 easy miles. Meet at 6:30 p.m. For directions, call Joan, 397-6546. Bring a flashlight and wear reflective clothing.

SATURDAY

Governor Dick: Plans

Continued from B1

nor Dick tract, he said.

Phase two, which has not yet been approved, includes additional walking trails, informational kiosks, observation sites, scattered restroom facilities "and any other pertinent nondisruptive items," Steckbeck said.

Eichler then opened the floor to public comment, but limited the time to 30 minutes and allowed only six people to speak. He said he would first entertain comments from anyone in the audience who knew Schock personally.

An elderly woman, who identified herself only as Mrs. Heisey of Quentin, said she knew Schock and she believed he would oppose this plan.

"He wanted to keep it as it is," she said.

Paul Sellers, Spring Hill Acres, said Clarence and Evetta Schock "would roll over in their graves if they knew the people they entrusted with over 1,100 acres of pristine woodland would consider bastardizing it in this way.

"If he would have wanted a nature center on this land, he would have had the resources and the wherewithal to put one there," he added. "Let nature do what it does best and let it undisturbed."

Sellers suggested building a nature center elsewhere, such as on state gamelands along Route 322.

Local resident Perry Hilbert noted that hunting is banned at the site because Schock's deed prohibits hunting.

"It's also in the deed to be kept woodland forever," he said. "What are you doing? ... You're cutting trees down already."

Tom Stewart, who recently donated 55 woodland acres to a Lancaster County preservation group, said he was "very, very angry" to learn of these plans.

"The duty of a trustee is not to represent himself. A trustee is to represent the people," he said.

"They say time is running out on the grant. Well, let it," Stewart added. "If every generation chops off a piece here and a piece there, there will be nothing left."

Leigh Beamesderfer, an environmental educator with the Lebanon County Conservation District, said she supports an environmental center, but she has no opinion on whether it should be built at Governor Dick.

She also supports lumbering at the site.

"Trees are a renewable resource. Trees need to be managed," Beamesderfer said.

Mark Stanavage of Manheim Township said he doesn't know "how nature ever got along without us before."

Stanavage said a new environmental facility "is redundant. Ten miles down the road we have another one at Middle Creek."

The Middle Creek facility is fully staffed and has far more resources than Governor Dick can provide, he said. "Let's leave well enough alone."

Later, trustee Carol McLaughlin read from Schock's deed, noting his description of the land as a "playground and public park." That, Eichler said, supersedes the further stipulation that land "which is now forest or woodland shall be maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland."

Schock would support an initiative to cut down trees and erect swingsets, Eichler said.

"Clarence was very interested in education," he added. "He would have added educational rooms to the (former caretaker's) residence, of this I have no doubt. Anyone who thinks otherwise is taking Clarence's words out of context — and never knew the man."

But requests for a new public hearing on the issue were soundly denied. At this stage, trustee Bender said, further public comment is counterproductive.

Later, people outside the meeting hall said they were very dissatisfied by the board's inattention to their concerns.

"They already had their minds set," complained Barb Karsnitz of Lititz.

"The area's fine the way it is," said Jerry Bruckhart of Manheim. "But I don't think this is going to be stopped."

Pam Williams, of Mount Gretna, said trustees "blatantly disregarded the people who made an effort to come here and speak their minds. They didn't pay attention — it was a slap in the face."

Several opponents said they will canvass Mount Gretna residents this weekend to try and get support for another public hearing on the issue. Others said they are exploring legal options to halt the project and uphold Schock's deed.

Trustees will meet again at 7:15 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 21.

Protests won't halt park work

(From page 1A)

was needed when there is one at the Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area that straddles Lebanon and Lancaster counties.

However, Leah Beames-derfer, a forester for Lebanon County, said an environmental education center is needed in the county.

The board voted to allow the project's engineer to put out bids for a construction company to build the center.

The late Clarence and Evetta Schock established the SICO Foundation to fund the upkeep of park, which it has been doing since 1953. Schock, the founder of SICO Oil Co., stipulated that owners of the property must be a public entity, such as a local government body or school board.

Officials said Schock's will allowed for a nature center and stipulated a playground also could be built there. A 66-foot tower is at the top of a hill in the park.

The Donegal School District in Lancaster County decided to give up trusteeship in 1997, and Lebanon County struck a deal with

SICO in 1998 to turn the park into the first county-run land for passive recreation. Both entities have three people on a board that oversees the park.

Plans for the environmental center were first unveiled in June 2000 at a public meeting at the Mt. Gretna fire hall. About \$450,000 in state grant money is available for the park, board member David Eichler said.

Ray Bender, a member of the board that operates the land, said the time to stall the project had passed. The board decided to go forward with the proposal almost two years ago, at which time public comment was sought, Bender said.

"People knew about it," he said. "When there were hearings on the grant, people had time to speak out. ... At this stage, it's counter-productive."

Jeff Steckbeck, an engineering consultant for the board, said a plan to develop the land has been completed and sent to the county. The plan calls for an education center, a driveway and a 25-car parking lot that would disturb about four acres of land off Pinch Road.

Board member David Eichler said after the meeting that letters to the editor in two Lancaster newspapers stirred people up about the issue. Land has already been cleared for the center, Eichler said, adding that the board is considering logging at some point to help manage the forest.

Steckbeck also discussed a second phase of the project, which would include walking trails, information kiosks and restroom facilities. There is no funding available yet for that phase, he said.

After comments from the public, a group of some 20 people gathered outside the township building to discuss how to oppose the plan further. Their plans included going door-to-door with a petition and possibly filing an injunction. Bill Knapp, 42, of Lititz said he wanted to circulate a petition in Mt. Gretna.

In other business, board members decided they did not want a cell tower at the park. Some proposals had been made and no formal offer was on the table, but several members said the tower would not be a wise investment.

Governor Dick Alert!

Public Information Meeting

OPEN TO
ALL THOSE INTERESTED IN THE
PRESERVATION OF GOVERNOR DICK

ENVIRONMENTAL SPEAKERS:
Tim Draude, consulting Botanist and
Guy Steucek PHD, Biology Professor, MU

Followed by discussion of the Clarence Schock trust development plan:
Continuous logging
Trail widening and paving
2,200 sq. ft. building and amphitheater
Paved parking lot and lighting

Come voice your opinion and get involved!

**Mt. Gretna Methodist Church, April 17
at 7:00 PM**



418

Gov. Dick proposals under fire

People crowd church to debate latest development plans

BY TOM KNAPP
Intelligencer Journal Staff

Environmental activists aren't the only ones trying to save Governor Dick from development.

"I'm not a tree-hugger," Millersville University biology professor Guy Steucek said. "I have three chainsaws, and I use them."

But when it comes to the mature forest of Governor Dick, he said, "I wouldn't cut a twig there."

Steucek was one of two environmental experts who spoke to a gathering of Governor Dick advocates Wednesday. More than 50 people crowded into the Mount Gretna Methodist Church basement to discuss the environmental impact of proposed development on the Governor Dick ecosystem.

"We're so slick, we're so productive in terms of harvesting, utilizing and what-not," Steucek said. "Maybe we should set aside a small portion of the planet where humans don't reign supreme."

The forum was sponsored by Friends of Governor Dick, a group opposing plans to build an environmental center and new trail network at the 1,105-acre nature preserve.

Friends spokeswoman Pat Gible said trustees for the Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick are giving "very conflicting statements" about the extent of their plan.

In addition to an environmental center and parking lot, the plan calls for logging, wider trails, a bridge and boardwalk at Little Chiques Creek, an outdoor classroom and amphitheater. Trustees also have discussed annual bicycle races and

Please see **DEVELOPMENT**, page B2

Intelligencer

Lancaster Intelligencer Journal

Apr 18 2002

Development: Governor Dick

Continued from B1

group camping on the site.

"We had requested a public meeting a long time ago, but they turned that down," Gibble said.

State and local officials, as well as the Schock trustees, were invited to Wednesday's forum to "open a dialogue," she said. None came.

"This is taxpayer money that they're using to develop this area," she said. The project received a \$500,000 grant from the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

"Their plans are going to get them in trouble," Steucek predicted.

Ultimately, he said, the trustees will destroy what they're trying to preserve.

Tim Draude, president of Muhlenberg Society of Lancaster

County, said seemingly inconsequential changes to an ecosystem have far-reaching effects.

For instance, gypsy moths were introduced to the area by people who hoped to use them in silk production, he said. The moths escaped, causing damage to the region's forests.

Non-native flies and wasps introduced to prey on the gypsy moths instead devastated native moth populations.

"Because we're losing our moths, we're losing our bats. Bats eat mosquitoes, so we'll see an increase in mosquitoes," Draude said. "It's all connected."

Fragmenting a forest with structures, roads and trails alters the habitat for plants and animals, he said.

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"You see a shift in the plants that are there. With that, you'll see a shift in the animals that depend on those plants," he said.

There are very few large undisturbed tracts left in southeastern Pennsylvania, he said. Most of the forests in this area are owned by the state Game Commission and are regularly logged.

"We're not just losing trees. We're altering the ecosystem," he said. "It's an important ecosystem, and it's becoming increasingly rare."

Governor Dick is an educational opportunity even without a classroom building, Draude said.

"Probably the most important thing about Governor Dick is the forest itself," he said. "If you want to educate people about the forest, you take them out into the forest. Develop interactive programs and take students into the woods.

"We have something precious, something important. This is a great opportunity to protect it. It would be a tragedy to lose something as important as Governor Dick."

"Get everybody writing letters," Steucek said. "Make a stink. Public pressure is a wonderful tool. They will listen to you."

Governor Dick trustees will meet at 7:15 tonight at the West Cornwall Township municipal building. Steucek urged the Friends to keep the pressure on.

"These forests have been around at least 10,000 years. We didn't have any 'best-management' practices then, and they did just fine," Steucek said.

"Governor Dick is a forest. It's not a playground and it's not a park," he said. "We want it to be a forest forever, and maybe we should let it be an old-growth forest for people a century from now. We have plenty of 'best-management' forests ... and plenty of examples of poor management."

Citizens urged to 'make a stink' over plans for Gov. Dick

Guy Steucek said he's not a tree-hugger.

"I have three chainsaws, and I use them," the Millersville University biology professor said.

But when it comes to the forests surrounding Governor Dick, he said, "I wouldn't cut a twig there."

Steucek was one of two environmental experts who spoke to a gathering of more than 50 Governor Dick advocates Wednesday at the Mount Gretna Methodist Church.

The group gathered to discuss plans to build an environmental center and new trail network at Governor Dick, a landmark observation tower and 1,105-acre nature preserve near Mount Gretna, just over the Lancaster County line in Lebanon County.

Steucek urged people who were at the event, sponsored by Friends of Governor Dick, to protest the plans. Governor Dick trustees will meet at 7:15 tonight at the West Cornwall Township municipal building.

"Get everybody writing letters," Steucek said. "Make a stink. Public pressure is a wonderful tool. They will listen to you."

Friends of Governor Dick spokeswoman Pat Gible said trustees for the Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick are giving "very conflicting

statements" about the extent of their plan.

In addition to an environmental center and parking lot, the plan calls for logging, wider trails, a bridge and boardwalk at Little Chiques Creek, an outdoor classroom and amphitheater. Trustees also have discussed annual bicycle races and group camping on the site.

State and local officials, as well as the Schock trustees, were invited to Wednesday's forum to "open a dialogue," she said. None came.

Tim Draude, president of the Muhlenberg Society of Lancaster County, said fragmenting a forest with buildings, roads and trails alters the habitat for plants and animals.

"You see a shift in the plants that are there. With that, you'll see a shift in the animals that depend on those plants," he said.

Governor Dick is an educational opportunity even without a classroom building, Draude said. Interactive programs could take students into the woods for lessons.

"We have something precious, something important. This is a great opportunity to protect it," he said. "It would be a tragedy to lose something as important as Governor Dick."

Pack notes

Gov. Dick group forms

A new group dedicated to appreciation of the Gov. Dick woodland and to opposing certain development in the popular natural area has formed.

The Friends of Governor Dick will hold a public informational meeting at 7 p.m. Wednesday, April 17, at Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church. Speakers will include Tim Draude, a consulting botanist, and Dr. Guy Steucek, a biology professor at Millersville University.

Discussion will center on logging, trail widening and paving, the new nature education center and amphitheater being built at Gov. Dick, and a paved parking lot and lighting.

The group also has launched a Web site, www.governordick.com, to serve as an online nature and visitors center for the 1,105-acre Gov. Dick. The site includes information on the area's history, forest ecology, and local plant and animal life, as well as development issues.

Friends Group Sets Meeting

The friends of Governor Dick will hold a public informational meeting on Wednesday, April 17, at 7 p.m. at Mt. Gretna United Methodist Church, 4th and Boehm Ave., Mt. Gretna. Copies of the development plan for the 1,105-acre forest will be available. Speakers will address forest ecology issues, and this will be followed by an open discussion period. Anyone interested in Governor Dick or the preservation of remaining forests is welcome.

The Friends have established a Web site, www.governordick.com, to serve as a kind of online nature and visitors center for the Governor Dick area. Visitors to the Web site will find information about the history of Governor Dick, forest ecology, and local plant and animal life. The site will also include information about development plans and what concerned individuals can do.

Merchender
(Mickem-L.H.F.)

Apr 10 2002

Lancaster New Era
(A.J. Crable)

Apr 9 2002

DeB * written By Steve Dove, the guy you talked to about the web site. He was one of the original "Dick Heads"

P.O. Box 212,
Mount Gretna,
PA 17064

Board of Trustees,
Governor Dick Trust,
73, Zinns Mill Rd.,
Lebanon,
PA 17042

April 18th. 2002

Dear Sirs,

You, the trustees of the Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick, have before you a stunning opportunity.

Governor Dick is a recovering forest; recovering from the industrialisation that denuded it repeatedly and recovering from the subsequent periodic nibbling of forestry. In this respect it is presently similar to, although in generally improved shape, over forests both surrounding and in Pennsylvania as a whole. The big difference between Governor Dick and those other forests is that it does not *have* to be 'managed'; state gameland management for instance revolves principally around deer yield, others logging income, all with different 'management' emphases, but 'managed' nonetheless. Governor Dick instead was mandated by its creator to be simply forest and woodland, forever.

As such, Governor Dick presents the almost unique chance to fully recover, to become a 'climax forest', or fully mature forest, as close as is possible to its pre-industrial-era condition, and in the self-maintained balance of the tens of thousands of years prior. Whilst the other forests will look much as they do today, with tulip poplars prevalent, in Governor Dick they will eventually give way likely to oak and hickory and a concomitantly differing wildlife mix.

Why would this be important? Because it will become virtually the ONLY truly mature forest; it will be a vignette of truth-in-nature whilst surrounding forests will continue to have been "best management practiced" into mediocrity. Governor Dick will be a state, if not a national, treasure.

And what do you have to do?

Nothing. Just leave it alone.

Well, almost 'nothing'. Help prevent the deliberate or accidental introduction of non-native species, even as seemingly innocuous aesthetic touches such as grass and conifers; they disturb the naturally evolving relationships in the forest ecology putting a strain and time on the recovery if not skewing the ultimate

Hello Friends of Governor Dick!

So you want to save this forest and the wildlife in it? You forget that people are animals too. Governor Dick does not have adequate habitat for people. For instance, we can't expect our female friends to perform their monthly maintenance behind a tree! So we're going to build restrooms and a building around the restrooms and a parking lot around the building. And that's just the beginning.

We're going to widen and re-surface trails so people don't have to walk on the dirty earth. We'll put in an amphitheater and lots of signs like at the mall. We even called an exterminator to take care of all the bugs and mice and creepy critters that make this forest a very nasty place. And we signed up a group of puppet-volunteers to sweep the trails and rake the leaves. We'll clean up this forest even if it has to die trying.

But all this takes money. So we're building a cell phone tower (we fooled you in January). And we've got lots of trees just going to waste. As it says in the Good Book, "On the 6th day God created man and he spake unto man saying, go forth and cut trees for profit and kill all living things and make the earth barren in your path, for thou art man and that is what man does."

Forests need to be managed. And we're the ones to do it. We sit behind our desks passing motions and reading minutes. We keep politicians in our pockets and have the timber industry up our asses. So we know a thing or two about hemorrhoids.

You're all just a bunch of tree-hugging extremists! "Spare the chainsaw, spoil the forest" we always say. From the real Fiends of Governor Dick
- Eichmann, Stuckback, Ranger Dave, and the Gang!

(Just kidding. I wanted to try out our new address. Besides, if you're going to be a Governor Dick-head you've got to have a sense of humor.)

Bill S

Apr 8 2002

APRIL 21, 2002

DAVID HENNIGAN



COFFEE WITH CLYDE

Clyde would leave the woods alone

Good morning Clyde. Nice rain Wednesday night.

"Depends, Mr. Editor," my jogging friend said the other morning, sipping his coffee.

On what, Clyde?

"On whether you put water sealer on your deck a couple of hours before the storm."

I see, Clyde.

"Yes, Mr. Editor, I hope you do. I also hope that all those forecasters who said there was little chance of a thunderstorm also see."

Now Clyde, you were warned. Just because you ignored or belittled the chance of rain, you now must pay. How bad is it?

"Actually, Mr. Editor, I think it's OK. There was standing water when I got up and checked it in the morning. But the color looked good. And when I got home in the evening and walked on it, there didn't seem to be any problem."

So what's got your interest besides the weather, Clyde?

"See where the folks who are opposed to any changes up at Governor Dick had a meeting the other night. They're upset, and I can't blame them, Mr. Editor."

What's the background, again, Clyde?

"Back in 1953 Clarence and Evetta Schock turned over some 1,100 acres of woodland at Governor Dick to be 'preserved forever as a forest.'"

"Now the trustees are interpreting that 'preserved forever as a forest' differently. They plan to build a learning center there, construct a road, and tinker with some other things. There's even talk about some logging.

"Many people are arguing that we have enough development, and we should leave the woods alone so not only our generation but generations to come can enjoy nature in its natural state.

"For the life of me, Mr. Editor, I don't know why that should be so hard to do. Go hike, go watch birds, go enjoy wild flowers, and if you want, go climb a tree, but just don't cut them down."

You made your point, Clyde.

"It looks like the folks in the Senate also are coming down on the side of environmentalists, Mr. Editor."

How's that, Clyde?

"Senators rejected by a big margin plans to drill for oil in the Arctic wildlife refuge."

Lots of politics in that stuff, Clyde.

"Granted, Mr. Editor, but I think it's still significant, even though the House has approved such action."

We may hear more about that when the folks sit down and start talking about the House and Senate energy bills, Clyde.

Anything else on your mind?

"Just this little item, Mr. Editor. For some reason, I've begun catching the Phillies a little more this year. Baseball is really a fun game to watch, especially when you root for a team.

"Now, I'm not the biggest Phillie fan. Once a Pittsburger, always one. So I can still say, 'Beat 'em Bucs.' But having lived here for more than 30 years, I kind of like Philadelphia. With one exception."

Where are you coming from, Clyde?

"In a name, Mr. Editor, Chris Wheeler. I get a perverse pleasure listening to the Phillies lose because of the moaning this homer does, game after game.

"The other night there was no way the Marlins should have come back to beat the Phillies after trailing 6-0. Well, Mr. Editor, they did. He also thinks he knows everything about baseball.

"That's all we need is some front-office suit talking down to listeners. I've gotten to the point where, after an inning or two, I shut off the sound and follow the game on the screen."

Might be time to tune you off, also, Clyde.

"Guess you're right, Mr. Editor."

David M. Hennigan, editor of the Sunday News, can be reached by e-mail at dhennigan@lpnews.com or by telephone at 291-8686.

Proposed Gov. Dick educational center will feature cedar, pine

BY TOM KNAPP
Staff

The education center at Governor Dick has been designed to resemble an old-style log building.

The board overseeing the Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick on Thursday reviewed a preliminary floor plan for the proposed 2,200-square-foot center.

Phil Johnson, a design architect from nearby Mount Gretna, said the exterior employs a prefabricated hewn-log and chink facade, with exposed "knotty pine" panels on the interior.

The exterior walls will be made of cedar instead of native wood,

noted board member David Eichler, because cedar is naturally resistant to termites. The wood will be treated periodically to protect it from weathering.

The structure's interior is dominated by a multipurpose educational wing with a static display area, vaulted ceiling and fireplace or wood stove on the facing wall, Johnson said. The public area will also include a small vestibule and restrooms.

Staff areas include an office, workroom, mechanical room, shower room and kitchenette.

"It's a very simple structure," Johnson said.

There will also be a large, L-shaped porch to provide shelter during bad weather, he said.

Board member Ray Bender said the display area will include a permanent exhibit of artifacts related to the site's natural and industrial history, as well as items pertaining to Clarence Schock's stewardship of the land. Other exhibits may be added on a rotating basis, he said.

Outside, he said, there will probably be security cameras and motion-activated lights to protect the building from vandalism. The restrooms will be available to the public only when the building is open, he added. Hours of operation have not yet been set.

Bender also noted the land development plan was approved by Lebanon County commissioners in early April. The development package has now been forwarded

to the state Department of Conservation & Natural Resources for review.

More detailed plans will be developed in conjunction with a timber company once the project bid is awarded, Bender said. The project will be advertised for bids later this spring.

In a related discussion, Bender said the board does not plan to build any new trails except for one 200-foot-long access trail for people using wheelchairs. Trails will not be paved or widened, he said, although some will be stabilized against erosion and a system of color-coded markers may be established to help people find their way through the woods.

Utilities will likely be installed underground, Bender added. Although board members previously announced their intentions to run above-ground utility lines, Bender said that would require a broad right-of-way path to be cut through the forest. Board members said they would prefer not to create so wide a gap through the trees.

Also, he said, the board will cooperate with the state Museum Commission to determine sites of archeological interest within the preserve. Bender said state funds will be used for the survey.

The next board meeting will be at 7:15 p.m. Thursday, May 16, at the West Cornwall Township municipal building.

INTELLIGENCER JOURNAL

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WEST LANCASTER
COUNTY EDITION
News of Elizabethtown, Columbia
Mount Joy, Manheim, and Lititz



WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2002, LANCASTER, PA.

Questions haunt development of Gov. Dick

BY TOM KNAPP
Intelligencer Journal Staff

Opponents call for an environmental impact study, a survey of school interest, a traffic study and a financial plan. Details were unavailable from officials.

Construction of an educational center at Governor Dick may or may not have an impact on the preserved forest's ecology. Directors for the Clarence Schock Me-

But when asked why the board wasn't interested in knowing if their actions will have a negative impact on the land, Bender replied, "Your negative impact is my positive impact."

"What is best for the mountain bikers is not necessarily what's best for the equestrians or hikers, the bird-watchers or stargazers," he said.

Patricia Gibble, spokeswoman for the Friends of Governor Dick, asked if schools were surveyed to indicate an interest in using the center. Board members

When someone asked for results of a traffic study performed by the state Department of Transportation, board members said they hadn't seen it.

And when another person asked how the center would be funded once the state grant runs out, trustees said they are only now working on a financial plan.

Gibble asked if logging would ever be employed to raise funds for the center. Bender paused, then said, "I don't have enough information on forests to make a

up a former narrow-gauge railroad grade to climb the silo-like observation tower, atop of which parts of five counties may be viewed.

But Knapp is usually too busy searching for wildlife on the forest floor, or looking for birds flitting in the canopy, to enjoy the vistas. He's more likely to be in the more remote pockets or hopping rocks where the headwaters of Little Chickies Creek appear in three trickles.

Knapp is drawn to Gov. Dick, rather than the even more expansive woods of game lands just across Pinch Road, he says, because Gov. Dick is one of the last relatively unfragmented tracts of mature woodland left in these parts.

These kinds of places host their own world of wildlife, Knapp says. For example, he notices cowbirds in the periodically logged game lands.

That's because they prefer open areas to lay their eggs in other birds' nests.

But he has yet to see a cowbird at Gov. Dick. He has seen 180 species of birds there, including warblers, scarlet tanagers and others that favor deep,

reached the famed Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, which warned of the dangers to birds of cell towers and how logging impacts some species.

The Nature Conservancy, noting the scarcity of older-growth forests in southeastern Pennsylvania, wants to survey it for sensitive natural areas. The trustees are likely to approve the request.

What would Schock have wanted? We know he expressly forbid hunting and smoking at Gov. Dick. But what about the forest?

Both sides have found ammunition in a deed Schock drew up when he turned the land over to the original keepers, the Donegal School district, in 1953. The fact that he put a school district in control may suggest his intent for the land to serve as a nature classroom.

And he did allow a house in the woods. But it is now gone.

But the deed also decrees that the land be "maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland."



Chris Emlet/New Era

He foresees it serving a variety of educational functions both inside and out. Orienteering, for example, might be taught. On weekends, he hopes it can be open so the public can see exhibits about the history of the area, about Schock and other items of interest.

He feels a majority of the public supports the planned changes at Gov. Dick, "but it's like a lot of things, they don't step forward" to speak up at public meetings.

Eichler disputes the notion of treating the Gov. Dick woods as pristine.

"To me, unbroken means never touched," Eichler says. "It's been touched by the Cornwall Mines — you can still see the pits."

Though Eichler insists opposition had nothing to do with it, a number of "improvements" mentioned in a master plan have been dropped.

The nature center has been downsized — because of funding considerations, Eichler says. No new trails are contemplated — they never were, Eichler says — though existing trails will be designated for specific uses, such as for hikers, mountain bikers and horseback riders.

The cell tower idea is dead, though Eichler refuses to say one will never be allowed. No restrooms will be built on trails. Facilities only will be at the environmental center.

As for logging, none is planned now. But Eichler says the trustees are getting conflicting advice.

"People will say you should not log, the forest will take care of itself. Others say to create a healthy forest, take out mature trees," he says.

"This is still up in the air."

Eichler and his fellow stewards seem sincere in their commitment to provide the public a natural playground that Schock had the vision to set aside. The trustees face tough decisions about a natural resource becoming more popular as Lancaster and Lebanon counties lose woods and countryside to development.

Maximizing use of Gov. Dick and making it user-friendly may seem the right thing to do for the public. But it would be truly visionary, and perhaps only appreciated by future generations, to leave it alone.



Bill Knapp admires the view of five counties from the Gov. Dick observation tower.

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Questions: *Haunt development of Gov. Dick*

Continued from B1

forestry decision."

More than two dozen people attended the Governor Dick board meeting Thursday, many to express their persistent opposition to a plan to build an educational center at the site.

Board members continued to stress that the plan is final.

They also said the media, not the board, is to blame for any negative views on the project.

The strategic plan, which the project engineer has been distributing to concerned parties, is not an accurate source of information, board chairman Frank Eichler told the crowd.

That plan was prepared by an outside consultant and has not been endorsed by the board, Eichler said.

Then the board should prepare a document detailing the real plan, countered Steve Dove, also a member of Friends of Governor Dick.

Dove, of Mount Gretna, said the forest does not have to be "managed" to remain healthy.

While state gamelands are managed to regulate deer populations and other forests may be managed to produce timber, the Governor Dick preserve "was mandated by its creator to be simply forest and woodland, forever," Dove said.

By leaving Governor Dick untouched, it would become "a state, if not a national, treasure" as one of the region's only fully mature forests, Dove said. "Just leave it alone."

Bender said the board has made "no decisions in regards to what form forest management will take."

They have discussed letting the forest mature naturally, he said, "but we don't know enough to make that decision."

But Bender said he refuses to give credence to "fantasyland" claims that the land cleared for the center, at just under four acres, will have an adverse effect on the surrounding forest.

West Cornwall Township supervisor Russ Gibble agreed.

"When he's telling me three

acres are going to destroy 1,100, that's ridiculous. I just don't buy it," he said.

But opposition continues.

"I'm not saying you guys aren't trying to do the right thing, but I don't think this is the right approach at all," said Mount Gretna resident Pam Williams. "Give the money back to the state, replant the trees and hire a naturalist who could take people and really educate them about the land."

"I've been on that mountain for 45 years," said Charlie Harris of Mount Gretna Heights. "The

worst thing I ever saw was the trees taken down. It was just appalling."

"Seeing those trees cut down was like seeing a member of your family with his arm cut off," agreed Jeff Fry of Manheim.

Fry urged the board to draw on the expertise of the people opposing the plan. "You have a huge opportunity for resources from people who really love that mountain," he said.

Bender said the board is accepting names for an advisory committee and volunteer labor on the site.

Plans for Schock Park nature center scaled back

(From page 1A)

to a \$600,000 grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources, though the park board is investigating the possibility of performing a salvage cut of timber on the park's grounds to raise additional funds.

Jay Breneman, a teacher at Donegal High School in Lancaster County who has

been involved with efforts to preserve Governor Dick along Route 117 since the 1980s, gave a report outlining a possible strategy for pulling timber from the hill.

Breneman recommended that the area around the U.S. military's radar station and from Old Route 72 to the tower at the hill's summit were the areas best suited to salvage cuts.

Breneman recommended that the area around the U.S. military's radar station and from Old Route 72 to the tower at the hill's summit were the areas best suited to salvage cuts.

Not only does a delay give more time for planning, but according to Breneman, the price of timber rises about 30 percent from July to November.

According to Breneman, a salvage cut on Governor Dick will not require the construction of any timber roads. Transport would be made via existing roads constructed by the Army Corps of Engineers.

If any timber is to be cut on Governor Dick, it won't happen until late this fall.

**JEFF
HAWKES**
Intelligencer
Journal Staff



The tower of power at Gov. Dick

One of the best things about a walk through the protected woods at Governor Dick is getting to the tower.

It's like an unlovely concrete silo, only a third the height of the 14-story Griest Building. Perched on a Lebanon County ridge, not far from Mount Gretna, it rewards hikers with a view into five counties.

Even if the panorama wasn't magnificent, scaling the enclosed ladders to the observation deck would still be fun.

My wife and I once a year pick a crisp fall afternoon to take our children to Governor Dick.

Because they know the tower awaits, the kids don't balk—not much anyway—at making the half-hour hike to the top of the hill.

For that, we have the vision of Clarence Schock to thank.

Schock was a Mount Joy philanthropist who got rich in the heating oil business. Before his death in 1955, he gave the tower and the surrounding 1,105 acres of woodland to Donegal School District.

His wish was that it be preserved "forever as a playground and public park."

Almost half a century later, there are plans to make Governor Dick more welcoming, and that has made some unhappy.

Adding amenities

The trustees—an independent board that took over after Donegal relinquished the property five years ago—want to carve four acres out of the edge of the forest and build a two-classroom environmental center with parking for 25 vehicles, a 700-foot driveway and a drainage basin.

Presently, the property has no public face. It's just trees with a

Presently, the property has no public face. It's just trees with a tower hidden way up on the hill. Unless you know where to look for the Governor Dick trail, you'd drive by it.

The trustees think Schock would have liked the idea of school and civic groups making the trek to a modest center in his woods to learn about nature and to have fun.

Once the center is built, the trustees are thinking of adding trails, informational kiosks, observation sites and restrooms.

The amenities would draw greater numbers of hikers and make their visit more rewarding.

Some nature lovers, however, are crying foul.

Governor Dick is special, they say, because it offers a taste of unspoiled wilderness. In this part of the state, large, undisturbed swaths of woods are few and far between.

"Can't we have some place in southeastern Pennsylvania that is left alone?" naturalist Clyde McMillan-Gamber has lamented.

Conflicting goals

The conservationists find ammunition in Schock's trust. He wrote that the portion of his tract "which is now forest or woodland shall be maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland."

Sacrificing even an acre of trees is not what Schock would have wanted, they argue. Their concerns range from the health of the wood thrush population to depletion of atmospheric ozone.

So who's right? The trustees or the purists?

Given that Schock didn't live to see the spread of tract housing, shopping malls and industrial parks across the land, he was ahead of his time in understanding the importance of preserving natural areas.

If one follows the trajectory of his thinking, it's not unreasonable to suppose Schock would today be in the forefront of conservationists fighting further fragmentation of forests.

But that argument is countered by the fact that Schock gave the property to a school, not a conservancy. He wanted his woods used in teaching young people about nature.

And don't forget about the tower. Schock erected it because he wanted his woods to be a neat place to visit.

Plans for an environmental center have understandably upset some. But their ire is nothing compared to the storm that would erupt if the trustees ever moved to topple the tower.

E-mail is welcome at jhawkes@lnpnews.com.

'Friends' urge county to l

(From page 1A)

ing an environmental education center and improving forest trails in the park, which is a popular area for hikers, bikers and horseback riders. The possibility of logging portions of the forest was also proposed in the plan.

About five acres of land have already been cleared for construction of the education center.

The Friends of Governor Dick petition requests that park development plans be rewritten.

"We oppose a lot of the plans, including the building and the proposed logging that might take place," said Pam Williams, the organization's spokeswoman.

"One of the reasons that we oppose this is (that) a need for this building has not been sufficiently demonstrated in our minds," Williams contin-



John Latimer / Lebanon Daily News

County Commissioner Rose Marie Swanger accepts a petition from Friends of Governor Dick member Pam Williams. The petition contains the signatures of more than 600 people who want to see the park remain undeveloped.

ued. "Another reason we oppose it is that we feel there should be a wild spot left in this area. We have a lot of parks that are well groomed. But this is really the last unfragmented large forests ... in southeastern Pennsylvania."

Williams said her group was taking the petition to the county commissioners because the Governor Dick board "had turned a deaf ear" to them.

"From the tower you can look out over almost five counties and see the

Keep Governor Dick wild

encroaching development that is happening so fast around here," Williams said. "Basically, the developers have everything else. Please leave Governor Dick wild for us, the people that love it very much."

But Chairman Bill Carpenter defended the decisions that have been made to develop the park, and he explained that commissioners became involved after the park's former trustee, the Donegal School District, began logging the land.

"We got involved because Donegal School District had timbered over a 100 acres and used that money that they had timbered for their own school district," Carpenter said. "We thought that was unacceptable, so we stepped forward and offered to be co-trustees."

As co-trustees, Carpenter said the commissioners wanted to build an environmental center to improve

the educational aspect of the park for students taking field trips there.

The building and its surroundings will use about five acres, but Carpenter said the park recently grew by more than 10 times that amount with the acquisition of 50 to 60 acres in the Hulls Hill area, adjacent to the park.

According to park board member Ray Bender, Schock had originally intended the land to be part of the park, but in a legal oversight it was not included. For a while, the land belonged to an unnamed church that recently agreed to deed it to the park, Carpenter said. Williams argued with Carpenter when he said logging was not a certainty.

"Because it is the accepted plan for which you received the grant, that means in the future you can do that any time you want,"

she said. "What we are requesting and suggesting is a revised plan where you say 'No, we are not going to log. No, we are not going to widen the trails. No, we are not going to build a camping area.'"

Group member Patricia Gible suggested that the grant money be used to hire a naturalist who could be scheduled to guide field trips and periodic forest tours as an alternative to building an environmental center.

"This is what we don't understand. Why do we need a building to sit there when you have the forest all around to actually be the real nature center?" Gible said.

A public meeting to discuss final plans for the environmental center will be announced in the coming months, Bender said.

Acid rain, not deer, is blamed for forest problem

Acid rain is more responsible than white-tailed deer for Pennsylvania forests not regenerating, claims a forest hydrologist in Penn State's College of Agricultural Sciences.

"I agree that we need to control deer numbers," says Bill Sharpe, who has been studying the affects of acid rain on Pennsylvania forests for 25 years. "But the problem with our forests is caused by more than just deer.

"The acid-sensitive tree species such as red oak and sugar maple are not going to regenerate well—

whether deer are eating them or not. I am worried that we will suffer all of this heartburn over deer and still have a huge problem on our hands."

Sharpe said the problem is that Pennsylvania is downwind from the greatest industrial complex in the world—the Ohio Valley—and the state's forest soils have been absorbing acid precipitation originating from there for many decades.

The acid comes from sulfur dioxide in the emissions from coal-fired generating plants in Ohio, In-

diana, Illinois, West Virginia and western Pennsylvania.

"Pennsylvania has been the victim of the most acidic precipitation in North America," he said. "The acid deposition leaches aluminum out of the soils, is toxic to plants and also lowers the availability of calcium and magnesium, which are essential elements for plant growth. It has also eliminated fish from headwater streams all over the state.

"We have a forest regeneration problem and a forest-health problem—our forests are sick, but we

aren't sure how sick. We do know there is very little regeneration of red oak, and sugar maples are dead and dying across hundreds of thousands of acres. And it's obvious deer are not killing large trees. We also know that liming improves sugar maple health and growth."

Sharpe said state and federal agencies that manage vast tracts of forests in the state—as well as many university forest scientists—disagree. They have concluded that deer overpopulation is solely responsible for damage to Pennsylvania forests.

But Sharpe claims it's not that simple, and believes recent moves by the state to drastically reduce deer numbers will not help much.

"They can kill all the deer, but it will take a lot more than that to fix the forests," he said. "The problem is that nothing is growing well. In places where soils are not buffered by naturally occurring calcium, there is no regeneration of acid-sensitive tree species. I'm offering a different hypothesis—the deer are not the main problem."

May 26, 2002

Conservation group leery of plan to build education center at Gov. Dick

BY TOM KNAPP
Intelligencer Journal Staff

A Lancaster County land-conservation group is keeping a close eye on developments at Governor Dick, where plans to build an education center are stirring controversy.

Land preservationist Clarence Schock, in a 1953 deed, spelled out his intentions for Governor Dick, a popular recreation area in Lebanon County. But that deed might not have the lasting impact Schock thought it would.

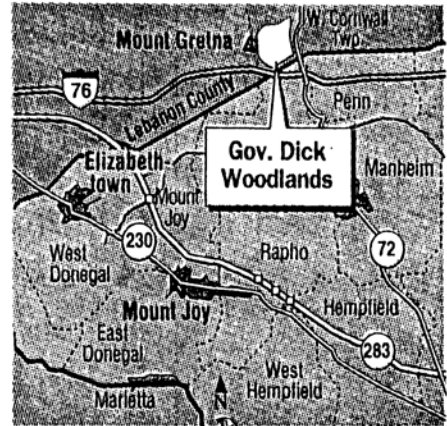
Some environmental activists say the development plans for Governor Dick violate the spirit of Schock's deed, which stipulates that the land be preserved forever

as forest and woodland," and they wonder if a precedent might be set that would hinder the effectiveness of land-preservation tools in the future.

A spokesman for the Lancaster County Conservancy said Schock's deed isn't as binding as the easements used today by conservation groups.

Conservancy land steward Jeff Divine, who oversees property easements to ensure there are no violations, said his organization is monitoring the Governor Dick dispute.

He said, however, that land protected by the conservancy is on much sturdier legal ground.



Intelligencer Journal graphic by Dan Morris

Please see GROUP, page B2

Group: Leery of Gov. Dick plan

Continued from B1

"We use conservation easements," Divine said. "And those are very difficult to change. They are specifically designed for long-term protection; they offer much more protection than a deed."

A conservation easement legally transfers a property's development rights to a conservation organization, such as the conservancy, he said.

"We are definitely watching the

issues around Governor Dick," Divine said. "But we already have internal policies that would prevent us from putting in an educational center or clearing land to that extent."

Directors overseeing the Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick are building an education center and parking lot on five acres of clear-cut timberland.

Although five acres is only a small portion of the 1,105-acre property, members of Friends of Governor Dick—an activist group formed earlier this year to combat the plan—have said "forest fragmentation" drives native birds and other wildlife away and opens up pristine woodlands to invasive plants that can strangle local species.

The directors, however, argue the deed leaves room for this sort of construction project, which they hope will increase educational opportunities at the forest preserve.

The site is overseen by the Lebanon County commissioners and the SICO Foundation.

Divine said The Lancaster County Conservancy was founded in 1969 "specifically to protect wooded land," but that "the trust for Governor Dick was not necessarily set up for preservation."

But the deed for Governor Dick should direct decisions made by the site's trustees, he said.

"I certainly understand the Friends of Governor Dick, and

personally I agree with their activism," he said. "(The board of directors) is definitely violating the wishes of the donor."

Lancaster County Conservancy owns more than 1,300 acres on 20 nature preserves and holds conservation easements on 22 properties totaling just more than 740 acres, Divine said. Funds have been set aside to defend those properties in court if the need arises, he said.

Heidi Schellenger, executive director of Lancaster Farmland Trust, said she isn't paying much attention to the Governor Dick dispute. However, she, like Divine, said her organization uses much stronger controls to prevent development on protected land.

"When farmers protect their land through the Farmland Trust, there's a separate conservation easement that is filed in the courthouse," she said. "It's not just attached to the deed."

"Our organization takes on the responsibility of enforcing that easement forever. It won't just be forgotten as the property changes hands."

Schellenger said Schock did not have that as an option in the early 1950s, when he set aside the Governor Dick woodlands for protection.

"The whole conservation movement only started 30 or 40 years ago," she said. "(Schock) was doing the best he could with the tools he had at hand."



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Sierra Club
Pennsylvania Chapter
P.O. Box 663
Harrisburg, PA 17108
717-232-0101
Fax: 717-238-6330
sierraclub.pa@paonline.com

June 11, 2002

Bill Knapp
667 Brunnerville Road
Lititz, PA 17543

Dear Bill,

Thanks for sharing the information about the various proposals at the Governor Dick forest tract. I am forwarding them to the leaders of the Governor Pinchot Group Sierra Club, whose area includes Gov. Dick. You might wish to contact them directly.

They are:

<i>Rich Gordon, Conservation Co-chair</i>	<i>Robin Broderick, Conservation Co-chair</i>
<i>660 Boas Street, Apt. 2018</i>	<i>3244 Green Street</i>
<i>Harrisburg, PA 17102-1301</i>	<i>Harrisburg, PA 17110-1314</i>
<i>ph. 717-2600541</i>	<i>ph. 717-221-8590</i>

Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

Jeff Schmidt
Director, Sierra Club
Pennsylvania Chapter

cc: Rich Gordon
Robin Broderick



PRINTED ON RECYCLED PAPER



14 June 2002

Mr. Bill Knapp
667 Brunnerville Road
Lititz, PA 17543

Dear Mr. Knapp,

Thank you for contacting NRDC and letting us know about the threat to the Governor Dick forest. It sounds like you've been taking all the right steps to address this issue, and I'd love to share some advice about further steps that many of our Member activists have found effective.

One of the most successful ways to address unwanted development is to organize your neighbors and set up a meeting with the trustees to voice your concerns in person. You and your neighbors should also continue contacting local conservation groups and try to work with them to resolve this issue. The National Environmental Directory (www.environmentaldirectory.net) is a great resource for finding local environmental groups.

Then, if that doesn't work, and if you haven't already, you may wish to retain an attorney who specializes in environmental law. To find one, contact your local bar association and ask for a lawyer who specializes in environmental issues. You can find your local bar association in your telephone directory or by contacting:

The American Bar Association
750 North Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, IL 60611
Phone: 1-800-285-2221

Also, a law school in your county is another source to turn to; most have environmental law professors who may be able to offer useful advice. Your local college or university may also have professors or students in an ecology or environmental science program that may be interested in getting involved.

Thanks again for writing to NRDC, and thanks so much for your support as a Member. We wish you the best of luck.

Sincerely,

Kate Brauman
NRDC Membership and Public Education

GOVERNOR DICK DEVELOPMENT TIMELINE

April 1998 County of Lebanon & The SICO Foundation reach an agreement to be co-trustees of Governor Dick. (Lebanon Daily News)

Lebanon County Commissioner William Carpenter suggests opening Governor Dick to snowmobiling. (Lebanon Daily News)

June 1998 Courts approve The County of Lebanon & The SICO Foundation as co-trustees. (Lancaster Intelligencer Journal)

April 1999 To celebrate Earth Day, Gov. Tom Ridge announces \$12.6 million in grants for state park and open space projects. Lebanon County receives \$500,000, most of which is for the development of Governor Dick. (Lebanon Daily News)

March 2000 The RBA Group, a Mechanicsburg engineering firm, presents the "General Development Plan, Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick: Final Plan" to the County of Lebanon & The SICO Foundation."

This plan includes:

- Caretaker's Residence For a Fulltime Caretaker
- Environmental Education Center/Parking Lot
- Field/Open Areas & a Pond
- New Trail System
 - 1)Footpaths (portions filled in with stone)
 - 2)Multi-Use (for horses & bikes)
 - 6 to 10 feet wide (14' high & 12' wide clearances)
 - trail resurfacing (turf & stone)
 - 3)ADA Accessible Trails (asphalt or compacted sand)
 - 4)Connecting Trails to Neighboring Properties (Rail-Trail, Gretna Springs, etc.)
 - 5)Chiques Creek Bridge & Boardwalk
- Bicycle Races & Group Camping
- Outdoor Classroom/Amphitheater

David Eichler, board member, is quoted as saying "we will be building something and making repairs and additions to trails." The board is considering adding several new trails, including a 6-mile trail around the perimeter of Governor Dick. Some of the trails will be paved with either blacktop or compacted sand. (Lebanon Daily News)

June 2000 Trustees hold a public meeting in Mt. Gretna to get public reaction to the new General Development Plan. (Lebanon Daily News)

There was very little publicity for this meeting and according to one person who attended, there were only about 15 people in attendance.

June 2001 The Clarence Schock Governor Dick Trust announces a 20-acre building site will be cut out of the Governor Dick forest for an education center and a caretaker's residence. (Lancaster Intelligencer Journal)

Nov. 2001 The building site is cut back to 5 or 6 acres. Board members announce annual operating expenses are likely to be paid with income from logging and a 200-foot-high cell phone tower. (Lancaster New Era, Lancaster Intelligencer Journal)

Jamie Wolgemuth, Lebanon County Administrator, admits no study was conducted to determine interest in building a center at Governor Dick. (Lancaster Intelligencer Journal)

Frank Eichler, board chairman, defends logging Governor Dick saying, "if you don't do anything to the forest, eventually it will turn into a bunch of rotten logs laying around." (Lancaster Intelligencer Journal, Harrisburg Patriot-News)

At the November board meeting, members are questioned about their lack of a financial plan to meet annual expenses once center is built. They can provide no numbers. Nevertheless, they intend to go ahead with development. They discuss the possibility of hiring an occasional college intern to serve as the staff naturalist. They also plan to spend \$20,000 to map the Governor Dick trails.

Jan. 2002 Sen. Brightbill, Lebanon County, announces that he is "1000 percent" behind the Governor Dick development project. Tells opponents to take the matter to court. Larry Williamson, DCNR, says he is pushing for the trustees to build the center quickly as time is running out on the grant. He tells opponents to take the matter to court. (Lancaster Intelligencer Journal)

Board votes down the cell phone tower. (Lancaster Intelligencer Journal, Lebanon Daily News, Harrisburg Patriot-News)

Frank Eichler, chairman, later admits that a cell phone tower hasn't been ruled out, despite the vote. (Lancaster New Era)

Board blames sudden opposition on some individual who decided to stir up trouble. (Lancaster Intelligencer Journal, Harrisburg Patriot-News, Lebanon Daily News)

Phase One of the development plan includes 4 acres to be clearcut for an education center, 700-foot-long access road, parking lot for 25 cars, water retention pond, and sewage. (Lancaster Intelligencer Journal, Harrisburg Patriot-News, Lebanon Daily News)

Phase Two will include additional trails, kiosks, observation sites, and scattered restrooms. (Lancaster Intelligencer Journal, Lebanon Daily News)

Frank Eichler, chairman, defends the development plan by saying the deed would allow cutting down trees to build swingsets if the board chose to do so. (Lancaster Intelligencer Journal)

The Lancaster Intelligencer Journal, Lancaster Sunday News, and the Harrisburg Patriot-News take editorial stance against the Governor Dick development and logging plan.

Feb. 2002 Lebanon Valley College holds an open forum about the Governor Dick development and logging plans. Trustees are invited but do not attend. Professors, students, and citizens discuss impact these plans will have on the forest and wildlife.

Jeff Steckbeck, engineering consultant to the Clarence Schock Governor Dick Trust, provides opponents with a detailed copy of the Governor Dick General Development Plan. Says this is the plan as approved by all 3 Lebanon County Commissioners, the board of trustees, Sen. Brightbill, Rep. Krebs, and DCNR.

At the monthly board meeting, Tom Harlan, board member, says most people won't see the disturbed area.

Board discusses a separate storage shed to be built for caretaker's 4-wheeler and other equipment. Board now says there will be no new trails or restrooms (except in center). Decide to use a septic system instead of environmentally friendly composting toilets as used by other nature centers. They then discuss a new trail to connect the center to the Narrow Gauge Railroad Trail. They blame newspapers for erroneous reporting.

March 2002 Clarence Schock Governor Dick Trust announce plans for a volunteer support committee to do trail maintenance, security, etc.. (Lebanon Daily News)

Monthly board meeting moved up 9 days. Only a few people attend. Timbering for construction site completed. They earned \$5,200. (Lancaster Intelligencer Journal)

Board discusses the center's possible security system (motion sensors, cameras, window & door alarms) and an air conditioning system. Discuss need to widen trails to avoid collisions between hikers and bikers.

DCNR inspects building site because of opposition. They claim environmental impact will be minimal. They then recommend the board plant \$50,000 in landscaping, including planting trees, for the recently clearcut site. (Lebanon Daily News)

The Friends of Governor Dick is formed to save Governor Dick from a Chainsaw Massacre!

April 2002 Friends of Governor Dick announce a public meeting and a website.

Clarence Schock Governor Dick Trust questioned at their monthly board meeting about an environmental impact study. Ray Bender, board member, says he assumes DCNR would have done it but he doesn't know. Says "your negative impact is my positive impact."

Board also admits no survey done to determine a need in using this center. (Lancaster Intelligencer Journal)

April 2002 When asked about a financial plan once the state grant runs out, the board admits they are only now working on a plan. They have not ruled out logging, but now admit they don't know enough about forest ecology. The board blames newspapers for negative reporting and claim the approved plan being distributed by their consulting engineer is not an accurate source of information. (Lancaster Intelligencer Journal)

The board agrees to create a "position paper" to replace the original "General Development Plan." They will submit copies to area newspapers and the Friends of Governor Dick website.

Phil Johnston, architect, presents the education center's design. The public portion will consist of a porch, vestibule, restrooms, and a classroom with a permanent display area for historical artifacts and a rotating display area for use by local groups. (Lancaster Intelligencer Journal)

There is no mention of natural history displays. The board answers questions about no financial plan by saying state and private grants and the Lebanon County Commissioners will likely be the source of money to operate and maintain the center. A PennDOT grant will be used to map the trails. They say the development plan is necessary because of a need to get more people to use this park.

May 2002 The Friends of Governor Dick attend the Lebanon County Commissioners meeting to present petitions opposing the development of Governor Dick. The 637 signatures were gathered from Mt. Gretna residents and visitors and members of local bird, botanical, hiking, and sportsmen groups.

To Be Continued...

Panel takes ax to nature center

Plans chopped to fit within budget

By **DAVID HUNTER**
Staff Writer

QUENTIN — Construction on a planned environmental-education center at the foot of Governor Dick will move forward, but earlier plans have been shelved in favor of the no-frills approach.

The committee in charge of planning the project decided unanimously during a meeting last night in the West Cornwall Township building to submit a final version of plans for the 2,200-square-foot log building to be built at Clarence Schock Memorial Park to the county commissioners and the park's board of trustees.

It will be the second version of the plans to be unveiled. Initially, the cost of the project had come in more than \$100,000 over the park board's estimated cost

of \$350,000.

The board chose to chop construction costs primarily by eliminating interior frills and fixtures, including a fireplace and chimney, wood floors and ceilings in some rooms, carpet, ceramic tile in the lobby and rest rooms and a metal roof.

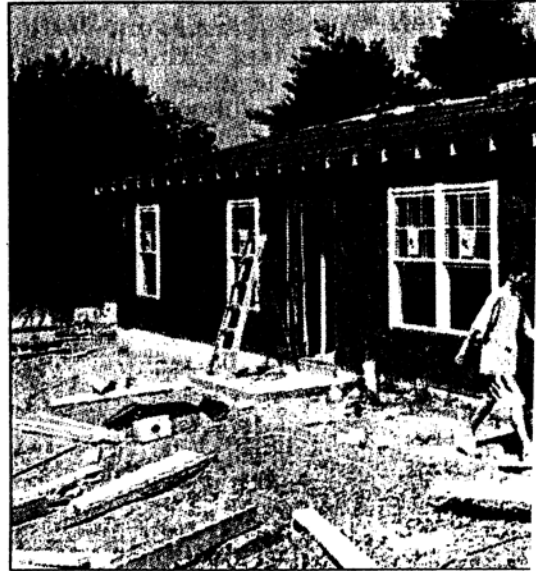
Instead of wood, floors will be made of colored concrete; the metal roof will be swapped for a shingle one; and the proposed wood ceilings and interior walls constructed of drywall.

Although the furnishings are being scrapped from the education center plans now, park board officials say that there's no reason why they can't be added as touch-ups later on. It's simply a question of capital.

Currently, funding for the project is essentially limited

(PLANS, page 4A)

All in a week's work



A member of the crew nails a dou

Day 4: Building 1

Fifth in a series.

By **KRISTIN BOYD**
Staff Writer

The teens and young adults volunteering with Habitat for Humanity this week aren't just building a house. They're building friendships, too.

"I like working hard with my buddies," said 19-year-



old Kerry I
a member
group from
Church in
"And it's

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Lebanon Daily News

June 27, 2003

September 30, 2002

Board of Trustees
Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick
73 South Zinnsmill Road
Lebanon, PA 17042

Dear Board of Trustees:

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to visit the Governor Dick Forest during our inventory of Lebanon County. We were impressed with many unique natural features and the historical significance of the property. Below is a list that summarizes our findings:

- The Gov. Dick area is a large tract of forested land that is contiguous with nearby state game lands. Large areas of undisturbed forest are important for the survival of forest interior bird species (e.g., black-throated green warbler) and as stopover areas for migratory birds. Tulip poplar (*Lireodendron tulipifera*) is the dominant large tree species along with several American beech (*Fagus grandifolia*).
- Chickies Creek is an interesting diabase boulder stream corridor that contains several seeps and forested wetlands. One particularly interesting wetland is located east of Chickies Creek. A small portion of this wetland may be located within the Gov. Dick property, but is mostly on private property. This wetland has the potential to support plant species of concern. Within the Chickies Creek corridor, one fern species of concern the Clinton's wood fern (*Dryopteris clintoniana*) was identified. This species may lie just outside of the park boundary. At this time, I do not have a map of the exact location of the fern, but I will send a map to you when I receive the information from our botanist.
- The forest floor is heavily impacted by deer browse affecting the regeneration of trees and plant diversity in general. Because the deer are eating plant species that they normally find unpalatable (e.g., ferns and spicebush), it appears that the Gov. Dick Forest cannot support a deer herd of this size.
- Invasive exotic and aggressive plant species are out-competing native plant species within the forest. Some of the worst culprits include Japanese barberry, garlic mustard, and stiltgrass. I've enclosed some literature about these species.

Based on our brief survey of the property we recommend the following actions be taken:

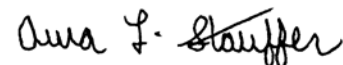
- The Board should develop a management plan for the property that includes the control of exotic plant species and deer. Before trying to control the invasive plant species on a large scale, experimental weed species control plots could be established to determine which weed control

measures are the most effective. For example, experimental plots could be established in the barberry infested area along Chickies Creek. To allow for the reestablishment of native plant species and the regeneration of tree species, we also recommend that the property be opened up for deer hunting. If the deer population is not reduced, it will be extremely difficult to reestablish native plant and animal communities within the Governor Dick Forest. The PA Game Commission should be consulted for deer management recommendations.

- With the construction of the new building, the trustees can expand the recreational aspects of the property to include education. Seasonal staff could be hired or volunteers could help to develop public programs focusing on the historical and environmental importance of the park. To this end, the new building could serve as a classroom, museum, and visitor center.
- To establish a buffer around the park, it is recommended that whenever possible private, undeveloped lands that are adjacent to Gov. Dick be acquired or a conservation easement established. The large wetland located east of Chickies Creek on private property is one such property that should be a priority for conservation (see enclosed map).

We will provide more detailed species information for the Governor Dick Forest in the description that will be included in the final Natural Areas Inventory report for Lebanon County. This report will be submitted to the county by the end of June 2003. I hope that this information will prove to be useful to you and that all parties with an interest in the Governor Dick Forest can work together towards an amiable solution for the use of the land. If you need additional information or have any questions, please feel free to give me a call at (717) 948-3961.

Sincerely,



Aura L. Stauffer

County Inventory Coordinator

cc: File
J. Wolgemuth
B. Knapp w/ all attachments



PENNSYLVANIA
SCIENCE
OFFICE
Saving the Last Great Places

208 Airport Drive
Middletown, Pennsylvania 17057

TEL 717 948-3962
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International Headquarters
Arlington, Virginia
TEL 703 841-5300

January 22, 2002

Clarence Schock Governor Dick Trust
73 South Zinns Mill Road
Lebanon, PA 17042

Dear Trustees:

I am the County Inventory Coordinator for The Nature Conservancy in the eastern half of Pennsylvania. The county inventory, which started in Lancaster County around 1988, is a survey of natural areas. The survey focuses on species of special concern, exemplary natural communities, and areas with local significance. We currently have funding from the state and county to conduct a natural areas inventory of Lebanon County.

As part of the inventory, we would be interested in surveying the Governor Dick Forest. I understand that this area contains a contiguous forest of approximately 1,105 acres that has not been logged for many years. Large tracts of older growth forest are uncommon in Pennsylvania.

Because the forest has been left relatively untouched, I believe there is potential for interesting and sensitive natural areas to occur on this property. It has come to my attention that some construction and logging activities are currently being planned for the forest. We would be happy to survey the property as part of our inventory so that impacts to sensitive resources can be avoided. The best time to survey the land would be during the spring and summer.

Please let me if it would be possible for our scientists to survey the forest. After the survey, I would be willing to meet with the trustees to discuss our findings and recommendations. Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter.

Sincerely,

Aura L. Stauffer
County Inventory Coordinator

cc: J. Wolgemuth
The SICO Foundation
File

DEVELOPING MANAGEMENT GOALS FOR YOUR PROPERTY

Clarifying What's Important To You About Your Woods

PA FOREST STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

LANDOWNER: CLARENCE SCHOCK MEMORIAL PARK AT GOV. DICK (TRUST) **DATE:** 10/16/03

Consider the following points and use the lines provided to make notes of your responses to the questions posed. It would be beneficial to have each family member do the same, and then to compare your thoughts at a family meeting prior to your meeting with the natural resource professional who will develop your Forest Stewardship Plan. If you are clear about what you'd like to see on your property and how much you're actively willing to do toward achieving your vision, your plan writer will be better able to develop a plan that meets your needs. If you need more space continue on back or add pages.

1. PLACES YOU ENJOY

TOWER (GREAT VIEW), AREA S/E SECTION NEAR ROCKS, AREA OF RE-GROWTH NEAR RADAR ROAD (SOFT LOOKING & QUIET)

WETLANDS, PATH NEAR HOME ALONG RT. 117. ANY & ALL SCENIC VIEWS

Think about what you enjoy about your woods. Is there a specific area or areas that you particularly like? Picture that special area try to identify what makes it special to you. Is it different from other parts of your woods or from other forest land in the area generally? Are the trees different? Are there many trees or few? Are they small or big? Is there a dense understory or is it open? Is it sunny or shady? Is it near the top of a hill or near the bottom or neither? Is there water nearby? Is the geology unusual? Do you feel a certain way when you're there? Does the location evoke a memory of a person or event of importance to you?

Once you've described your favorite places, and identified why they are special, consider that it may be possible through active management to create other areas on your property with the same special qualities that these places have. For example, if you particularly like the feel of an area where large trees remain, it may be possible to create a similar atmosphere elsewhere in your woods by accelerating the growth of the larger trees in that part of your woods. Consider whether you'd like to try to recreate a condition you find desirable in another part of your woods, if it's possible.

2. APPEARANCE OF YOUR WOODS

LOOKS BARREN AT TOWER BASE, NEEDS TRIM, MAIN TRIAL FROM PINCH ROAD, WOULD LIKE TO SEE MORE WILD FLOWERS OR FLOWERING BUSHES & TREES, VIEW IS GREAT FROM TOP OF TOWER; FALL COLORS VARIOUS SHAPES & SIZES OF TREES ADD INTEREST & CREATES DIVERSITY

From what vantage points do you look at your woods? From certain trails through the woods? From a nearby road? From the house? Do you particularly enjoy seeing fall leaf colors or spring flowers? Would you like to see more color during the seasons? It is possible to enhance the view of a forested hillside in fall by creating more growing space for the crowns of trees with more vibrant color, removing those around them that are not so colorful. Wild flowers may require certain levels of light or moisture to bloom. The availability of those resources can sometimes be manipulated to improve growing conditions for the plants desired. Do you prefer to see all straight

trees or do you enjoy the variation of twisted trunks and contorted branches? Do you appreciate the differences in color and texture of leaves, bark, and branches of various species, or is this not particularly important to you?

3. ACTIVITIES YOU ENJOY

COUNTRY

~~HIKING, BIRDWATCHING, BIKING (NO RACES), CROSS SKIING, SNOWSHOEING, JOGGING, HORSEBACK RIDING
TRAILS FOR BOTH LIESURLY WALKS & BRISK, SOLITUDE & BUSIER TRAILS ALONG WITH RARELY
VISITED AREAS.~~

When you spend time in the woods are you on foot? on skis? on horseback? in an ATV or snowmobile? Do you amble along, exploring as you go, or do you go briskly? Is it a solitary activity or are you usually in the company of others? Are you quiet or boisterous? Are there some places you use for one kind of activity and other areas you use differently? Are there some parts of your woods that you rarely get to? If yes, would you like to utilize those areas more? For recreation or for other uses?

4. WILDLIFE

~~NO HUNTING ALLOWED AS STATED IN TRUST, SEEMS TO HAVE A GREAT DEER OVERPOPULATION PROBL
INCREASE EVERGREEN RATIO THROUGHOUT WOODS, INCREASE UNDERSTORY VEGETATION, LEAVE SNAGS
FOR NESTING, ENCOURAGE SONGBIRDS & GAME BIRDS (GROUSE & TURKEY) & BUTTERFLIES. INCREASE
PLANT DIVERSITY.~~

Many people who own forest land express a strong interest in managing for wildlife, although what some people mean by "managing for wildlife" can be very different from what other people mean. The first paragraph below contains fundamental management guidelines for all Forest Stewards, regardless of your level of interest in wildlife. If nothing else consider those guidelines as you decide how to manage your land. If wildlife is of great interest to you, consider the full section below and be sure to discuss this topic further with your plan writer. Use the spaces provided to narrow down your interests and concerns regarding wildlife.

Always consider what goes on beyond your property boundaries as you manage your land. Focus on creating or maintaining wildlife habitat types that are rare in the region where your property is located, rather than rare on your property. Make it a policy to retain trees with cavities for wildlife wherever possible, and dead snags for roosting and feeding stations. Retain some large old trees. Consider how long it will be before a mature tree will replace one now providing important habitat components. If you live in an area that is fragmented by farm fields and urban development, maintain forest cover on your land. If a stream runs through your property, retain (or restore) the forest shading the water. Pennsylvania was entirely wooded in Penn's day—forest cover is essential to the aquatic life unique to our streams. Retain or plant evergreen cover if it is rare in your area. Protect special or unusual features such as a favored nesting site or a spring seep or a rock outcropping.

Do you hope to increase your opportunities to catch a glimpse of a wild animal? Many people do. You can do this by increasing the diversity of food and cover available on your property—for example by planting a food plot, installing a variety of nesting boxes, or building brush piles. Understand though, that in general, the species you'll attract in this manner are abundant throughout their ranges and are in no need of assistance to increase their numbers. Consider whether it is necessary to manage the entire property for increased viewing opportunities; or whether a smaller area, perhaps accessible from the house or from a favorite trail, might be adequate to meet your needs so that other priorities can be established on other parts of the property.

Do you hope to improve hunting opportunities on your property? This can be accomplished by encouraging the growth of the kinds of plants that provide the food and cover most preferred by the types of wildlife you hope to attract. Keep in mind though, that game animals can be hunted because regionally they are abundant, and their populations are secure. Managing your land to attract certain game species will undoubtedly increase your hunting success, but understand that the species you are managing for are not those whose populations are in trouble. It is important to balance a desire for hunting opportunities with the long term viability of all the plants and animals that make up a healthy forest ecosystem.

The species of wildlife that occupy a very young forest are very different from those that occupy a mature forest. Also, the wildlife community that occupies undisturbed land over time will change as the size and species composition of the plant community changes—nothing is static in nature. To maintain conditions ideal for a particular kind of wildlife will require some kind of management to keep the land in the successional stage those animals most prefer. Land can be manipulated, or "managed", through planting or removal of vegetation to create a desired mix of plant species, density of the understory, amount of vegetation of differing heights, and other factors affecting the type of food and cover available. As you consider which wildlife species you'd like to attract, think about the food and cover needs of each, and the size of its range. Many species of wildlife can occupy a wide variety of conditions, but those with more exacting requirements are the ones that would benefit most from thoughtful and deliberate management to meet their needs.

5. IMMEDIATE AND FUTURE MONETARY NEEDS

TIMBER AREAS ONLY WHEN NECESSARY FOR HEALTH OF FOREST NOT FOR INCOME PURPOSE. TIMBER TO INCREASE DIVERSITY & UNDERSTORY VEGETATION THEREBY INCREASING WILDLIFE DIVERSITY. BEAUTY AESTHETICS REMAINS TOP PRIORITY INCOME IS NEEDED BUT SECONDARY

Timber prices in Pennsylvania are currently very high. Many landowners who had not considered harvesting timber previously are now receiving unsolicited offers for their timber. The money may sound tempting, but you'll want to be certain if you do harvest that it's in your best interest to do so now. If your timber is immature you may be cutting it just as it begins to increase most in value. You may not have a pressing need for income at the present time, but may anticipate a need in the future—say when your children are college aged, or once you've retired and are on a fixed income. Not every woodlot has the potential to produce salable timber within the owner's lifetime. But you should consider whether it is important to you to obtain income from your land now or in the future, and let your plan writer know so that he can develop a plan to try and meet those needs.

6. OWNERSHIP & USE OF THE LAND

PUBLIC LAND MANAGED BY BOARD OF TRUSTEES WITH GUIDANCE FROM SUB-COMMITTEE MADE UP OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROFESSIONALS, AUDUBON, NEIGHBORING LANDOWNERS. HEAVIEST USE IS NOW THE MAINTENANCE OF THE TRAIL TO TOWER & THE NEW ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION BUILDING (WHEN COMPLETED). HIGH PERCENTAGE OF USERS GO TO TOWER.

Do you own the land alone or with others in your family? Do others besides the owners use the land? For what kinds of activities? Are there other benefits you'd like to get from the land? Do you plan to keep the land in forest or to change the land use within your lifetime—perhaps develop all or part of it? What are your hopes/plans for the land for the next 10 or 20 years? What do you hope will happen to the land after your death?

7. RESOURCES AVAILABLE

WE RELY ON GRANTS & DONATIONS.

VOLUNTEER GROUPS. TRUSTEES & SUB-COMMITTEE & PROFESSIONALS (SERVICE FORESTER).

~~WE HAVE LIMITED RESOURCES & WILL NEED ANY ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE IN OBTAINING GRANTS ETC.~~~~OWN: ONE FOUR WHEEL ATV WITH CART, CHAIN SAW, MOWER.~~

Managing land requires a commitment of time, labor, and sometimes money. Think carefully about how often you (or others in your family) spend time in your woods, and how much time you'd be able to commit to doing the actual work involved. What kind of equipment do you have available? How experienced are you at working in the woods? It is easy to underestimate the amount of skill and labor involved in completing a project. Are you willing to expend funds toward the management of your land to hire professional equipment operators? Some cost-share assistance is available to help; let your plan writer and service forester know if you'd want to apply for assistance. If you have little time or other resources available at present for managing your land, be sure to make that clear so that your plan can focus on only the most cost-effective activities for your land.

8. UNDERSTANDING PROPERTY LIMITATIONS & CONFLICTING OBJECTIVES

~~DIVERT TRAILS OR INCREASE VISUAL BARRIER W/EVERGREENS & SHRUBS TO RESPECT PRIVACY OF NEIGHBORING LANDOWNERS. MAINTAIN AESTHETICS/BEAUTY AS FIRST & FOREMOST CONCERN. PUBLIC~~

~~IS VERY ANTI-TIMBERING (POSSIBLY DUE TO PAST HISTORY), YET PROPERTY MUST BE MANAGED.~~

~~IT IS UNDERSTOOD THAT REGENERATION OF UNDERSTORY VEGETATION WILL BE A CHALLENGE W/THE~~

~~EXISTING DEER POPULATION. PLANS HAVE BEEN DISCUSSED TO OPEN A "SPECIAL PERMIT" TO HUNT DEER DURING LOW-USE SEASONS.~~

Through land management it is possible to change the appearance, vegetative species mix, and wildlife species mix occupying a site. However, it is important to recognize that some things with a profound impact on the fauna and flora of a site cannot be altered by man—such factors as soil type, slope, aspect, climate. It is also important to be aware that what can be changed over time cannot always occur within a human life span, so land management requires the landowner to think in terms that exceed his own tenure as steward of the land. These two points must be factored in when formulating management objectives. There is no point, for example, in establishing the objective of managing for loblolly pine when the property is far north of the natural range of loblolly. And it is unrealistic to establish an objective of conducting a commercial timber harvest ten years from now if all the trees on the property are now four inches in diameter. What is possible given the quality of the site and the size and quality of what is presently growing there must be carefully considered in establishing management objectives for a site.

In addition it is important to recognize that it may not be possible to achieve a number of different objectives on the same acre of ground. Sometimes what needs to be done to accomplish one objective directly conflicts with what is necessary to achieve a different objective. If, for example, your desire is to recreate the open park-like "big tree" feel of a favorite part of your property elsewhere on the property, it probably will not be possible to manage that same area for a brush loving wildlife species such as rabbits or grouse. Depending on the size of the property it may be possible to manage for both objectives, but in different areas. On a smaller property you may have decide which takes priority.

In the space provided list any particular hopes or plans you have for one part of the property or another. When you meet with your plan writer be sure to discuss the feasibility of your ideas.

9. INTERESTS & EXPERIENCE

Following are a few additional questions that will help in developing your plan:

Please rate from 1 to 5 the importance to you and your family of each of the following uses of your forest land, (where 1 = very important, 5 = not important at all, and NA = does not apply to your property)

9. INTERESTS & EXPERIENCE

Following are a few additional questions that will help in developing your plan:

Please rate from 1 to 5 the importance to you and your family of each of the following uses of your forest land. (where 1 = very important, 5 = not important at all, and NA = does not apply to your property)

- 5 firewood
- N/A fishing
- 1 aesthetics/beauty
- 1 hiking
- N/A real estate investment
- 1 wildlife/ nature observation
- 2 cultural history
- 2 maintaining the present forest atmosphere

- 4 timber production
- 4 source of income
- 3 privacy from neighbors
- 2 protection of a natural community such as a wetland or old growth forest.
- N/A hunting
- others of importance: CONTROL DEER POPULATION (1)
RECREATION (1)

Check any of the land management practices below that you've done in the last ten years:

- cut firewood
- plant trees
- install deer fencing
- install livestock fencing along streams
- build brush piles for wildlife
- sell timber
- apply herbicides to control weeds
- plant or seed wildlife food plots
- tap maple trees for syrup
- stabilize stream bank
- build fish habitat structure
- build and install nesting boxes
- build trail
- control insects and disease
- control grapevines in high value timber
- build road
- cut trees for wildlife habitat improvement (not for sale)
- cut trees to improve stand of timber (not for sale)
- clear trees from around a spring seep or in some way try to improve the spring
- control burn a portion of your property
- install erosion and sedimentation control structure

Other: SOME INVASIVE PLANT REMOVAL (GARLIC MUSTARD)

Are any of the practices listed above things you'd particularly like to do on your property? Are there other activities not listed that you'd like to do? CONTROL WEEDS (INVASIVE PLANTS) PLANT TREES & SHRUBS & PLANTS

REPLANT CATCH BASIN AREA, POSSIBLY INSTALL DEER FENCING, CONTROL INSECTS (TICKS & MOSQUITOS)

Are the boundaries of the property marked or otherwise apparent (via roads, field edges, hedgerows, fences)? yes some yes, some no Describe the boundaries: _____

If you have had a commercial timber harvest in the last 10 years, please check the primary reasons why you chose to harvest:

- thought it was the right thing to do
- believed timber was mature
- part of a land clearing operation
- needed the income
- management plan called for a harvest
- needed timber for own use
- wanted to improve wildlife habitat
- salvage dead or dying trees (from insect or disease mortality, wind throw, etc.)

Other: _____

Have you ever received any on-site assistance in managing your forest land before now? no yes If yes, what was the nature of the assistance? _____

Were you aware that federal cost-share funds were available (prior to SIP) for forest management practices on private land? no yes If yes, have you enrolled in any of the following USDA cost-share programs within the last 10 years?

- Forestry Incentive Program (FIP)
- Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)
- Agriculture Conservation Program (ACP)
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)
- Wetland Reserve Program (WRP)
- Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program (WHIP)

Other: _____

Summarize your primary interests and concerns in the stewardship of your land:

KEEP FOREST HEALTHY WITH MINIMUM CHANGES. CONCERN ABOUT AMOUNT OF MATURE TREES & LACK OF REGENERATION OF NEW GROWTH. LACK OF EVERGREENS THROUGHOUT. KEEP PERCENTAGE OF OLD GROWTH ESPECIALLY ALONG PINCH ROAD & HIGH USE/VISIBILITY AREAS. IMPROVE ROAD/TRAIL ACCESS. REDUCE FIRE RISK. IMPROVE ROADSIDE PARKING. REDUCE INVASIVE SPECIES, DEVELOP A CHARCOAL HISTORY DISPLAY/SITE. OPTIONS FOR CONTROLLING FLICK & MOSQUITO POPULATION. ENCOURAGE BIRD WALKS AND NATIVE PLANT WORKSHOPS/EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS. ENCOURAGE AUDUBON INVOLVEMENT IN BIRD COUNTS & UTILIZING THEIR EXPERTISE. CREATE INTERPRETIVE TRAIL. TRAIL SIGNS AND BROCHURE IDENTIFYING TREES/PLANTS/FLOWERS OF THE AREA, AND OTHER SPECIAL INTEREST AREAS/HISTORY CONTROL DEER POPULATION. MANAGE FOREST FOR ITS HEALTH, NOT PROFIT. DONT BE AFRAID TO CUT TREES TO MANAGE THE TRACT & PROVIDE SOME INCOME. PERFER SELECTIVE CUTS OVER CLEARCUTTING. IF CLEARCUTTING IS USED AT ALL, AREA MUST BE FENCED IN AND SHOULD BE USED AN EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY FOR PUBLIC, WITH SIGNS EXPLAINING PROCESS, REASONS, SUCCESSION ETC.. REPLANT ANY CUT AREAS.

Thank you for completing the questionnaire!

Please be sure to provide a copy to your plan writer and to your service forester.

Gov. Dick may allow logging

By JON RUTTER
Sunday News Staff Writer
 jrutter@lnpnews.com

American Indians may have altered the forests of Governor Dick eons ago with fire.

Today, a debate over how to care for the Lebanon County woodland preserved in the 1950s by SICO Co. founder Clarence Schock still smolders.

The six-member board of trustees overseeing Clarence Schock Memorial Park approved construction of a controversial education center there in 2002.

Now, the trustees are set to consider forest management options that may include limited commercial logging.

Some environmental advocates take a dim view of any tree-cutting in the 1,105-acre park near Mount Gretna.

Still, both sides agree that

Please see **GOV. DICK**, page B5

Gov. Dick: Controversial plan

Continued from B1

something should be done.

The forest has degraded, acknowledged John R. Ambler, a Lititz biology teacher who recently condemned the timbering idea in a letter to local newspapers.

He said previous logging operations have already opened portions of the forest to the spread of seeds from exotic plants that choke out native species.

Muhlenberg Botanical Society president Tim Draude said the tract is overpopulated by hungry whitetails that gobble up wildflowers and tree seedlings and block the forest from regenerating naturally.

Standing in the way of deer control is a deed restriction that forbids hunting at Governor Dick.

Board adviser Chuck Allwein said any future logging would be done selectively, except in previously cleared areas. Proceeds from timber sales would be used to make the woodland healthier and more "user-friendly," he added.

No decisions have been made, he emphasized.

Certified forester Barry Rose is preparing to present draft stewardship recommendations to the board at its regularly scheduled meeting Thursday, said chairman Frank Eichler.

The trustees will make a decision on the recommendations later in the winter or spring, Eichler said.

"Our primary responsibility is to maintain the property" for future generations. "I knew Mr. Schock and how he loved that acreage. It has been left for too many years."

Nature's realm

Naturalists say the park is richer in bird life than surrounding fragmented tracts.

Chickies Creek originates there, and mature oaks and tulip poplars cloak the boulder-pocked hills.

But the human imprint is also strong. Trails and mining pits mark the landscape once leveled by settlers to feed Cornwall charcoal furnaces.

An observation tower has risen above the trees in one form or another for generations.

Patches of woods logged by the former administrator, Donegal School District, have grown up in tangles.

Infesting some areas are invasive species like Japanese stilt grass, ailanthus trees and garlic mustard, which Ambler, a biologist, said he has spent more than 100 hours eradicating at the behest of the trustees.

Deer roam unchecked by hunters or natural predators, noted Draude, who said he has seen Governor Dick whitetails eating ferns, a food they resort to only when little else is available.

"I'm not against logging," said Draude, but cut-over sites already abound in Pennsylvania, where game lands are periodically timbered.

"I would like to see a climax forest" at Governor Dick. "I'm not sure it's a great idea to harvest the forest until you get the deer problem under control."

Bryon Shissler, a forestry consultant and leading deer control advocate in the state, called white-tail reduction a top priority.

The animals were sparse in the mature forests of old, said Shissler, a Somerset County resident who formerly lived in Lancaster County.

Indians often burned the understory that deer fed upon, he said. Today's oaks are not regenerating because deer eat the seedlings.

"Long-term, the prognosis for that forest [Governor Dick] is not good."

Logging can be a valid component of a park managed primarily for recreation, Shissler added, but the idea that forests must be tended for their own good is a myth.

"We never improve the health of the forests by cutting them. ...

We cut trees for forest products."

No clearcuts

Allwein, a retired biology teacher who lives on the edge of the forest and owns the Jigger Shop in Mount Gretna, said there has been "no talk of clearcutting."

What has been discussed is taking down all the ailanthus trees clogging old clearcuts and applying herbicide to the stumps.

Temporarily fencing the areas would protect young native oaks until they're big enough to deter deer, Allwein said.

But it takes money to fence and cover 40 acres with herbicide. Allwein said the park needs still more funding for maintenance and potential upgrades such as making an existing trail handicapped accessible.

Lebanon County and the Clarence Schock Foundation, which appoint the volunteer trustees give the park about \$30,000 a year, but Allwein contends it isn't enough.

He said selectively thinning and selling tulip poplar trees would help the trust meet its obligation "to make the property user-friendly and available to the public."

Creating a forest management plan should also help pave the way for state stewardship money, according to Allwein, who said there was "no urgency" to apply for the grants.

Ambler praised the trustees as "good people" but questioned the wisdom of timber sales.

"To start using revenue from cutting trees is a very slippery slope," said Ambler, who opposed an earlier money-making plan to install a cell tower in the woods "Where do you stop?"

How you manage the park depends on the goals you set for it Allwein acknowledged.

"John is absolutely right that if you go in and do anything you are changing the balance of what's going on in there naturally. But it's not black and white ... You can be careful." ■



Rachel Carson State Office Building
P.O. Box 8475
Harrisburg, PA 17105-8475
July 25, 2003

Bureau of Recreation and Conservation

717-783-2658

Dr. Patricia E. Gible
865 South Prince Street
Palmyra, PA 17078

Dear Dr. Gible:

Thank you for your recent letters to Governor Edward Rendell and DCNR Secretary Michael DiBerardinis about the Governor Dick project in Lebanon County.

Our \$500,000 grant went to Lebanon County so you should contact the County Commissioners' Office if you want to see the grant records. Mr. Harlan will probably forward your request for the information to the County. Our project files are also available for review if you so desire.

The ultimate cost of the center will be determined through a public bidding process that the County is required to follow. It is my understanding that the building had to be rebid because the first set of bids were much higher than the funds available. We are awaiting the official results of the second bidding attempt, which is part of our accountability for the project expenditures and which impacts our final reimbursement of the grant funds.

I cannot answer your question about the operational expenses other than to tell you that we believe that all those involved – the trustees and the county commissioners – are committed to maintaining the property principally in a forested condition and to use sustainable forestry practices that will consider habitat issues related to wildlife. Furthermore, the intent of the improvements proposed is totally consistent with the terms of the DCNR grant provided to the county.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, please call me at 717-783-2659. Thank you.

Sincerely yours,

Larry C. Williamson
Director

No accountability for nature preserve

I am concerned by the recently published article regarding plans by the Clarence Schock Governor Dick Trust to log downed trees as well as other trees along the Radar Tower Road and location of the old radar tower in the Governor Dick Forest in Mount Gretna.

The board has stated that this harvesting of trees will be completed in order to supply more revenues for the construction of the proposed "environmental center." The trust has already received two grants from the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (taxpayers' money) to fund this construction to the tune of nearly \$600,000. What I am trying to understand is why the board that manages and oversees this project cannot build a 2,200-square-foot structure and parking area with this large amount of public funds.

Why is there no accountability to either DCNR, Lebanon County officials or to the public for the expenditures? How will the trust board come up with the necessary funds to maintain and operate this facility? Do they plan to do more logging every time they have to pay the electric bill or fix the toilets?

Since no study has ever been done to assess public use of this proposed facility, what kind of fiscal management is this, especially during the current state economic crisis?

PATRICIA E. GIBBLE
Palmyra

Preserve threatened

The latest news from the trustees for Governor Dick is that the \$600,000 state grant they received four years ago is not enough money to build their 2,200-square-foot shack in the woods. So logging is again being considered as an easy way to raise quick cash.

The plans being developed for Governor Dick have at various times included building, new trails, scattered kiosks, a cell phone tower and an assortment of other bad ideas, none of which are needed.

Whatever the final plan, one thing is certain. It will significantly diminish biodiversity, do nothing to promote conservation and continually waste money. The only benefits will be to the logging and building industries, further subsidizing their attacks on our last natural areas.

Opposition by naturalists, botanists, birders and area residents has not convinced trustees to end their chain-saw massacre. That no natu-

LETTERS POLICY

We welcome letters from readers. To be considered for publication, a letter must include the writer's name (no initials or pen names), address and telephone number. We don't publish poetry, form letters or letters addressed to anyone other than the editor. We routinely edit for length, accuracy and clarity. Please limit your letter to 250 words, and please write no more than once a month.

ralists serve on Governor Dick's board of trustees might explain why the oil company executives and government bureaucrats who do talk more about air conditioning and security systems than wood thrushes and mourning cloaks.

Governor Dick provides important habitat for deep forest species sensitive to disturbances. Since most of our area's forests are already subject to logging and development Governor Dick is one of the last best chances to preserve a maturing forest intact. If only it had trustees who could appreciate the value of the forest entrusted to their care.

BILL KNAPP
Lititz

Our beautiful Capitol

We had company from California last week and we took them sight-seeing around the area.

We toured sights in Lancaster, Gettysburg and Hershey. A few days before they left, we toured the Capitol. It is a magnificent building. The dome is patterned after Michelangelo's dome of St. Peter's in Rome. The paintings and stained glass windows are truly works of art. The House of Representatives and legislators' rooms are beautiful. The Supreme and Superior Court Chamber is awesome with its 16 murals painted by Violet Oakley. Also, the large stained glass dome in this room was created by Alfred Godwin of Philadelphia and it is breathtaking.

My husband and I had not toured the Capitol since we were in high school many years ago, and we were so impressed with its beauty.

We highly recommend touring our beautiful Capitol, and it makes us proud to live in the capital city of Harrisburg.

BETTY J. BENNETT
Harrisburg

Honored graduate

On Wednesday, Jacques Barzun received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President Bush. Few

ADDRESS: Letters to the Editor

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of us know that Barzun came to live in Harrisburg in 1919. He attended Camp Curtin Junior High School and graduated from Harrisburg Technical High School in 1923. Tech was then one of the outstanding high schools in the country.

Barzun went on to Columbia, earning a Ph.D. and became dean of the College of Education. Dr. Barzun is still an active writer at the age of 96. Among his famous quotes is, "To know America, one must know baseball." His accomplishments in life are too numerous to list here.

When the Harrisburg School District Archives is opened, Jacques Barzun will take his place with other outstanding graduates of the Harrisburg School District.

CALOBE JACKSON JR.
President, Harrisburg School Board
Harrisburg

Lost a champion

I read the honoring tribute to Dr. Leslie Wenrich July 19. What a wonderful man he must have been. As a doctor of chiropractic myself, I regret that I never had a chance to meet him.

Dr. Wenrich was described by many in the article as a man of character who was dedicated to his profession and devoted to his patient's health. I believe there are a lot of doctors of chiropractic who share these attributes.

We have long known that chiropractic care is something special. When patients come through our doors, we truly expect them to get better. This isn't some false hope. It is because chiropractic works. Many doctors of chiropractic approach their jobs with a passion. We believe we have much to offer and we are rewarded daily by the gratitude of people who finally find relief for their pain.

The people of Tower City lost a very valuable asset when Dr. Wenrich passed away. Chiropractic lost a very valuable champion for all that is good in this profession.

BECKY GILLASPY, DC
Harrisburg

Harrisburg Patriot Sent July 26 2003

Logging would degrade Governor Dick

TO THE EDITOR:

Commercial logging is being proposed for Governor Dick Park. This park southeast of Mount Gretna has almost 2 square miles of forest which was deeded by Clarence Schock, founder of SICO Oil Co., for recreational use.

Except for areas logged by its previous administrator, the park gives one a sense of wilderness. The park has many trails which provide excellent hiking and mountain biking. Areas with giant boulders are used by rock climbers.

The park's concrete observation tower provides views of five counties. Reaching the tower requires an uphill hike, but it is a very popular site on weekends.

At the Jan. 20 park board meeting, certified forester Barry Rose presented a preview of a forest management plan involving thinning cuts, clear cutting of areas of 20 or more acres at a time to harvest giant tulip poplars and fencing and herbiciding clear-cut areas to allow regeneration of desirable trees.

It is my opinion that these ac-

tivities will reduce the value of the area for recreation. For example, it will degrade the view from the tower and reduce the feeling of wildness for hikers and bikers.

It also will allow growth of severely invasive plants. These already are major problems there. All of these plants can completely suppress the growth of native plants.

By deed restriction, hunting is not allowed in the park, and so the forest is being slowly degraded due to excessive deer browsing. Deer prefer to eat the saplings of the best forest trees. The most essential steps to improving the forest are reducing the number of deer and planting trees in open spots. Commercial logging is not needed to maintain the park for the greatest enjoyment of the public.

The park board can be contacted through Carol McLaughlin, board member and secretary and West Cornwall Township administrator, 73 S. Zinns Mill Road, Lebanon, PA 17042. Trail maps are available at the township office.

John R. Ambler, Lancaster

Timothy P. Draude
415 Poplar St.
Lancaster, Pa. 17603
Ph. 717-393-7233
tpdraude@aol.com

May 17, 2005

Board of Trustees
Clarance Schock Memorial Park
At Governor Dick
73 South Zinnsmill Rd.
Lebanon, Pa. 17042

Dear Board of Trustees:

STATE OF THE FOREST

The forest of the Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick is a natural treasure. Large tracts of mature forest are rare in southeastern Pennsylvania. Most of the forests in the region are successional forest. Many species of wildlife benefit from the type of forest found at Governor Dick and are not adapted to successional forests.

Excessive deer browsing is the most significant factor affecting the health of the Governor Dick forest. Deer have severely depleted the wildflowers, shrubs and tree seedlings that comprise the forest understory. The forest understory provides important food and shelter for many species of wildlife. A deer management plan is critical to restoring the health of the forest.

Undesirable invasive plants are common at Governor Dick. They provide few benefits for wildlife and out-compete native plants that are an essential component of the forest ecosystem. Opening of the forest canopy and soil disturbances associated with logging encourage the establishment of undesirable invasive species.

Single-aged tracts of trees dominate some areas of Governor Dick with low tree species diversity. Conifers and shade tolerant trees account for a small percentage of the forest trees. Past logging practices are responsible for the current forest diversity. More diversity in the age and species of trees would benefit the health of the forest.

RESTORING THE FOREST

Traditional forestry evaluates the health of a forest by its ability to produce timber products. A better way to evaluate the health of a forest is to consider its ability to support a diversity of trees, shrubs, wildflowers, birds, mammals, reptiles, amphibians, insects, fungi and other organisms. These are all essential to a naturally balanced and healthy forest. It is a myth that a forest must be logged to be healthy. The healthiest and most diverse forests are old-growth forests that have never been logged.

Forests have been regenerating themselves for thousands of years without being logged. In a natural forest old and dieing trees create gaps in the canopy that allow trees to reproduce. These old and dieing trees are a vital component of the forest ecosystem. They provide nesting holes, dens and shelter for birds and mammals. Insects that live on dead and dieing trees are an important food source for wildlife. Fallen trees continue to supply food and shelter for a variety of wildlife. Rotting logs act as nurseries and encourage the reproduction of forest plants.

The most significant factor affecting the health of the Governor Dick forest is the destruction of the understory by excessive deer browsing. The existing trees produce abundant seeds and will rapidly reproduce with a deer management program. The understory shrubs and wildflowers provide food and shelter for wildlife and are a vital component of the forest ecosystem. Under favorable conditions forest shrubs and wildflowers are slow to reproduce. Deer browsing has significantly reduced the number of shrubs and wildflowers and their ability to produce seeds. A forest management plan should give a major priority to restoring the forest understory.

SHELTER WOOD HARVEST

According to the proposed management plan one hundred and twenty acres would be fenced, most of the trees would be removed and the understory would be eliminated by the broadcast application of a broad-spectrum herbicide. This would destroy the existing mature forest and native understory. Many species of animals depend on a mature forest and benefit from old and dying trees, rotting logs, native shrubs and wildflowers. Opening of the forest canopy and soil disturbances caused by logging are detrimental to forest plants and animals and encourage the establishment of invasive plants. Logging removes organic material and nutrients that are important for forest regeneration and regrowth. The proposed plan would create a single-aged tree farm with low diversity and an understory dominated by undesirable invasive plants.

TIMBER STAND IMPROVEMENT

According to the proposed plan, substantial areas of the forest would have low value trees and competing trees removed in order to encourage the growth of more valuable timber trees. This would encourage the establishment of invasive plants, remove nutrients from the forest and be detrimental to wildlife.

DEER MANAGEMENT

The most significant threat to the Governor Dick forest is excessive deer browsing. A deer management plan would significantly improve the health of the forest. Similar nearby forests with lower deer densities are much healthier.

LOGGING

Most ecologists believe that logging is not necessary for the health of a forest. If logging were necessary for economic reasons, a gap-phase harvest that creates small openings and mimics natural forest regeneration would be an improvement over traditional logging techniques.

INVASIVE PLANTS

It is desirable to control invasive plants. Opening of the forest canopy and soil disturbances caused by logging encourages invasive plants and should be avoided. The use of herbicides should be considered as a means of last resort to control invasive plants.

HERBICIDES

When necessary herbicides should be selectively applied to avoid damaging desirable native plants. The broadcast application of herbicides should be avoided.

DEER EXCLOSURES

Deer exclosures are expensive and can only protect a small percentage of the forest. A deer management plan is a more effective way to protect the forest. All the exclosures in the proposed plan are for areas that have been logged and herbicided and would do little to protect the forest understory. Small exclosures ranging from 0.1 acre to 1.0 acre could be erected to study natural forest regeneration and restoration techniques.

RESTORING THE FOREST UNDERSTORY

The damaged component of the forest is the shrub and wildflower understory. The proposed plan would cause damage to the forest shrubs and wildflowers. A forest management plan should give top priority to restoring the understory.

PLANTING NATIVE SPECIES

Forest diversity could be encouraged by planting native species. Species that are not native to Governor Dick such as white spruce and red spruce should not be used in a forest restoration project.

RESTORING AN OLD-GROWTH FOREST

Old-growth forests once covered most of eastern North America. These forests were healthy, diverse and naturally balanced. These now rare forests are important habitat for many threatened animal and plant species.

It would be a great tribute to Clarence Schock to allow the Governor Dick forest to mature into an old-growth forest; a forest managed by the hand of God and not by chainsaw-toting foresters.

DEVELOPING A FOREST MANAGEMENT PLAN

The proposed management plan is more of a lumbering plan than a forest restoration plan. It would be prudent for the trustees to consult with ecologists familiar with all plants and animals before adopting and implementing a management plan. The future of the Governor Dick forest is at a crossroads and the decisions made now will affect the forest for decades into the future.

Respectfully submitted,

Timothy P. Draude

Logging/spray plan delayed at Gov. Dick

■ State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources expresses concern for threatened plants.

By AD CRABLE
New Era Staff Writer

A decision on a controversial forest-management proposal for Governor Dick park will be tabled for one month after state officials questioned the logging and plant-spraying plans.

The state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources said the popular 1,105-acre private park — one of the last unfragmented forests in the area — may be home to threatened plants that would protect the area from spraying.

Last week's letter to the Governor Dick board of trustees from a DCNR botanist and wildlife biologist were acknowledged but not discussed at Tuesday night's meeting at the park's nature center.

Ironically, two foresters from DCNR spoke in favor of the forest-management plan, prepared by a private forester.

The board had set up the meeting at Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick to receive public comment on the plan.

Oil man Schock of Mount Joy set aside the land north of Manheim for public use in the 1950s, provided it would remain a forest.

The six trustees got an earful Tuesday from about 50 people, many of them residents of surrounding Mount Gretna.

A petition against logging and herbicide spraying signed by 400 people was presented.

"I only spoke out to encourage more dialogue; they need to talk to more ecologists, and I think some board members know this," said Tim Draude of Lancaster, president of the Muhlenberg Botanical Society and a critic of much of the plan.

"I think all of us are generally happy with the plan, but we all have some concerns," Governor Dick board member Thomas Harlan, an attorney, said this morning.

"We will make a decision in June, I'm certain. There could be a pile of amendments."

Barry Rose, a Lebanon County forester hired

Please see PLAN page B14

Plan

Continued from B1

to look at the Governor Dick forest, described the woods Tuesday night as being destroyed by cancer and in need of drastic action against over-browsing deer and invasive plants to allow it to regenerate itself and be more diverse.

But those who have commented on the plan question the need for logging and spraying.

Many see Governor Dick as an opportunity to grow over generations into the region's only old-growth forest.

One aspect of the plan that has not been attacked is the need for limited hunting to cut down on deer that munch tree and plant seedlings before they can get a toehold.

Schock forbade hunting at Governor Dick, but the board says he never envisioned a runaway deer herd destroying the forest. The board will seek court approval or take internal measures to allow a limited hunt, Harlan said.

A lottery system would be explored, with hunting perhaps limited to muzzleloaders and bows and arrows, Harlan said.

In their four-page letter to the board, DCNR botanist Autumn Sabo and wildlife biologist Aura Stauffer said deer control should be the board's foremost priority.

They also suggested the use of carefully controlled prescribed burning instead of herbicide spraying in some management areas. In other areas, they said, stump cutting and spraying specific undesirable plants and trees should be considered instead of broadcast spraying.

The two further recommended that new trails and roads called for in the plan be kept to a minimum to guard against further forest fragmentation and invasive plants.

They also said that expanding the park by purchasing or obtaining easements on adjacent forested wetlands should be made a priority.

Governor Dick is unique in that it has both sandstone and diabase rock, each offering different plant communities, Sabo and Stauffer said.

Finally, the scientists said that at least six plants in trouble in Pennsylvania may be growing at Governor Dick, and they asked for time to conduct a field study to see if they are indeed there.

The Governor Dick trustees will meet at 7:15 p.m. Wednesday, June 29, at the nature center off Pinch Road. Before then, Draude, Rose, Ron Laughlin, a biology teacher at Elizabethtown College, and board members will tour a large-scale managed timber cut that Rose presided over at Camp Mack.

June 1 2005



Preview of Activities to include in the Gov. Dick Forest Stewardship Plan

1. Expand/improve/categorize trail system.
 - a. RED TRAIL - Re-route sections of Horse Shoe Trail (HST) as indicated on map. A new section IS to be constructed (PINK TRAIL).
 - b. BROWN TRAIL - To be designated as "Foot Travel ONLY". These trail sections include wet areas subject to damage by horse and bike traffic. The site survey revealed sections with water running down the trail. Improve trails via the installation of proper water diversion structures and possible installation of "boardwalks" in areas prone to damage. Trail cannot be easily rerouted to minimize impact due to boulders south of the trail, and steep, rocky terrain to the north of the trail.
 - c. GREEN TRAILS – Pre-existing trails suitable for general access.
 - d. PINK TRAILS - Proposed new trails to enhance access to seldom-used areas.
2. Establish new PARKING LOT as indicated off Route 72. Locate at least 300 feet from Route 72 so as to promote a more tranquil, low-keyed environment. Plant conifers and wildlife vegetation between parking lot and Route 72 to eventually abate road noise and enhance wildlife (particularly songbird) utilization of the area. Parking lot should be at least one acre in size to allow plenty of room for horse trailers and provide for a group rendezvous site. Provide restroom facilities via portable "port-o-johns" (Optional). A small woodland opening (approx. 1 acre) to the west of the parking lot should be established for shade-intolerant wildlife plantings. Protect all plants from deer browse damage. Add appropriate signs to trail head indicating HST to the right/ foot travel only to the left.
 - *TENTATIVELY REJECTED: POLICE CAN NOT VIEW FROM ROAD*
Note: The potential for severe deer browse damage to newly planted seedlings at Governor Dick is great. Therefore, all plantings should be protected via individual tree shelters, 8 ft woven-plastic fence or 7 ft woven-wire fence. In most cases woven-wire fence is preferred due to the low-maintenance and longevity characteristics of the fence material.
3. Signs should be added throughout property to assist public in: plant recognition, areas of special interest, notice of fragile ecosystem types to be "treaded on lightly", trail destinations and distances (already posted in most areas).

4. Control or eradicate invasive plants (via herbicide applications) throughout property.
 - a. Especially prior to earth disturbance activities such as trail improvements or timber harvest activities.
 - b. Naturally occurring non-"invasive" species such as black birch, black gum, and red maple dominate the understory in many areas. These species are desirable in small quantities but proliferate easily. Therefore, cut whenever and wherever practical to do so. Primarily OP and SMO (WP)
 - c. Ailanthus saplings and poletimber are prevalent in Unit H. Spicebush, tartarian honeysuckle and sassafras comprise much of the understory. Herbicide the entire site and convert 1/3 to white pine, 1/3 to dogwood, crabapple, hawthorn, and other wildlife shrubs and trees and 1/3 to natural regeneration (on the upper third since it is the rockiest). Fence entire unit. Create several snags (dead standing trees) along perimeter of Unit H for den trees, roosting sites. Leave fence up for as long as practical (approx. 10 to 15 years). Desirable native flowering plants will likely become establish within the protected area. Fence shall have walk-in entrances at several locations for the public to enter. Hang signs for education.
 - d. Create a similar site about 4 acres in size in Unit TP1 just south of the observation tower. Follow the guidelines outlined in 4.c. above. No overstory cutting is needed due to an already open canopy that exists at the present time.

Note: Mechanical controls such as tree cutting or mowing of herbaceous vegetation rarely kills invasive plant species. In fact, mechanical control often exacerbates the presence of these species through expansion of the parent plant via root suckers or rhizome proliferation. Herbicides are able to kill the entire parent plant, root systems included.

5. Establish desirable habitat components that are currently lacking on the property.
 - a. Establish various forms of conifer cover.
 - i. Form a planting committee to plan and coordinate all planting activities. Plant 1 to 3 sites every year for 10 years. Each site should include at least 5 acres of conifer plantings and/or wildlife shrub plantings. Individual sites should be selected several years in advance to allow for site preparations prior to planting. Projects can be "piggy-backed" onto scheduled timber harvest activities.
 - ii. Create deciduous brush to diversify woodland age structure and enhance wildlife utilization of the property. Clearcut several 5 to 10 acre sites making sure to remove

- interfering understory vegetation (if any) prior to harvest. Allow sites to regenerate naturally. Projects can be "piggy-backed" onto scheduled timber harvest activities.
- b. Improve the two existing herbaceous openings located at the fire tower Unit O (at observation tower) and on the high point Unit O (east of the fire tower). Eradicate all invasive plants such as tartarian honeysuckle, ailanthus, multiflora rose, etc. Plant native species only. Fence to protect.
 - c. Encourage variable age structure in each of the timber types defined in the plan.
 - d. Recommend planned periodic harvesting of 10 to 40 acre sites.
 - i. Advantages: small sites can be monitored, managed and protected from invasive plants and deer browse damage as needed.
 - ii. Allows for unobtrusive (to the public) enhancements to habitat diversity and educational opportunities via signs and professionally chaperoned nature walks.
 - iii. Regeneration harvests (those harvests designed to establish new tree seedlings) should not be conducted unless herbicide applications and/or deer enclosure fences are approved prior to the removal of timber. The source of funding for these tasks should be agreed upon prior to timber sale layout.
 - iv. Improvement harvests (harvesting techniques designed to improve tree quality, species composition, and wildlife utilization potentials of the forest) must consider that control of invasive plants may become necessary.
6. Explore possibility of constructing trail from Education Center to Route 72 via Chickies Creek
- a. Considerations include the construction of a sizable parking lot along Route 72; building a bridge across Chickies Creek; sections of boardwalk in hydric soils along Chickies Creek may be necessary.
 - b. This route has been explored and is not feasible due to excessive rock.
7. Four Vista locations are proposed. See map for locations.
8. Encourage "entire-day" family outings by establishing rest areas (picnic areas) with water and restrooms in remote locations. Lean-to shelters are desirable in case of adverse weather.
9. Address deer population control via hunting – Public hunting seems to be the only course of action for the deer problem. Fencing will not always be a suitable alternative to establishing regeneration after a timber harvest. Much of the ground area is located on very steep slopes and/or extremely rocky soils.

GENERAL CONSIDERATIONS

1. The rate of implementation of the suggested projects is flexible. However, the order of events outlined in the finalized Forest Stewardship Plan should remain relatively rigid.
2. All introduced plants should be indigenous to the region; include species that were historically present but are currently extirpated from the site.
3. Timber sales should create funding for projects.

Gov. Dick may allow logging

By JON RUTTER
Sunday News Staff Writer
 jrutter@lnpnews.com

American Indians may have altered the forests of Governor Dick eons ago with fire.

Today, a debate over how to care for the Lebanon County woodland preserved in the 1950s by SICO Co. founder Clarence Schock still smolders.

The six-member board of trustees overseeing Clarence Schock Memorial Park approved construction of a controversial education center there in 2002.

Now, the trustees are set to consider forest management options that may include limited commercial logging.

Some environmental advocates take a dim view of any tree-cutting in the 1,105-acre park near Mount Gretna.

Still, both sides agree that

Please see GOV. DICK, page B5

Gov. Dick: Controversial plan

Continued from B1

something should be done.

The forest has degraded, acknowledged John R. Ambler, a Lititz biology teacher who recently condemned the timbering idea in a letter to local newspapers.

He said previous logging operations have already opened portions of the forest to the spread of seeds from exotic plants that choke out native species.

Muhlenberg Botanical Society president Tim Draude said the tract is overpopulated by hungry whitetails that gobble up wildflowers and tree seedlings and block the forest from regenerating naturally.

Standing in the way of deer control is a deed restriction that forbids hunting at Governor Dick.

Board adviser Chuck Allwein said any future logging would be done selectively, except in previously cleared areas. Proceeds from timber sales would be used to make the woodland healthier and more "user-friendly," he added.

No decisions have been made, he emphasized.

Certified forester Barry Rose is preparing to present draft stewardship recommendations to the board at its regularly scheduled meeting Thursday, said chairman Frank Eichler.

The trustees will make a decision on the recommendations later in the winter or spring, Eichler said.

"Our primary responsibility is to maintain the property" for future generations. "I knew Mr. Schock and how he loved that acreage. It has been left go for too many years."

Nature's realm

Naturalists say the park is richer in bird life than surrounding fragmented tracts.

Chickies Creek originates there, and mature oaks and tulip poplars cloak the boulder-pocked hills.

But the human imprint is also strong. Trails and mining pits mark the landscape once leveled by settlers to feed Cornwall charcoal furnaces.

An observation tower has risen above the trees in one form or another for generations.

Patches of woods logged by the former administrator, Donegal School District, have grown up in tangles.

Infesting some areas are invasive species like Japanese stilt grass, ailanthus trees and garlic mustard, which Ambler, a biologist, said he has spent more than 100 hours eradicating at the behest of the trustees.

Deer roam unchecked by hunters or natural predators, noted Draude, who said he has seen Governor Dick whitetails eating ferns, a food they resort to only when little else is available.

"I'm not against logging," said Draude, but cut-over sites already abound in Pennsylvania, where game lands are periodically timbered.

"I would like to see a climax forest" at Governor Dick. "I'm not sure it's a great idea to harvest the forest until you get the deer problem under control."

Bryon Shissler, a forestry consultant and leading deer control advocate in the state, called white-tail reduction a top priority.

The animals were sparse in the mature forests of old, said Shissler, a Somerset County resident who formerly lived in Lancaster County.

Indians often burned the under-story that deer fed upon, he said. Today's oaks are not regenerating because deer eat the seedlings.

"Long-term, the prognosis for that forest [Governor Dick] is not good."

Logging can be a valid component of a park managed primarily for recreation, Shissler added, but the idea that forests must be tended for their own good is a myth.

"We never improve the health of the forests by cutting them. ...

We cut trees for forest products."

No clearcuts

Allwein, a retired biology teacher who lives on the edge of the forest and owns the Jiggle Shop in Mount Gretna, said there has been "no talk of clearcutting."

What has been discussed is taking down all the ailanthus trees clogging old clearcuts and applying herbicide to the stumps.

Temporarily fencing the area would protect young native oak until they're big enough to deter deer, Allwein said.

But it takes money to fence and cover 40 acres with herbicide. Allwein said the park needs still more funding for maintenance and potential upgrades such as making an existing trail handicapped accessible.

Lebanon County and the Clarence Schock Foundation, which appoint the volunteer trustees, give the park about \$30,000 a year, but Allwein contends it is not enough.

He said selectively thinning and selling tulip poplar trees would help the trust meet its obligation "to make the proper user-friendly and available to the public."

Creating a forest management plan should also help pave the way for state stewardship money, according to Allwein, who said the trust was "no urgency" to apply for grants.

Ambler praised the trustees as "good people" but questioned the wisdom of timber sales.

"To start using revenue from cutting trees is a very slippery slope," said Ambler, who opposed an earlier money-making plan to install a cell tower in the woods. "Where do you stop?"

How you manage the park depends on the goals you set for it, Allwein acknowledged.

"John is absolutely right that you go in and do anything you want, changing the balance of what's going on in there naturally. But not black and white ... You can be careful." ■

REGION

Lebanon Daily News

Gov. Dick trustees to tackle

By DAVID MEKEEL
Staff Writer

The debate over what, if anything, needs to be done to ensure the health of the forests that blanket the park at Governor Dick will continue tomorrow night.

At its 7 p.m. meeting in the park's new lodge on Pinch Road, the board of trustees that oversees the 1,105-acre Clarence Schock Memorial Park is expected to hear details of a recently

completed stewardship plan by certified forester Barry Rose. Since announcing that they were looking into options to manage plant and animal life in the West Cornwall park, the trustees have found some resistance from a handful of residents who fear a stewardship plan may mean logging parts of the mountain.

Although the trustees have repeatedly assured residents that they will not

make any decisions without first holding a public meeting to discuss plans, fear still looms for some.

"A group of concerned citizens" recently circulated a pamphlet to share some of their concerns. The pamphlet states that logging can allow for predation of forest species and non-native invasive plants that crowd out native species, and increases the risk and severity of wildfires.

Use of herbicide and the possibility of construction vehicles on the property were also listed as concerns.

In a letter printed on the back of the pamphlet, the citizens charge that the trustees are pursuing the logging idea in order to balance an increased budget caused by building the park's new lodge — which also was met with some criticism from a group of local residents when it was built

Wednesday, March 16, 2005

Logging issue

in 2002: The letter said that Governor Dick's budget has increased from \$5,000 to \$15,000 per year to \$30,000 per year currently.

The six-member board of trustees, while admitting profits from logging will go toward the park's annual budget, staunchly deny that consideration of a stewardship plan is driven by a need for logging revenue. They have continued to say their main concerns are

keeping the park healthy and preserving it for future generations.

Both the trustees and Rose have said that Governor Dick is suffering from the effects of overpopulation of deer and invasive non-native species.

Rose claims that his suggestions will help rectify those problems, along with others that are threatening the park.

NATURAL BEAUTY

Governor Dick has been preserved for nearly 50 years. The deed states that this 1,105-acre forest be "maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland."

Development and deforestation has left Governor Dick one of the last large, relatively undisturbed forests in southeastern Pennsylvania. It is important habitat for many rapidly declining deep forest species. Logging, development, and even new trails threaten many songbirds, wildflowers, and salamanders and allow invasive plants to dominate the forest.

The Governor Dick trustees are ignoring the effects of forest fragmentation. The impact of their plan will be much larger than the visible disturbance. Many naturalists and forest experts have already spoken out against their plan.

A better environmental education plan would be to allow the forest to mature and to use the grant money to remove invasive plants, preserve habitat, and hire a professional naturalist to take students out into the forest. Classroom space can be found elsewhere.

Trustees continue to defend the possibility of logging. ~~They won't rule out a future cell phone tower.~~ They fail to recognize the natural beauty of Governor Dick.

WHAT'S WRONG WITH SELECTIVE LOGGING AT GOVERNOR DICK?

Many species of birds, salamanders, and wildflowers are among those rapidly declining because of loss of forests, forest fragmentation, and logging. Many species are sensitive to any human activity. Despite heavy use, Governor Dick is valuable because much of it remains relatively undisturbed.

Logging, logging roads, and trails allow for increased predation by cats, raccoons, opossums, hawks, crows, etc.. Cowbird parasitism also increases, threatening nesting songbirds.

Disturbances caused by logging allow non-native, invasive plants to crowd out native species. And if deer numbers are high, browsing can prevent forest regeneration.

Logging reduces the number of dead and dying trees in a forest. These are essential ingredients of a healthy forest, providing food and habitat for wildlife, nutrients for the soil, and erosion control for the forest.

Logging increases the risk and severity of wildfires. It opens up the forest to greater wind circulation and more rapid drying. During droughts or high wind this can allow for more rapid spread of fires.

We have plenty of managed forests. What we don't have are many forests like Governor Dick.

The Future Of

Governor Dick



OR



EARTH DAY?

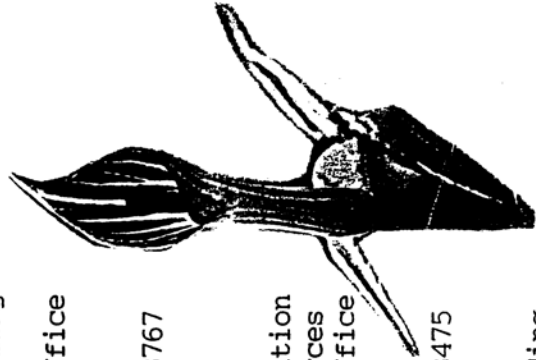
To celebrate Earth Day 1999, former Gov. Tom Ridge announced \$12.6 million in grants. Lebanon County received \$500,000, most of which was earmarked to develop Governor Dick.

The Department of Conservation & Natural Resources approved this grant, which only covers initial costs. Annual expenses will likely be paid by Lebanon County and PA taxpayers. Logging and a ~~cell phone tower~~ are also still a possibility.

Please tell state and local officials that this plan, which was approved without a study to determine need, does not deserve public money and will be ecologically devastating.

*Richard Sprenkle
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Conservation & Engineering
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Rachel Carson State Office
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Michael DiBerardinis
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225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17120



GOVERNOR DICK TRUSTEES

In 1998, The County of Lebanon & The SICO Foundation were named co-trustees of Governor Dick. The Lebanon County Commissioners are elected by the voters of Lebanon County. The SICO Foundation is a private, non-profit organization created by SICO Oil. Each appoints 3 board members to the Clarence Schock Governor Dick Trust, which serves as the property manager for Governor Dick.

Both trustee groups and the board of directors need to be told that the Governor Dick development plan is unneeded, bad for the forest ecosystem, and a waste of taxpayer's money and will place a continuing burden on Lebanon county taxpayers.

*Lebanon County Commissioners
Room 207, Municipal Building
400 S. 8th St.
Lebanon, PA 17042-6794

The SICO Foundation
P.O. Box 302
Mount Joy, PA 17552

Clarence Schock Governor Dick
Trust
73 South Zinns Mill Road
Lebanon, PA 17042



STOP THE GOVERNOR DICK
CHAINSAW MASSACRE

SPEAK OUT!!!

A letter to the editor is one of the best ways to help spread the word, let local officials know how you feel, and keep media attention on Governor Dick. Send copies to each of these newspapers. (include address, daytime phone #, & signature)

Letters to the Editor
Lebanon Daily News
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Letters to the Editor
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GOVERNOR DICK ALERT!

Governor Dick is one of the last large, relatively undisturbed forests in southeastern Pennsylvania. It provides critical habitat for many deep-forest species unable to survive in human-modified environments. Fortunately, in 1953 Clarence and Evetta Schock had the foresight to preserve Governor Dick forever.

But now a new development plan threatens this forest. Trustees plan to build what will be little more than classroom space for visiting school groups. The building site will contribute to the very serious problems of habitat loss and forest fragmentation, the effects of which will be felt by wildlife deep into the forest. Surely a preserved forest like Governor Dick can be left as it is.

Additional logging, widening and re-surfacing of trails, new trails, increasing open-field habitat, allowing bicycle races and group camping, and an assortment of other so-called "improvements" are also being considered. Please tell trustees this plan is bad for wildlife, native plants, and the area's natural beauty.

Clarence Schock Governor Dick
Trust,
73 South Zinns Mill Road,
Lebanon, PA 17042

Lebanon County Commissioners,
Room 207,
400 S. 8th. St., Lebanon,
PA 17042

Sico Foundation,
P.O. Box 302,
Mount Joy,
PA 17552

A state grant will cover initial costs, with future grants likely. Please let public officials know that this project does not deserve state money.

David 'Chip' Brightbill,
Senate District 48,
Senate Box 203048,
Harrisburg,
PA 17120-3048
dbrightbill@pasen.gov

Larry Williamson,
Director,
Bureau of Rec. and
Cons., DCNR,
Rachel Carson State
Office Building,
P.O. Box 8475,
Harrisburg, PA 17105

Governor Mark S.
Schweiker,
508 E. Floor,
Main Capitol Building,
Harrisburg,
PA 17120

Rep. Edward H. Krebs,
Cleona Square Mall,
445 W. Penn Ave.,
Cleona,
PA 17042

Please write letters to the editor. It's a great way to spread the word and to keep media attention on Governor Dick. Send copies to these newspapers.

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Roger Groce,
Mt. Gretna E-Mail Newsletter,
213 Stevens Ave.,
Mt. Gretna,
PA 17064
rtgroce@hotmail.com

The Mt. Gretna E-mail
Newsletter has been serving as
the voice of the trustees. Please
ask the editor that in the interest
of balanced reporting, more
coverage should be given to the

problems associated with
these plans.

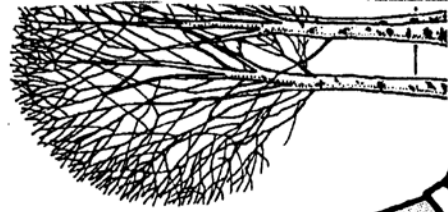
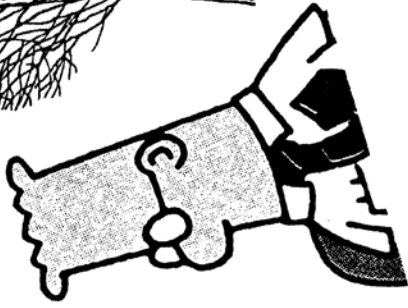
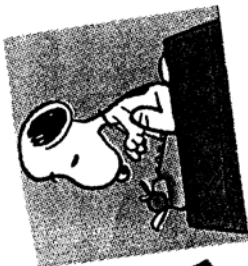
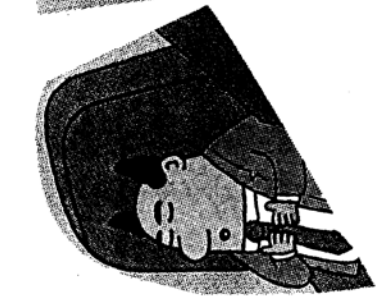
The Clarence Schock Governor Dick Trust meets the third Thursday of every month (7:15 p.m.) at the West Cornwall Township Municipal Building in Quentin - 73 South Zinns Mill Road. We need to continue to oppose every phase of this plan.

Please help to spread the word. Speak out. Talk to people. Distribute copies of this information sheet. Ask local teachers to speak out as well. This center is being built for their use so they are in a unique position to point out that a better environmental education plan would be to leave this forest intact. We need to save forests like Governor Dick now, and for the future.

For more information check out:

www.governordick.com

ENVIRONMENTAL NEWS OF THE WEIRD



Governor Dick Trustees

a threat to *the Forest.*

their Logging kills wildlife & Trees !!

Nature lovers

Resisting :

hope to Save WILDLIFE

as trustees Pave paradise for an Environmental educational facility ?

stop the Governor Dick



Chainsaw Mass acre !

Earth First!

Get everybody writing letters. Make a stink. Public pressure is a wonderful tool.

-Guy Steucek, Millersville University biology professor

Governor Dick is a forest....maybe we should let it be an old-growth forest for people a century from now.

-Guy Steucek, Millersville University biology professor

Go hike, go watch birds, go enjoy wild flowers, and if you want, go climb a tree, but just don't cut them down.

-David Hennigan, Lancaster Sunday News editor

We never improve the health of the forests by cutting them....We cut trees for forest products.

-Bryon Shissler, forestry consultant

The portion thereof which is now forest or woodland shall be maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland and where possible additional portions shall be planted as forest and woodland.

-Clarence Schock's deed preserving Governor Dick

If you don't do anything to the forest, eventually it will turn into a bunch of rotten logs laying around.

-Frank Eichler, Governor Dick board chairman

Trees are a renewable resource. Trees need to be managed.

-Leigh Beamesderfer, Lebanon County Conservation District

You can't just let an asset like that sit.

-Frank Eichler

We cannot see that far into the future, but if the trustees truly believe the "playground and public park" language supersedes maintaining and preserving forest and woodlands then we suspect any vague language to encourage exploitation is possible.

-editor, Lancaster Intelligencer Journal

He wanted to keep it as it is.

-Mrs. Heisey, acquaintance of Mr. Schock

Can't we have some place in southeastern Pennsylvania that is left alone.

-Clyde McMillan-Gamber, Lancaster County Parks naturalist

We're trying to push them into faster progress into getting the building done. The contract we have with them is about to expire.

-Larry Williamson, DCNR

I support it 1000 percent.

-state senator David Brightbill

The deed of trust stipulates that taxpayers' money not be used for upkeep.

-Frank Eichler

They say time is running out on the grant. Well let it. If every generation chops off a piece here and a piece there, there will be nothing left.

-Tom Stewart, conservationist

*** GOVERNOR DICK UPDATE ***

The Governor Dick trustees and DCNR continue to defend logging and development, dismissing the concerns of many professional and amateur naturalists about the threats they pose to the forest ecosystem. However, opposition has had some successes.

A county-by-county biological inventory currently being conducted in PA was completed in Lebanon County ahead of schedule because of our opposition. This survey designated portions of Governor Dick as important habitat areas. At least for now, the trustees seem to be respecting these areas.

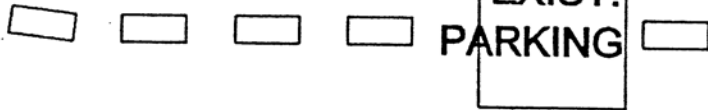
Trustees also appear to have backed off plans for new and widened trails, scattered kiosks and restrooms, and some of the other ill-advised additions.

DCNR also took another look, requiring trustees to adopt stricter logging guidelines, planting the building site with native plants instead of seeding it as a lawn, and expressing concerns about a cell phone tower.

But continued vigilance is needed. Building sites and selective logging will diminish biodiversity. Trustees too easily dismiss the needs of wild species, big and small. And what trustees say today may not be what they do tomorrow.

Thank you to everyone who has spoken out and who cherishes this unique and valuable forest ecosystem generations have known as Governor Dick.

HORSESHOE TRAIL



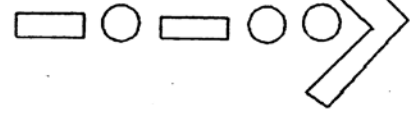
STATE GAME
LANDS

PINCH ROAD

VEHICULAR
TRAFFIC

PARK
ALT.

PEDESTRIAN
TRAFFIC



PROGRAM DIAGRAM

PROPOSED
PARKING

PLAY

RESIDENCE

OFFICE

CLASSROOM

VIEWS

OUTDOOR
CLASSROOMS

PROGRAM ELEMENTS

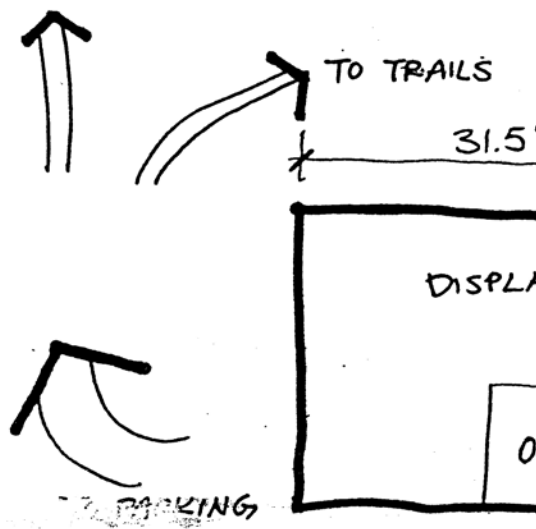
The RBA-
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ENGINEERS • ARCHITECTS • PLANNERS
Rosemoyne Business Center, 4900 Ritter Road
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, 17055-4807
Phone (717) 697-0100, Fax (717) 697-9093

The Clarence Schrock Memorial Park

At Governor Dick

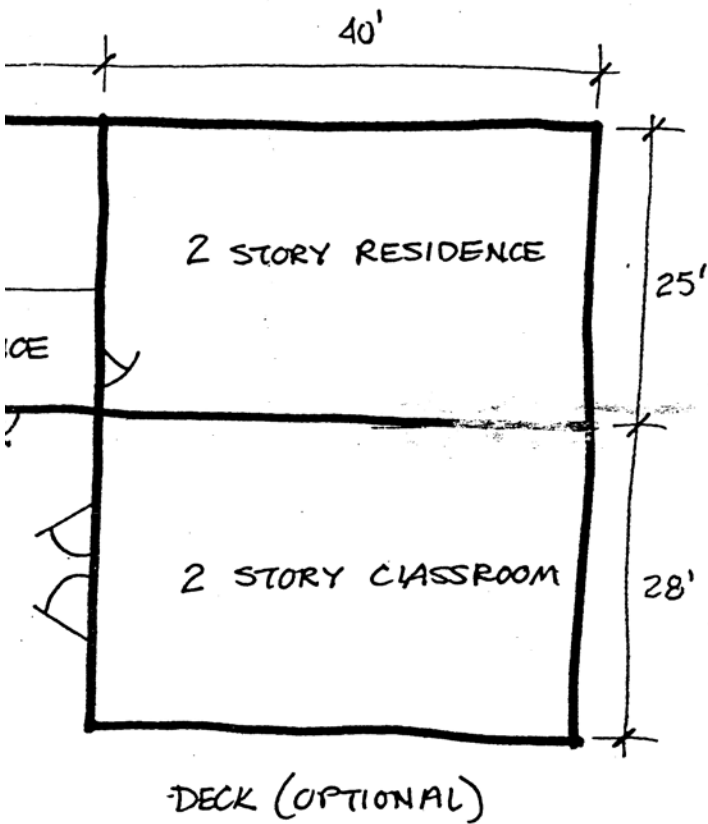
Lebanon County, PA.

PROGRAM
DIAGRAM



CONC
ENVIRONMENTAL I

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 Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, 17055-4807
 Phone (717) 687-0100, Fax (717) 687-9083



DISPLAY/OFFICE AREA	=	1,000 S.F.
TOTAL RESIDENCE S.F.	=	2,000 S.F.
ENV. ED. CENTER	=	2,250 S.F.
TOTAL		5,250 S.F.

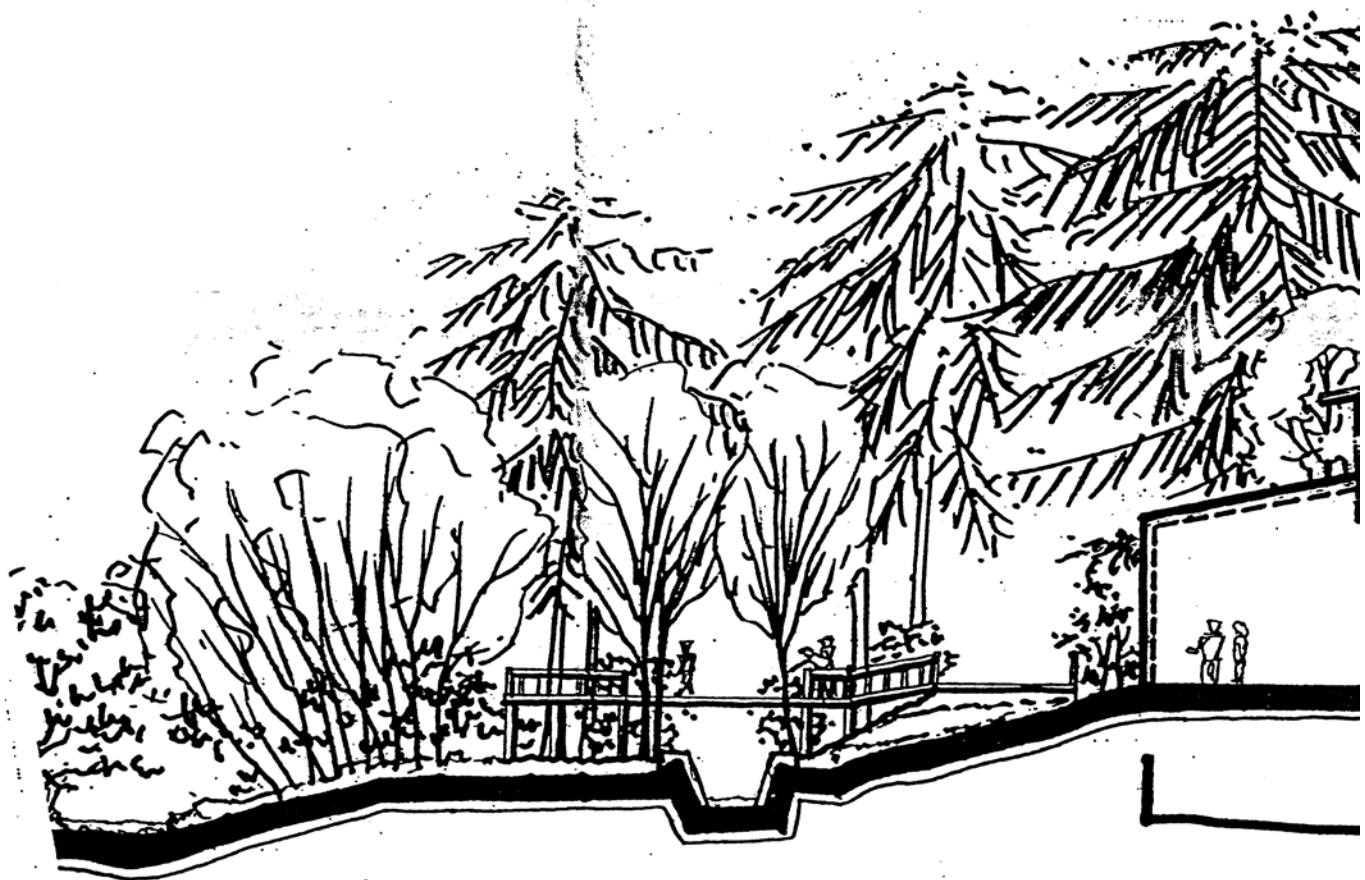
**The Clarence Schrock
 Memorial Park**
 At Governor Dick
 Lebanon County, PA.

ENVIRONMENTAL
 EDUCATION
 CENTER

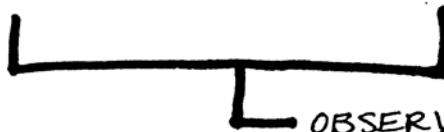
SCALE: 1/16"=1'-0"

CONCEPT A

CEPT A
 EDUCATION CENTER

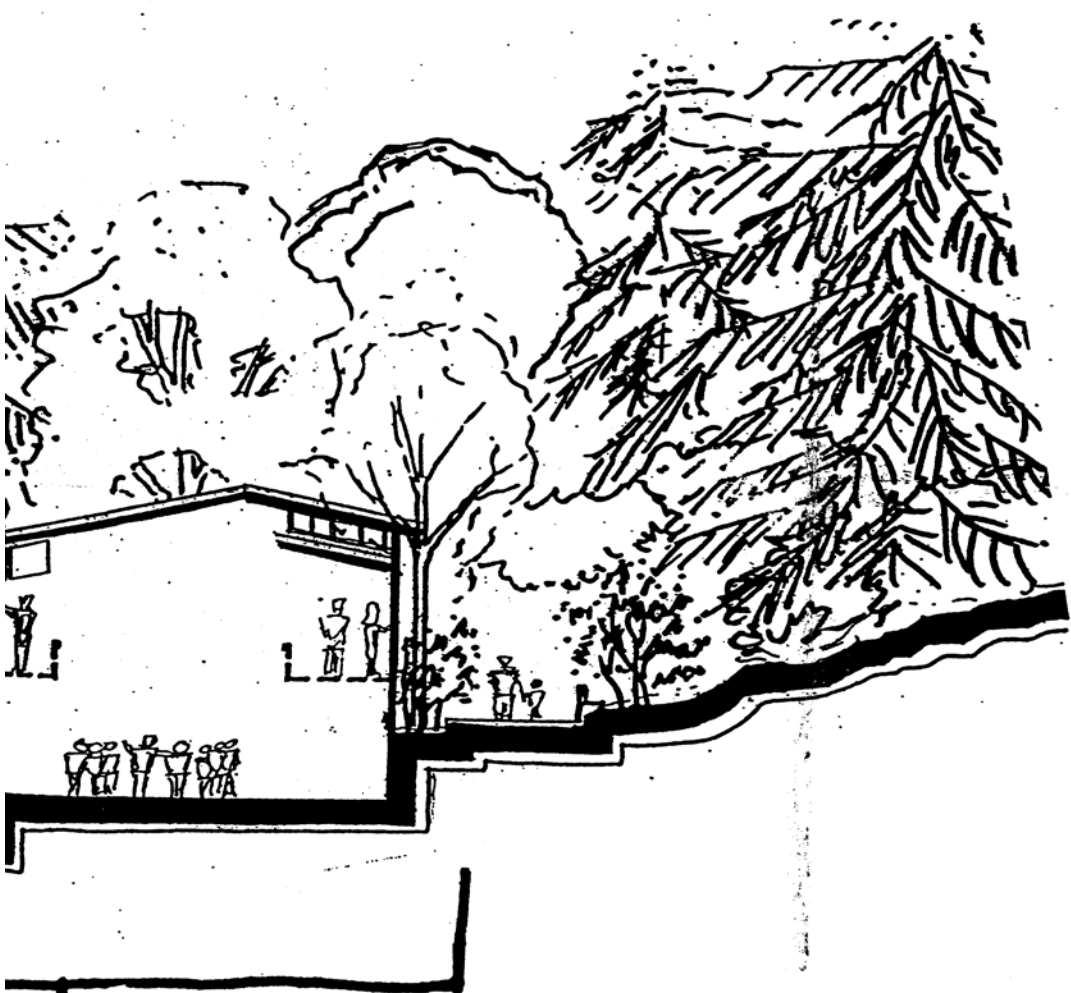


CHICKIES CREEK
CONNECTION TO TRAIL
SYSTEM



OBSERVATION DECK,
BOARDWALK, AND
INTERPRETIVE SITES.

PRC
EDUCATION CENTI



ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATION
CENTER.

VIEWS TO CREEK, WOODS,
AND INTERPRETIVE SITES.

FILE A
TO CHICKIES CREEK

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Rosemoyne Business Center, 4900 Ritter Road
Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, 17055-4807
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**The Clarence Schrock
Memorial Park**

At Governor Dick
Lebanon County, PA.

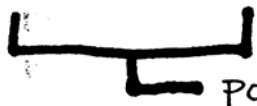
EDUCATION CENTER
TO
CHICKIES CREEK

NOT TO SCALE

PROFILE A

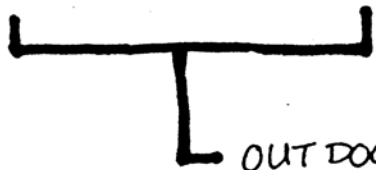


CHICKIES
CREEK NATURE
TRAIL / BOARD WALK.



POSSIBLE GREY WATER
TREATMENT FACILITY,
BIO-ENGINEERING AREA,
OR WETLAND / POND.

PRO
AMPHITHEATER



OUT DOOR CLASS ROOM,
NATURAL AMPHITHEATER,
AND INTERPRETATION AREA.

FILE B
CHICKIES CREEK

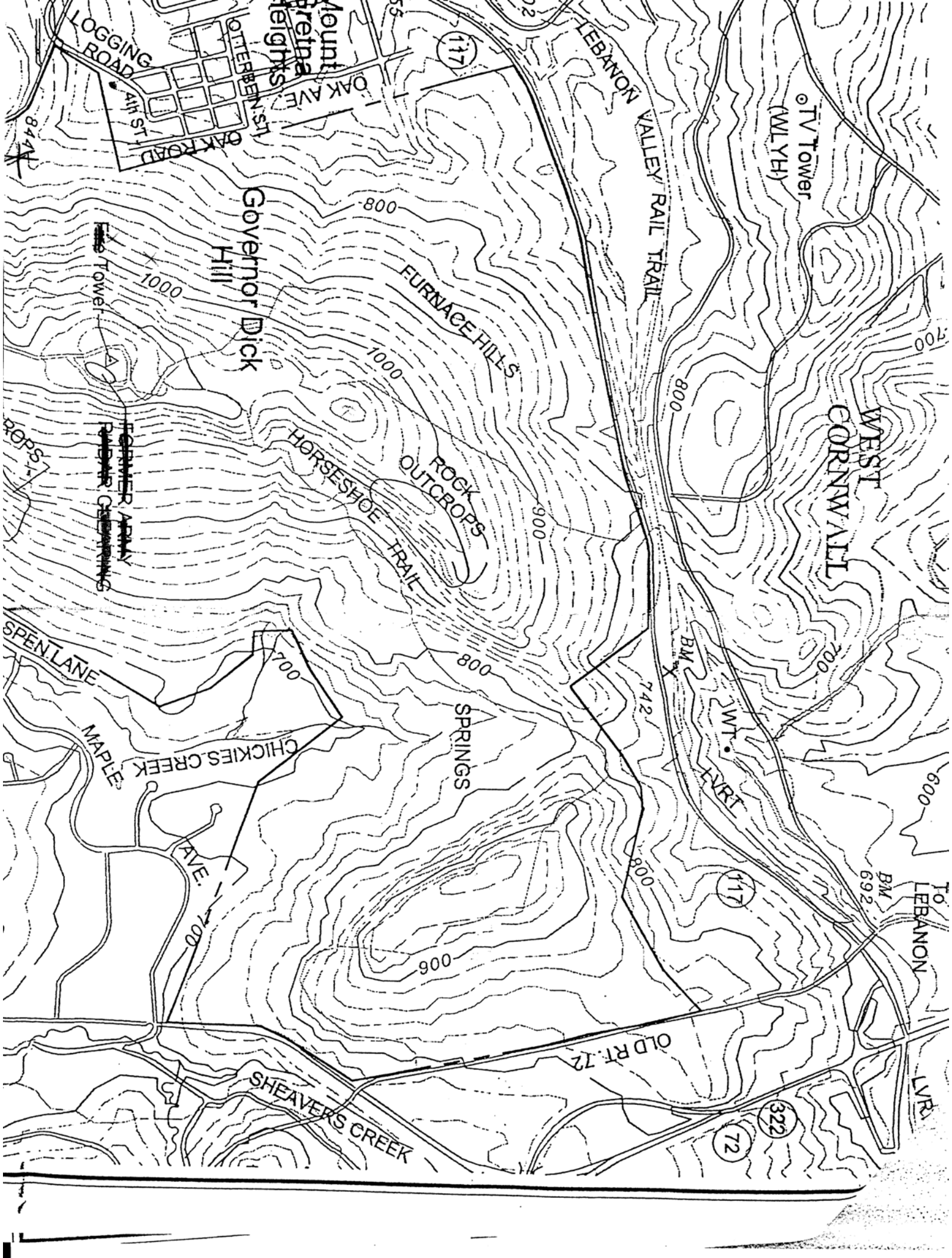
The **Clarence Schick**
Memorial Park
At Governor Dick
Lebanon County, PA.

AMPHITHEATER
TO
CHICKIES CREEK

NOT TO SCALE

PROFILE B

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TV Tower
(WL YH)

WEST
CORNWALL

Governor Dick
Hill

FURNACE HILLS

ROCK
OUTCROPS
HORSESHOE TRAIL

SPRINGS

CHICKIES CREEK

SHEAVERS CREEK

OLD RT. 72

LEBANON VALLEY RAIL TRAIL

TO
LEBANON

LVR

LOGGING
ROAD

OAK ROAD
WILL ST
LOTTERBEN ST

Mount
Pleasant
Heights

Fire Tower

FORMER ARMY
BARRACKS
CAMP

SPENT LANE

MAPLE
AVE

(117)

(117)

(72)

(322)

BM
692

BM
742

BM
742

MT

LEVRT

844

800

1000

1000

800

800

700

900

800

900

600

1000

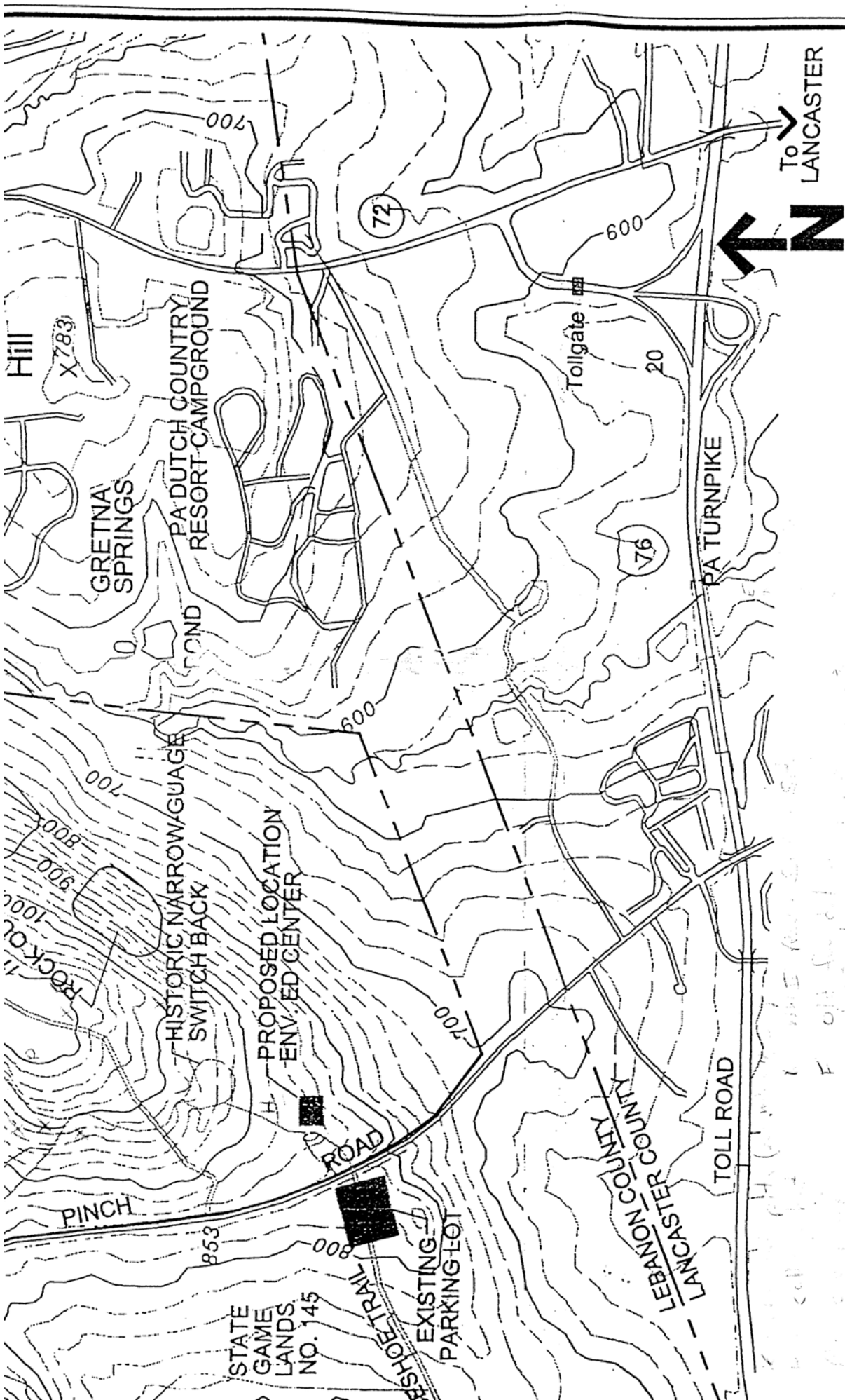
700

700

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700

700



OVERALL
SITE
MAP

SCALE: 1"=1000'

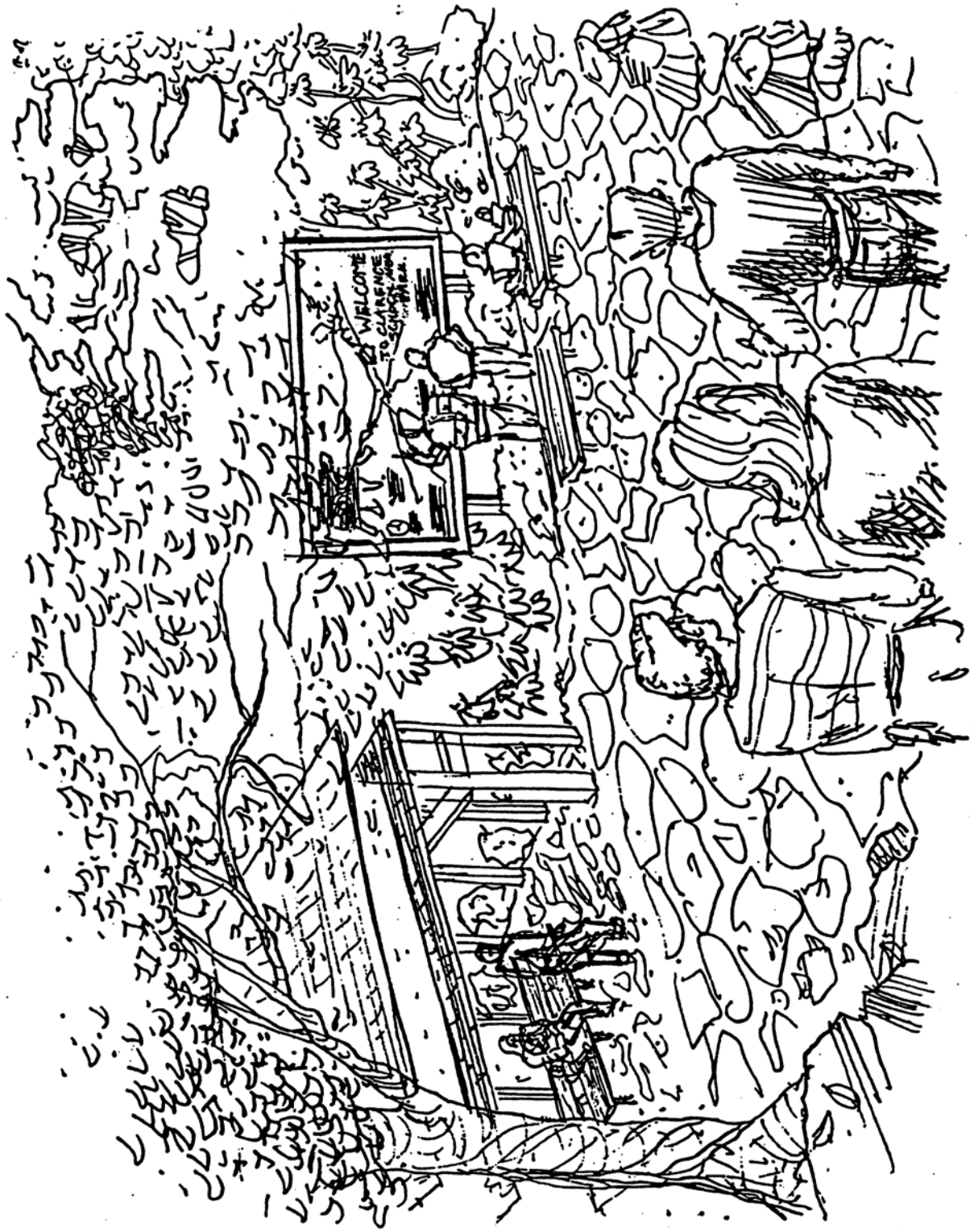
DATE: _____

* Blacksmith Shop

Clarence Chock Memorial Park

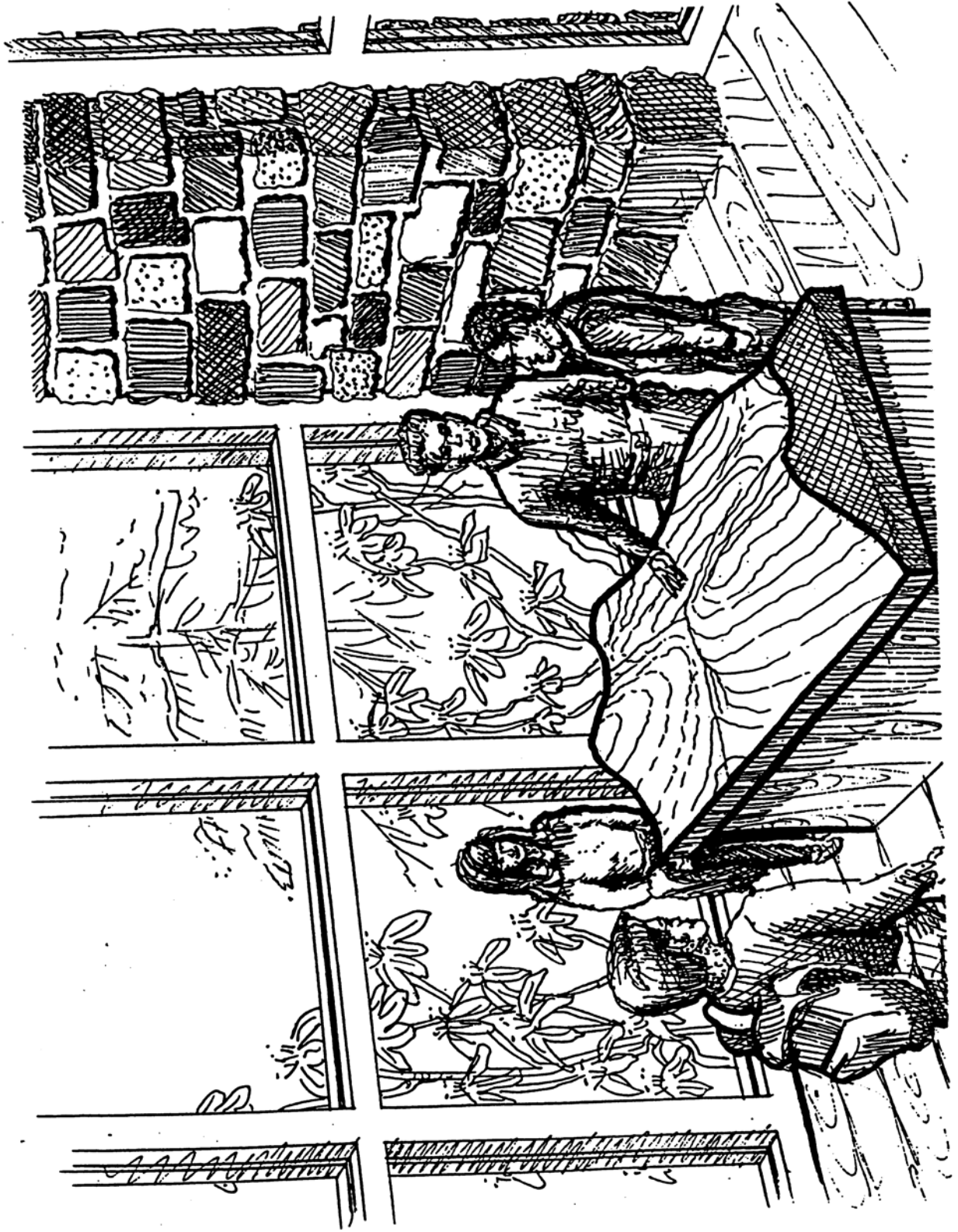
At Governor Dick
Lebanon County, PA.

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WELCOME AND ORIENTATION AREA

SOURCE: CREATING AN ACCESS



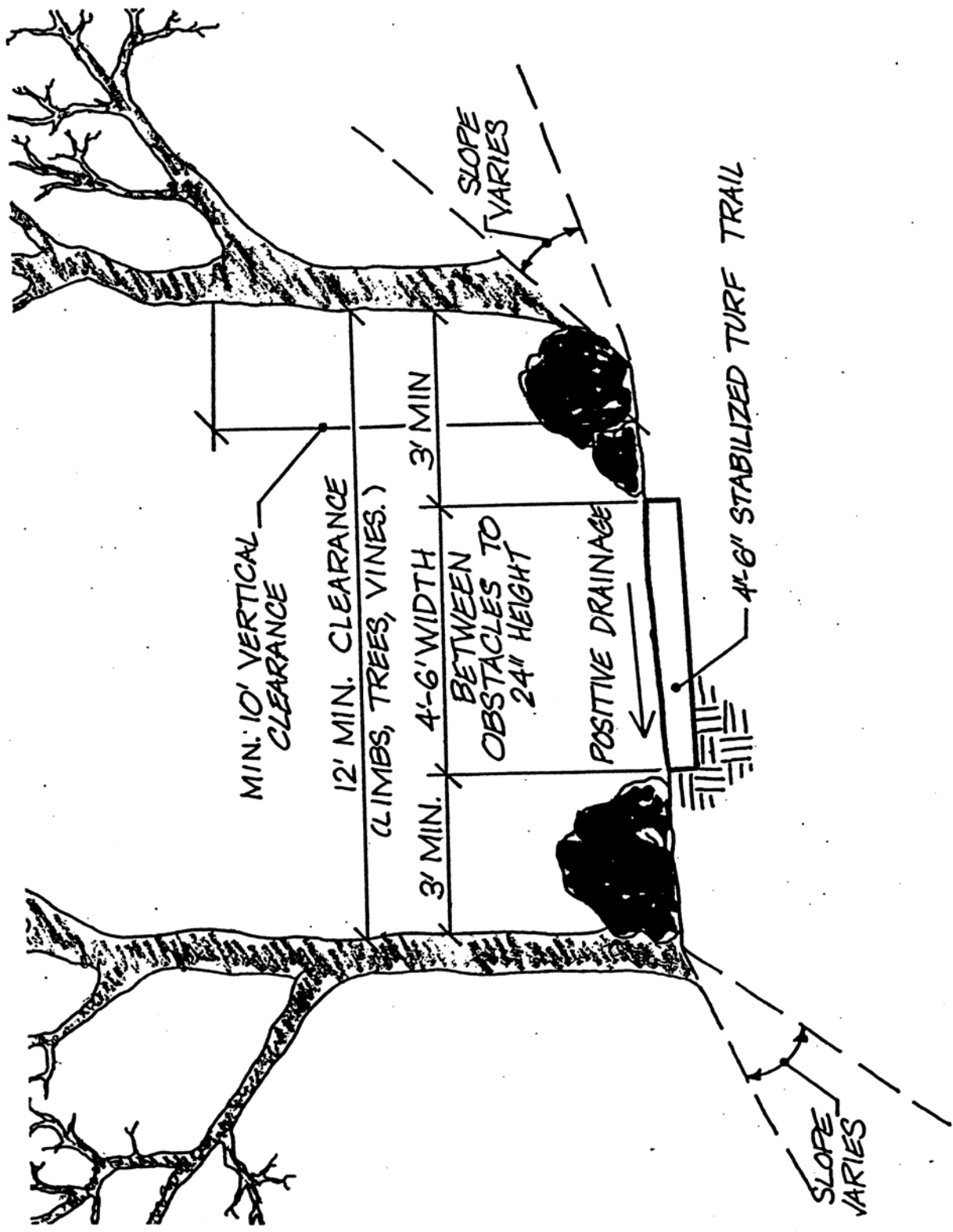
INDOOR CLASSROOM AND WORKSHOP

TRAINING SEMINARS



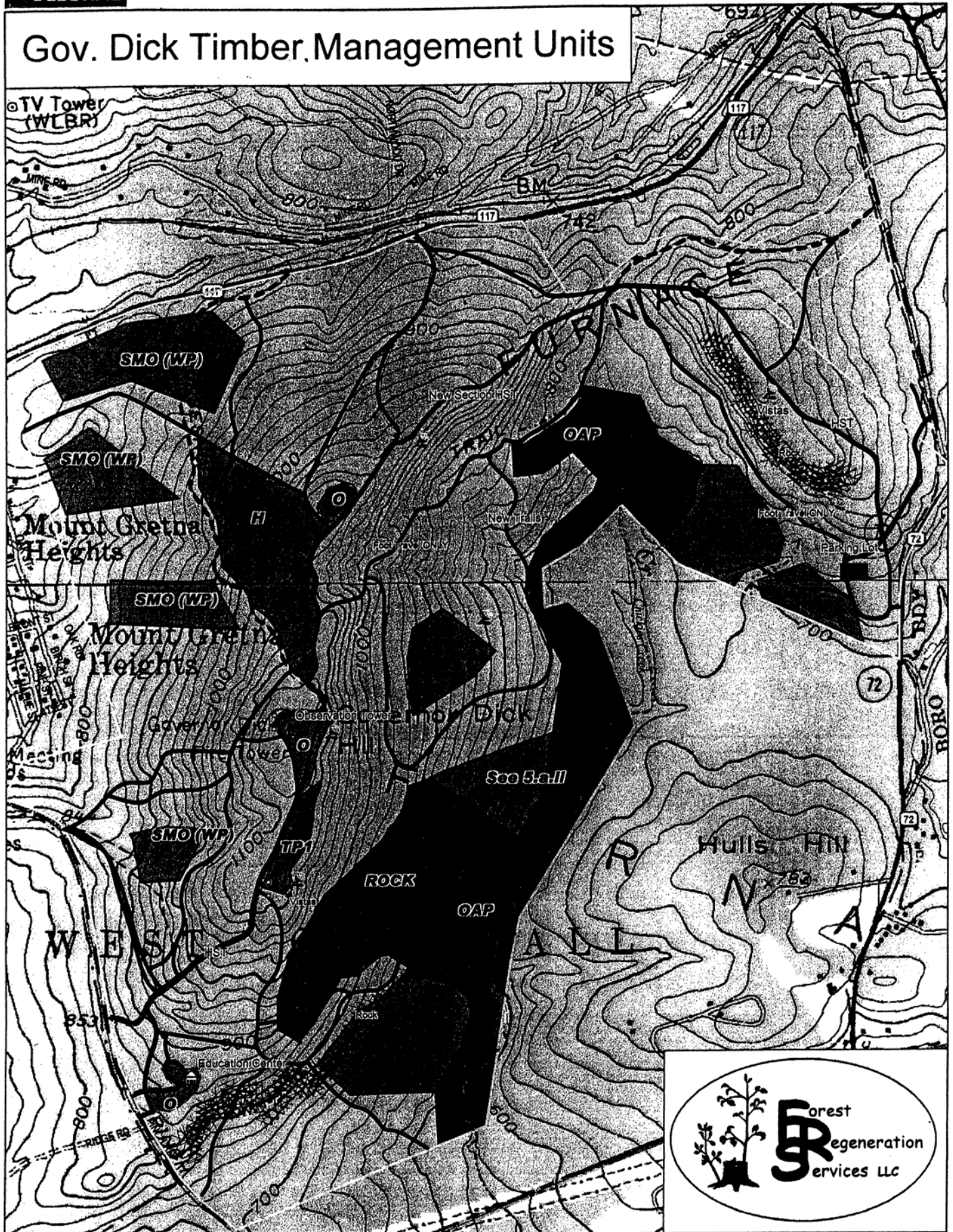
WINTER USE OF PARK

OPPORTUNITY FOR OBSERVATION OF SEASONAL CHANGES
ALLOWS YEAR-ROUND USE OF PARK

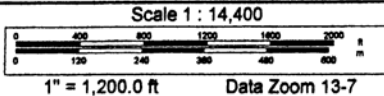
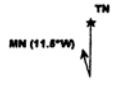


STABILIZED TURF SURFACE

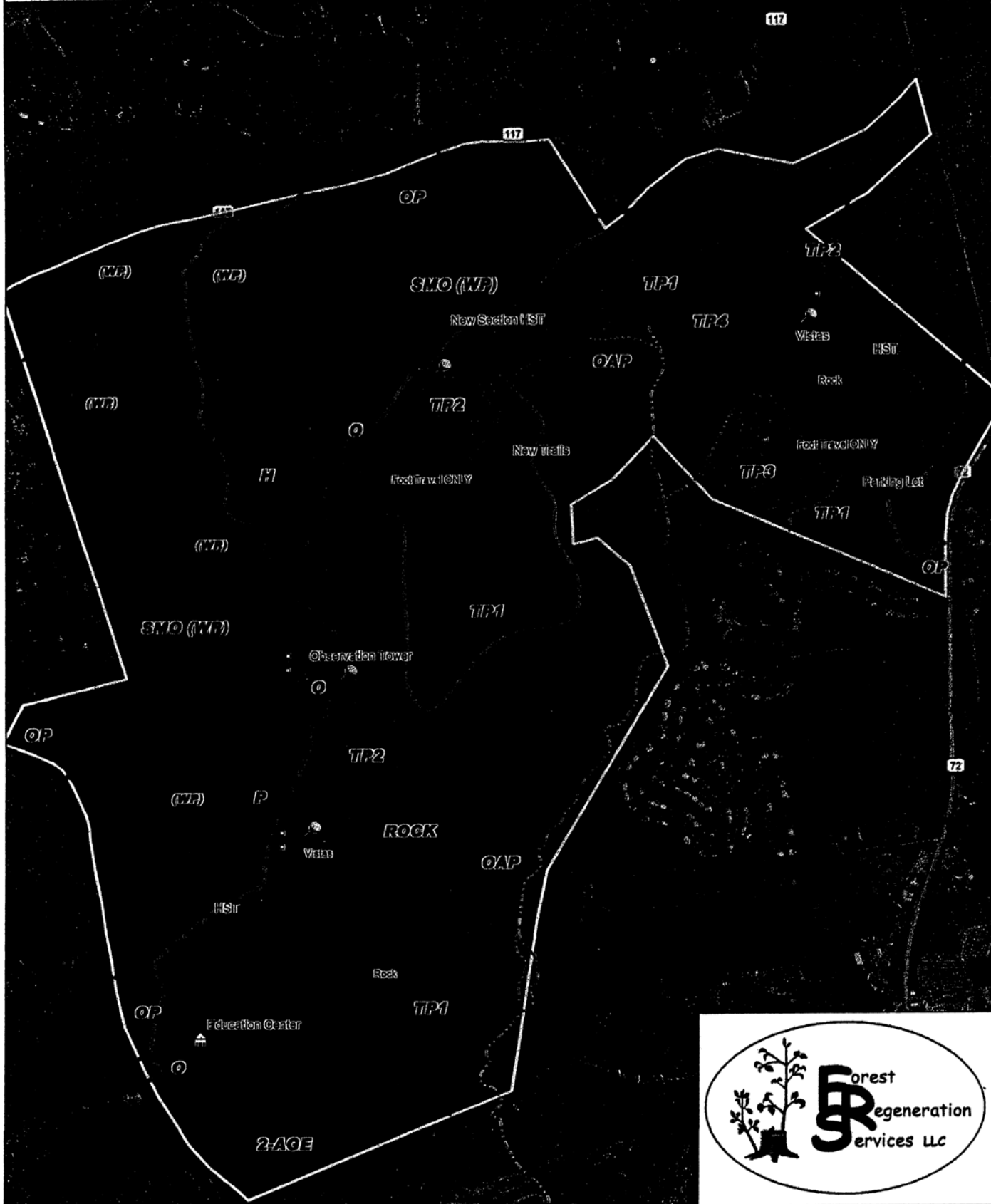
Gov. Dick Timber Management Units



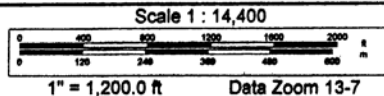
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Gov. Dick Timber Management Units



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Timber Type List for Map

TP1: 238 Acres. TULIP POPLAR comprises 70 to 90% of total overstory tree composition. The stand is overstocked w/trees nearing maturity. Most dominant and codominant trees are between 16 to 24 inches DBH.

TP2: 123 Acres. TULIP POPLAR comprises greater than 90% of total overstory. The stand is overstocked with mature trees between 20 and 34 inches.

TP3: 18 Acres. TULIP POPLAR is 50 to 70% of total overstory. The stand is fully stocked with: relatively few very large overmature TP and an adequate stocking of 2nd aged species in poles and small sawtimber. Most dominant and codominant trees are greater than 24 inches DBH.

TP4: 18 Acres. TULIP POPLAR is 50 to 70% of total overstory. The stand is Marginally to Fully Stocked. The stand is marginally to fully stocked w/trees nearing maturity. Most dominant and codominant trees are 14 to 20 inches DBH Several Old wolf trees are present of WO and Ash. Trees over 20 are present but are few.

OP: 117 Acres. BLACK OAK and other OAK species comprise more than 50% of total overstory. The stand is fully stocked w/mature trees or trees nearing maturity. Most dominant and codominant trees are 16 to 26 inches DBH. Poplar trees are present and tend to be 6 to 10 inches larger DBH than surrounding dominant oak species. BB sawtimber, poles and saplings are abundant and must be controlled.

SMO (WP): 282 Acres. BLACK OAK and other OAK species comprise more than 50% of total overstory. The stand is fully stocked with immature trees. Most dominant and codominant trees are 8 to 14 inches DBH. Certain areas contain WP in sufficient number to establish WP regeneration if released. BB sawtimber, poles and saplings are abundant and must be controlled.

OAP: 103 Acres. WHITE OAK and/or ASH comprise more than 50% of total overstory. Other species include TP, BO, Beech and BB. The stand is Fully Stocked. The stand is fully stocked with immature trees. Most dominant and codominant trees are 12 to 18 inches DBH. Several Old wolf trees are present of WO and Ash.

2-AGE: 33 Acres. TULIP POPLAR and ASH comprises most of overstory. The stand is mostly adequately stocked with TP, WO, Hick, and BB as a secondary age class. Most overstory trees are 18 to 26 inches DBH inches whereas most of the second-aged class is 8 to 12 inches DBH.

H: 31 Acres. Previous timber harvest area. Desirable regeneration is inadequate to justify continuance of growth. The establishment of Ailanthus is wide spread and must be eradicated. Best course of action is to herbicide and plant. Convert to WP and other conifers. Establish wildlife food plot. Allow 1/3 of the area to regenerate naturally. Fence to protect.

P: 3 Acres. Pole-sized TULIP POPLAR and BB comprise most of the overstory. The stand is fully stocked w/young trees between 5 and 10 inches DBH. Some Oak is present and should be released. Some minor cutting of BB has occurred and should be encouraged to continue. Precommercial

Rock: 46 Acres. Rocks and boulders prevent active management of this unit that includes TP1 and TP2 timber types.

O: 11 Acres. Open space found at three locations. 1) Observation tower – 5 acres, 2) Education Center – 4 acres, 3) Old Tower Site – 2 acres.

Gov. Dick users from Lancaster and Lebanon counties, who didn't hear of the plans until late in the game, have been vocal in their preference for a woods left pretty much alone.

It's very depressing being a naturalist," Bill Knapp is saying.

"There's just no places left alone. They always have to 'improve' it."

Knapp, a shy, unassuming naturalist from outside Lititz, wants to save the 1,105 acres of woods along the Lancaster-Lebanon line commonly known as "Governor Dick."

So does Frank Eichler, of Elizabethtown, chairman of the trustees responsible for managing the woods that the late Mount Joy philanthropist Clarence Schock wanted preserved and used by the public.

But the two have a clash of visions.

In recent months, woods popular with both families and solitary nature-lovers has sparked a buzz saw of controversy over plans to build an environmental education center on the woods' edge.

Other contested ideas courted by trustees include logging, building more trails and restrooms, and a cell tower to raise operating funds.

Gov. Dick users from Lancaster and Lebanon counties, who didn't hear of the plans until late in the game, have been vocal in their preference for a woods left pretty much alone.

Leading the movement is Knapp, a reluctant environmental warrior. The 47-year-old has roamed Gov. Dick's boulder-pocked ridges and dark hollows at least once a week, year-round, for 10 years.

His family has visited the forest for 100 years. His great-great grandfather was one of Mount Gret-na's original cottage owners.

Most of the people who come to Gov. Dick march up a former narrow-gauge railroad grade to climb



AD CRABLE
OUTDOOR TRAILS



New Era photos by Ad Crable

Bill Knapp sadly inspects an opening carved out of the forest for a nature center at the "Governor Dick" woods.

dark woods. One memorable autumn day, he was on the observation tower and counted more than 600 broad-winged hawks migrating on the ridge in 20 minutes.

"The woods here have been pretty much left alone for most of the 20th century," he says. "I want to see 200-year-old trees. Well, not me, but future generations."

"What better place than here? I believe that was Schock's idea. He wanted to see the forest left alone."

Knapp and others groaned when a trustee at one public meeting said logging may be necessary to prevent trees from just falling down and rotting. Of course, a certain number of decomposing trees is precisely the formula for a healthy, old-growth forest ecosystem, others pointed out.

Knapp has a kindred spirit in Clyde McMillan-Gamber, a Lancaster County Parks naturalist who has been traipsing through Gov. Dick since 1954, when his parents bought a cottage in Mount Gret-na.

He'd slip through the woods, flushing ruffed grouse and peering at spotted salamanders in vernal ponds.

"I'd just like to see it left alone as it is," he says. "It gives an example of what an unbroken forest could look like. It's something unusual. If you do anything to improve it, it's no longer unique. It's like everywhere else."

"The most important thing is to preserve the aesthetics of the area and the reason people go to Gov. Dick, and that is to be surrounded by woods," says Cathy Choimeley-Jones, speaking for the Lancaster-based Muhlenberg Botanical Society, a native plant group.

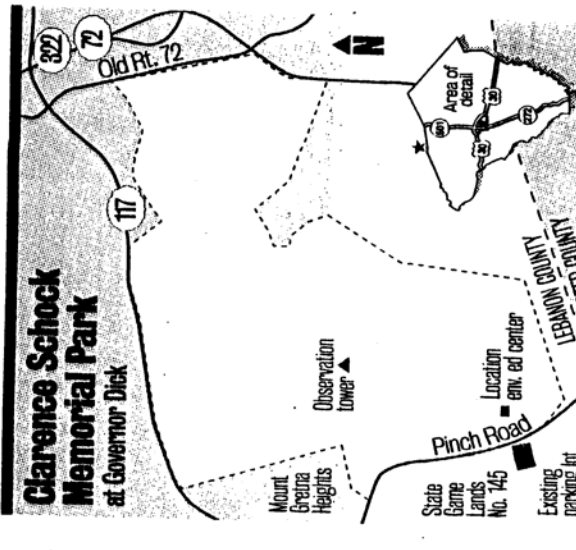
Word of the "improvements" to Gov. Dick reached the famed Hawk Mountain Sanctuary.

Eichler, who knew Schock, is a bit taken aback by all the outcry, which surfaced well after trustees had embarked on their project. And he says misleading and erroneous reports on the extent of changes at Gov. Dick have made their way into the newspapers.

"We're not going to ruin the area, I can guarantee you that," he says emphatically.

He has no doubt Schock would have embraced the environmental center.

Already, 4½ acres of woods have been cleared for the facility and plans are to have the log-cabin-type facility finished by the end of the year.



SOME BENEFITS OF TREE HUGGING AT GOVERNOR DICK

The headwaters of the Chiques Creek (@ 1/3 of the Governor Dick property and the least disturbed and most environmentally sensitive portion) has been designated as "important habitat" by a Pennsylvania county-by-county biological inventory. This will make it harder for the Governor Dick board of trustees to log or otherwise disturb this area. Opposition to the Governor Dick development and logging plan moved the biological inventory for Lebanon County up ahead of schedule so it could be completed before the board's planned disturbances could occur.

A cell phone tower was one board meeting away from being approved. The only discussion remaining was not IF a tower was appropriate, but how high it should be. Opponents contacting DCNR (who then expressed their own concerns about a tower) and the public opposition and media attention forced the board to quickly vote down the cell tower.

The board's logging plan was severely challenged by public opposition. The board originally claimed logging was necessary for a healthy forest (and needed as a revenue source). They then backed off admitting they didn't know what was best. Finally they said no more trees would be cut. Unfortunately logging is still possible as a future revenue source. Opposition also motivated DCNR to require stricter logging guidelines should more logging occur.

The building site was shrunk from 20 acres to under 5 acres. Because of opposition, DCNR personnel re-examined the site. This resulted in DCNR requiring the board to change plans for a seeded lawn surrounding the planned center to instead be planted with native trees and shrubs.

Phase Two of the development plan was dropped after several months of opposition. This phase was to include scattered restrooms and kiosks, new and wider trails, observation sites, bridges, and other unnecessary disturbances to the forest.

Because of the Governor Dick controversy, several local nature and farmland conservation organizations re-examined their own preserved properties to make sure their deeds did not have loopholes similar to those that plague the Governor Dick deed.

Public pressure also forced the "environmentally challenged" board to accept and incorporate advice from local and regional naturalists (both amateur & professional). Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, Pennsylvania's chapter of the Nature Conservancy, local bird and botany clubs, DCNR, and others contributed information and ideas about how best to protect the Governor Dick forest and how to minimize impact from the building site. Even the "puppet" committee set up by the board to appear cooperative turned out to in some ways be advocates for preserving the natural integrity of Governor Dick. The board is also under greater pressure to provide at least some staffing and public education for their so-called environmental education center, which was lacking in their original plan.

The Governor Dick controversy resulted in considerable environmental education of area residents, media, and policymakers. Opponents distributed information about issues such as forest fragmentation, cell tower threats to migratory birds, threats caused by new and wider trails, invasive species, the needs of deep forest species, mountain biking damage, and other forest-related issues. This was accomplished through the use of news releases and media coverage, editorials, holding informational meetings, speaking at Governor Dick trustee board meetings, a website, informational and activist brochures and factsheets, involving local college environmental groups, and many one-on-one conversations with local residents. References to the "Governor Dick controversy" have since been mentioned in news articles about similar controversies and was listed as one of the top local news stories in 2002 by the Lancaster Sunday News. It has even been included in the curriculum of a local college environmental sciences class.

Opposition focused public attention on Governor Dick and made the board realize that people care about the preservation of this forest (and are now watching the board's every move). It also provided considerable experience to those involved which can be used in similar battles, as well as for the continued protection of Governor Dick from a board that still doesn't understand the true value of this forest. The controversy may also serve as an example and/or inspiration to others who have similar battles to fight.

One last benefit - the Governor Dick Fiasco was time consuming, expensive, nerve shattering, and depressing. But it was also a very worthwhile and fulfilling effort.

DECISION ON THE ADOPTION OF THE FOREST STEWARDSHIP PLAN
PRESENTED BY FOREST REGENERATION SOURCES

The Governor Dick Board is prepared to make a decision on the adoption of the forest stewardship plan. The Board notes that such plans are mainly intended for smaller projects on private lands where the planner is dealing with a person, couple or a family and is dealing with narrower, fewer and specific decisions to be made on a plot of land. This is unlike the Governor Dick property which encompasses more than 1,100 acres and which involves a myriad and complexity of issues. The Board is troubled by making a land owners pledge that there will be a blanket acceptance of the recommendation in the plan and that the Board will make an honest effort to follow them for a ten year period covered by the plan.

However, the Board and the mountain are in need of a stewardship plan particularly with respect to long term conditions of the mountain. The process of determining the goals to be met within the plan and determining the author of the plan was open for discussion on numerous public meetings. Goals were decided upon by not only the Board but also the support group, neighbors and other outside parties. The selection of Barry Rose was done after a selection and interview process of many experts which were provided to us by Pennsylvania DCNR. The Board finds that the Rose plan was well researched, thought out and provides the Board with the framework of dealing with the varied matters relative to the mountain for years to come.

The Board has taken into consideration public comment to the Board at past meetings, written comments by interested parties, some of whom provided supplementary resource material and they were as follows:

1. Ellen Roane, Assistant District Forester, DCNR
2. Mark Deibler, District Forester, DCNR
3. Autumn Sabo, Botanist and Aura Stauffer, Wildlife Biologist, DCNR
4. Gene Fike, Chief of Ecological Services, DCNR
5. Paul Troutman, Forester, DCNR
6. John Ambler, Ph.D., Plant Physiology
7. Ron Laughlin, Associate Professor of Biology
8. Patricia Gibble, Ph.D.
9. Joan King, Muehlenberg Botanical Society
10. David Steckel, Senior Stewardship Planner, Natural Lands Trust
11. Bill Knapp
12. Robert Etcherger
13. Susan Wheeler, Audubon Society
14. Timothy Draude, Botanist
15. Lauri Goodrich, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary Association
16. Barry and Linda Rose, Forest Regeneration Services

17. Brian Arnold and Andrea Struphar, Support Committee
18. Chuck Allwein, Support Committee

The Board has not taken into consideration any letters to the Editor of any newspaper nor, at least for the purposes of this decision, the petition submitted at the last meeting, which letters and petition the Board believes have no probative value.

The Board has benefited from walks and verbal comments about ecology generally and as it relates to forest by Barry Rose, Tim Draude and Ron Laughlin.

The Board has benefited from discussions with other members of the support committee, including but not necessarily limited to, Drew Allwein, George Ruby, Ray Long, Leigh Beamesderfer and Dale Grundon.

Necessarily, the Board has taken into consideration the provisions within the Deed of Trust executed by Clarence Schock and the Order of Court entered by Judge Eby.

The Board believes that there is an even aged tree population within the mountain and that there is little understory growth to replenish the current even growth and aged tree stand. It is universally believed that the proliferation of deer and subsequent deer browsing on the mountain has eliminated most of the understory. There is a preliminary report to support that.

There is also a problem of invasive plant species having the potential to become prolific and crowding out the indigenous plant species. There appears to be two basic ways of dealing with this problem and that is by physically pulling or taking out the invasive plants or by subjecting them to herbicides, either topically and specifically or on a larger broadcast application basis.

Therefore, the two main areas of concern that the Board believes must be dealt with are the control of the deer population and the eradication of the invasive species. In addition, it is also clear that there is always a danger for future calamity, whether it is in the form of fire, wind, severe contamination of species of plants by cancerous or destructive predatory insects, mold, moths or similar catastrophic phenomena. Therefore, the Board believes that a plan must be implemented, at least for fungus, insects, predators, moths and the like so that other parts of the ecosystem can be spared and creation of a system of bio-diversity which would provide for a less than total destruction of the mountain. Absent the invasive plant problem and the understory problem it is clear that the forest is a gem and is a treasure as it has often been characterized – at least for the present generation of users. However, it is also clear that to provide only for the short term and for the present and to ignore the condition of the forest for future generations would be irresponsible if not immoral.

In the Boards view, the following matters require immediate and concentrated attention:

1. The Board believes that legal steps must be undertaken to control the size of the deer herd and thus the browsing and thus the elimination of the understory of trees. The Board has appealed to the Trustees, to wit; the County of Lebanon, and the Clarence Schock Foundation to permit this Board to change the rule of no hunting set forth in the Deed of Trust. Assuming permission is given, the Board will then seek guidance from the Pennsylvania Game Commission and other responsible agencies and experts as to how to effectively reduce the deer population in terms of seasons of the year, months, number of days, permitting and the means of eliminating the deer.

The Board believes that deer problem must be dealt with prior to fencing and cutting of timber at least in the near future so that after the hunt or hunts are completed and sufficient time passes to analyze and determine whether the understory problem is totally related to the deer population or not. So those portions of the Rose plan for fencing or cutting will not be implemented for the time being and for probably several years.

2. The Board believes that the eradication of the invasive species is also Co-paramount with the deer problem and that it should proceed on a common time track with the deer situation. Therefore there must be a determination of an effective, safe and non-damaging way to eradicate these invasive species.

The Board is not convinced that the application of herbicides, per se, represents a threat to the ecosystem. The Board believes that herbicides of the right chemicals and strengths and a careful application of the same can be effective and safe. The Board, however, is not comfortable with the current information available to it that a broadcast application would be safe and unharmed to the environment and therefore the Board will not permit broadcast application at the present time, with the exception of perhaps the two pre Board cutting areas around the tower.

The Board believes that the most effective and safe way to eradicate the invasive plants would be for people to go onto the mountain and actually physically pull out or remove the plants. The Board understands that this is a time consuming and difficult project and requires the efforts of many people to accomplish the same. Although there is an active support committee that has helped in the past to deal with invasive species, many more people are needed to eradicate invasive species in this manner.

Although the Board did not take into consideration the petition presented to the Board at last months meeting for the purposes of plan adoption, the Board is impressed that hundreds of people are interested in the mountain. It would be extremely helpful if many of these people would agree to help out and volunteer with invasive species eradication.

If the efforts to eliminate the invasive species by volunteer help is not possible,

then the Board believes that some kind of herbicide application must be undertaken to eradicate the invasive species. The Board believes that this would be of a very specific and topical application directly onto the plants or by some kind of spraying less than a broadcast type spraying.

The Board is determined to create committees within the support group and to invite as many additional people as are interested onto the committees. Several of the committees to be formed would deal with trail maintenance, invasive species, tree planting, ecology, public education and overall forest management. The Board recognizes it needs help and needs all of the volunteers it can encourage. The Board believes it would be beneficial if the energies spent by some of the members of the community could be directed to actually helping out on the mountain and that many of the concerns and fears would be abated. Quite frankly, it is one thing to write a letter to the editor, sign a petition and even show up to a meeting. It is another thing to actually show up and do the required work and the Board welcomes those volunteers. It seems to the Board that if people truly love the mountain, that they would be willing to give something to it.

The Board further strongly believes that before any project set forth in the Rose plan would be undertaken, that the Board should announce the proposed action at a public meeting and would refer it to the appropriate committee for feedback and comment. The Board should also refer the same to interested specialists for feedback and comment before a final decision would be made.

Therefore the Board believes that the plan would be accepted as amended set forth herein and as may be further amended in the future, utilizing the process set forth in the preceding paragraph. After the motion and vote is taken on the foregoing, Board members will note their comments on other specific matters within the plan and plan priority.

It is appropriate then to make a decision on the plan.

Purpose:

- few people know about plans for Gov. Dick
- trustees held a public meeting 2 years ago
(gave very little notice/publicity about meeting)
- In January, opponents asked for a new public meeting
 - trustees turned the idea down, said it's a done deal
 - so we're having one of our own

As it stands now:

- Trustees are going ahead with their plans
- This (see plan) is the plan as approved by the board of directors, Leb. Co. Commissioners, & DCNR
- Trustees making contradictory statements, denying portions of their plan, and accusing opponents of exaggerating and newspapers of erroneous reporting
(but it's all in their already approved plan)

The PLAN includes:

- Logging/Timber Management
- Environmental Education Center (on 4 acres)
parking for 25 cars, storage shed, septic system, pond
- Increasing field/open areas
- New Trail System
 - 1)Footpaths - portions filled in with stone
 - 2)Multi-Use - for horses & bikes
-6 to 10 feet wide (14' high & 12' wide clearances)
(all tree branches removed)
-new trail surfaces (turf)
 - 3)ADA Accessible Trails
-minimum 6 feet wide (10' high & 12' wide clearances)
-asphalt or compacted sand
 - 4)Connecting Trail to neighboring properties
 - 5)Chiques Creek Nature Trail with bridge/boardwalk
- Bicycle Races
- Group Camping (tents) - radar station site
- Outdoor Classroom/Amphitheater

The trustees are now saying:

- Voted NO cell phone tower, but won't rule one out later
- Won't rule out logging, continue to defend it as necessary
- Originally planned on environmentally friendly composting toilets
(like are used at Hawk Mt.) but went with septic system instead
- Are denying ever considering new trails even as they discuss connecting trails, new trails, new observation overlooks, and widening & re-surfacing trails.
- And they say there is very little opposition (just a vocal minority)

Why we are opposed:

- building (classroom space) unnecessary, unwanted, expensive, ineffectual as an educational tool, and destroys habitat
- building site contributes to forest fragmentation, which will negatively impact wildlife deep into the forest
- Aesthetics (building, logging, cell phone tower, and so-called improvements)
- Cell phone towers kill migrating songbirds & contributes to forest fragmentation
- Logging, new trails, etc. bad for wildlife
- Money could be better spent
- (I just don't like Eichler!)

Tell everyone how they can speak out

Tim Orade, president
Muhlenberg Botanical Society

(Timothy P. Orade)
393 7233

- recognized for creating + maintaining native wildflower meadow in Lancaster County Central Park using seeds from locally growing wildflowers

Nature center plans opposed

Residents say park facility isn't needed

BY TOM BOWMAN
OF OUR LEBANON BUREAU

MOUNT GRETNA — A crowd of 70 or more residents from Lebanon and Lancaster counties told Governor Dick Park trustees last night that they oppose the trustees' plans to build an education center on the 1,105-acre nature preserve just south of here.

Trustee Chairman Frank Eichler said the board rejected plans to build a 200-foot cellular

telephone tower near the 70-foot observation tower on top of the mountain.

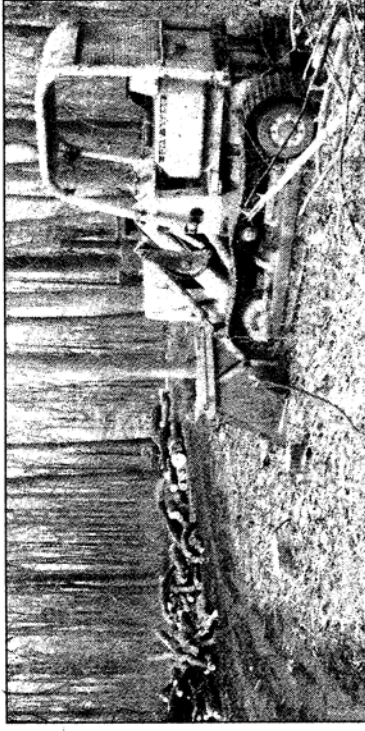
But the trustees refused to reconsider their plans or their previous approval for the \$240,000 education center, with construction set to begin by summer.

During the meeting, residents argued that the center is not needed because there are similar centers in the area, the closest at Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area near Klein-

feltersville. They also said the idea of the center goes against the intent of Clarence Schock, who set aside the wooded area for the public and created the trust to maintain it.

Some said the unbroken woodland — a rarity in southeastern Pennsylvania — would be harmed by building the nature center.

Outside the meeting room, 30 or more people talked about su-



CHRIS KNIGHT / OF THE PATRIOT-NEWS / 2002

Construction crews carved an access road through Governor Dick Park in West Cornwall Twp. in January. Critics say logging for various projects encourages predators and makes it difficult for songbirds to nest.

See **PARK** / Page B8

Gov. Dick plan OK'd

Protests won't stop building

By ERIC LADLEY
Staff Writer

QUENTIN — Trustees for the Governor Dick recreation area voted unanimously last night to find a company to construct an education center in the park, even after several residents voiced vehement opposition to building on the land.

In addition to an education center with classrooms and lodging for a caretaker, the trustees also discussed logging on a portion of the 1,150 acres land at Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick.

About 70 people attended the trustees' meeting in the West Cornwall Township municipal building. Some, like 38-year-old Paul Sellers of Spring Hill Acres, said the park land just outside of Mt. Gretna should remain undisturbed.

"I believe Clarence Schock and his wife (who provided the land for the park) would roll over in their graves if they knew this land was being bastardized by a nature center," said Sellers, who hikes on the land. "Let nature do what it does best and leave it undisturbed."

Mark Stanavage, 36, of Manheim Township questioned why a nature center

(PROTESTS, page 5A)

Protests won't halt park work

(From page 1A)

was needed when there is one at the Middle Creek Wildlife Management Area that straddles Lebanon and Lancaster counties.

However, Leah Beamesderfer, a forester for Lebanon County, said an environmental education center is needed in the county.

The board voted to allow the project's engineer to put out bids for a construction company to build the center.

The late Clarence and Evetta Schock established the SICO Foundation to fund the upkeep of park, which it has been doing since 1953. Schock, the founder of SICO Oil Co., stipulated that owners of the property must be a public entity, such as a local government body or school board.

Officials said Schock's will allowed for a nature center and stipulated a playground also could be built there. A 66-foot tower is at the top of a hill in the park.

The Donegal School District in Lancaster County decided to give up trusteeship in 1997, and Lebanon County struck a deal with

SICO in 1998 to turn the park into the first county-run land for passive recreation. Both entities have three people on a board that oversees the park.

Plans for the environmental center were first unveiled in June 2000 at a public meeting at the Mt. Gretna fire hall. About \$450,000 in state grant money is available for the park, board member David Eichler said.

Ray Bender, a member of the board that operates the land, said the time to stall the project had passed. The board decided to go forward with the proposal almost two years ago, at which time public comment was sought, Bender said.

"People knew about it," he said. "When there were hearings on the grant, people had time to speak out. ... At this stage, it's counterproductive."

Jeff Steckbeck, an engineering consultant for the board, said a plan to develop the land has been completed and sent to the county. The plan calls for an education center, a driveway and a 25-car parking lot that would disturb about four acres of land off Pinch Road.

Board member David Eichler said after the meeting that letters to the editor in two Lancaster newspapers stirred people up about the issue. Land has already been cleared for the center, Eichler said, adding that the board is considering logging at some point to help manage the forest.

Steckbeck also discussed a second phase of the project, which would include walking trails, information kiosks and restroom facilities. There is no funding available yet for that phase, he said.

After comments from the public, a group of some 20 people gathered outside the township building to discuss how to oppose the plan further. Their plans included going door-to-door with a petition and possibly filing an injunction. Bill Knapp, 42, of Lititz said he wanted to circulate a petition in Mt. Gretna.

In other business, board members decided they did not want a cell tower at the park. Some proposals had been made and no formal offer was on the table, but several members said the tower would not be a wise investment.

PARK/\$400,000 grant to pay for center

From Page B1

ing the trustees to stop them from building the center. Most said they were disgusted by the trustees' attitude toward the public.

"They are running this meeting in a typical way," said a woman outside the meeting who asked not to be named. "They are limiting debate, limiting discussion and blaming the newspaper."

Eichler told the overflow crowd jammed into a small West Cornwall Twp. municipal meeting room that no one opposed trustee plans to build the education center at a public meeting in June 2000.

"Someone decided to stir things up, that's why we are here tonight," Eichler said.

Eichler limited comments from the crowd to 30 minutes.

Schock built a seven-story

house on top of the mountain. That house was destroyed by vandals sometime in the 1960s, Eichler said. The house could have been used for a nature center. "We wouldn't have to build [the center] if someone hadn't torn it down," Eichler said.

Jeff Steckbeck, a civil engineer, told the trustees that plans for the education center should be approved at West Cornwall Twp.'s meeting next month. They call for building a parking lot for 25 cars, a storm water retention pond and a sand mound for on-site sewage.

Steckbeck said four acres of land would be used for building the center, including a 700-foot-long access road leading from Pinch Road east to the center.

Logging for that road started last month.

The trustees received a \$400,000 state grant to pay for the education center. That grant expires in July but can be extended six months.

The Governor Dick park, named for a slave who worked in the area as a charcoal burner, is a wooded recreation area used by hikers and bikers.

Schock was the founder of Sico Co., the Lancaster County fuel oil company. He died in 1955.

From 1953 to 1998, Mount Joy School District, later renamed Donegal School District, was the sole trustee. In 1998, Lebanon County and the Sico Foundation, a philanthropic group, took over the trust, with each group seating three representatives as trustees.

Tom Bowman may be reached at 272-3759 or tbowman@patriot-news.com.

'Friends' take case to county



Gordon Oliver / Lebanon Daily News

Members of the Canine Rescue Task Force of Philadelphia, Michele Verrall (in black) and Bob Will (in orange), greet (from left) Pittsburgh Air, Search and Rescue members (from left) Kathi and Bob Patterson and Jackie Walker yesterday at Governor Dick. The teams met at the West Cornwall park for training. Friends of Governor Dick presented the county commissioners with a petition this week objecting to the development of the park.

'Please leave Gov. Dick wild for us'

By JOHN LATIMER
Staff Writer

Four representatives of the recently formed Friends of Governor Dick organization presented the county commissioners this week with a petition containing more than 600 signatures of people opposing development of 1,150 acres of woodland near Mt. Gretna in West Cornwall Township.

The commissioners, together with three members from the board of the Mt. Joy-based SICO Foundation, are trustees of the Clarence Schock Memorial Park at Governor Dick. The park was created in 1953 by Schock, founder of SICO oil company.

For the past several years, the park's board of directors, under authority of the trustees, has been creating plans to develop the park using a \$500,000 state grant.

The plans include build-
(‘FRIENDS’, page 4A)

THIS DEED, Made this 7th day of April in the year nineteen hundred and thirty-seven (1937).

BETWEEN The Farmers National Bank, of Lititz, Pennsylvania, a corporation organized and existing under the laws of the United States, of the first part, (hereinafter called the Grantor) and Clarence Schock, of the Borough of Mount Joy, County of Lancaster and State of Pennsylvania, of the second part, (hereinafter called the Grantee).

WITNESSETH, That in consideration of One Hundred (\$100.00) Dollars, in hand paid, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, the said Grantor does hereby grant and convey to the said Grantee his heirs and assigns.

ALL THOSE THREE CERTAIN lots or pieces of ground, situate near Mount Gretna, on the South side of Pennsylvania State Highway Route Number 376, leading from Lebanon to Mount Gretna, in West Cornwall Township, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, known and designated as Lots Nos. 5, 10 and 32 on the Plan of La Crest, as laid out by N. B. Leaman, and bounded and described as follows, to wit:

Lot No. 5 CONTAINING in front on the South side of said State Highway, eighty feet and extending in depth of that width Southwardly, two hundred feet to Leaman Avenue.

BOUNDED on the North by Pennsylvania State Highway; on the East by Orange Street; on the South by Leaman Avenue; and on the West by Lot No. 4.

Lot No. 10. CONTAINING in front on the South side of said State Highway eighty feet and extending in depth of that width Southwardly two hundred feet to Leaman Avenue.

BOUNDED on the North by said State Highway; on the East by Pear Street; on the South by Leaman Avenue; and on the West by Lot No. 9.

LOT No. 32. CONTAINING in front on the South side of said State Highway, eighty feet and extending in depth of that width Southwardly two hundred feet to Leaman Avenue.

BOUNDED on the North by said State Highway; on the East by Doe Street; on the South by Leaman Avenue; and on the West by Lot No. 31.

BEING THE SAME premises which Albert R. Leaman, divorced, by his Deed of Indenture dated December 17th, 1936, and intended for record in the Office of the Recorder of Deeds in and for Lebanon County, granted and conveyed unto The Farmers National Bank, of Lititz, Pennsylvania, Grantor herein, its successors and assigns.

TOGETHER WITH the right for the Grantee, his heirs and assigns, to use in common with others entitled thereto Leaman Avenue (50 feet wide) as laid out on the said Plan in rear of Lots Nos. 1 to 57 inclusive, as well as the Streets leading Northward therefrom to said State Highway.

UNDER AND SUBJECT to all the rights, privileges and reservations as are contained in the Deed from Ellen C. Schnerer and M. Ada Schnerer to Nathaniel B. Leaman, dated September 22, A. D. 1925 and recorded in the Recorder's Office at Lebanon, Pennsylvania, in Deed Book H, Volume 6, at Page 154.

UNDER AND SUBJECT to the express condition that no building or structure of any kind shall ever be built or erected nearer to the South line of the State Highway than thirty feet.

THIS DEED is made in pursuance of a resolution of the Board of Directors of The Farmers National Bank of Lititz, Pennsylvania, at a regular meeting held on the 22 day of March A.D. 1937, authorizing the sale of the herein conveyed premises by the Bank to Clarence Schock, at and for the sum of One Hundred Dollars (\$100.00), and directing the President and Secretary of the said Bank to execute and deliver a deed for the same.

The said Grantor covenants that it will warrant specially the property hereby conveyed.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the said Corporation has caused these presents to be executed and its common or corporate seal hereto affixed.

ATTEST:
(Corporate Seal)

P. H. Bomberger, Secretary

THE FARMERS NATIONAL BANK OF LITITZ,
PENNSYLVANIA

By H. J. Pierson, President

State of Pennsylvania, County of Lancaster, SS:

On this 7 day of April A.D. 1937, before me the subscriber, a Notary Public in and for said County and State, personally appeared P. H. Bomberger, Secretary of the said The Farmers National Bank of Lititz, Pennsylvania, who being duly affirmed according to law, says, that he was personally present at the execution of the above Indenture and saw the common or corporate seal of the said Corporation duly affixed thereto; that the seal so affixed thereto is the common or corporate seal of the said Corporation; that the above Indenture was duly sealed and delivered by H. J. Pierson, President of the said corporation, as and for the act and deed of the said Corporation, for the uses and purposes therein mentioned, and that the names of this deponent as Secretary and of H. J. Pierson as President of the said Corporation, subscribed to the above Indenture in attestation of its due execution and delivery, are of their and each of their respective handwritings.

P. H. Bomberger, Secretary

Sworn and subscribed before me the day and year aforesaid. Witness my hand and seal.

J. B. Herr, Notary Public

(Notarial Seal)

Commission Expires Jan. 17, 1939

I hereby certify that the precise residence of the within grantee is Mt. Joy Boro., Lancaster Co., Pa.

THIS INDENTURE, Made the 27th day of August in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fifty-three (1953). BETWEEN Clarence Schock and Evetta J. Schock, his wife, of the Borough of Mt. Joy, County of Lancaster and State of Pennsylvania, parties of the first part, (hereinafter called the Grantors), and The School District Of The Borough Of Mt. Joy, County of Lancaster and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, party of the second part, (hereinafter called the Grantee). WITNESSETH, That the said Grantors for and in consideration of the sum of One Dollar (\$1.00), lawful money of the United States of America, unto them well and truly paid by the said Grantee at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, have granted, bargained, sold, aliened, enfeoffed, released and confirmed, and by these presents do grant, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoff, release and confirm unto the said Grantee, its successors and Assigns, IN TRUST, nevertheless, for the purposes herein set forth.

ALL THAT CERTAIN tract of land on which is erected a towerhouse near the summit of a point known as Governor Dick, situated in West Cornwall Township, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, bounded and described according to a survey or plan thereof made by T. J. Humphreys, Engineer and Surveyor, assisted by Henry H. Koser, R. S., dated April 15, 1936, copied and revised by Walter Greiner, and redated February 19, 1953, as follows, namely:

BEGINNING at the southwest corner thereof at an iron pin, said iron pin being slightly east of Legislative Route No. 38061 (known as the Pinch Hill Road); thence along and in said road, north forty-nine degrees and eight minutes west, six hundred thirty-two feet to an iron pin; thence north thirty-one degrees twenty-nine minutes west, three hundred four feet to an iron pin; thence north thirty-one degrees twenty-nine minutes west, three hundred twenty-seven feet to an iron pin; thence north twenty degrees twenty minutes west, seven hundred thirty-six and three tenths feet to a point in said road; thence continuing on said road the eight following courses and distances: (1) north eight degrees twenty-seven minutes west, three hundred ninety-three and four tenths feet to a point, (2) north ten degrees twenty-nine minutes west, two hundred ninety-three and six tenths feet to a point, (3) north seven degrees thirty minutes west, three hundred sixty-two and nine tenths feet to a point, (4) north six degrees seven minutes west, five hundred thirty-nine and four-tenths feet to a point, (5) north ten degrees forty-four minutes west, two hundred five and nine tenths feet to a point, (6) north twenty-one degrees fifty-three minutes west, three hundred sixty-two feet to a point, (7) north forty-two degrees fifty-one minutes west, one hundred sixty-one and seven tenths feet to a point, (8) north fifty-four degrees thirty-one minutes west, one hundred forty-five feet to an iron pin in the northeast side of said Pinch Hill Road; thence along said road north sixty-seven degrees five minutes west, three hundred seventy-four feet to an iron pin; thence leaving said road, by land known as Mt. Gretna Heights, north thirty degrees forty-nine minutes east, three hundred seventy-four and eight tenths feet to an iron pin; thence north seventy-seven degrees thirty-four minutes east, nine hundred eleven and two tenths feet to an iron pin; thence by a line crossing a sand stone, north fifteen degrees and forty-six minutes west, fourteen hundred fifty-nine feet to an iron pin; thence north thirteen degrees thirty-one minutes west, twenty-one hundred ninety feet to an iron pin on the northern side of State Highway Route No. 117; thence by a line curving toward the south, with a radius of twelve hundred ninety-nine feet, a distance of two hundred ninety-one and eight-tenths feet to a point; thence north seventy-one degrees eight minutes east, one thousand eight and two tenths feet to a point; thence by a line curving toward the south, with a radius of nineteen hundred thirty-five feet, a distance of three hundred fifty-five and seven tenths feet to a point; thence north eighty degrees fifty minutes east, eleven hundred seventy-two and six tenths feet to a point; thence by a line curving toward the south, with a radius of eighty-two hundred and ten feet, a distance of one hundred feet; thence north eighty-one degrees thirty-two minutes east, two hundred four feet to a point; thence by a line curving toward the north with a radius of twenty-eight hundred and forty feet, a distance of four hundred seventy feet to a point; north seventy-two degrees eight minutes east, five hundred fifty-five feet to a point; thence by a line curving

February 6-1959: Deed of Trust. See Deed Book G-9-147 April 7-1959 Certified Return & Deeds. See Note F-3-173

toward the south, with a radius of nine hundred eighty and four tenths feet, a distance of three hundred thirty-one feet to a point; south eighty-eight degrees twenty-seven minutes east, three hundred sixty-seven feet to a point; thence by a line curving toward the north, with a radius of nineteen hundred and thirty-five feet, a distance of one hundred eight and one tenth feet to an iron pin; thence crossing said State Highway Route No. 117, by lands of the W. C. Freeman Estate, south thirty-one degrees twenty-six minutes east, nine hundred thirty-four feet to an iron pin; thence north seventy-two degrees forty-two minutes east, one hundred thirty-two feet to an iron pin; north fifty-six degrees forty-two minutes east, two hundred sixty-five and six tenths feet to an iron pin; thence north fifty-seven degrees forty-two minutes east, two hundred ninety-four feet to an iron pin; thence north sixty-three degrees forty-seven minutes east, three hundred forty-five and five tenths feet to an iron pin; thence north eighty-six degrees twenty-seven minutes east, two hundred seventeen feet to an iron pin; thence south sixty-nine degrees and twenty-four minutes east, seven hundred twenty-one and one tenth feet to an iron pin; thence north sixty-four degrees thirteen minutes east, seven hundred forty-two feet to an iron pin; thence north fifty-three degrees forty-three minutes east, three hundred eighty-six and one tenth feet to an iron pin; thence and north forty degrees thirteen minutes east, two hundred eight and seven tenths feet to a spike in State Highway Route No. 72; thence south eight degrees twenty-two minutes east, five hundred twenty-three feet to an iron pin in said State Highway; thence leaving said State Highway, by lands of The Grubb Estate, south fifty-four degrees fifty-one minutes west, seven hundred thirty-one feet to an iron pin; thence south sixty-four degrees thirty-three minutes west, six hundred nineteen and five tenths feet to an iron pin; thence south forty-one degrees fifty minutes east, two thousand one hundred eighty-six and two tenths feet to an iron pin in the eastern side of said State Highway Route No. 72; thence in and along said Highway the following five courses and distances: (1) south seven degrees thirty-seven minutes west, three hundred fifty-one and five tenths feet to a point marked with a spike, (2) south thirty-five degrees thirty-one minutes west, four hundred twenty-seven and three tenths feet to a point marked with a spike, (3) south thirty-nine degrees fifty-five minutes west, two hundred seventy-seven and two tenths feet to a point marked with a spike, (4) south fourteen degrees forty-two minutes west, one hundred eighty-four and eight tenths feet to a point marked with a spike, (5) south four degrees fifty-eight minutes west, eight hundred fifty-one and four tenths feet to an iron pin at a post, (said pin being on the western side of said State Highway Route No. 72, a short distance northwest of The Overbrook Inn; thence by other land of The Grubb Estate, north sixty-six degrees twenty-five minutes west, twenty-two hundred twelve and three tenths feet to an iron pin; thence north thirty-three degrees forty-three minutes west, eight hundred eighty feet to an iron pin; thence south fifty-seven degrees seventeen minutes west, five hundred feet to an iron pin; thence south sixty-seven degrees seventeen minutes west, three hundred eighty-one feet to an iron pin; thence south one degree seventeen minutes west, three hundred thirty and five tenths feet to an iron pin; thence south eighty-six degrees forty-three minutes east, two hundred ten and five tenths feet to an iron pin; thence south thirty-seven degrees eight minutes east, four hundred sixty-four and eight tenths feet to an iron pin; thence south eighteen degrees eight minutes east, nine hundred twenty-six and six tenths feet to an iron pin; thence by land now or late of W. F. Hull, south thirty-six degrees forty-two minutes west, two thousand seventy and six tenths feet to an iron pin; thence south eleven degrees forty-two minutes west, one thousand nine hundred feet to an iron pin; thence by land now or late of Arthur O. Boyd, south seventy-one degrees two minutes west, two thousand five hundred ten feet to the first mentioned point and place of beginning.

CONTAINING one thousand one hundred five acres and thirty-two and one hundredth perches of land, be the same more or less, according to survey of T. J. Humphreys, C. E. as of April 15, 1936, revised as aforesaid.

BEING composed of four tracts of land: ONE PART THEREOF BEING the same premises which Henry H. Koser and wife, by their Indenture dated September 18, 1934, and recorded in the Recorder's Office at Lebanon, Pennsylvania, in Deed Book D, Volume 7, Page 19, granted, conveyed and confirmed unto Clarence Schock, the Grantor above named, his heirs and assigns forever; the second part thereof being the same premises which Henry H. Koser and wife, by their Indenture dated December 17, 1934, and recorded in the Recorder's Office at Lebanon, Pennsylvania, in Deed Book C, Volume 7,

Page 17, granted, conveyed and confirmed unto Clarence Schock, the Grantor above named, his heirs and assigns forever; The Third Part Thereof Being the same premises which The Farmers National Bank of Lititz, Pennsylvania, by their Indenture dated April 7, 1937, here produced and intended to be recorded, granted, conveyed and confirmed unto Clarence Schock, Grantor above named, his heirs and assigns forever; and THE FOURTH PART THEREOF BEING the same premises which The Bethlehem in Cuba Iron Mines Company, by their Indenture dated December 30, 1940 and recorded in the Recorder's Office at Lebanon, Pennsylvania, in Deed Book R, Volume 7, Page 217, granted, conveyed and confirmed unto Clarence Schock, Grantor above named, his heirs and assigns forever.

TOGETHER with all and singular the buildings, improvements, Streets, Alleys, Passages, Ways, Waters, Water-Courses, Rights, Liberties, Privileges, Hereditaments and Appurtenances, whatsoever thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining, and the Reversions and Remainders, Rents, Issues and Profits thereof; and all the estate, right, title, interest, property, claim and demand whatsoever, of them the said Grantors, in law, equity, or otherwise howsoever, of, in, and to the same and every part thereof.

~~TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the tract of land above described with the appurtenances IN TRUST forever as a playground and public park, upon the following terms and conditions:~~

The portion thereof which is now forest or woodland shall be maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland and where possible additional portions shall be planted as forest and woodland; Hunting and shooting and the smoking of cigars, cigarettes, pipes and tobacco shall be prohibited at all times upon the land hereby conveyed; the land shall be posted with notices at least once each year forbidding hunting and shooting, and appropriate notices shall be maintained forbidding the smoking of cigars, cigarettes, pipes and tobacco upon the land;

The trust shall be for the enjoyment of persons traveling on foot; and no automobile, vehicle or mobile machinery shall be allowed to move or travel upon roads on the land hereby conveyed except upon the business of the trust or with the written permission of the trustee or upon such public roads as may hereafter be built by state or local authority;

The present Tower House and other portions of the land may be used and occupied without rent or charge by a caretaker or caretakers of the land;

The trustee shall have the right to make, amend, alter and repeal regulations for the administration control and public use of the trust property;

The trustee shall not be required to use public or school funds to maintain the trust property but shall have the power to receive and apply funds entrusted to it for the purposes of this grant; and

In the event The School District of The Borough of Mt. Joy, resigns or is unable or unwilling to serve as trustee of this trust, preference shall be given in the appointment of a successor or successors to other school districts or similar public authorities located near the lands hereby conveyed.

AND the said Grantors, for themselves and their respective heirs Do by these presents, covenant, grant and agree, to and with the said Grantee, its successors and Assigns, that they, the said Grantors and their heirs all and singular the Hereditaments and Premises herein above described and granted, or mentioned and intended so to be, with the Appurtenances, unto the said Grantors and their heirs and Assigns, against them the said Grantors and against all and every Person or Persons whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the same or any part thereof, by, from, or under him, her, them, or any of them, Shall and Will Warrant and forever Defend.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties of the first part, Grantors, have hereunto set their hands and seals. Dated the day and year first above written.

Sealed and Delivered in the Presence of Us:

Anna E. Leaman

Anna Mae Snader

Clarence Schock

Evetta J. Schock

(Seal)

(Seal)

No consideration in this Deed, therefore no Federal Stamps are required.

The highest assessed valuation in this transaction is \$18,000.00.

Albert D. Seien, Pres.

Mount Joy Borough School Board

State Stamps: \$180.00 4-22-54

RECEIVED, the day of the date of the above Indenture, of the above-named Grantee the full consideration for the within conveyance.

Clarence Schock

Evetta J. Schock

(Seal)

(Seal)

ON THE 27th day of August Anno Domini 1953, before me personally appeared the above-named Clarence Schock and Evetta J. Schock and in due form of law acknowledged the above Indenture to be their act and deed, and desired the same might be recorded as such.

WITNESS my hand and Notarial seal the day and year aforesaid.

Annie C. Blensinger, Notary Public

My Commission Expires Jan. 26-57

(Notarial Seal)

The residence of the within-named Grantee is Mount Joy, Pa.

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY OF LEBANON SS:

ON THIS, the 25th day of March, 1959, before me, a Notary Public in and for said Commonwealth and County, the undersigned officer, personally appeared Anna Zocco, Mary Kass, Elizabeth Deangelo, Adam Birli, Emma Birli, Judith Ann Birli and John Birli, known to me (or satisfactorily proven) to be the persons whose names are subscribed to the within Release and acknowledged that they executed the same for the purpose therein contained.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal.

(NOTARIAL SEAL)

Jane Pompia, Notary Public
My commission expires January 10, 1961
Lebanon, Lebanon Co., Pa.

RECORDED MARCH 25, 1959

SALLIE McK. HARTMAN, RECORDER

CERTIFIED PETITION AND DECREE IN THE ORPHANS' COURT OF LANCASTER COUNTY, Pa.

IN RE: InterVivos Trust or "Governor Dick" property in West Cornwall Township, Lebanon County, Pa, for Publicpark and playground purposes under deed from Clarence Schock and Evetta J. Schock. No.43 of 1959.

Petition for leave to lease Trust Real Estate

and to grant Easements thereon in contravention of terms of Deed of Trust

TO THE HONORABLE, THE PRESIDENT JUDGE OF SAID COURT:

The petition of Donegal Union School District (of Mount Joy R. D. #1, Lancaster County, Pa.)

Respectfully Represents:

1. By decree entered January 12, 1959, your Honorable Court appointed petitioner successor trustee (in place of the School District of the Borough of Mount Joy, original trustee) of a tract of 1105 Acres and 32.01 Perches of mountain woodland in West Cornwall Township, Lebanon County, Pa. under the Deed of Trust from Clarence Schock and Evetta J. Schock, dated August 27, 1953, recorded in the Recorder's Office of Lebanon County, Pa., in Deed Book J, Volume 9, page 609, A true copy of said deed (except for a portion of the long description, and the appended receipt and acknowledgment forms, which are unnecessary for the purposes of this petition, and are omitted for sake of brevity) is attached hereto and made part hereof as "Exhibit A".

2. The land conveyed by the aforementioned Deed of Trust was subjected by the Deed of Trust to the following conditions:

"To have and to hold the tract of land above described with the appurtenances in trust forever as a playground and public park, upon the following terms and conditions.

"The portion thereof which is now forest or woodland shall be maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland and where possible additional portions shall be planted as forest and woodland;

"Hunting and shooting and the smoking of cigars, cigarettes, pipes and tobacco shall be prohibited at all times upon the land hereby conveyed; the land shall be posted with notices at least once each year forbidding hunting and shooting, and appropriate notices shall be maintained forbidding the smoking of cigars, cigarettes, pipes and tobacco upon the land.

"The trust shall be for the enjoyment of persons traveling on foot; and no automobile, vehicle or mobile machinery shall be allowed to move or travel upon the roads on the land hereby conveyed except upon the business of the trust or with the written permission of the trustee or upon such public roads as may hereafter be built by state or local authority;

"The present Tower House and other portions of the land may be used and occupied without rent or charge by a caretaker or caretakers of the land;"

3. The United States of America (through the Department of the Army) has notified petitioner of its intention to locate a radar station on the top of "Governor Dick" Mountain, on the land which is the subject of the aforementioned Deed of Trust, as part of the chain of radar stations being erected by the Government in the interests of the national defense, to give warning of possible enemy aircraft or missiles. The Government has notified petitioner that it will require the use of an area of approximately three acres, together with well site and an access road and right of way for construction either by itself or by Metropolitan Edison Company of water and electric power lines to service the radar station, and together with the right to cut and remove trees in connection with such access road and utility rights-of-way and to afford and unobstructed "View" by the radar installation.

4. The United States of America has the power of eminent domain, which is paramount to the restrictions on the use of the property imposed under said Deed of Trust; and it has informed petitioner that it will exercise this power of eminent domain for aquisition of the site for the radar station well, and necessary easements, in fee simple, unless petitioner will grant it the use of the necessary land, and will grant it and/or Metropolitan Edison Company necessary easements in connection therewith, on the basis of a twenty-five year lease and easement agreement/s with rights of renewal for further terms, at the option of the Government.

5. The uses proposed by the Government will not be permitted by the terms of the Deed of Trust, and will be in violation thereof; but petitioner believes that the purposes of the trust will better be served by permitting a temporary violation of the terms of the trust during such period as the Government may feel the need of the proposed radar station in the interests of national defense, than by having the Government condemn the desired site in fee simple, and thus have it permanently lost to the trust administration, and have a permanent "island" in the middle of the large tract of trust playground and forest preserve, freed from the trust restrictions which might prove exceedingly injurious to the scheme of the donors of the trust to have a large contiguous body of unspoiled woodland for public recreation in the enjoyment of nature. Even if the Government were to abandon this radar installation at some future time, and if it were to dispose of any site which it might acquire in fee simple, as surplus property, there would be no assurance that petitioner could re-acquire it.

6. Petitioner desires to assist the Federal Government in its effort for the national defense, and as the lesser of two evils so far as the trust purposes are concerned, it desires permission to enter into such lease and right-of-way agreements as will be necessary to satisfy the needs of the Government and of its electric utility supplier short of their exercising the power of eminent domain.

7. Jurisdiction over this trust is vested in the Orphans' Court of Lancaster County, notwithstanding the fact that the real estate of the trust is in Lebanon County, under provisions of Sections 306 and 308 of the Orphans' Court Act of 1951 (20 PS 2080.306 and .308) inasmuch as the settlors

were domiciled at the time of the trust deed and also at the times of their deaths in Lancaster County, and Letters Testamentary on both their estates have been granted in Lancaster County.

8. A Copy of notice to the Attorney General of the intended presentation of this petition is hereto attached, accompanied by proof of certified mail service thereof.

WHEREFORE, petitioner respectfully prays your Honorable Court to give its permission, pursuant to the provisions of Section 963 of the Fiduciaries Act of 1949 (20 PS 320.963) to lease to the United States of America such tract as the latter may determine that it requires on "Governor Dick" Mountain, on the trust real estate, for its said proposed radar station and well together with such rights-of-way, rights to trim and cut trees, and other rights incidental to the construction and efficient operation of said station as the Government may require, and to grant to Metropolitan Edison Company such electric line rights-of-way and rights to remove and trim trees as may be necessary to provide electric service for said radar station, at such location and under such conditions as petitioner and said electric company may agree upon as causing least injury to the trust purposes; said lease, rights-of-way and other privileges to be granted by petitioner for such valuable or nominal consideration, or "in consideration of the public welfare", for such terms of years, with such renewal options in the Government or said utility company, and subject to such other terms and conditions as may be agreed upon between petitioner and the United States of America and Metropolitan Edison Company, respectively or as may be dictated by said Federal Government or utility company as conditions of their forbearing to exercise the right of eminent domain, Proposed lease and easement agreement are hereto attached, marked Exhibits "C", and "D", respectively.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, Donegal Union School District has executed this petition by the signature of the President of its Board of School Directors, pursuant to direction of a resolution of said Board duly adopted at a meeting thereof duly and legally held December 1, 1958, and recorded in the minutes, showing the vote of each Board member thereon.

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

Donegal Union School District

By J. Edw. Charles President of School Board

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA COUNTY OF LANCASTER SS:

J. Edw. Charles, President of the Board of School Directors of Donegal Union School District, being duly affirmed according to law, says that the facts set forth in the foregoing Petition are true

J. Edw. Charles

Affirmed and subscribed to before me this 5th day of February, 1959.

(NOTARIAL SEAL)

Patricia J. Eicherly, Notary Public

My Commission expires March 28, 1962

DECREE

NOW, March 19, 1959, on consideration of the foregoing petition, and proof having been presented of certified mail service of a copy thereof on the Attorney General of Pennsylvania, accompanied by notice of intended presentation of the petition, and the Attorney General having made no objection to the prayer of the petition, and having been represented in this matter by Mark R. Eaby, Jr., Esq., Special Deputy Attorney General (whose appearance is entered of record and who acquiesced in the petition being presented today, instead of on February 11, 1959, as proposed in the original notice to the Attorney General), the Court finds that the granting of the lease and rights-of-way described in the petition, for limited periods of time, will be less injurious to the purposes of the trust than if said privileges were refused by petitioner and if the United States of America and Metropolitan Edison Company were to exercise their powers of eminent domain with respect to the trust real estate; and therefore, on motion of Wm. B. Arnold School District Solicitor, Donegal Union School District, as successor trustee of inter vivos trust created by Clarence Schock and wife, by Deed dated August 27, 1953, recorded in the Recorder's Office of Lebanon County, Pa., in Deed Book J, Volume 9, page 609, with respect to a tract of 1105 Acres and 32.01 perches of land in West Cornwall Township, Lebanon County, Pa., for public park and playground purposes is hereby authorized to execute and deliver to the United States of America the proposed lease of 3.27 Acres of land as a site for a radar station, and 3.159 Acres as a well site and water line-right-of-way, and of 2.63 Acres as an access road right-of-way to serve said station, and to execute and deliver to Metropolitan Edison Company an electric line easement to serve said radar station and well, in form as submitted accompanying the petition, designated as "Exhibit C", and "Exhibit D", respectively

ATTEST J. W. Martin 1st Asst. Clerk, Orphans' Court

By the Court, John L. Bowman, President Judge

CERTIFICATION

I, J. W. Martin, First Assistant Clerk of Orphans' Court of Lancaster County, Pa., certify that the foregoing is a true copy of Petition for leave to Lease Trust Real Estate and to Grant Easements Thereon presented to said Court on March 19, 1959, and of the Court's decree thereon entered March 19, 1959, as appearing of record in this Office in Miscellaneous Book K, Volume 2, page 175.

WITNESS my hand and the seal of said Court this 31st day of March 1959.

(OFFICIAL SEAL)

J. W. Martin, First Assistant Clerk of Orphans Court

RECORDED APRIL 7, 1959

SALLIE McK. HARTMAN, RECORDER

ELECTRIC LINE EASEMENT

DONEGAL UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT (a third class school district, with office at Mount Joy R. D. 1 Lancaster County, Pa.) SUCCEEDING TRUSTEE (pursuant to appointment by the Orphans' Court of Lancaster County, recorded in the Recorder's Office of Lebanon County in Deed Book Y, Volume 9, page 147) under Deed of Trust from Clarence Schock and wife, recorded in said Recorder's Office of Lebanon County, in Deed Book J, Volume 9, page 609 (hereinafter called the Grantor), intending to be legally bound, and in consideration of the public welfare in permitting a supply of electric power to be made available to a radar station proposed to be erected on the Grantors' land by the United States of America in the interests of the national defense, does hereby grant to METROPOLITAN EDISON COMPANY (a Pennsylvania corporation, with principal office at 2800 Pottsville Pike, Reading, Pa., hereinafter called the Grantee), its successors and assigns.

The right to construct, maintain and operate an electric line consisting of poles, conductors, overhead and underground lightning protective wires, private communication wires, guys, push braces and other apparatus and equipment deemed by the Grantee to be necessary therefor, upon, over, across and under the lands of the Grantor situated in West Cornwall Township, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, bounded on the North by the Quentin-Mt. Gretna Road (Pa. Traffic Route #117) on the East by the Lebanon-Manheim Road (Pa. Traffic Route #72) and land of William F. Hull, et al., on the South by land of Arthur O. Boyd, and on the West by the Mt. Gretna-Manheim

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IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF LEBANON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION

IN RE:

THE SICO FOUNDATION

:
:
:
:

No. 1998-82

PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF SUCCESSOR TRUSTEE

TO THE HONORABLE, THE JUDGES OF THE SAID COURT:

The Petition of The SICO Foundation respectfully states that:

1. The SICO Foundation is a non-profit organization organized and existing under the laws of the State of Delaware located in Mount Joy, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

2. On or about August 27, 1953, Clarence and Evetta Schock conveyed approximately 1,105 acres of land in West Cornwall Township, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania to the School District of the Borough of Mount Joy, in trust, by virtue of a deed of trust, as more fully set forth in said deed of trust, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto, made a part hereof and marked Exhibit "A".

3. The School District of the Borough of Mount Joy is now part of the Donegal School District.

4. The Donegal School District administration office is located at 366 South Market Avenue, Mount Joy, Lancaster County, Pennsylvania.

5. The Donegal School District has served as trustee of the Clarence and Evetta Schock trust, with regard to the property located in West Cornwall Township (said property hereinafter referred to as "Governor Dick Property").

6. Pursuant to the terms of the trust, the Governor Dick Property is to be used as a playground and public park, subject to certain terms and conditions as set forth in the deed of trust.

7. The School District of the Borough of Mount Joy, now Donegal School District, has carried out its duties, as trustee, under the deed of trust but has decided that it no longer desires to serve as trustee of the trust and requests that a substitute trustee be named in its place.

8. Clarence Schock, the grantor of the Governor Dick Property, was the founder of The SICO Foundation and created The SICO Foundation to provide scholarships for deserving students and permitted it to provide funds for the benefit of the Governor Dick Property.

9. The Donegal School District desires to resign as trustee and requests that The SICO Foundation be appointed substitute trustee.

10. The Donegal School District joins in and consents to this Petition, as more fully set forth in the Consent and Joinder, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto, made a part hereof and marked Exhibit "B".

11. The SICO Foundation, if it is appointed successor trustee, shall not use any public funding for the benefit of the Governor Dick Property.

12. The SICO Foundation has the financial resources to provide private funding to maintain the Governor Dick Property.

13. The Lebanon County Commissioners, by letter dated November 28, 1997, desired to be considered as a trustee or co-trustee of the Governor Dick Property as more fully set forth in a letter from William J. Carpenter, Chairman of the Lebanon County Commissioners, a true and correct copy of which is attached hereto, made a part hereof and marked Exhibit "C".

14. The Conservation Fund, care of Mr. Nick Dilks, 1211 Chestnut Street, Suite 900, Philadelphia, PA 19107, has also

PANA
15 to 19 Missing - page 4

20. The names and addresses of all other persons, known to petitioner, who are interested in this matter and in this petition are as follows:

- A. Donegal School District
c/o George T. Brubaker, Esquire
HARTMAN, UNDERHILL & BRUBAKER
221 E. Chestnut Street
Lancaster, PA 17602-2782
- B. Lebanon County Commissioners
ATTN: Adrienne C. Snelling, Esquire
Room 207
Municipal Building
400 South Eighth Street
Lebanon, PA 17042-2801
- C. Conservation Fund
c/o Mr. Nick Dilks
1211 Chestnut Street, Suite 900
Philadelphia, PA 19107
- D. Office of Attorney General
ATTN: Janice L. Anderson, Chief Deputy Attorney General
Charitable Trusts and Organizations Section
15th Floor
Strawberry Square
Harrisburg, PA 17120
- E. Cornwall-Lebanon School District
c/o Dr. John D. Menser, Superintendent
105 East Evergreen Road
Lebanon, PA 17042-7595

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page 4


F. Borough of Mt. Gretna
c/o C. Donald Davis, President
Mt. Gretna Borough Council
PO Box 61
106 Chautauqua Drive
Mt. Gretna, PA 17064

G. West Cornwall Township Board of Supervisors
c/o Charles D. Henry, III, Esquire
HENRY & BEAVER
937 Willow Street
PO Box 1140
Lebanon, PA 17042-1140

21. Upon the filing of the Petition, notice shall be given to the Attorney General of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

22. Jurisdiction for this Petition is based upon Act 168 of December 18, 1996, P.L. 1118, 20 Pa. CSA §7145.


WHEREFORE, Petitioner, The SICO Foundation, prays that it be appointed successor trustee of the Governor Dick Property created by the deed of trust of August 27, 1953 in place of, and with all powers and duties of the School District of the Borough of Mount Joy, now Donegal School District, with such security as the Court

JK

shall require.

Respectfully submitted,

MORGAN, HALLGREN, CROSSWELL &
KANE, P.C.

By: 
Anthony P. Schimaneck, Esquire
700 North Duke Street
P.O. Box 4686
Lancaster, PA 17604-4686
Attorney I.D. No. 27769
(717) 299-5251

VERIFICATION

The SICO Foundation by its president, William H. Duncan, hereby verifies that the facts set forth in the foregoing Petition are true and correct to the best of its knowledge, information and belief and understands that false statements therein are made subject to the penalties of 18 Pa. C.S.A. §4904, relating to unsworn falsification to authorities.

The SICO Foundation

DATE: January 22, 1998

William H. Duncan
By: William H. Duncan,
President

This Indenture, Made the 27th

day of August _____ in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and fifty-three (1953) _____

Between CLARENCE SCIOCK and EVETTA J. SCIOCK, his wife, of the Borough of Mt. Joy, County of Lancaster and State of Pennsylvania, parties of the first part, (hereinafter called the Grantors), and THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF THE BOROUGH OF MT. JOY, County of Lancaster and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, party of the second part, (hereinafter called the Grantee), _____

Witnesseth, That the said Grantors _____ for and in consideration of the sum of One dollar (\$1.00), _____ lawful money of the United States of America, unto them _____ well and truly paid by the said Grantee _____ at and before the sealing and delivery of these presents, the receipt whereof is hereby acknowledged, _____ have granted, bargained, sold, aliened, enfeoffed, released and confirmed, and by these presents do _____ grant, bargain, sell, alien, enfeoff, release and confirm unto the said Grantee, its successors _____

and Assigns. IN TRUST, nevertheless, for the purposes herein set forth, _____

ALL THAT CERTAIN tract of land on which is erected a towerhouse near the summit of a point known as Governor Dick, situated in West Cornwall Township, Lebanon County, Pennsylvania, bounded and described according to a survey or plan thereof made by T. J. Humphreys, Engineer and Surveyor, assisted by Henry H. Koser, R. S., dated April 15, 1936, copied and revised by Walter Greiner, and redated February 19, 1953, as follows, namely;

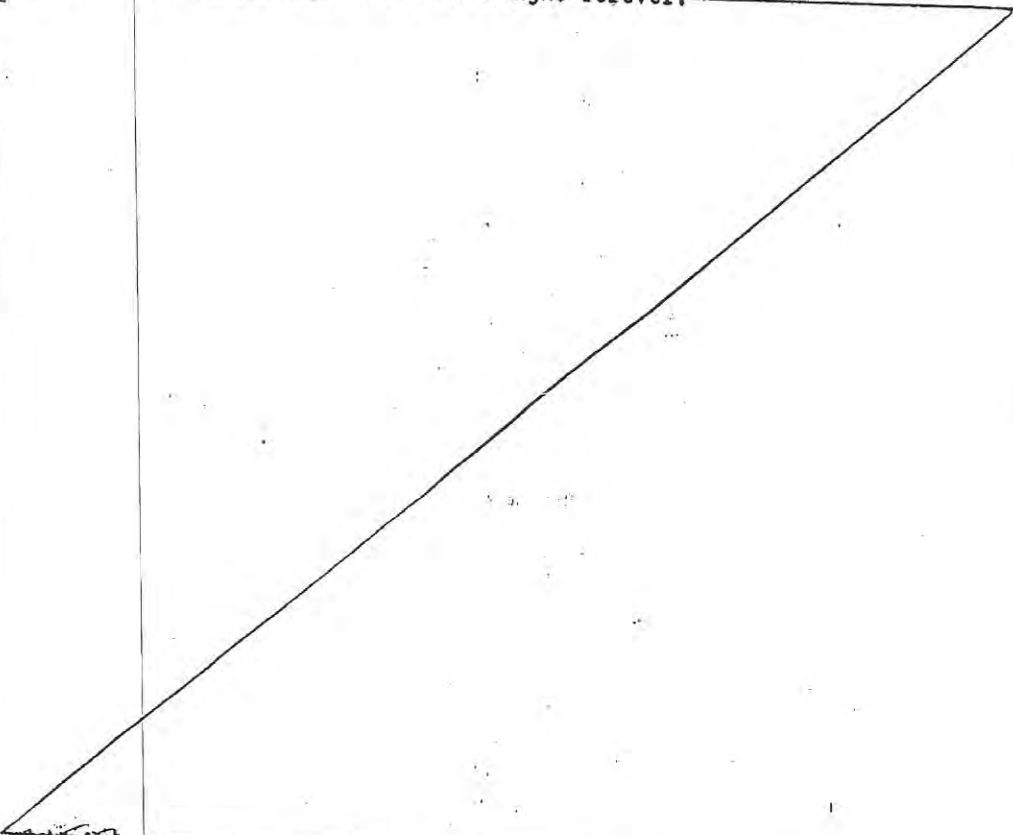
BEGINNING at the southwest corner thereof at an iron pin, said iron pin being slightly east of Legislative Route No. 38061 (known as the Pinch Hill Road); thence along and in said road, north forty-nine degrees and eight minutes west, six hundred thirty-two feet to an iron pin; thence north thirty-one degrees twenty-nine minutes west, three hundred four feet to an iron pin; thence north thirty-one degrees twenty-nine minutes west, three hundred twenty-seven feet to an iron pin; thence north twenty degrees twenty minutes west, seven

hundred, thirty-six and three tenths feet to a point in said road; thence continuing on said road the eight following courses and distances: (1) north eight degrees twenty-seven minutes west, three hundred ninety-three and four tenths feet to a point, (2) north ten degrees twenty-nine minutes west, two hundred ninety-three and six tenths feet to a point, (3) north seven degrees thirty minutes west, three hundred sixty-two and nine tenths feet to a point, (4) north six degrees seven minutes west, five hundred thirty-nine and four tenths feet to a point, (5) north ten degrees forty-four minutes west, two hundred five and nine tenths feet to a point, (6) north twenty-one degrees fifty-three minutes west, three hundred sixty-two feet to a point, (7) north forty-two degrees fifty-one minutes west, one hundred sixty-one and seven tenths feet to a point, (8) north fifty-four degrees thirty-one minutes west, one hundred forty-five feet to an iron pin in the northeast side of said Pinch Hill Road; thence along said road north sixty-seven degrees five minutes west, three hundred seventy-four feet to an iron pin; thence leaving said road, by land known as Mt. Gretna Heights, north thirty degrees forty-nine minutes east, three hundred seventy-four and eight tenths feet to an iron pin; thence north seventy-seven degrees thirty-four minutes east, nine hundred eleven and two tenths feet to an iron pin; thence by a line crossing a sand stone, north fifteen degrees and forty-six minutes west, fourteen hundred fifty-nine feet to an iron pin; thence north thirteen degrees thirty-one minutes west, twenty-one hundred ninety feet to an iron pin on the northern side of State Highway Route No. 117; thence by a line curving toward the south, with a radius of twelve hundred ninety-nine feet, a distance of two hundred ninety-one and eight tenths feet to a point; thence north seventy-one degrees eight minutes east, one thousand eight and two tenths feet to a point; thence by a line curving toward the south, with a radius of nineteen hundred thirty-five feet, a distance of three hundred fifty-five and seven tenths feet to a point; thence north eighty degrees fifty minutes east, eleven hundred seventy-two and six tenths feet to a point; thence by a line curving toward the south, with a radius of eighty-two hundred and ten feet, a distance of one hundred feet; thence north eighty-one degrees thirty-two minutes east, two hundred four feet to a point; thence by a line curving toward the north with a radius of twenty-eight hundred and forty feet, a distance of four hundred seventy feet to a point; north seventy-two degrees eight minutes east, five hundred fifty-five feet to a point; thence by a line curving toward the south, with a radius of nine hundred eighty and four tenths feet, a distance of three hundred thirty-one feet to a point; south eighty-eight degrees twenty-seven minutes east, three hundred sixty-seven feet to a point; thence by a line curving toward the north, with a radius of nineteen hundred and thirty-five feet, a distance of one hundred eight and one tenth feet to an iron pin; thence crossing said State Highway Route No. 117, by lands of the W. C. Freeman Estate, south thirty one degrees twenty-six minutes east, nine hundred thirty-four feet to an iron pin; thence north seventy-two degrees forty-two minutes east, one hundred thirty-two feet to an iron pin; north fifty-six degrees forty-two minutes east, two hundred sixty-five and six tenths feet to an iron pin; thence north fifty-seven degrees forty-two minutes east, two hundred ninety-four feet to an iron pin; thence north sixty-three degrees forty-seven minutes east, three hundred forty-five and five tenths feet to an iron pin; thence north eighty-six degrees twenty-seven minutes east, two hundred seventeen feet to an iron pin; thence south sixty-nine degrees and twenty-four minutes east, seven hundred twenty-one and one tenth feet to an iron pin; thence north sixty-four degrees thirteen minutes east, seven hundred forty-two feet to an iron pin; thence north fifty-three degrees forty-three minutes east, three hundred eighty-six and one tenth feet to an iron pin; thence and north forty degrees thirteen minutes east, two hundred eight and seven tenths feet to a spike in State Highway Route No. 72; thence south eight degrees twenty-two minutes east, five hundred twenty-three feet to an iron pin in said State Highway; thence leaving said State Highway, by lands of The Grubb Estate, south fifty-four degrees fifty-one minutes west, seven hundred thirty-one feet to an iron pin; thence south sixty-four degrees thirty-three minutes west, six hundred nineteen and five tenths feet to an iron pin; thence south forty-one degrees fifty minutes east, two thousand one hundred eighty-six and two tenths feet to an iron pin in the eastern side of said State Highway Route No. 72; thence in and along said Highway the following five courses and distances: (1) south seven degrees thirty-seven minutes west, three hundred fifty-one and five tenths feet to a point marked with a spike, (2) south thirty-five degrees thirty-one minutes west, four hundred twenty-seven and three tenths feet to a point marked with a spike, (3) south thirty-nine degrees fifty-five minutes west, two hundred seventy-seven and two tenths feet to a point marked with a spike, (4) south fourteen degrees forty-two minutes west, one hundred eighty-four and eight tenths feet to a point marked with a spike, (5) south four degrees fifty-eight minutes west, eight hundred fifty-one and four tenths feet to an iron pin at a post, (said pin being on the western side of said State Highway Route No. 72, a short distance northwest of The Overbrook Inn; thence by other land of The Grubb Estate, north sixty-six degrees twenty-five minutes west, twenty-two hundred twelve and three tenths feet to an iron pin; thence north thirty-three degrees forty-three

minutes west, eight hundred eighty feet to an iron pin; thence south fifty-seven degrees seventeen minutes west, five hundred feet to an iron pin; thence south sixty-seven degrees seventeen minutes west, three hundred eighty-one feet to an iron pin; thence south one degree seventeen minutes west, three hundred thirty and five tenths feet to an iron pin; thence south eighty-six degrees forty-three minutes east, two hundred ten and five tenths feet to an iron pin; thence south thirty-seven degrees eight minutes east, four hundred sixty-four and eight tenths feet to an iron pin; thence south eighteen degrees eight minutes east, nine hundred twenty-six and six tenths feet to an iron pin; thence by land now or late of W. F. Hull, south thirty-six degrees forty-two minutes west, two thousand seventy and six tenths feet to an iron pin; thence south eleven degrees forty-two minutes west, one thousand nine hundred feet to an iron pin; thence by land now or late of Arthur O. Boyd, south seventy-one degrees two minutes west, two thousand five hundred ten feet to the first mentioned point and place of beginning.

CONTAINING one thousand one hundred five acres and thirty-two and one hundredth perches of land, be the same more or less, according to survey of T. J. Humphreys, C. E. as of April 15, 1936, revised as aforesaid.

BEING composed of four tracts of land: ONE PART THEREOF BEING the same premises which Henry H. Koser and wife, by their Indenture dated September 18, 1934 and recorded in the Recorder's Office at Lebanon, Pennsylvania, in Deed Book D, Volume 7, Page 19, granted, conveyed and confirmed unto Clarence Schock, the Grantor above named, his heirs and assigns forever; the SECOND PART THEREOF BEING the same premises which Henry H. Koser and wife, by their Indenture dated December 17, 1934 and recorded in the Recorder's Office at Lebanon, Pennsylvania, in Deed Book C, Volume 7, Page 17, granted, conveyed and confirmed unto Clarence Schock, the Grantor above named, his heirs and assigns forever; THE THIRD PART THEREOF BEING the same premises which The Farmers National Bank of Lititz, Pennsylvania, by their Indenture dated April 7, 1937, here produced and intended to be recorded, granted, conveyed and confirmed unto Clarence Schock, Grantor above named, his heirs and assigns forever; and THE FOURTH PART THEREOF BEING the same premises which The Bethlehem Iron Mines Company, by their Indenture dated December 30, 1940 and recorded in the Recorder's Office at Lebanon, Pennsylvania, in Deed Book R, Volume 7, Page 217, granted, conveyed and confirmed unto Clarence Schock, Grantor above named, his heirs and assigns forever.



Together with all and singular the buildings, improvements, Streets, Alleys, Passages, Ways, Waters, Water-Courses, Rights, Liberties, Privileges, Hereditaments and Appurtenances, whatsoever thereunto belonging, or in any wise appertaining, and the Reversions and Remainders, Rents, Issues and Profits thereof; and all the estate, right, title interest, property, claim and demand whatsoever, of them the said Grantors, _____

_____ in law, equity,
or otherwise howsoever, of, in, and to the same and every part thereof, _____

To have and to hold ~~the said~~ _____

Hereditaments and Premises hereby granted, or mentioned
and intended so to be, with the Appurtenances,
unto the said _____
and Assigns, to and for the only proper use
and behoof of the said _____

_____ and Assigns-forever.

TO HAVE AND TO HOLD the tract of land above described with the appurtenances **IN TRUST** forever as a playground and public park, upon the following terms and conditions:

The portion thereof which is now forest or woodland shall be maintained and preserved forever as forest and woodland and where possible additional portions shall be planted as forest and woodland;

Hunting and shooting and the smoking of cigars, cigarettes, pipes and tobacco shall be prohibited at all times upon the land hereby conveyed; the land shall be posted with notices at least once each year forbidding hunting and shooting, and appropriate notices shall be maintained forbidding the smoking of cigars, cigarettes, pipes and tobacco upon the land;

The trust shall be for the enjoyment of persons traveling on foot; and no automobile, vehicle or mobile machinery shall be allowed to move or travel upon roads on the land hereby conveyed except upon the business of the trust or with the written permission of the trustee or upon such public roads as may hereafter be built by state or local authority;

The present Tower House and other portions of the land may be used and occupied without rent or charge by a caretaker or caretakers of the land;

The trustee shall have the right to make, amend, alter and repeal re-

gulations for the administration, control and public use of the trust property;

The trustee shall not be required to use public or school funds to maintain the trust property but shall have the power to receive and apply funds entrusted to it for the purposes of this grant; and

In the event The School District of The Borough of Mt. Joy, resigns or is unable or unwilling to serve as trustee of this trust, preference shall be given in the appointment of a successor or successors to other school districts or similar public authorities located near the lands hereby conveyed.



12

And the said Grantors, for themselves and their respective heirs _____

_____ Do - by
these presents, covenant, grant and agree, to and with the said Grantee, its successors _____

and Assigns, that they, the said Grantors and their heirs _____

_____ all and singular the
Hereditaments and Premises herein above described and granted, or mentioned and intended so to be, with
the Appurtenances, unto the said Grantors and their heirs _____

and Assigns, against them the said Grantors _____

and against all and every _____ Person or Persons whomsoever lawfully claiming or to claim the
same or any part thereof, by, from, or under him, her, them, or any of them, _____

_____ shall and will _____

_____ WARRANT and forever DEFEND. _____

In Witness Whereof, the parties of the first part, Grantors, have hereunto set
their hands and seals. Dated the day and year first above written.

Sealed and Delivered
IN THE PRESENCE OF US:

Ernest C. Leaman

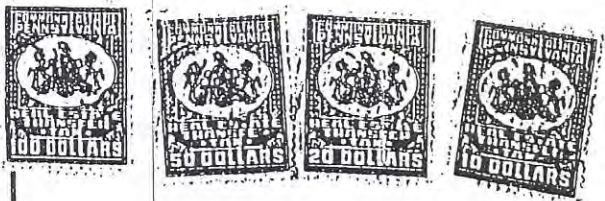
Anna Mae Snider

Clarence Schock (SEAL)
Clarence Schock

Evetta J. Schock (SEAL)
Evetta J. Schock

No consideration in this Deed, therefore no Federal Stamps are required.
The highest assessed valuation in this transaction is \$18,000.00.

Allen B. Seien
Pres. Mount Joy Borough School Board



Received, the day of the date of the above Indenture, of the above-named Grantee the full consideration for the within conveyance.

Clarence Schock (SEAL)
Clarence Schock

Evetta J. Schock (SEAL)
Evetta J. Schock

On the 27th day of August Anno Domini 19 53, before me,

personally appeared the above-named Clarence Schock and Evetta J. Schock

and in due form of law acknowledged the above Indenture to be their

act and deed, and

desired the same might be recorded as such.

Witness my hand and Notarial seal the day and year aforesaid.

Carrie D. Blessinger
Notary Public

My Commission expires Jan. 26. 47

The recipient of the within-named grantee
Maurice J. ...

Recorded in the Office for Recording of Deeds in and for
in Deed Book

No. page &c.

Witness my hand and seal of Office this

day of

Anno Domini 19

BK 150PG1239

14

Deed

CLARENCE SCHOCK
and
EVELIA J. SCHOCK

- 10 -

THE SCHOOL DISTRICT OF
THE BOROUGH OF M. JOY

For a tract of land situated
in West Cornwall Township,
Lebanon County, Penna.

John C. Clark Company, Philadelphia.

10:05 A. M.

7.00
7.15
87.15

Recorded April 22-1954

Lebanon County, ss

RECORDED in the office for Recording of Deeds, &c., in and for Lebanon
COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA in Deed

Book 9 Volume 9 Page 688 &c.

Witness by Hand and Seal of office this 22nd
day of April A. D. 1954

James R. Kessler, Deputy Recorder

BK. 150PG1240

IN THE COURT OF COMMON PLEAS OF LEBANON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA
ORPHANS' COURT DIVISION

IN RE:

THE SICO FOUNDATION

:
:
:
:

No. 1998-82

CONSENT AND JOINDER

The Donegal School District, formerly Borough of Mount Joy School District, trustee under a certain deed of trust dated August 27, 1953, hereby consents to and joins in the petition of The SICO Foundation to appoint a successor trustee and agrees that The SICO Foundation should be appointed successor trustee in place of the School District of the Borough of Mount Joy, now Donegal School District.

Donegal School District

By:

Willis Spangler Pres.
Willis Spangler, President,
Board of School Directors

EXHIBIT "B"

BK 150PG1241

16

COPY

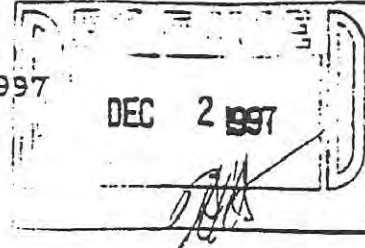
Lebanon County Commissioners



ROOM 207, MUNICIPAL BUILDING
400 SOUTH EIGHTH STREET
LEBANON, PA 17042-6794
TEL: 717-274-2801

William G. Carpenter
Rose Marie Swanger
Jo Ellen Litz
County Commissioners

November 28, 1997



Jamie A. Wolgemuth
County Administrator
Adrienne C. Snelling
Solicitor

273-1861

Mr. Donald Zerphy, Chairman
Donegal School Board
332 South Market Aveune
Mt. Joy, PA 17552

Dear Mr. Zerphy:

The County Commissioners have learned that your board has voted to "turn over" to the SICO Foundation its service as trustee of the 1000-plus acre parcel in West Cornwall Township, Lebanon County, commonly referred to as "Governor Dick."

Your superintendent, Dr. Sites, indicated in a news story that "no other public agency has expressed recent interest in the land." Our reports indicate that at the meeting on November 20, Dr. Sites told the board he had contact the Lancaster County Conservancy and the National Conservation Fund, and that one of these organizations would, in exchange, donate "a sum of money" to the district's Donegal Foundation if they gained access to the land.

As you may know, the Deed of Trust dated August 27, 1953, makes provision for these circumstances. It states:

"In the event The School District of The Borough of Mt. Joy (Donegal is its successor), resigns or is unable or unwilling to serve as trustee of this trust, preference shall be given in the appointment of a successor or successors to other school districts or similar public authorities located near the lands hereby conveyed."

We have been advised that a successor of a trust is to be appointed by the Court of Common Pleas of the County that has jurisdiction. In this instance it is the County of Lebanon. We also believe it would be inappropriate for Donegal as trustee to transfer or attempt to transfer its legal responsibilities to another entity.

Exhibit "C"

BK 150PG1242

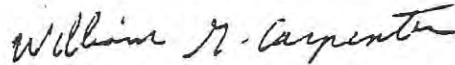
Mr. Donald Zerphy, Chairman
November 28, 1997
Page 2

In addition to the County of Lebanon there are a number of "public authorities" that fall within the class established in the Deed of Trust, none of which were apparently contacted or considered. These include Cornwall-Lebanon School District, West Cornwall Township, Mt. Gretna Borough, Cornwall Borough, and South Londonderry Township.

As a municipal governmental unit, we are interested in having the Court consider us to be trustee or a co-trustee. We are unable to indicate now whether any other local governmental authority located near Governor Dick is interested.

We ask that our letter be included with your petition to the court, and that we be named as an interested party. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,



William G. Carpenter, Chairman
Lebanon County Commissioners

WGC:ad

pc: Frank Eichler, SICO Foundation
Mary Beth O'Hara-Osborne, Attorney General's Office
/ Dr. Woodrow Sites, Donegal School District
Cornwall-Lebanon School District
West Cornwall Township
Mt. Gretna Borough
Cornwall Borough
South Londonderry Township

COPY

HARTMAN UNDERHILL & BRUBAKER LLP
ATTORNEYS AT LAW

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LANCASTER, PENNSYLVANIA 17602-2782

(717) 299-7254

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ANDREW F. LUCARELLI
HARRY ST. C. GARMAN
WILLIAM C. McCARTY
ALEXANDER HENDERSON, III
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THOMAS W. BERGEN
MICHAEL W. BABIC
MARK STANLEY
MARK E. LOVETT
SUSAN M. KADEL
KEVIN M. FRENCH
STEPHEN R. LAZUN
JOSHUA D. COHEN
MADELYN P. NIX
BRIAN S. BLACK
MARIAN J. MARTENAS
KIM R. SMITH
STACEY L. MORGAN
RORY O. CONNAUGHTON

December 4, 1997

Mr. Nick Dilks
Conservation Fund
1211 Chestnut Street, Suite 900
Philadelphia, PA 19107

Re: Donegal School District -
Governor Dick Property

Dear Nick:

Pursuant to our telephone conversation of Tuesday afternoon, December 2, 1997, I am enclosing for your information a copy of the deed whereby the School District of the Borough of Mt. Joy, predecessor to the Donegal School District, was named as Trustee of the property which is known as the Governor Dick Property.

If there is any additional information that I can furnish you with at this time, please do not hesitate to call.

With kind regards.

Sincerely,



George T. Brubaker

GTB/beb/0084256.01

Enclosure

cc w/encl:

Woodrow H. Sites, D.Ed.,
Superintendent

George W. Ioannidis,
Business Manager

Donald E. Zerphey, President,
Board of School Directors

Exhibit "D"
BK 150PG1244

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