

Helping dreams come true

# Community Foundation of Susquehanna County

Newsletter Summer 2005



Salt Springs wildflowers

## Peter Quigg becomes Foundation Director of Development

Educator Peter Quigg of Franklin Township has joined the Community Foundation of Susquehanna County staff as its new Director of Development. His 2005 top priorities are developing school foundations such as those already established at Blue Ridge and Montrose Area School Districts, and generating more scholarship dollars for all county children.

In 2004, 133 students in pre-school through grade 12 received Foundation scholarships amounting to over \$95,000. Through popular programs like the state's education tax credit initiative and memorial scholarships, Quigg believes this can continue and grow. *continued on page 2*



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“The main problem is not the haves and the have-nots – it’s the give-nots.”

Arnold Glasow

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# Speeding up Science

Former junk-bond trader, Michael Milken has been dubbed by Fortune “The man who changed medicine.” His Prostate Cancer Foundation is turning the cancer establishment upside down and helping to speed up science. With endorsements from leaders like Lance Armstrong and Rudy Guiliani, he has taken a disease which was a “medical backwater” receiving little attention or financial support and stimulated research by cutting wait time for grant money. His efforts have flooded the field with fast cash to fund therapy-driven ideas rather than basic science. His model holds researchers accountable for results and for collaboration

across disciplines and among institutions. It has influenced others including Michael J. Fox Foundation for Parkinson Disease.

Milken is following the tradition of the Rockefellers, Carnegies and Sloans who saw their contributions as investments rather than give-aways; they are disciples of the venture school of giving intent on paving the road to invention with seed grants for new concepts that could save lives today and someday be ripe for privatization.



“He who gives when he is asked has waited too long.”

Lucius Annaeus Seneca

## Peter Quigg becomes Foundation Director of Development (continued)

The new Director brings experience as a teacher and administrator to this position. After receiving a Bachelor of Arts degree from Bennington College, Vermont, and a Masters in Literature from Lesley University in Cambridge, Massachusetts, he taught high school English for 14 years at Killington Mountain School in Vermont. He also served as Dormitory Supervisor and Director of Student Life at that academy.

His family roots, however, are in Susquehanna County where he has maintained his residence and returned each summer. Peter is the son of Shirley and Tom Quigg, and brother to Scott Quigg who are well known to the community. In 1975 Tom Quigg

purchased Seddon-Lathrop Oil Company which went on to become the Pump ‘n Pantry Convenience Stores which Scott now manages. Shirley’s ancestry includes a couple who were aunt and uncle to some of the Harford nine partners, area pioneer settlers who arrived from Attleboro, Massachusetts.

“It is nice to be home. I felt pulled back to my roots in Northeastern Pennsylvania. I’m grateful for the opportunity to do something worthwhile, to make a contribution. My personal hope is to have a positive impact upon Susquehanna County in the coming years.”

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# Meet Director Tom Chamberlain



Tom Chamberlain discovered Susquehanna County in 1972 when his wife and high school sweetheart, Mary Jane, got a teaching job at Blue Ridge Elementary. He purchased and began developing a New Milford Nationwide Insurance agency. Thirty-three years and three children later, Tom says, “Every morning I put my feet on the floor and go out and make something

happen. That’s worked. You can see I haven’t missed many meals!”

He acknowledges, “Local people helped me out along the way and gave us a lots of support. You try to give back in your own special way. My ‘hobby’ has been volunteer service.” Tom has served on the Board of People’s National Bank for 12 years, is on the Board of Sky Lake United Methodist Camp in Windsor, NY and is a trustee at the New Milford United Methodist Church. He is President of the Board of Creative Adventures for Education which provides Blue Ridge 6th graders an annual four-day trip to Washington DC; he also serves on the boards of the Community Foundation and as Chairman of the United Way.

Regarding the Foundation he says, “The guarantee and covenant we share is that the money will stay in the county. I think we’re making a difference.”

## Board of Directors:

Earle A. Wootton  
*Chairman*

William R. Lewis  
*Vice Chairman*

James May  
*Treasurer*

Betty Kwader  
*Secretary*

Marian S. Miskell

Joseph T. Burke

Thomas Chamberlain

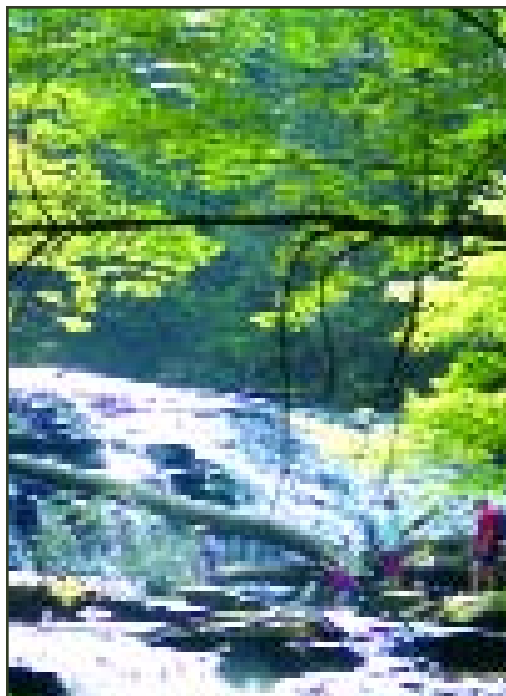
Robert J. Brown

Jason J. Legg

# Oral History at Salt Springs Park

Area writers and historians are gathering at Wheaton House at Salt Springs Park to plan the next steps in a Susquehanna County Oral History Project. They intend to capture and catalog changes that would otherwise disappear with the passing generations. Senior citizens are expected to be an especially rich source of stories. Local students may assist in collecting. Once the material amassed becomes substantial, it will be used to create authentic regional programs, plays and literature which can be shared with the community, tourists and the world.

The Friends of Salt Springs Fund was one of the Community Foundation’s first established funds; it was founded by Ken Leasure and supports park improvements.



Author and historian, Debra Adleman, thinks the project has resonance with the work of the Friends of Salt Springs who have been gathering the details of the Park’s own history since they rescued it from closure in 1994. While they have added acreage and made building improvements, they are uncovering artifacts and Wheaton family recollections about the Park’s Native American past, its homestead residents and cottage industries. Salt Springs is the only privately maintained state park in the country.

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# Countryside Conservancy Stewardship Award

The Foundation Building at 36 Lake Avenue, Montrose has been chosen by the Countryside Conservancy to receive a 2005 Stewardship Award. The award recognizes Foundation Chairman Earle Wootton's authentic restoration of the 1866 historic site. Our Chairman is also planning a second phase of restoration and expansion for the building which also houses the United Way of Susquehanna County. A two-story wing extending back from the rear of the building is on the drawing board. That will more than double the site's present square footage. That floor plan includes more office space and an open-design kitchen for working meals and informal gatherings. A formal dining room, reception room and library are also envisioned for the original building's first floor.

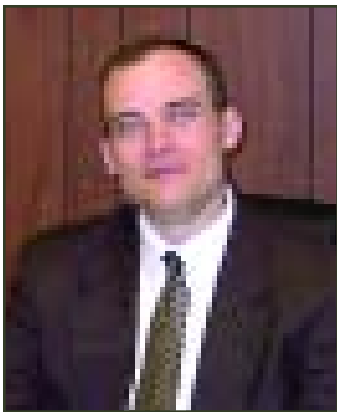
The donation of this landmark site for use by the Community Foundation and the efforts of talented volunteers, ensure that overhead costs of both resident organizations remain exceptionally low. This frees more Community Foundation dollars for helping dreams come true, and keeps more United Way dollars working for area charities.



“If you want one year of prosperity, grow grain.  
If you want ten years of prosperity, grow trees.  
If you want one hundred years of prosperity, grow people.”

Chinese Proverb

## Foundation Formed to Serve Susquehanna Community Schools



*Superintendent Bronson Stone*

Superintendent Bronson Stone has announced that the Susquehanna Community School District is establishing a Foundation that will be an affiliate of the Community Foundation. Its primary goal will be to create scholarships. “We wanted to give people who are in a position to make perpetual endowments to the school the right avenue to invest their funds.” Forty-eight percent of the school district's 930 students are economically

disadvantaged. Donations from graduates, families, staff and retirees could make a huge difference in young lives. “There's no more worthy cause than to help fund a child's aspirations for higher education.”

The move was researched by Mr. Stone and the district's retiring business manager, Raymond Testa. They worked with Community Foundation Director Bob Brown and concluded that this was “a phenomenal opportunity” to make use of knowledgeable experts who “knew what worked with funds.” Their recommendation to the school board was approved on May 18th.

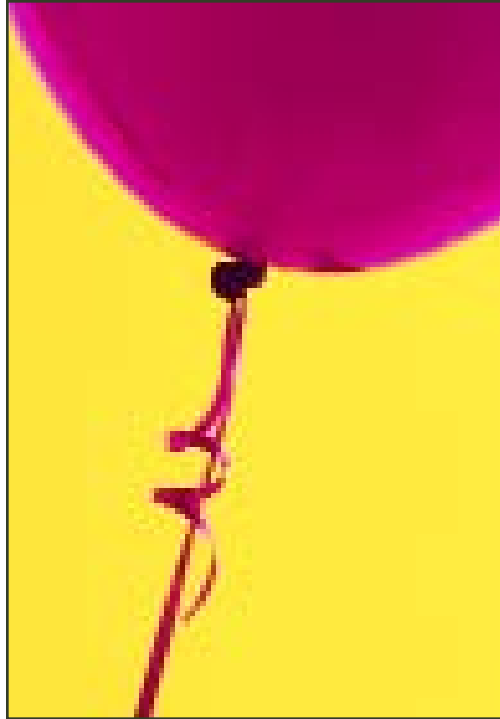
Mr. Stone, himself a Susquehanna Community graduate, was a teacher and curriculum director in the system before becoming superintendent. He anticipates organizing an alumni association that will find having a foundation in place very valuable. He also expects the district to appoint a board to help with foundation scholarship decisions.

Susquehanna Community is the third school district in the county to collaborate with the Community Foundation on scholarship initiatives. Blue Ridge and Montrose Area districts have done the same.

# Balloons for Cancer

Kevin Kempa, a senior at Blue Ridge is organizing a cancer memorial segment which will be part of the Chris Snee Punt-Pass and Kick Contest scheduled for July 3rd. In memory of Kevin's godfather, David Burns and his great grandmother Paula Freitag who both died of cancer, he will be selling balloons and donating proceeds to the American Cancer Society.

Balloons will come in two colors – one for cancer survivors and another that will honor the memory of someone who died of cancer. Purchasers of the helium balloons will write the name of the person they are remembering on the balloon and during a ceremony at the end of the Punt Pass and Kick Contest, balloons will be released.



“I just want to leave the world a little better than I found it, and that’s my goal in life.”

Armand Hammer

## Facts at a Glance

Value of Foundation assets  
December, 2004:  
\$ 557,601

Value of Foundation assets  
June 2005:  
\$ 717,671

## New Fund

**Andrew M. Snitzer Memorial  
Scholarship Fund**  
Of the Blue Ridge School  
District Foundation

Awarded for high moral and ethical character, a selfless commitment to serve others, and pursuing a college education.

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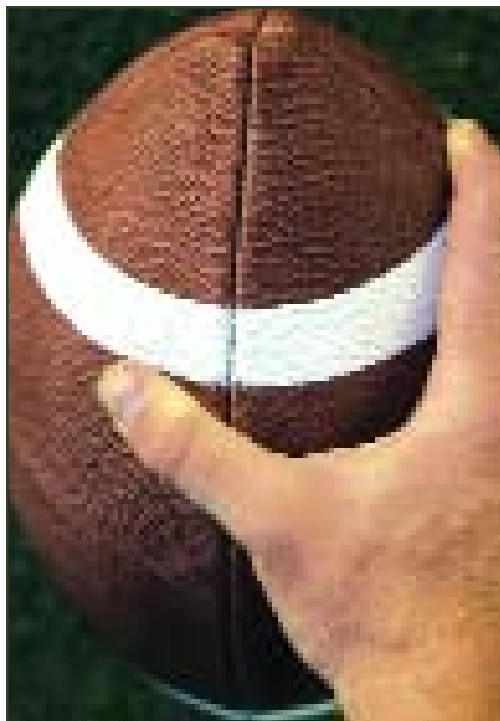
“If you haven’t got charity in your heart, you have the worst kind of heart trouble.”

Bob Hope

# Bring it Back Home

This year’s United Way theme, “Bring it Back Home”, is a reminder to give where you live. Our hometown hero NY Giants lineman, Chris Snee, stepped up this year to help Susquehanna County - just as many local businesses and leaders have done. Chris’ Fourth of July homecoming, July 3rd Punt-Pass & Kick event and willing support as our United Way Honorary Chairman demonstrate what it means to be there for your friends and neighbors and “Bring it back home.”

Fifty-five young fundraising football enthusiasts have signed up for the Punt-Pass & Kick event so far. The final number of contestants is expected to exceed 100 who’ll have a chance to toss the pigskin with Chris and get some professional tips. Fourteen corporate sponsors for the event have contributed \$250 to \$1000 each toward expenses.



# Scholarship Winners

We are pleased to announce the following 2005 scholarship winners and their academic and military service destinations.

**Bradley David Conklin Memorial Scholarship:**

Lackawanna Trail	James Staffaroni, Penn State University
Chenango Forks	Zachary Vredenburgh, Cornell University
Windsor	Tyler Rathmell, Cedarville College
Lake Wallenpaupack	Terrence Porter, Luzerne Co. Community College
Scranton High	Lamar Johnson, Ryder College
Blue Ridge	Thomas Donovan, Keystone College
Bishop Hannan	Ryne Mailen, Lackawanna College
Seton Catholic	Elizabeth Fox, Nazareth College
Central	Daniel Furner, St. Bonaventure College
	Daniel Komarinetz, St. John's University
	Suzanne Precopio, Broome Community College
	Samuel Thomas, Susquehanna University

**The Agnes and James W. Holbert Scholarship:**

Elk Lake	Patricia Gassaway, US Marine Corps
Montrose	Deua Traver, US Army National Guard

**The Andrew M. Snitzer Memorial Scholarship:**

Blue Ridge	Jessica Casey, Bucks County Community College
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**Memorial Scholarship Fund:**

Blue Ridge	Louis Vilella, Johnson College
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**The Mathew James White Memorial Scholarship**

Montrose	Caroline Millen, Binghamton University
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**The Nicholas Severcool Memorial Scholarship:**

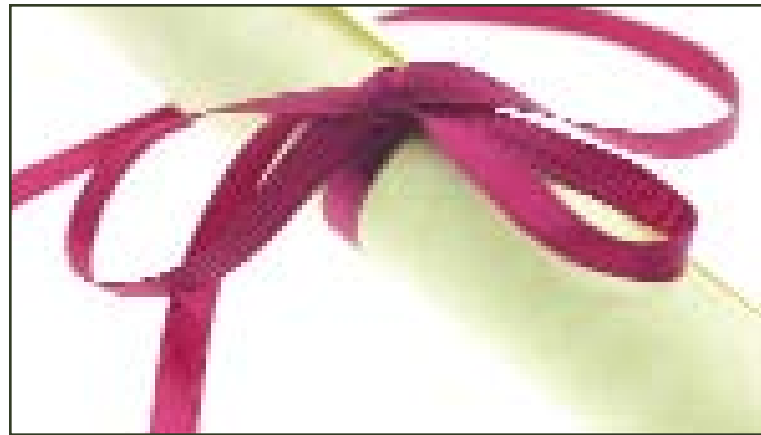
Montrose	Justine Marbaker, West Virginia University
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**The Julia A Frystak Memorial Scholarship:**

Montrose	Jacob Horn, University of Pittsburgh
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**The Raymond L. Bennett, MD, Academic & Athletic Memorial Scholarship**

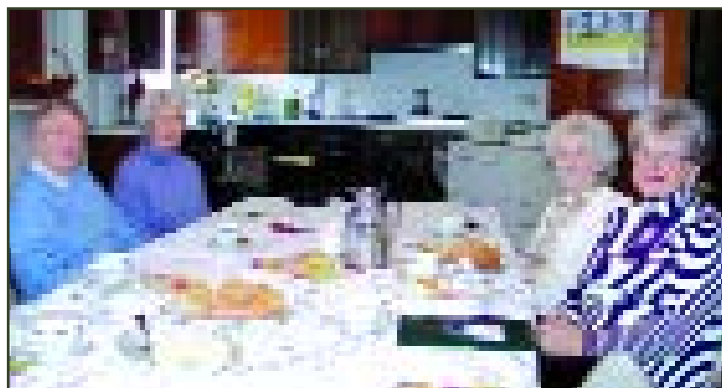
Montrose	Jeffrey Snyder, University of Florida
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“As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands, one for helping yourself, and the other for helping others.”  
Audrey Hepburn

## United Way Sets \$200,000 Goal for 2005

The United Way of Susquehanna County is announcing an ambitious \$200,000 fundraising goal for 2005 according to Executive Director Ruth Donnelly. That's up from 2004 goal of \$135,000, but Donnelly and Campaign Chairman Bob Welch of Pennstar Bank believe it is attainable.



United Way volunteers (l to r): Ruth Gesford, Peggy Wood, Ellie Earl and Betty Kwader.

The organization, which serves 22 area charitable agencies, has four potential donors willing to provide generous matching grants this year. This will encourage giving by doubling the value of individual contributions. The Barnes Kasson Rehabilitation Room Swing Bed Activities Program is one new charity that will be receiving United Way checks this year.

Welch and Donnelly also have been expanding the geographic reach of the United Way Cabinet throughout the county to include leaders from all areas of the county. The reenergized volunteer staff this year includes Betty Kwader, Linda Giffis, Ellie Earl, Ruth Gesford and Margaret (Peggy) Wood. In addition Pennstar Bank has stepped up to be a Pacesetter making early, generous employee pledges and offering branch managers and employee volunteer involvement.

Peoples National Bank will also be a Pacesetter this year. Their Executive Vice President/Chief Operations Office Debbie Dissinger has added her talent to the Board this year; Chip Snyder from Susquehanna and Donna Cosmello from New Milford are also doing their parts to attain the ambitious goal.

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# Banks Pledge for Education

Some Susquehanna County bankers are stepping up early and generously to help fund K through 12 and pre-school scholarships for deserving area youngsters.

**Peoples National Bank** has committed to \$100,000 - \$50,000 in 2005 and \$50,000 in 2006.

**Community Bank and Trust** has committed to \$50,000 - \$25,000 in 2005 and \$25,000 in 2006.

**First Liberty Bank** has made a \$10,000 pledge for 2005.

The banks expect to be selected for the PA Education Tax Credit program that the Community Foundation administers. The program allows them to direct their tax dollars toward scholarships and educational improvement initiatives.



“Never worry about numbers. Help one person at a time, and always start with the person nearest you.”

Mother Teresa

# Profiting in a Nonprofit

There are 230,000 nonprofit organizations in the U.S., and each has a growing need for administrative expertise, executive management and staff, volunteer resources, and revenue development. Our Community Foundation has been sharpening its business skills through long-term planning and tapping the talents of dedicated community members.

Our community has a growing number of experienced business people, retiring baby boomers, and most encouraging an increase in young families who appreciate rural life in Susquehanna County. Some are making the decision to "do something good." Their successful career or business life doesn't necessarily guarantee success in the nonprofit market. These two worlds are very different in many ways and operate on different principles. Most of us think that running a nonprofit has got to be easier than a commercial venture. This is not necessarily so.

People involved with nonprofits are concerned about charitable giving to offset human injustice and other hard-to-measure things such as environmental improvement. "Social impact" is a term commonly used. That is the nonprofits' version of the "bottom line" in business. Some days a partnership with a small benefactor would be considered a home run. Sometimes just to finally attract the interest of a particular donor in even the smallest way is a major victory.

Getting involved with nonprofits is obviously a decision made by the heart, but it should also be made by the head. It surely allows people to test themselves and apply whatever they have done in their career. There is no question that satisfaction will follow. And, that's how we profit in a nonprofit. If you would like to volunteer call the Foundation office.

## Affiliates

Blue Ridge School District Foundation

The Montrose Area School District Foundation

Susquehanna Community School District Foundation

## Current Funds

L. Carter & Elizabeth Anderson Fund

William & Deborah Lewis Fund

Gregory & Eileen Myer Fund

People's National Bank Fund

Earle & June Wootton Fund

Robert & Katherine Warriner Fund

Mary M. Umlaff Fund

Directors Dedication Fund

The Friends of Salt Springs Fund

The Mary K. Leasure Fund

The Mary & Kenneth Leasure Fund

Raymond L. Bennett Scholarship Fund

William Dean Memorial Fund

The GRW Fund

Jonathan Randall Memorial Fund

The Deborah A. Burke Breast Cancer Fund

The Julia A. Frystak Scholarship Fund

The United Way Endowment Fund

CFSC General Fund

The United Way Capital Campaign Fund

The Jones Family Fund

The Norman Brunner Memorial Fund

The Friends of Susquehanna County Events Fund

The Friends of Susquehanna County Endowment Fund

Nicholas Severcool Scholarship Fund

Agnes & James W. Holbert Scholarship Fund

Bradley David Conklin Memorial Basketball Scholarship Fund

June J. Wootton Fund for Hospice and Palliative Care

Marian & John Miskell Family Fund

Feed a Friend Fund

Memorial Scholarship Fund

Business & Professional Women's Scholarship Fund

The Blue Ridge Superintendent's Fund

Vicki's Fund, Prevention of Domestic Violence

Andrew M. Snitzer Memorial Scholarship Fund

Mathew James White Memorial Scholarship Fund

# Community Foundation of Susquehanna County

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## Andy Roddick and Andre Agassi on Regrets

America's No. 1-ranked tennis player and universal heartthrob, Andy Roddick, age 22, this year won his third US Men's Clay Court Championship in five years. He has a 155-mile per hour serve, the fastest ever recorded. In 2003 he won the US Open and finished as the No. 1 player in the world.

He credits Andre Agassi for the inspiration to start his foundation. "I was on a plane flight with Agassi and I said, 'Is there anything you regret?' I thought he was going to say, 'Yeah, I got out of shape and slipped from No. 1 in the world to 140.' He didn't say that. He said he regretted that he didn't start his foundation soon enough."

Roddick will have no such regret. His foundation that helps children with serious medical problems was set up in 2002.



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