

LANCASTER NEW ERA

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Pennsylvania's Largest-Circulation Afternoon Newspaper

Inside

Saturday

Tonight:

Cloudy, 38°

Tomorrow:

Showers possible, 54°

WEATHER, B4

HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL SCORES

McCaskey	49
Penn Manor	0
Wilson	49
Hempfield	35
Manheim Township	14
Cedar Crest	13
Warwick	17
Reading	16
Manheim Central	52
Lebanon	0
Elizabethtown	17
Cocalico	14
Garden Spot	35
Solanco	3
Lancaster Catholic	41
Lampeter-Strasburg	14
Columbia	59
Pequea Valley	3
Eico	14
Donegal	13
Conestoga Valley	31
Blue Mountain	3
Ephrata	35
Dallastown	13

SPORTS, C1



FFA leader is happiest on farm

A co-op program allows Manheim Central senior Keith Frey to really get into his homework and spend most of the school day on the family dairy farm.

TEEN OF THE WEEK, BACK PAGE

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CHUCKLE

We should all be so lucky to live long enough to be considered old-fashioned.

Polling place changes

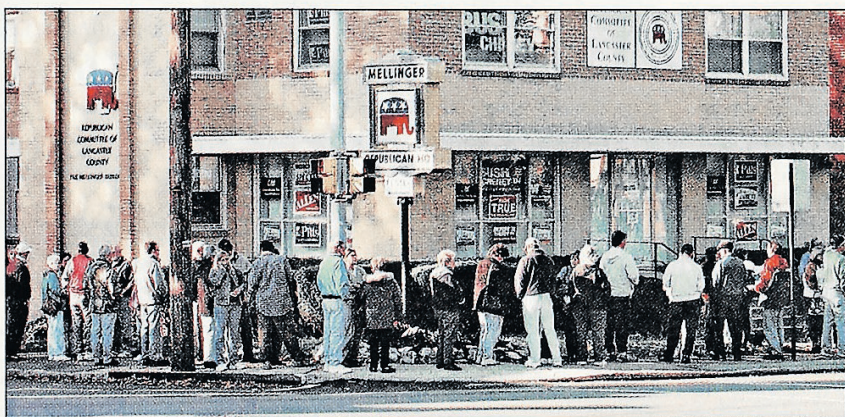
Changes in Lancaster County polling places for the Nov. 2 general election appear in today's New Era. The information, including a list of all balloting locations, appears in English and Spanish on C8.



To celebrate 225 years of Lancaster newspapers, we present this weekly series of 52 front pages from throughout our history. Many feature events that would shape the course of world history. Some feature events of great local importance. Still others simply provide windows into the long-ago lives of Lancaster County residents. Make sure to check in every week, and enjoy this trip through time with LNP.

2004

'It's an honor to Lancaster County'



Andrew P. Blackburn/New Era

A line of people waited outside GOP headquarters this morning for tickets to see the president Wednesday.

Bush coming for rally Wednesday

Location of president's visit not announced, but tickets already being handed out. First person was in line at 7:30 this morning.

By RYAN ROBINSON and JOHN M. SPIDALIERE
New Era Staff Writer

Harold Butz let his wife, Marion, open their store, The Antique Market Place, in Ronks, this morning so he could stand in line for tickets to see President Bush.

Though it was chilly, the 72-year-old Army veteran unbent his jacket to show off his sweater with a U.S. flag on it.

Butz joined the couple of dozen people in line at GOP headquarters on Columbia

Avenue for tickets to see Bush when he returns to the area Wednesday at 9:20 a.m. Bush will appear in the county just six days after visiting Hershey and less than a week before Election Day.

"My wife and I were not able to get to Hershey (Thursday)," Butz said. "I just would like the chance to see him. I trust George and love Laura."

Local GOP officials say the president is coming here because he needs as many votes as possible from Lancaster County Republicans to win



Bush

Pennsylvania. "It is an honor to Lancaster County to have the president visit in the last week of his campaign. It shows the importance of the county in the entire election," said Chad Weaver, of Ephrata, who is state co-chairman of the Bush-Cheney campaign.

The Lancaster County Republican Committee will be handing out free tickets today and Sunday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. and on Monday and Tuesday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m. at party headquarters at 902

Columbia Ave. The rally could be large. But GOP officials are not saying how big or where it will be held. "We've got plenty of tickets. If people want to see the president, we've got tickets," said Weaver.

Cathy Rittenhouse, 52, of Lancaster was the first to arrive for tickets this morning, at about 7:30. She was prepared — with a coat, Turkey Hill cappuccino, cell phone and fold-out chair.

Rittenhouse saw Bush in Hershey and in York in July but wouldn't miss his Lancaster visit for the world. "I want to show my support," she said. "It is exciting

Please see BUSH page A8



Marty Heisey/New Era

Detective Lt. Kent Switzer (right) heads the city's Pattern and Violent Gang Crimes Unit, which includes (from left) Detectives George Bonilla, Mike Winters, John Burkhardt and Jarrad Berkhiser. Missing from the photo is Detective Bill Breault.

Taking a big bite out of city crime

Violent crime has dropped drastically from 2000 to 2003, a new report shows. Kent Switzer and his Pattern and Violent Gang Crimes Unit are getting some of the credit.

By CINDY STAUFFER
New Era Staff Writer

Murderers and attackers. Gang members and carjackers. Furse snatchers and drug dealers.

The Almighty Latin Kings. The Bicycle Bandit. Club Oz. They are the targets of Kent Switzer, Jarrad Berkhiser, George Bonilla, Bill Breault, John Burkhardt and Mike Winters. These six city police detectives

NEW ERA NEWSMAKER

A SATURDAY FEATURE

in the Pattern and Violent Gang Crimes Unit use their combined 75 years of police experience to track down and arrest violent career criminals. Lancaster Police Chief William Heim said this week that the unit helped to bring about a recent drop in violent crime in the city. From 2000 to 2003, armed rob-

Please see SWITZER page A8

Worries grow over flu shot shortage

Poll finds Americans with at-risk relatives express most concern.

By WILL LESTER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON — The flu vaccine shortage is causing widespread worries among a substantial group of Americans — the four in 10 who are in families with a member at high risk of getting the flu, an Associated Press poll found. The U.S. flu vaccine shortage

became public two weeks ago when British regulators cited contamination problems in closing one of the two companies that make vaccine for the U.S. market. That nearly cut in half the 100 million doses U.S. officials were expecting.

That shortage has health officials scrambling and politicians blaming each other. It also has more than half of those in families at risk of experiencing the flu worried about the vaccine shortage.

Healthy Americans have been urged to forgo shots so there will

Please see FLU page A8

Rejected by 3-member panel, Lambert appeals to full court

By JANET KELLEY
New Era Staff Writer

Once again, Lisa Michelle Lambert is appealing the latest court decision rejecting her bid for freedom.

The convicted killer of 16-year-old Laurie Show filed a request in federal court on Thursday seeking a new hearing before the full 14-member panel of the U.S. Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

Less than two weeks ago, a three-member panel of the same federal court in Philadelphia, flatly rejected Lambert's claims that she was unfairly tried and convicted.



Lambert

for the 3rd Circuit rejects her request for a hearing, the only avenue left to defense attorneys is the U.S. Supreme Court.

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PRESIDENTIAL VISIT

In the final weeks of the 2004 presidential campaign, George W. Bush needed help from Lancaster County.

After narrowly losing Pennsylvania to Al Gore in the 2000 election, Bush visited the state 40 times, including two visits to Lancaster. Just six days before the election, Bush made a third trip, though as of the date of this front page, the specific location had not been announced. Bush would eventually speak before 20,000 onlookers at the Lancaster Airport on Oct. 28, but on Oct. 23, the date of this newspaper, a large line of people woke up early to stand in line in front of the Lancaster GOP headquarters

on Columbia Avenue to get tickets.

After the mayhem of the 2000 election, where Bush famously won both a Florida recount and a presidency by 537 votes, voters were intensely interested in how 2004 would shake out. An Associated Press article on the right side of the page states it plainly — "What if it isn't even close?"

According to the article on Bush's visit, local Republican officials were asked to drum up at least 120,000 votes to counter Sen. John Kerry's potential wins in Pittsburgh and Philadelphia.

Once the numbers were counted, it was determined that the reelected Bush gained

65.8% of Lancaster County's vote, which amounted to 145,591 people. Despite this, Kerry carried Pennsylvania by a slim margin of 2.5%.

In other front page news, Lisa Michelle Lambert, the convicted killer of Laurie Show, sought a new hearing after being rejected by a panel in a Philadelphia federal court. Nearly 13 years after the murder, Lambert, 32, claimed that she had been tried unfairly. This claim would be denied, and Lambert continues to serve a life sentence. In December 2019, Lambert's accomplice in the murder, Tabitha Buck, was granted parole with the possibility of release before 2020.