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InsideYour CHRONICLE

Sports



Abington basketball ... Page 11

Suspects in armed robbery identified

By Kaitlyn Foti
Staff Writer

The FBI has identified the two men believed responsible for the armed robbery at the Jenkintown Trumark Financial branch Jan. 20.

Robert McKnight, 52, who is 6'3" and about 210 pounds and goes by the nickname "Tweeie," and Lamont E. Paige, 37, who is 5'10" and about 170 pounds and goes by the nickname "Mont" were charged Feb. 4 in a crim-

inal complaint filed in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Pennsylvania in connection with the robbery, according to the FBI.

It is alleged that McKnight and Paige entered the branch at about 12:40 p.m. Jan. 20, Jenkintown police said. McKnight was armed with a handgun while Paige vaulted the teller counter and took cash from the tellers. The two suspects fled the bank on foot, police said, and dropped the money when a dye pack exploded.

Pictures of the suspects were caught by a

neighboring business's surveillance camera, which aided the FBI in identifying them as McKnight and Paige.

The FBI is asking for the public's help in locating both McKnight and Paige, who are known to spend time in the Frankford section of Philadelphia, according to the FBI.

They are considered armed and dangerous. Anyone with information on their location is asked to call the FBI at 215-418-4000 or their local police department.



Robert McKnight Lamont E. Paige



Cheltenham High School ensembles The Sons of Pitch and Up the Octave sing, "I'm Goin' to Live with God," at "Hope for Haiti: A Community Benefit Concert" Feb. 3 at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel, Elkins Park. **For more photos, see page 4.**



Abington Township reschedules pick up

Due to the impending snowstorm, Abington Township rescheduled Wednesday's trash and recycling pick up for trash only Feb. 13. On Feb. 11 trash only will be picked up.

Accent



Students establish post office ... Page 15

Auto



Porsche offers more power ... Inside

Index

Accent	15
Briefs	3
Calendar	8
Classified	22
Crossword	Ticket
Legals	22
Obituaries	17
Opinion	6
Police	20
Sports	11

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ARDC hosts Sestak

By Kaitlyn Foti
Staff Writer

Senatorial hopeful U.S. Rep. Joe Sestak, D-7, was present at the Abington Rockledge Democratic Committee meeting Monday night to talk about his primary campaign against incumbent Arlen Specter.

"I never expected to run for Senate. But while I greatly respect Arlen Specter and his service to the state, I highly disagree with him," Sestak said.

The meeting, which one committee member said had more than double its usual attendance, began with Sestak talking about why he wants to be the next junior senator for Pennsylvania.

"I decided to run because I absolutely believe that the House of Representatives and the Senate have forgotten for a period of time that the support has to be given for the working class in this country," Sestak said.

He spoke out about repealing the Don't Ask, Don't Tell policy that keeps gay and lesbian troops from serving openly in the military. Sestak, a retired 3-star Admiral in the Navy, said he knew from personal experience that the policy should be changed.

"On an aircraft carrier with 5,000 young men and women, with an average age of 19 and a half, I can tell you, they don't care. The people they are serving with, their sexuality isn't an issue," he said.

U.S. Rep. Patrick Murphy, D-8, who made an unscheduled appearance at the meeting to take questions from constituents, agreed the policy should be revoked.

"These are people who would take a bullet, and give their lives for this country. And our country and our Congress has turned their back on them," Murphy said.

During his speech, Sestak addressed numerous issues, including foreclosures, health insurance and the Democratic Party as a whole finding more ways to em-

See Sestak, Page 4

Hope for Haiti

Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel, Elkins Park, hosted "Hope for Haiti: A Community Benefit Concert" Feb. 3 with an evening of music and speakers. The event raised money for the Red Cross to go toward Haitian relief.

The LaMott A.M.E. Church Choir sings at "Hope for Haiti: A Community Benefit Concert" Feb. 3 at Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel, Elkins Park.

Photos by
Bob Raines

Casey visits women's center in Elkins Park

By Kaitlyn Foti
Staff Writer

The Montgomery County Women's Center in Elkins Park got a visit Tuesday from U.S. Sen. Bob Casey to tour the facility, which received money in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Casey listened to accounts from staffers and volunteers about how

the center works and how it used the stimulus money. The volunteer-based program focuses on advocating the elimination of domestic abuse and other violence toward women.

"It's an issue, a set of problems and challenges that we don't spend enough time on," Casey said.

"With the state unemployment rate at 8.5 percent, that's 165,000 people out of work. It's evident

that domestic violence and violence against women only increases when the economy is bad."

The center received \$200,000 in ARRA funding from the U.S. Department of Justice. Executive Director Maria Macaluso said it's going toward volunteer training and as an advocate in helping victims get charges pressed and convictions against their abusers.

"As a taxpayer, I'm happy the

center is here to help the police and the legal system, knowing that our police officers aren't on the scene for five or six hours, because we can step in with these cases, and maybe the neighborhood is better because the violence doesn't continue," Macaluso said.

Casey mostly listened to volunteer accounts of how the center's programs have helped the victims

See Casey, Page 2

From Cheltenham's Channel 42 to Reading Phillies broadcaster

By Mike Morsch
Executive Editor

When Brian Seltzer was an 8-year-old third-grader at Myers Elementary School in Elkins Park, he was one of a group of people who attended Game 6 of the 1993 National League Championship Series at Veterans Stadium, which pitted the hometown Phillies against the Atlanta Braves, who were looking to make their third consecutive trip to the World Series.

There, somewhere in the upper regions of the ballpark, the youngster experienced his initial exposure to a live sporting event. Coincidentally, one of the other people in Seltzer's group that day was Mike Schmidt, who was then and to this day is still a teacher at Myers Elementary and who shares the same name as the Phillies' Hall of Fame

third baseman.

"That's the first game that I actually have snapshot, flashbulb memories of in my mind," said Seltzer. "That got me hooked on following sports."

And nearly 17 years later, the path that Seltzer began in Veterans Stadium has led him to another historical ballpark — this one in Reading — where the Elkins Park native will now be spending much of his time this summer as the new radio play-by-play broadcaster for the Reading Phillies, the Double A affiliate of the parent Philadelphia Phillies.

As Phillies Hall of Fame broadcaster, the late Rich Ashburn might say to his longtime partner, the late Hall of Fame announcer Harry Kalas, "Hard to believe, Harry."

Actually, when it comes to Seltzer and his career path, it's not hard to believe at all,

Harry.

When Seltzer first showed up at Cheltenham High School in 1999, he attended an orientation program that provided information about extracurricular activities offered by the school. It was there that he discovered Channel 42, the cable access television channel for Cheltenham Township.

"For whatever reason, I was into it from the get-go," said Seltzer.



Brian Seltzer

Inspired and challenged by former Cheltenham teacher and coach Charles Stamm, who built the audiovisual program at the school from the ground up, Seltzer spent his high school career covering Cheltenham sports for Channel 42.

"I got to build a very sound foundation in terms of just getting exposure to the skill set that's required to do broadcasting on a play-by-play level," said Seltzer. "I got to learn from all my mistakes and it was a terrific opportunity that only Cheltenham High School could have offered."

When it came time to choose a college, Seltzer eyed the University of Pennsylvania, even though it had no hands-on broadcast or journalism curriculum. What it did have, though, was a radio station, WXPX 88.5

See Seltzer, Page 2

Sestak discusses Senate campaign

■ **Sestak**, from Page 1

brace and promote small business.

He talked about the Senate needing change to get these issues better addressed.

“It’s not America that needs reform; it’s the United States Senate. I believe we lack the courage of our convictions,” Sestak said.

Getting health care reform passed is a major platform for the congressman, which he called “not only a moral necessity but an economic requirement,” citing the fact that 66 percent of the uninsured are working, and that businesses lose hours of productivity from uninsured workers.

Running as the anti-establishment candidate for the Democrats, Sestak spoke about the lack of trust that citizens have in their government, and even in their party leadership.

“I feel the Democratic leadership thought we were given a mandate, but truly we were only given an opportunity to lead, and we need to reach across the aisle more to get things accomplished,” Sestak said.



Chronicle/News staff photo - KAITLYN FOTI

U.S. Rep. Joe Sestak, D-7, addresses the Abington Rockledge Democratic Committee Monday. Sestak is challenging incumbent Sen. Arlen Specter in the upcoming primary election.

“I won’t sacrifice good policy at the altar of bipartisanship.”

In the polls, however, Sestak is behind both Specter and Republican frontrunner Patrick Toomey.

The Pennsylvania Democratic Party announced Feb. 6 that its endorsement was going to Specter. Among these challenges, however, Sestak continues to assert that he is the right man for the job.

“I’m different. I’m not better; I’m different. But that difference is what we need,” Sestak said.