



Susquehanna Valley
**ORGANIZATIONS
FOR PROGRESS
DIRECTORY**

Published July 2017

Welcome to the Susquehanna Valley where there are numerous organizations working to make the world (and our little piece of it) a better place to live. If you are interested in getting more involved on the issues that really matter, check out the organizations active in the region. The listing that follows offers contact information and in some cases specific volunteer opportunities for groups working for progress in the region.

Whether you're interested in environmental issues, equality, human rights, healthcare or all of the above, there is an organization working locally that could use your help. Every group has needs. No effort is too small.

The future depends on each and every one of us. Consider getting engaged today.



“Without continual growth and progress, such words as improvement, achievement, and success have no meaning.”

- Benjamin Franklin



ACLU of PA Central Susquehanna

Our chapter is a nonprofit, nonpartisan, membership organization dedicated to defending and expanding individual rights and personal freedoms serving throughout the five county area of Columbia, Montour, Northumberland, Snyder and Union Counties.. Through advocacy, public education and litigation, our staff and volunteers work to preserve and enhance personal liberties, including freedoms of speech, religion and association; the right to petition the government; separation of church and state; the right to privacy; reproductive freedom; due process of law; the right(s) of the accused; and the right to equal treatment under the law.

WEBSITE: aclupa.org

EMAIL: centralsusquehanna@aclupa.org

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/pages/ACLU-of-PA

AIDS Resource

Our mission is to provide culturally sensitive support to people infected with and affected by HIV/AIDS and to prevent further infection through education and outreach programs.

VOLUNTEER: Light administrative tasks (e.g., preparing testing files and safer sex kits).

WEBSITE: aidsresource.com

EMAIL: info@aidsresource.com

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/AIDSResourceAlliance

TWITTER: [@AIDSresource](https://twitter.com/AIDSresource)

Central Susquehanna Valley Showing Up for Racial Justice (SURJ)

CSV SURJ is part of the SURJ national network. We work to mobilize white people to confront internalized racism and enable meaningful action as part of a multi-racial movement for justice. Our work includes educational events, engaging with the community, and supporting efforts led by people of color.

VOLUNTEER: There's much to do and a range of ways to participate, whether it's hosting a discussion about race, putting up a yard sign, talking to your neighbors, or going to a demonstration. Please reach out to us with your needs and interests! We hold "SURJ" Socials every third Tuesday at 8pm at the Bull Run Tap house which are free and open to the public. We have "No matter who you are or where you're from, we're glad you're our neighbor" yard signs available for \$10 each.

WEBSITE: showingupforracialjustice.org

EMAIL: csvsurj@gmail.com

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/CentralSusquehannaValleySURJ

FACEBOOK GROUP: facebook.com/groups/1085678734878440

CommUnity Zone

The CommUnity Zone unites area nonprofit organizations and the people in our community through collaborations to conduct and support community education and build capacity to sustain and improve a quality of life for all community residents. We are particularly interested in ways to empower all voices in the achievements of personal goals.

VOLUNTEER: We are looking for an energetic and friendly person to join us here at CommUnity Zone. Opportunities include web design, publicity and a willingness to work with a wide variety of people. Assist in the creation of brochures and flyers; assist with website, Facebook and other social media; assist with visitors with inquiries about volunteer opportunities, available resources, and Zone programs and activities. Contact Cindy Peltier at peltier@bucknell.edu or 570.238.1818 to learn more.

WEBSITE: communityzonelewisburg.org

EMAIL: community.zone.lewisburg@gmail.com

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/lewisburgzone

TWITTER: [@CommUnityZonePA](https://twitter.com/CommUnityZonePA)

Fair District PA - Susquehanna Valley

A working group of Fair Districts PA - a coalition of citizens and organizations who believe that in American democracy, elections should represent the will of all the people, not just the politicians, and should provide citizens with meaningful choices in electing representatives. Learn more at FairDistrictsPA.com.

VOLUNTEER: Write letters to the editor, attend legislative meetings, help manage social media, help organize training events, become a presenter (training available for all volunteer levels).

WEBSITE: fairdistrictspa.com

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/groups/fairdistrictsSV

EMAIL: fairdistrictsSV@gmail.com

Mondragon Bookstore

What is Mondragon Bookstore? It is a cooperatively-owned venture, committed to bringing together ideas and people. The store sells used books and records, provides a showcase for local artists, and supports a meeting room for community groups. Mondragon Books has a separate online inventory! Please visit our amazon store and search under “products” tab.

WEBSITE: mondragonbooks.com

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/pg/Mondragon-Bookstore-and-Meeting-Space

PHONE: (570) 523-1540

Otzinachson Group, PA Chapter of the Sierra Club

To explore, enjoy, and protect the wind places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth’s ecosystems resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural world and the human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.

VOLUNTEER: Plenty of opportunities to engage. Attend outings, become an outings leader; help organize or lead educational programs; submit content for newsletter; serve as newsletter editor; help manage website and social media.

WEBSITE: Otzsierraclub.org

EMAIL: otzinachson@yahoo.com

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/Otzinachson

Rivertown Coalition for Clean Air & Clean Water

To educate the public about environmental issues. Key issues for 2017: clean energy, health risks of fossil fuels, protecting resource in our region.

VOLUNTEER: Public outreach (attend meetings, speak about Rivertown projects), website updating, social media, research issues, writing.

WEBSITE: rivertowncoalition.org

EMAIL: RivertownCoalition@embarqmail.com

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/RivertownCoalition



“The more a man knows, the more he is willing to learn. The less a man knows, the more positive he is that he know everything.

- Robert Ingersoll



Shalefield Organizing Committee

Shalefield Organizing Committee works to cultivate a grassroots movement for healthy people and ecosystems in the shalefields. Through outreach, education, capacity building, and campaign organizing we empower citizens directly impacted by economic injustice and ecological degradation. We demand accountability from those who hold power through community mobilization and direct action.

VOLUNTEER: This summer we launched our Planted Against the Pipeline project on Hearts and Bones Farm, an organic farm on the proposed route of the Atlantic Sunrise natural gas pipeline. The threat of the pipeline has prevented the farmers from planting their field with their usual crop of organic veggies. We are bringing the community together to plant the fields as an act of resistance and to raise awareness about the impacts of pipelines. We need volunteers for weeding and other tasks throughout the summer!

WEBSITE: shalefieldorganizing.org

EMAIL: info@shalefieldorganizing.org

FACEBOOK facebook.com/shalefieldorganizing

TWITTER: @shalefieldOC

Susquehanna Valley Climate Action

A network of organizations, groups and individuals who are committed to protecting the environment, addressing changes to our global and regional climates, and working to educate and strengthen our region. We share information, support each other in our specific work and together develop projects that encourage the communities in our region to be healthier and more resilient in the face of

these challenges and changes.

WEBSITE: svclimateaction.weebly.com

EMAIL: penngarvin@hotmail.com

PHONE: (570) 716-9828

Susquehanna Valley Ethical Society

The Susquehanna Valley Ethical Society is a humanist, non-theistic, educational, philosophical and charitable organization. We are inspired by the ideal that the supreme aim of human life is to create a more just, equitable, diverse, sustainable, and compassionate society. We endeavor to nurture the capacity and responsibility of human beings to act in their personal relationships and in the larger community to help create a better world. Our commitment is to the worth and dignity of every individual and to treating each human being so as to bring out the best in him or her.

VOLUNTEER: Be a presenter at one of our Sunday platform meetings. Be (or recruit) guest musician(s) for our Sunday meetings. Subscribe to our newsletter and join our events. Donate items for displaced women and children; household items, baby furniture, diapers and supplies, toys, linens, non-perishable food, personal care kits for adults (identifying as female). Donate backpacks, school and art supplies for needy children and teens in our area schools. Collect winter coats (all sizes) for our Coat Drive. Donate yarn to be made into hats and mittens. BECOME A MEMBER! It's a great time— we promise.

WEBSITE: susquehannavalleyethicalsociety.org

EMAIL: info@susquehannavalleyethicalsociety.org

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/susquehannavalleyethicalsociety

TWITTER: [SVES@SVethical](https://twitter.com/SVES@SVethical)



ACT *trainings give you the context and tools needed to be effective in:*

- Facilitating Meetings
- Advocating for an Issue
- Planning a Demonstration
- Getting Smart About the News
- Using an Holistic Approach to Activism
- Lobbying
- Strategizing a Successful Campaign
- Reaching Out to New People
- Listening/Talking Beyond the Divide
- Running for Office
- Using Social Media

ACT NOW!

BE ENGAGED ■ BE INFORMED ■ BE ACTIVE

ActiveCommunityTraining@gmail.com
570-716-9828

ActiveCommunityTraining.jordicommas.org
facebook.com/ACTSusquehannaValley

Susquehanna Valley Progressives

Susquehanna Valley Progressives is a nonpartisan organization united for the betterment of the whole community. We envision a community that empowers individuals to be engaged in and educated on the democratic process; promotes equality and appreciation of diversity; improves the living and working standards of all that live in Susquehanna Valley and actively protects our natural world.

VOLUNTEER: Help manage social media; contribute to op-ed columns; help organize educational programs and events; participate in advocacy efforts.

WEBSITE: SVProgress.org

EMAIL: SVProgressives@gmail.com

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/svprogressives

TWITTER: [@SVProgressives](https://twitter.com/SVProgressives)

West End Progressives

A group of people becoming more politically active as a result of the divisive presidential election in November 2016. Our group most often aligns with the Democratic party but also includes Independents and Moderates of both parties in the political spectrum. In addition to being politically active, seeking fair districting, speaking with legislators, and confronting injustices in our communities, we want to build bridges and find common ground with people who think differently. We want to be part of a political movement that strengthens our communities for everyone.

FACEBOOK: facebook.com/westendprogressives

EMAIL: sharonkoppel1@gmail.com



Iron Front Cowork = Cowork + Event Space in Downtown Lewisburg

Iron Front has flexible plans for shared work space and includes a ton of amenities such as high speed Internet, premium coffee, conference rooms, training center, weekly events, on-site staff, private phone booths, bike share and much more.

Ironfrontcowork.com

434 Market Street
Suite 301, Lewisburg
570.412.4441

Contact Your Elected Officials

U.S. Senate

Casey, Robert P., Jr (D)
393 Russell Senate Office Bldg,
Washington DC 20510
D.C.: (202) 224-6324
Harrisburg: (717) 231-7542
Scranton: (570) 941-0930
Bellefonte: (814) 357-0314
Philadelphia: (215) 405-9660
Web: casey.senate.gov

Toomey, Patrick J. (R)
248 Russell Senate Office Bldg,
Washington DC 20510
D.C.: (202) 224-4254
Harrisburg: (717) 782-3951
Allentown: (610) 434-1444
Wilkes-Barre: (570) 820-4088
Philadelphia: (215) 241-1090
Web: toomey.senate.gov

U.S. House

Barletta, Lou (R)
2049 Rayburn House Office Bldg,
Washington DC 20515
D.C.: (202) 225-6511
Hazleton: (570) 751-0050
Sunbury: (570) 988-7801
Web: barletta.house.gov

Marino, Tom (R)
2242 Rayburn House Office Bldg,
Washington DC 20515
D.C.: (202) 225-3731
Selinsgrove: (570) 374-9469
Williamsport: (570) 322-3961
Web: marino.house.gov

State Senate

Gordner, John (R)
177 Main Capitol, Harrisburg
Harrisburg: (717) 787-8928
Bloomsburg: (570) 784-3464
Mount Carmel: (570) 339-5937
Shamokin Dam: (570) 743-1918
Web: senatorgordner.com

Yaw, Gene (R)
362 Main Capitol, Harrisburg
Harrisburg: (717) 787-3280
Williamsport: (570) 322-6457
Web: senatorgeneyaw.com

State House

Culver, Lynda Schlegel (R)
402 Irvis Office Bldg, Harrisburg
Harrisburg: (717) 787-3485
Milton: (570) 742-6975
Sunbury: (570) 988-1627
Shamokin Dam: (570) 743-1918
Web: lyndaculver.com

Keller, Fred (R)

128 Main Capitol, Harrisburg
Harrisburg: (717) 260-6134
Danville: (570) 275-3700
Elysburg: (570) 648-8017
Web: repmasser.com

Masser, Kurt (R)

428 Irvis Office Bldg, Harrisburg
Harrisburg: (717) 787-3443
Mifflinburg: (570) 966-0052
Web: repfredkeller.com

Millard, David (R)

316 Main Capital, Harrisburg
Harrisburg: (717) 783-1102
Berwick: (570) 759-8734
Bloomsburg: (570) 387-0246
Web: repmillard.com

Make Your Call Count!

Call legislative and congressional offices directly. See previous page for contact information.

Ask to speak to the aide who handles the issue about which you are calling. Your call will be more influential if you speak to the correct aide. If you cannot speak directly with an aide, leave a message with the receptionist stating your views.

Let them know that you are a constituent. Elected officials are most interested in your opinions if you are their constituent, so be sure to say the city and state you are from.

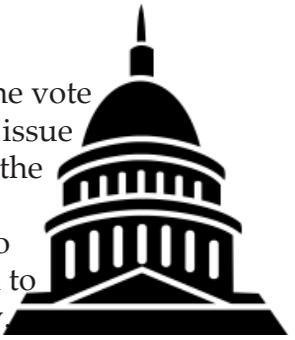
Know your facts. Be sure you have the basic information about your topic in front of you when you call. You should be able to specifically describe the topic about which you are calling and state your opinion on what your legislator should do.

Note your personal experience. If you have personal experience on the issue, be sure to mention it. Tell your story - it can be extremely powerful.

Be brief. Aides receive a high volume of phone calls every day, so keep your call short.

Be timely. Timeliness is especially important when you are

phoning. If the vote on your issue is imminent, the aide is much more likely to pay attention to what you say

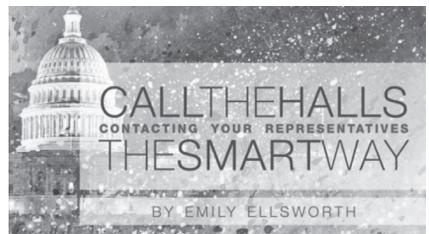


Consider calling the local office. Calling the local office can sometimes be very effective. If you are calling about a vote or other timely issues, always call the Washington or Harrisburg office. But, if you are calling generally about an issue that affects your district or community, calling the local office can be a good way to make them aware of an issue.

Source: Union of Concerned Scientists

Call the Halls is a guide written by a former congressional staffer offering the best strategies for communicating with your legislator.

Download at
CalltheHallsGuide.com



Write Letters to the Editor

Daily Item

Serving Central Susquehanna Valley

Based in Sunbury

DailyItem.com

Editor: Dennis Lyons

dlyons@dailyitem.com

Owned by Community Newspaper Holdings

News-Item

Serving Central Susquehanna Valley

Based in Shamokin

NewsItem.com

Editor: Andy Heitzelman

andy_h@newsitem.com

Owned by Sample News Group

Patriot News

Serving Harrisburg Capital Region (covers statewide issues)

Based in Harrisburg

PennLive.com

Opinions Editor: John Micek

jmicek@pennlive.com

Owned by Advance Publications

Press Enterprise

Serving Columbia County

Based in Bloomsburg

PressEnterpriseOnline.com

Editor: Jim Sachetti

jim.sachetti@pressenterprise.net

Owned by Press Enterprise, Inc.

Snyder County Times

Serving Snyder County

Based in Middleburg

TheSnyderCountyTimes.com

Publisher: Susan Weaver

scuc@ptd.net

Owned by Susan Weaver and Linda Reigle

Sunbury American

Serving Northumberland County

Based in Sunbury

SunburyAmerican.com

Editor: Joe Bartello

SunburyAmerican@gmail.com

Independently-Run Newspaper

Sun-Gazette

Serving Lycoming & Union County

Based in Williamsport

SunGazette.com

Editor: Dave Troisi

dtroisi@sungazette.com

Owned by Ogden Newspapers

Standard Journal

West Branch Susquehanna Valley

Based in Milton

StandardJournal.com

Editor: Chris Brady

chris@standard-journal.com

Owned by Sample News Group

Union County Times

Serving Union County

Based in Middleburg

TheUnionCountyTimes.com

Publisher: Susan Weaver

scuc@ptd.net

Owned by Susan Weaver and Linda Reigle

Each newspaper has its own guidelines for submitting editorial pieces. Be sure to review these guidelines prior to submitting your letter to the editor. For complete listing of Pennsylvania newspapers, visit <http://www.onlinenewspapers.com/usstate/uspennsy.htm>.

Tips on Getting Published

- 1 Follow the newspaper's guidelines.
- 2 Stick to a single topic.
- 3 Use basic language. Simplify.
- 4 Make references to the newspaper.
- 5 Include your contact information.
- 6 Make it local.
- 7 Make it personal.
- 8 Make it timely.
- 9 Be respectful.
- 10 End with a call to action.

Wanted! Writers

Susquehanna Valley Progressives has two bi-weekly columns that appear in local newspapers: Forward Thinking in the Daily Item and Making Progress in the News-Item.

If interested, please send writing sample to SVProgressives@gmail.com.



HOW DO YOU MEASURE PROGRESS?



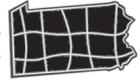
Affordable & Accessible Healthcare for All

Sustainable & Clean Energy



Quality Public Education & Affordable College

End Gerrymandering, Ensure Fair Districting



Equality for All - Regardless of Race, Sexual Orientation, Gender, and Religion

The Protection of Our Natural World and
Sustaining Resources for Future Generations



A Fair, Progressive Tax System

*In other words...we are committed to giving ourselves
and future generations a fair chance.*

Susquehanna Valley
Progressives



SVProgress.org

Honoring Charles Sackrey

The Susquehanna Valley Progressives is pleased to honor Charles Sackrey with the first ever Robert Ingersoll Forward Thinking Award.

Charles is a notable member of the community and has advocated tirelessly on behalf of free thought, human and civil rights, social justice and the environment.



As an Economics Professor at Bucknell University, Charles challenged his students and colleagues to think beyond convention. In the classroom, he forthrightly declared his commitment to fight injustice. His students responded-- agreeing, disagreeing, but always contending with what was important. His students felt respected and free, safe and inspired to join the conversation and a number were inspired to join the fight against injustice.

As one of his colleagues has said, "Charles never saw an injustice he didn't try to correct."

Charles helped students and other faculty organize the Bucknell Progressive Caucus and he took action side-by-side with students – a sit in during a trustees meeting – for divestment in support of ending apartheid in South Africa, demonstrations against US proxy wars in Central America and much more.

He helped students produce the Catalyst newspaper, with stories not only about injustice in the world, but inequality and injustice at Bucknell.

He has advocated on the front lines on behalf of disenfranchised workers at the University and in the community...fighting for fair wages and treatment.

Through his tenure at Bucknell University and as an active member of Organizations United for the Environment (OUE), he fought against environmental injustice. Charles challenged politicians and corporate interests intent on harming our Valley's precious natural resources. Charles rallied his fellow citizens to fight against ill-conceived development that threatened the health and quality of life of our residents. His efforts resulted in numerous environmental wins for our area but, more importantly, instilled a sense of worth in our community and restored the ability of the people to self-determine their future.

Outside the classroom, Charles peacefully protested, encouraging his fellow citizens to do the same. He has organized protests and patriotically exercised his freedom of speech. It was not unusual for Charles to get arrested during these demonstrations. He would always notify the police of his intent, ensuring a peaceful outcome.

Charles is a tireless advocate for social and economic equality. He has long recognized the consequences of an unregulated capitalist system and has fought for fairness and inclusion. In recent years he developed and co-taught courses through Bucknell's community learning programs related to economic theory and social inequality, always intent on educating the public on unorthodox topics that are rarely discussed in mainstream society.

In true Charles fashion, he founded the Mondragon Bookstore in Lewisburg—a model workplace of humanism and solidarity—where the workers are the true owners of the establishment. The bookstore has served as a meeting place for numerous nonprofit organizations and has been a welcome destination for those seeking literature and reference materials on a variety of subjects.

One of his Bucknell colleagues coined him “the Woody Guthrie of Bucknell.” Susquehanna Valley Progressives would like to say he is the Woody Guthrie of the Susquehanna Valley. On behalf of all those who think forwardly and embrace true progress, we thank Charles for his steadfast work to fight against adversity and injustice; his persistence to educate and inspire those around him; his integrity to live his ideals and morals; and his constant efforts to make this world a better place.

Produced by the

Susquehanna Valley Progressives

SVProgress.org
SVProgressive@gmail.com

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*“In the republic of mediocrity,
genius is dangerous.”*

- Robert Ingersoll

