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Winter 2003-2004 ACTION Newsletter

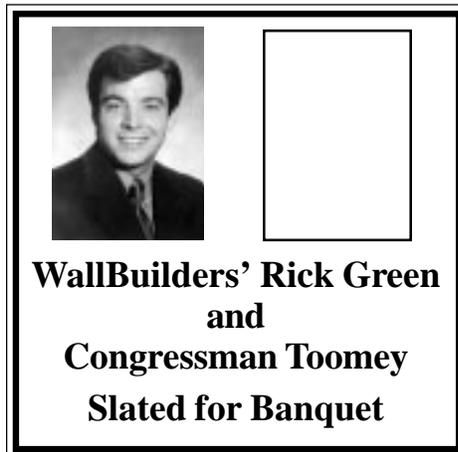
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Lancaster County ACTION's 2004 Banquet



Plan now to attend the 15th annual Lancaster County ACTION banquet slated for Friday, February 27, 2004 at 7:00 PM at the Eden Resort Inn located at 222 Eden Road, Lancaster, PA. Our keynote speaker will be former State Representative Rick Green from Aledo, Texas. In addition to his business ventures, Rick travels around the country speaking on behalf of WallBuilders.

WallBuilders is a name taken from Nehemiah which records the successful results stemming from a large grass roots movement. The name is used allegorically to

symbolize a call to rebuild those things which were once great, but have since been torn down – things like a sound education system, strong families, moral and safe communities, etc. WallBuilders is reintroducing the Biblical Principle used by America's Founders. They distribute historical, legal and statistical information and help educate citizens on how to become active in their local schools and communities.

Also joining us for the evening will be our special guest, Congressman Pat Toomey. Congressman Toomey is running against Arlen Specter for the U.S. Senate. First elected to the United States House of Representatives in 1998, Pat Toomey brings to Washington a vast array of real world experience. This experience, gained as a successful businessman in both large and small business - and, of course, as a husband, father and taxpayer, helped him to make an immediate impact in Washington. The three-term Congressman from a Democrat-leaning district has gained a national reputation as one of Congress' strongest supporters of tax relief, pro-growth conservative fiscal policies and traditional values.

For his principal stand in the United States House of Representatives, **Forbes Magazine** labeled him "*Congressman Courageous*" and the **National Review** stated, "*he is principled and right on the issues.*"

Pat lives with his wife, Kris, and their two children, Bridget and Patrick, in Zionsville, PA. They attend St. Thomas Moore Church in Allentown.

A special reception with Rick Green and Congressman Toomey will be held before the dinner from 6:15 to 6:45 p.m.

"The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is for good men to do nothing."

Edmund Burke



Toomey vs. Specter

by Robert Kettering, *President*

Arlen Specter has been a U.S. Senator from PA for the past 24 years. He is now seeking his 5th term and if he wins he is scheduled to become chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee. That means that the one person in this country who will have the most to say about who will become our next Supreme Court Justice (or Justices) will be Arlen Specter. That's right, one of the most liberal Republican Senators in the nation, the man whom the **National Review** calls "*The Worst Republican Senator*" will set the tone for the highest court in the land.

What will Senator Specter do in this position? There's really no need to wonder, he can be expected to do exactly as he's done before. Remember Judge Bork? As Mr. Bork's lobbyist, Tom Korologos, put it at the time, "Specter hit the game winning RBI." Too bad he was playing for the wrong team, but that's who Arlen is and anyone

who is fooled this time around, after 24 years, just isn't paying attention.

When you look at America today, what institution is most responsible for the assault on our values? Is it the presidency? Is it the Congress? Is it the Senate? Or is it our judicial system? I think you'll agree with me that activist judges in our judicial system, led by the Supreme Court, have led the assault on the Judeo-Christian values that our nation was founded upon. Today, 3/4 of Americans want voluntary school prayer and they want the 10 Commandments posted in public. Yet in these cases (and many others), while 3/4 of Americans favor one direction, the Supreme Court, often by a 5-4 split decision, overrides the will of the people and forces their morality (or lack thereof) onto the nation. In the near future, the high court is expected to make a decision concerning the legality of homosexual marriage. I could fill every page of this newsletter with reasons why conservatives should vote for Pat Toomey over Arlen Specter, but to me this one factor - the future direction of our Supreme Court - overrides all other issues. God has given to us the responsibility to choose our leaders (Exodus 18:21-22) and this election demands our utmost attention. The future of the nation, indeed, the future of your children and grandchildren and the kind of country they'll live in is what's at stake.

WANTED: CONSERVATIVES WILLING TO TAKE A STAND

Issue: Legal and Judicial

Pat Toomey

- A leader in the effort to reform the medical malpractice insurance system.
- Supports product liability reform.
- Supports justices who believe in a strict interpretation of the Constitution.
- Supported the impeachment of Bill Clinton.
- Supports U.S. armed forces by opposing subjecting U.S. soldiers to an International Criminal Court just for doing their job.

Arlen Specter

- Voted against reforms to the medical malpractice insurance system.
- Voted against caps in product liability cases.
- Lead the effort to prevent conservative Judge Bork's appointment to the Supreme Court.
- Refused to take a stand on the Clinton impeachment by invoking Scottish law and voting "Not Proven."
- Only Republican Senator to support subjecting U.S. soldiers to an International Criminal Court just for doing their job.

Lancaster County ACTION Quarterly Breakfast Meeting

Saturday, January 10, 2004

8:00 AM to 10:00 AM

Leola Family Restaurant, 2491 New Holland Pike (Route 23, Leola)

Speaker: Congressman Pat Toomey

Congressman Toomey is running against Arlen Specter for U.S. Senate

Please reserve your seat at the quarterly breakfast by calling the ACTION office (717-653-6605) by Wednesday, January 7, 2004.

The cost is \$7.00 per person for those pre-registered.

Non-registered persons will be charged \$9.00 at the door.

Issue: Social and Cultural

Pat Toomey

- Pro-Life: opposes Roe v. Wade
- Original Co-Sponsor of, and voted for, a ban on partial birth abortion.
- Opposes taxpayer funding of abortion.
- Supports requiring minors having to notify their parents before getting an abortion.
- Opposes distribution of "morning after" abortion pills to elementary and secondary school children.
- Co-Sponsor and testified in favor of legislation to ban all human cloning.
- Supports School Choice initiatives.
- Supports allowing the Boy Scouts access to schools and other federal buildings without having to allow gay scout leaders.
- Opposes expanding "Hate Crimes" legislation.
- Opposes Affirmative Action quotas.
- Has had the support of PA Pro-Life Federation and National Right to Life.

American Conservative Union
Lifetime Rating: 97%

Arlen Specter

- Pro-Choice: supports Roe v. Wade
- Voted against a partial-birth abortion ban. Recently voted with pro-choice Democrats to obstruct passage of a ban on partial birth abortions.
- Consistently votes for taxpayer funding of abortion.
- Has voted against minors having to notify their parents before getting an abortion.
- Voted to allow "morning after" abortion pills to be distributed to elementary and secondary school children.
- Joined Ted Kennedy and Diane Feinstein in writing legislation to allow for human cloning.
- Opposes School Choice initiatives.
- Opposed giving the Boy Scouts access to schools and other federal buildings unless they agreed to allow gay scout leaders.
- Supports expansion of "Hate Crimes" legislation.
- Supports Affirmative Action quotas.
- Has had the support of NARAL.

American Conservative Union
Lifetime Rating: 42%

Issue: Taxes and Spending

Pat Toomey

- Never voted for a tax increase.
- Introduced legislation to expand President Bush's 2001 tax relief plan.
- Voted to require a Super Majority of Congress to raise taxes.

National Taxpayer Union Lifetime Grade: A

- Citizens Against Government Waste honored Toomey as a "Taxpayer Superhero" for his leadership in cutting wasteful spending. He was one of only 4 of 435 House members to receive such a distinction.
- Chair of the Republican Study Committee's Task Force on Budget and Tax - a group dedicated to reducing wasteful spending, lowering taxes and returning the federal budget to balance.

Citizens Against Government Waste
Rating: 94% (Highest ranking PA Member)

Arlen Specter

- Voted for five major tax increases, including two of the largest tax hikes in history at the time.
- Voted to obstruct and reduce the Bush tax cut of 2001 and voted against cutting taxes 8 times since 1995.
- Voted against requiring a Super Majority of Congress to raise taxes.

National Taxpayer Union Lifetime Grade: C

- Citizens Against Government Waste labeled Specter an "Oinker" for "dogged perseverance in the mad pursuit of pork;" also labeled him as "Porker of the Month in May 2001."
- The Labor Health and Human Services appropriations bill has increased over 100% under his leadership during the last 6 years.

Citizens Against Government Waste
Rating: 52% (Second worst among all Senate Republicans)

A Message from the Treasurer

Well, a new year is soon upon us. Can you believe it? Time goes by so fast. Please look at the mailing label on this newsletter to see if your dues are up to date. The number "2004" should appear in the parenthesis on the label. If it does not, please fill out the form below and mail it to:

Lancaster County ACTION
Office of the Treasurer
849 Valley Road
Lancaster, PA 17601

clip and send

I would like to begin/renew (\$20.00 per household) my membership in Lancaster County ACTION.
(Please make check payable to Lancaster County ACTION.)

I'd like to volunteer for the following ACTION Committee(s):

- | | | |
|--|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Church Contact/Prayer | <input type="checkbox"/> Legislative Issues | <input type="checkbox"/> Quarterly Breakfast |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Library | <input type="checkbox"/> School District Coordinator |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fund Raising | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter | <input type="checkbox"/> Voter Guides |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Growth/Membership | | |

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Please clip and return to Lancaster County ACTION, 849 Valley Road, Lancaster, PA 17601. Thank you!



Is America Better?

By Paul Keller

As the war in Iraq continues, the debate here at home lingers also. Some ask, "What are we doing there?" Even though the Commander in Chief has explained it several times, some people just don't get it. I heard one news commentator repeatedly imply in his dialogue that protecting the lives of the troops was a paramount mission. Where does this idea come from? In war, often times troops are put in the position of sacrifice to accomplish a successful mission. That is why war is hell and should be the last resort. We are in Iraq because American ideals have been attacked by those who radically oppose our way of life. We are there to defend our way of life. We are there to win.

Another question asked is, "Why is our way of life superior to the enemy's?" Here is the whole axiom:

The Declaration of Independence declares what the majority of people in the colonies of that era believed. That all people are created equal and were given certain rights (life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness) by God the Creator and that Government leaders should protect those rights for each individual citizen. Also, it is critical to protect the citizens from any threat of tyranny inside or outside our borders. The idea that government is a servant and responsible for maintaining the rights endowed to the citizen by God (which is a Biblical principle of natural law) was a revolutionary idea to the rest of the civilized world at that time in history. Not since the kings of Israel was such a concept used in creating a government.

The failure to teach this principle belief effectively and the stifling of the Bible in our public

educational institutions for the past forty years has brought us to the alarming point in time where this idea is misunderstood and even radical to many Americans today. Most of the rest of the world has no grasp of this concept.

A survey done recently by Foundation for Individual Rights in Education confirms the sad state of our institutions of higher education. Of the college administrators who were surveyed, from presidents to assistant deans, 11 percent couldn't name any specific First Amendment rights.

When asked which freedom the amendment addressed first, only 2 percent of the students and 6 percent of the administrators correctly named freedom of religion. This simple survey shows clear evidence that we are failing in the responsibility to pass on the legacy of our coveted heritage here in America.

The teaching of America's founding documents and their venerable principles and values should be propagated into our culture immediately at every possible venue. We are at a crucial moment in our history. The ignorance of the truths found in our great and vast heritage is dividing us and making us weak. It plays a major role in the divisiveness we see in political campaigns and politics today.

An understanding of basic fundamental God-given rights and responsibilities by every citizen is the key to our recovery from peril.

The 9/11/01 attack on America was played out dramatically on the grand world stage and has threatened our relatively tranquil everyday existence. The ensuing war has cost us valuable lives and resources, a price we can't afford not to pay. Yet, we should exert just as much effort here at home to restore waning basic American institutions and principles and we should strengthen our core values necessary to stand together as one strong and just nation under God, a light of hope to Her citizens and to the rest of the world.

This is why America should stand against tyranny and why we will win.

DATES TO REMEMBER

January 7, 2004
January 10, 2004
February 27, 2004

Last day to register for the January Quarterly Breakfast
Quarterly Breakfast at Leola Family Restaurant
Fifteenth Annual Banquet with Rick Green and Congressman Pat Toomey

THE POWER OF PRAYER

When Minister Joe Wright was asked to open the new session of the KANSAS SENATE, everyone was expecting the usual generalities, but this is what they heard:

*...“**Heavenly Father**, we come before you today to ask Your forgiveness and seek Your direction and guidance. We know Your Word says “Woe to those who call evil good,” but that’s exactly what we have done.*

...We have lost our spiritual equilibrium and inverted our values.

We confess that:

...We have ridiculed the absolute truth of Your Word and called it moral pluralism;

...We have worshiped other gods and called it multiculturalism;

...We have endorsed perversions and called it alternative lifestyle;

...We have exploited the poor and called it the lottery;

...We have neglected the needy and called it self-preservation;

...We have rewarded laziness and called it welfare;

...We have killed our unborn and called it a choice;

...We have shot abortionists and called it justifiable;

...We have neglected to discipline our children and called it building esteem;

...We have abused power and called it political savvy;

...We have coveted our neighbor’s possessions and called it ambition;

...We have polluted the air with profanity and pornography and called it freedom of expression;

...We have ridiculed the time-honored values of our forefathers and called it enlightenment.

...Search us, O God, and know our hearts today; cleanse us from every sin and set us free.

...Guide and bless these men and women who have been sent to direct us to the center of your will and to openly ask these things in the name of Your Son, the Living Savior, Jesus Christ. -----Amen.



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