



Pundits questioning Trump's health

INSIDE, 6A

BUCKS COUNTY Courier Times

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Residents push back against Route 1 cloverleaf



Middletown supervisors (from left) Ryan Leighton, Christian Gallardo and Bernadette Hannah at a meeting on the Route 1 improvement project opposed by the citizens' group No Cloverleaf. The meeting was held at the Soby American Legion Post 148 in Langhorne on April 16. JD MULLANE/BUCKS COUNTY COURIER TIMES

JD Mullane
Bucks County Courier Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

Bucks County residents opposed to a state makeover of Route 1 packed a standing-room-only meeting April 16, saying the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's plan to build a partial cloverleaf will shift dangerous levels of traffic onto quiet neighborhood streets.

Members of the No Cloverleaf coalition, a grassroots group, said the agency's plans to remove service roads along Route 1, called "Super Highway" is bad. Those side roads channel traffic into parts of Middletown, Parkland and the quiet, tiny towns of Langhorne Borough and Langhorne Manor Borough.

Organizers, led by Langhorne Open Space President Pat Carr and No Clo-

verleaf rep Paul Schneider and others, said they're fine with upgrading the heavily traveled four-lane highway's safety, including higher overpasses, curb removals and wider shoulders. But they strongly oppose closing the parallel service and access roads that carry local traffic into quiet neighborhoods.

Resident and No Cloverleaf member Cindy Transue presented a video demonstrating that two of the streets that will be jammed with the additional traffic, Highland and Gilliam avenues, are tight, winding and shoulderless.

"Our narrow neighborhood streets were not created to be the backbone of a high-speed, limited access highway," she said.

When the highway — a limited-access four-laner — was built in the

See CLOVERLEAF, Page 2A



The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation's design would funnel Route 1 traffic at Route 413 into the circular sections of two new cloverleaves, with one connecting with southbound Route 413 toward Pennell, the other with northbound Route 413 toward Langhorne.

MAP PROVIDED BY PENNDOT

Pa. advocate: CB admin 'willfully failed' to report claims

Jo Ciavaglia
Bucks County Courier Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

A recent state education opinion upholding the termination of a former Central Bucks school administrator contains "clear evidence" that supports pursuing criminal charges for violating mandatory reporter law, two child welfare advocates said.

The Pennsylvania secretary of education decision involving Alyssa Wright, a former public services and special education director with the school district, goes "beyond acknowledging" that Wright failed to report suspected abuse on the "specific day" that she was required to make a report, said Maura McInerney, legal director of the nonprofit Education Law Center in Philadelphia.

"The findings present clear evidence — including certain stipulations agreed to by the parties — that Ms. Wright qualified as a mandated reporter, had reasonable cause to suspect child abuse, and willfully failed to report this abuse as required by state law to fulfill her obligations as a mandated reporter," McInerney said.

"The opinion supports a finding that the state mandatory reporting laws were violated and criminal penalties may be pursued."

McInerney further described state Secretary of Education Cindy Rowe's findings of willfulness against Wright as "particularly strong, implicating the applicability of penalties" under the Child Protective Services Law, and "requiring further investigation as to whether she engaged in a continuing course of action under the law."

In the March 30 opinion upholding Wright's termination, Rowe noted that the case against Wright involves "a serious failure to file a ChildLine report because (her) position involved supervision over students with disabilities; a population vulnerable to abuse and

See ABUSE, Page 2A

Felonies dropped against another 'Quakertown 5' defendant

Jo Ciavaglia
Bucks County Courier Times
USA TODAY NETWORK

The Bucks County District Attorney's Office has dropped the most serious charges against another teen who the Quakertown police chief allegedly restrained by the neck during a protest ear-

lier this year.

Attorney Tim Prendergast confirmed that felony charges including aggravated assault and misdemeanor simple assault have been withdrawn against his 15-year-old client. The teen's image with Quakertown Police Chief Scott McElree went viral after the Feb. 20 off-campus student protest against U.S. Immigration

and Customs Enforcement tactics turned into a violent clash.

His client is still facing misdemeanor and summary charges for disorderly conduct, and simple assault in juvenile court, Prendergast said, noting that her next court appearance is in May.

The teen is the third of the so-called "Quakertown 5" who has had felony

charges dropped following the student-led off-campus protest of ICE.

Attorney Sara Webster, who represents a second boy charged, previously confirmed a DA offer to withdraw felonies against her client. She did not immediately respond to an email April 15

See FELONY, Page 2A

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