

Pipe to speak at meeting

By Zach Geiger
COLLEGIAN STAFF WRITER

Pennsylvania congressional candidate and recent Penn State graduate Michael Pipe is hosting a town hall meeting tonight at the Schlow Centre Region Library to discuss his campaign with State College residents.

The town hall meeting in State College — Pipe's tenth stop on a tour of the 5th Congressional District — is set to begin at 6:30 p.m. and is open to all residents.

The 5th Congressional District is the third largest district east of the Mississippi and covers a wide range of constituents across the state of Pennsylvania. Pipe's campaign manager William Hughes said. Reaching out to those constituents, addressing their concerns and getting Pipe's name out into the public is one of the main goals of the town hall series, Hughes said.

"Our main goal is that Michael wants to get out there and talk to the voters," Hughes said. "This is an excellent way to do that."

Each of the nine previous town hall meetings has been different from the others, Hughes said.

But in each situation, Pipe likes to introduce himself to the crowd and then engage in a dialogue with the person instead of just a simple question-and-answer format, Hughes said.

The questions typically range

from current issues in the 5th Congressional District to the campaign that Pipe started at such a young age, Hughes said, but Pipe making himself available to the voters and the constituents in the district is the ultimate result of the meetings.

"The problems we're having here in the district — unemployment, high taxes, and a Washington not listening to its voters — they're the problems we face not as Democrats or Republicans, but as neighbors and friends," Pipe said. "I'm here and I'm ready to listen."

Centre County Democrats Chairman Greg Stewart said the group promoted Pipe's event through its e-mail lists, website and Facebook page.

"He's definitely one of our candidates," Stewart said. "We go out of our way to promote these events."

But not everyone expressed confidence in Pipe's campaign.

Penn State College Republicans Vice President Anthony Christina said he was concerned about Pipe's lack of experience.

"He's only been a college graduate for a year now," Christina said. "We don't really think that he has what it takes to lead the district."

Christina said the current incumbent, Congressman Glenn Thompson, R-5th District, is a

If you go

What: Michael Pipe town hall series

When: Tonight, 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Where: Schlow Memorial Library, Downsborough Room A & B

Details: Town hall meeting for Pipe for Congress

Centre County area native and a big supporter of Penn State. Thompson hosted a town hall meeting last fall but Christina said he did not know the plans of the congressman in regards to future meetings.

But age isn't a factor in the campaign, Hughes said.

"People actually seem to respond well to [Pipe's] age," he said. "There's a feeling out there that we need new blood in Washington."

The goal of tonight's town hall meeting — which is open free of charge to any interested voters — is to express Pipe's goal to bring change to Washington and take the time to listen to his constituents, Hughes said.

Rep. Thompson's office did not return calls for comment by press time Monday.

To e-mail reporter: zjg5012@psu.edu



Collegian file photo

Allison Marrino (sophomore-health policy administration) looks through shelves of books at Got Used Bookstore.

Businesses await return of students

By Mike Hricik
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Some businesses are debuting new services for the fall to bring in new customers.

The Student Book Store will begin to offer textbook rentals which could save students 50 percent or more, Store Manager John Lindo said.

"It's another way to save on textbooks and it eliminates searching around on the Internet," Lindo said.

The fall season also means expanded hours.

Giller is planning on opening his Cartridge World stores on Saturdays again starting move-in week. Cartridge World specializes in ink cartridges for printers.

"We find we get very busy that whole week. Students get to their computers and discover they're out of ink," Giller said.

The return of many Penn State students can serve as a boredom cure for some business owners.

Ellen Fryer, manager of Ultimate Tans, 111 W. Beaver Ave., is looking forward to the influx of students.

"I'm really excited for the students to get back. It's been kind of boring the past couple weeks," Fryer said.

Ultimate Tans will build up inventory, prepare advertising and get returning staff members ready as fall approaches.

Fryer said business will become more steady when students get back into the routine of tanning.

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PSU gets \$54 million grant

By Micah Wintner
FOR THE COLLEGIAN

Penn State's College of Medicine's Department of Public Health Sciences is using a seven-year grant from the National Institute of Health to try to advance asthma research.

The grant, worth \$54 million, is one of the largest in the college's history, according to a statement posted on Penn State Live.

AsthmaNet, a group that is part of the National Institute of Health, is a collaboration of nine clinical centers whose goal is to "investigate" new therapies for asthma patients, said Vernon Chinchilli, Department of Public Health Sciences chairman.

The Department of Public Health Sciences was chosen through a competition with other research facilities to act as the data coordinating center (DCC) for this project, Chinchilli said.

As the DCC, it is Hershey Medical's job to store and manage data found among the nine clinical centers.

"Lots of coordination effort goes into [clinical centers] making sure things are standardized and uniformed," he said.

AsthmaNet will work to compare different asthma therapies to see which ones work best for certain conditions and patients, he said.

In terms of original research,

Chinchilli said AsthmaNet is still developing trials.

AsthmaNet is still working to develop trials based off of its two predecessors, the Asthma Clinical Research Network and the Childhood Asthma Research and Education Network, he said.

The project started in September 2009 and will be funded through June 2016, he said.

Penn State makes sure to help all students with asthma. Students can receive inhalers at University Health Services (UHS), Sam Kelly said.

Kelly (junior-statistics) said he can get his inhaler at UHS through a prescription from his allergist at home.

Families remember volunteer workers killed in Afghanistan

By Kathy Matheson
ASSOCIATED PRESS WRITER

AKRON, Pa. — A Mennonite aid group in Pennsylvania denied Monday that a member killed with nine others during a medical mission in Afghanistan had tried to convert Muslims to Christianity.

The Mennonite Central Committee joined a chorus of protests over Taliban claims the volunteers had engaged in proselytizing.

John Williamson, a representative with the Akron, Pa.-based aid group, dismissed those claims as "rubbish" after a morning news conference about the death of member Glen Lapp. Lapp, a 40-year-old nurse from Lancaster, had been in Afghanistan for nearly two years.

Lapp was a "very kind, loving, respectful person" who

spoke Dari, a local language, and enjoyed sharing stories with the Afghan people, Williamson said.

Lapp was among 10 aid workers — six Americans, two Afghans, one Briton and a German — fatally shot Thursday after being accosted by gunmen following a two-week medical mission to help impoverished villagers in remote Nuristan province.

"These Afghan villages, I can assure you, are grieving deeply this loss," said Ron Flaming, the committee's international programs director.

Though trained as a nurse, Lapp managed logistics for the International Assistance Mission, a Kabul-based Christian charity that organized the trip. An official with the group said it was authorized to treat people in the Parun valley for eye diseases.

Director Dirk Frans insisted there was no attempt to preach Christianity. He said members were likely carrying personal Bibles in English and German — but not in Afghan languages, as the Taliban alleged.

Some local officials suspect common criminals carried out the attack.

The family of Brian Carderelli, a photographer among those killed, said he was documenting aid work done by the International Assistance Mission and other groups.

Carderelli, 25, of Harrisonburg, Va., worked for the International School of Kabul. He went to Afghanistan in September and also was compiling an album titled "The Beauty — It's Not All War."

"Brian was a Christian who was killed as he was fulfilling his life ambition to use his talents and training to show the

love of Christ to the poor and disadvantaged," the church said in a statement.

In Tennessee, the father of a woman who was among those murdered said he hopes Afghan leaders will honor the victims by pushing for freedom in their country.

Cheryl Beckett, 32, understood the risks of working in the unstable country but had grown attached to the Afghan people after repeated visits over six years, according to her father, the Rev. Charles Beckett, a senior minister at Woodlawn Christian Church in Knoxville.

Flaming said the Mennonite Central Committee still has one relief worker in Afghanistan. He would not divulge the nature or location of the worker's assignment, but noted "at this time, she is safe."



Courtesy of the Associated Press

Cheryl Beckett, 32, was one of 10 civilians killed in Afghanistan this week.

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