





## OBITUARIES

### Alma R. Wentz

Alma R. Wentz, 89, of 213 Weaver Drive, Lititz died peacefully and went home to be with her Savior on Sunday, May 11, 2008 at the Heart of Lancaster Regional Medical Center, Lititz.

Born in Johnstown, she was the daughter of the late Roy A. and Janet R. Boyle Coleman. Alma worked as a Library Clerk in Brooksville, Florida. She was the wife of the late Joseph P. Wentz who died in 2000. She attended Grace Church of Lititz.

Surviving are a daughter, Phyllis wife of Pastor William Willard of Lititz, two sons, James husband of Sally Wentz of Pensacola, FL, Lawrence husband of Merrilee Wentz of Brooksville, FL; thirteen grandchildren and nineteen great grandchildren. She was preceded in death by two sisters, Virginia Scott and Louise Childers.

Relatives and friends are respectfully invited to attend her memorial service from the Grace Church of Lititz, 501 West Lincoln Avenue, Lititz, PA on Friday, May 16, 2008 at 7:30 PM with Pastor Scott Distler and Pastor William Willard officiating. Interment will be in Forest Lawn Memorial Park, Johnstown, PA. Friends may visit with the family at the church on Friday evening from 6:30 PM until the time of the service. Those desiring may send contributions in Alma's memory to Grace Church of Lititz Missions Program, 501 West Lincoln Avenue, Lititz, PA 17543. The Buch Funeral Home Manheim, PA is in charge of arrangements. For further information or to send the family a message of condolence, you may visit our website at:

www.buchfuneral.com

### Donald E. Parmer

Donald E. Parmer, 76, of Lancaster, passed away unexpectedly on Monday, May 12, 2008 at home.

Born December 6, 1931, in Lancaster; he was the son of the late Earl and Alice (Rote) Parmer. He was a loving and devoted husband, father and grandfather and was married to Shirley M. (Baum) Parmer on January 5, 1957.

Don had worked as a sheet metal fabricator for Novelty Manufacturing Company for 44 years.

Surviving in addition to his wife is one daughter, Donna M. McEvoy, of Lititz; one granddaughter, Meghan E. McEvoy, and one sister, Betty Parmer, of Lancaster. He was preceded in death by four siblings.

A Memorial Service will be held at the Andrew T. Scheid Funeral Home, 320 Blue Rock Road, Route 999, Millersville, PA, 717-872-2266 on Thursday, May 15, 2008 at 2 PM. Inurnment will be in the Conestoga Memorial Park, Lancaster, PA. Friends may visit with the family at Scheid's on Thursday between 1 and 2 PM. Kindly omit flowers. Memorial Remembrances can be made in Don's memory to the American Heart Association. For on-line condolences, directions or other information, you are welcome to visit our website at:

www.scheidfuneralhome.com

### Lawrence R. Seaman

Lawrence R. Seaman, 78, U.S. Army Veteran, Lancaster, died May 8, 2008.

Services will be private. Arrangements Entrusted to the Andrew T. Scheid Funeral Home, 320 Blue Rock Road, Millersville, PA, 717-872-2266. For on-line condolences, directions or other information, you are welcome to visit our website at:

www.scheidfuneralhome.com

## Last call for Pa. turnpike bids

### Companies seeking to lease toll road get time to generate final offer

BY MARK SCOLFORO  
Associated Press

HARRISBURG — Preliminary bids on a 75-year Pennsylvania Turnpike lease came in so close to each other that at least some of the bidders have been given five more days to sweeten the pot.

Gov. Ed Rendell said Monday that the highest bid submitted by Friday's deadline and all other bids that were at least 90 percent of the highest bid qualified for the right to submit a best and final offer by the end of the week.

The governor did not say how high the initial bids were or how many qualified for the additional time.

"The bids are sufficient that I think the Legislature has to

give this a hard look," he said at a news conference to announce the delay. "Are the bids as good as they would have been ... nine months ago, before financial conditions in the country dipped? No."

But Rendell said he was happy with the results so far.

"Given what's happened to the market recently, absolutely," he said. "You know, it's not a great time to be doing this and would that we had done it a little earlier, but it is what it is."

Rendell plans to submit the largest bid to the General Assembly for its consideration, but acknowledged "it may be difficult" to get the Legislature to act by the end of June.

The winning bidder will have to post a \$100 million let-

ter of credit that can be forfeited if the Legislature signs off on a deal but the bidder backs out. Rendell has proposed a 75-year lease of 500 miles of the turnpike system to raise billions of dollars to repair crumbling roadways, rebuild decaying bridges and help subsidize mass-transit costs.

A long-term turnpike lease would replace the multibillion-dollar transportation funding law passed by the General Assembly last summer. That law would add tolls to Interstate 80, among other things, and has engendered bitter opposition among the people and businesses located along the major east-west artery.

Rendell said he was pushing to have the Pennsylvania Turnpike Commission and the

state Transportation Department submit documents by the end of this week to the federal authorities who will be approving or rejecting the I-80 tolling conversion. He said he will ask U.S. Transportation Department Secretary Mary Peters to expedite consideration of the I-80 tolling plan.

"If I were a legislator, I'm not sure I would want to vote on this in a vacuum," Rendell said of the turnpike leasing plan. "I'd want to know what happened to I-80 first."

Under terms of the turnpike lease for which Rendell sought bids, the operator could increase tolls by 25 percent early next year and then annually by 2.5 percent or the consumer price index, whichever is higher.

## Fla. exec named Pa. state university chancellor

BY MARTHA RAFFAELE  
AP Education Writer

HARRISBURG — The president of a state university in Florida will be the next chief executive of Pennsylvania's 14 state-owned universities.

John Cavanaugh was selected unanimously Monday by the State System of Higher Education's board of governors to become the third chancellor in the system's 25-year history. He starts his new job July 1.

Cavanaugh, 54, is president of the University of West Florida in Pensacola, where his annual salary is \$295,000. He has led the 10,500-student university since 2002.

Details of his compensation package for the Pennsylvania job were still being worked out Monday morning, system spokesman Kenn Marshall said. Cavanaugh's predecessor was one of the highest paid state employees.

Cavanaugh said he was looking forward to leading "one of the premier systems in the country."

"What excites me is that it serves a population that is very much the kind of students I've

worked with — a lot of first in family (to attend college), a lot of people for whom education is a way up," Cavanaugh said in a telephone interview.

He said his first priority will be talking with the system's leadership team to learn more about how the nation's fifth-largest system works.

"To do otherwise would be a little bit presumptuous," he said.

Born in Terre Haute, Ind., and raised in Wilmington, Del., Cavanaugh said he found the Pennsylvania system job attractive for both personal and professional reasons, noting that he and wife have relatives within a two- to three-hour drive of Harrisburg.

Cavanaugh previously was a faculty member and administrator at Bowling Green State University, the Medical College of Ohio, the University of Delaware and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

He also was a visiting professor at the Georgia Institute of Technology.

On the lighter side, his official University of West Florida biography describes him as an "avowed chocoholic."

Cavanaugh will replace Chancellor Judy Hample, who will take a new job in July as president of the University of Mary Washington in Virginia. Hample is paid \$327,718 annually, eclipsing Gov. Ed Rendell's \$170,150-a-year salary.

The system's board had narrowed its search to three finalists, but University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh chancellor Richard Wells withdrew his name from consideration earlier this month.

Cavanaugh was chosen over Jack Warner, commissioner of the Rhode Island Board of Governors for Higher Education.

All three candidates met with groups of students, faculty and trustees of the individual universities before having their final interviews with the board.

The system's faculty union had been concerned that none of the finalists had managed a

large a university system, but appreciated Cavanaugh's energy and his experience in lobbying Florida lawmakers for state funding, union president Pat Heilman said.

"That's a positive, because we certainly need to do some advocacy work in Pennsylvania," Heilman said.

During a board meeting conducted by telephone, chairman Ken Jarin said the finalists were winnowed down from a pool of several hundred applicants. Cavanaugh stood out in part because of his leadership in several national higher-education organizations, Jarin said.

"Dr. Cavanaugh is a national leader in public higher education," he said.

The 14 state universities are Kutztown, Bloomsburg, California, Cheyney, Clarion, East Stroudsburg, Edinboro, Indiana, Lock Haven, Mansfield, Millersville, Shippensburg, Slippery Rock and West Chester. They enroll more than 110,000 students.

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**LancasterOnline.com.**  
Keyword: obits

Irena Sendler. 98. social worker who saved