

PENNSYLVANIA GAMING CONTROL BOARD

PUBLIC INPUT HEARINGS

GETTYSBURG COLLEGE  
STUDENT UNION BALLROOM  
200 BLOCK WEST LINCOLN AVENUE  
GETTYSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

APRIL, 5, 2006, 8:32 A.M.

BEFORE:

THOMAS DECKER, CHAIRMAN  
MARY DiGIACOMO COLINS  
JEFFREY W. COY  
JOSEPH W. MARSHALL, III  
KENNETH W. McCABE  
MICHAEL EDMISTON, PRESIDING OFFICER  
DALE MILLER

HILLARY M. HAZLETT, REPORTER  
NOTARY PUBLIC

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1                   PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Good morning.  
2 Please have a seat. We're scheduled to start at  
3 8:30. We're going to try and keep our schedule  
4 through the course of the day.

5                   Before we commence the formal part of our  
6 proceedings today, there are a few housekeeping  
7 matters.

8                   For those of you who want to submit written  
9 remarks, you may have noted in the outer lobby,  
10 there's a table with two Pennsylvania Gaming Control  
11 Board staffers to assist you in the completion of the  
12 form.

13                   The record for these proceedings through  
14 this month and next month will remain open until June  
15 2nd, when it is closed.

16                   As to announcements, please turn off your  
17 cell phones, beepers, and the like. I suspect I  
18 should do the same.

19                   This proceeding is being videotaped. It  
20 will be played at the Friday, April 7th -- that is  
21 the presentation on the part of the applicants will  
22 be played on the Friday, April 7th hearing in  
23 Harrisburg at the beginning of that hearing and will  
24 also be played at the beginning of the May 17th  
25 hearing here at the college.

1           The purpose for the playing of the  
2 applicants' presentation is so that those speakers,  
3 who may not be able to be with us here today to  
4 observe the applicants' presentation live, will be  
5 able to see the presentation.

6           At the close of the last hearing, that  
7 would be May 17th, the applicant will have 15 minutes  
8 for additional remarks after all of the speakers who  
9 have registered to comment on their application.

10           Logistics, reminder that this College Union  
11 Building is a non-smoking building. Smoking is  
12 permitted outside and away from the building  
13 entrances.

14           Restrooms with accessible stalls are  
15 located off of the hallway outside the ballroom.  
16 Additional restrooms are available on the second and  
17 ground floors.

18           There is an elevator with accessibility to  
19 all floors. It is located outside the ballroom.  
20 Food and beverages are available at the convenience  
21 store outside the sign-in area, just outside the  
22 ballroom.

23           There's additional dining facility, the  
24 Bullet Hall, downstairs at the opposite side of the  
25 building.

1           For those of you who want shuttles to the  
2 parking, shuttles will run every half hour during the  
3 day from 9:30 to 3:30 and they will run on a  
4 continuous loop from 3:30 until 5:30.

5           The first speaker we will have is our host,  
6 the President of the college, Kate Will, who has some  
7 brief welcoming remarks.

8           MS. WILL: Good morning, everyone. Can you  
9 hear me okay? Good morning, everyone. I'm Kate  
10 Will. I'm the president of Gettysburg College. It  
11 is my pleasure to welcome you to our campus today.

12           When the Gaming Control Board asked if we  
13 would be willing to host this hearing, we said yes  
14 with enthusiasm.

15           The reason for that is that we are a  
16 liberal arts college. We're an institution of  
17 education.

18           We believe passionately in the value, the  
19 Democratic value of reason, debate, civil discourse,  
20 and how important this is for the citizens of our  
21 country in deciding on issues that mean so much to  
22 all of us.

23           So we are delighted to be the host for a  
24 hearing that I know will elucidate this issue for all  
25 of us, an issue -- what happened up there? Were you

1 hearing me before? Now you're really hearing me.

2 I'll stand away a little bit.

3 An issue that we all care about very, very  
4 much that is important to us as the citizens of  
5 Pennsylvania.

6 So we are very pleased to be the host of a  
7 civil discourse where we'll all hear both sides of  
8 the issue, where we'll hear facts, where we'll hear  
9 people's opinions, and we're glad that those who are  
10 here to listen and those who are here speak and  
11 present research can all come together and talk  
12 together about this issue.

13 We welcome you to Gettysburg College. We  
14 welcome the Gaming Control Board here. We wish you  
15 all a wonderful and thought provoking and informative  
16 day.

17 Again, welcome to Gettysburg College.

18 Thank you.

19 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.

20 The first thing we are going to do on our record is  
21 Pledge of Allegiance, so if you will all stand.

22 (Pledge of Allegiance.)

23 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Good morning.

24 I'm Michael Edmiston. I'm your Presiding Officer for  
25 the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board at this public





1 input hearing.

2           This April 5 public input hearing of the  
3 Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board is taking place in  
4 Gettysburg College. It's regarding the application  
5 of Crossroads for an operator license and we're  
6 coming to order now.

7           This hearing is convened by the  
8 Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board pursuant to the  
9 authority of Act 71 of 2004 and the Pennsylvania  
10 Gaming Control Board regulations, Section 441.2.

11           The Board is present as a panel composed of  
12 the following members: On my immediate right,  
13 Chairman Tad Decker; on his right, Commissioner Mary  
14 Colins; on my immediate left, Commissioner Jeff Coy;  
15 on his left, Commissioner Ken McCabe; and  
16 Mr. Marshall has joined us, Commissioner Chip  
17 Marshall.

18           Our stenographer is Hillary Hazlett. Our  
19 clerk to the Board is Mickey Kane.

20           We want to thank Gettysburg College for  
21 making this facility available for the hearing. We  
22 have a representative of our Board, ex-officio member  
23 Robert Casey, and the person of J. Terry Kostoff,  
24 Deputy Treasurer for Fiscal Operations.

25           The college's cooperation and hard work has

1 been essential in bringing this public input hearing  
2 to Gettysburg.

3 Today, and as noted earlier at the public  
4 input hearing that are to take place here on May  
5 17th, this is the first in a statewide series of the  
6 Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board public input  
7 hearings designed to allow applicants for operator  
8 gaming licenses to simultaneously present their plans  
9 before the Gaming Control Board and the public.

10 These hearings will allow individual  
11 members of the public, community groups, elected  
12 officials, and local government representatives an  
13 opportunity to express their thoughts and share their  
14 concerns with the Board.

15 The hearing will continue throughout the  
16 day and will end no later than 6:00. It will  
17 reconvene on Friday, April 7th in the State Museum in  
18 Harrisburg at 8:30.

19 As to our schedule, we plan a 10 to 15  
20 minute break at 10:30 to resume at 10:45, a lunch  
21 break at 12:30 to resume the hearing at 1:30, with  
22 one break in the afternoon at 3:30 and the resumption  
23 of the hearing at 3:45.

24 The order of the speakers will be as  
25 follows: Crossroads Gaming, an applicant for a

1 Category II slot license, will make its presentation  
2 first.

3 The legislators will present second, the  
4 local Government third, the community groups fourth,  
5 and individual members of the public fifth.

6 The operator license applicant is permitted  
7 to speak for up to 40 minutes. Legislative officials  
8 will have not more than 5 minutes to speak.

9 Representatives from the local municipality  
10 may speak for up to 30 minutes. Spokespersons for  
11 the community groups may speak for up to 10 minutes,  
12 and members of the general public who have registered  
13 to speak may speak for up to 3 minutes.

14 When you begin your remarks, please state  
15 your name, the municipality and state where you  
16 reside, and the name of the entity on whose behalf  
17 you will speak.

18 All speakers will be sworn in at one time  
19 and at the conclusion of my remarks. The rules and  
20 code of conduct for this public input hearing are  
21 posted inside and outside the hearing room and on the  
22 Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board website, and they  
23 will be strictly enforced.

24 The Board expects and it is my  
25 responsibility to ensure that courtesy prevails among

1 the audience, presenters, and speakers. Therefore,  
2 audience outbursts are not permitted and I  
3 respectfully ask your assistance with complying with  
4 that essential courtesy for each speaker.

5           Vocal expressions of the audience  
6 complicate the task of ensuring each speaker the use  
7 of the time for which he or she has prepared and will  
8 make the stenographer's task more difficult.

9           Speakers will not be interrupted and will  
10 be permitted to speak no longer than their allotted  
11 time.

12           If I determine that an outburst is  
13 disruptive to this hearing, I will call a recess and  
14 upon the restoration of order resume the hearing.

15           Persons who refuse to acknowledge and obey  
16 the authority of the Presiding Officer may be asked  
17 to leave the room and the area.

18           To assist all of us in adhering to the time  
19 limits for each speaker and to assist us in having as  
20 many speakers heard in the time we have available  
21 today, an electronic stoplight timer is located on  
22 the stage to my immediate left.

23           The green light indicates the speaker's  
24 time has started. When the light turns yellow,  
25 generally, there will be 30 seconds remaining of the

1 allotted time and the speaker should wrap up the  
2 presentation.

3           When the light turns red, there will be a  
4 beeping sound and the speaker is expected to stop  
5 speaking and leave the microphone.

6           If anyone has any questions about this  
7 hearing or future hearings, please see a member of  
8 the staff. My staff colleagues are wearing name  
9 tags. I'm sure you've seen some of them here this  
10 morning. They are out in the sign-in area.

11           We welcome and need your full attention and  
12 cooperation throughout this hearing and, finally,  
13 should it be necessary for you to converse with  
14 someone who is also attending this hearing, please  
15 have the conversations out in the hallway or in the  
16 outer room.

17           We also welcome members of the media to  
18 this hearing and ask that they observe the guidelines  
19 distributed when they came in.

20           In general, we ask the media to follow the  
21 same protocol that applies in any formal court  
22 proceeding.

23           In particular, we ask the reporters and  
24 photographers not interfere with the hearing in any  
25 way and that they conduct interviews with speakers

1 outside the hearing room. Thank you for your  
2 attention or cooperation.

3 Will those of you who have registered to  
4 speak today, please stand and raise your right hand.

5 Do you swear or affirm that the testimony  
6 you are about to give is the truth, the whole truth,  
7 and nothing but the truth, so help you God?

8 THE WITNESSES: I do.

9 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.  
10 You may be seated.

11 If the presenters for Crossroads Gaming  
12 will step to the microphone and identify yourselves  
13 and proceed.

14 MR. LeVAN: Well, good morning. Thank you  
15 for this opportunity to make this presentation to you  
16 today.

17 I'm Dave LeVan. I am the CEO of Crossroads  
18 Gaming Resort and Spa. I'm a native son of  
19 Gettysburg. My grandparents settled here in 1912.

20 I grew up. I attended Gettysburg College  
21 and eventually left to go to work in Philadelphia,  
22 first for a large public accounting firm and then for  
23 Conrail, Inc., where I became its CEO.

24 I retired from Conrail after a successful  
25 career, and I returned here to Gettysburg to my

1 roots. Those who know me will tell you about my  
2 belief and dedication to community service both while  
3 I was in Philadelphia and since I have returned back  
4 here at Gettysburg.

5           This is my way of telling you that I have  
6 carefully considered this project. I believe it is  
7 in the best interest of Adams County and it is, in  
8 fact, the best economic opportunity that this county  
9 has ever seen.

10           Investors in Crossroads include MS Gaming  
11 Companies Holdings, Inc., its affiliate of Morgan  
12 Stanley, a global financial services firm, and  
13 individuals, most of whom residents of South Central  
14 Pennsylvania.

15           We are proposing an entertainment complex  
16 that includes a hotel, a spa, a casino, multiple  
17 restaurants, and ample on-site parking.

18           It is located on Route 30 in a highly  
19 commercial area. Crossroads is the only Category II  
20 applicant easily accessible to the northern Maryland,  
21 northern Virginia, metropolitan Washington D.C., and  
22 Baltimore markets.

23           In addition to me, you will hear from other  
24 people who are very important to this project; Ian  
25 Cope of Cope Linder Architects; Bill Wortman from



1 Millennium Gaming, the manager/operator that we have  
2 selected. The other equity partner, MS Gaming  
3 Companies Holdings, a Morgan Stanley subsidiary, will  
4 be represented by Michael Garrity.

5 First, we want to show you a short video  
6 that shows in pictures and in words who we are, what  
7 we intend to do, why this is outstanding for Adams  
8 County and why we deserve this license.

9 Roll the film, please.

10 (Video played.)

11 MR. LeVAN: Crossroads is a limited  
12 partnership, ten individual investors as I said  
13 earlier, most of them are from South Central  
14 Pennsylvania and a Morgan Stanley affiliate, MS  
15 Gaming.

16 Prior to embarking on this project, we had  
17 a team of professionals, virtually all of whom were  
18 from Pennsylvania. They were assembled to give us a  
19 dispassionate analysis and advise about the  
20 feasibility of this project.

21 These people included PKF Consulting, Cope  
22 Linder Architects, attorneys, accountants,  
23 archeologists, engineers, economists, and tourism  
24 experts.

25 Based on our analysis of all of these

1 consultants, we concluded that Crossroads was ideally  
2 situated to provide that access to that northern  
3 Maryland, northern Virginia, Washington D.C.,  
4 Baltimore metropolitan area.

5           As shown -- it was shown on the video,  
6 Crossroads will be located near the Routes 30 and 15  
7 interchange, in Straban Township in Adams County.

8           Route 30 is a commercial area and the  
9 location is not part of the Gettysburg battlefield.  
10 No part of this property is hallowed ground, that is  
11 there is no historical significance to this piece of  
12 property, which is already surrounded by significant  
13 commercial development.

14           Crossroads believes in, supports the notion  
15 of historic preservation. We will not capitalize on  
16 the battlefields or any other historic sites in Adams  
17 County.

18           I would stake my own reputation with regard  
19 to historic preservation with anyone. My wife,  
20 Jennifer, and I have used our own money to support  
21 the renovation of the Majestic Theater and the  
22 Lincoln Train Station here in Gettysburg.

23           I am currently involved with the Gettysburg  
24 Battlefield Preservation Association in attempting to  
25 preserve Camp Letterman.

1           Crossroads will continue in these footsteps  
2 in an even more significant way. We have thousands  
3 of supporters who believe that this project is in the  
4 best interest in the economic development of Adams  
5 County.

6           I would like to introduce Ian Cope, the  
7 architect on this project. Ian, as I said, is from  
8 Cope Linder Architects in Philadelphia. His firm has  
9 an excellent reputation and a history of quality  
10 design.

11           Included in Cope Linder's portfolio of  
12 projects are gaming operations such as the Borgata in  
13 Atlantic City and Dover Downs in Delaware.

14           Ian?

15           MR. COPE: Thank you and good morning.  
16 When we were first approached by the applicant about  
17 this potential design opportunity, we were struck by  
18 four distinct factors, which we assume would be of  
19 particular significance to the Gaming Control Board  
20 and the Commonwealth.

21           First, this group's proposal had the  
22 ability not only to retain gaming revenue here in  
23 Pennsylvania but also draw upon the very lucrative  
24 Maryland and northern Virginia markets.

25           Second, the proposed location would have

1 the ability to expand upon and enhance or recognize  
2 tourism destination here in Gettysburg.

3           Third, the more than ample size of the  
4 parcel itself at 57 acres and its direct proximity to  
5 the US Route 15 and Route 30 interchange would ensure  
6 both adequate space for the project and the  
7 infrastructure necessary to support it.

8           Last but not least, we were generally  
9 impressed that the proposal was coming from a group  
10 of established and local business leaders and civic  
11 leaders that were sensitive to this unique community  
12 and were passionate about both Gettysburg and Adams  
13 County's future.

14           In the limited time provided, I would like  
15 to briefly describe the design character of the  
16 project as it stands now, walk through the site plans  
17 and the general phasing scenarios and, very  
18 important, describe the physical distance and  
19 relationship between the property, our property, and  
20 the hallowed battlefield sites and put it in its  
21 proper context.

22           Although we are still in the preliminary  
23 phase and design of the actual buildings, we are  
24 guided by some basic principles.

25           From the outset, our client insisted and we

1 certainly concurred that we would avoid any theming  
2 or historical architectural references in the design  
3 that might otherwise detract from or trivialize the  
4 Civil War or what once transpired nearby in  
5 Gettysburg.

6           What we do want to do is create an  
7 understated, yet elegant and inviting, facility that  
8 would be easily understood by patrons and will  
9 provide ease of access to encourage repeat visits.

10           To do so, we will employ a neo traditional  
11 design vocabulary as the sketch suggests, using  
12 quality building materials and low slung buildings  
13 set in a park-like setting.

14           The sense of arrival is important to us and  
15 will be to our patrons. In the sketch, we are  
16 showing a great vaulted glass porte-cache. This is  
17 a classical form in a contemporary application.

18           You can see lush landscaping and water  
19 features, fountains that will provide a sense of  
20 repose from Route 30.

21           We want the color pallet and signage to be  
22 festive and tasteful but not glitzy. The site plans  
23 before you are consistent with those recently  
24 submitted to Straban Township for land development  
25 and subdivision approvals.

1           We want to be a good neighbor. We are  
2 confident that we comply and in many cases far exceed  
3 all of the physical ordinance requirements with  
4 respect to setbacks, building coverage, impervious  
5 area, and no buildings are proposed to be in excess  
6 of 50 feet in height.

7           We know that there are other buildings on  
8 adjacent parcels that are significantly higher. The  
9 site, as I mentioned, is approximately 57 acres and  
10 is currently zoned highway commercial.

11           Along Route 30, we propose two signalized  
12 intersections for the public and the relocation of  
13 Smith Road to the east.

14           The lateral will serve as the access point  
15 for buses and deliveries, keeping those motions  
16 discrete.

17           The Phase 1 program includes 3,000 gaming  
18 positions and a diverse food and beverage offering in  
19 various restaurant venues totalling approximately  
20 1,100 seats, very important, a 225 room luxury hotel  
21 and spa is proposed on the west side of the parcel  
22 and 4,000 parking spaces, including a self-park  
23 garage with 2,380 spaces, is proposed for the first  
24 phase.

25           As requested by the gaming regulations, the

1 design also contemplates a future expansion of the  
2 facility up to the statutory limit of 5,000 slots.

3 This expansion would occur to the north,  
4 behind the initial phase, so that the entire facility  
5 could remain in operation.

6 Additional structural parking, a  
7 proportionate increase in food and beverage offerings  
8 and a potential hotel expansion of an additional 110  
9 keys are also shown.

10 The next series of images is very important  
11 to the discussion. While I appreciate that these  
12 images may be difficult to read and discern from your  
13 vantage point, we will make copies of these available  
14 to the press and they have been provided to the  
15 Gaming Board.

16 We want to put the location of the proposed  
17 site in its proper context. There are a series of  
18 photographs that we have taken at three prominent and  
19 high points in the battlefield looking towards our  
20 site.

21 The photographs were taken using the normal  
22 50 millimeter lens to approximate what the naked eye  
23 sees. There are also corresponding topographic  
24 studies, which represent the horizontal lines that  
25 you see at the bottom.

1           The first is Barlow's Knoll, just under two  
2 miles from the site. You could see the site would  
3 not be visible from this location.

4           The second is from Culps Hill, another  
5 prominent battlefield location and a high point in  
6 the park just over two and a half miles from the  
7 site.

8           The last is from East Calvary Field, which  
9 is the closest battlefield location to our proposed  
10 site.

11           For these studies and others, we are  
12 absolutely confident that there will be no adverse  
13 visual impact on the battlefield experience.

14           According to our traffic experts, initial  
15 Crossroads operations are projected to generate about  
16 15,000 weekday vehicle trips, growing to 24,000  
17 vehicle trips for the ultimate operation once the  
18 facility is established.

19           US Route 15 provides high level highway  
20 access to Crossroads from the metro Baltimore,  
21 Washington area.

22           In addition, Crossroads will provide  
23 Straban Township with a \$3.6 million impact fee for  
24 improvements along US Route 30 to provide uncongested  
25 services for both the Crossroads and Gateway



1 Developments across the street.

2           The planned PennDOT Route 15 and 30  
3 interchange improvement project will further enhance  
4 access to the Crossroads facility. From a traffic  
5 perspective, the Crossroads location is characterized  
6 as superb.

7           In closing, I am personally very excited  
8 about the design opportunities for the Crossroads  
9 project. I am convinced of our clients commitment to  
10 build a facility of the highest caliber. Thank you.

11           MR. LeVAN: Thank you, Ian. Let me just  
12 take a couple of minutes to talk about public impact.

13 In addition to the internal security force that will  
14 be on site, as you know, Crossroads is required to  
15 provide office space for Pennsylvania State Police.

16           Straban Township is currently served by the  
17 Pennsylvania State Police at the Gettysburg station,  
18 which is staffed by 41 troopers, which adequately  
19 have equipment to patrol the Township.

20           Fire service is through the Gettysburg Fire  
21 Department. The station is located approximately two  
22 and a half miles from the site.

23           The department has equipment sufficient to  
24 service the project, including a 100-foot aerial  
25 truck, 700-foot engine, and a rescue truck.

1 Additional support is available from neighboring  
2 communities.

3           Ambulance service also comes from the  
4 Gettysburg Fire Department, which has two ambulances,  
5 one of which is staffed by paid EMTs. It operates on  
6 a 24/7 basis.

7           Secondary ambulance service is provided by  
8 the Gettysburg Hospital, which operates two advanced  
9 life units, and air medical transport is available 18  
10 miles to the east of the site provided by STAT  
11 MedEvac based at the York Airport.

12           In addition, Crossroads will have EMTs on  
13 staff and will provide emergency medical equipment  
14 on-site.

15           Now, despite a relatively low unemployment  
16 rate, it is predicted that many people in Adams  
17 County were underemployed and many commute long  
18 distances outside of the county for these jobs.

19           Jobs at Crossroads will pay good wages and  
20 benefits that will allow these people to become more  
21 fully employed and close to home. We do not  
22 anticipate any need for additional housing because of  
23 Crossroads.

24           Our next presenter is Michael Garrity. He  
25 is the executive director at Morgan Stanley's

1 strategic group. He is the director of MS Gaming  
2 Holdings, Inc.

3 Michael?

4 MR. GARRITY: Thanks, Dave.

5 Good morning. As Dave mentioned, my name  
6 is Michael Garrity. I am an executive director at  
7 Morgan Stanley's strategic investment group and serve  
8 as director of MS Gaming Companies Holdings, a  
9 subsidiary of Morgan Stanley responsible for  
10 principal investing in the gaming industry.

11 I would like to take this opportunity to  
12 introduce Morgan Stanley, our gaming franchise, and  
13 more specifically our commitment to this project.

14 As you may already appreciate, Morgan  
15 Stanley is one of the largest financial services  
16 firms in the world, with over 800 billion of assets,  
17 600 offices operating in virtually every financial  
18 market in the world.

19 From a gaming perspective, Morgan Stanley  
20 is a leading adviser, underwriter representing some  
21 of the largest and most successful companies in the  
22 gaming industry.

23 With respect to our commitment, should  
24 Crossroads, the people of Adams County, and the  
25 citizens of South Central Pennsylvania be fortunate

1 enough to be awarded the Category II license, Morgan  
2 Stanley will commit up to \$80 million in addition to  
3 raising over 200 million for the successful  
4 completion of what will be Crossroads Gaming Resort  
5 and Spa.

6           Based on my experience as a senior gaming  
7 analyst at Morgan Stanley and ten years in finance, I  
8 submit to you this morning from an economic  
9 perspective, Adams County presents a superior  
10 opportunity for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to  
11 deliver significant value to its stakeholders.

12           In closing, from Morgan Stanley's  
13 perspective along with our partners, Millennium  
14 Gaming, Dave LeVan, CEO of Crossroads, and the other  
15 Crossroad shareholders, this is about more than just  
16 financing a casino.

17           This is about delivering an experience, an  
18 experience to the consumer and an experience to the  
19 community. It's that experience that we believe will  
20 be an agent of positive change to Adams County and  
21 South Central Pennsylvania. Thank you.

22           MR. LeVAN: The next segment will be  
23 handled by Bill Wortman. He is one of the principals  
24 in Millennium Gaming, that is the operator that  
25 Crossroads has selected. Bill is highly experienced

1 and he is very well known in the gaming industry.

2 Bill?

3 MR. WORTMAN: Thank you, Dave.

4 I'm Bill Wortman and along with Bill

5 Paulos, we are the owners of the Millennium Gaming.

6 Millennium is a company whose owners have a combined

7 experience in the gaming industry of over 65 years.

8 During that time, we have built or operated  
9 facilities for such companies at Caesars World,  
10 Circus Circus, and Primadonna Resorts.

11 Additionally, we currently own and operate  
12 two casinos in Las Vegas, Nevada and are in the  
13 process of building a third.

14 Gaming, as you know, is the second most  
15 regulated industry in the United States. We have  
16 been, either Bill or I have been, licensed in gaming  
17 states of Nevada, Mississippi, Colorado, Michigan and  
18 in the country of Australia.

19 We are proud to have been selected as the  
20 managers for Crossroad Gaming Resort and Spa and  
21 would like to speak briefly about our operating  
22 culture.

23 As you have previously seen from Mr. Cope,  
24 the architectural design is compatible with the  
25 Gettysburg community and will be a focal point of

1 activity, which will attract to the area a  
2 significant number of new visitations both daily and  
3 overnight.

4 As a company, we have committed to focus on  
5 recruiting the vast number of jobs from the local  
6 area. In fact, we prefer to think of these not as  
7 jobs but as careers.

8 This is a new industry to the Pennsylvania  
9 marketplace, and we are going to be creating careers.  
10 That's how we view the new employment that is coming  
11 to the state.

12 As part of our -- both our preoperational  
13 and operational plan, we will actively and sincerely  
14 promote diversity in employment and vendor  
15 selections.

16 In Detroit, Michigan, where we built and  
17 operated a casino, we implemented a relationship with  
18 the community college to assist in the development of  
19 the curriculum to train people for these careers.

20 In this area, we have begun the discussions  
21 with the community college here and plan to implement  
22 a very similar kind of program. We will be active  
23 and socially responsible in the civic organizations  
24 and the local charities.

25 As operators, we have established a

1 reputation as being good citizens, which includes  
2 working closely with the local law enforcement to  
3 prevent, to provide a safe and secure facility and  
4 operate a facility where courtesy and safety are  
5 paramount features.

6 Operating in a drug-free environment is  
7 another one of our culture issues. We require all of  
8 our employees to go through a preemployment drug  
9 screening for that purpose.

10 We will provide state-of-the-art  
11 surveillance system in full compliance with the  
12 Pennsylvania Gaming regulation standards and will  
13 implement a comprehensive, responsible gaming program  
14 that requires oversight at a very senior level.

15 Currently, our company has two employees  
16 that are actively involved in responsible gaming  
17 programs in the state of Nevada, one of which is on  
18 the Board of Directors of that organization.

19 We have always been involved in the  
20 community, in any community that we have been  
21 operating in. The Crossroads Gaming Resort and Spa  
22 will be no exception.

23 In Las Vegas, we have adopted two at-risk  
24 schools. We provide to the students and the  
25 administration of those schools both financial and

1 emotional support for their operations.

2 We organize four blood drives per year in  
3 our Las Vegas properties and recognized with special  
4 awards for doing that and we generously give to local  
5 charities.

6 We promote local businesses through our  
7 Neighborhood Partners Program, and that is another  
8 program that we will implement within the Gettysburg  
9 area if, in fact, are awarded the Category II  
10 licenses; but simply, we care.

11 The culture of our company emphasizes  
12 sensitivity to regulatory compliance. We pledge full  
13 compliance to all regulatory requirements. We also  
14 see this opportunity as an excellent opportunity to  
15 generate tourism from Maryland, the Washington D.C.  
16 area, and the northern Virginia area.

17 We will concentrate a significant portion  
18 of our marketing activity to enhance adults from  
19 these areas to visit the area and the casino and also  
20 enjoy the wonderful activities that Gettysburg has to  
21 offer. We will be a positive catalyst for the local  
22 business community.

23 Finally, we are most certainly aware of the  
24 great concern regarding the preservation of the local  
25 historical landmarks that are located in Gettysburg.



1                   We do not believe the location of the  
2 facility jeopardizes these hallowed battlefield  
3 sites.

4                   We truly believe that our presence will  
5 increase awareness and provide alternatives and  
6 generate more visitations to this historical  
7 battlefields. Thank you very much.

8                   MR. LeVAN: Bill, thank you.

9                   NOW, let me take a couple of minutes and  
10 talk about the economics. As I said several times,  
11 because of our unique position near the Maryland  
12 border, Crossroads offers something that no other  
13 Category II applicant can, and that is the excellent  
14 northern Maryland, northern Virginia, metro Baltimore  
15 Washington market.

16                   Not only will Crossroads capture the area  
17 residents who are currently traveling out of state to  
18 gaming facilities, it will open up that huge new  
19 market for Pennsylvania.

20                   In this market, there are individuals who  
21 can afford to spend their money on gaming  
22 entertainment.

23                   Our consultants, including our economist,  
24 Dr. Steven Fuller, the distinguished professor from  
25 George Mason University, estimated that 3.3 million

1 patrons for Crossroads in a stabilized year of  
2 operations.

3 From that will come the gaming tax benefits  
4 to the Commonwealth, the county, the Township, and  
5 other taxes such as income taxes, wage taxes, sales  
6 taxes will also be generated.

7 The county, the Township, Gettysburg School  
8 District will receive significant real estate taxes  
9 from this project.

10 Based also on the information we had  
11 provided to Dr. Fuller about the size of the project,  
12 the estimated cost of the project, and an estimated  
13 gross terminal revenue of 300 million, he calculated  
14 the following economic benefits for the project.

15 They are, during the construction phase,  
16 218 million added to the gross product of our county  
17 over the two-year construction period with a \$37  
18 million increase in new personal earnings through  
19 over 1400 new jobs, both on-site and off-site.

20 These jobs will be full-time and pay good  
21 wages and benefits. We have entered into an  
22 agreement with the Central Pennsylvania Labors  
23 Council to ensure this.

24 During the operations phrase, 168 million  
25 in annual outlays from our daily operations and

1 off-site visitors will result in 224 million in total  
2 output value for Adams County's economy.

3           There will be almost 1,000 new jobs on-site  
4 and an additional 2,000 jobs created off-site, and  
5 that will generate 62 million in personal earnings  
6 for county residents.

7           Similar to the construction jobs, these  
8 jobs will be good wage, good benefit jobs. These  
9 employees will be represented by the Teamsters.

10           The Commonwealth's gaming tax revenues  
11 based on our calculations will be \$150 million in a  
12 stabilized year.

13           One of the objectives of the Gaming Act is,  
14 and I quote, to enhance the further development of  
15 the tourism market throughout this Commonwealth,  
16 including year-round recreational and tourism  
17 locations in this Commonwealth, end quote.

18           In keeping with these objectives, the  
19 locations of Crossroads will, in fact, enhance  
20 year-round tourism.

21           To Adams County, it will bring additional  
22 tourists into the area and provide a reason for those  
23 visitors to stay longer.

24           Today, we have almost 2 million visitors  
25 coming to Adams County each year to visit the

1 historic sites, to conduct business, or to attend  
2 conventions or to visit family and relatives.

3           Smith Travel Research, the nation's  
4 preeminent lodging industry source, concludes that  
  
5 because of the seasonal nature of Adams County  
6 tourism, it is a less and overall lodging market.

7           Crossroads will provide an attraction that  
8 will not be affected by the seasons and will be a  
9 year-round attraction.

10           There is no credible evidence that gaming  
11 and heritage or historical tourism are not  
12 compatible.

13           Vicksburg, Mississippi is a prime example  
14 of how the two can successfully co-exist. Visitation  
15 to the historic Vicksburg Civil War Battlefield  
16 increased in 11 of the 12 years since gaming was  
17 introduced.

18           18 percent of the casino visitors, they  
19 visit the Vicksburg National Park and 27 percent of  
20 the visitors to the park go to a casino while in  
21 Vicksburg, according to a 1999 study.

22           Vicksburg casinos have financially  
23 supported historic preservation. They serve on Main  
24 Street, which is responsible for the marketing of the  
25 historic town.

1           In closing, make no mistake about it, there  
2 is one thing that both the supporters and the  
3 opponents of this project can agree on. Crossroads  
4 is about the future.

5           It's about the future of Adams County,  
6 Straban Township, Gettysburg, and the other small  
7 communities in this area.

8           It's about meaningful jobs with good  
9 salaries, good benefits, and room for advancement.  
10 It's about increasing year-round tourism to  
11 strengthen our economy during the winter months when  
12 historic tourism drops and family incomes suffer.

13           It's about encouraging entrepreneurship,  
14 small business growth and brings back jobs to our  
15 area and helps make Adams County more than a bedroom  
16 community for Harrisburg, York, and the other towns  
17 in Maryland.

18           It's about the future of our state and  
19 ensuring that Pennsylvania gets the maximum financial  
20 gain from tax revenues; out-of-state tourists,  
21 payroll, property, and sales tax revenues.

22           It's also about the numbers; 4,100  
23 temporary and permanent jobs, 3 million new tourists,  
24 1 million overnight hotel stays, 16 million in new  
25 local tax dollars to improve and expand our

1 government services.

2 Crossroads is about taking charge of our  
3 futures. It's about being a leader and not just a  
4 follower or, worse yet, being economically irrelevant  
5 and dependent on the judgment and policy making of  
6 others for our jobs and our projects.

7 When I returned to Adams County from my  
8 corporate life in Philadelphia nearly eight years  
9 ago, I returned with a tremendous respect for the  
10 past, for our history, for the unique place that this  
11 community holds in the nation's consciousness and in  
12 our hearts.

13 I also brought back with me was a rock  
14 solid commitment that I would work in every way to  
15 make our area's future as bright and meaningful as  
16 our past.

17 With Crossroads, the largest, single  
18 economic development project in Adams County's  
19 history, my fellow investors and I are working to do  
20 just that. Thank you.

21 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
22 scheduled speaker is Representative Stephen Maitland,  
23 a member of the Pennsylvania House of  
24 Representatives.

25 REPRESENTATIVE MAITLAND: Good morning,

1 Mr. Edmiston and members of the Board. Welcome to  
2 the heart of the 91st Legislative District, which  
3 covers Adams and a small portion of Franklin County.

4           You're seated in the geographic center of  
5 the district. Adams County is covered by two State  
6 House districts with the northern and the eastern  
7 third of the county being represented by State  
8 Representative Steven Nickol of the 193rd District.

9           I believe Mr. Nickol is in the audience  
10 today and he has authorized me to say that he will  
11 second my remarks on his behalf.

12           My main point to express to you today is  
13 that despite the promised benefits of this project,  
14 the voters of Adams County reject it.

15           I will provide for you in writing before  
16 the close of the hearing the results of two  
17 scientific surveys that were done.

18           The first was performed on July 27th, 2005  
19 by Susquehanna Polling and Research out of Harrisburg  
20 at the request of WHTM TV Channel 27.

21           This survey was of 300 registered voters  
22 countywide. The results showed that 54 percent of  
23 Respondents reject the project, while only 31 percent  
24 approve of it and with the balance having no strong  
25 opinion or undecided.

1 More recently, only two weeks ago, another  
2 poll was done by the same polling company,  
3 Susquehanna Polling Research. It was done for me for  
4 reelection purposes. It was of likely Republican  
5 primary voters in my district, so a narrower  
6 population, again, 300 was the sample size. Of those  
7 people, 52 percent reject the project while only 26  
8 approve of it.

9 So, as you can see, among the people who  
10 care, more than twice as many reject this proposal as  
11 accepted.

12 So I would ask that if you're actually  
13 called upon to make a judgment on this application  
14 that you keep in mind that the majority of the people  
15 of the area do want it.

16 There may be other licensed applications  
17 where there's greater local acceptance and we urge  
18 you to weigh that factor.

19 There will be many people that follow me  
20 that will assert that there is majority support for  
21 this proposal in the county. They do not have hard  
22 evidence of it.

23 I would ask that you be particularly  
24 skeptical of testimony along that line from  
25 Commissioner Tom Weaver, who to my dismay at a public



1 meeting in Harrisburg in an answer to a direct  
2 question from a member of the press denied having any  
3 poll information only five days after he and I met  
4 and discussed the poll from Channel 27 and I handed  
5 him a copy. Of course, he wasn't under oath that  
6 day.

7           That's all I have to say today. Others  
8 will talk about the social concerns that this project  
9 would have, but I just want you to consider the poll  
10 scientific data and the polls, both polls have a  
11 margin of error of 5.66 percent. I'll see that they  
12 are submitted for the record. I thank you for your  
13 time.

14           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.

15           Our next speaker will be Troy Martin,  
16 Chairman of the Board of Supervisors, Straban  
17 Township.

18           MR. MARTIN: Members of the Commission, my  
19 name is Troy Martin. I am the chairman of the Board  
20 of Supervisors for Straban Township.

21           On behalf of the other supervisors and the  
22 residents of the Township, I want to thank you for  
23 the opportunity to be before you today.

24           I appear here today to make a few brief  
25 comments on behalf of Straban Township. Straban

1 Township is the municipality in which Chance  
2 Enterprises Incorporated and its related applicants  
3 seek to locate a hotel, spa, and slots machine  
4 license.

5           As you know, under the Gaming Law, it was  
6 originally written and enacted, almost all control of  
7 the gaming license was taken from the local  
8 municipalities.

9           But as a result of litigation, land use  
10 controls were again tested in the host municipality.  
11 The Township is not aware of any legislation that  
12 will divest it of any land use control, although we  
13 expected such a bill to be pursued.

14           The Straban Township Supervisors believe  
15 that as long as control of any significant portions  
16 of the gaming facility are vested in the Township, it  
17 is not appropriate for the supervisors to take a  
18 stand for or against the granting of a gaming  
19 license.

20           For if the gaming licensing is granted to  
21 Chance, then subsequent land use decisions that will  
22 have to be made by the Board of Supervisors would be  
23 fodder by one side or the other for claims of bias or  
24 prejudice.

25           If Straban opposed the license, but you

1 grant it, then every adverse decision could be  
2 claimed by Chance to be the product of bias.

3           Conversely, every favorable land use  
4 decision might be claimed by the opponents as being  
5 the result of bias and favoritism toward Chance  
6 Enterprises. The Township would be in a very  
7 precarious position.

8           The fact is that Chance Enterprises  
9 Incorporated has submitted a preliminary subdivision  
10 land development plan as of March 27th, 2006.

11           This emphasizes the need for Straban  
12 Township to remain neutral on the gaming license  
13 issue.

14           Straban is aware of the local opposition to  
15 the granting of a gaming license in the Township. At  
16 its monthly meetings for the past several months,  
17 every public comment portion of the meeting has been  
18 used by some to state opposition to Chance's  
19 application.

20           Straban has been asked to adopt a  
21 resolution opposing the application but has declined  
22 to do so for the reasons stated above.

23           The Township also toyed with the idea of  
24 conducting an independent and unbiased survey of its  
25 residents on the issues but has decided instead to

1 allow you to make those assessments.

2           The Township also felt it was not  
3 appropriate to use taxpayers' monies to do the  
4 polling and the other groundwork that would support  
5 one side's view in the casino issue and work against  
6 the other side.

7           Various editorials and letters to the  
8 editor have suggested that Straban Township  
9 supervisors have a duty or a responsibility to speak  
10 out on the application that is before you.

11           The Township finds no statutory duty or  
12 direction in the Second Class Township Code or the  
13 Pennsylvania Racehorse Development and Gaming Act to  
14 take such a stand.

15           So Straban Township appears here today  
16 without any position of its own but with a request  
17 that you listen carefully to all of the residents who  
18 will have an opportunity to address this subject.

19           The Township is aware that legislation is  
20 currently pending before the Senate that may make any  
21 discussion of a casino in Straban Township similar to  
22 debate on how many angels can dance on the head of a  
23 pin.

24           If that special legislation is enacted and  
25 signed into law and found to pass constitutional

1 muster, then all hearings on the application of  
2 Chance Enterprises will have been a waste of  
3 everyone's time.

4           The Gettysburg area is one that is  
5 zealously protected by natives and newcomers alike.  
6 We have seen significant battles over issues, such as  
7 the location of a McDonald's operation across from  
8 the Federal visitors center, with construction of and  
9 the demolition of a 309 foot observation tower, the  
10 style and composition of replacement windows in  
11 private residence, the noise generated by visiting  
12 motorcyclists, and disputes over the color of the  
13 refurbished train station that served as the arrival  
14 point for Abraham Lincoln.

15           A gaming facility is a more significant  
16 issue in some people's minds than any of the items  
17 just reported.

18           A gaming license may serve as a great  
19 revenue source to pay for many programs that would  
20 benefit the municipality and the county, especially  
21 with the latest proposed amendment to the law that  
22 will guarantee Straban Township to receive at least  
23 \$10 million annually and Adams County will receive \$6  
24 million, which is now before the Senate.

25           If this legislation is not passed that

1 guarantees us significant revenues to handle the  
2 traffic impacts of a casino, we could be adversely  
3 affected.

4           On the other hand, if the Legislature does  
5 not allow school districts and municipalities to  
6 charge realistic impact fees on new residential  
7 developments, we will be just as adversely impacted.

8           Therefore, the granting of this license may  
9 be viewed as worse than unchecked residential growth.  
10 It may be viewed as a new and needed economic  
11 stimulus or an employer who will give many of the  
12 jobs to individuals outside the municipality or even  
13 the county.

14           No matter what those opinions are and no  
15 matter how widely they are held, only one can hear  
16 and assess them and factor them into the final  
17 decision whether Chance is granted a gaming license  
18 or not.

19           The reality for Straban Township in  
20 particular, in Adams County in general, is that we  
21 are in the path of immense growth, a growth that is  
22 not wanted by those people who already live here.

23           We respect your job is to grant gaming  
24 licenses to those locations that you feel will  
25 produce the most revenue for the Commonwealth and its

1 school funding program.

2 Our job will be to attempt to guide and  
3 control whatever growth comes our way, be it  
4 commercial, such as the casino or residential.

5 Quite frankly, under current legislation,  
6 neither a casino nor a new residential development  
7 are seen as desirable to many people in this area.  
8 Yet, the economic stimulus that either might bring  
9 could be beneficial.

10 Please listen to all sides that will be  
11 presented to you. We hope that you will consider  
12 more than the optimum revenue to be obtained from a  
13 slots parlor at any given location.

14 We hope that you will be presented with  
15 accurate information regarding what a majority of the  
16 people who live in Straban Township and in Adams  
17 County want you to do.

18 We hope that the testimony provided to you  
19 by one or more witnesses will provide you with  
20 detailed and reliable information on what Adams  
21 County residents really understand about the issue  
22 and what they feel is best for all of us.

23 We hope that your job will be made easier  
24 by unbiased and objective evidence and that you will  
25 consider that evidence in your decision.

1           We feel that any decision must be based on  
2 facts and not conjecture. The total presentation of  
3 the Chance development is still being laid out as far  
4 as the recently announced management team for the  
5 facility, as well as other financial benefits  
6 announced to the Borough of Gettysburg.

7           There are other agreements that Chance says  
8 will be worked out with other groups that will be  
9 impacted by their development.

10           Any decision on the positive or negative  
11 financial impact to the community cannot be made  
12 until all of the information is in.

13           Too many times decisions are made  
14 prematurely without benefit on all the facts and  
15 those decisions end up being wrong for the community.

16           Straban Township wants to make intelligent  
17 decisions based on the real facts and what is best  
18 for the town in every way.

19           Thank you for your opportunity to testify  
20 before you today.

21           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
22 speaker will be Theodore Streeter, president of  
23 Borough Council.

24           MR. STREETER: Good morning, ladies and  
25 gentlemen. Welcome to Gettysburg, which is the best



1 known little town in the world as our Mayor is fond  
2 of saying, and which we are indeed proving again  
3 today.

4 My name is Ted Streeter. I'm president of  
5 the Gettysburg Borough Council. I'm a resident of  
6 Gettysburg.

7 It's not wise to lead off any presentation  
8 with an apology but I must do so. On the way over  
9 here, the little screw fell out of my glasses.

10 If I appear to be squinting, I'm not trying  
11 to emulate our National President. I'm just trying  
12 to read my text.

13 So on behalf of the Gettysburg Borough  
14 Council, I would like to discuss as briefly as  
15 possible the position of the Borough vis-a-vis the  
16 proposed Crossroads casino.

17 I must state at the outset that the  
18 interest of the Borough and the casino issue are and  
19 always have been purely economic.

20 We had listened to and participated in  
21 discussions concerning the historical, moral,  
22 religious, social, and other aspects of this issue  
23 and recognize that they are meaningful to many.

24 There is a vigorous and healthy debate  
25 going on within the public domain in that regard.

1 The Council does not believe it is appropriate for a  
2 governmental body to intervene in what are  
3 essentially issues of the individual judgment.

4 I do not intend to attack the no casino  
5 position nor do I intend to promote the pro casino  
6 position. I intend only to state the Borough's  
7 position.

8 In so doing, I would like to give a  
9 background and rationale why the Borough position is  
10 as it is.

11 Gettysburg is a community of about 5,000  
12 people, 7,500 if you count the college population,  
13 which is, of course, seasonal. The Borough comprises  
14 about 1.5 square miles and is all but surrounded by  
15 the Gettysburg National Military Park.

16 The average per annum income within the  
17 Borough is about \$26,000. As a seat of Adams County,  
18 the Borough is home to most county human and social  
19 services.

20 Gettysburg was really part of the  
21 battlefield and is also the main tourist attraction  
22 in the county. Slightly less than 2 million people  
23 visited the battlefield last year and many of them  
24 toured the Borough as well.

25 Additionally, we host numerous events

1 including five parades, Heritage Days, which is a  
2 weekly commemoration of battle, Lincoln's Gettysburg  
3 address remembrance day weekend, Memorial Day weekend  
4 festivities, VIP tours, which incidently require  
5 plain clothed officer escorts, which I'll refer to  
6 later and several other festivals and events.

7           The renovated Lincoln Train Station and  
8 Wills House where Mr. Lincoln stayed the night prior  
9 to the Gettysburg address and the Majestic Theater  
10 have further increased tourism within the Borough.  
11 These are domestic events that occur outside the  
12 Borough such as the apple blossom, apple harvest, New  
13 Oxford antiques fair, all which also draw tourists to  
14 Gettysburg.

15           The impact of normal tourism, college, the  
16 special events and vehicular traffic places a severe  
17 burden on Borough resources.

18           Although all departments are affected, the  
19 Gettysburg Police Department best illustrates the  
20 predicament that the Borough finds itself in.

21           While a normal Pennsylvania borough of  
22 about 5,000 has 5 officers, Gettysburg has 14  
23 full-time police officers and about that many  
24 part-time officers.

25           The police consume over 25 percent of the

1 Borough's \$4 million annual budget, and the Borough  
2 absorbs all of the costs of all police services for  
3 extraordinary or unforeseen events without any form  
4 of compensation.

5           For instance, the VIP escorts I just  
6 mentioned cost the Borough about \$3500 a year. We  
7 don't recover those costs.

8           Additionally, in June 2003, the Gettysburg  
9 College advertised an exhibit of art that in the  
10 minds of many of some desecrated the confederate  
11 battle flag. Both the college and Borough officials  
12 received numerous threats of demonstration, violence  
13 and even death, which had to be taken seriously.

14           In preparation for opening night, our chief  
15 of police organized a task force of about 60 officers  
16 including bomb squads, canine patrol, some from as  
17 far away as State College.

18           That unforeseen exercise cost the Borough  
19 nearly \$40,000, which would have devastated our  
20 budget had not the college reimbursed or contributed  
21 at least to our expenses.

22           Within the past two weeks, our police  
23 department has responded to an armed robbery, a  
24 shooting, a high-speed chase, and domestic violence  
25 incident all within Straban Township. There is no

1 police force in Straban and received no reimbursement  
2 for providing law enforcement to Straban.

3 Our setting today provides an initial  
4 example to all of this. If a proposed casino site is  
5 in Straban Township, why not hold the hearings there.

6 Our high school is located within the  
7 Township and can surely accommodate this event. Why  
8 was Crossroads Casino originally called Gettysburg  
9 Casino?

10 Why is the development across from the  
11 proposed site called Gateway Gettysburg and not  
12 Gateway Straban?

13 Why does an outlet mall five miles from the  
14 Borough limits call itself Gettysburg Village instead  
15 of Mount Joy Village where it is located?

16 Which headline attracts the attention,  
17 Commission to hold hearings in Gettysburg or  
18 Commission to hold hearings in Straban Township?  
19 It's all about name recognition.

20 Secondly, aside from the State Police,  
21 there's no security in Straban, as I just alluded  
22 to.

23 Our police force was tasked to provide four  
24 officers all day for this event. It could  
25 potentially cost the Borough up to \$1300 to do this.

1           Now, I would like to mention something  
2     parenthetically. I just mentioned the figures \$3500  
3     and 1300, which to those of you who may be from the  
4     larger cities would consider in terms of budget  
5     trivial; but the year previous to this, we balanced  
6     our \$4 million budget and when we came at the end, we  
7     had a surplus of \$12.

8           This particular year, we didn't do that and  
9     to raise our taxes by 2 mills just to cover our  
10    expenses.

11           At any rate, we are now advised that a  
12    second hearing will be held in Gettysburg, which  
13    will, of course, incur additional expenses to the  
14    Borough.

15           It's our understanding that the college is  
16    being reimbursed by the Commission for this and  
17    presumably the next hearing. We have been told that  
18    the reimbursement for the Borough is not warranted  
19    since the Borough is expected to provide police  
20    protection as a municipal service. Obviously, a  
21    casino is going to attract even more visitors.

22           To summarize this portion, our status of  
23    the world famous town and resulting impact of tourism  
24    especially vents upon our personal and financial  
25    resources and places severe strain on the Borough

1 that we struggle not only to successfully pay for.

2           So as one of our counselors has aptly  
3 stated, everybody wants to be from Gettysburg but  
4 nobody wants to pay for it.

5           So who does pay for all this? Well, the  
6 Borough citizens. Unlike most Pennsylvania  
7 municipalities of our size, the overwhelming majority  
8 of the Borough's tax income is derived from personal  
9 property taxes.

10           However, unlike other boroughs, Gettysburg  
11 is home to a college, a hospital, a seminary, as well  
12 as churches, schools, and some Federal property, all  
13 of which are tax exempt.

14           In fact, 51 percent of the properties in  
15 the Borough are exempt from the property taxes, which  
16 means conversely that 49 percent of the Gettysburg  
17 property owners pay a real property tax of 14.38  
18 mills to finance 64 percent of the Borough's \$4  
19 million budget, which as I had mentioned includes a  
20 police budget of over \$1 million.

21           By contrast, property owners in Straban  
22 Township pay a real property tax of .47 mills, which  
23 is about 1/30th of the assessment charge to Borough  
24 property owners.

25           The impact of this differential is

1 illustrated by noting that many homeowners in  
2 Gettysburg pay more in property taxes to the Borough  
3 than Wal-Mart pays to Straban Township.

4           The Borough does have access to other  
5 sources of tax revenue. I would like to cite one in  
6 particular because it has a direct impact upon our  
7 position in this matter.

8           About four years ago, the State Legislature  
9 enacted pillow tax for Adams County. Revenues were  
10 to be distributed to the county and in turn by the  
11 county to municipalities for the designated purpose  
12 of supplementing law enforcement budgets to offset  
13 the public safety costs imposed by the tourist trade.

14           Since Gettysburg at the time contained 47  
15 percent of the hotel rooms in the county, we can  
16 reasonably assume that the Borough should receive 47  
17 percent of the revenue. That's a very naive  
18 decision.

19           In 2004, the county collected just short of  
20 \$900,000 in pillow taxes; and by the time those  
21 revenues filtered through the system, Gettysburg  
22 received \$30,000 or 3 percent of the total amount  
23 collected.

24           Now, our lowest paid law enforcement  
25 officer earns \$39,000 per annum, add to that benefits



1 such as vacation, sick leave, what have you, totaling  
2 about 15,000. And it is evident that our take from  
3 the Borough pillow tax -- from the county pillow tax,  
4 again, intended to supplement law enforcement paid  
5 slightly more than one half of the salary of our  
6 lowest paid officer, and our total police payroll  
7 exceeds \$750,000. We got 30,000. So much from  
8 trickle down economics and more like the ice cream  
9 theory of economics where everybody else gets to eat  
10 off the top and we get what dripped out the bottom of  
11 the cone.

12 I cite this example because we have been  
13 made aware of similar revenue sharing proposals. One  
14 envisions the distribution of revenues to the county  
15 which in turn would allocate them to the Adams County  
16 economic development corporation to which  
17 municipalities would in turn apply for grants.

18 This arrangement will do nothing more than  
19 throw Gettysburg into the mix of just one of the 33  
20 other Townships and Boroughs competing for whatever  
21 funds filter down through the economic development  
22 corporation.

23 Another approach envisions an  
24 intermunicipal agreement between the Borough and  
25 Straban Township for fund sharing. We do not intend

1 to impugn the integrity or good intent of anyone  
2 involved in that sort of arrangement. We're all  
3 aware of the potential where those type of agreements  
4 disintegrate over time.

5           Lastly, we're not even sure of the current  
6 numbers involved with the process of distribution.  
7 We've heard the figure \$16 million that would  
8 potentially be distributed between Adams, York, and  
9 Franklin Counties.

10           York County is already that most populous,  
11 powerful, and richest county in southcentral  
12 Pennsylvania, and Lord knows what Franklin County has  
13 to do with anything in this matter.

14           In short, ladies and gentlemen, we have  
15 been led down the prim rose path and will not tread  
16 that path again.

17           Because of our experiences, the council  
18 cannot do less than take the position that unless the  
19 Borough of Gettysburg receives an iron clad, written  
20 agreement providing for the direct deposit of  
21 guaranteed revenues, and we've set the figure \$2  
22 million, which we believe to be reasonable per annum  
23 directly to the Borough with no qualifications, we  
24 could not endorse the presence of a casino in the  
25 area. We simply can't afford it. We can't afford to

1 take on additional burdens.

2           The Borough has received sufficient  
3 assurances to that effect from Chance Enterprises.  
4 In short form, Chance has offered a guarantee that  
5 should the Borough not receive \$2 million from state  
6 revenue sharing, Chance will underwrite a minimum of  
7 \$1 million per annum to the Borough from its private  
8 resources and will assist the Borough in acquiring  
9 the second million through the legislative process.

10           A guaranteed disbursement of this amount  
11 will enable the Borough to, among other things,  
12 purchase new police radios and cars, replace our  
13 30-year-old highway equipment, enhance our social  
14 services, and above all reduce the 14.38 mill tax  
15 burden placed upon the Borough property owner.

16           Faced with these circumstances, we must  
17 deal with reality. The Borough has considered and  
18 appreciates the arguments of those who advocate  
19 refusal to endorse based upon historical, moral,  
20 religious, ethical grounds, whatever.

21           They may indeed have some merit, but we  
22 have to pay the bills. Our bills are increasing  
23 daily.

24           We would consider as a council ourselves  
25 derelict of our duty if we were to turn down the

1 possibility of doing so from a source other than our  
2 Borough taxpayers upon who we have relied upon for so  
3 long.

4           Therefore, by a vote of six to three, the  
5 council this Monday night endorsed the Chance  
6 proposal. The mayor endorsed the council vote. In  
7 light of everything I have said about the Borough's  
8 financial position and this opportunity to remedy  
9 that financial position, if anyone considers that to  
10 be selling out, so be it. That's the way it is.  
11 It's reality.

12           I want to close on a little more of a  
13 personal note. Since last Monday night, I have been  
14 accused of bribery, being a prostitute and trader to  
15 military history.

16           Just for the record, I happen to be a  
17 retired US Army field grade officer with a Master's  
18 degree in history. So I think that last argument is  
19 -- probably other council members have been as well,  
20 but I want to express my pride in the Borough of  
21 Gettysburg and our citizens pro and con who  
22 participated in our Democratic process.

23           When neither the county nor Straban  
24 Township has held any sort of public meeting nor has  
25 taken any position in this issue, the Borough of

1 Gettysburg stepped up to civic responsibilities and  
2 obligations by convening a public meeting devoted  
3 entirely to taking testimony, and a second at which  
4 the issue was debated by the council and voted on in  
5 public.

6           Although some disagree with the results,  
7 they cannot accuse the council of ducking its  
8 responsibilities.

9           I, for one, am firmly convinced that we  
10 have done the right thing for our taxpayers and I  
11 will gladly accept the consequences of that action,  
12 whatever they may be.

13           Thank you for your time and attention. I  
14 will take any questions if there are any. Thank you.

15           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Well, it may  
16 be apparent to you though we may be making some new  
17 friends here today, the timer isn't yet one of my new  
18 friends but we're getting to know one another.

19           The next three speakers we have who will  
20 share a 30-minute slot are Adams County  
21 Commissioners. Each of them will speak for 10  
22 minutes. The first is Lucy Lott, Commissioner Lucy  
23 Lott.

24           MS. LOTT: Good morning, Commissioners.  
25 Thank you for the opportunity to testify today. My

1 name is Lucy Lott. I live in Manallen Township,  
2 Upper Adams County, in the middle of the fruit  
3 county.

4 I'm one of the three commissioners here in  
5 Adams County. Some of you may find it strange that  
6 the Board of Commissioners did not come out with a  
7 unified position on slots in the county.

8 However, I believe we are very  
9 representative of the divisions and concerns of the  
10 community. It is, therefore, very fitting that we  
11 should appear before you today in this fashion.

12 I am opposing slots in Adams County most  
13 importantly because I am here representing those  
14 thousands of residents who just do not want this type  
15 of gambling venue located in the county.

16 However, I am not a member of the No Casino  
17 Group. I would ask that you consider each individual  
18 and group on their own merits.

19 There are several reasons for opposing the  
20 slots casino. First, there is the vision of the many  
21 residents and groups throughout the county.

22 When they imagine what we would like  
23 Gettysburg and Adams County to be and be known for in  
24 the next 20 or 50 or 100 years from now, a slots  
25 parlor is not in the picture.

1           What is in the picture is a preservation of  
2 a rural and historical heritage. This shared vision  
3 of the preservation of the quality of life and the  
4 rural and historical heritage is repeated in visions  
5 and mission statements across the county and  
6 municipalities in the community groups alike.

7           Families live here and children are raised  
8 here because there is a quality of life that cannot  
9 be found everywhere.

10           Our county is dotted with small communities  
11 and people who know their neighbors. They are there  
12 for their neighbors. Parents are raising their  
13 children. They teach their children and neighbors'  
14 children to become leaders who are involved in the  
15 communities, neighborhoods, and schools.

16           Surrounding all of this, we have villages,  
17 farms, towns, and the history of the Battle of  
18 Gettysburg where the union was preserved.

19           Where does a slot casino fit into the  
20 picture? How do you explain to your family and  
21 friends that this quality of life is important?

22           Oh, yes, by the way, we think the slots  
23 casino is just the thing that Gettysburg and Adams  
24 County is missing by people losing their hard-earned  
25 money. Gaming at the slots, we can preserve our way

1 of life. There's something wrong with this picture.

2 Showing young people that their leaders are  
3 turning to gambling to save them from ever rising  
4 taxes is ethically wrong.

5 Old laws must change. New laws that are  
6 bad will not address the underlying problems with the  
7 bad laws and old laws.

8 What would the Gettysburg battlefield be  
9 without the surrounding rural area to enhance its  
10 appeal.

11 What if that appeal was tarnished by money  
12 lost at the slots. Imagine your friends, children,  
13 or grandchildren coming to visit. Then on return  
14 trips, they would be requesting to go to the casino  
15 so they can put their money in the slots.

16 They would remember their trip to  
17 Gettysburg not for the history or the beauty but for  
18 their visits to the slots casino. What is wrong with  
19 this picture? What do you want them to remember  
20 about Gettysburg? What could we be losing?

21 In my other life, I'm the wife of a fruit  
22 grower. There was a mailing that was done recently  
23 by Crossroads to garner support for the gaming  
24 resort.

25 In it, one of our Commissioners states that



1 this will save our fruit belt area of the county.  
2 This is not true. The fruit belt will be saved as it  
3 stays profitable for the fruit growers as a viable  
4 industry in the county.

5 A possibility of saving the land with money  
6 from the gaming industry does not and will not be the  
7 salvation of the fruit industry. Neither will it  
8 preserve any type of farming.

9 The agriculture industry will save  
10 themselves as they find ways to remain viable parts  
11 of the economy of state, county, and world.

12 We are working through that with our  
13 extension service and many community groups in the  
14 county to help the agriculture community stay viable.

15 To say that millions of dollars will come  
16 to the county is misleading. As the law is currently  
17 written, any county below fourth class, and we are  
18 currently sixth class, is required first to send the  
19 county share to the state where the state will  
20 determine if you are deemed worthy enough to have it  
21 returned to you based on the project for which the  
22 county has requested funding.

23 It must also compete and be shared with  
24 contiguous counties and economic development  
25 entities. There is no guarantee that the money will

1 be here for needed projects or circumstances that  
2 arise as a result of the gaming venue in the county.

3           The county's human services budget has been  
4 taking huge hits in the past as state and Federal  
5 budgets are cut.

6           As stated on the website, Crossroads Gaming  
7 Resorts believes that there's no dramatic increase in  
8 social ills when gaming operations are located in a  
9 community.

10           If that research is to be believed, then  
11 why is there a section of the gaming law,  
12 specifically Subpart 1, Chapter 501, compulsive and  
13 problem gaming requirements that addresses problem  
14 gambling?

15           Is it a problem specifically because that  
16 person loses their money or does that problem  
17 manifest itself in family and community dynamics  
18 that call for human services, law enforcement, and  
19 court intervention?

20           Why are so many pages written to address it  
21 in the regulations? Again, what is wrong with this  
22 picture?

23           We recently were told that the revised  
24 traffic impact study for Crossroads Gaming Resort and  
25 Spa was submitted to our planning department.

1           The initial one was submitted in December  
2 during the same period you received the application.  
3 This revision is dated March of 2006.

4           It is anticipated that this initial  
5 summary, trip generation would produce average  
6 weekday vehicle trips of 14,767 and 18,889 average  
7 Saturday trips.

8           With the full build out as was proposed,  
9 and I believe that is to be in 2018, these average  
10 weekday trips are now at 23,730 and Saturday trips at  
11 30,801, nearly double the original set of figures.

12           Are all of the applicants permitted to  
13 significantly revise their plans and traffic studies  
14 after submission?

15           What kind of message does this send to the  
16 public about the process? What is wrong with this  
17 picture?

18           Crossroads advocates new jobs for Adams  
19 County. Just the nature -- that is very nice but  
20 Adams County already has a low unemployment rate.

21           Just the nature of the establishment points  
22 to most of the positions being service jobs. People  
23 are not going to leave administration positions in  
24 metropolitan areas for service jobs.

25           We would be importing people to fill these

1 positions which would only exacerbate our growth  
2 issues, as well as our lack of low to moderate  
3 housing and rentals. Again, the picture.

4           Let's talk about location. I expect you  
5 want your licensee to succeed. With gas prices  
6 headed towards \$3 per gallon, how many people will  
7 drive from Baltimore or Washington and Northern  
8 Virginia, possibly bypassing gaming venues that are  
9 being discussed currently in Maryland?

10           Maryland is working to keep their money in  
11 their state. Other areas applying for licensing in  
12 Pennsylvania have a closer, more dense population to  
13 support the business should the economy get worse.

14           Does the Gaming Board advocate that  
15 applicants solicit persons in groups with promises of  
16 millions of dollars to organizations to provide  
17 testimony in favor of the slots?

18           These dollars also are based on the  
19 projected success of the operation and in reality may  
20 not come. What is wrong with this picture?

21           One last comment. I took a day from my  
22 vacation to visit with county commissioners in Summit  
23 County, Colorado.

24           One thing they emphatically said was if we  
25 have any say at all, to keep the casinos out of our

1 county.

2           The taxing structure in Pennsylvania is  
3 flawed. Please do not leave down thousands of  
4 citizens in Adams County. Slots do not belong in  
5 Adams County. Get the picture?

6           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: The next  
7 County Commissioner from Adams County to speak is  
8 Thomas J. Weaver.

9           MR. WEAVER: Thank you, Mr. Chairman,  
10 members of the Board. Welcome to Adams County. I've  
11 given my full text to the stenographer.

12           My name is Thomas Weaver. I'm currently  
13 serving in my fourth term as Commissioner here in  
14 Adams County.

15           Last year or actually almost a year ago  
16 after briefed in this project by the investors, I did  
17 not take a public position on the project as many  
18 officials did.

19           I specifically took myself through a  
20 process that took about eight months to carefully  
21 analyze and evaluate this project as it relates to  
22 either good or bad public policy for Adams County.

23           After having analyzed this project very  
24 carefully, my testimony to the Gaming Board today  
25 will be very clear and based upon factual and

1 empirical data.

2 I cannot speak, of course, to the other  
3 applicants to the Category 2 license. However, I  
4 believe the Gaming Board is going to be hard pressed  
5 to find an applicant more worthy of licensing than  
6 the applicant before you.

7 Let me say this very clearly to the Board,  
8 I believe Adams County residents want and need this  
9 slots parlor in our county. I also believe  
10 Pennsylvania needs this parlor located in Adams  
11 County.

12 When all of the important aspects of this  
13 project are carefully analyzed and reviewed, a very  
14 positive and favorable outcome is present for Adams  
15 County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

16 The first area I looked at was location and  
17 land use. As early as 1988, Route 15 was identified  
18 as Adams County's business corridor in a study known  
19 as the Battelle Report.

20 The Battelle Report was a targeted economic  
21 development program and implementation strategy for  
22 Adams County.

23 The Battelle Report suggested that Adams  
24 County considers several business cents adjacent to  
25 many of the Route 15 interchanges.

1           A strong emphasis was placed on Route 30  
2 and north of Route 30. The Route 30 emphasis and  
3 north was presented because those interchanges would  
4 not adversely impact the Gettysburg National Military  
5 Park.

6           Moreover, the interchanges of Route 15  
7 provide for the most efficient means of managing  
8 vehicular traffic on limiting access and adverse  
9 impacts to Adams County secondary roads.

10           In 1991, the County of Adams completed the  
11 county's comprehensive plan. That plan was developed  
12 throughout 1990. I served as a member of the  
13 committee developing that plan.

14           The committee had broad and diverse  
15 representation from county citizens and stakeholders.  
16 The land use section of the comprehensive plan  
17 strategy supports the Battelle Study and its desired  
18 location along Route 15.

19           This strategy is articulated in the goals  
20 and objectives section, Chapter 3 in the plan  
21 entitled the Growth Management Plan.

22           The comprehensive plan was unanimously  
23 adopted by the Board of County Commissioners in 1991.  
24 A third report prepared in 1992 also supports the  
25 Battelle Study and the county comprehensive plan.

1           This report is entitled Business Parks Site  
2 Study and Development Strategy. This report was  
3 prepared by Urban Research and Development  
4 Corporation of Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

5           Known as the URDC study, this report,  
6 although specific to the Southeast corner of Route 30  
7 and 15, presents even more supporting data that the  
8 Route 15 interchanges are the desired location for  
9 business expansion in Adams County.

10           In summarizing the location in land use  
11 aspects of Crossroads application, one would only  
12 need to visit Route 30 and Route 15 interchanges  
13 today.

14           Business expansion and the plan strategy  
15 laid out in three of the four mentioned reports is  
16 today reality.

17           The Adams Commerce Center and Gateway  
18 Gettysburg representing the implementation of this  
19 plan and strategy crafted more than 15 years ago.

20           Most importantly, however, it is a plan  
21 that was anchored in solid planning principles and  
22 solid land use principles, because it produced no  
23 adverse impacts to the Gettysburg National Military  
24 Park and historic sites.

25           The proposed slots parlor of Crossroads is



1 consistent with this plan and is located well outside  
2 the view-shed of the National Military Park.

3           The economic conditions of Adams County are  
4 as such. The economic base is agriculture and  
5 tourism. This base is shrinking and has been for 20  
6 years.

7           However, this constriction of the county  
8 economy was not a surprise. Community leaders,  
9 planners, and others recognized and identified signs  
10 of potential economic changes 20 years ago.

11           The 1990 Adams County comprehensive plan  
12 sets forth a plan expanding and diversifying the  
13 county economy.

14           The plan calls for using the established  
15 agriculture strategy and developing business  
16 expansion that is compatible with the county's  
17 tourism and agricultural basis.

18           About six or seven years ago, several  
19 public policy initiatives were sought to revitalize  
20 and grow the tourism base.

21           This began with the National Park Service's  
22 commitment to build a new visitors center, which is  
23 currently under construction.

24           A hotel occupancy tax dedicated to tourism  
25 promotion is beginning to show some results. 90

1 acres of the Adams Commerce Center at Route 15 and 30  
2 was sold for development to Gateway Gettysburg and is  
3 currently under construction.

4           The Crossroads proposal of a 200-room  
5 hotel, a spa, and fine dining will add to the  
6 county's tourist attraction and expand the tourism  
7 base.

8           This is consistent with the county's  
9 planned economic strategy. Part of this economic  
10 strategy related to tourism is to increase the length  
11 of stay of tourists when visiting Adams County.

12           Activities by the local convention and  
13 visitors bureau and others, like projects like  
14 Gateway Gettysburg, are doing just that.

15           The increased numbers of visitors and  
16 length of stay will have a tremendous ripple effect  
17 on the county's economy.

18           For example, the Gettysburg National  
19 Military Park and the new visitors center will see  
20 increased attendance.

21           Since the United States Department of  
22 Interior bases its annual funding for national parks  
23 in attendance, it is very likely that that increase  
24 in Federal funds would come to Adams County through  
25 the park.

1           It is also estimated that as much as \$2.2  
2 million annually will be generated by tourists  
3 spending additional time in Adams County.

4           Revenues generated directly from the  
5 project will provide Adams County and our  
6 municipalities much needed discretionary revenue.

7           These revenues can be used to significantly  
8 bolster many programs that are at the core of the  
9 county's economic strategy.

10          Substantial dollars that aren't available  
11 in the property tax base would be available to  
12 underwrite preservation and profitability programs.

13          As for public support, the Crossroads  
14 Gaming Resort and Spa, I believe, is strongly  
15 supported by the community.

16          In fact, I believe when citizens of Adams  
17 County are factually and correctly informed about the  
18 project, the support is overwhelming.

19          Public opinion polls taken by opposition  
20 groups to some extent are invalid because of the way  
21 the question is asked.

22          The poll taken by Representative Steve  
23 Maitland is also invalid. His poll sample consisted  
24 only of registered voters.

25          I represent the entire community, as do all

1 officials. Moreover, it excluded cell phones. I  
2 would ask you to call John Zogby, national pollster,  
3 about the use of telephone polls today and their  
4 validity. They simply aren't valid anymore.

5 As the question that was asked of me last  
6 week at a press conference, I was asked if I had data  
7 that supported my position. I did not have data that  
8 supported my position.

9 Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, I am  
10 the ranking elected official in this county. I'm  
11 currently serving in a 15th year as Commissioner and  
12 I have over 28 years of public service in this  
13 county.

14 I enjoy a very broad constituency group  
15 throughout all corners of the county. I can tell  
16 this Board without any hesitancy, whatsoever, without  
17 any hesitancy, that a very sizable majority of the  
18 citizens of Adams County do, in fact, support this  
19 proposal. I will stake my 28 years of public service  
20 career on that statement.

21 The question, is the proposed Crossroads  
22 Gaming Resort and Spa good for Adams County,  
23 Mr. Chairman, members of the Board, the facts clearly  
24 answer this question. That answer is solidly and  
25 overwhelmingly yes.

1           When this proposal is evaluated on facts  
2 and valid empirical data, few people, if any, could  
3 dissent on the answer.

4           There would be minimal dissent because this  
5 proposal is not just good, it is convincingly,  
6 overwhelmingly and outstanding opportunity for the  
7 citizens of the Adams County.

8           Without any pause or hesitation, the  
9 Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board members can feel  
10 totally comfortable, totally comfortable, and  
11 justified in awarding a gaming license to the  
12 Crossroads Gaming Resort and Spa.

13           I strongly encourage the Board to take this  
14 action. Mr. Chairman, that concludes my testimony.  
15 It is more elaborated in the text I gave to the  
16 stenographer. Thank you.

17           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
18 speaker is Commissioner Glenn Snyder, Adams County  
19 Commissioner.

20           MR. SNYDER: Good morning, ladies and  
21 gentlemen. Welcome to Adams County. My name is  
22 Glenn Snyder, Chairman of the Adams County  
23 Commissioners.

24           We're here to deal with the issue of the  
25 proposed Crossroads Gambling Resort located in

1 Straban Township, Adams County.

2 I would like to note that the county  
3 comprehensive plan does support -- the site that the  
4 casino to be located does conform with the Adams  
5 County comprehensive plan.

6 I would like to stress two issues about  
7 Adams County. First, most residents of Adams County  
8 are very conservative and the county is a rural  
9 county.

10 Adams County's two major industries are  
11 agriculture and tourism. As you go through the  
12 selection process, the location of this slots parlor,  
13 consider the impact it would create on the two  
14 industries here in Adams County.

15 Let's look at tourism. Adams County is  
16 home of the National Military Park, which attracts  
17 two million visitors a year. This project could  
18 enhance tourism, especially during off peak seasons.

19 Now, let's look at agriculture. Normally,  
20 and most always, people in agriculture are very  
21 conservative and take pride in their heritage and of  
22 the rural character of this county.

23 Traffic: Route 30 is the east/west  
24 corridor through Adams County, which goes through --  
25 right through the center of downtown Gettysburg.

1           It's a historic town, narrow streets; and  
2 during the peak time of tourism, streets are very  
3 congested, not only in the Borough but east of  
4 Gettysburg on Route 30 to 15.

5           Sewer and water: Adams County is one of  
6 the fastest-growing counties in Pennsylvania, making  
7 it very difficult to keep pace with the needs as more  
8 stringent regulations are imposed on municipalities  
9 for sewage disposal and making sure there is adequate  
10 and safe drinking water.

11           Adams County depends basically on well  
12 water for their source of water. There is no stream  
13 flowing into Adams County. All of the streams flow  
14 out of Adams County.

15           Let's look at the public safety. Adams  
16 County completed building a new correctional facility  
17 and emergency services complex in 2004 at a cost of  
18 \$35 million; and yes, the population in this facility  
19 just keeps increasing with alcohol and drugs as the  
20 leading cause of the increase.

21           The report that was prepared by the  
22 applicant indicated that there would be problem  
23 gamblers. They are prepared to address that issue.

24           This creates a concern for the county that  
25 they will need to deal with all of the social issues.

1 The county is responsible for the social agencies,  
2 the justice system, and all of the costs. This is  
3 Adams County's taxpayers dollars. This is  
4 unacceptable without guaranteeing funding.

5 With that said, I hope you will understand  
6 why the social issues are very sensitive to Adams  
7 County.

8 Jobs: The county would benefit from jobs.  
9 There would be a positive impact by the jobs, but  
10 there's no guarantee that all of the employees would  
11 reside here in Gettysburg.

12 Counties are classified. Adams County is a  
13 sixth class county. Not just Adams County being a  
14 sixth class county but any other county, fifth  
15 through eighth class, should be treated the same as  
16 first through fourth class counties.

17 All counties will experience the same  
18 economic issues negative or positive. This could be  
19 a good economic project if the funds stay in Adams  
20 County.

21 As the statutes are written, fifth through  
22 eighth class counties, 2 percent of the gross  
23 terminal revenue will be deposited in the Department  
24 of Community and Economic Development, exclusively  
25 for grants through counties or contiguous counties or



1 organizations in the county or contiguous counties.

2 As written, fifth through eighth class  
3 counties will experience a shortfall in funds, which  
4 Adams County holds in that range.

5 Let's look at Adams County's situation.  
6 750 to 800,000 people live in adjoining counties of  
7 York, Franklin, and Cumberland. The population of  
8 Adams County is 100,000 people.

9 So you can see the possibility of the  
10 unfairness of funding distribution. We, the county,  
11 went down this path of a promise before and did not  
12 receive and will not go down that path again unless,  
13 and I stress unless, the County of Adams receives  
14 written agreement providing 2 percent or the \$10  
15 million to the county with no qualification. This  
16 project is not good for Adams County.

17 You, the Gambling Board, will hear from  
18 many residents pro and con. I would hope that you  
19 would make serious consideration and give to their  
20 concerns.

21 In closing, I would hope that the Gambling  
22 Board would not look favorable to selecting Adams  
23 County until, and I repeat until, Adams County is  
24 guaranteed the funds exclusively for Adams County or  
25 Adams County's agencies.

1 Thank you and that ends my remarks.

2 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you,  
3 Commissioner.

4 I thank you, all of the speakers, for  
5 adhering to the allotted time periods. We're going  
6 to adjust our schedule just a little bit. We're  
7 going to take the expected 10:30 break now. I  
8 understand that to be 17 minutes after 10. We'll  
9 resume at 10:32.

10 (Break.)

11 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Can we all  
12 please take our seats? We'll go to the first of our  
13 community group speakers this morning will be Leonard  
14 Goldberg who will be sharing his ten-minute slot with  
15 Lawrence Marschall or just Mr. Goldberg.

16 MR. GOLDBERG: Mr. Marschall is in class.  
17 What I would like to read today is a resolution that  
18 you have already received. It was drafted by  
19 Gettysburg College faculty. It does not speak for  
20 the college as a whole. This only reflects faculty  
21 sentiment.

22 We drafted the resolution on November 3rd,  
23 2005. We sent it to you on November 10th. We wish  
24 to read it into the record today in part to reiterate  
25 the depth of our concern to you and in part to share

1 our perceptions with the members of the community  
2 interested enough in this issue to be in attendance  
3 today.

4           The statement as drafted is, we, the  
5 members of the Gettysburg College faculty, oppose the  
6 establishment of a gaming casino in the greater  
7 Gettysburg area.

8           Students of Gettysburg College are  
9 challenged to exercise their reason, to expand their  
10 knowledge of the world, to develop healthy habits of  
11 mind and body and to engage in public service.

12           The presence of a gaming casino will  
13 interfere with this educational mission of the  
14 college. It will do damage to the historical and  
15 cultural character of Gettysburg, which is an  
16 essential element of a Gettysburg College education.

17           The experience of other cities and towns  
18 where casinos have been established suggest that a  
19 proposed casino will impose enormous social costs on  
20 our community.

21           Review with alarm the prospect of sharing  
22 our community with a campus across town whose stock  
23 in trade, gambling, incorporates values so clearly  
24 antithetical to those of the liberal arts. Thank  
25 you.

1                   PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.

2                   Our next scheduled community group  
3 representative is Timothy Hamm.

4                   MR. HAMM: Good morning. My name is  
5 Timothy Hamm. I'm appearing today on behalf of the  
6 concerned citizens of Straban Township.

7                   We appreciate this opportunity to address  
8 the members of the Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board  
9 and wish to thank you for your commitment to the  
10 public hearing process in this important matter.

11                   We would like to take this opportunity to  
12 express our opposition to the application by  
13 Crossroads Gaming for a Category 2 slots facility  
14 license in Straban Township, Adams County.

15                   Concerned Citizens of Straban Township is a  
16 grass roots community group made up of Straban  
17 Township residents, who are committed to taking an  
18 active role in issues affecting our Township.

19                   The proposed Crossroads gaming facility is  
20 a very important issue to our group and it would have  
21 far reaching consequences for our Township and  
22 community.

23                   Today, we would like to discuss the results  
24 or our petitioning efforts in Straban Township and  
25 address of concern with locating a proposed gaming

1 facility near the Route 15-Route 30 interchange in  
2 particular and more generally with its effect on  
3 Straban Township and the Gettysburg area.

4           Concerned Citizens of Straban Township has  
5 conducted a petitioning effort in opposition to a  
6 local gaming facility.

7           This effort began when members of our group  
8 started canvassing door to door in Straban Township  
9 as part of the general No Casino Gettysburg petition  
10 drive.

11           We found that there was consistently strong  
12 opposition to a gaming facility in our Township. We  
13 decided to expand this effort and wanted to get a  
14 sense of the prevailing opinion among township  
15 residents about the casino.

16           We canvassed a range of different areas so  
17 that we could get a broad showing of Straban  
18 citizens.

19           After several months of door-to-door  
20 petitioning, we combined our results with those of No  
21 Casino Gettysburg and found that we had over 620  
22 names of Straban Township residents opposed to local  
23 gaming facility.

24           This number represents 18 percent of adult  
25 residents and nearly 22 percent of registered voters

1 in Straban Township.

2           The signatures that we collected in Straban  
3 Township have been included with the over 60,000  
4 signatures to be presented to the Board by No Casino  
5 Gettysburg.

6           The reasons why the members of our group  
7 and so many Straban residents oppose a local gaming  
8 facility are varied but at the same time reflect  
9 common significant concerns, which we would like to  
10 address today.

11           First of all, we believe that the proposed  
12 location near the Route 15-Route 30 interchange is  
13 simply a bad choice for a gaming facility.

14           The obvious benefit of the location for  
15 Crossroads Gaming is that it would have easy access  
16 from two important highways and would take advantage  
17 of the existing Gettysburg tourism market.

18           From the perspective of the local area, it  
19 would be an unfortunate case of poor planning. It's  
20 ironic that local geography played such a significant  
21 role in the Battle of Gettysburg and continues to  
22 make its influence felt now in the shaping of the  
23 area's future.

24           The Gettysburg National Military Park is  
25 comprised of almost 6,000 acres and surrounds much of

1 the town of Gettysburg.

2 As a result, there are limited  
3 possibilities for commercial development in the area  
4 around Gettysburg, and that development is naturally  
5 funneled into the Route 30 corridor east of  
6 Gettysburg in Straban Township.

7 Already, this area houses a mix of retail  
8 businesses in various shopping centers and includes a  
9 Giant Food Store, Wal-Mart, and Staples to name a  
10 few.

11 In addition, there is a Commerce Park with  
12 manufacturing and office operations in the same area  
13 and will soon also include a tourist and  
14 entertainment attraction when Gateway Gettysburg  
15 Visitor and Conference Center is completed.

16 The shape of the national park has forced  
17 this mixture of diverse businesses into a  
18 concentrated area. We accept that as mostly  
19 unavoidable; but it doesn't make sense to introduce a  
20 gaming facility, another distinct form of business  
21 and associated development into the same area.

22 It would simply exacerbate a situation that  
23 is already less than desirable and could actually  
24 harm some of the existing businesses there.

25 The presence of the Route 30-Route 15

1 interchange and concentration of businesses in that  
2 area already produce high volumes of traffic and  
3 congestion.

4           According to the Crossroads local impact  
5 report of December 2005, current traffic volumes on  
6 Route 30 and Route 15 in the area of the proposed  
7 site ranged from over 14,000 to over 20,000 vehicles  
8 per day.

9           Trip projections in the report show the  
10 casino, hotel, and spa generating approximately  
11 double the existing traffic volumes, an additional  
12 14,000 to more than 18,000 vehicle trips per day.  
13 That's about a 90 percent to over 100 percent  
14 increase in vehicle traffic in that area.

15           The Crossroads study was limited to the  
16 immediate vicinity of the proposed site and didn't  
17 address traffic over a wider area.

18           Already, the traffic on Route 30 from the  
19 center of Gettysburg to the Route 15 interchange is  
20 consistently heavy with regular congestion.

21           Placing a gaming facility in the area will  
22 produce unacceptable levels of traffic and degrade  
23 the quality of life for the residents.

24           Beyond the mediate site for the proposed  
25 gaming facility, the effect on the Township in



1 general would be significant and negative.

2           Straban Township currently has residential  
3 development projects under way or moving through the  
4 planning stages that will more than double the  
5 population of the Township.

6           With these increases in population, there  
7 will naturally be associated commercial development  
8 as well.

9           Many of us have serious concerns about the  
10 effects of this development on resources such as  
11 water, and we believe that adding a gaming facility  
12 to the Township, regardless of the location, and the  
13 additional commercial development that will come with  
14 it would be irresponsible and shortsighted.

15           Furthermore, as the revenue distribution  
16 arrangement stands now, the Township would receive no  
17 more than half of its 2003-2004 budget or 450 to  
18 \$500,000.

19           Straban Township officials testified before  
20 the Pennsylvania House Tourism and Recreational  
21 Development Committee in September 2005 that this  
22 limitation is unrealistic and would not meet the  
23 costs that would be incurred by the Township.

24           Under the current arrangement, the township  
25 will have to increase taxes, quote, to cover the

1 increased services and infrastructure that will  
2 result from the slots parlor, end quote.

3           They further testified that the casino  
4 will, quote, consume substantially more services than  
5 the residents receive or want to receive.

6           The gaming facility will be visited by many  
7 people who live outside the host municipality.  
8 Straban and its residents are going to have to live  
9 with all of the depends, growth, annoyances, and  
10 nuisances associated with the gaming facilities, end  
11 quote.

12           These last statements are especially  
13 important because even if all of the associated costs  
14 were met, we would still be opposed to the casino.  
15 We simply don't want the increased traffic, the  
16 associated growth, and the types of businesses likely  
17 to spring up near a casino, the added safety concerns  
18 and the additional police protection that will be  
19 needed.

20           We believe that a gaming facility is  
21 clearly a wrong choice for the proposed site, for  
22 Straban Township, and for the Gettysburg area.

23           The historical events that occurred here  
24 have placed a special responsibility upon us, the  
25 residents of the community and upon the residents of

1 Pennsylvania.

2           Gettysburg represents more than just a  
3 historic site or a turning point in the Civil War.  
4 This is the site where President Lincoln delivered  
5 the Gettysburg address and commemorated the resting  
6 place for the thousands who struggled here.

7           That singular event sets Gettysburg apart  
8 from other sites and demands that we fulfill a sacred  
9 promise to care for this place in a way that is  
10 fitting and worthy.

11           This won't be the last time that we face a  
12 difficult choice about what is right for Gettysburg.  
13 We will always have the challenge of balancing growth  
14 and change with preservation of the historic  
15 qualities of the area.

16           We believe that a casino is the type of  
17 business that just doesn't fit with the Gettysburg  
18 community in any location.

19           We, therefore, urge the Board to vote  
20 against the application by Crossroads Gaming Resort  
21 and not award a gaming license for the Gettysburg  
22 area.

23           On behalf of concerned citizens of Straban  
24 Township, we thank the Board for this opportunity to  
25 speak today. Thank you.

1                   PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
2 speaker representing a community group in a  
3 ten-minute slot is Ryan Matthew Jordan.

4                   MR. NAPLES: Good morning. My name is  
5 David Naples. Brian Jordan couldn't attend this  
6 morning. I am taking his place.

7                   I am speaking on behalf the Civil War Club  
8 here at Gettysburg College. I originally reside in  
9 Manchester, Vermont; but nine months out of the year,  
10 I'm a student here at Gettysburg College. I, myself,  
11 am a sophomore. I'm a history major and a civil  
12 rights study minor.

13                   Before I begin, I want to give a little  
14 brief overview of what the Civil War Club dose here  
15 on campus.

16                   We are a group of students who get together  
17 every week to talk about issues about the Civil War.  
18 We have round tables, we play trivia games. We also  
19 have historians come in from the surrounding areas to  
20 talk to us. Just recently, we had Scott Hartwig come  
21 in to talk about the Maryland campaign.

22                   So with that, I will begin. In great  
23 deeds, something abides. On great fields, something  
24 changes. Forms change and pass, bodies disappear but  
25 spirits linger, to consecrate the ground for the

1 vision-place of souls.

2           And men and women from afar, and  
3 generations that know us not and that we not know of,  
4 heart-drawn to see where and by whom great things  
5 were done for them, shall come to this deathless  
6 field to ponder and dream. Joshua Lawrence  
7 Chamberlain.

8           Constructing a gambling facility would not  
9 only destroy the sanctity of the battlefield, but it  
10 will destroy the community of Gettysburg itself.

11           Gettysburg is an important national shrine.  
12 Families come to Gettysburg with their children to  
13 understand the past, to learn about it, to visit the  
14 many areas around the town.

15           Civil War soldiers have no memorial in  
16 Washington. Their memorials are the fields upon  
17 which they fought and died.

18           Over 51,000 men became casualties at  
19 Gettysburg, marking this ground as holy,  
20 blood-soaked, and deserving of reverence. Building a  
21 casino on this ground would make a mockery of the  
22 battle and its human casualties.

23           Would you build a mall on a graveyard? How  
24 about a shopping center on the site of the World  
25 Trade Center? Constructing both these buildings on

1 hallowed ground would be seen as sacrilegious. The  
2 same is true with Gettysburg, a place of national  
3 significance.

4           The casino would exploit Gettysburg for  
5 what it is and transfer it from heritage landmark to  
6 one of the largest gambling meccas in the county with  
7 5,000 slot machines.

8           Although casino applicants say that the  
9 casino will be built in neighboring Straban Township  
10 and not within the limits of the Borough of  
11 Gettysburg, this casino will be located on ground  
12 that served as field hospitals after the battle;  
13 namely, Camp Letterman and will literally be on the  
14 doorstep of the East Cavalry battlefield.

15           The casino will lead to sprawl that will  
16 endanger even more portions of the field. Traffic  
17 lights and noise will also emanate from the casino  
18 becoming audible and visible on some of the now  
19 serene and beautiful areas of the battlefield park.

20           The casino, contrary to the beliefs of its  
21 advocates, will hurt the economy and values of  
22 Gettysburg and could potentially harm Gettysburg  
23 College.

24           Chance Enterprises, the casino company,  
25 commissioned a study delineating the economic

1 benefits of the casino, that claims there will be  
2 more jobs, less unemployment, and virtually no cost  
3 involved in the community.

4           The study, however, was according to  
5 analyst Michael Siegel, conducted by interested  
6 parties. Much of it is anonymously authored and  
7 doesn't take into account any social costs.

8           As an addictive behavior, gambling will  
9 bring social costs to the community. According to  
10 economist Earl Grinols, within 50 miles of the  
11 casino, bankruptcy will rise 18 percent. Crime will  
12 rise by 8 percent and gambling addictions leading to  
13 divorce, suicides, and child abuse will be doubled.

14           Although the study claims it will bring  
15 benefits to the economy, the casino would hurt the  
16 Gettysburg economy. 96 percent of heritage tourists,  
17 according to NoCasinoGettysburg.com, said they oppose  
18 the casino and some 53 percent say they would not  
19 return if one was built, thus destroying the  
20 lucrative heritage-based tourism and family economy  
21 Gettysburg now enjoys.

22           Jobs in the tourism industry will be  
23 lacking because of the lack of tourists. Jobs in the  
24 casino available to Adams' residents according to  
25 Keith Miller would be menial jobs paying about

1 \$11,000 per year on the threshold of poverty.

2 This all points of cost; social costs and  
3 tourism/heritage based costs that are not included in  
4 the Chance report.

5 Of course, the social costs has already  
6 happened with the Borough council of Gettysburg and  
7 the essence being bribed by Crossroads Casino to  
8 favorably talk on behalf of the casino.

9 Furthermore, Gettysburg is a family-based  
10 community that is, with a rural home identity.  
11 Senator Rick Santorum says that these values are the  
12 essence of our community. That, too, has an economic  
13 value that is not calculated by the Chance report.

14 Gettysburg College has the same reputation  
15 and could suffer from being identified by the casino.  
16 Who would send their son or daughter to Atlantic City  
17 and/or Las Vegas to attend college?

18 While President Will and the administration  
19 of Gettysburg College will not say anything about the  
20 casino, the faculty as you have just heard did and  
21 many students have come out as well.

22 In conclusion, I urge you to oppose the  
23 construction of a casino in Gettysburg because of not  
24 only -- because it would not jeopardize only our --  
25 I'm sorry -- community's values, economy, and



1 potentially our institution or Gettysburg College,  
2 but because it would destroy a place of national  
3 significance that has captured American memory for  
4 over a century.

5           We have a choice. Do we want a community  
6 based on greed, imbued with social problems, traffic,  
7 sprawl and phony economics; or do we want a community  
8 where future generations of Americans can still, as  
9 Joshua Lawrence Chamberlain said, can come to ponder  
10 and dream. I choose the latter.

11           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
12 speaker, ten-minute slot for a community group, will  
13 be Richard E. Jordan.

14           MR. JORDAN: Good morning, Commissioners.  
15 My name is Richard Jordan. I am speaking on behalf  
16 of the Gettysburg College Parents Advisory Board.  
17 The Parents Advisory Board here at Gettysburg College  
18 is comprised of 62 parents of current Gettysburg  
19 College students, who are appointed by the President  
20 of the college to, quote, serve as representatives of  
21 the entire parent constituency, end quote, of the  
22 college.

23           On a personal level, my wife, Lisa, and I  
24 have sent all three of our sons to Gettysburg  
25 College. We have had a child here at the college

1 since 1997. Our last son, Kevin, is a junior  
2 currently.

3 We've been on the Parents Board since the  
4 year 2000. We served as co-chairs two years ago.  
5 Somewhat uniquely, we also have elected to invest our  
6 moderate pension in residential real estate in  
7 Gettysburg. We pay \$4,500 to the Borough of  
8 Gettysburg each year in taxes.

9 The Parents Advisory Board, their role,  
10 their mission is to advise the college of the  
11 parents' concerns, to advocate on behalf of the  
12 college beyond the campus, and to advance a close  
13 relationship between the college and parents.

14 In that role, members of the Parents  
15 Advisory Board are parents with particular commitment  
16 to the college and with that inevitably therefore to  
17 the surrounding community.

18 We are not just outsiders sending our kids  
19 to Gettysburg for four years. We are parents who  
20 love this area and what it stands for and what it is.  
21 We are also representatives of the Broader America  
22 and can bring to this body a perception of the  
23 broader America, not just the members of the Board  
24 and the residents in the State of Pennsylvania.

25 In our capacity as members of the Parents

1 Advisory Board, the members have unanimously, not by  
2 majority vote, but unanimously taken the position in  
3 the strongest terms to urge that this body not grant  
4 a license for the gaming location in the Adams County  
5 area.

6           There are several reasons that we could go  
7 into that I don't have time for. We would adopt by  
8 reference the faculty statement, which talked about  
9 the values of this institution and how a casino in  
10 this area is antithetical to that.

11           We at the very least see a casino as an  
12 attractive nuisance to college students with  
13 increased alcohol issues, financial issues, and the  
14 other heightened risks that accompany and could be  
15 documented by other people and have been documented.

16           We are concerned about the image of  
17 Gettysburg College as well as community. We are  
18 concerned about students that come here, prospective  
19 students.

20           The first question out of a prospective  
21 student's parents' mouth is going to be, what is up  
22 with the casino down the road? Do the kids go there,  
23 etc. That question is being asked now and the casino  
24 isn't here in the community by high school students  
25 and who are visiting this college currently.

1           So my wife and I have seen this college  
2 move from not ranked to well within the top 50 of  
3 liberal arts colleges in the country.

4           We have admission rates go from about 70  
5 percent applicants accepted to about 42 percent, I  
6 believe. It has become a very selective college.  
7 It's become a great institution for the Commonwealth  
8 of Pennsylvania.

9           We do not see any positive impact of a  
10 casino on the college or this community. We have  
11 expressed the position to the Board of Trustees. The  
12 Board of Trustees has elected to remain neutral.

13           We urge you not to interpret from that the  
14 Board of Trustees approves or even acquiesces in the  
15 casino.

16           They have taken the position that this is a  
17 political issue. It's not purely educational.  
18 Because of that, they have advised us specifically,  
19 we hear the points. They're good points. Make it be  
20 known and be part of the political system that we're  
21 participating in this morning.

22           Frankly, in reading the Gettysburg Times  
23 yesterday, we did not realize how political this  
24 issue might be; when, in fact, it was just a matter  
25 of money that be paid to the Borough to take a

1 position here this morning without any qualitative  
2 assessment, without saying our citizens by a majority  
3 or whatever approve the casino. It's just money.

4 We submitted it's a matter of character as  
5 well and it's a matter of image. There is no  
6 question that Gettysburg would be the focus. The  
7 original name of this group was Gettysburg Gaming.  
8 Their website, etc., the changes have taken place  
9 only in the face of the walls that they're running  
10 into with people opposing the position.

11 Nationally, there was a reference to other  
12 than the Parade magazine, which we all get every  
13 Sunday back on February 26th under the heading  
14 Gambling in Gettysburg, question mark.

15 This is what people around the country are  
16 reading. When Lincoln spoke of the, quote, honored  
17 dead, end quote, consecrating the Gettysburg  
18 battlefield with their blood in 1863, he never  
19 envisioned that the sound of bugles might one day be  
20 drowned out by the caching of slot machines.

21 It goes on to say that a new Pennsylvania  
22 law permits the casino but a state commission must  
23 grant final approval.

24 I will submit to you that nationally the  
25 perception will be what were they thinking? What

1 were they thinking of having a casino put in  
2 Gettysburg?

3 I also would draw your attention to this  
4 month's edition of national -- sorry -- National  
5 Geographic Traveler magazine. I think I left it at  
6 my seat but it makes reference, again, to a casino in  
7 Gettysburg.

8 It actually gives Gettysburg not a great  
9 rating as a traveler destination because of some of  
10 what they perceive as looking for more quantity of  
11 tourists rather than some quality.

12 It criticizes the prospect of a casino in  
13 Gettysburg. That's a traveler's magazine. It points  
14 out that 1.8 -- I get to read the quote instead of  
15 paraphrasing.

16 After giving Gettysburg a fair rating and  
17 that's about it, as a tourist destination, it states  
18 and this is the end of the article. Now debated  
19 rages over 3,000 slot casino proposed for a site on  
20 the bypass a couple miles from town. Consecrated  
21 jumbo jackpot anyone?

22 The casino would lure more tourists but at  
23 1,800,000 visitors a year, Gettysburg population  
24 7,500 hardly needs them.

25 The area needs instead to protect its

1 historic appeal for visitors who will stay longer,  
2 sending an economic message that this story landscape  
3 should not in Abraham Lincoln's words perish from the  
4 earth.

5           In essence, we believe that not just this  
6 local area but this state and now in the hands of  
7 this Commission, the Gettysburg area is subject to  
8 stewardship, proper caring oversight.

9           It does not come down to money. That's  
10 personally all I'm hearing today in favor of a  
11 casino.

12           We would suggest that the image of this  
13 area, the image of this college is critical and would  
14 be very negatively affected if there was a casino  
15 down the street that is a new college hangout. Thank  
16 you very much.

17           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
18 scheduled speaker for a ten-minute time slot on  
19 behalf of community group is Reverend William G.  
20 Mummert.

21           I would like to remind this speaker and all  
22 successor speakers that if you would take a moment to  
23 remind us of your municipality of residence, state of  
24 residence at the outset of your remarks.

25           MR. MUMMERT: Thank you. Good morning.

1 I'm Reverend Bill Mummert from Gettysburg Baptist  
2 Church. I live near Hanover. My office is in the  
3 Borough of Gettysburg. My church is in Straban  
4 Township. The congregation of over 300,  
5 fast-growing, made up mostly of college students,  
6 young families, and a growing number of retired  
7 individuals from the surrounding community.

8 We are located on the 34 acre site where we  
9 just built a new facility about four years ago about  
10 a mile north on 15 on the west side from the proposed  
11 site.

12 As the presenters began this morning and we  
13 viewed a very well put together presentation and I  
14 commend them for that and all of their speakers and  
15 colleagues, I was almost amazed.

16 I was almost made to feel as though we  
17 should be glad that they have come to town. I sat  
18 there almost amazed that Gettysburg and surrounding  
19 community have survived it all since the Battle of  
20 Gettysburg; and unless they come to town, we're  
21 probably pretty well doomed to economic destruction  
22 in the days ahead.

23 So many promises. So much money. Hundreds  
24 of millions of dollars have been bantered about here  
25 today.



1           I sat there and thought for a moment, yes,  
2 the investors will invest personal money. The  
3 banking industry, investment industry will invest a  
4 lot of money but that money all has to be returned.

5           Profit has to be made and no doubt will be  
6 and much in excess of that. Where does that money  
7 come from? It comes from individuals who come and  
8 they lay their money down.

9           Some of them can well afford to do so,  
10 never miss it; but the vast majority of people that  
11 gamble cannot afford to do so.

12           Gambling is not based, and people are not  
13 lured to it, on the basis of virtue in their life but  
14 more on the basis of some vice. A great hope that  
15 for a little bit, I can gain a whole lot on that  
16 false promise to most people because there are a few  
17 individuals that gain, individuals that gamble.

18           There are some winners, but in order to  
19 have winners and in order to have return to the  
20 investors, there have to be a whole lot more losers.

21           It's those losers that I am concerned  
22 about. I and other pastors in the community are very  
23 concerned about that.

24           With over 40 years in ministry, a lot of my  
25 ministry has been involved in counseling of all sorts

1 of things, including the effects of gambling on the  
2 individual and more so on the marriage and the  
3 family, money that cannot be afforded to be lost and  
4 because of the loss of that money and because many of  
5 those people who lose go back in order to try to  
6 regain, there is an addictive nature to it; all of  
7 the glitz, all of the promise, the excitement and the  
8 rush of the moment. People forget about their  
9 future, future for themselves, for their children and  
10 their grandchildren.

11           Many of these people now with the easy  
12 access of money with credit cards are running up  
13 debts that they cannot afford to run up. Because of  
14 that, they return home.

15           Many of them are angry. They're upset.  
16 Anger can lead to depression. The debt leads to  
17 depression. The anger can lead and sometimes does to  
18 abuse.

19           Bank accounts are depleted. I've known of  
20 instances where college funds for the children have  
21 been invaded and lost. Other investment money has  
22 been pulled out of viable investments and wasted.

23           Because of that, it has devastating effects  
24 upon the family, upon the individual. That is not  
25 something that we want to have represented here in

1 our community. It is something that will happen  
2 despite all of the promises.

3 I own and live on a Pennsylvania century  
4 farm that has been in my family for over 150 years.  
5 We have a nice little creature -- all sorts of  
6 creatures that visit our farm.

7 One of them is very cute, very beautiful.  
8 I remember the first time my granddaughter saw one.  
9 She wanted to go and pick it up. I said no, as cute  
10 as it is, in fact, as beautiful it is, you stay away  
11 from it.

12 Because that little skunk is beautiful on  
13 the outside; but if you get near it, nobody wants to  
14 be near you. It's going to be a stink to you that  
15 you're going to drag into your house and is going to  
16 affect your family.

17 All of the razzle and dazzle and the beauty  
18 of all of the beautiful buildings and site  
19 preparation that we've seen, to me, it's like a  
20 skunk. It's beautiful on the outside, but it's going  
21 to bring some real stench and real pain into this  
22 community, not something that we want.

23 Contrary to what some of the  
24 representatives have said, without a whole lot of  
25 basis, that the people in this wanted, I'm in this

1 area. I've been here since I planted the church  
2 almost 24 years ago.

3 The sense that I have as a move about this  
4 community and on this college campus where I've  
5 worked with students and christian fellowship for 23  
6 years now is that they do not want it here.

7 The vast majority of the community, the  
8 grass roots people, family people with family values  
9 do not want it here.

10 So I would ask you to consider and I almost  
11 feel like a hypocrite, I would rather see it not be  
12 anywhere in the state. So it's hard for me to say  
13 don't bring it here because saying that means that  
14 the same devastation is going to go somewhere else.  
15 Thank you for your time.

16 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
17 scheduled speaker for a ten-minute slot for a  
18 community group is Susan Star Paddock.

19 MS. PADDOCK: Most of you know me because  
20 I've been sitting in front of you for most of your  
21 meetings, sometimes with living historians portraying  
22 Lincoln and General Lee and General Grant.

23 I'm Susan Star Paddock. I'm a resident of  
24 Gettysburg, chair of the nonprofit grass roots  
25 opposition group No Casino Gettysburg, which was not

1 the idea of one person who called together a few  
2 friends and a PR firm.

3 We don't solicit public servants and  
4 non-profits to support us in these hearings with  
5 offers of compensation.

6 Instead, this movement began with a  
7 veritable explosion of outrage after the announcement  
8 that a casino would be planned for Gettysburg, for  
9 Adams County. It's post office address is  
10 Gettysburg, by the way.

11 Our grass roots movement includes people  
12 from every political party. The determination to  
13 stop this casino will continue to be heard by our  
14 movement loud and clear and continuously until this  
15 Board or the Pennsylvania legislature puts a total  
16 stop to what Pennsylvania Senate Majority Leader Chip  
17 Brightbill recently called a really dumb idea.

18 Neither Chance Enterprises nor their  
19 recently formed Pro Casino Gettysburg group have ever  
20 hosted a public meeting in this county or responded  
21 to any non-governmental invitation for a public  
22 meeting to debate the appropriateness of this  
23 repulsive proposal.

24 They submitted a local impact report to our  
25 government that contains absolutely no costs for the

1 proposed casino. As of last month, we, No Casino  
2 Gettysburg, personally submitted Chance's required  
3 traffic impact study to the county, which we obtained  
4 from the PGCB. We gave it to the land -- the county  
5 planning commission, to the commissioners, because  
6 Chance had not done so.

7           Chance's invitation only press conference,  
8 their first one 4/26 left people deeply offended,  
9 sickened -- these are petitions by the way. Sickened  
10 by the idea -- the position of an adult-oriented  
11 business in our family friendly community.

12           Sickened by the site of Chance Attorney  
13 Ernico telling a respected community leader that he  
14 didn't have an invitation and couldn't stay. If he  
15 didn't leave, the police would be called.

16           The difference in values between Chance  
17 Enterprise and Adams County are clear. Is this the  
18 way Pennsylvania wants to do things now? Is this  
19 what gaming in Pennsylvania is supposed to be about?

20           In Adams County, we have small town  
21 atmosphere where we value dialogue and community  
22 input. We have a virtual dialogue on our website.  
23 We have posted Chance's impact study on our website  
24 well a month at least before they posted it on  
25 theirs.

1           What took place here was the most important  
2 battle on American soil. 21,000 Gettysburg civilians  
3 cared for 24,000 wounded men.

4           People approach us every day with their  
5 hearts open to learning, seeking inspiration from our  
6 national heritage, seeking to leave glitz and  
7 superficiality behind to experience the authenticity  
8 of these hallowed fields.

9           They drive through the best apple and fruit  
10 orchards in Pennsylvania and feel at peace. They  
11 wonder at the personal sacrifice of the 53,000  
12 casualties of the decisive battle that determined  
13 that this nation would be a union free of slavery.  
14 They love it so much that they visit again and again.

15           Those two million visitors a year greatly  
16 enrich the rest of Pennsylvania, but those visitors  
17 are saying they do not want a casino here; and if one  
18 is here, they will not come back.

19           Chance's attorney, Kathryn Simpson,  
20 admitted in sworn testimony that she -- that they  
21 will have 5,000 slots, that it is located within a  
22 mile, she said, quote, of some point of some  
23 battlefield and they shouldn't be denied a casino  
24 license because of what she called an accident of  
25 geography.

1           Chance doesn't seem to realize that a  
2 casino here would change the identity of Gettysburg  
3 from national treasure to casino town.

4           Today, Gettysburg is a shrine to the  
5 highest principles we hold dear in this country and  
6 we dare not risk confusing the message we send to the  
7 world from this town.

8           Here is just a sampling of what the world  
9 has to say. On March 14th, the House of  
10 Representatives unanimously rejected a Gettysburg  
11 casino.

12           We have just brought in to you 60,305  
13 petition signatures opposing the casino. They have  
14 been collected by No Casino Gettysburg starting on  
15 May 21st of last year when we got 1,000 signatures in  
16 one day.

17           Chance will say we told people it was on  
18 the battlefield. We never told them that. We had a  
19 map. We have always had a map when we got  
20 signatures.

21           These were also collected by the Civil War  
22 Preservation Trust. No Casino Gettysburg collected  
23 27,729 signatures. Civil War Preservation Trust  
24 collected 32,576. 22,829 are from Pennsylvanians.

25           Of the 27,729 signatures collected by No



1 Casino Gettysburg, 6,068 are from Adams County  
2 residents. There are others in the CWPT petitions,  
3 but they did not count those so we don't know how  
4 many are in there.

5 Representative Maitland already told you  
6 about the poll of Adams County voters that show most  
7 opposed. There was, in October, a phone survey of  
8 Pennsylvania voters by Mason Dixon polling. 65  
9 percent opposed a Gettysburg casino.

10 In Central Pennsylvania, it is 78 percent.  
11 56 percent say that even though they know the Gaming  
12 Control Board makes the decision, they would blame  
13 the Governor and legislators if it were built.

14 After the pay raise scandal, do our  
15 politicians need one more embarrassment? No Casino  
16 Gettysburg conducted an -- I have all of these and  
17 they have been open and on our website for months.

18 A survey of 300 heritage tourists in  
19 Gettysburg, it was a paper and pencil, we were in  
20 plain clothes. We tried not to show who we  
21 represented. 96 percent of the tourists opposed a  
22 casino in Adams County, 96 percent. That's of 300  
23 heritage tourists. 53 percent said they would not  
24 return here if Gettysburg had a nearby casino. 81  
25 percent said that a casino would desecrate a sacred

1 atmosphere. 68 percent said it would damage a  
2 family-friendly community.

3 A Gettysburg casino would destroy our  
4 heritage tourism economy because these are different  
5 types of tourists. These are tourists who come  
6 seeking meaning. They do not come just for  
7 recreation. They are completely different.

8 Governor Ed Rendell said, I wouldn't want  
9 it anywhere close to the historic area of Gettysburg,  
10 because you don't want to have young children see a  
11 casino next to a great historic shrine and he  
12 reiterated that twice. He is absolutely opposed.

13 Also, opposed by Senator Specter, Santorum,  
14 Congressman Todd Platts, Congressman Frank Wolf, Newt  
15 Gingrich, Walkter Cronkite, numerous historians,  
16 including Ed Bearss, James McPherson, Tom Carhart,  
17 filmmaker Ron Maxwell, radio host Bob Durgin.

18 Businesses against the casino, which met  
19 first August 21st, 2005, includes 95 businesses, 91  
20 in Adams County all opposed.

21 They include the 21 bed and breakfasts in  
22 the Inns of Gettysburg Association. There are many  
23 national editorials saying, New York Times,  
24 Gettysburg is no place for a casino. Hartford  
25 Courant, inconceivable. Thank you.

1                   PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.

2                   Our next speaker scheduled for a ten-minute  
3 slot on behalf of community group like our  
4 predecessors is Kathi J. Schue.

5                   MS. SCHUE: Good morning. I want to thank  
6 each one of the members of the Gaming Control Board  
7 for allowing me to speak on behalf of the Gettysburg  
8 Battlefield Preservation Association of which I am  
9 President. My Board as a whole has given me  
10 permission to speak on their behalf.

11                   We own major property in Straban Township,  
12 the historic Daniel Lady Farm on Route 116, Hanover  
13 Road. We purchased the property in 1999. We have  
14 fought a battle on our own to preserve and put a  
15 conservation easement onto this very historic site,  
16 which housed 6,000 confederates during the Battle of  
17 Gettysburg.

18                   There were many times over the past several  
19 years I have attended Straban Township meetings, both  
20 the supervisors' meetings and also the planning  
21 commission meetings.

22                   I have been used as a historian for  
23 presidents when there have become issues before the  
24 Township with development.

25                   As such, that is what I'm going to speak to

1 today. We were chartered in 1959 with a mission to  
2 preserve and protect battlefield ground in the  
3 Gettysburg area.

4           As such, we have made major contributions  
5 of land to the National Park Service over the years.  
6 In fact, 47 properties have been documented, not  
7 including the Lady farm, which we retain.

8           This property that we own is surely going  
9 to be surrounded by more than 1,700 homes and  
10 businesses due to development.

11           There's a very important area that butts up  
12 against our farm and it's called Camp Letterman. To  
13 set the record straight today, there was a gentleman  
14 that spoke from the Civil War Club of the college.  
15 He said, would we want a mall on battlefield ground,  
16 on a graveyard? Well, you're going to get one.

17           Letterman is not where the casino is  
18 proposed. Letterman resides behind Natural Springs  
19 Road and the Giant store and extends southeast for 80  
20 to 100 acres.

21           There are some preservation organizations  
22 much, much larger than ours that have decided that  
23 that is now hallowed ground, because men from both  
24 sides were treated there and buried there and some  
25 still remain there, but instead we will preserve

1 non-hallow ground.

2           As part of my remarks that I gave to the  
3 Board ahead of time, this particular property is not  
4 located within the boundaries of the Gettysburg  
5 National Military Park nor is it within the boundary  
6 of the battlefield historic district. This Daniel  
7 Lady Farm is. This area is not. That's according to  
8 the National Park Service and is also on their maps.

9           No significant major battle action occurred  
10 at the proposed casino site, but I can bet you one  
11 thing, when General Gordon's troops sat there, they  
12 were playing cards and rolling dice.

13           A gaming resort would and could benefit  
14 this area with increased tourism, which would in turn  
15 benefit preservation efforts in Adams County.

16           Let me assure you, as President of this  
17 organization, my job is to go out and find money for  
18 preservation. It's also to find volunteers to help  
19 do things. That is not an easy task.

20           I can tell you truthfully, there have been  
21 very few supporters within this area that have looked  
22 at what we are going with, 145 acre farm, and  
23 preserving it for historical purposes that is open to  
24 the public 365 days a year.

25           It's very unusual. We don't charge

1 admission by the way. I also work there in my spare  
2 time as a volunteer. I have become very, very  
3 involved in the local political area of Straban  
4 Township, both with the supervisors and the planning  
5 commission.

6           There's been many times I have seen  
7 developers walk in and lay down the plans and there's  
8 four or five of us in the whole meeting. That's it.  
9 We are now working with the developers and the task  
10 force that our organization has put forth to help  
11 preserve parts of Camp Letterman.

12           We have received support in those efforts  
13 from many sources, including Jen and Dave LeVan.  
14 That is not a buy off or a purchase of our support.  
15 That was done long before the casino issue arose.

16           I, for one, as a preservationist and a  
17 want-a-be historian of the Battle of Gettysburg to  
18 which you won't learn in one year, two years, ten  
19 years, or a lifetime, look at the people who will  
20 come to the casino as a resource to this area,  
21 because if we get just ten people that come in here  
22 and say, wow, preservation really needs a hand, let's  
23 see what we can do. I would be thrilled to death.

24           I have spent many summers over July 4th at  
25 reenactments thinking, wow, if everybody gives \$1

1 towards preservation, we'll be done tomorrow.

2 I can tell you for the 135th reenactment, I  
3 spent three hot days. We came home with exactly  
4 875.46 in donations from one million people who  
5 walked onto the site.

6 Preservation is not a small undertaking.  
7 It is a very large undertaking. I would not be  
8 standing here today if I thought that the casino  
9 would be detrimental to preservation efforts.

10 When I look at the development that will  
11 come into Straban Township from houses in the next  
12 ten years, just Straban, not all of Adams County, I  
13 had Ed Bearss on a tour of the Daniel Lady Farm two  
14 times in the last year and a half.

15 When I took them up to the ridge where Camp  
16 Letterman lies and I said, Ed, I want you to look at  
17 this. It's the last time you're going to see this  
18 pristine view-shed. That is true. It is very true.

19 I want to thank you for the time you have  
20 allotted to our organization. I look forward to  
21 working with whatever the issues will be in Adams  
22 County and with Gettysburg.

23 This casino is not going to be in the  
24 Borough of Gettysburg. There are some people that  
25 have said, well, it's going to be in Gettysburg. No,

1 it's going to be in Straban Township. I am a person  
2 of belief, even though I live near Hershey,  
3 Pennsylvania, and I forgot to tell you that earlier.  
4 I am sorry. I am sometimes considered the out of  
5 townee, as a lot of us are that are preservationists  
6 here in Gettysburg and in Adams County, because we  
7 come in with ideas on how to preserve and protect  
8 truly hallowed ground.

9           Since 1997, I have been the project  
10 coordinator for the Pennsylvania Gettysburg Monuments  
11 project. Pennsylvania has 147 monuments that lay on  
12 this field. We raised all of the money to restore  
13 146 regimental monuments.

14           We had Governor Tom Ridge support \$1  
15 million to the Pennsylvania Memorial. We are still  
16 trying to raise the additional \$200,000 to endow  
17 those monuments to Pennsylvania's finest.

18           We are now also involved in the restoration  
19 of the three monuments that were just vandalized here  
20 in Gettysburg. That didn't happen because of a  
21 casino. I can tell you truthfully that it didn't  
22 happen by anybody local either.

23           What we're looking at is over \$600,000 bill  
24 for three monuments. There have been people who sent  
25 money to our office through Representative Harry



1 Readshaw to be able to repair and restore those  
2 monuments but it's not enough.

3 We did a preservation ball that supports  
4 the monuments project also. Our organization has  
5 been a long time. We're going to be around a lot  
6 longer. We are really small.

7 We don't have 75,000 members or 25,000  
8 members. We have about 1,000 members. They're all  
9 good members.

10 We work very hard at what we do, and if we  
11 did not feel that bringing a casino into Gettysburg  
12 could be a major benefit to preservation efforts, I  
13 would not be talking to you the way I am.

14 I want to thank each and every one of you  
15 for the time you allotted to our organization. If  
16 you have any further questions, please feel free to  
17 contact me. Thank you very much.

18 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: We're going to  
19 shift gears a little bit to our three-minute slots  
20 accorded to the individuals who are registered to  
21 make their presentations today.

22 MS. BARAN: My name is Carol Ann Baran.  
23 I'm a resident of Straban Township.

24 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: If I may, Ms.  
25 Baran, just a moment for clarification, is there a

1 David Louis Crowner?

2 MR. CROWNER: Yes.

3 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: And you expect  
4 to speak when?

5 MR. CROWNER: Number 1.

6 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Miss Baran,  
7 we have you as No. 2.

8 MR. CROWNER: Thank you for the opportunity  
9 to speak.

10 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: By way of  
11 explanation, my panel members have been kind enough  
12 to remind me that it helps when we are understood.  
13 Number 1 here and No. 2 in the bull pen ready when  
14 you're finished. Okay. And we'll commence your  
15 three minutes now, sir.

16 MR. CROWNER: Okay. Thank you. I'm  
17 Dr. David Crowner. I am a retired professor of  
18 German at Gettysburg College. My family and I moved  
19 to Straban Township in 1967. We've lived there for  
20 over 38 years. Two of our children settled in  
21 Gettysburg and are raising their families here.

22 Throughout all of these years, my wife and  
23 I have actively supported the church, schools, and  
24 community in a myriad of ways. Out of these deep,  
25 long-lasting and unbroken connection to my community

1 I speak and, by the way, I believe these connections  
2 qualify me better than any of the investors and their  
3 lawyers to determine the future of Straban Township.

4 Also, I'm not tainted by the prospect of  
5 receiving any money from or through Chance  
6 Enterprises.

7 Others are presenting reasons against a  
8 casino, such as the negative impact on the  
9 battlefield. My comments go in a slightly different  
10 direction.

11 My purpose is rebut for common pro casino  
12 arguments by showing that they offer virtually no  
13 rationale for a casino in Adams County.

14 Argument No. 1, it's illogical to oppose a  
15 casino because people already gamble at fire hall  
16 raffles, etc.

17 My response, true. But this is true from  
18 Philadelphia to Pittsburgh. The argument offers  
19 absolutely no reason for choosing Straban Township  
20 for a gaming license rather than any other site.

21 Argument 2, the casino would be crime free.  
22 My response, good. But this applies to all of the  
23 casinos to be built and provides, again, no reason to  
24 choose Straban Township over any other site.

25 Argument 3, like movies or sporting events,

1 a casino is just another form of entertainment.  
2 Response, true. But like the first two arguments,  
3 this would be true across the state. The argument  
4 offers no reason for choosing Straban Township in  
5 particular.

6 Argument 4, the economic benefits make a  
7 casino desirable. Response, this is one argument  
8 that does provide a rationale for placing casinos in  
9 Straban Township. But the benefits must be weighed  
10 against costs and the rosy pictures and promises are  
11 not enough. The burden still rests on Chance  
12 Enterprise to present a rigorous cost benefit  
13 analysis.

14 In closing, I urge you, Chairman Decker and  
15 the members of the Board, to use my information and  
16 reject the application for license for casino in  
17 Straban Township. Thank you very much.

18 MS. BARAN: My name is Carol Ann Baran.  
19 I'm a resident of Straban Township. The surprising  
20 news of casino here in Gettysburg drove my husband  
21 and I to action. With newspaper articles quoting  
22 Chance Enterprise regarding the area's supposed  
23 approval of the casino, we decided we had to seek the  
24 public's voice.

25 We initiated the door-to-door campaign in

1 Straban Township that spanned many hours.  
2 Approximately 85 percent of the homes we visited we  
3 were received with open arms. The other 15 percent  
4 were a mixed reaction. Approximately 80 percent of  
5 the nearly 400 households signed.

6 Overall, people willingly gave their  
7 signatures, others requested that we return for  
8 another occupant's signature. Spouses stated they  
9 knew their loved one's opinion and signed for the  
10 other.

11 In addition to signatures, we acquired  
12 unsolicited comments about the state of our Township  
13 and how quality of life would be affected if the  
14 casino were built.

15 We also heard, over and over, I am only one  
16 voice, what can my voice do? This casino is a done  
17 deal.

18 Upon hearing this, we told people that was  
19 the reason for this petition, helping the Gaming  
20 Board ascertain how many within the affected township  
21 disapproved of the casino.

22 People elatedly thanked us for helping  
23 their voices to be heard. 645 signatures had been  
24 obtained. This represented 25 percent of the adult  
25 population in our Township, as well as 22 percent of

1 the eligible voting population.

2 Surveys with this amount of return are  
3 considered highly adequate and successful. More  
4 signatures can readily be obtained if requested.

5 In November of 2005, our Township  
6 supervisors were presented with the petitions.  
7 Immediately, it was scrutinized that in 25 cases  
8 spouses signed for the other. Transcribed names from  
9 legitimate No Casino petitions were discredited.

10 Rather than asking for explanations, they  
11 made a statement to the press regarding its  
12 legitimacy. At the end of this meeting, the  
13 supervisors stated that they wanted to hear from all  
14 the citizens and wanted to do a townshipwide survey.

15 A survey was to be ready by the December  
16 meeting. In December, the mention of a readied  
17 survey was conveniently left out of the minutes.

18 The supervisors unanimously voted to deny a  
19 survey. In addition, Troy Martin stated he would not  
20 make any statement for or against a casino.

21 Oh, coincidentally, this statement and vote  
22 were made in the presence of two Chance Enterprise  
23 attorneys.

24 Frustration was felt by all who  
25 participated in the door-to-door campaign. The voice

1 of the people was ignored.

2 Our hard work indicative of the most  
3 Democratic process was virtually ignored by the  
4 supervisors of the most critical Township.

5 These same supervisors were eagerly ready  
6 to meet in private with Chance Enterprise last fall  
7 until a front page article in the evening Sun  
8 encouraged the cancellation two hours prior to the  
9 scheduled meeting.

10 No Township representative has ever been  
11 seen at the numerous open meetings and forums held by  
12 no casino organization.

13 Perhaps Bob Durgan, WHP, where he appears,  
14 may be on track when he responded, the fix is in.  
15 More than a few in the Township echo that same  
16 statement.

17 Then I just want to peruse over what I did  
18 say to the supervisors. Last spring, the veil of  
19 secrecy and by your own admission and newspaper  
20 quotes, Chance Enterprise surprised all by expressing  
21 their intentions to build a slots parlor at the  
22 intersections of 15 and 30 in Gettysburg. Thank you.

23 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Just before we  
24 ask our next individual speaker to commence, and I  
25 did not remark what many of you may have observed is

1 we do have an interpreter here on the right side of  
2 our room interpreting for the hearing impaired. I  
3 expect that she, like our stenographer, is getting  
4 quite a workout today.

5 Our next speaker is Gregory Baran and if  
6 you'll proceed.

7 MR. BARAN: My name is Greg Baran. I'm a  
8 resident of Straban Township and would like to  
9 address the silent issue of DUI, DWI, and likely  
10 implication brought on by a slots parlor.

11 First, some information. Adams County is a  
12 predominantly rural county with 526 square miles of  
13 area.

14 According to PennDOT, Township and state  
15 roads consist of over 1200 miles of roadway. All  
16 this, with the exception of 20 miles of Route 15 and  
17 a half mile of 30, are two-lane rural roads dimly lit  
18 or without street lights. They are winding, narrow  
19 shouldered, little room for error.

20 According to State Police records, 40  
21 percent of the 25 county fatalities in 2005 were  
22 alcohol related. Fatalities in 2005 were 30 percent  
23 higher than 2004. 71 alcohol related injury  
24 accidents were handled by State Police alone in 2005.  
25 They arrest at least one DWI per night.



1           Coincidentally, Adams County DA's Office  
2 says that nearly 640 of the over 1400 cases handled  
3 by their office were DUI or DWI related.

4           According to recent newspaper reports by  
5 the Gettysburg Times, Scot Pitzer, regional DUI  
6 checkpoint coordinator for Adams County is quoted, we  
7 have a serious problem regarding DUI.

8           A recent article by Shari Sanger quotes  
9 Sargent Junkin, barracks commander, we have to stop  
10 this trend from worsening.

11           An experienced senior law enforcement  
12 officer in the county personally stated to me that  
13 after midnight on Thursday through Sundays night,  
14 your chances of encountering a DUI situation are  
15 approximately 7 out of 10.

16           Recently, seven DUIs occurred at an  
17 announced checkpoint, one half mile from the proposed  
18 casino location.

19           According to Dr. Sherry Stewart, a Ph.D. in  
20 gambling disorders, gambling disorders are directly  
21 related to alcohol use disorders.

22           Lynn Walding, director of alcohol beverage  
23 division, said casinos are good customers. Hence, a  
24 drink in every picture of the presentation.

25           Local State Police barracks commander says

1 he cannot speak about the DWI, DUI impact of a  
2 casino. It is the Governor's initiative.

3 The regional DUI coordinator cannot give  
4 input without the DA's permission. These experts are  
5 being muzzled by elected officials.

6 Gettysburg Police cover 75 percent of the  
7 county exclusively. Most of the municipal  
8 departments are either part time or have small  
9 compliments, one or two officers.

10 Most cases, municipal partners are  
11 constrained by Borough, Township or hamlet  
12 boundaries. Midnight shifts are covered  
13 predominantly by one or two patrol troopers.

14 Straban Township currently has four liquor  
15 licenses, four tavern establishments. Alcohol  
16 consumption at a casino would increase eight fold  
17 within the Township, a conservative estimate, and  
18 easily double the number countywide.

19 Current police efforts have no impact on  
20 keeping the roads safe with this increase. With the  
21 potential addition of a casino, we would be gambling  
22 with our county's residents and visitors' lives.

23 A majority of establishments close by  
24 10:00. Hundreds of second and third shift employees  
25 travel county roads with hundreds of semi-tractors,

1 motorcycles, and numerous tourists. Thank you.

2 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
3 scheduled speaker is Barbara J. Finfrock. Good  
4 morning.

5 MS. FINFROCK: Good morning. My name is  
6 Barbara Finfrock. I'm a resident of Highland  
7 Township in Adams County where I moved purposely to  
8 be in the farm country of Adams County between two  
9 working very old farms on a dead end beautiful road.

10 I am here today speaking as an individual.  
11 However, I am representing the Friends of the  
12 National Parks at Gettysburg, which is a 25,000  
13 member organization. We are a 501(c)(3) nonprofit  
14 organization with limited lobbying capability as  
15 restricted by IRS Code 501(h).

16 We pick and choose very carefully what we  
17 do advocate publicly. We are not here to represent  
18 in support of any organization. We are talking about  
19 only our constituents. They come from all 50 states  
20 of our union and from 6 foreign countries.

21 Our mission is supported and worked on by  
22 those people who are volunteers. We are one of only  
23 two national organizations with a legal document  
24 called a Memorandum of Agreement with the National  
25 Park Service itself, which allows us to do certain

1 things in and around and on and for the total  
2 battlefield, not just the military park but the other  
3 parks as well.

4           On behalf of the thousands of members and  
5 loyal supporters, the Board did choose to speak  
6 publicly on this issue.

7           On May 19th of 2005, we adopted the  
8 following resolution: The establishment of a casino  
9 at Gettysburg is at the same time inappropriate,  
10 insensitive, and detrimental to the heritage and  
11 hallow ground we are dedicated to honor, protect, and  
12 preserve.

13           The word Gettysburg was forever etched into  
14 the national memory in 1863. Those of us who live  
15 here and those who travel from all parts of the  
16 country to be here share in the knowledge and the  
17 feeling of the aura that is here.

18           It extends into the outlying land in all  
19 directions. As the visitors return, they feel the  
20 aura of this special place. It is a destination site  
21 for families, for thousands of families that Friends  
22 work to educate about their heritage so rich in  
23 Gettysburg and its surrounding area.

24           We also allow them to help in the  
25 preservation of this ground to participate as

1 volunteers on work days.

2           We drafted our resolution almost a year  
3 ago. We feel even stronger about it today. We urge  
4 you not to let this application go forward, to keep  
5 our heritage sacred as it is in so few places in our  
6 great nation. This has that opportunity.

7           I thank you very much for the opportunity  
8 to speak before you today.

9           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
10 scheduled speaker is Jane R. English.

11           MS. ENGLISH: Good morning. I'm Jane  
12 English. I'm a resident of the Borough of  
13 Gettysburg. I was born in Gettysburg.

14           Over 100 years ago, our local, state, and  
15 national leadership began a process to honor and  
16 preserve the battlefields of Gettysburg, the place  
17 where our republic was saved through the mortal  
18 combat of the citizens.

19           It was not long after the struggle in  
20 Gettysburg that they realized that the sacrifices of  
21 individuals, families and communities made on this  
22 and other battlefields demanded a national tribute as  
23 an eternal memorial to the courage and resolve.

24           And so with this vision began the  
25 preservation process, which is now recognized

1 worldwide as one of the defining symbols of American  
2 life.

3           There are moments in history which  
4 epitomize the people and their values. The Battle of  
5 Gettysburg is one of those moments.

6           With this tribute in mind, it took great  
7 courage on behalf -- on the part of those people to  
8 establish what has become one of the most recognized  
9 battlefields in the world.

10           Sacrifices over the years since the battle  
11 have been numerous and frequently unknown. It was  
12 not popular with some who had to surrender their land  
13 to the battlefield.

14           It was not popular to some who had to close  
15 down or move their businesses from the battlefield.  
16 Those sacrifices were recognized as important to the  
17 continued tribute to those who fought and died at  
18 Gettysburg.

19           Throughout the years, preservation has had  
20 its challenges as funds have become available, many  
21 from national organizations like the Friends. The  
22 effort to expand the national park has continued.

23           Some of our citizens have even donated  
24 their properties in tribute. As many historians  
25 point out, the Battle of Gettysburg was fought over

1 an area much larger than what is currently defined by  
2 the official park boundaries.

3 Just because an area is not owned by the  
4 National Park Service does not mean it is not  
5 hallowed ground.

6 It is now time for you, members of the  
7 Gaming Board, to demonstrate your vision, courage,  
8 and result to preserve the tribute which has been  
9 honored by generations of Americans to trade on the  
10 proximity of Gettysburg with a gambling casino is an  
11 affront to all those that have had the courage during  
12 the battle and since the battle to perpetuate the  
13 essence of the sacrifice at Gettysburg.

14 It will degrade and cheapen the global  
15 image of the greatest small town in America. What  
16 price for profit?

17 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: I'm afraid my  
18 thumb and the timer didn't cooperate. Are you close  
19 to the end --

20 MS. FINFROCK: Very.

21 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Okay.

22 MS. FINFROCK: What price patriotism? What  
23 price honor? What price sacrifice? I respectfully  
24 ask you, the Gaming Board, to show the same vision  
25 and courage, please resolve to deny the establishment

1 of the casino at Gettysburg. Thank you.

2 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: If I may, we  
3 do appreciate your comments of our speakers. We are  
4 not going to applaud here. We have asked you all not  
5 to do the same.

6 I have obviously been somewhat liberal and  
7 not making an issue of it. Please exercise some  
8 restraint on that point.

9 Our next scheduled speaker is Colonel Alex  
10 M. Kessel, who I would like to not start talking  
11 until I see the green light go on here.

12 You're up, sir.

13 MR. KESSEL: Ladies and gentlemen, I'm  
14 retired Colonel Alex Kessel, as you've stated. I  
15 presently reside in Fairfield, Pennsylvania.

16 I was raised in Gettysburg. I played on  
17 the battlefield as a kid. I mowed grass on it in my  
18 teens. I've been in harm's way for it many times.

19 I have farmed and have been successful at  
20 farming. I have been involved in local government.  
21 I've been Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of  
22 Franklin Township for 12 years. I am honored to be  
23 here and I thank you for the opportunity to voice my  
24 opinion.

25 I think you should recommend that gaming



1 license be granted to Chance Enterprises to operate  
2 gaming resort and spa at the crossroads of Routes 15  
3 and 30, a mile or so from the historic town of  
4 Gettysburg and three miles from the major areas of  
5 the national park.

6 Our state legislators have enacted the  
7 Gaming Laws to hopefully give some tax relief to  
8 property owners. I applaud them for that.

9 Too much tax burden will break the backs of  
10 us all. If taxes continue to escalate statewide and  
11 in this nation, I am very worried about how long this  
12 America we live in will stand.

13 We must do all we can to keep it intact.  
14 If a casino will help to keep taxes low, so be it. I  
15 cannot think of a better location mid-state, close to  
16 the southern border, near huge population centers,  
17 easily accessible at the crossroads of 15 and 30 in a  
18 country whose agriculture is in a depression  
19 regardless of what you will hear here from others,  
20 near a historic town, whose business and property  
21 owners are taxed to the hilt.

22 A Chance Enterprise gaming resort and spa  
23 will be the greatest boost to the economy of Adams  
24 County and the Gettysburg area since Mr. Sheely  
25 started shipping apples.

1           The majority of the farms in Pennsylvania  
2 and Adams County are operated by folks like me that  
3 derive more of their income from non-farming sources  
4 than they do from their farming operations.

5           Without my good wife, Jane, I could not  
6 have accomplished all of the things that I have  
7 accomplished in this world. Excuse me. I get  
8 carried away with this.

9           I think if farms and orchard operators were  
10 canvassed in Adams County, you would be hard pressed  
11 to find 20 percent making all of their living from  
12 farming.

13           We need jobs, especially part-time, to keep  
14 them down on the farm. The Crossroad Enterprise  
15 locating here will increase opportunity for them to  
16 supplement their income and help keep Adams County  
17 green.

18           Millions of dollars have been spent  
19 annually to increase tourism in Pennsylvania. A  
20 slots gaming facility in this area will be a huge  
21 asset to that endeavor.

22           People will stay longer. More folks will  
23 visit Gettysburg. Most importantly, more people will  
24 tour the national park.

25           All of this adds up to an economic plus in

1 the State of Pennsylvania and Adams County. We must  
2 do something about the heavy tax burden on our  
3 generations to come. Thank you.

4 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you,  
5 sir.

6 Our next scheduled speaker is Fern Bodmer.

7 MR. BODMER: A very interesting book I'm  
8 reading is Team of Rivals by Doris Kearns Goodwin.  
9 The book relates so well with the reason we are here  
10 today.

11 Team of Rivals takes us to the time of  
12 Civil War, Abraham Lincoln and his many political  
13 rivals, his successes, and his failures.

14 His Gettysburg address is a slice of  
15 history most of us are familiar with. Lincoln left  
16 Washington for the four-hour trip to Gettysburg to  
17 spend the night at the home of David Wills who was  
18 the event organizer.

19 The next morning speeches began with Edward  
20 Everett delivering a well-prepared, memorized,  
21 four-hour speech.

22 Abraham Lincoln is said to have jotted his  
23 two-minute speech on the back of an envelope as he  
24 traveled to Gettysburg. This two-minute speech has  
25 stood the test of time.



1 happening and passed laws to make it illegal. This  
2 was too late to help my brother, who went through  
3 bankruptcy court. She had maxed out all of the  
4 credit cards. Signatures were forged on legal  
5 papers, and he had debts to pay off. Three little  
6 girls were left with a broken marriage and a broken  
7 home.

8           Our rivals believe the casino will bring  
9 prosperity, joy, jobs and a strengthened economy. I  
10 do not think so. Thank you.

11           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.  
12 Our next scheduled speaker is Dorothy Brockett. By  
13 way of information, and I don't have the clock  
14 running on you yet, we will take one more  
15 three-minute speaker after Miss Brockett. Then we're  
16 going to take an early break for lunch. I'll have a  
17 brief announcement before we take that break.

18           Okay. You may proceed.

19           MS. BROCKETT: I'm Dorothy Brockett. I  
20 live in Gettysburg. There has been a great deal of  
21 talk of money here, most of which needs to be filed  
22 under counting chickens before they're even any eggs  
23 to hatch.

24           The only people who truly profit from a  
25 casino are the owners, compare the cost of the

1 license with the possible revenue to Straban. The  
2 owners are clearly confident of recouping their  
3 investment.

4 My great grandfather fought here, bled  
5 here, and died. Lincoln called this hallowed ground.  
6 I view a casino here as desecrating this ground.

7 Lincoln said we will long remember. I fear  
8 those memories are going to be buried under basic  
9 human greed. Thank you.

10 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.

11 Our next scheduled speaker is C. Gerard  
12 Aiken, III.

13 MR. AIKEN: Hello. I'm Charles Gerard  
14 Aiken, III. I reside in Tyrone Township. The reason  
15 I'm here is not too many people realize what an  
16 addiction gambling can be. This can be very, very  
17 destructive to an individual. It can be very  
18 destructive to the family.

19 It also goes in hand with alcohol addiction  
20 or alcoholism. The two kind of feed on one another.  
21 I majored in psychology. I worked in addictions  
22 counseling in the past.

23 I've seen some of the stuff that has  
24 happened with families. The thing that personally  
25 affected me was when I found out about No Casino

1 Gettysburg, I wanted to take a look at things and see  
2 what was going on.

3           It brought back to me memories of working  
4 with people who were compulsive gamblers. I worked  
5 in Baltimore. I drove a sedan for a sedan service.

6           The guys would go and make some money and  
7 run off out of state to Delaware and spend all of  
8 their money on slot machines or some other form of  
9 gambling.

10           It seemed so depressing to me to see these  
11 guys just lose all of their money. The person that I  
12 worked with was a dispatcher. He was living  
13 penniless, just about.

14           A lady had taken him in and was taking care  
15 of him and gave him a room in her apartment. He  
16 couldn't function because all he did was go away and  
17 throw his money away on slots. A really good guy. I  
18 felt really bad about what he had gotten into.

19           I said, are you drinking and stuff? He  
20 said, I'm an alcoholic. I drink. I probably abused  
21 every drug. That was a lifestyle that my friend Rick  
22 had. It was really a sad thing to see that.

23           It seems to me that there's going to be  
24 money involved, but there's going to be a lot of  
25 people losing a lot of money. That money could go

1 for groceries or a house payment.

2           It's a very addictive kind of process for  
3 certain individuals. It works on conditioning. It  
4 works on reinforcement. Intermittent  
5 reinforcement -- well, rats and monkeys and birds,  
6 they would press a bar to get food pellets. Human  
7 beings will go and pull that lever and throw money  
8 in and get reinforced and they'll get a reward and  
9 keep doing it.

10           That's my viewpoint. I have seen the human  
11 misery that comes out of gambling. I wanted to  
12 mention that. I want to thank you for listening to  
13 me.

14           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.

15           Okay. We're going to adjust the schedule  
16 as was noted. We're going to take a break for lunch.  
17 We will resume at 1:15.

18           Just before we do that, this is not a paid  
19 political announcement nor for that matter a  
20 commercial message, however, there is a picnic-style  
21 lunch that is available for sale on the patio  
22 outside. Something I thought I would spare you in my  
23 logistics commentary at the outset today.

24           Personally, I would like to thank all of  
25 the speakers thus far for helping us make this format



1 work.

2 I would also like to thank the panelists  
3 for helping me tell my thumb to hit the button. I'll  
4 see you all at about 1:15.

5 (Lunch.)

6 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Good  
7 afternoon. We're ready to resume the afternoon  
8 session of the April 5 hearing here at Gettysburg  
9 College.

10 As we did this morning, an item as to  
11 logistics. This is a change in some of your  
12 expectations.

13 Those of you who have registered to speak  
14 at our public hearing in Harrisburg on Friday, the  
15 7th, this upcoming Friday or for that matter to speak  
16 here on May 17th who are in the audience, have  
17 registered, and would prefer to speak today, we may  
18 have some room to accommodate you this afternoon and  
19 we will accommodate you but we need you to sign in.

20 So what we would need you to do if you've  
21 been registered to give your testimony on Friday, the  
22 7th or on the 17th of May is in the sign-in area, see  
23 either Angie or Kathy so we can get you on the list  
24 to testify today, if that's what you would like to  
25 do.

1           Okay. That's one item as to logistics.  
2           Second item as to logistics, on my far left of the  
3           panel has been joined by Pennsylvania Gaming Control  
4           Board, Hearing Officer Dale Miller. We're about  
5           ready to proceed with Wanda Gallimore.

6           Good afternoon.

7           MS. GALLIMORE: Good afternoon, sir.

8           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: You may  
9           proceed.

10          MS. GALLIMORE: Hello. My name is Wanda  
11          Gallimore. I am a lifelong resident of Adams County  
12          and have been employed at Gettysburg Hospital for  
13          over 35 years.

14          I am presenting a resolution that the  
15          members of Battlefield Grange asked me to write to  
16          voice their opposition to a casino in Gettysburg.

17          The resolution was passed and sent to the  
18          York/Adams County Grange where it passed  
19          overwhelmingly in August of 2005.

20          It was then sent to Pennsylvania State  
21          Grange. It complies with their present policy on  
22          casino gaming.

23          The Grange is a grass roots organization  
24          deeply involved in community and legislative matters  
25          for well over 100 years, always taking its position

1 from grass roots resolutions even up to a national  
2 level.

3           The resolution states: Whereas, a certain  
4 group of investors are seeking application for  
5 license to open a 42 acre slot parlor with casino  
6 type gambling in Adams County.

7           And whereas, statistics prove that moral  
8 decline such as theft, alcoholism, abuse, and family  
9 divisions, prostitution, and drug use all escalate in  
10 areas where casinos exist, therefore increasing the  
11 need for larger prisons.

12           And whereas, the promised low income jobs  
13 will accelerate the already existing problem of  
14 affordable housing for low income families.

15           And whereas, we are a historically based  
16 tourism center that invites family into a learning  
17 experience and this does not coincide with casino  
18 activities.

19           And whereas, this type of facility would be  
20 self contained or create spin off businesses, taking  
21 customers away from existing restaurants, fire  
22 companies, or social organizations.

23           And whereas, 47 cents of every profit  
24 dollar goes to the investors while it takes the  
25 people losing \$3 to make \$1 for the promised tax

1 relief, which may or may not happen depending on the  
2 number of gamblers drawn to the site.

3 Therefore, be it known for these stated  
4 reasons and the sense of historical and family place  
5 that Adams County is, we, the members of Battlefield  
6 Grange No. 2063, strongly oppose any notion of casino  
7 gambling in Adams County.

8 Thank you for hearing me and for hearing  
9 from another group that opposes the casino gambling.

10 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.

11 Our next scheduled speaker is Patrick  
12 Hollingshead.

13 Sir, you may proceed.

14 MR. HOLLINGSHEAD: My name is Patrick  
15 Hollingshead. I live in Conewago Township, Adams  
16 County.

17 I want to thank the Board for coming down  
18 and listening to our points of view. I hope that you  
19 don't fall for the assumptions and the misleading  
20 information that has been given. It's easy to  
21 criticize a proposed plan and stand back and down  
22 things.

23 I have yet to hear a decent offer from the  
24 opposing view for bringing tax relief or easement to  
25 the taxpayer.

1           I've heard several items about historical  
2 integrity today. Pella Windows is a business across  
3 Route 30 from the site that is proposed by Chance  
4 Gaming. I have yet to hear the town of Gettysburg  
5 called Pellaville. So is that the criteria for  
6 historic integrity, the size of a private business?

7           The proposed site is already approved  
8 commercial zone and has been approved commercial zone  
9 for 15 years in compliance with Straban Township's  
10 zoning laws.

11           Integrity: Seeing what Dave LeVan has done  
12 for the Harley Davidson shop and the spin that was  
13 here before it was built leads me to believe how this  
14 is likely to play out if you deem the Chance Gaming  
15 people the license.

16           People are saying that Harley would bring  
17 the wrong element to Gettysburg. They were wrong.  
18 Reading over the list of the investors, you'll find  
19 most of them from central PA.

20           I pose the question, would they ruin their  
21 own backyard? As stated in their impact study, which  
22 I'm glad you have on website, it clearly states that  
23 this group doesn't want any glitz, glitter or gaudy  
24 lighting to be part of their building. It is their  
25 intention to make the resort fit in Gettysburg and

1 not stand out.

2 I wonder why it's okay for the park service  
3 to dig up hallowed ground and it's not okay for a  
4 private investor to dig up a commercially zoned  
5 property.

6 Other businesses that come into Adams  
7 County have not and in the near future will not gain  
8 this kind of tax revenue on only 58 acres of land.

9 You could build many commercial places in  
10 York Springs and not even come close to the tax  
11 revenue offered to this county from Chance Gaming.

12 Day after day, I've seen buses leave  
13 Central Pennsylvania to go to West Virginia, New  
14 Jersey to feed those states economies. I say, it's  
15 time for PA to keep PA money here.

16 Traffic: If you're local, you know more  
17 than one way in and out of Gettysburg. If you head  
18 north or south, you must go east to go to the  
19 proposed site. You have to go west to go to any  
20 battlefield except one. Thank you for your time.

21 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.

22 Our next scheduled speaker is Scott R.  
23 Freeman.

24 MR. FREEMAN: Thank you. My name is Scott  
25 Freeman. I'm a resident of the Borough of

1 Gettysburg. I live on Springs Avenue. I'm an  
2 information technology consultant by trade.

3           Thank you for the opportunity to be heard  
4 today. I moved my family to Gettysburg two years  
5 ago. My wife and I have three small daughters, ages  
6 seven, five, and three.

7           Coming from the Erie, PA area, we visited  
8 here many times as tourists. A couple of years ago,  
9 my oldest daughter was ready to begin kindergarten  
10 and we were searching for a community where we wanted  
11 to raise our children.

12           We researched the Gettysburg schools and  
13 found them to be ranked high in all categories.  
14 Gettysburg, the town we knew as tourists, presented  
15 an idealistic Norman Rockwell painting where we  
16 wanted to raise our children.

17           To us, Gettysburg was quite simply the  
18 perfect small town. I'm proud to now call it my  
19 home.

20           I live in second ward, home to two of  
21 Gettysburg's three colleges, both of which have  
22 issued statements opposing the casino. Well, at  
23 least the faculty at Gettysburg College has issued a  
24 statement in opposition and the Lutheran Seminary, on  
25 the grounds on which my children play, has issued a

1 statement in opposition as well.

2           Yet, the three Borough council members  
3 representing my ward voted on Monday in favor of the  
4 casinos. I guess they figure they know better than  
5 the distinguished faculty of these institutions of  
6 higher learning.

7           Maybe it was the 11th hour conditional  
8 promise of money from Chance Enterprises. I attended  
9 the Borough council meeting on that Monday evening.  
10 The offer, which was not disclosed to the public  
11 beforehand, was so last minute that several of the  
12 Borough council members hadn't even seen it, let  
13 alone have they had time to review it or reviewed the  
14 merits of it in detail.

15           Yet, six of the nine council members voted  
16 in favor of the casino because of the ultimatum given  
17 to the Borough by Chance Enterprises.

18           The Borough was told to vote in favor of  
19 the casino or else forfeit any chance of future  
20 revenue.

21           And just like that, the promise of money  
22 from a casino, which some council members were only  
23 hearing verbally and secondhand, swayed the council  
24 vote.

25           The promise of money from the casino that



1 isn't even built yet and hasn't even had a license  
2 awarded to it yet is already controlling our local  
3 government.

4           Gettysburg is arguably the most important  
5 historic small town in America. What concerns me  
6 most is the marriage of gaming to this most important  
7 American treasure.

8           Chance Enterprises made a strong argument  
9 for me when they changed the name from Gettysburg  
10 Gaming to Crossroads Gaming. Why would they do this?  
11 If gaming will have such a wonderful impact on our  
12 community and if our historical treasures will  
13 benefit from the casino, why not proudly name the  
14 casino Gettysburg Casino?

15           I'm afraid that the casino money will come  
16 to rule the town and affect everything. Our historic  
17 storefronts will be littered with flashing neon signs  
18 and the face of Gettysburg will change.

19           I'm asking the Pennsylvania Gaming Board to  
20 deny this applicant's request and allow Gettysburg to  
21 remain the living Norman Rockwell painting that I  
22 knew when I moved here. Thank you.

23           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
24 scheduled speaker is Daniel C. Costa. I'll bet  
25 you're not him.

1 MS. COSTA: Danielle C. Costa.

2 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Very good.

3 MS. COSTA: Thank you. Good afternoon. My  
4 name is Danielle Costa. I'm from Cumberland County.  
5 My thanks to you for allowing me the opportunity to  
6 address the Board today and for hosting this hearing.

7 As a descendant of Major General John  
8 Fulton Reynolds, the highest ranking officer killed  
9 during the Battle of Gettysburg and a relation to  
10 President Dwight D. Eisenhower, I felt a great  
11 responsibility to speak today.

12 This responsibility comes from knowing the  
13 honor and character that were born in men such as  
14 Reynolds, Lee, and Longstreet. These men didn't put  
15 priority on money, entertainment, or corruption but  
16 on faith and their personal values.

17 National outrage has been vehemently  
18 displayed. The House is making an attempt to rectify  
19 their mistake of a year ago by voting 199 to zero to  
20 kill this awful idea. I can only pray that the  
21 Senate is planning on doing the same.

22 All the organizations behind this, the 90  
23 plus businesses of Gettysburg and the surrounding  
24 areas that say no, the heritage organizations,  
25 thousands and thousands of people, re-enactors,

1 educators, visitors, guests, tourists, and families  
2 saying no. Even the likes of Walter Cronkite and Ben  
3 Stein have made statements denouncing this absurdity.

4           We're all aware that gambling is coming to  
5 PA. The guidelines of where the casinos may or may  
6 not be placed should have been laid down when the  
7 decision was made to bring gambling here.

8           They weren't and so now it's time to write  
9 the wrong before it's too late. Someone is trying to  
10 capitalize on that mistake.

11           A casino will alter everything about  
12 Gettysburg whether you can see the lights from Little  
13 Round Top or not.

14           Neither a group of investors nor a bunch of  
15 legislators has the exclusive right to gamble with  
16 American history like this.

17           Based on the rather large number of  
18 tourists that said they wouldn't return if a casino  
19 came, you're putting the town's heritage tourism in  
20 jeopardy.

21           There is only one Gettysburg. Gettysburg  
22 has a meaning and a significance to us over and above  
23 of being a town in today's world.

24           I ask you for a moment to remember the  
25 outrage we felt on 9/11. In 143 years, do you dare

1 allow yourself to think of what our future  
2 generations will propose to put on or near that field  
3 in western PA where Flight 93 went down? It's  
4 unthinkable.

5           But today with this proposed casino for  
6 Gettysburg, we're teaching our children that if  
7 enough time goes by, it's acceptable to belittle the  
8 sacrifices of your ancestors in the name of money and  
9 entertainment. This doesn't belong here. It's never  
10 sounded right or felt right.

11           Casinos have been ranked right up there  
12 with landfills and nuclear power plants. People  
13 don't want these businesses in their backyards.

14           If casinos were such great neighbors and  
15 provided so much, I would think they would be in  
16 every town across this nation.

17           I respectfully ask that you put a stop to  
18 this and vote no casino for Gettysburg. I also hope  
19 that the rift that has occurred in this community can  
20 be healed when this is all said and done. Thank you.

21           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.

22           Our next scheduled speaker is Sharon E.  
23 Hamm.

24           MS. HAMM: Thank you. My name is Sharon  
25 Hamm. I'm a lifetime resident of Straban Township in

1 Adams County.

2 I would like to thank the members of the  
3 Pennsylvania Gaming Control Board for this  
4 opportunity to provide public input today concerning  
5 the Crossroads Gaming Resort application.

6 I oppose this request for a gaming facility  
7 in Straban Township and hope that you will decide not  
8 to award a license for this location.

9 There has been much discussion of the  
10 potential economic costs and benefits of locating a  
11 slots facility in the Gettysburg area.

12 Naturally, those who stand to benefit most  
13 are eager to point out the potential revenue for  
14 local municipalities and other businesses.

15 But so often, these predictions turn out to  
16 be inflated and results simply don't match  
17 expectations.

18 There will be revenue, certainly. The  
19 question is whether it can be applied in all of the  
20 places where it is needed and can it offset the cost  
21 and negative impacts that would come along with the  
22 gaming facility in this area.

23 What would typical residents of Straban  
24 Township expect to gain from having a casino here? I  
25 believe the answer is significantly increased

1 traffic, greater traffic safety risks due to alcohol  
2 consumption, the need for increased roadway and  
3 municipal infrastructure, additional police coverage  
4 and increased demands for resources such as water and  
5 sewer.

6 In September 2005, Straban Township  
7 officials presented testimony before the Pennsylvania  
8 House Tourism and Recreational Development Committee  
9 that has highlighted the significant impacts to the  
10 Township.

11 This testimony concerned the present  
12 revenue sharing formula from gaming facilities to  
13 host municipalities and discussed impacts and  
14 increased services needed by the township if a slots  
15 facility were located here.

16 I did provide a copy of this testimony to  
17 the Board for their consideration and these  
18 procedures prior to this.

19 Straban officials pointed out that a gaming  
20 facility would, quote, consume substantially more  
21 services than the residents receive or want to  
22 receive, end quote.

23 They predicted that the Township would need  
24 to provide its own local police service and incur the  
25 cost of upkeep and maintenance of additional signal

1 lights and other roadway infrastructure costs.

2 Most importantly, Straban officials stated  
3 that, quote, Straban and its residents are going to  
4 have to live with all of the demands, growth,  
5 annoyances, and nuisances associated with the gaming  
6 facilities, end quote.

7 For those of us who live here and enjoy the  
8 type of community that we have today, the revenue  
9 from a local casino can't make up for what would be  
10 lost.

11 Our quality of life isn't up for sale. It  
12 isn't something that we would trade for more revenue,  
13 bigger budgets, and more local services.

14 I, therefore, urge the Board members to  
15 deny this request for a gaming license in Straban  
16 Township. Thank you very much.

17 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
18 scheduled speaker is Kaitlyn M. Algosos. Good  
19 afternoon. You may go ahead.

20 MS. ALGOSO: I am a resident of Cumberland  
21 County. Hello. I wish to thank you for allowing me  
22 to speak here today. My name is Kaitlyn Algosos and I  
23 am here today to tell you what Gettysburg means to  
24 me.

25 Gettysburg is my second home. When I found

1 out about the casino, my heart sunk down into my  
2 stomach. I have many ties to Gettysburg, including  
3 relations to Major General John Fulton Reynolds and  
4 the 34th President, Dwight David Eisenhower.

5 I understand that many of you have come  
6 here today to tell the PA Gaming Control Board why or  
7 why not a casino should be put in Gettysburg.

8 Destroying Gettysburg is not an option.  
9 Investing in what Gettysburg already has to offer  
10 such as its history, education, beauty, and small  
11 town atmosphere should be the only option.

12 These days when it seems like all the kids  
13 are interested in anymore are I-Pods and X-boxes,  
14 Gettysburg transports us to a time far away from the  
15 computer age.

16 Rather than sitting in a classroom having  
17 names and dates thrown at us all day, Gettysburg  
18 provides us with the opportunity to almost see, hear,  
19 and feel what happened during the battle.

20 These precious opportunities are  
21 increasingly being taken away from us because of  
22 money and the adults increasing desire to have more  
23 of it.

24 Is that the legacy you want to leave for  
25 me? Kids deserve the right to come to places like



1 Gettysburg to receive an education in history, not  
2 gambling.

3 My mom had the chance to come to a casino  
4 free Gettysburg for almost 35 years. I would like  
5 the same opportunity for myself, my peers, and future  
6 generations to come. Thank you.

7 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.

8 Our next scheduled speaker is Robert E.  
9 Kornack.

10 Good afternoon. You may go ahead.

11 MR. KORNACK: My name is Robert Kornack.  
12 I'm a resident of the Borough of Gettysburg. For all  
13 its famed reverence, historic downtown Gettysburg is  
14 a poor rural town.

15 I'm a resident of the Borough of Gettysburg  
16 and as a resident burdened with the property tax that  
17 must accommodate the thousands, if not millions, of  
18 visitors each who pay to the hallow ground.

19 With 50 percent of the property tax exempt  
20 and with the median income household significantly  
21 less in the county and the state, this burden to  
22 properly manage these visitors often falls on  
23 individuals that can least afford it.

24 No individual or organization has ever  
25 offered, to my knowledge, to step up and assist the

1 town with its fiscal challenges.

2 Many of these individuals and groups are  
3 opposed to this venture and claim to be so concerned  
4 with the preservation of this historic town have  
5 never come through with a contribution, cash or  
6 otherwise.

7 However, one of the investors of Chance  
8 Enterprises, David LeVan, has been a star  
9 philanthropist to our town.

10 With a recent million dollar investment to  
11 restore the Majestic Theater, \$100,000 to  
12 rehabilitate our sacred train station where Lincoln  
13 arrived to perform the Gettysburg address,  
14 underwritten community parades, donated motorcycles  
15 to our police force, and countless other  
16 contributions, Mr. LeVan has demonstrated that he's a  
17 dedicated citizen who cares deeply about our  
18 community.

19 Not only will this casino enterprise  
20 provide an expansion of tourism opportunities to our  
21 county which relies so heavily on this industry,  
22 Chance Enterprises will undoubtedly be a committed  
23 corporate citizen offering significant contributions  
24 to the quality of life in our community.

25 Mr. LeVan's track record is evidence that

1 he is a generous man of integrity, possesses a deep  
2 appreciation of our town and place in history.

3 He and his colleagues will be a dedicated  
4 steward to our town's rich heritage. We need and  
5 deserve this opportunity. Thank you.

6 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
7 scheduled speaker is Levato Chrismer.

8 MS. CHRISMER: Hello. My name is Levato  
9 Chrismer. I'm a mother, a grandmother, a teacher,  
10 and a resident of Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. I live  
11 on Barlow Street about four blocks from here.

12 My family has lived in this area  
13 generations. My grandmother moved to Gettysburg  
14 itself when I was 12. I moved here eight years ago  
15 because I love the character of this town.

16 It's small, and it's quaint. It has many  
17 cultural opportunities because of the colleges that  
18 are here. Colleges that educate hundreds of  
19 students. Students that walk through our streets any  
20 hour of the day and evening because they feel safe.

21 We have an ethnic diversity and we have a  
22 rich cultural history. We have -- the Civil War was  
23 here. It's our most famous battle was fought here.

24 Our most famous president gave the most  
25 famous American speech here. One of our other

1 presidents liked this town so much he chose to live  
2 here.

3           We have tourists here from all over the  
4 world that come here with their families. We have  
5 school students that come here on educational trips.  
6 Nobody -- I'm a teacher -- worries about coming to  
7 Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. It's a safe place to be.

8           Into this place businessmen have proposed  
9 to bring a casino. A casino is not an appropriate  
10 business enterprise for this environment.

11           It is incongruent with the character of  
12 Gettysburg. It would be like putting the Mona Lisa  
13 in a bar. It would be like putting a pizza arcade in  
14 Falling Waters.

15           It would be like putting billboards and  
16 neon signs all over the grand canyon. It would be  
17 like serving quiche and wine at a Steelers' tailgate  
18 party. It would be like putting a casino in  
19 Gettysburg, Pennsylvania.

20           It is not an appropriate place for a  
21 casino. It will change the entire essence of our  
22 town.

23           Our town is made of its history and its  
24 culture and its people. The casino will change all  
25 of that.

1           Our town has a soul. No amount of money,  
2           which is what I'm hearing today, this is what the  
3           proposal is about, should be able to buy the soul of  
4           a town.

5           If the people who live in this town think  
6           that their taxes are robbing them, why would they  
7           invite willingly 8,000 one armed bandits into town.  
8           It just doesn't make sense. They're incongruent.  
9           Please don't give the license to the casino. Thank  
10          you very much.

11                  PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.  
12          Our next scheduled speaker is Deborah Golden.

13                  MS. GOLDEN: Yes. I'm from Cumberland  
14          Township in Gettysburg. Ladies and gentlemen, over  
15          the course of the next several months, you will be  
16          bombarded with speakers that will be against putting  
17          a slot parlor anywhere in Pennsylvania.

18                  I want to put out to you and to everyone  
19          here today that the argument about whether or not  
20          slots will be allowed in Pennsylvania is over.

21                  Therefore, any argument about whether  
22          gambling is good or gambling is bad is moot. The  
23          slots are coming. The only question left is which  
24          areas will benefit from this economic powerhouse.

25                  I wanted to focus today on the job and

1 salary situations in Adams County. Prior to 2002, I  
2 lived in Baltimore County, Maryland where I worked in  
3 business management for 20 years.

4 After relocating to Gettysburg, I found  
5 there were not very many jobs available for business  
6 management. Those that were, paid between \$8 and  
7 \$10.50 per hour with no benefits for experienced  
8 managers with a college degree.

9 That is about one third what the same  
10 worker will be paid in the Baltimore market only 45  
11 minutes away. I found that many of the people here  
12 commute to Baltimore, Frederick, or Washington.

13 The cost of living in Gettysburg is  
14 compatible to the surrounding larger cities. It cost  
15 workers the same amount to buy grocery, gas, goods,  
16 and services. The housing costs have sky rocketed in  
17 the last few years.

18 There's really no justification for the  
19 employers in this area to pay what they do. It's  
20 simply a matter of supply and demand. There are  
21 plenty of qualified job seekers and not enough jobs.

22 When faced with this situation myself in  
23 Gettysburg, I decided to work in the restaurant field  
24 where it wouldn't be difficult to make \$15 plus tips  
25 as a waitress.

1           Many of the people I worked with are highly  
2 skilled, college educated, forced to work in jobs for  
3 which they are overqualified in order to pay their  
4 bills.

5           Business in Adams County will not  
6 voluntarily increase their wages to keep up with the  
7 rise of the cost of living.

8           Something desperately needs to change to  
9 move this market. With Chance Enterprise's proposal,  
10 this area will gain about 1,000 permanent, full-time  
11 jobs.

12           Those jobs will range from maids to  
13 computer technicians. Millennium, the company chosen  
14 to operate that facility, has a record of great  
15 employee training programs, good wages, and benefits  
16 with an emphasis on employee retention.

17           If you do the math, it's simple. 1,000 new  
18 better paying jobs will force the local employers to  
19 pay up to retain employees.

20           Eventually, every worker in Adams County  
21 from hotel restaurant employees to office staff to  
22 managers would enjoy higher wages in a more  
23 competitive environment.

24           That will be an economic powerhouse and a  
25 big win for the citizens of Adams County. I say yes

1 to Crossroads Gaming Resort and Spa and hope you will  
2 join me. Thank you.

3 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.  
4 Our next scheduled speaker is John Dodson.

5 MR. DODSON: Hi. My name is John Dodson.  
6 I'm a local veterinarian. I've been a resident here  
7 in Adams County since 1987 and a small business owner  
8 in Straban Township.

9 My office is located in Straban Township  
10 since 1988. While I'm not opposed to this law, I  
11 think it's a good idea to do what we can do to get  
12 people's taxes down. I simply think it's a mistake  
13 to put this casino here in Adams County.

14 We should put this casino in an area that  
15 economically makes sense. Adams County has an  
16 unemployment rate of under 4 percent. We also have a  
17 stable economy. We are not subject to large  
18 downturns in the economy.

19 I can tell you as a small business owner,  
20 it's hard to find employees. Most small business  
21 owners here would agree with that statement.

22 In fact, I would hate to be the one to run  
23 this enterprise because I think they will have to  
24 import workers. Those imported workers besides  
25 adding to the congestion will not pay local taxes



1 because you pay local taxes where you live.

2           And so it makes sense to put this casino in  
3 an area where there's a higher unemployment rate  
4 where you will do some good where it's located.

5           The second thing I would like to bring up  
6 is I question the economic viability of this to begin  
7 with. There's nothing to the west.

8           To the north, you have a racetrack that is  
9 going to take the gambling business. So you're going  
10 to be drawing from the south and from the east.

11           To the south is Maryland. One of these  
12 days, they'll probably put in slots themselves  
13 because they're trying to save their thoroughbred  
14 race industry.

15           You're basically going to be looking to the  
16 east, which brings up my next point, our congested  
17 roads. Many of you are not from around here. Drive  
18 out on Route 30. That's the main road to the east.  
19 It's narrow. It's old. It's dangerous.

20           116, which also goes to the east, is even  
21 worse. It's narrow. It's hilly. We recently had a  
22 bad head-on collision where three teenagers were  
23 killed. That's the truth. When we have accidents  
24 around here they're bad. They're usually head-on  
25 collisions.

1                   When you add the fact that there will be  
2 drinking and people going out on our roads, that's  
3 going to make it that much riskier.

4                   The next point I would like to bring up is  
5 water. Again, many of you are not from around here.  
6 This area gets its water from two sources, the ground  
7 or also from the creeks. These creeks are not real  
8 impressive. They're pretty simple.

9                   It's not like you're drawing from the  
10 Delaware River here. I really have concern about a  
11 project of this size, how much water they're going to  
12 use and how much is going to be left for the rest of  
13 us.

14                   Finally, Straban Township I can vouch does  
15 not have its own police force. Again, with the  
16 increased requirements of this, I have very big  
17 concerns about the requirement for additional police.  
18 I do urge you to deny licensing in this, our local  
19 town. Thank you.

20                   PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.  
21 Our next scheduled speaker is Randy Chadwick.

22                   MR. CHADWICK: I wanted to first thank you  
23 for the opportunity to be able to speak. My name is  
24 Randy Chadwick. I'm a resident of Northampton County  
25 born, raised, and still living in Pennsylvania. I

1 visit Gettysburg frequently. I have friends here. I  
2 had family who fought here. Yes, I'm one of those  
3 tourists.

4 I wanted to say that on June 28th, 1865,  
5 Union General George Meeds said farewell to the Army  
6 of the Potomac. He was a man of comparatively few  
7 words.

8 He would say to the survivors of this war,  
9 it is unnecessary to enumerate here all that has  
10 occurred in these two eventual years, from the grand  
11 and decisive Battle at Gettysburg, the turning point  
12 of the war, to the surrender of the Army of Northern  
13 Virginia and at Appomattox Courthouse.

14 Suffice it to say that history will do you  
15 justice, a grateful country will honor the living,  
16 cherish and support the disabled and sincerely mourn  
17 the dead.

18 It pains me to consider that this country  
19 may not be as grateful as it once was. Today, we  
20 debate this plan to exploit the name and sacrifice  
21 the name of Gettysburg.

22 Those who seek to build this casino would  
23 not do so but for the millions who traveled to  
24 Gettysburg every year to remember the men and women  
25 who gave so much for this country.

1           A casino so close to the battlefield, the  
2 sacred grounds where our ancestors decided the fate  
3 of this nation, seeks only to profit for those who  
4 journey here to ponder and remember.

5           I wish to state in the strongest possible  
6 terms that this must not happen. The casino, if it  
7 sees this light of day, will scar the very fields  
8 that we seek to protect.

9           Even without the increase in crime and the  
10 cost to the community, building a casino near this  
11 battlefield remains as unconscionable a suggestion as  
12 building an amusement park at Pearl Harbor or Ground  
13 Zero in New York. The men who died here and their  
14 decedents deserve far better.

15           The great State of Pennsylvania along with  
16 people all over this country will soon join in  
17 celebrating the 150th anniversary of the Battle of  
18 Gettysburg.

19           We will proudly remember that on those  
20 three fateful days, tens of thousands of Americans  
21 including 35,000 Pennsylvanians saved our nation.

22           I say to you today, please do not soil  
23 their memory by allowing this exploitation of their  
24 sacrifice. We owe them.

25           In those three days, thousands of men gave

1 their lives that this nation, our nation might live.  
2 Tens of thousands of others emerged from this  
3 conflict broken and shattered, their bodies no longer  
4 whole but their legacy forever written in the book  
5 Honor.

6 Ladies and gentlemen of this Board, how  
7 will we repay these men and who speak for the dead,  
8 our dead of Gettysburg?

9 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Next scheduled  
10 speaker this afternoon is Julie Aha.

11 MS. AHA: Yes. Thank you. My name is  
12 Julie Aha. I'm a native of Los Angeles. Gettysburg  
13 has been my adopted home since 1996.

14 I graduated with honors from UCLA in the  
15 field of urban planning. I specialized in community  
16 economic development.

17 I've worked for years in nonprofits with  
18 homeless youth and in the field of healthcare. I  
19 believe this proposed project that would entail  
20 24,000 average daily trips per day would overwhelm a  
21 town the size of Gettysburg.

22 Relative to the size of Gettysburg, this  
23 project is out of balance with the scale and the  
24 infrastructure that we possess.

25 Even if its impacts could be absorbed over

1 time, we must question whether the social impacts to  
2 our historic and family oriented town are desirable.

3           It will change the landscape in ways that  
4 we may not be prepared to live with in terms of  
5 crime, in terms of traffic congestion, addictions,  
6 trash, etc.

7           In my work with youth, I have seen that we  
8 must give them the best opportunities to succeed. We  
9 must give them influences that make them strive to  
10 obtain their highest levels and capabilities.

11           The most critical shortcoming I see in this  
12 project is that there is no vision for Gettysburg or  
13 for our youth.

14           We're looking at a project that attempts to  
15 create revenue. I understand that; but in reality,  
16 it sells our town short. I hope you deny the  
17 license. Thank you.

18           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
19 scheduled speaker is Penelope Emmons.

20           MS. EMMONS: Yes. Thank you for having  
21 this hearing here in Gettysburg. I am Penelope  
22 Emmons from the town of Gettysburg.

23           I have a Master's in social work degree  
24 from Temple University. I work in a private  
25 counseling practice here in town.

1           During the summer, I spend time with family  
2 near Buffalo, New York. I've seen there the  
3 devastation of gambling addiction firsthand.

4           An addiction is any practice that causes  
5 someone to lose their freedom of choice. They lose  
6 their free will. They surrender their freedom to the  
7 addiction.

8           With gambling, people become addicted to  
9 their own body's chemical changes when they gamble.  
10 There are casinos around Buffalo and it has been  
11 found that twice as many people become addicted to  
12 gambling when slot machines are within 10 miles of  
13 where they live.

14           So as I take that experience and bring it  
15 here, I think that our local people, who would have  
16 easy access to this gambling, would be the ones most  
17 likely to become addicted.

18           It is our county, Adams County, that would  
19 pay most of the cost in the social services. The new  
20 addicts in their families will pay with loss of pain.  
21 Addicted gamblers divert funds from their own basic  
22 needs and those of their family.

23           For example, an older woman I worked with  
24 last summer in Buffalo started playing the slot  
25 machines hoping that her ship would come in.

1           As her loss grew and her addiction started  
2 to control her, by the time I saw her, she had lost  
3 her entire Social Security check as she gambled to  
4 try to recover her losses, which she didn't.

5           Addicted gamblers are twice as likely to  
6 divorce as non-gamblers. They report twice as many  
7 mental health problems. They don't have money. So  
8 our taxpayers will have to treat them.

9           In a study of addicted gamblers, 20 to 30  
10 percent make suicide attempts. They are four times  
11 more likely to file for bankruptcy and eight times  
12 more likely to end up in the criminal justice system.

13           So we'll pay the bill and the residents  
14 will also pay with addicted, depressed, divorced, or  
15 arrested family members and their neighbors.

16           I'm against the casino here because of the  
17 social costs and pain as well as money. It was here  
18 that I moved to where I really learned the history of  
19 Gettysburg and the men that fought for freedom here.

20           I'm against the loss of freedom of choice  
21 that will come with addicts that are near Gettysburg.  
22 I hope that you will not allow the casino to be built  
23 in this historic town. Thank you.

24           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.

25           Our next scheduled speaker was Sarah A.



1 Duncan.

2 MS. DUNCAN: Good afternoon. I'm Sarah  
3 Duncan. I'm a resident of the Borough of Gettysburg.  
4 In fact, I live right across the street. My family  
5 moved here in 1991. I'm speaking for myself and my  
6 family, because I think it's important for the people  
7 in the community to speak out against the proposed  
8 casino.

9 As you've heard many times today, this  
10 proposal is not consistent with the character of our  
11 community. Gettysburg has a unique place in our  
12 country's history.

13 It is not an appropriate place for gaming.  
14 Gettysburg is also a place for families, especially  
15 working, middle class families, to vacation.

16 Parents bring their children here because  
17 it's a family tradition. Their parents brought them  
18 here on their family vacation so they want to share  
19 that experience with their children. It is not an  
20 appropriate place for gaming.

21 In addition, I believe the casino would  
22 place a burden on an already over taxed population.  
23 Even if the casino generates funds projected, they  
24 won't exceed the cost of additional sources for road  
25 construction and maintenance to social welfare.

1           I think it's also important to keep in mind  
2 that this is slots only. We're not talking about the  
3 movie image of gambling, George Clooney or Cary Grant  
4 in a tux at the tables at Monte Carlo.

5           This is slots. People with little or no  
6 extra money throwing tokens into a slot machine. It  
7 isn't glamorous. In fact, a good number of  
8 individuals drawn to slots are people on fixed  
9 incomes dreaming of making quick money.

10           Studies have shown that many of the people  
11 that frequent casinos are the ones that can least  
12 afford it. Providing services to these folks will  
13 cost more than will be generated.

14           You have also heard much about what  
15 gambling addiction does to a family. My grandmother  
16 was addicted to gambling later in life. She took her  
17 Social Security check and her husband's, all of their  
18 income and blew it.

19           My grandfather mowed lawns until the day he  
20 died at 89. My parents paid most of their bills  
21 because of her gambling.

22           Although many will come from outside Adams  
23 County, we will be the real losers in the end because  
24 our citizens will also gamble in hopes of striking it  
25 rich. Then we will have to deal with the increased

1 addiction and poverty.

2 Another point I would like to make is that  
3 it doesn't take a crystal ball to see that Maryland  
4 will not want their citizens driving over the state  
5 line to spend their hard earned money in  
6 Pennsylvania.

7 I think it's short sided to assume that  
8 Maryland will not respond. There's already been talk  
9 about putting slots in racetracks.

10 It's reasonable to assume that the  
11 legislature in Maryland will approve slots shortly  
12 after the next gubernatorial election.

13 When that happens, there will be little  
14 reason for gamblers in Baltimore and Washington to  
15 take a bus trip to Gettysburg to gamble when they can  
16 use slots closer to home.

17 We will have a white elephant on our hands  
18 and the state will have very little in the way of  
19 revenue.

20 In closing, I want to repeat. I don't  
21 think this is an appropriate location for a casino.  
22 We also need to be very careful not to be seduced by  
23 the claims of increased revenues, jobs. Because the  
24 revenues will not exceed the cost to our community  
25 not just in dollars but in loss of quality of life.

1 Thank you for allowing me to speak.

2 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
3 scheduled speaker is Joseph M. Breighner.

4 MR. BREIGHNER: Close enough. I live three  
5 miles from here, Highland Township. I was born at  
6 Andy Werner. My family has been here since the late  
7 1700s.

8 I have two aunts that were -- great, great  
9 aunts that were nurses, tended to soldiers during the  
10 battle. I am here as a representative for at least  
11 for myself, the blue collar, native crowd that lives  
12 here.

13 I have to say at lunchtime, I went home to  
14 get something to eat. I filled up my gas can to mow  
15 my lawn because I anticipated that that is coming  
16 soon and I spent 17.25 to fill up my gas can to mow  
17 my lawn.

18 On the way home, I tried to do the math and  
19 I figured at 8, 10, \$12 an hour, I would have to work  
20 for Crossroads for two hours to mow my lawn for five  
21 hours.

22 So I am not overly thrilled with the idea  
23 if you could -- if you could promise us that we would  
24 be eligible for a lot of the white collar jobs that  
25 would occur in this, I might be interested in

1 supporting you.

2           The second reason that I wanted to get up  
3 to speak is that it has brought back some very  
4 painful memories for me as a child where my father, a  
5 blue collar worker in the shoe factories in Hanover,  
6 would take his paycheck to the local social clubs on  
7 Friday night.

8           He made about \$4 an hour, which would be  
9 equivalent to 8 to \$10 an hour now, and he would  
10 gamble that away.

11           My mother, who was raising four children,  
12 would have me as an 8-year-old, 9-year-old,  
13 10-year-old go into these gambling establishments to  
14 fetch him.

15           I'm sure if any of you have -- would have  
16 experienced that, you would think twice about this  
17 coming to our county.

18           I feel as though there -- no matter how  
19 successful this project will be, there will be some  
20 like my father who will succumb to the addiction.

21           Being familiar with the family fabric of  
22 Adams County, 92 percent of my family still live  
23 here.

24           We live here because if we want to have a  
25 family get-together, it takes us 20 minutes to all

1 get together.

2           A lot of the people that come to this  
3 county that I meet through my course of time here are  
4 migrants. They envy me. They tell me how it's nice  
5 that you have your family intact and you can still  
6 get together. Well, there's down sides to that  
7 family fabric and --

8           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Mr. Breighner,  
9 time is up.

10           MR. BREIGHNER: Shame and humiliation, we  
11 can't -- we involve not only ourselves but also our  
12 family as well.

13           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.

14           Our next group of speakers have been added  
15 to the list today. It was noted at the outset of the  
16 afternoon session.

17           Four were not here to be sworn in. So for  
18 a moment, I would just like to see who we can swear  
19 in all at once.

20           As I understand it, Thomas Clouney,  
21 Patricia Boroweic, would you mind standing a moment,  
22 Cheryl Mickley, thank you, Stephanie Buckley, thank  
23 you, Donald Marritz, Elaine McKnight, thank you,  
24 Maria Erling, John M. Fuss -- John M. Fuss.

25           All right. For those of you who were here

1 this morning, you would have observed the swearing in  
2 of the predecessor speakers.

3           If you would, please, those of you standing  
4 that have been called by name, raise your right hand.  
5 Do you swear or affirm that the testimony you are  
6 about to give is the truth, the whole truth, and  
7 nothing but the truth, so help you God. Please  
8 answer I do.

9           THE WITNESSES: I do.

10           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.  
11 You may be seated with the exception of Mr. Clouney  
12 who is ready to proceed.

13           Go right ahead.

14           MR. CLOUNEY: Good afternoon. My name is  
15 Tom Clouney. I operate a dairy farm along with my  
16 two sons in the Gettysburg area.

17           I made a study of four different national  
18 parks, national cemeteries and hallowed ground, three  
19 of which have large scale view-sheds and protected  
20 zoning. Those three would be Manassas, Antietam and  
21 Arlington.

22           The most recent hallowed ground area was  
23 established -- will be established in Stoney Creek  
24 Township, Somerset County. This is where the Flight  
25 93 crash happened.

1           The national park is in the process of  
2 obtaining 2,000 acres of ground. In addition, they  
3 are meeting with -- they hired a local consultant and  
4 are working with six adjoining townships to come up  
5 with a plan to establish zoning or purchase easements  
6 to make sure the area has maintained a hallowed  
7 ground effect.

8           They realized the importance of keeping the  
9 area from becoming large scale development.  
10 Ironically, a few years ago when I had the privilege  
11 of being present when Senator Terry Punt and other  
12 state and local dignitaries dedicated Route 15 by  
13 naming it the Blue and Gray Highway to commemorate  
14 the famous battle. The location was Route 15 and  
15 Route 30 about 100 feet from the proposed casino.

16           The eyes of the nation will be upon you,  
17 the Gaming Board, on the decision you will make  
18 whether the Gettysburg area will continue at the  
19 hallowed ground place or be changed forever into a  
20 different atmosphere.

21           This is not a case of us versus them,  
22 rather right versus wrong. Thank you.

23           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Wow. This is  
24 the second time I get to say this name, Patricia F.  
25 Boroweic.



1                   MS. BOROWEIC: My name is Patricia  
2 Boroweic. I moved to Bendersville seven years ago.  
3 It's about ten miles up the road.

4                   It wasn't until Mr. LeVan decided he wanted  
5 to put a casino in Gettysburg that I fully knew why I  
6 loved this area so much aside from its natural  
7 beauty, why I chose this place to live.

8                   I was born in Plymouth, Massachusetts and  
9 lived there and in neighboring Duxbury until after  
10 graduating from college.

11                   I'm a member of the Mayflower Society  
12 because I'm a tenth generation descendent of Myles  
13 Standish and John Alden. They're both buried in a  
14 very small cemetery in Duxbury.

15                   I think we all can agree that the Plymouth  
16 area has a very special place in American history.  
17 As a nation, we celebrate Thanksgiving every year.

18                   Great sacrifices were made there for  
19 religious and political freedoms. Half of the  
20 Mayflower pilgrims died the first winter.

21                   There are few towns in this country that  
22 are acknowledged by all of us as such important  
23 places to the history of the United States. Plymouth  
24 is one and, of course, Gettysburg is another.

25                   It is no wonder that this pilgrim

1    descendent feels such an affinity for another site of  
2    such sacrifice and significance.

3                Towns must grow and prosper, but the people  
4    of towns like Gettysburg and Plymouth have a special  
5    trust and a special obligation when deciding upon the  
6    direction in which they want their nationally  
7    important towns to grow and progress.

8                The trust is to honor our forbearers and  
9    what they did and sacrificed so that these towns,  
10   this Country could exist for us today.

11               The obligation is not to allow our  
12   ancestors' deeds and deaths to be trivialized in any  
13   way.

14               These people created this country we live  
15   in now. Part of our obligation is to develop  
16   livelihoods and industries that enhance and most  
17   certainly do not diminish what has been entrusted to  
18   us.

19               I don't believe a gambling casino meets  
20   these criteria nor is it even remotely close to what  
21   the pilgrims, the Civil War soldiers and Lincoln  
22   worked, fought, and ultimately died for.

23               PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
24   scheduled speaker is Cheryl Mickley. You may  
25   proceed.

1 MS. MICKLEY: I'm Cheryl Mickley, a  
2 lifelong resident of Gettysburg. I want to thank the  
3 Board and everyone else here today for listening to  
4 my personal story and my heartfelt remarks.

5 For over 200 years, the small town of  
6 Gettysburg has been very proud of its heritage. Many  
7 hard working citizens and their families have strived  
8 to build a wholesome and family oriented community.

9 Even before the Civil War made Gettysburg  
10 famous, our town had earned a reputation worthy of  
11 praise and it already offered two fine institutions  
12 of higher education at the Lutheran Theological  
13 Seminary and Gettysburg College.

14 Many churches provided religious and moral  
15 values for our families in a variety of industries,  
16 along with many other job opportunities provided  
17 stable economy for Gettysburg.

18 Since the Civil War, Gettysburg has been  
19 held in high esteem and highly respected by the  
20 world.

21 National and world leaders plus thousands  
22 of tourists have visited the battlefields here and  
23 have walked the hallowed grounds here with much  
24 emotion.

25 The religion, human services, arts,

1 education, culture, and history of this great little  
2 town has united us all, making us all very proud to  
3 call Gettysburg our hometown.

4 My husband and I know because we were both  
5 raised here and raised our own family here. My  
6 personal heritage at Gettysburg means a lot to me,  
7 too.

8 My great, great grandfather, John Rupp,  
9 owned a tannery on Baltimore Street during the Civil  
10 War. His home was heavily tore down, rebuilt and is  
11 now the Rupp Home History Center, a project of the  
12 Friends of the National Parks of Gettysburg.

13 Also, my grandfather, the Reverend D.L.  
14 Shaffer, graduated from the seminary and the College  
15 of Gettysburg.

16 My own father, Richard Shaffer, owned a  
17 store, which is now part of the newly renovated  
18 Majestic Theater. Presently, another member of our  
19 family owns and operates two souvenir shops on  
20 Steinwher Avenue in Gettysburg.

21 My hope and prayer is that these good and  
22 personal feelings that so many of us have for this  
23 beloved town of Gettysburg will never change. That's  
24 why I cannot and will not accept the idea of a casino  
25 invading and possibly destroying the town I've called

1 home all my life.

2           To me, gambling is morally wrong and  
3 usually leads to greed, which can cause corrupted  
4 families and also crime.

5           There are thousands of Gettysburg citizens  
6 and visitors opposed to a casino in our town. I work  
7 at a souvenir shop and witnessed hundreds of tourists  
8 sign the no casino petitions and heard many of them  
9 say, they would not come back to Gettysburg if there  
10 was a casino here.

11           Also, I heard over and over again, what are  
12 they thinking? This just isn't an appropriate town  
13 for a casino.

14           It's really hard for me to even imagine why  
15 anyone, especially some of our own citizens and  
16 businessmen of Gettysburg, would want to risk ruining  
17 the wonderful reputation of our beautiful town and  
18 community.

19           Many people like myself are proud of our  
20 heritage. I just hope and pray our children and  
21 generations to come will feel the same. Thank you.

22           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Our next  
23 scheduled speaker is Stephanie Buckley.

24           MS. BUCKLEY: Hello. My name is Stephanie  
25 Buckley. I live in Huntington Township. I'm a

1 mother of four and we are strongly opposed to the  
2 casino.

3 In light of the increase in traffic, the  
4 risk of current residents becoming habitual gamblers,  
5 as well as the absolute degrading of the sacred town  
6 of Gettysburg, we feel it's absurd to even think of a  
7 casino in Gettysburg. That's all I have to say.  
8 Thank you.

9 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.  
10 Our next scheduled speaker is Donald Marritz. You  
11 may proceed.

12 MR. MARRITZ: My name is Donald Marritz.  
13 I've lived in Adams County for 32 years. I've lived  
14 in Gettysburg for 18 years.

15 I believe that a casino will have a  
16 long-term, irreversible, bad effect on the quality of  
17 life in Gettysburg and Adams County.

18 The area simply cannot handle the kind of  
19 increase in visitors they're talking about, three  
20 million.

21 This isn't a remedial kind of thing.  
22 Gettysburg is like a walled city. The battlefield is  
23 the wall. It defines our town in a historical and  
24 emotional and geographical way.

25 There are no good effects that can come of

1 this. We have low employment already. We don't need  
2 new jobs, especially the low wage jobs that the  
3 casino will offer.

4 A casino will irreversibly alter the rural  
5 and historical character of this town and county.  
6 Gettysburg is a national treasure which will be  
7 tarnished slowly by this.

8 Almost all local, state, and federal  
9 officials are against here. Almost all civic and  
10 historical organizations are against the casino being  
11 here.

12 Gettysburg is a beautiful and healthy town.  
13 A casino will be an ugly blight on it and a terminal  
14 disease.

15 I think if Abraham Lincoln were here --  
16 well, Abraham Lincoln is turning over in his grave  
17 now because of this and to paraphrase a current  
18 expression, I would ask you, what would Lincoln do?  
19 I think it's clear what he would do.

20 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.  
21 Our next scheduled speaker is Elaine M. McKnight.

22 MS. MCKNIGHT: This presentation is not  
23 regarding the morality of gambling or even any of the  
24 social problems associated with gambling. It's all  
25 about the location.

1           I'm not a newcomer in town. I've been a  
2 resident of Straban Township where the casino is  
3 proposed for 47 years.

4           My first 16 years were spent residing in  
5 Straban. My family moved into downtown Gettysburg.  
6 After school, I spent two years in Germany and came  
7 back to various residences within the town limits.

8           My husband and I resided on the Hanover  
9 Road for the last 31 years, which is in Straban  
10 Township.

11           The house we own is approximately one air  
12 mile from the proposed casino site. At every  
13 location I resided at except Germany, my mailing  
14 address is and has been Gettysburg.

15           If the proposed casino is given a license,  
16 their physical location and mailing address will be  
17 Gettysburg. They continuously state that it is not  
18 but it will be.

19           I have traveled all of the United States,  
20 lived in another country and was a Federal employee  
21 for 40 years.

22           I have talked to many people in my  
23 profession and traveled, and I have only talked to  
24 one person that didn't know where Gettysburg was when  
25 they inquired as to where my hometown was.



1           My German landlady would bring neighbors  
2 and her friends to meet me when they found out  
3 Gettysburg was my hometown. They would ask me  
4 questions such as, did I ever meet President  
5 Eisenhower? What does the battlefield look like?  
6 They wanted any information I could give them.

7           The people inquiring through work or travel  
8 had already visited our town when a child had studied  
9 various aspects of Gettysburg in school and then  
10 brought their children and grandchildren to visit.  
11 Some of them have been here many times.

12           If you approve this casino, do you think  
13 the gamblers will come here because they know or care  
14 they're helping the tax base in Adams County?

15           I don't want my grandchildren and great  
16 grandchildren's education funded by losers. The  
17 investors have to base their revenue figures on how  
18 much money the gamblers will lose, not how much the  
19 losers will win. We don't want losers in Straban  
20 Township.

21           My husband and I and all of the residents  
22 of Straban will pay far more taxes from all the fall  
23 out of problems that will occur than if the casino is  
24 never here in the first place.

25           Investors impact statement indicated that

1 there will be little or no impact on the area.  
2 Nothing can be further from the truth. This is not  
3 any town or a city. It's Gettysburg.

4 There's no need to mention the state.  
5 Almost everyone knows where we are. The proposed  
6 site is akin to placing a casino on the rim of the  
7 Grand Canyon. It will change forever my hometown.

8 The Commission's decision not to place a  
9 casino in Gettysburg is a no brainer. There are  
10 plenty of other proposed sites available without  
11 making such a huge mistake.

12 I feel certain you're capable of making the  
13 correct decision. The word Gettysburg speaks for  
14 itself. Thank you very much for this opportunity. I  
15 appreciate it.

16 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: We have  
17 scheduled to speak John Gibson and Barbara Oremland  
18 and John Fuss, all of whom have not been sworn.

19 So Mr. Gibson, if you would please stand,  
20 Miss Oremland, will you please stand, Mr. Fuss, if  
21 you would join us, please stand.

22 If you would raise your right hand and  
23 answer the question. Do you swear or affirm that the  
24 testimony you're about to give is the truth, the  
25 whole truth, and nothing but the truth, so help you

1 God?

2 THE WITNESSES: Thank you.

3 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Mr. Gibson,  
4 you're up first. You'll be next Miss Oremland.

5 Go ahead.

6 MR. GIBSON: My name is John Gibson, Drexel  
7 Hill, Pennsylvania. In our history books, we learn  
8 about places like Valley Forge and Pearl Harbor.

9 If we turn the pages back a little, we come  
10 to the place called Gettysburg. Gettysburg is the  
11 largest battle of the Civil War. Gettysburg, more  
12 men died here than any other battle on American soil.

13 Gettysburg, America's most hallowed  
14 battleground, we should give the respect that it  
15 deserves.

16 Gettysburg should be known for what  
17 happened here in July 1863 and nothing else. It  
18 should be left as it is today, just Gettysburg and  
19 the soldiers both north and south that fought this  
20 great battle. They deserve the utmost respect from  
21 all of us.

22 142 years ago, the town of Gettysburg and  
23 the surrounding area made history. 142 years later,  
24 we want to build a casino in Gettysburg.

25 If a casino is built in Gettysburg, we will

1 make history by showing the rest of the nation and  
2 world that we really don't care about what happened  
3 here at Gettysburg.

4 Above all, it will show that we had little  
5 respect for the soldiers that fought, died, and are  
6 buried here at Gettysburg.

7 Gettysburg is the nation's great  
8 battlefield. No other town in any other state can  
9 say that.

10 If we build a casino in Gettysburg, what  
11 they can say is, why did they build such a thing in  
12 such a place? Thank you.

13 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.

14 Mr. Oremland, you may proceed.

15 MS. OREMLAND: When Joshua Chamberlain  
16 ordered the final charge on Little Round Top on day  
17 two of Gettysburg with almost no ammunition and only  
18 a will of steel, many say he saved the union.

19 I never thought there would be a day when  
20 the union, and especially the Commonwealth of  
21 Pennsylvania, would have to save Gettysburg. That  
22 day has come.

23 The battle that was here does not stand out  
24 just in this country but is renown through all the  
25 world.

1                    Licensed Battlefield Guide, Dr. Charles  
2 Fennell, says Gettysburg was the greatest battle  
3 fought in the western hemisphere and the most written  
4 about military event in American history. On every  
5 list of decisive world battles, Gettysburg sits near  
6 the top.

7                    Pulitzer Prize author, Dr. James McPherson,  
8 said more than any other place in the US, the  
9 battlefield at Gettysburg is hallowed ground. More  
10 Americans visit Gettysburg than any other US  
11 battlefield. It is a world destination with over  
12 60,000 international visitors a year.

13                    A 2001 USA Today report declared Gettysburg  
14 the top choice as the essential American place and  
15 the symbolic heart of America.

16                    This a safe town. This a peaceful town.  
17 It is a moment in my life each time I come here. I  
18 am a writer and Civil War lecturer.

19                    I often come alone, even in the evenings.  
20 I have no concern getting back to my car. Families  
21 and individuals come here to learn, to experience. A  
22 heritage experience in Gettysburg must be that, a  
23 deep immersion, a totally uninterrupted and undiluted  
24 event, to be meaningful.

25                    Gamblers are not history seekers. History

1 seekers are not gamblers. Studies show that when  
2 gamblers come to gamble, that is all they do.  
3 History seekers are not looking for gambling activity  
4 as David LeVan has suggested.

5           In the 2005 survey, 53 percent of  
6 Gettysburg heritage visitors said they would not  
7 return if a casino were built but as studies do show,  
8 the culture of gambling leaves behind crime, which  
9 can interfere with the heritage culture.

10           A 2004 US Department of Justice study found  
11 significant connections between gambling and crime.  
12 A 1996 US News and World Report analysis found crime  
13 rates in casino towns are 84 percent higher than the  
14 national average.

15           Economists Grinols and Mustard showed that  
16 there was an escalating occurrence of crime even many  
17 years after a casino was established.

18           In 2003, writer John Curran discussing  
19 Atlantic City explained the number of purse  
20 snatchings, assaults, rapes, robberies, and murders  
21 skyrocketed after the casinos opened. This type of  
22 documented behavior can gravely threaten a heritage  
23 culture.

24           I'm not against gambling, just not here.  
25 There is a time and place for everything. Never in

1 Gettysburg will there be a time and place for  
2 gambling. This town is the showcase to the world of  
3 the new world's greatest battle.

4           Bringing a casino to this area violates the  
5 sanctity of this hallowed ground and conflicts with  
6 those who bring only their interest in history, a  
7 culture that thrives here.

8           Historian Dr. Thomas Desjardin said in his  
9 book on Gettysburg, here one can study the way in  
10 which people learn about the past and how they pass  
11 it along to others in an endless chain. This chain  
12 must not be broken.

13           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.

14           Our final scheduled speaker for the day is  
15 Maria Erling, correct?

16           MS. ERLING: Yes.

17           PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: You may  
18 proceed.

19           MS. ERLING: My name is Marie Erling. I'm  
20 a resident of the Borough here in Gettysburg. I grew  
21 up in a small town in Minnesota. I also lived in a  
22 small town in New Hampshire before coming to teach at  
23 the seminary here. I teach church history and also  
24 American religious history.

25           One of the things I spend a lot of time

1 thinking about is the way that Gettysburg symbolizes  
2 in many ways, some of the issues that are going on in  
3 American culture today.

4           The key one is how small towns are under  
5 attack by the market culture around us. Now, I think  
6 of Gettysburg as a small town that has a symbolic  
7 role in American history.

8           In order for it to have that strong  
9 symbolic role, it is also a real small town with a  
10 functioning small town government, Borough council,  
11 and all of the dynamics of small town life, like  
12 cronyism and all sorts of other things that go on in  
13 small towns. I've lived in enough of them to know  
14 about this.

15           The one thing that is very unique about our  
16 town is how many different types of people are here.  
17 You've heard from many of them, people who have lived  
18 here their whole lives, people who have moved here  
19 because of their professional lives, because of  
20 working for the college or the seminary or the  
21 national park system.

22           So we are a unique place where you can hear  
23 many different voices. You heard them today. I know  
24 that you're glad that soon the day will be over.

25           One other thing I want to say about this is



1 to be a small town we feel especially invaded by this  
2 process of a casino being plopped on us, because  
3 we're not able really to make a decision ourselves  
4 about whether we want to have a casino here. That's  
5 why you are here.

6           You are the Gaming Board making a decision  
7 for us whether or not there will be a casino here.  
8 That I feel is deeply undemocratic.

9           If it were the will of the people of our  
10 small town to have a casino here, I would like to  
11 hear what that would be.

12           I don't think that surveys can be trusted  
13 because they often will reflect certain other kind of  
14 demographic features to them.

15           If you survey heritage tourism, you'll get  
16 one voice. If you survey people just in phone  
17 surveys, you get another voice, but we will never  
18 really have a chance to have a referendum on that.  
19 That is why the moral responsibility is so great as  
20 part of the Gaming Board.

21           I understand that a market economy and the  
22 market draw for this place is very powerful, but I  
23 want you to hear that people in the small town feel  
24 that they are, again, being invaded and not able to  
25 make up their own minds about the quality of our

1 community.

2 PRESIDING OFFICER EDMISTON: Thank you.

3 Ladies and gentlemen, that speaker, Miss Erling, is  
4 our last speaker for the day.

5 On behalf of the Pennsylvania Gaming  
6 Control Board, I would like to repeat our thanks to  
7 the college for making the facility available.

8 On a personal note but yet on behalf of the  
9 Board, thank each of the speakers for their  
10 cooperation and their information and thank the  
11 audience. This hearing is concluded.

12 (The hearing concluded at 2:30 p.m.)

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1                   I hereby certify that the proceedings and  
2 evidence are contained fully and accurately in the  
3 notes taken by me on the within proceedings and that  
4 this is a correct transcript of the same.

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Hillary M. Hazlett, Reporter  
Notary Public

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