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Housing Authority, Lewisburg

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Good evening and welcome to Bucknell occupied here on WV BU 90.5 Lewisburg Tonight Show is all about changes in housing in Lewisburg. In particular, the construction of affordable housing over in the pens comments development, as well as changes in the downtown area and to talk about these issues tonight. I have two guests in the studio with me. I have Judith peeler, a 48 year resident of Lewisburg who usually answers the call when citizen input is requested by local governments, task forces, nonprofits and authorities out of a duty to democratic decision-making as well as Jim Buck of former East Buffalo Township supervisor and part-time faculty member at Bucknell, a welcome to the studio. Both of you Jennifer for your eyes so for any listeners out there who may be following this interview and want to call in the number here in the studio is 570-577-3489. So I'm wondering if if we can start off by just giving listeners brief overview of what the proposed housing plan is okay. The workforce housing, grant was received by the Housing Authority is a grant for tax credits and it was the competition for this was right there were 100 applications in Pennsylvania and only 40 were granted and always was granted. That is the union County because it has a combination of housing for low income workers adjacent to new opportunities adjacent to a school of nursing, adjacent to new market rate housing are people that would be more customers and so it would be of growth in jobs so that was the plan. The prototype house was built about five years ago. Experimenting with high energy efficient with Uriel's locally made materials out of recycling service, Eiffel, and that the house is a duplex was built on market Street, so that was a beginning that everybody saw this resulted to the public soft and was their reason is that at that point in time that union County. I began this project in and sought out the grant while the local Housing Authority and we should make clear that no call the union County Housing Authority does not receive any local tax dollars that all operates entirely with pass-through funds from the federal government passed through state and onto the Housing Authority here and and also the revenue it receives in rent from the tenants. It operates a number of other building operated a number of other complexes throughout the county, so they have hundred and 71 units in five different complexes around the county. Currently they but even with that, even with the section 8 program that they run. They have a waiting list of 200 and 300 people know and that's just for union County that waiting list that some of the people at Stewart 40. Those are people who have apply here some good live of that leave the conservative said 43% were from all of the county which means 57%, which is what Apple forever is for every of one of the proposed houses is very little chance somebody from far away together where they housing houses or something local or suit is the idea that maybe walk us through where this housing is going to be built. If there's one site or two sites. I think there's been a lot of conversation on the lemmings. Let me try and draw something of a word picture and also provide some historical context so that so entire area of the will recall the penthouse Commons development now was formally a furniture factory had been there for over 100 years from that closed in 2004 and it was purchased for managers attempted to purchase it but didn't succeed in that so all the jobs and manufacturing went overseas and the factory buildings were torn down, the new
owner proposed to build both retail and residential together and that site and so area specific area were talking about. I should mention to the Thea the furniture factory was served by a railroad just now the rail trail and some of the area that was formally drying kilns for the furniture factory is now CBS market and a Giant Food store. What used to be the parking lots. The employee parking lots. The wrong opposite side of the tracks from the factory to acres of parking lots, little more than 2 acres parking lot is the area that is proposed for the new, affordable housing, 31 units and it won't be like at the tower single block there actually planning for three duplexes three trip flexes and then a kind of a long row of townhouses is Robbie to three-story buildings, highly energy-efficient, very highly insulated with double glazed windows and all energy star rated appliances all offstreet parking playground and a community room as well and I know in the local debates around this there's there's been a lot of flexibility attached to the term public housing nine minutes of some people have lumped it in a category with section 8 housing. Some people if not limited in other kinds of imaginary categories. Can you talk specifically about what kind of public housing. This is who is qualified to apply to live there. If there's a limited number of section 8 vouchers given out in this county are far or after consent and under section 8. The recipient goes on the open market and finds an apartment to rent makes an agreement with the landlord the Housing Authority double check that for the code and that have done it would be possible. Now there's a great number people don't have them, as we just have her many sections 8. They are also glowing for people is possible for section 8 person would be selected for this is more likely because there are more than would be somebody who is earning if it one person in the family, not more than 12,000 year which, if you were working 40 hours a week you would be earning 577. In our if is more likely around here people are underemployed. If you work for 775 year and you will one person your family for one breadwinner you would could earn anything up to 1153 440 hour week and you would still be all this is way under the poverty level right we have 25% of the children this area are living below the poverty level. So from what you're suggesting there's there's many current residents of County who would be qualified to apply for one of these new residences we have about 600 substandard houses via the substandard house and be of limited income means you would qualify to be important because you have to have an income of all the that would could be other sources of income such as Social Security from Earth spoke about there being a waiting list already of about 240 people or families. Now with those people I met the top of the list automatically receive this new housing I is there has to be a match between your need and the possibility of this so that they'll be different sizes dwelling. The summer will have two-bedroom someone though. They've got to mix-and-match and if you have a logo. If you could get a local job then and cut your transportation expenses. Give the more likely to be there than if you were in the southern part of the county and head transportation my hand on to that there will be a screening process for all of the applicants so they will all undergo a criminal history check credit check confirmation of previous references from landlords previous landlords and basically might not mentioned this already, but general occupancy means that
the proposed workforce housing would be accepting applications from senior citizens, families, and also people with disabilities, all of those categories would have to meet the income guidelines that Judy mentioned, and men. They would have to show that they have the income to pay the rent now to someone listening to me, this may sort of thing like a no-brainer to build this kind of housing, especially since the county in fact got the grant to do it, but the local debate as anyone who's been following it understand surrounding the site construction rapidly grew quite heated. I am wondering if if you can each talk a bit about how opposition to the project emerged in the ways in which it was expressed. I'm not sure why anybody said that was opposed. I first learned about it, those a letter to the editor of the daily item of those again. That was just filled with lots of errors and I do this because I had visited the prototype house. I had gone to the meetings of the County comprehensive plan. I had gone to Meridian corporations versus the explanations of the community where everybody ended all these equations for community comments made and they were a lot of misinformation and I know where this misinformation without certainly one in the comprehensive working from home yesterday and I have both the reading and excellent book called public housing, myths, and this country for many years now. There's been kind of widespread distrust of public housing was of during the Nixon administration. There was a mental moratorium put, construction of new public housing and pretty much the programs that we have now, don't put a lot of emphasis on actually building a publicly owned building just because they sit difficult thing to do politically for the kinds reasons that were starting to to see emerge here on. Interestingly, the high school on the witches just a stones throw from this proposed workforce housing is is going have to be sold and repurposed because of building a new high school and there's a proposal to build a row of townhouses there on what is currently the school grounds. That's not controversial its people say it's the density is a problem what's people really have a problem with is their perception of who will be living there and what sort of people. Those are and what their impact be on the community so fears about crime fears about impacts to the to the school district somehow causing the school district to decline precipitously on having negative impacts on other people's property values near and far from where this would be located and there are things you can point to point out if that is not really the case. We have, as I mentioned five other public housing complexes and in encountering the been here for good. While one of there's a private in the nonpublic there some private ones as well. Wendell recently on the Walmart one was built around 2000 right here near the University campus. Those have not cause any of the these spheres to come to pass. People talk about have one of the best school districts in the state that 25% of students qualify for the school lunch program so were talking about Justice Mall addition to something that's all ready here. So what, in your sense each of your senses. What why this site. My wise at this particular project that has provoked such a high level of diatribe. I think it is just a whole lot of this perception. If you live out of it is both attentive if one of the upscale residential areas on a cul-de-sac in probably haven't traveled through the rural Avenue and Oak Alley, and of these places and you probably just don't know that
this is part of his provoked object to vacuum anything that you have a kind of evil in the aware of your privileged lifestyle and I think that's what started as less of course there is some unspoken economic word and you will have to talk to conservatives because I see it as opportunity other people thought as a place for fear of so that particular place and not very familiar with it. It is between my house and the library. I have the farmers market my house and where I get my haircut so I've traveled up and down it or many many years and it is empty parking lots. A lot of the worker housing is now been 10 years of workers of unemployment of adjacent fence of the those houses are falling down one of the nice things is with the potential for employment shopping center and new solid housing adjacent their local residents there who are very much in favor of improving, they are putting together the resources to improve their houses and I've gotten really have is that there the couple houses that really good stuff quite solidly and effectively. As a result of the that is scary for people who don't go up and down the streets all the ash under that to the couple of other factors. One is the growth of the conservative movement in an area starting after I think the Obama's collection and spent gathering strength. I think we are by year, so there is a is a bit existing organized group of people that in this this issue was was just button thing for them and they were they were already organizing they they jumped on it and not in a very, actually effective way to get you would say attending public meetings and making freedom of information act request from the Housing Authority and using electronic means, and even a going door-to-door in order to communicate and get their message out knife and circulated petition all those things but I think another important factor here is where this is located in the conservatives themselves have kind of hinted at this no said this just is not the right place for something like this. It should be somewhere else and they don't say exactly where else should be. But as I mentioned, there are already five public housing complexes and other parts of the county, with additional private ones in other places, and those of not generated controversy. This is partly pushing people's buttons because it's located close to the core of the community which Housing Authority and I see their point feels better great asset. They should be looking to place people near the core, the community, because that means. Maybe they can walk to their job. Their kids can a walk to school. Maybe if they go to Lynn town Elementary or the Eichorn middle school, they could easily walk across the where the park is the pool the grocery shopping have to have in the car. The giant supermarket be right maximum rail trail be right next seven so and Judy mentioned that the school of nursing and also a lot of other public services are within walking distance of that site and also because of history. As I mentioned maybe Housing Authority thought it made sense in that respect to its blue-collar neighborhood was right next to the furniture factory, and is a blighted area now so you would think people might perceive that as it is, appropriate win-win time situation hasn't come hasn't turned out that way, which is unfortunate and numb. I don't know if there's anything that can be said now would really seriously change people's mind, and it seems like people are pretty established entrenched in their positions on us and think it's interesting that the people who live closest to the proposed site are definitely in favor of the low
income housing be there and is people who live much further away who are
opposed to it for another great live. Make no sense to me and other self-
contradictory prisons that they will in situ Joe want to put low income people
adjacent to one another. You want to make sure they're spread out scatter scatter
there another already scattered to the county so the only place scattered Izzy's
public conscious thought. As Elizabeth says that in a different conservatives as
owner, we would never be able to sell the upscale houses. If there was a hospital
by Housing Authority or Habitat for Humanity. So you have both of those and you
have arguments like overwhelmed the police force. The police forces buying and
nobody else's traffic problems of the very few things that have been in the
newspaper been a problem. Eventually one of the holy city is in a suburban
neighborhood. Then they'll say oh what low income housing has more children.
In fact, low income housing has fewer children per dwelling than suburban
housing objective or union County and I ejected for Lewisburg fees Buffalo
doesn't have those statistics at those of the issue. Then there was, well, it's going
to generate this not generate enough taxes. It would be better to put students in
the low income people in the empty of formerly occupied by the student
downtown, but it would generate more tax income. If you had more dwelling.
These are staffing dwellings develop the students in the form of housing
downtown, so if the tape the arguments are internally inconsistent and it-
sometimes the conservatives will say the public officials are misleading the
public. Just because you confuse that somebody is misleading may be that the
problem is on your side and you haven't done your diligence in learning where
you listening to but not occupied here on 90.5 WPB you were talking about
housing questions here in Lewisburg in Union County. More generally have
Judith Keeler as well as Jim Buchan studio with me. For those of you listening
out there who may wish to ask my guess, a question, please call in 570-577-
3489 so I like to push this conversation a little bit further into ask about. I
opposition to public housing in a historical sense, so the United States is had a
very high contentious and and quite racist. I history regarding the building of
public housing. A particular the post World War II. When the government really
began to invest in these kinds of facilities and in fact many white communities. I
particularly in heavily concentrated urban areas actively and violently resisted the
construction of any public housing facilities in their own neighborhoods. I'm
thinking particular places and in Detroit, most particularly, but in at the these are
been contentious almost everywhere that they've been built and ending the
beginning decades following World War II the arguments that opponents to public
housing made were often very frankly racialized right I but then really moving
through the 1970s when this country embraced an idea of itself is being very
colorblind argument shifted and so it became more about him in public housing
residents. Not fitting in to the culture of a particular location or people any people
being welcome, so long as they could pay for their housing. These kinds of more
meritocratic arguments about people deserving to live in particular kinds of
places and so I'm wondering in the kinds of opposition arguments that have been
put out into the public sphere. To what extent do either of you see there being I
racialized fears embedded within IDs arguments. Well yes, those sorts of
comments have been made and I was furious with the editors of the daily item after a public meeting in July, which showed one of the opponents expressly linked his fears about who would be living workforce housing in Union County 31 units to the to the Watts riots to the Cabrini Green complex and Chicago to the killing of a police officer in the Bedford Stuyvesant neighborhood of New York City, and the paper even though many other things were set at that meeting took those comments and went and found historical pictures for each one of them, all involving a something to do with people of color. Opposing authority in represented by white police officers up with four of those pictures above the phone on the front page. The next day which I thought was really insight into racial hatred. I'm so ashamed to see that covered that way in the newspaper. Since then there's my have detected a kind of moderation, steering away from the explicitly racial arguments on the part of the opponents when they speak it, public meetings and they have also in furnace now expressed concerns for the prospective residents of those of this place that would be too much traffic. There are so children there would be too close to the street and numb and things of that nature. On the other hand, on their on their Facebook page where anybody can post any comments that they want still see people making the references, the amount 52. Like those people Philadelphia people or nonschool lines where there is a drug rehabilitation center pay population from many of the cities then relocated in to lose corporative really changed some of the character just fine, but people were not accustomed to people who just rolled up and down the streets. Most of the day not doing anything yet not doing any harm but is there very different from who's living in the county and as I love that the people who were hose I don't think very many of them had ever experienced with an urban situation that I have two granddaughters of invisible New York City and there are more aware of racial diversity and making friends everywhere then people who have the experience you don't know and how did you each get involved with this battle. Well, maybe it goes back of a few years for both of us because Judy and I were both very involved in the union County comprehensive planning. Okay process and that is another partial answer to your question of why such a complexes. This would be cited. There was a furniture factory used to be the comprehensive plan. One of the key concepts behind it was to try and contain sprawl to preserve open space is particularly agricultural land in Union County, rather than having McMansions brought out all over the landscape, the concept was to try and channel growth into what they called designated growth areas, and a few look at the map of where those designated gross growth areas either close to existing population centers one of which is obviously Lewisburg's Buffalo Township area and so here opens up 42 acres very close to the center of town is never going to happen again in our lifetimes, and so a lot of thought in the comprehensive planning process went into well, what should the pen house former factory become housing. How should we handle that from a land-use planning standpoint and the recommendation which was followed by the East Buffalo Township supervisors, of which I was one of the time was to create a new zoning ordinance that would allow a mixture of uses both on commercial and less residential and other uses, churches, government buildings, even the light
industrial recreational altogether and sidebar on this for most of its history zoning has been about keeping different uses. Apart from each other so you know you would have a residential district, and you have a commercial district and you could drive or walk between those things, I guess, but separate those uses. What was with a land-use planning like that you wouldn't you would never get anything like downtown Lewisburg, which is a mixture of uses of the idealistic to the sky look at a the past and in the old days that things worked out pretty good and have land-use planning, but look at the nice character of something like downtown Lewisburg and comes is not gonna look like downtown Lewisburg, but not concept of a mixture of uses residential, commercial, retail, recreational, etc. the that's that's what was discussed that the public was in favor of the developer was in favor of that on and in addition that the residential could be of a fairly high density, which is not something that has been that I was a supervisor for six years and was never any high resident, high density residential unconstructive during the time-lapse supervisor. I think as far as low income housing to those probably about two units that were developed during those six years, so it's something that it is part of the housing market if you will. Buffalo Township residents hadn't really seen happening near them and in the recent past, and numb, but seemed to me and it still seems that way that the former furniture factory site would be appropriate for that because people already live at higher densities there already hasn't cut blue-collar character to it and we mentioned numerous other advantages of the site not initially developed, love, love the conservatives have an image of the idealized is the great Greenlawn new suburban house, but so you could see that they were not coming from where housing is desirable. Its compact and I think they were thinking more of 1980s incentive the demographic trends that are happening now. Right now, 40% of all women over 50 are single and older single woman is not looking for a four bedroom house on the head of this is looking for minimal outside upkeep and modest the upkeep of the inside to Lewisburg attracts many retirees whose student who are empty-nesters. They're looking for something small and easy to care for. Lewisburg has a lot of young managers or faculty staff coming in. They are not looking for the large house in the suburbs and there's this demographic. The largest growing demographic unit is the three Herder three generational family we so three or four adults are working and sharing the childcare for the younger ones. Those folks that might be where the big houses need to look to market. How could those be made into three generational houses. The that's where things need to move. We also have of this surplus of housing that is downtown. I see that as a two-year. This is sort out what I recall, a market correction for all perspective. The others units where the students are still living also along I kept track they weren't almost no for rent or for sale houses up all summer sunlight about 15 August with signs again so nobody was even try to love them for that. The summertime, you can learn from real estate heads that the houses that are still up for sale generated between 48,060 $2000 last year. Those were exacted but actually student a for those those are going to be hard to sell when the prices drop off is that it will. There will be young families. Goodbye them but in the sweat equity and that they'll show up in another way. Again the
high quality student housing has been rented is the question. And if you have a
section 8 voucher. You must have a review live in a very solid house so the
houses that are left over are not a fire in many cases not standard. Some are just
too big into pricing for the market. Some are have revelations that make them not
not a good, but a maybe visible bill that maybe there's a group of students who
would like to take loans and buys big houses convert them together and create a
great neighborhood. The Roseburg has a neighborhood Corporation and they
actually call the landlords together last spring to say we've heard complaints for
how would you like to address the situation. Complaints and what Sam thinks
that houses will be empty and not yes until our Wrentham, the Vino market for
the eye understand it, the landlords were not interested in forming any kind of
organization to 15 to solve the problem of working together. They're accustomed
to working in competition with one another and to and so this became very handy
for them for no there's another generation people coming along and perhaps they
give to figure out what to do in some kind of socialism, right in a minute think they
the central issue is that there's a buck. Ellis is reducing the number of students
were allowed to live off campus right which of course is why all of these houses
are suddenly up up for rent and wondering if if I can ask you to indent Judy you
open this conversation really really well for us is, is there a relationship that you
see between the vacancies in all of these downtown houses, which used to be
filled with students and how and you know that their local conversation around
the workforce housing site get is there a relationship that critically opponents are
setting up between these two things are they being treated his face separate
issues. I heard no one say the same people involved so that the very same
individuals are speaking who are involved in the housing market are the ones
who were opposed icy, but they have never said anything like that. There will
they are suffered personally have they perhaps made offers to make those
homes available to though income renters eyes. I understand everybody who has
a section 8 vouchers already living somewhere there are only so many of them
and when you think about people who are of low income there's going to be a
reason for it. It's going to be the development perhaps a physical what life you
got asthma injury of military injury just being old, wearing out the mental disability
of some sort and thinking about when to an impoverished school district and
have very little chance of education if you grew up in a family that never had
anybody for advanced education. Perhaps you were born with limited
comprehension. Perhaps you caring for a severely live in ill child organelle that
limits your income just can't get out there and work hard with those things and
these, therefore, these are people who have the extra resources to live in an old
car use house you need something that is fairly straightforward and simple way
to live in and not where students of work over the generations well and another
thing that connects my think. And with this conversation is the sense I have that
there are so students here who now fear section 8 residents being in proximity to
them in that S. 6th St. 77th St. neighborhood and I managed to find the article
here on the back million website from the September 3 issue that deals with this
and in the headlines or grabs your attention leads to the perception that that
there is now some spike and harassment of Bucknell students by some group of
outsiders that it's now present in the neighborhood. But if you read through the end of the article. Actually, nothing like that is happening so that doesn't mean there is an perception or worry or sense of anxiety related to this, and the chief of police here in the Buffalo Valley regional police said in a look at the crime is equal opportunity. It's not anymore common among section 8 people in that program and it is the population at large and forging us on the way things are perceived. So what we can do to to change that. I don't know, but this is also another reason that some people were very unhappy when the conservatives were making suggestions like a what's not dull the workforce housing over and Commons. There's plenty of room and put those people in downtown Lewisburg associate research started to have competing not in my backyard movement is now, don't put them near the Mayor and then finally, people seem to settle just on single scattered need to be scattered someplace and but no one ever says where they're supposed to be scattered, and it's it's almost comical really, but his just people. People want, where they can see it where they have to worry about it, wanted to go when you reference the history of public housing in the US and now I'm no expert on that so correct me if I'm wrong, but I just been reading that number. Kind reference a while ago, public housing, myths, and it was eye-opening to me to learn that when public housing was being constructed in is in good large quantities in the 40s and 50s. A lot of those that were segregated talking Philadelphia, Baltimore, Chicago other places, you know, there would be St. Louis Pruitt I go well. It had two names because one have asked for the people on the other half was for the temple and and those types of in segregated apartheid kind of housing schemes were used in a lot of cities and then we also mentioned that the kind of suburban American dream thing that we have no so that started getting underway in the in the 50s and 60s and literally because of federal policies about guaranteeing home loans only for white families and because of myth basically of collusion on the part of the real estate industry moving to suburb was not an option for people of color and and public housing change at the same time and that we hadn't originally been constructed as worker housing workforce housing. The term is being used here literally. If you were too poor, you could live in public housing. Your closeout because it was for from working lower middle-class families wasn't for the poorest of the poor and then as people moved out of the cities and another historical trend how we can references deindustrialization which have perfect examples of right here I mentioned was a furniture factory there. Now it's gone and is not the only industrial business that's this gone out of its left this area. There was the DB PBL nonwovens that was where the Walmart is now 50 p.m. yeah JVM is hardwired electronics now in the housing industry took a tumble in 2008, A manufactured home builders in this area and they they lay people off left and right cabinetmaking businesses around here close down some of them have started back up again, but others haven't. So all that is to say that not everybody can afford to live the suburban lifestyle and is Buffalo is I live in it. I live in and have a nice green lawn and two-car garage and that that's the neighborhood that I live in and I know that that's not the solution for everybody that's just to invest thus not sent economically efficient enough for someone who is on a Bucknell cell. I do
have an idea for another solution, though I have a friend who's a conservative member of the conservative party in the legislature in Australia and on the headset is housing and welfare of his best. Australia jumped their minimum wage to $14 an hour about the same as is, there is the same exactly because the conservatives were tired of having to give food vouchers, eating vouchers, housing vouchers and all. And they said, stop giving these in other words, supports to industry industry just gonna pay people enough to get everybody out of our on selected is on the market now they can. They are paid a wage begins them into a private market house. There is another solution to even talking here on but not occupied about local housing issues working to take a brief break and come back and continue our conversation. Thank you for tuning in. You are listening to buck now occupied here on 90.5 WV BU Lewisburg I have in the studio with me. I to local residents Jim Buck and Judith Keeler, both of whom have been extremely involved in the local debates around the workforce housing complex so I think we have about 10 more minutes to talk you this evening. I'd like to ask you each to bring the listeners up to speed on what the current plan is now for the site. The to have tax credits you have to have a letter from a local bank saying that there is financial support for this. This course was submitted back some years ago and we had all this recession in between the width of the West Milton bank was a bank that had signed off. They have because of a tighter economy. Now they have not been able to sell their tax credits to any other banks in the area so they withdrawn. There's a poor and those tax credits will be marketed nationwide. There are large corporations like Disney World, Bombay, by numbers of text that I feel is a little too bad the local economy didn't get the value of that but to know people tend to send their money to other places that are buying local, and the cell at the moment. The Housing Authority has his opportunity to go back to the drawing board and and has time tweaking the housing. The plans and such. Go ahead, but they are going to resubmit advanced resubmit. Yes. So in short, the there's a hiatus in this process, the Housing Authority purchased two point 2 acres of land in December or January and they still own that land and the land is still zoned to allow the type of townhouse development that they have proposed to do. They held a public meeting in July in which they brought the public at the speed they showed some sketch plans and present a lot of information into questions, many of which were hostile, not all, but there was a lot of opposition during that meeting and then they actually submitted a land development plan formally to the Township planning commission, but in we thought I was going to be discussed at the September planning commission meeting. Then they withdrew the plan may be partly because of West Milton thanks announcement that they found more able to find buyers for the tax credits so the tax credits are have not been taken away or they haven't gone anywhere. The Housing Authority still has that in their in their quiver, so to speak, and based still on the land and they can submit a new revised land development plan when when they feel the time is right when that will be I don't know. So that being said, there's no firm starting on the construction site. No, no, far from it. So squared up near silver listeners out there who may I want to get involved in in helping this process along what would
you tell them to do well. I would invite them to Facebook page that I've set up, called common sense for Penn Commons. So I post there any developments in the process and interesting things I feel are related to this issue and so there to serve the community that keeps a look at that, keep looking at the paper right letters to the editor a either in general feelings about this war in responses to specific developments or things that other people set in their letters. This would be good as any upcoming meetings know about the head of the school board. This is another of parcel and that is the high school and the one of the school board has to decide whether to sell it and there is a proposal of their five developer would like to buy or townhouses in a mixed use of the old building where you would have some even bought Dell offer from the real uses and public theater and afterschool gym facilities. Also, with coming up next. I don't know of any particular meetings you know that I would tell us support as of the studio that they ought to be out here that I really don't know when it's going to be on the agenda again it depends on the Housing Authority and what their next move is nigh, have no insight into that, coupled developments for meetings this week. Just mention the opponents of this successfully pressured the Township planning commission to recommend to supervisors that they eliminate housing entirely as a permitted use from the Penn Commons site actually a huge violation of the vision set forth in the comprehensive plan which actually by law. Townships are mandated to follow their own comprehensive plans for his with a doing land development but anyway they made that recommendation. Township supervisors then were that was used as a additional tool by opponents to pressure the Township supervisors to eliminate all housing and they didn't do that but the did come up with a thing that seems to have made opponents somewhat happy, which is a day produced the maximum number of residential units that can be built up and comments from hundred and 8244, 20% reduction. Apparently the developer is on on board with that. Some extent that's what they indicated at the meeting on Monday night. Another interesting thing then the planning commission met two nights later actually last night, and of had a subdivision plan that they were asked to consider that was a 17 acre parcel near the river south of campus. The owner wanted to divide that into five different lots that could be developed for resident for residential use and the planning commission looked over the big documents and they didn't really have any questions about it and there were half a dozen conservatives in the audience. They didn't have any questions or objections to it, even though they been the ones to say that there's a housing glut. Wages should be building anymore houses are proving any more subdivisions and planning commission. In short, recommended approval of that subdivision without controversy. While local and yeah yeah next. I'm not sure their so hated why want to thank both you for coming to Steve tonight and Sharon Junior experiencing your time with us. Thank you Denver and you know anyone out there who wants to get involved. I you go go to the common sense for Penn Commons Facebook site, and and really take that as a portal into working for affordable housing. If, thank you for having thank you again Judy decided if you're interested her hungry reached a few years. Maybe that connection you, listening here to bug you occupied here on I 90.5 WV BU
Lewisburg. I actually have a second guess this evening I coming into the studio to talk about his radio show which he is getting up and running this semester. I welcome to studio DJ will a good to have you. Thanks for thanks for coming tonight so can you talk to us a little bit about I what show it is that you are putting together for the semester. So this semester I am doing the preserve. I show which is his continuation of show that we had on for a while, years ago and started in the late 70s and one of all we have to make 90s basically what was is preserved with friends letters as requests and we played. So this is well much as before. Continuation of that I take letters and I buries, so how can I know we have a large listening audience out of the present, how can the prisoners I get the request list to you. Just send mail to our mailbox and our station manager Joe Bethany and usually if you send a letter, Monday or Tuesday on get it by Friday in time for the show Sundays at 3 PM. And how can they get it to you from the present. So our address is that he may BU the prisoner question though 701 More Ave. C3956 Lewisburg Hispania 1737, so any mail sent address both intimate and I'll continue to announce that I ended the show so I can can you talk to us a little bit about why you decided to bring the show back of whatever is giving your I was told that it had a one point and was a really slim vibe of the air is because the velocity was that so I just was wondering back as I think it's a really really interesting concept. It's something that Weasley's vision have this opportunity to because we have such awards was no base and we are with you weights that of Bayview was the music and so as a side note, senior is my legacy or bring it back and hopefully was a graduate will get some people to continue with minister and in a sense that this show is is is directly intended to reach the inmates. This is or anything you like to to say to them 12 simulators is a request show doesn't work that requests and to be preserved by self simulators. Today, Sundays, three, 5 PM yeah there anything else you like us to know about the show I will play from escaping. Send me plays a nettlesome R&B some rap is not is not defined that he genre his request shows up other quest right way pretty you come into the studio to talk about your show. I think that's gonna be a great addition to the WPB lineup SME course all right you been listening to a very busy hour of Bucknell occupied here under BV BU Lewisburg. We started off the hour talking with Tim Buck and Judy Keeler about local housing issues and in particular the controversy over other workforce housing complex just had a brief conversation with DJ will about the prisoner request show and I am personally having some technological problems which can interfere with me playing music for the final 20 minutes of the show here so I am going to end this particular show early, quite sadly, on my part, but next week show. It's can be great we can be talking about the college of management guest to be determined but that is the topic so all those of you who are interested in high tuning in calling in thinking about the proposed College of management. Please put the show on your calendar next Thursday at 6 PM. Otherwise, have a great week