



PPL names community relations director

Rod Keller leaves PPL to address health issues, thanks community for its support



Joe Scopelliti (left), PPL's new community relations director looks to continue the successful relationships built by his predecessor, Rod Keller (right).

Joe Scopelliti, a 22-year PPL employee, has been named community relations director for the area around the Montour power plant.

He takes over for Rod Keller, who has left PPL for health reasons after nearly 35 years with the company.

"I am dealing with chronic health issues that prevent me from continuing in the job I have enjoyed for many years," Keller said. "I am doing well, and

managing those health issues."

He said that he appreciates the cards, notes and good wishes he has received from people in the community.

"I really value the friendships and business relationships I was fortunate to build with so many people who live in the communities around the Montour plant," he said.

Scopelliti has served as supervisor of PPL's Susquehanna Energy Information Center near Berwick. He began his career as a chemistry teacher in the Central Columbia School District then joined PPL as a chemistry technician at the Susquehanna nuclear power plant.

He was chairman of the Berwick Area Chamber of Commerce, the Tri-Chamber Foundation and various other boards. He has a degree in chemistry from Bloomsburg University and is pursuing a business degree there.

"I look forward to continuing the successful relationships Rod has built in the area, and to being a trusted representative in the community for the Montour power plant," Scopelliti said.

Montour plant is part of community

By Michael Munroe
Plant Manager



All of us who work at PPL's Montour power plant understand that our responsibility to the community goes beyond the electricity we generate for your homes and businesses.

We know that we must do what we can to limit our effects on the environment, to operate the power plant as a good neighbor and to keep you informed about what's going on in and around the plant.

We are starting this newsletter as one way to keep you informed about the many activities taking place at the plant, at our Montour Environmental Preserve and in the community. We'll be mailing these newsletters four times a year.

If you have been by the power plant in recent months, you have noticed some major changes. PPL is installing state-of-the-art environmental control equipment. This investment of about \$600 million at the plant will remove nearly all of the acid-rain-causing sulfur dioxide from the plant's emissions, and as another benefit will reduce mercury emissions.

The investment will also create more jobs for the community. The byproduct of this pollution-control equipment will be sold to United

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Lake Chillisquaque an important resource

Ask area residents about Lake Chillisquaque at PPL's Montour Environmental Preserve and what most often come to mind are fishing, boating and bird watching. The 165-acre lake is a popular recreation spot and an important resting stop for migrating waterfowl each spring and fall, but it serves many other purposes as well.

Did you know?

Chillisquaque is a Native American word that means "song of the wild goose." Lake Chillisquaque is a prime spot for bird watching. More than 50 species, including wild geese, have been observed at the lake.

that would otherwise rush down the Chillisquaque Creek. PPL releases water year-round from the lake to maintain a minimum flow in the creek, protecting habitat for fish and other aquatic species.

"We can – and do – take proactive measures to manage water level and balance all of the interests the lake serves," said Bob Black, operations manager at the Montour power plant. "The lake is an important resource for the plant and for the community."

The main reason PPL created the lake is to provide an alternative source of cooling water for the Montour power plant. The lake is a backup to a 12-mile pipeline that brings necessary cooling water to the plant from the West Branch of the Susquehanna River.

Although Lake Chillisquaque was not built for flood control, drought relief or habitat preservation, it supports all of those functions.

In rainy periods, the lake can hold millions of gallons of water



New display at Montour Preserve

This new display at the Montour Environmental Preserve Visitors Center describes how electricity is produced, the measures PPL takes to protect the environment, and the economic and recreational benefits of the Montour power plant and preserve. It's one of many educational and informational displays on energy, nature and the environment. During the winter, the visitors center is open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. weekdays. For more information, call 570-437-3131.

Montour plant su and reclamation

Coal ash donated by PPL's Montour power plant was used in an innovative recycling and reclamation project in Columbia County conducted by Penn State University.

The project used waste tires as a fill material for an unpaved road in Madison Township. The tires came from a nearby pile of millions of waste tires. More than 200,000 waste tires were used in this project.

Tires were bound together to form blocks, which were placed on the road surface then covered with bottom ash from the Montour plant. Montour bottom ash also is beneficially used as anti-skid material on roads in the winter, in concrete block manufacturing and as a soil conditioner.

On this project, the bottom ash filled

Progress continues on environmental work

A 680-foot chimney stack is the most visible sign of the progress that PPL's Montour power plant is making on the construction of advanced environmental controls designed to improve air quality and reduce acid rain.

These controls, commonly called scrubbers, take nearly all of the sulfur dioxide out of the plant's emissions. The scrubbers capture sulfur in a slurry of water and limestone to create synthetic gypsum, which will be used to make drywall. United States Gypsum is building a manufacturing facility across the road from the power plant.

Workers currently are installing two fiberglass flues inside the concrete chimney stack. These flues will rise to a height of 700 feet — 20 feet higher than the chimney.



Workers also are erecting scrubber absorbers, installing major equipment, putting up the structural steel for supporting equipment and buildings, and building a water treatment facility that is part of the project.

A new, 12-mile pipeline that brings water to the power plant from the West Branch of the Susquehanna

River is 99 percent complete. The pipe is installed, and PPL will be returning in the spring to complete reseeding and other follow-up work along the pipeline route.

The project, with an estimated cost of about \$600 million, will be completed for both generating units at the Montour plant in 2008.

Supports recycling project

voids between the tires, creating a more level surface that was topped with a layer of shale rock, then a blacktop surface.

This process helps rid the area of waste tires (and the fire and health hazards they create), supports municipal efforts to maintain unpaved roads, and provides another beneficial use of coal ash.

"We are pleased to support projects that help the community," said Michael Munroe, Montour power plant manager. "We have for many years used coal ash from the plant to produce a construction fill material that has been used in several economic development and public recreation projects.

"The beneficial use of coal ash is an example of the environmental responsibility we take in operating the Montour plant," he said.

Sugar shack ready for visitors

Each winter since 1972, PPL's Montour Environmental Preserve has taught visitors about the secrets of maple syrup.

The preserve's Sugar Shack will be open again from noon to 4 p.m. Feb. 24 and March 4, continuing a 35-year tradition. Young and old alike can experience the sights, sounds, tastes and smells of the maple-sugaring process, from tapping the trees to slowly boiling the sap over a wood fire to make syrup.

"The maple sugaring program is one of the highlights of our environmental education efforts,"



said Jon Beam, PPL's senior naturalist. "People who attended maple sugaring programs in the early years as children are returning now as adults to share the experience with their children."

Last year, more than 500 people learned the time-honored process that dates back to the country's early settlers.

Programs will begin on the hour in the preserve's Environmental Education Center, 700 Preserve Road. Maple products and posters will be available for purchase.

PPL Montour
18 McMichael Rd.
Washingtonville, PA 17884

Preserve programs a cure for cabin fever

The Montour Environmental Preserve will present an evening of fun and fascinating folktales about animals from 7-8:30 p.m. Feb. 9. Senior naturalist Jon Beam will tell stories of animals that live close to home and animals from around the world.

A Young Explorers program for children ages 3 to 5 will examine the sights, sounds and smells of maple sugaring from 1:30-2:30 p.m. March 8 at the Montour Environmental Education Center. Children should dress for the outdoors. Please call 570-437-3131 to register for this program.

Local musician A.J. Bashore II will present a concert of old-time, Celtic,

Appalachian, contemporary and original dulcimer music at 2 p.m. March 18 at the Montour Environmental Education Center.

American woodcock, or timberdoodles, have a unique courtship ritual each spring that few people get to witness. Senior naturalist Jon Beam will present a program about these fascinating birds from 6-7:30 p.m. March 23 at the Montour Environmental Education Center. Part of the program will be held outdoors, so please dress for the weather.

The Montour Environmental Preserve will host a wildlife art exposition from noon to 5 p.m. March 31 and from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 1. The event will feature works by Pennsylvania artists.

Part of community

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States Gypsum Company for use in making drywall.

We're also pleased to support a number of community projects, such as the soccer park in Danville, annual pheasant stocking at the Montour Environmental Preserve, and construction of a public recreation facility in Madison Township, Columbia County.

As plant manager, I invite you to contact me with questions or issues you have about the power plant. You may call my office at 570-437-1201, or e-mail me at mgmunroe@pplweb.com. You will receive a response.