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FILE

Sept, 9, 08

To Whom it may concern:

I have enclosed copies of 2 newspaper clippings concerning natural gas. Since the 2001 secret meetings natural gas prices have been rising. Tectum is making millions and wants even more!

Please do not let this happen. Gas is a necessity. Millions have lost their jobs and their homes. Low income people are also having a difficult time.

Corporate America should not be rewarded for their greediness.

Truly,

Martin Johnson

Oil below \$130; natural gas falls sharply

Oil prices fell more than \$10 over the previous two days on growing concerns that inflation and other economic concerns could reduce demand for crude.

At the gas pump, prices held steady at a record \$4.114 a gallon, according to auto club AAA, the Oil Price Information Service and Wright Express. Diesel rose to a record of \$4.845.

A number of market observers say there was nothing supporting the run up in natural gas prices, which peaked in early July, and that this week's sell-off of oil has only helped speed the declines.

"Any time oil goes up or down on Nymex, it's going to have a carry-over effect on natural gas," said Michael Rieke, senior managing editor for power and gas at energy research firm Platts.

The immediate cause of Thursday's sharp natural gas decline was a larger-than-expected build of U.S. supplies.

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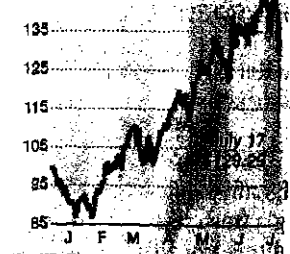
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Oil futures tumble

Prices of crude oil futures for August delivery settled just below \$130 a barrel for the first time in more than a month.

NYMEX light sweet crude
\$145 per barrel



SOURCE: Department of Energy

YOUR LETTERS

Tax deal tempting, but merger risky

Taxes are too high and rising. A merger of Washington Twp. and Centerville in exchange for a one-time property-tax rebate is tempting, but the deal may be too good to go the distance.

How is the community going to pay for the initial \$11 million revenue deficit that will not be collected from the township and city after the merger? The funding will come from a 1.75 percent (or more) city income tax imposed on employees in Washington Twp. and some residents.

What about other expenses involved in a merger? The unknown start-up costs. The Social Row Road and Clio Road projects that are currently the responsibility of Montgomery County engineers and estimated at \$49 million would have to be assumed by the merged city. The township would forfeit the right to contract for police services through the sheriff's office, which is as efficient and less expensive (than unknown costs).

2008 levy distribution (see www.mcrecord.org) shows Centerville with nine notations of general funds, a couple of bonds and a permanent improvement. Meanwhile, Washington Twp. and Montgomery County have descriptions listed as fire and EMS, recreational, roads and bridges, police, parks, human services and Sinclair clearly stating the use for funds.

In simple math terms, a merger would create a multimillion-dollar deficit in the first year alone.

Can the Washington Twp. income tax pay for this merger? How will the residents benefit? We won't know until the combined city is up and running. By that time, it will be too late to undo a merger that could end up costing the community for years to come and possibly loss of township business upset by the newly imposed city income tax.

Janet Scaglione
Washington Twp.

The real reason gas prices are up

On Jan. 29, 2001, President George W. Bush signed

vice president as chairman, Andrew Lundquist as executive director, and the secretaries of Energy, Commerce, Transportation, Interior, Agriculture and Treasury, and the EPA administrator.

The task force held its first meeting that same day, and held at least eight additional meetings between February and May of 2001. On May 10, 2001, the Energy Task Force submitted a report to President Bush, setting forth the committee's findings and recommendations for a "National Energy Policy." The Republican Congress passed legislation based on the administration's energy policy.

According to media accounts, a parade of CEOs and other business leaders from the energy industry participated in the task force's work. Media accounts also suggest that the final findings and recommendations of the energy task force were heavily influenced by the participation of the energy industry leaders, with some parts of the policy taking passages verbatim from industry proposals.

These meetings were