



Prepared - May 2011

## ***Executive Summary***

The data and observations provided on the impacts of State Patty's Day on the community may be used as a basis for on-going discussion to plan and prepare for State Patty's Day in the future.

State Patty's Day (SPD) is an event created by a Penn State student and started in 2007. The purpose was to celebrate St. Patrick's Day with school friends even though the actual holiday was occurring during spring break. It is traditionally held on the Saturday before PSU's spring break and is now marked annually through the social media site Facebook by a self-nominated individual. It encourages drinking themed festivities held all day with undertones of St. Patrick's Day celebrations. February 26, 2011 marked the event's 5<sup>th</sup> annual run as a student organized function.

After the 2011 SPD, all Borough departments involved in the events were asked to provide factual information to better understand the full effects of the event on the entire community. Additionally, many community programs as well as the Downtown State College Improvement District (DSCID) were asked to provide input for this report.

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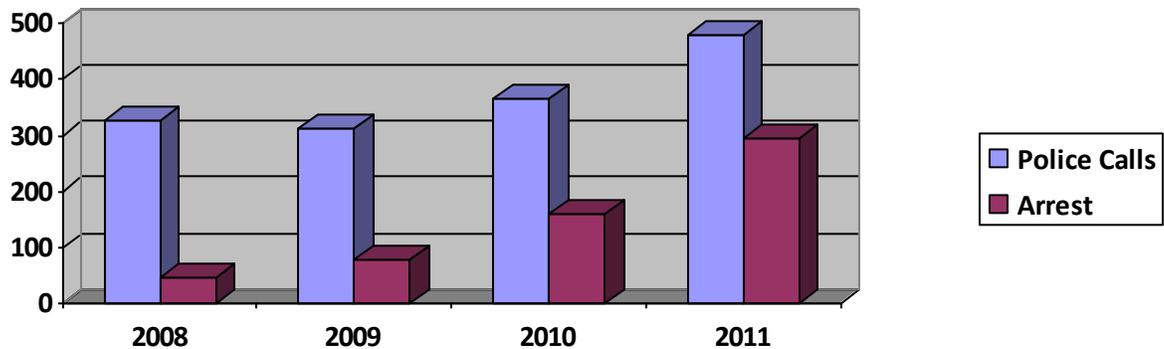
## ***I. State College Police Department***

The State College Police Department (SCPD) responded to a record number of police calls for the student-organized event. Police activity increased around 8 PM Friday, with a large volume of calls for service, criminal arrests and citations throughout Saturday night and into early Sunday morning.

Between 12 Noon Friday, February 25 and 12 Noon Sunday, February 27, the SCPD handled **480** calls for service, up from 365 calls handled during last year's SPD weekend. Additionally, State College Police Officers made **234** criminal arrests up from the 160 arrests made in 2010. There were **14** drunk driving arrests, **14** persons required transportation to the Mount Nittany Medical Center for alcohol overdose and **34** disorderly persons or gatherings at apartments or houses reported in the downtown and adjacent neighborhoods. The most common summary criminal violations charged during this 48 hour period were as follows:

Open Container	65
Underage Drinking	51
Loud Parties/Noise	24
Public Drunk	20
Public Urination	11
Disorderly Conduct – Fighting	10

**State Patty's Day Arrests and Calls by Year**



These statistics are for the SCPD only and do not include enforcement actions in the Borough of State College by the Pennsylvania State University Police, Pennsylvania State Police, the Centre County Alcohol Task Force and the PA Liquor Control Enforcement. By comparison, this year's SPD weekend was clearly busier from a police activity standpoint and by all observations; more people participated in the event.

Some Borough liquor license establishments, including a beer distributor located in the Borough, elected not to open their businesses on Saturday. Undoubtedly they lost a significant amount of revenue in making this decision. The liquor license establishments that did open employed sound business practices to discourage dangerous drinking. Specifically, most of those opened establishments had cover charges all day, offered no discounted drink specials, had no green beer or other SPD promotions, did not open early and in fact some closed early, and held their occupancy level well under that which is permitted. The Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board also agreed to alter their store hours for all four (4) liquor stores in the Centre Region by closing at 6:00 PM on Saturday instead of 9:00 PM. All these decisions were helpful.

Finally, the self-imposed restrictions the Inter-fraternity Council (IFC) placed on all Penn State chapters for Saturday were very beneficial. By all observations they appeared to adhere to the restrictions of no large functions, no hard liquor at the fraternities, no guest list functions, and no live entertainment. The Borough applauds the IFC for this action.

***General Fund expenses from the Police were \$18,700.***

# State Patty's Day After Action Report 2011

<i>State Patty's Day Defendants from Other Universities</i>						
	Total	OTHER	RESIDENT	STUDENT	VISITOR	
<b>Total</b>	<b>288</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>130</b>	<b>132</b>
<i>No Entry</i>	<b>86</b>	7	11	6	12	61
BLOOMSBURG UNIVERSITY	5	0	1	0	0	4
BUCKS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	2	0	0	0	0	2
CALIFORNIA UNIVERSITY	1	0	0	0	0	1
CLARION UNIVERSITY	1	0	0	0	0	1
DELAWARE COMMUNITY COLLEGE	1	0	0	0	0	1
DELAWARE COUNTY COLLEGE	1	0	0	0	0	1
DELAWARE UNIVERSITY	1	0	0	0	0	1
DELAWARE VALLEY COLLEGE	1	0	0	0	0	1
DESALES UNIVERSITY	1	0	0	0	0	1
DREXEL UNIVERSITY	1	0	0	0	0	1
DUQUESNE UNIVERSITY	2	0	0	0	0	2
EAST STROUDSBURG COMMUNITY COLLEGE	2	0	0	0	0	2
GANNON UNIVERSITY	1	0	0	0	0	1
GETTYSBURG COLLEGE	1	0	0	0	0	1
INDIANA UNIVERSITY OF PA	1	0	0	0	0	1
JAMES MADISON UNIVERSITY	2	0	0	0	0	2
JOHNS HOPKINS	2	0	0	0	0	2
KEENE STATE COLLEGE	1	0	0	0	0	1
KEYSTONE COLLEGE	1	0	0	0	0	1
KUTZTOWN UNIVERSITY	1	0	0	0	0	1
LEBANON VALLEY	1	0	1	0	0	0
LOCK HAVEN UNIVERSITY	2	0	0	0	0	2
LOYOLA UNIVERSITY	2	0	0	0	0	2
LUZERNE COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	1	0	0	0	0	1
MERCY HURST COLLEGE	1	0	0	0	0	1
MONTGOMERY COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE	2	0	0	0	0	2
NORTHAMPTON COMMUNITY COLLEGE	1	0	0	0	0	1
OHIO UNIVERSITY	1	0	0	0	0	1
PENN STATE	<b>116</b>	0	0	0	116	0
PENN STATE A BINGTON	1	0	0	0	1	0
PENN STATE ALTOONA	6	0	0	0	4	2
PENN STATE BEAVER	1	0	0	0	1	0
PENN STATE BEHREND	1	0	0	0	1	0
PENN STATE BERKS	2	0	0	0	2	0
PENN STATE BRANCH CAMPUS	1	0	0	0	1	0
PENN STATE HAZLETON	1	0	0	0	1	0
PENN STATE SCHUYLKILL	1	0	0	0	1	0
PENNSYLVANIA COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY	3	0	0	0	0	3
PHILADELPHIA UNIVERSITY OF THE ARTS	1	0	0	0	0	1
ROCHESTER HIGH SCHOOL	1	0	0	0	0	1
RUTGERS UNIVERSITY	1	0	0	0	0	1
SETON HILL UNIVERSITY	1	0	0	0	0	1
SHIPPENSBURG UNIVERSITY	2	0	0	0	0	2
ST JOSEPHS UNIVERSITY	3	0	0	0	0	3
TEMPLE UNIVERSITY	3	0	0	0	0	3
TOWSON UNIVERSITY	2	0	1	0	0	1
UNIVERSITY OF CONNETICUT	1	0	0	0	0	1
UNIVERSITY OF DELAWARE	1	0	0	0	0	1
UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH	2	0	0	0	0	2
VILLANOVA UNIVERSITY	1	0	0	0	0	1
WASHINGTON & JEFFERSON COLLEGE	2	0	0	0	0	2
WAYNESBURG UNIVERSITY	1	0	0	0	0	1
WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY	4	0	0	0	0	4
WEST VIRGINIA UNIVERSITY	1	0	0	0	0	1
WIDENER UNIVERSITY	1	0	0	0	0	1
WILLIAM & MARY	1	0	0	0	0	1

***II. Centre County Emergency Communications Center (CCECC)***

The table below shows a comparison of the amount of calls the CCECC received for the specified functions.

Function	Total CCECC Events	2011 SPD Increase Percent
2011 SPD	1,599	n/a
2010 SPD	1,360	18%
2010 Arts Festival	1,334	20%
2010 PSU Football	1,152	39%
2010 Normal Weekends	840	90%

Data is from 6:00 AM Friday to 11:59 PM Sunday

**Other Data**

- 558 9-1-1 calls this year with an estimated 450 calls last year. There was a database issue in 2010 that missed compiling some calls. 108 more 9-1-1 calls were received in 2011, and that doesn't include the approximate 1,780 calls on the non-emergency 800 line.
- 58 hours of overtime were scheduled this year and 16 hours of part time Public Safety Telecommunicators were scheduled, which proved to be helpful because of the increase in calls.
- The result is a call was handled by the Communication Center every 2.4 minutes and a phone call every 1.7 minutes. 9-1-1 calls were 1 every 7 minutes.

### **III. CATA**

On Friday and Saturday of the SPD weekend, CATA used 69.8 hours on the community side – this was focused primarily on the N, V and R routes. CATA also added a combined total of 44.6 hours extra on the Blue and White Loops. CATA added 28.6 hours of extra time over that weekend in their maintenance area for road calls, extra cleanings, etc. CATA had a few additional hours for their customer service staff to help answer phone calls. All of the extra hours worked by exempt staff had no additional cost other than wear and tear on their staff. Since most of these hours were filled at overtime, and to try and estimate the fuel and mileage cost involved a cost per hour of \$65 were used. Between additional fare box revenue, and other sources, it appears as though CATA will be able to break even and cover the additional costs for the service.

There was a need to close the Beaver/Heister CATA stop at about 11PM Saturday night because of repeated crowd control issues at that stop. Hundreds of riders were lined up for the bus, and when the bus arrived, the crowd would be crushed against the bus. Due to the difficulty of controlling this crowd, the SCPD ordered the bus stop to be closed. Riders had to walk to either the Schlow or 500 East Beaver bus stops to get on a bus. That worked well and splintered this large group in the canyon that already had too many people there for other reasons. The SCPD recommends closing the bus stop in Beaver Canyon during future SPD events.

***Total cost was approximately \$9,295.***

### **IV. Mount Nittany Medical Center**

On SPD, Mount Nittany Medical Center saw over 200 patients which were more than double a normal Saturday. Of those, there were 103 that were there for alcohol-related medical issues. Of the 103, 69 were non-PSU students and 34 were current PSU students. The Emergency Room incurred 120 hours of additional staff time. Dr. Ziff did not have an hourly rate for these hours but could only say it was not minimal.

### **V. Damage to Private Property**

A total of \$20,200 was reported in estimated damages to 6 privately owned apartment buildings during the SPD weekend. This represents only a small amount of the incidents that resulted in damage to private property from that weekend.

## ***VI. Public Works***

The SPD weekend resulted in increased demand for service from the Public Works Department in the areas of refuse collection, snow and ice control, street sweeping, sign repair, custodial care, building maintenance, and damage to a street tree. The activities affected the General, Parking and Refuse Funds.

### **General Fund**

Expenses included sign repair and replacement, street sweeping and the loss of a street tree. Eight signs were replaced (One Way, Stop and Street name signs) at an average cost of \$100 per sign for a total cost \$800. A day of labor and equipment costs for street sweeping the high impact areas in the downtown and Highlands neighborhood were required after the event, even though we would not normally do street sweeping due to the cold temperatures. The cost of the additional sweeping was \$2,077. The street tree damage occurred at 208 West Foster Avenue and is very likely related to the SPD "event". Removing the tree and planting a new tree of like size and species will cost nearly \$750. The signs and sweeping may be Highway Aid costs, but excess costs from Highway Aid are covered by the General Fund, so they have been considered as General Fund expenses.

***General Fund expenses from Public Works were \$3,627.***

### **Parking Fund**

Activities involving the Parking Fund properties included removal of snow and ice from parking facilities, removal of trash and debris from parking facilities, and removal of graffiti from McAllister Deck. The high demand for parking spaces required staff to remove snow and ice from upper levels of parking garages. The combination of SPD and a number of events and activities within the community, created additional stress on the existing parking system. In the absence of the event, the spaces would have remained closed. Two T-tag dump trucks, a skid loader and 5 hours of labor cost combined for an expense of \$365. There was also a need to remove graffiti from the McAllister Parking Deck and to remove extra trash from parking garages at a total cost \$772.

***Parking Fund expenses from Public Works were \$1,137.***

### **Refuse Fund**

The weekend activities resulted in trash volumes similar to a football game or Arts Festival weekend. Due to the anticipated crowds, sanitation crews removed bulk items from the Downtown and Highlands neighborhood rather than complete other scheduled tasks. This unscheduled effort cost \$1,821 in unscheduled equipment and labor costs.

Public Works crews performed two extra collections of street trash containers over the weekend. The equipment, labor and disposal charges were \$714 higher than a normal winter weekend. Residential refuse collections took longer in the neighborhoods immediately impacted by the event, with collectors and equipment spending five additional hours on the routes and trash disposed weighing over 7.5 tons more than a normal winter week. The extra manpower, equipment costs and disposal costs totaled \$1,774. Commercial front loaders spent 11.5 hours more on the routes from Saturday through Tuesday than a normal winter week. We collected an additional 2.85 tons of cardboard and an additional 58.58 tons of refuse as a result of the event. The Monday collection was the heaviest weight for a single day in the last two years. Commercial refuse collection cost \$6,372 more than a normal winter week.

***Refuse Fund expenses from Public Works were \$10,681.***

**The combined Public Works costs attributed to SPD is \$15,441.**

## ***VII. Community Volunteer Day***

### **Borough Staff Analysis**

On Community Volunteer Day (CVD) we asked community members to form groups of 3 to 4 members to walk in the Downtown, Highlands, and Holmes-Foster neighborhoods. Community members reported to warming stations at Unity Church, State College Presbyterian Church, and St. Paul's United Methodist Church to start their two hour shifts. Volunteers were coordinated from 12 noon until 2 AM. The Borough originally was planning to coordinate volunteers until 4 AM; however due to lack of interest in these hours staff reevaluated the later shifts. The three warming stations were consolidated into one station at the Municipal Building from 8 PM till 2 AM.

In scheduling volunteers the Borough attempted to construct groups consisting of students with more long-term residents to create an atmosphere that would lead to constructive discussions about SPD activities and town-gown relations and to best modify SPD participant behavior. The Downtown Improvement District specifically requested that older residents be out in the late night hours, because the group believed that the presence of older residents would have a greater impact on SPD participants' behavior. At the warming station volunteers were greeted with hot coffee, water, snacks, and incentives from downtown merchants (G-man provided pizzas and the Deli offered free meals to participants during the night shifts). Volunteers received a police contact information card with instructions on how to contact the police in case of an emergency. Participants were told to call the numbers provided if they, themselves, felt they were in eminent danger or if they believed a SPD participant needed help from the appropriate authorities.

Participants responded to the event with enthusiasm and concern. Many felt that they had an eye-opening experience. Depending upon the time of day served participants either came back with observations that SPD was "not that bad" or "out of control". From 12 Noon to 10 PM participants were shocked by the number of people asking them for directions and the sheer number of people out on the street. After 10 PM volunteers came back with reports that the streets in the downtown were emptying out. Participants informed warming station volunteers that they personally witnessed displays of public drunkenness, public urination, and fights. One group claimed they persuaded a SPD participant to get out of a tree and diffused a fight between a man and woman over a cell phone.

Participants expressed thanks to local businesses that chose to close their doors, to students for interacting with the larger community, and thanks to the Police Department for coordinating CVD. Many indicated that they valued the discussions they had during their two-hour shift with other CVD participants. From the survey results, the majority of participants stated they were somewhat satisfied to very satisfied in how the CVD event

was executed, the timing of the CVD, was the length of the of CVD just right if not a little short, and that they are likely to participate in future CVDs.

As intended, participants found out about the CVD primarily through direct contact with community organizations. Although not directly targeted, Penn State faculty and staff also played a role in recruiting volunteers by offering extra credit as an incentive. This asset should be further utilized next year to increase participation. Many people heard about CVD through a friend. When hearing about the event from friends, many students were confused about the purpose of the event. It was difficult for them to grasp the point of simply walking around downtown. As event organizers, we should put special attention towards expressing this concept in a manner that all target audiences will understand. Kate Doe, the organizer of the CVD, made a good analogy that seemed to work when she stated that participating in the event was not unlike acting as a sober monitor at fraternity or sorority function. The goal of the sober monitor is to be there in case of emergency (provide risk management), to help a friend in need, and to maintain the pride of the community.

For next year's event, staff has three recommendations:

- The warming stations need to be manned by more than one individual for safety reasons.
- Groups need to be better controlled to require that each group have more than 2 people.
- Need better communication with signing up and communicating assignments, including the shutdown of sign-ups at an earlier date.

## **Faith Based Perspective**

Members of several downtown churches provided a peaceful presence during SPD. One church served as a hydration station, in an effort to offer hot drinks and cold water, and their efforts were appreciated. Many of the participants felt their efforts were meaningful because they went beyond the walls of the church to meet the needs of the community.

***VIII. Ordinance Enforcement***

	<b>Warnings</b>	<b>Violations</b>	<b>OT</b>
SPD 2010	11	11	7.0 Hrs.
SPD 2011	12	22	7.5 Hrs.
Arts Festival 2010	17	22	14.0 Hrs.
PSU / Michigan (H) 2010	12	16	10.25 Hrs.
Non-Event Weekend	10	2	0

The above comparison breaks down special events. State Patty's Day, for example, lists the activity respectively for 2010 and 2011 in violations and warnings issued. Also listed, is overtime hours associated with the various events. Arts Festival, PSU/Michigan, PSU/Ohio State events are similar in activity with warnings and violations issued. However the contrast between a home game and an away game are apparent in activity but still require overtime enforcement due to First Eight Weeks (F-8) requirements. Additionally listed is a normal, non-event week where no PSU or Municipal event is scheduled and no overtime is required.

For SPD 2011, we also have an additional employee working the weekend event who is not included in the overtime figure as these were the normal working days/hours. The additional employee was hired specifically for the purpose of covering weekends and special events.

***Total Expenses of Ordinance Enforcement was \$563.***

**IX. Downtown Businesses**

Following is a compilation of results reported to a request made from the DSCID to the downtown businesses to share how SPD affected normal business functions. The businesses are not specifically named but their general comments, their business type, and general location are included. Very few gave exactly what was requested of them. None of the bars that remained open or the retailers that sold green merchandise in advance of the event reported.

REPORTED RESULTS	TYPE	LOCATION
Increased 45 percent over previous weekend	Restaurant- no LL	Calder
No business, except for a few tourists	Retail \$-\$	Calder
Great business day; all out-of town/nothing to do w/State Patty's	Retail \$\$\$	College
Sales down compared to non-State Patty weekend	Retail \$-\$	Calder
Sales off 40 percent; no regular clientele	Retail \$	Calder
Closed this year; did \$60 in 2010 & \$120 in 2009	Retail \$\$-\$\$\$	Beaver
Increased 60 percent v. usual weekend	Restaurant--no LL	College
Opted not to sell green merchandise this year and lost \$5,000-\$6,000	Retail \$-\$	College
Opted not to do specialty green merchandise and lost \$5,000-\$7,000	Retail/Service \$	College
Closed; still lost \$200 (Broken glass door)	Retail \$	Beaver

Type

\$- Average Sale less than \$25

\$\$- Average Sale between \$25-\$75

\$\$\$- Average sale is more than \$75

LL-Liquor License

In addition to these ten retailers, another retailer (\$\$, Beaver) reported that many of those participating in the Community Volunteer Day initiative did stop in her store during the day and purchased items, and that the overall presence of adults mitigated the bad behavior experienced, especially in 2010.

An ongoing challenge is to get retailers and restaurant operators to freely share information. The DSCID attempts to get similar information for all DSCID sponsored events to gauge the effectiveness of marketing and promotional efforts.

## ***X. Focus Group***

### **Summary**

On Tuesday, April 26, 2011, a focus group was organized to collect additional input for an after action report regarding this year's SPD. There were a total of 17 participants that were divided into two groups. Each group had a moderator and a note taker. Ground rules were laid out from the beginning to ensure participants could feel comfortable answering questions openly and honestly.

The goal of this activity was to find out what more we can do in seeking solutions to SPD, what is effective, what is not in terms of what we are already doing, and what more we can do. The information gathered may aid in effective planning and to identify possible barriers.

### **Process**

The participants were greeted and welcomed. Introductions were made by Borough Manager Tom Fountaine and Chief of Police Tom King. They each gave a recap of SPD and Chief King provided a snap shot of results from a Police Department standpoint. They did not stay for the actual answering portion as to not alter participant's views and dialogue. Participants were then split into two separate circle groups on opposite ends of the community room.

### **Participants**

The participants were selected from the Community Volunteer Day pre-meeting email list and the Community Volunteer Day feedback meeting email list. There was a balanced mixed of both non-student and student residents.

### **Main Themes**

Several major themes emerged from the discussions. A list of all responses to the questions may be found in the appendix.

- There was consensus that the most critical goal is to reduce harm and reduce the level of violence.
- An event, or a series of events, people would like to participate in is essential if we hope to effect change in SPD.
- There are numerous of programs on campus, but not necessarily at the times people would be out drinking.
- The events need to be throughout the day and targeted to the times we know most drinking occurs.

- Business people would have ideas and underwrite an event.

## **Ground Rules & List of Questions**

Aside from an introductory icebreaker question, there were six official questions asked to participants. Before getting started the ground rules were read to the participants. Next, the questions were asked giving each participant the opportunity to answer before moving on to the next question. The unedited responses are included after each question.

### **Ground Rules**

- **We want you to do the talking:** *We would like everyone to participate. You may be called on if I haven't heard from you in a while.*
- **There is no right or wrong answer:** *Every person's experiences and opinions are important.*
- **What is said in this room stays here.** *We want people to feel comfortable sharing when sensitive issues come up.*
- **We will be writing down what you have to say.** *We don't identify anyone by name in the report. You will remain anonymous.*

### **List of Questions**

- Why do you think people participate in SPD?
- Do you see SPD as a serious problem in the State College Community?
- Do you feel most PSU students participate in SPD or is it just a few?
- What are the barriers to solving the problem of SPD?
- What do you think your organization/business/association's role is in addressing the SPD problem?
- What are your suggestions for next year's SPD?

### **All Responses**

#### **Why do people participate in SPD?**

- It's fun, everybody's out, way to blow off steam.
- It's the social norm; it's as if everyone will ask you "Why weren't you participating"
- Facilitator asked if the speaker experienced peer pressure and was it enough to get the speaker to participate: "Some, but not enough to influence me"
- Hype of the program, the chance for unexpected happenings, and the unexpectedness that comes along with drinking, going place to place, and random opportunities to have fun.
- Originally SPD was a statement, now it is a rebellious event.
- It is fun.
- Brings together thousands of students - one giant party.
- Rebellious to participants - feels like being wild.

- Opportunity for alumni to come back.
- Allows students to exhibit rebellious nature.
- Continue the tradition - 5 years in a row.
- PSU students want to be the best at everything including parties.

## **Does the Facebook page starter have responsibility?**

- I have seen interviews with the original SPD starter and he doesn't support what it's become, I don't think he has any responsibility.
- It will happen without Facebook.
- Totally irresponsible.
- Reminds people/consistent advertising - word of mouth.
- Makes it bigger competition.
- Creator didn't participate in community action; quoted as saying it was not her responsibility.
- Don't think she recognized negative side effects.
- Was asked by Damon Sims to take it down but she refused.
- Don't understand extent of the day; they are isolated to just their friends.
- Wonder is she saw damaged caused by the day if looked at all perspectives.

## **How many people actively participate? Total?**

- One participant felt this was a critical, the percentage of out of town people.
- Doesn't think there was huge participation.
- There are 44,000 people on campus; I think that 40,000 people participated throughout the day.
- Six people alone stayed at my home, they were my brother and his friends.

## **How many people caused trouble?**

- They get drunk and then trouble results/presents itself.
- 234 people caused trouble.
- Problems caused by a small percentage.

## **Do you see this day having much of an impact?**

- Yes, there are other activities that are a detriment to the community, this is just an addition activity, not much different from a big football game, but it is one more additional day of trouble.
- SPD fits into the image people have of Penn State – DO EVERYTHING BIG. Participants asked where the speaker was from, the speaker said Maryland, near DC.
- Penn State dominates, but does anyone see SPD as a price of doing business?
- I don't believe it does, improper behavior and disrespect is not acceptable. It stems from them not realizing they will be here for a short period of time, its disrespect.
- Agrees, other schools have events like this, "We're just borrowing the idea."

## **Do you think this will eventually die out?**

- No, but maybe the focus can be changed. First Night used to be sort of out of control, but now it's a positive thing. Change the idea of what you do on that day. I remember what it was like when I was here, I partied and drank. It wasn't this; it wasn't the destruction of property and assault we are seeing. This is overboard, "they are not just drunk, and they are blasted".
- Look at why we see different rates of assault and damage.
- Roommates' brother and his friends came because you have to come see what happens, see Beaver Avenue, and see the amount of people, crowds. The fact that it is a random day that was student created draws a crowd that wants to be able to say they have been here for that day.
- "Nothing draws a crowd like a crowd". Participant agreed with previous speaker.
- It's like New Year's Eve in Times Square, I see the draw.
- There is an interest of seeing a change of pace. Spring fever is setting in. Mayor Welch created stickers for a day to address this time of year.

## **Did you participate in State Service Day?**

- Two focus group participants participated in State Service Day.
- I was part of a 12 hour community marathon with Kiwanis Club. We did service out in the community and then some in the downtown.
- Participated in Off Campus Student Union's pretzel handout, the pretzels were donated. We got a couple hundred pretzels and handed them out, not just to intoxicated people. It was received very well.
- Don't know the impact of the State Service Day.
- Do you think handing out free food encourages the event? No they will drink anyway.
- We can't shut down the town and issue marshal law.
- Need to examine effective solutions to keep people safe.
- Are stricter punishments necessary? Do people understand the repercussions of their actions and the punishments?
- People aren't aware of the repercussions. Repercussions for parking are clear, not for other violations. If you are intoxicated you will not think about repercussions once you get a few drinks in your body.
- Best solution is education. The community needs to be more outspoken about this event and at other events like it. Penn State and Neighborhoods should be more outspoken. Many participants don't remember the trouble they caused or the things they did that day.
- Make this day into a fun service day. Reward participants for participating in service or give them thank you as reward. How do you get them to not get drunk, just buzzed and participate in something worthwhile?
- My attitude is that "I'm here; I'm going to study hard, work hard, and play hard". That is the culture here and it doesn't change on SPD. Didn't like the idea that opposition to

the day thought about Trademarking SPD so that they could use draconian measures to stop the T-shirt shops from selling SPD shirts. People rebel against the draconian measures.

- Problem is destruction, vandalism, physical violence. These are offensive to me as a resident. That someone would pull a tree out of my yard or urinate in my daisy patch is not as offensive. I can live with the small offenses. They are here to party as you say, but not here to ruin a community.
- I hear from students who never leave downtown. We need to build a relationship with these students before SPD.
- We need to make them pay taxes; I think that is what bothers the residents and why we are uncomfortable with students causing trouble.

### **Do the students that are here today live off-campus or on-campus?**

- I don't live near any permanent residents, it is all students housing.
- Would it make any difference in permanent residents, if we get to know the students? I have heard of things were residents invited students over or introduced themselves, gave them cookies. Students introduced themselves to a neighbor and gave them their parent's phone number and told them to contact them if they thought their music was too loud or if they were a nuisance.
- Most students who get in trouble don't live here.
- Off-campus

### **Are the out of town people making all the trouble?**

- Students invite the trouble makers in.
- It's less of an invitation, and more of the out of towners saying "we're going to come up that weekend, will you house us" It's hard to tell a high school friend, "No, you can't come up and visit me because it is SPD".

### **Will this past year change anything?**

- Not going to make any difference.

### **What if all the bars closed and state stores closed?**

- Facilitator noted how comical it was when people tried to go to the state stores after closing.
- It would have the opposite effect, because bars monitor patrons. In-house parties anything can happen, there are no monitors.

### **Is SPD more dangerous than any other day?**

- Personal perception: Next year will be same as usual. This year didn't seem any more dangerous than what happens every weekend. The most appalling thing I experienced was the actions of the female population. They were drunk, obnoxious, and made me feel uncomfortable. Maybe because I have a daughter?

- If they live close to students they can't complain because the idea is that it's our [students] area. This is how it's going to be. A small percentage of people that make it dangerous.
- I live next to the most obnoxious non-student ever. It's a small percentage.

## **What if Penn State increases sanctions?**

- Don't go out with the mentality that I'm going to go out and get caught for a violation I cause. Have the opinion that you understand you're doing something wrong and just don't want to get caught. It's the Dennis the Menace mentality.
- Need mentorship from older to student to freshman during their first year, specifically it should start during freshman orientation and there should be discussion during orientation on respect for the community.
- Students would benefit from having a meal at a permanent resident's home and getting to know their neighbor.

## **Was the Community Volunteer Day successful?**

- No main focus is the problem. The only thing to do in this town is walk around.
- Student feelings about community walking around.
- Wouldn't have known about it if I wasn't involved.
- Can't they make it the actual St. Patrick's Day?
- SPD is the day that it is because there needed to be an event between THON weekend and Spring Break.

## **If we had more power to deal with trouble maker issues would it be better?**

- 1600 - 1700 students are arrested in one year's time. Penn State now contacts parents for any offense.
- Police Department advocates safety first.

## **What is the consensus of bad behavior?**

- Personally, I don't think underage drinking is a big deal to residents.
- People like to simplify issues into a dichotomy, which isn't always the best way to deal with an issue. Two thirds of crime is alcohol related so drinking plays a large role in crime, vandalism, and victimization
- Increasing penalties won't do much. Students feel like they are invincible, won't get caught
- I feel that in these discussions students are seen as second class citizens, it is as if "student" is code word for foreigner. This topic came up in past meetings. Need to not talk about "students" plural, since they are separate individuals.
  - Are you saying changing the focus and not using the word student would help? Community members always saying student, student, student. Instead we should say "no tolerance for any 'resident' doing these activities.

- Students don't go out looking to act badly. They drink too much and then something happens or catalyzes the situation and the bad thing happens.
- Public urination is just one of the more comical violations, isn't the issue.

**One question we really need to answer tonight is what are one or two things/ideas that you can suggest for next year?**

- Create a cultural event that gives them a reason to be here. When it becomes an all-day thing, that's when the issue arises, but whose going to pay for that? The community will help Penn State pay for a worthwhile event.
- Students need to answer to someone like they do in the fraternities. Reach out to other organizations/groups and create that culture. Work with THON competition.
- We could issue a challenge to student organizations, apartment complexes (Beaver Tower verses Meridian) create some kind of event that all can participate in. "Paint the Town Green" is one idea.
- The numbers are similar for each event, tons of activities are available yet there are issues that still arise.
- Need buy-in for the event, need to have an event that students would already want to go to.
- Community event that involves everybody like a sporting event. Activities that would cater to young professionals since this is a more family oriented town in terms of activities available.
- Young people have to come up with the ideas that target people who are the problem.
- Residents feel uncomfortable going downtown. So we need to address that if we push for events.
- You could have Irish bands play and have it as an Irish heritage event.
- There needs to be some diversion from drinking during the day, like a "Meet Joe Paterno" event, some incentive to go somewhere, do something other than drinking.

**Do you see SPD as a serious problem?**

- Yes because of outsiders coming in - all ages. Concerned that someone will get seriously hurt. "Hit the community and run" - mindset of an outsider.
- Yes. Out of town participation higher this year. They don't see it as their town and they are not going to treat it that way. (That is the problem.)
- Yes but not because of students friends – just random people. Its professionals.
- Yes because the more word gets out, think it will get more serious.
- Yes: anecdote: A woman tapped on her window and asked to come in; let her in; drunk; didn't know where she lived; kept saying you're in a strange person's house. Took home. These circumstances are very concerning and I don't know what to do.
- Yes. Been in contact with neighbors that have stories. People come into town without bringing anything. This type of person doesn't care about consequences.
- Work toward SPD and promote consequences through social media

## **Do most PSU Students participate in SPD?**

- All say yes.

## **How are non PSU students finding out and being motivated to participate?**

- Facebook and word of mouth. Increases every year. 10,000 - 30,000.
- Was in Philadelphia Inquirer- advertised as this big celebration with events and Irish pride.
- People come up expecting an event but it didn't happen. No event created just drunk people.
- Events on Facebook spread. Why? Because on Facebook you might be friends with people you don't even talk to anymore and it shows up in your newsfeed.
- Irresponsible drinking is caused because there is nothing else to do. Start drinking in the morning because there is nothing else to do.

## **What are barriers to solving SPD?**

- Find a unified front between students and community members. You're going to have to use small goals to achieve a bigger one.
- Participants don't understand how difficult it is on residents. Residents are tired of parties.
- President Graham Spanier discouraging SPD - "this doesn't represent PSU".
- Arrest records show that it is not a student problem; it is much larger than a football weekend.
- Its downtown and not on campus so residents see it more.
- During football weekends there is ownership - not at St. Patty's Day. People don't have affiliation with the town.
- Students feel like they have the right because it's like every other weekend.
- Participants in SPD are young and immature. Because of this, it's going to happen.
- Find a way to work together so students aren't defensive.
- Make students aware of what residents think about SPD. Effective communication.
- Hearing stories are more effective than stats.
- Social media isn't telling the whole story.
- Really liked bars shutting down and how involved the community was.
- Spectrum of students - some are going to parties no matter what. We need to target students in middle.
- Because it's not a real holiday, the date can change easily. Advertise it as a PSU event so outsiders don't come in.
- Do a parent's weekend every semester spring weekend on SPD. There were PSU open houses that weekend.

## **What alternatives to encourage?**

- Tough because it's cold.
- Something inside.
- Basketball game, indoor event.
- Something advertised positively.

## **What is our role in addressing SPD?**

- Won't stop until someone gets hurt.
- One key is sneaking past students, have a concert you can't drink at. Beat them to it.
- Stop newer generation is possible but alumni will come back because it's "their" weekend. It's here for the foreseeable future. How to dull down.
- It's not the bar associations, it's the PLCB. Would like to see it prioritized vs. bars closing. Some closing and some not created fiasco. At least at bars you can control it. More regulation/fraternities need to shut it down. That's great to show support but really all it does is get more private parties. That equals chaos.
- You have to spread out activity and bars shutting down works because it pisses off those who are outsiders leading them not to come back. That should be a factor in decision making next year.
- They need to be closed all day, early statement. "If this is created, we will all close". Ban together. Better press. Onward State gave negative press.
- Slow down the consumption. Things like State Service Day or CVD will continue to break down consumption. People may have still participated but it still helps break up the flow. Alternatives have to come from students. Feels like students get the door shut on them.
- Distributed pretzels - Showing you could party smart. Broke down the alcohol.
- Show them the other side of how this is perceived. This is negative press for cuts. Things like this give people a reason to put higher education on the chopping block. Find ways to see the other side. They are making fools of you. Domino effect.

## **What are your suggestions for next SPD?**

- Talk to students early. Keep it very local. "Have fun but be responsible" should be the message. People were being extra rebellious for being cracked down on. Make more opportunities available. Invite them to something for example a dinner - bring them onto your side.
- Not sure if I'd want to be a person who walks around for CVD. Little effects.
- Decide what we want and stick to it. Do we want bars open? Do we want this or that? I want to see rules. Want to see it treated like someone's home. Don't cross the line so much. Want to see it more of a middle ground.
- You have to go one way or another enforcement wise and don't back down. You can't pick and choose. You have to stand ground.
- IFC needs to have more publicized speech or endorsement of anti SPD.

- Please try to get Collegian and Onward State on our side. Boycott but must be done well in advance. Once preview of clothing and gear is available it's too late. Tackle this and know what you're doing before it is too late.
- CVD could be enabling. Could turn into "Oh well rather run into a friendly neighbor". Community policing though is too harsh. Get judicial affairs involved.
- Worried PSU is struggling to get students. They aren't going to crack down if they are struggling with student enrollment. "Are they the number one party school because they are PSU or are they PSU because they are number one at partying". They are in a tough spot.
- Dry campus - Finally dry dorms. Can help.
- Regulatory process - focus. Community gives opportunities to tie it all together. Has to be working in conjunction.

***XI. Parking***

Department	Total Expense	Normal Revenue	SPD 2010 Rev	SPD 2011 Rev	SPD Y2Y
Parking Enforcement	(\$4,341)	\$4,346	\$11,953	\$34,805	\$22,852
Parking Garage	(\$2,620)	\$5,601	\$14,435	\$47,692	\$33,257
<b>Total</b>	<b>(\$6,961)</b>	<b>\$9,947</b>	<b>\$26,388</b>	<b>\$82,497</b>	<b>\$56,109</b>

**Parking Garages**

In 2010 the parking garages operated “as normal” with no additional staff and normal rates. In 2011 the Borough added staff and increased the rates in the parking structures to diminish the demand and to also cover the additional cost to the Borough for the SPD weekend. The rates structure was:

1 to 3 hrs.	\$ .75/hr.
Each Additional Hour.	\$1.75/hr.
Daily Max	\$26

The parking garage rates were structured in a way to keep the parking rates normal for the first 3 hours to encourage short term trips to the downtown and to not adversely affect the typical users of the parking garages on a normal Saturday. There were 734 parking charges that fell into the 3 hours or less rate band or 30% of the 2,469 vehicles that parked during this time.

On a normal weekend the parking garages generate an average of \$5,601 in revenue. The 2010 SPD revenues, with no rate increase, generated \$14,435. In 2011, with the new rate structure in place, the garages generated \$47,692. The Year to Year increase was \$33,257.

Normal Weekend	\$5,601
SPD 2010	\$14,435
Arts Festival 2010	\$62,980
Highest Grossing 2010 PSU Home Football Weekend	\$50,331
SPD 2011	\$47,692

There were also 100 spaces in the Beaver Garage that were held on Friday afternoon and were not released until Saturday afternoon. This was done to help provide spaces to downtown employees and customers due to the SPD 2010 volume overwhelming the off-street parking system on that Friday.

## **Parking Enforcement**

In 2010 the parking enforcement division made no operational changes. In 2011 extra staff was added due to the overwhelming number of illegally parked cars during the 2010 SPD. One additional PEO was assigned to the 2 AM to 6 AM shift on Saturday morning and three PEO's were added during the day on Saturday. On Sunday morning, due to the two PEO's inability to cover 100% of the Borough during the 2 AM to 6 AM shift the previous night, we added a 3<sup>rd</sup> PEO to this shift. A Sunday morning shift was also added from 7 AM to 3 PM to issue "Lawn Parking" violations and "No Parking Anytime" violations. PEO's issued 1,871 parking violations in 2011. That was an increase of 882 over the 2010 SPD total of 989. These parking violations equate to an issued value of \$34,805. On a typical weekend the issued amount averages \$4,346.

Also in 2011, vehicles were towed that were in violation for two PA State Vehicle Code laws, which were "Obstructing Traffic" or "Blocking a Fire Hydrant". These 2 violations are considered to be an immediate concern to public safety and a total of 21 vehicles were towed. We did not tow cars during the 2010 SPD.

***XII. State College Borough Financial Impact***

General Fund	Amount	Parking Fund	Amount	Refuse Fund	Amount
<b>REVENUES:</b>		<b>REVENUES:</b>		<b>REVENUES:</b>	
Parking Enforcement	\$22,852	Parking Garage	\$33,257		
<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$22,852</b>	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$33,257</b>	<b>TOTAL REVENUE</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>EXPENSES:</b>		<b>EXPENSES:</b>		<b>EXPENSES:</b>	
Parking Enforcement Labor	(\$4,341)	Additional Labor	(\$753)	Dumpster Collection	(\$6,372)
Street Sweeping	(\$2,077)	Snow/Ice Removal	(\$365)	Residential Collection	(\$1,774)
Sign Repair	(\$800)	Graffiti Removal	(\$772)	Street Container	(\$714)
Tree Repair	(\$772)	Signs	(\$370)	Bulk Item Collections	(\$1,821)
Custodial	(\$772)				
SCPD	(\$18,700)				
Ordinance Enforcement	(\$563)				
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(\$28,024)</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(\$2,260)</b>	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>(\$10,682)</b>
<b>Add/Use</b>	<b>(\$5,172)</b>	<b>Add/Use</b>	<b>\$30,997</b>	<b>Add/Use</b>	<b>(\$10,682)</b>
<b>Total Revenue Impact</b>	<b>\$15,144</b>				

The table above shows the three (3) State College Borough Funds impacted by the events surrounding the Penn State student created holiday of SPD.

The General Fund had the most expenses related to SPD, totaling \$28,024. The majority of that expense, \$18,700, was for the additional Police personnel needed to manage the SPD events. Most of the General Fund expenses were offset by the increase in parking ticket revenues. There are additional revenues that will be realized from the citations issued by the Police, but that information is not available at this time.

The Parking Fund realized an increase of fund balance in the amount of \$30,997 due to the parking rate increase.

The Refuse Fund had expenses totaling \$10,682 to handle the excess waste that is created from the SPD events.