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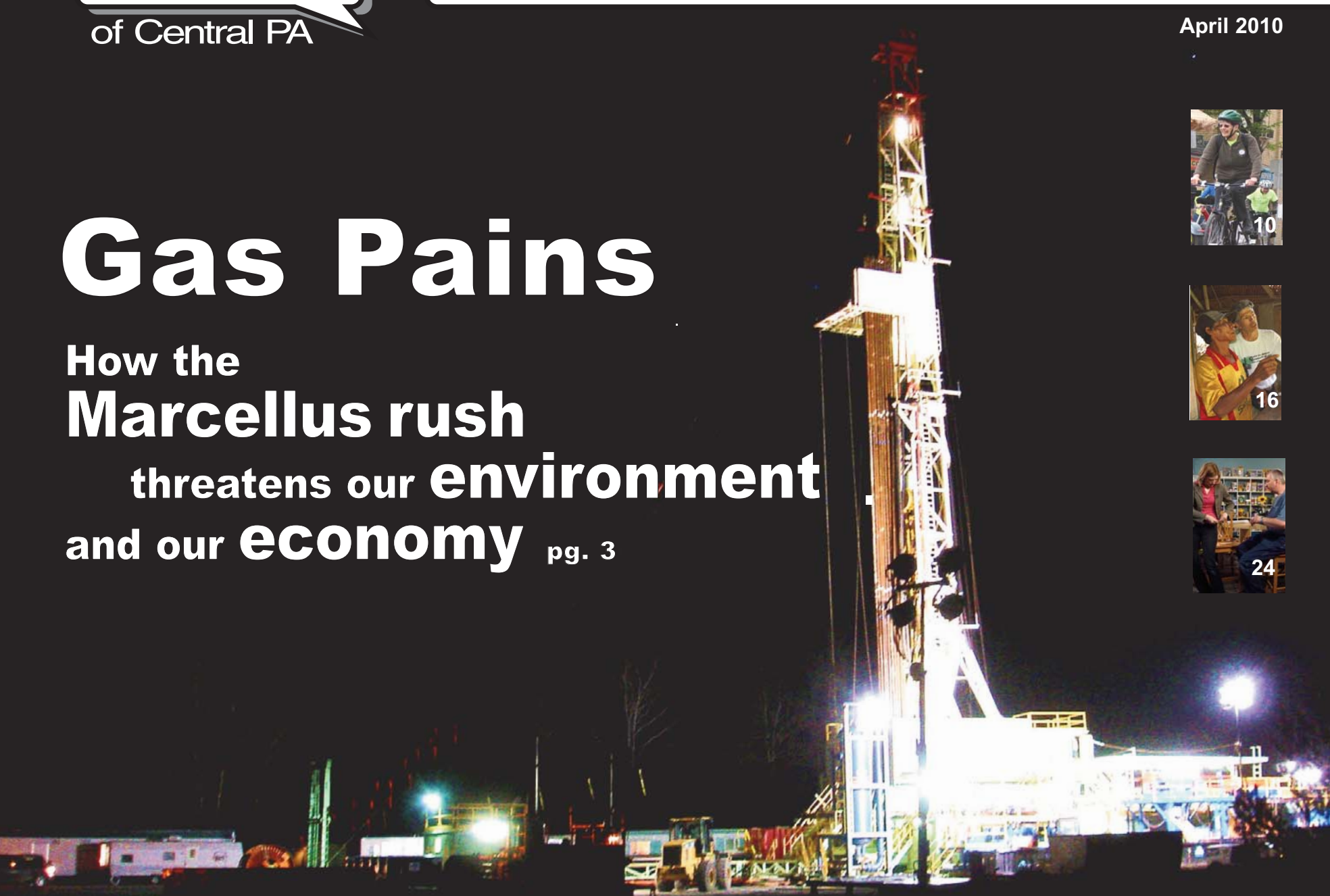
Columns, Sudoku, Cartoon

**Celebrate Earth Day's
40th Anniversary April 22!**

April 2010

Gas Pains

How the
Marcellus rush
threatens our **environment**
and our **economy** pg. 3



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April 2010

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Earth Day and evolution at Voices

It's April and Spring is poking her head around the corner, teasing us with some warm days, cool nights and plenty of rain.

It's also time to celebrate Earth Day and appreciate the ground we walk on, the air we breathe and the water we drink. That's why this month we dedicate our cover story to the drilling commencing in the Marcellus shale all across Pennsylvania. This story by Hannah Abelbeck focuses on the environmental damage that many residents have already experienced from gas drilling, and what we can expect to see in Centre County as the industry moves here.

Here's the scariest part: People who looked forward to the jobs and prosperity drilling would bring are just one year later struggling with now-worthless houses and contaminated drinking water. Who knows what long-term health effects they and their children will suffer? No one, unless real regulation gets implemented soon.

from the desk of managing editor

Suzan Erem

In our effort to celebrate Earth Day we covered environmental topics in almost every section. We hope you enjoy the effort.

I want to thank everyone who celebrated our 17th year at our Fun!Raiser last month too. We didn't even know it was Progressive of the Year winner Mary Vollero's favorite food and music! Thank you everyone who donated raffle prizes and door prizes. (We didn't give them all out, but saved some for other Voices gatherings throughout the year. Don't worry – they will go to a good cause!)

In the spirit of all things earthly, Voices continues to evolve. At our gathering that night Art Goldschmidt announced he would be stepping down as Voices board president though still serving a critical function on the board, and I announced that my commitment to Voices will end in the summer of 2011. This gives everyone who reads Voices the opportunity to find my replacement, and/or to find the funds that would lure someone to take the job. I've had, and am still having, a great time running this wonderful paper. Every day new volunteers arrive and give me faith in this community, but fresh voices and new approaches will be long overdue by

then!

So please, be a part of helping Voices keep going strong for the next 20 years. Volunteer and learn a new skill, include us in your estate planning, use our Web calendar, advertise your next event with us, name us as a beneficiary on a life insurance policy, talk to local restaurants about hosting a "Voices Night," send students and others to us for training, chat us up on Facebook and "friend" us there: do whatever you can think of to help build depth in the bench and keep Voices alive. It has always been a group effort, and for Voices to keep its soul, it always will be.

Please contact us with any ideas at all at voices@voicesweb.org and let us know what piece you're willing to take on. We have jobs of all sizes and shapes!

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