



You are invited to be a member of our studio audience for the live broadcast of State of Pennsylvania, hosted by WVIA correspondent, Suzanne Kelly

Topic:

Northeastern Pennsylvania's Dead Man Talking

Guest:

Dr. Jay C. Smith

Jay Smith spent six years on Pennsylvania's death row and lived to tell about it.

Thursday, February 12, 2009
7:00 p.m.

WVIA Theater Studio
100 WVIA Way
Pittston

Seating is free and open to the public.
RSVP to kathryndavies@wvia.org
or call 570-602-1150

The Main Line Murders

In 1986, Smith was convicted for the murders of Upper Merion High School teacher, Susan Reinert, and her children, Karen, age 11, and Michael, age 10. Susan Reinert's badly beaten body was found stuffed in the trunk of her car.

Her children were never found.

The murders and subsequent trial were the subject of the best selling book, "Echoes in the Darkness", by Joseph Wambaugh. The book later became a television mini-series.

It was later discovered that evidence had been hidden from Smith's attorney, William C. Costopoulos. Costopoulos petitioned the Pennsylvania State Supreme Court to hear Smith's case. The Court declared that the prosecution had violated "all principles of justice and fairness." One justice asked, "Aren't we dealing here with evil motives of the prosecution?" That evening, Jay C. Smith was a free man.