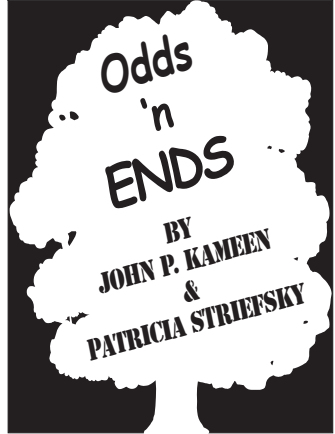


THE FOREST CITY NEWS



Susq. County Commissioner Maryann Warren read our item in the Vandling Council article last week about Vandling Seniors feeling unserved by the Lackawanna County Aging Services. She has contacted authorities in Lackawanna County and is seeking to have them better advertise what services they have available to Vandling people.

It was another successful Steamtown Marathon leaving from FCR School Sunday morning. Despite the ongoing construction there, almost 1,800 runners safely followed the cannon blast into town and onward to Scranton. It was a little warmer and more humid than runners like, but the Fall foliage was beautiful on the mountain and along the route. Hats off to the school personnel, students and volunteers for making this a signature event for our town. Good job also to the Rotary Club for their Sunday morning breakfast at Elegante.

There are still ticks around. Just a few hours in the woods last week and I found one on my neck. They can cause insidious illnesses. Even if you are just out in the grass, or walking your pet, check yourself out. It takes only a minute.

A big thank you to Angel Kropiewicki, and all her volunteers, for Ark Fest Sunday which raised money for our local fire victims. All it takes is one interested person, even if it's a 15-year-old, to do something good for their community. A good time was had by all who attended.

Our condolences to Mary Seprosky on the death of her husband, Joe, after a long illness. Friendly Joe was a dedicated worker at Ascension parish for a number of years before his illness. He worked before that at RCA, Dunmore. His funeral Mass was said by six priests - Father Clark, Father Albert, Father Sitko, Father Horanzi, Father Wasnock and his cousin, Father Wysocki. Our sympathy also to his son, Dr. Joseph, and his sister Cecelia.

Wivey's Golf League longtime secretary Joe Machek recently got a standing ovation from members at the end-of-season meeting for his more than 40 years of handling schedules, handicaps and scores for the golf league. Joe is a retired math teacher and his mathematical abilities come in handy fielding the abuse of those contesting their handicaps. He can also still golf, making the quarter finals of the league playoffs.

Fire debris is gradually disappearing from the 500 block. Have heard of several ideas for the three lots there.

A scammer called an area resident pretending to be the person's grandson in need of help. They obviously called the wrong person since she didn't have a grandson. This is an old trick but please be aware it is still around.

Herrick Twp. asked to sponsor radio frequency

by Theresa Opeka

The Herrick Township Supervisors held their regular monthly meeting on Monday, October 2. Supervisor Elliot Ross said the Planning Commission approved the conditional use permit for the Ryan Brown property that allows for automotive repair.

About 2.42 inches of rain fell for the month of September. Township EMA Coordinator Andy Belcher said the township is still in need of an assistant EMA Coordinator.

Ross said the township was asked by Don Evans with Pleasant Mount Emergency Services if they would be interested in sponsoring a radio frequency. He asked Belcher to look into it. The township owns radios and rents space out each month. Belcher said there is room on Elk Mountain and Belmont. The township would need to apply for an FCC license.

In old business, a resolution in support of congressional redistricting was passed. The Liquid Fuels Audit for 2016 had no issues.

In new business, PennDOT advised the township the estimated 2018 Liquid Fuels allocation is \$92,259.56. The figure is based on mileage and population.

The township received \$155.72 from PURTA or Public Utility Realty Tax for 2016 for tax exempt properties.

Nancy Ross said her road is in great shape but she asked for bigger stone on the sides of the road because people can get into accidents. Elliot Ross said it was on the agenda and something will be done.

Don Edwards thanked the supervisors for fixing the potholes on Lowe Lake Road.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, November 6 at 7pm.

Drug Take Back program in Forest City Sat., Oct. 28

On Saturday, October 28 from 10 AM to 2 PM the Forest City Police and the Drug Enforcement Administration will give the public its 14th opportunity in 7 years to prevent pill abuse and theft by ridding their homes of potentially dangerous expired, unused, and unwanted prescription drugs. Bring your pills for disposal to Forest City Area Emergency Services at 380 Railroad St., Forest City, PA. (The DEA cannot accept liquids or needles or sharps, or pills or patches). The service is free and anonymous, no questions asked.

Last April, Americans turned in 450 tons (900,000 pounds) of prescription drugs at almost 5,500 sites operated by the DEA and more than 4,200 of its state and local law enforcement partners. Overall, in its 13 previous Take Back events, DEA and its partners have taken in over 8.1 million pounds-more than 4,050 tons of pills.

This initiative addresses a vital public safety and public health issue. Medicines that languish in home cabinets are highly susceptible to diversion, misuse, and abuse. Rates of prescription drug

abuse in the U.S. are alarmingly high, as are the number of accidental poisonings and overdoses due to these drugs. Studies show that a majority of abused prescription drugs are obtained from family and friends, including from the home medicine cabinet. In addition, Americans are now advised that their usual methods for disposing of unused medicines-flushing down the toilet or throwing them in the trash-both pose potential safety and health hazards.

For more information about the disposal of prescription drugs or about the October 28 Take Back Day event, go to the [DEA Diversion Website](#).

Trunk or Treat In Vandling Tues., Oct. 31

Vandling will hold a Trunk or Treat on Halloween, October 31 from 4 PM to 7 PM at the Vandling Baseball Field. There will be a DJ and a magician. Hot dogs, hamburgers, popcorn and cotton candy will be available.

Residents can bring their car filled with candy to give out the trick or treaters.

Linde Corporation has graciously donated the use of two light plants for the event.

Vandling Borough obtained a \$500 grant from Lackawanna County for the event.

Trick or Treating will still be held in Vandling that same night from 6 PM to 8 PM.

Trick or Treat In Forest City Tues., Oct. 31

Mayor Pauline Wilcox has set Tuesday, Oct. 31, from 6 to 9PM for Forest City Trick or Treating.

Trunk/Treat Oct. 27 in Forest City

Mayor Pauline Wilcox announced that Forest City's Main Street Trunk or Treat will be Friday, Oct. 27 from 4:30 to 6:30PM

Haunted House Spano Bldg. Oct. 26-27

Forest City Regional School and Forest City Borough will have a Haunted House in the Spano Bldg., across from the Borough Building, on Thursday, Oct. 26 from 6 to 9PM, and on Friday, Oct. 27 from 6:30 to 9:30PM.

Emergency Services Honored for Fire Response



Forest City's Emergency Services consisting of the Fire Department and Ambulance, were honored for their services and response to the three major fires in Forest City Borough this year. Mayor Pauline Wilcox presented a plaque at the Oct. 2 Council meeting. Shown from left, Captain Kerrie Henderson, Forest City Area Ambulance; Paul Lukus, Forest City Fire Chief; Michael Wilcox, Forest City Junior Fireman, and Mayor Wilcox.

County Waste gets trash contract; Will distribute cans by Nov. 1st

No decision yet on how \$168 fee will be collected

As we reported last week, Forest City Council confirmed the hiring of County Waste as its waste hauler at the Oct. 2nd meeting. However they did not formalize the annual cost or whether it would be placed on sewer bills or on the yearly tax bill. That decision will be made at the Nov. 6 meeting.

All local homes and apartments will pay approximately \$168 annually.

County Waste will distribute a 95 gallon waste and recycling container to each local dwelling by Nov. 1st. The first pickup will probably be around that date.

County Waste will pick up waste and recycling, as well as one bulk item, each week. Recycling may be mixed including paper, cardboard, glass, metal and plastic.

Solicitor Paul Smith told Council that it might not be able to add an extra fee to the

\$168 annual cost.. Council considered adding 10% to cover future delinquencies but Smith said the town may have to wait until delinquencies actually occur.

One of the pay plans discussed would have \$14.00 added to each sewer bill from Nov. 1, 2017 to March 1, of 2018. The remainder of the fee would then be put on the Borough tax bill which goes out in March.

Smith stressed that putting the fee on the tax bill almost insured that it would be paid thus avoiding prolonged delinquencies. He saw adding it on the sewer bill as providing an avenue for non-payment and more difficult collection of delinquencies.

The new trash ordinance to be passed at the Nov. 6 meeting will state that the payment is the responsibility of the property owner. If there is a four unit apartment

building, each apartment will be assessed the \$168 annual fee.

Commercial and business entities will not have to have their trash picked up by County Waste and would not have to pay the \$168 fee. They can contract with any authorized hauler to handle their trash.

Apartment buildings would not be allowed to have dumpsters. However the present Borough dumpster ordinance would still allow dumpsters to be secured for construction debris.

The vote for County Waste was 5-2 with Council member Nick Cost and Bernie Scalzo in favor of keeping the bag system. Cost said the bag system was fairer to senior citizens and those with little weekly trash.

Handling of unused Borough trash bags was not decided.

Fritz resolution wants drilling stoppage halted

A resolution introduced by Rep. Jonathan Fritz (R-Susquehanna/Wayne) urging the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) to cease consideration of a ban on natural gas drilling in the Delaware River Basin passed the House Environmental Resources and Energy Committee recently.

Gov. Tom Wolf announced that his administration officially supports a permanent ban on natural gas drilling within the DRBC footprint. As a member of the DRBC, Wolf cast an official vote, confirming his position.

The Delaware River Basin Commission has introduced a resolution banning natural gas development within the 13,539 square-mile basin, effectively prohibiting drilling in Wayne and Pike counties.

"It boils down to fairness," said Rep. Fritz. "With 10,000 natural gas wells elsewhere in the state, it begs the question, how can it be done safely in other basins, but it's gauged as too risky in the Delaware River Basin?" There is a very evident double standard here. Government, without the soundest of justification, should not put permanent bans in place. Doing so can have profound precedential, programmatic and legal consequences."

Fritz's resolution will now be considered by the full House.

Forest City Lions Club Breakfast Oct. 29

The Forest City Lions Club will hold a Pancake, Sausage, and Egg Breakfast on October 29th from 8:00 am to noon at Elegante Restaurant, Main Street, Forest City. Adults \$6.00, Children under 12 - \$3.00. Come out and Support Your Local Lions Club.

FC Mayor only empty slot on ballot; Woman seeking Council write-in

Forest City's election ballot will have four candidates listed for the four Council spots and will have one candidate each for Tax Collector, Judge of Election and Inspector of Election.

The question mark will be the empty spot for a Mayor candidate, however at the present time, a local woman announced her intentions to seek the mayoralty on write-ins.

The mayoralty candidate is Jen Boyd, 145 Center Street. Jen is an EMT and the daughter of local EMT captain Kerrie Henderson.

With four Council spots open and four candidates on the ballot it appears two incumbents and two newcomers could dominate balloting but a local woman has announced a write-in effort to

Arrest made In Death at Thompson

Cassandra Mercincavage, Thompson, is in Susquehanna County Jail charged with the death of Robert W. Hubal, age 49, Potter Hill Rd., Thompson.

It appears from investigation that he was shot at his home on Tuesday, Sept. 26, but was not discovered by family members until Sunday, Oct. 1st.

Mercincavage had been living with Hubal. Hubal's Dodge pickup was missing and later spotted in Scranton. That led to finding Mercincavage in a Moosic hotel. The truck was found abandoned nearby.

Investigation is by the Pennsylvania State Police, Susquehanna County District Attorney's office and County Coroner.

Mercincavage was charged with one count of criminal homicide and was arraigned by District Justice Jodi Corder, New Milford.

upset one of the candidates.

Incumbents Robert Lesjack and Chris DeGonzague have the first two positions on the ballot while newcomers, Amy Bean and Tracey Lazier, fill out the slate. All four won nominations on both Republican and Democrat Primary ballots.

The local woman seeking a Council upset is Rachel Habetler, 428 Delaware Street. She said she is a registered Independent and lists her occupation as an administrative assistant.

The News will carry election announcements of the write-in candidates

Whichever four candidates have the highest vote totals will be members of the 2018 Council.

Pamela Franceski Green, the present tax collector, is the only candidate for that job.

For election Board posts, Roberta Barnes is the single candidate for re-election to the job she now holds, while Carole Kameen is seeking re-election as Inspector of Election.

The election will be Tuesday, Nov. 7th. Oct. 10 was the last day to register for this election. Oct. 31 is the last day to apply for an absentee ballot. Forms for absentee ballots are available at the News Office.

Free luncheon at Christ Church

The Stone Soup Kitchen at Christ Church will hold its FREE Community Luncheon at Christ Episcopal Church, corner of Delaware and Dundaff Streets, Forest City, on Saturday, Oct. 28, from noon to 1:30 p.m. Bring your family and friends. Share a hearty lunch

