

THE FOREST CITY NEWS

**Odds
'n
ENDS**
by
**John P. Kanneen
& Patricia Strzelski**

And a Happy Valentine's Day to all. May your days on earth be many; may your life be free from strife, and may God walk beside you, every day of your life.

It was very good news for Forest City Borough last week that a state grant of \$273,000 was awarded to replace the sidewalks on the east side of Main Street. Main Street businesses hope that enough was learned during the previous sidewalk project to avoid the disruption caused to local businesses during the last construction.

As bad as the past weeks have been, the amount of snow this winter is actually less than average. Not must consolation. Its been better for snowmobilers who were restricted the past two years, except for last year's March blizzard which didn't last that long. We have heard from Snow Birds that this has not been a warm winter down south. Florida has often been in the 40s and 50s, while southern states have seen ice, snow and low temps.

Good job by Bob Tedesco and Wally Miller on FC roads. They've had some long days. Most Main St. businesses have done a good job on sidewalks. We all have to deal with snow, slush and ice from the state plows but we realize the snow from Rte. 171 has to be put somewhere. Thankfully Bud Kilpatrick Excavating hauled the snow piles away starting Thursday night since the Main Street was one-way traffic in spots.

The local plowing contractors have also been busy during the night. It is amazing to go thru town at 7AM and see how many lots and sidewalks are already cleared.

We again remind former residents who get our paper to put Aug. 4 on their vacation calendar for the Trail Town Fest. A meeting to make further plans will be Thursday, Feb. 22 at 8:30 AM at Shirley's Diner.

A few more thoughts for old timers: I thought growing old would take longer.

Growing old is hard work...The mind says "go" but the body says "what were you thinking?"

Sometimes the first step toward forgiveness is realizing the other person was born an idiot.

How many boxes of Thin Mints do I have to eat before I start seeing results?

A bed is a magical place where you suddenly remember everything you were supposed to do that day.

Subscriber Ed Volk supplied us these facts about Mother Earth: Coldest temperature recorded on earth—minus 135.8 degrees Fahrenheit on the East Antarctic Plateau in August 2010.; Highest point on earth—Mount Everest, Nepal, 29,029 feet; Lowest point on earth—Challenger Deep Trench part of the Mariana's Trench in the Pacific Ocean 35,797 feet deep.

New Clock for Borough



Forest City Council President Nick Cost displays a new clock received as a gift from the Pennsylvania Association of Boroughs. Council also received a plaque from the Pennsylvania One Call system for its cooperation with the system which helps to prevent damage to underground facilities such as gas, water and electric lines.

Forest City Senior Center Open House Thurs., Feb. 15

The Forest City Senior Center, located at 535 Main Street in Forest City, will host an Open House event February 15 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. The Open House will showcase some recently finished improvements, and all are welcome to attend. Light refreshments will be provided, door prizes will be awarded to attendees, and a basket raffle fundraiser benefiting activities of the Forest City Senior Center will take place. In the event that the center is closed due to inclement weather, the Open House will be held on February 23 from 1:00pm to 4:00pm. For more information please call the Forest City Senior Center at 570-785-3386.

The B/S/S/T Area Agency on Aging, Inc. is funded in part by the Pennsylvania Department of Aging; the United Way of Bradford County; the Lycoming County United Way; the United Way of Susquehanna County and the Bradford, Sullivan, Susquehanna, and Tioga County Commissioners. For additional information on Area Agency on Aging services, please call 1-800-982-4346.

Code officer Issues report

Forest City Code Enforcement Officer Stephanie Reisch issue a detailed work report for January which included the demolition of the fire-damaged home at 746 Delaware St.

She also listed code issues with snow removal on Main St. and dumpsters used around town. Any dumpsters placed on Borough Streets require a \$25 permit from the Borough. There is no charge for dumpster placed on private property.

Rules about Main Street snow removal are posted on the town's website.

Efforts are also underway to enforce the junk vehicle ordinance, as well as the required inspections of rental residences. Twenty letters have been sent out to landlords. She noted that some inspections have found deficient living conditions.

Sprint seeks Ken. Park Cell tower

Sprint System is seeking to lease a place for a cell phone tower in Kennedy Park. The proposal asks to replace one of the Little League light poles with a 120 foot metal pole with Sprint antennas at the top. They would pay \$800 per month to rent the location.

Council suggested that a location near the Borough garage off Rte. 247 west of Forest City might be a better location. Council will meet with the Sprint representative before making any recommendations to Council.

Smart Meters Questioned At Herrick

Concerns about PPL Smart Meters were brought to the Feb. 5 meeting of Herrick Twp. Supervisors.

Wayne Chudleigh brought up concerns about smart meters being installed by PPL. He said there were cases in other states where houses burned down soon after they were installed improperly and there are also health issues including cancer, heart issues and insomnia.

Chudleigh also said the state legislature isn't voting on an opt-out provision like other states have for the state law that is forcing PPL and other power companies to install them.

He said people should contact their representatives and voice their concerns. Supervisor Elliot Ross said they can draft a letter and have it ready for next month's meeting and also mentioned options like petitions that can be found online.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, March 5 at 7pm.

Ind. Park No Parking Is tabled

An ordinance to institute No Parking on the road, cul-de-sacs and shoulders of Commerce Blvd. in the VISION 2000 Industrial Park was tabled at the Feb. 5 Forest City Council meeting.

Representatives of Greater Forest City Industries Inc. asked Council not to pass the law since the Park was bought and developed with state and federal funds and has no tenants at this time.

Pres. Bob McGraw stated that the Park has no traffic and area residents should be allowed to park there in order to walk their dogs, bring their children biking and for snowmobiling and other allowable public purposes.

GFCI said they have not experienced any problems in the Park since it was built over ten years ago.

Council President Nick Cost said that as of now there is not a parking ban in the Park.

Hearing Board New members Are named

Forest City Council received volunteers for non-Council members to serve on a Hearing Board to listen to disputes arising from sewer, garbage and code enforcement problems.

The following were in attendance at the Feb. 5 Council meeting and agreed to serve: Rachel Habetler, Thomas MckOenna and Anthony Del'Aquila. Robert DeGonzague was named as alternate.

FCR Elementary Junior Drama Club DATES CHANGED TO FEBRUARY 23 & 25



The Forest City Regional Elementary Junior Drama Club will be performing the comedy "Superheroes Unite!" this winter. In the play, the citizens of Nova City need a patron superhero to save them from the evil clutches of the nefarious Colonel Mustard and his sidekick Hemlock. So what do they do? They hold an audition, of course! Legions of fantastic, incredible, and uncanny characters descend upon City Hall hoping the mayor and police commissioner might marvel at their strange powers, which range from super strength to super speed, from mind reading to animal whispering, from quoting Shakespeare to pointing out irony. Okay, so some superpowers are more helpful than others, but when Colonel Mustard unleashes a surprise attack on City Hall, both the mighty and the average must join together to bring justice and security to Nova City! Due to the weather, the performances will now take place on Friday, February 23 at 7:00 pm and Sunday, February 25 at 3:00 pm. Both performances will take place in the Forest City Regional Auditorium. Admission is \$3 for Adults, \$2 for Students and Senior Citizens, and Free for Children Age 3 and Under.

Pictured above, superheroes Tempo (Arcadia Houman), Allegro (Emily Matoushek), and Irony Maiden (Ashley Bossick) rescue the "damsel in distress" Corvetta L'Orange (Breanna Howe) while being interviewed by the News Reporter (Mehlayia St. Hilaire), Cameraman (Austin Johnson), and Deputy Mayor Schneedle (Caleb Brown.)

Herrick sets up two zones for Advanced Life Support Coverage Closest available ALS Units to be called

by Theresa Opeka

A change in the existing ALS (Advanced Life Support) designation resolution occurred at the Monday, February 5 meeting of the Herrick Township Supervisors. Supervisor/Secretary Nancy Harvatine, township Emergency Management Coordinator Andy Belcher, and officials from Susquehanna County 911, Pleasant Mount Emergency Services, Barnes-Kasson EMS and Cottage Hose EMS met on January 29 to discuss ALS coverage for the township.

It was agreed that the following changes be recommended to the supervisors to better serve the township: Change the current resolution for ALS coverage from Lackawanna County to the closest available ALS with the following guidelines:

All motor vehicle accidents with confirmed injuries, 2 ALS units will be sent to the scene; Any critical pediatric emergency will get 2 ALS units dispatched to the scene; NEW ZONES

The township will be divided into 2 zones, north and south - North - Old Newburg Turnpike from Gibson Township to Route 374 and north of 374 will be dispatched as follows based on availability - Barnes-Kasson ALS first, Cottage Hose ALS second, using Wayne County 911 Dispatch, third is next closest available using Lackawanna County - South - Route 374 Dimock Corners to Route 371 and the Wayne County line south will be designated based on availability, Cottage Hose ALS first, dispatched by Wayne County 911. Second, Barnes-Kasson ALS and

third is next closest available using Lackawanna County.

ELK MOUNTAIN

For Elk Mountain during the winter business hours of operation, all ALS will be closest available from Lackawanna County, Cottage, primary or closest available. Back up is Barnes-Kasson if no units are available. Off season would refer to the south zone guidelines.

NEEDS APPROVAL

Once the resolution is passed, the township will ask Pleasant Mount Emergency Services Captain and Fire Chief to sign off on changes and correct the box alarms with Susquehanna County. Belcher said if there is a critical case, both units may come from each direction. All voted in favor of changing the resolution. Resolution passed.

\$273,000 Sidewalk Grant is Awarded

The long-awaited announcement of the awarding of state grant to complete Forest City's Main Street sidewalks came last Thursday from State Rep. Jonathan Fritz.

The PennDOT Multimodal Transportation Fund will provide \$273,000 for a streetscape project along the east side of 400, 500 and 600 blocks of Main Street.

Work will include replacement of concrete sidewalks, and installation of pavers, shade trees and decorative period lighting.

The work will complete a project begun by Council some four years ago and resulted in the new sidewalks on the west side of Main Street.

Council will also install decorative lighting on the west side of the street for which concrete bases and electric lines were installed during the previous sidewalk project.

Yucca flats Reclamation Looked at

The mine-scarred area, known as Yucca Flats, located between Forest city and Browndale, is again under consideration for an abandoned mine reclamation project. In order to allow planning to go forward, Borough Council signed a "Right of Entry Agreement" on Feb. 5.

The agreement would allow the Office of Surface Mining to enter and conduct the project for the benefit of the owner and the general public.

The project was originally contemplated in 2015 and appears to involve returning the Lackawanna River to its original water course. Over the years the river has strayed from its original river bed and has twisted, turned and spread out over the mine spoil area.

Other details of the project including cost and a timetable were not part of the agreement signed by the Borough.

Council hires New building Inspectors

Forest City Council hired BIU as the Company to provide building permits and conduct building inspections and rental unit inspections.

The previous company, Code Inspections, Inc. of Du-shore, PA, terminated its contract with Forest City in January.

Any questions on building permits can be directed to the Borough Office at 570-785-3326.

Nature Discovery Hike Feb. 17

A nature discovery hike with retired forester Jim Kessler on Sat., Feb. 17, at 1 p.m. will be held on the Rail-Trail. Focus will be on evergreen plants and animal track identification. Meet at Rail-Trail office at 948 N. Main St., Union Dale. RSVP to reserve snow shoes at Trails@nep.net.