

THE FOREST CITY NEWS

ODDS 'N ENDS

by John P. Kameen & Patricia Striefesky

We always enjoy our lunches and dinners at Elegante Restaurant, Forest City. He is a longtime advertiser and is taking a rest-prieve from the Dining Guide this month. We've said this before - An Italian restaurant stakes its reputation on its Italian sauce and owner Anthony Del'Aquila's sauce is exactly my idea of a perfect one. So why not have our favorite, spaghetti with tomato sauce, sometimes with meatballs and a nice salad with Anthony's house dressing. The night we were there was clam night and 1 lb. of little neck clams is a perfect appetizer. While we were dining, there was a steady stream of take-out orders, for his well-known pizza and garlic knots, to full meals of chicken and veal dishes. Our server, Lynn, is always so efficient and pleasant, that she can handle take-outs and full tables with ease. You can also enjoy a cocktail with your meal.

A large crowd attended the 2nd Comedy Night held by the Forest City Area Emergency Services on Saturday, Sept. 29. Three comedians entertained the audience for over 2 hours. The event was BYOB and food was also available. Hopefully they will continue this event again in the future. The crowd grew since last year and with the great comedic acts they have had, the crowd will continue to grow. Next event for the group is the Meat Raffle set for Saturday, October 20.

Barber Paul Ferraro continues to improve from several months of impaired mobility due to having a knee replacement done for the second time. He says the new techniques are far superior to his 1st knee operation 10 years ago. He is still maintaining his morning hours only, Tuesday-thru Saturday.

Next Thursday, Oct 18, join Rail Trail for the re-opening of their newly restored trail from Union Dale thru Ararat Summit. Talked Sept. 29 with four bike riders from Meshoppen and Mehoopany who were enjoying that section of Trail prior to the Oct. 18 dedication. They said it is a wonderful experience.

Add this to the list of useless things to do - Unsubscribing from emails! I spent the last month unsubscribing emails, sometimes a dozen a day. One month later it seems few, if any, emails have been stopped. In fact, it seems that one company stops their email but starts sending from another of their companies.

There is no real answer for the fact that participants in Sunday's Steamtown Marathon was the lowest in many years. Lousy summer weather obviously impacted training schedules this year. You have to be in top form to enter a 26.1 mile marathon. According to Race Director Bill King, many runners are doing 1/2 marathons rather than full marathons. Regardless, all participants were assured a high class greeting and quality send-off at FCR High school. All those involved in planning and operating the start line did their very best as always.

We're enjoying the Kevin Lesjack Funeral Home construction. Great to see progress on Main St.



Volunteers who laid beads from 9 AM until 9 PM through a tornado warning on October 2 at Pocono Raceway. Front row left to right are Steven Leonard, Daniel Charette, Dan Kwiatek, and George Meyer. Back row left to right are Donna Potis, Pauline Wilcox, Richard Lewis, Mary Ann Corey, and Elam Richardson Sr.



Maryann Corey and Richard Lewis are shown with Cheerleaders from Forest City Regional High School announcing that the necklace measured 6.45 miles and beat the world record.

Forest City home to a World Record

Six miles is a long distance. Ask a runner or anyone who has had to walk six miles either intentionally or because of circumstance. A glass bead, on the other hand, is rather small. Connecting more than one million beads together to form one long necklace; who would do that and why?

If you know Maryann Corey, Forest City, aka the Bead Lady, then you have part of the answer; the answer to who. But why? Maryann and group of other women have been visiting cancer patients in various hospitals for many years, 18 years to be precise; offering support to those suffering through like the worst time in their lives. Sitting with the patients, talking with them, beading with them, helping to encourage them; most often visiting with people they don't know. This is a labor of love that most of us know nothing about.

Lonakana is a nonprofit organization that is in the process of building a retreat for cancer patients and their families where they can stay together and spend some quality time together and create some lasting happy memories. This grand endeavor will not be an easy accomplishment. Financing this project will be a big challenge. Setting a world record recognized by the Guinness Book of World Records will help with this project in several ways.

Similar to the beads individually strung together, this story is also many pieces, many people,

all thoughtfully brought together to work as one to complete this project. Groups have been stringing beads for months; from YMCA preschoolers to nursing home residents; students from four school districts and many others; working individually yet working together to set this record.

The final product was 6.45 miles of beads connected together and laid out at the Pocono Raceway at Long Pond. Maryann, her husband Richard, and several other people spent 12 hours on Tuesday, 9 am to 9 pm, laying and connecting the strand of beads. Oh, and by the way, there was a tornado warning going on as they finished.

Wednesday was the big day when the record would become official. Forest City Regional High School sent two buses of students, the band and cheerleaders and several other students. Wayne Highlands High School sent their marching band and chorus. Western Wayne and Wallenpaupack High Schools also participated and sent students.

cont. on page 4

Hunter Trapper Education Course Sun., Oct. 28

The PA. Game Commission will host a hunter-trapper education course at 9 a.m. on Sun., Oct. 28 at the Forest City High School, 100 Susquehanna St., Forest City.

This class is required for first time hunters and you must be 11 years old to sign up. To register, go to: pagamecommission.com, select, hunter-trapper education, enter your zip code, then select and register for the call.

The Browndale Sportsman's Club will provide lunch to all attendees.

Christ Church Roast Pork Dinner Sat., Oct. 13

Christ Episcopal Church, Dundaff & Delaware Streets in Forest City will hold a Roast Pork Dinner on Sat., Oct. 13. Take outs will be from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. and family style dinner will be from 5 to 7 p.m.

Donation is \$12. For advance tickets, call 570-785-3425 and leave message.

Warm & humid for 23rd Annual Steamtown Marathon



Humidity at 95% plagued runners in Sunday's 23rd annual Steamtown Marathon. There were 1,582 registered for the Sunday, 8 AM start at Forest City Regional High School. A total of 1,238 crossed the finish line with 344 no-shows or drop-outs. Finishing 304, Jake Knowlton, 39, Union Dale was the fastest area runner at 3:46:15. 359 Maryann Lawrenson, 54, Thompson was the best area female finisher. 686 Kristen Majdic, 27, Vandling at 4:24:37, and Joshua Korty, 21, Forest City, were the best local finishers. Other area runners were: 451, Art Doolittle Jr., 51, Montrose, 4:00:23; 559 Billy Pope Jr., 28, Clifford Twp., 4:12:10; 931 Kimberly Mead, 35, Forest City, 4:49:36; 989 Sarah Keating, 47, Clifford Twp., 4:57:40; 1001 Robert Korty, 56, Forest City, 4:59:37; 1125 Dennis Knowlton, 67, Clifford Twp., 5:28:09.

Main Street snow removal ok'd With use of meter money

It seems more items were tabled than approved at the Oct. 1st Forest City Council meeting. Among the deferred items were a new Main Street Business Coordinator, holiday pay for part time police officers, an animal control ordinance, an occupancy permit for 3rd floor Boro Hall and repairs for the Borough Building.

MAIN ST. SNOW REMOVAL

However, one major action taken was a firm decision to use meter money to pay for Main Street snow removal this winter. The matter was discussed at a Sept. 18 special meeting, and Council President Nick Cost asked Council to OK the action, and it was approved unanimously.

Pres. Cost said Main St. property owners must still shovel their sidewalks and pile the snow on the curb, not on the street. The Boro will then remove it. He said this will be only for major snowfalls and will not be done for small accumulations. There will be no cost to the property owner.

PLOWING OF ALLEYS

As a result of the Sept. 18 meeting, the town will continue to plow certain designated alleys as they have done in the past. They did vote to stop plowing two alley ways, 235 Delaware Street, and the alley across from Honesdale National Bank between Main and Higgins Street. Both, they said, were private driveways.

VANDLING POLICE CONTRACT

Also of major importance was the approval of a three year police contract between the Boro and Vandling. The

cost for the three year period is \$2,000 per month. An additional item in the contract is that if gas goes over \$3.50 a gal. a \$100 per month fee will be added. If gas then drops below \$3.50/mo. the fee will be removed.

PENSION PLANS FUNDED

Funds received from the State Pension System Aid will totally fund this year's allocation for the town's pension plans for both regular employees and police. The check will total \$7,900. Both of the town's pension plans are totally funded at this time.

MAIN STREET COORDINATOR

Councilperson Tracy Lazier presented a job description and pay scale for a possible Forest City Town Promotional Coordinator to aid Main St. business, conduct events and seek new businesses. Suggested pay would be \$6,000 per year. She said the pay should attract more applicants than the previous \$250/month pay for the Main St. Coordinator. It was tabled for further discussion.

HOLIDAY PAY

Extra pay for part time police service on holidays was tabled when no pay amount could be settled on.

BUILDING ROOF LEAKING

Council found it may be in for some major costs with the report that the Borough Building roof is leaking. After discussion on how to determine what was wrong, they decided to have Grimm Construction come back to survey the problem.

Street Dept. cut a trench and installed a new dehu-

midifier in the Boro Building basement to try and solve a water problem. Due to the water it is feared that damage to the furnace might not be covered in the future.

Building Committee head Bob Lesjack also added that the building's windows and exterior trim are in need of repairs and paint, as are the eaves and the brick work. Since Grimm Construction did an evaluation of the building's problems some time ago, it was decided to bring them back to do further reevaluation.

3RD FLOOR CAPACITY

Lesjack also announced that Labor and Industry had found a copy of the 3rd floor occupancy permit but it does not contain the figure of the number of occupants allowed on that floor. In previous meetings it was stated that having to do an engineering study to determine the hall's capacity would be costly.

However, Council did agree with Lesjack to purchase 125 chairs at \$36 each on Craig's List for use in the hall. The \$4,500 cost was approved unanimously.

ANIMAL ORDINANCE

Passage of the animal control law was again tabled for more discussion on the number of domestic animals allowed in a household.

KP SEWER PUMPS

Public Works reports the Kennedy Park sewer pumping station problem is getting worse. They are awaiting the installation of two new pumps. They also think there is a possible broken pipe in the system.

cont. on page 6

Controversy continues in Herrick Twp. over conditional use permit

by Theresa Opeka

Controversy continued over a withdrawn conditional use permit at the Monday, October 1 meeting of the Herrick Township Supervisors.

Supervisor/Secretary Nancy Harvatin read a letter received on September 8 from Kurt Schultz, who was also in attendance at the meeting in the Union Dale United Methodist Church hall. The letter states the township "dodged a bullet" with the withdrawal of the conditional use permit to change the Stone Bridge Inn & Restaurant into a drug and alcohol treatment center.

The letter went on to say, "Township residents suffered through the application process. Residents asked me for help. I have been through similar processes. The current zoning code has serious flaws. Property owners may face significant losses. There has been mental strain and legal bills. There was misleading testimony from the clinic owners during the hearings. The township has been run by volunteers for years, although well meaning. You need to change the zoning laws; Rewrite the manual; change some of the supervisors

and zoning officer. We need to take back control of our township by unprofessionals."

Harvatin then read an email from Catherine Meredith received on September 14. She said residents from the Endless Mountains Resort have incurred \$10,000 in legal fees and professional fees, loss of wages and inconveniences. "The course of events violates Section 608 of the Zoning Ordinance. We fear we will be subjected again if the application is resubmitted again."

Another email from Beth and Jim Robetello sent to township solicitor Marissa Cino McAndrew on September 27. It said they were pleased with the planning board's decision to reject the application but were disappointed that the application was withdrawn and there could be a possible reap-plication. The email said they want all documentation from the first application be transferred to a possible application #2.

Another email from Schultz was read that states the application must be denied because, "In my opinion, it would not keep within the character of the neighborhood; be out of

character with the community; not be in the best interests of the residents/taxpayers; and not be in the future best interests of the community, land-owners or their heirs. The conditional use isn't compliant with the current zoning code, Section 411 A, paragraphs 1,2 and 3c, Extent of the Business (which mentions residential use), Appearance from the Street (which mentions a home based business) and Nuisance (which mentions nuisance surrounding property owners and deviating from residential character)", respectively.

Don Herr said 3,008 acres were set aside for skiing and included Stone Bridge in the ordinance. "I don't understand how you can go against it if the zoning ordinance is written correctly. It has brought major growth into the area. Put a moratorium on conditional use until the supervisors and planning commission straightens out the language of the ordinance. It also affects Elk Meadows, Lowe Lake and Lewis Lake."

Harvatin responded, "That is something we would have to ask our solicitor."

cont. on page 6

