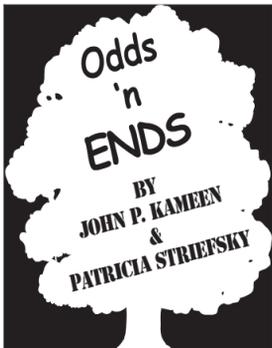


THE FOREST CITY NEWS



Will wonders never cease? A PA Senate committee approved sending to the full Senate a bill to allow Sunday hunting. This is the first time Sunday hunting advocates have gotten this far, mostly due to opposition by the Penna. Farm Bureau. If it gets passed, and Buck season is approved to start on Saturday, there will be 14 straight days of deer hunting in the post-Thanksgiving deer season.

Since some of our readers count themselves in the senior category, Kaiser Health recently listed these steps to better health: Buy great sneakers, Practice your balance, Eat better breakfast, Practice resistance training, Hit the floor, Challenge your speed, Believe in yourself, Tackle a project and Embrace self-improvement. You practice your balance by standing on one leg with eyes closed for 30 seconds. And you should regularly practice getting down on the floor and standing back up again. Sounds pretty simple, but it "ain't".

Shoppers at the "New" Zazzera's Market are seeing lots of changes with products being moved to new locations around the store as well as many new brands and products. We understand there will be expanded store hours announced in the future.

Congratulations to Lee Rowan on his elevation to Forest City Police Chief. He began here as a part time Chief in 2000 and became full time in 2011. Also congratulations to Sgt. John Foley who became a full time Forest City Officer as of Feb. 4th. Our best to both of them.

Jeff Durante, owner of The Speakeasy, one of our Dining Guide advertisers, told the News he now has a Take-out menu and will do deliveries, even to Forest City.

Channel 44, "Our Town" To highlight Forest City

WVIA, Channel 44, Public Television, Scranton-Wilkes-Barre, will be including an "Our Town" show about the Forest City area in its 2019-20 programming. Forest City Mayor Chris Glinton told the News he met with WVIA producer Lisa Mazerella, to feature "Forest City—Where the Counties meet" in their upcoming season.

He said the show will include Forest City, Vandling and Brownedale, as sister communities located in three different counties.

The theme will be to contrast "the old and the new," showing TV viewers what Forest City had in the past; with what it has now; and what it is planning for in the future.

In order to gather material for the shows there will be a meeting, sometime in the future, at which the public will be asked to present ideas for filming. An idea would be a historic photo of Forest City's Main Street 100 years ago, contrasted with today's Main Street, and further contrasted with an artist's concept of what Main Street could look like with its new sidewalks and upgraded decorative sidewalk lighting.

Glinton said he would like to update Forest City's slogan "A Mile of Hospitality" with the addition of the wording "Where the Three Counties Meet."

Anyone with ideas for the TV series can contact him at 570-960-2754.



Longtime Forest City police officer Lee Rowan was named police chief at the Council meeting on Feb. 4th. He replaces Chief Jim Johnson who resigned in December. Chief Rowan is shown receiving his Chief's badge from Mayor Chris Glinton.

Lee Rowan New FC Police Chief

Assistant Chief Lee Rowan was elevated to Police Chief by Forest City council at the Feb. 4 Council session. It was a 6-0 vote for Rowan to take the position vacated by the resignation of Chief Jim Johnson in December.

Council re-opened Rowan's collective bargaining agreement which had been negotiated by the Fraternal Order of Police. He will continue to be subject to the terms of the agreement which include keeping his salary at his current rate of \$24.06 per hour, along with the benefits previously negotiated. As Chief of Police, he will no longer be represented by the FOP.

Chief Rowan has been employed by Forest City Borough part time since 2000, and full time since 2011.

Second public hearing Held for Stone Bridge Inn Conditional Use Permit

The following is part 1 of 4 for the public hearing concerning the conditional use permit for the Stone Bridge Inn and Restaurant.

by Theresa Opeka

A public hearing for a conditional use permit to change the Stone Bridge Inn and Restaurant, Herrick Township, to a drug and alcohol treatment center continued from last week on Tuesday, February 5 at the Speakeasy Saloon & Resort. Hearing Officer, Attorney Jack Zelinka, said the applicant rested its case on January 28 and the objectors would be presenting their case this time.

EMS TESTIMONY

Attorney Michael O'Brien called Dave Maglicane, Pleasant Mount Emergency Services EMS Captain, to testify first. O'Brien asked what his responsibilities were. Maglicane said he gets crews together and he is available 24/7 to answer calls, including ambulance, fire and 911, among other things. He has been with Pleasant Mount Emergency Services for 17 years and has been the EMS captain for 10 years. He continues to take training courses and accreditation courses.

O'Brien asked what the typical amount of staff could be available for a call. Maglicane said there are five EMTs, five or six EMR (Emergency Medical Responder) drivers and one vehicle. O'Brien asked when volunteers are available for calls. Maglicane said it depends on the time of the day. They cover 92 square miles, from Elk Mountain to Lebanon Township to Route 670, Pleasant Mount, near Fox Ledge Water. He said he is familiar with the geographical location and emergency services in the area. He reviewed the conditional use permit.

O'Brien asked if he had formed an opinion and is emergency services coverage, including the proposed treatment center, adequate. Maglicane said, "Pleasant Mount Emergency Services provides BLS (Basic Life Support) not ALS (Advanced Life Support). We can administer CPR, AED (Automatic External Defibrillator), EpiPen and check blood glucose. We cannot start IV's and we don't use cardiac monitors.

In Susquehanna County, the 911 call goes to Montrose. To dispatch ALS, the county command center has to call Lackawanna

County. It takes us 10 minutes to get out the door and another 10 minutes to get to Elk. There is a 20 minute delay. An ALS response from Carbondale takes 20 minutes. For a combative patient, the state police are called and they go in first. From Gibson to Elk takes 30 minutes. We had to wait two hours this past year for the state police to show up for a call. A call for Carbondale (Just Believe). They have full-time police and ALS. They can get there in a matter of minutes."

O'Brien asked, "In comparison to Carbondale, would you have a full-time police force to rely on?" Maglicane said no. O'Brien said, "Two volunteers live more than 10 miles?" Maglicane said yes. O'Brien said, "You and another EMT live closer and you are both over 64?" Maglicane said, "Yes and I work full-time and the other EMT is retired." O'Brien asked, "Would Pleasant Mount Emergency Services have staffing and services adequate for the facility and to serve the public?" Maglicane said, "No, based on the number of calls on the document and my experience."

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FCAHS Suspends Hometown Hero Program

The Forest City Area Historical Society is sorry to say that they have temporarily suspended taking applications for the Hometown Heroes Program due to space considerations.

We are actively exploring alternatives to display the banners, and would welcome any suggestions.

In the past, we have had inquiries from those who have honored their veterans about ownership of the banner. The banners now displayed at the Historical Society Museum rightfully belong to the family, and is theirs to take home if they wish.

We are honored to be able to display them, and would like to display them for all visitors to the museum to appreciate.

Several issues were discussed at the Monday, February 4 meeting of the Herrick Township Supervisors. The township recently made donations to True Friends Animal Welfare Center, Montrose, for \$150; Susquehanna County Public Library for \$160 and \$3,000 each to Pleasant Mount Emergency Services and Union Dale Fire Company.

In old business, Supervisor/Secretary Nancy Harvatine said Supervisor Elliot Ross suggested they have Solicitor Marissa Cino McAndrew send a letter to Medico Industries regarding a bill they received for \$750. The company was supposed to come up with a free repair esti-

Chauncey Zazzera receives plaque for 43 years in business in Forest City



The Greater Forest City Business Alliance presented long-time Forest City businessman Chauncey Zazzera with a plaque on Wednesday, February 6, for his 43 years in business. Chauncey recently sold the store to Dave and Mackenzie Trichilo recently. Chauncey plans on enjoying his retirement spending time with his family and his grandchildren. Pictured left to right are Pastor Tim Madden, Paul Daugevelo, Mayor Chris Glinton, Chauncey Zazzera, Jill McGraw, Sharon Vanman, Melissa Rushworth, GFCBA President Erin Debish and Rich Kresock.

Busy Forest City Council agenda includes presentation by potential Boro engineering firm

Forest City Council heard a proposal from JHA Engineers, Montrose, to provide engineering services to the Borough. The Borough presently uses KBA Engineering, Mayfield, as Borough engineers.

Council President Nick Cost, who has been critical of KBA Engineering Services, asked if the Borough could have two engineering companies providing different services to the town. JHA reps said they could work with other engineering firms.

The services available from JHA were explained by Glenn Eby and Travis Long. They indicated that JHA has 50 employees and can provide all type services including all types of sewer, water, public infrastructure planning and design. They also answered that they do in-house inspections for all projects and can help find funding for projects.

Council President Nick Cost said he would meet with JHA reps later.

AUDIT CONTRACT

At the recommendation of Council member Joann Maturase, Council approved a five year contract with the auditing firm of Audit Services at a cost of \$8,000/yr. to do the required annual borough audit. They have been working for the Borough for a number of years. Their previous cost was \$7,500/yr.

SNOW PLOWING

Public Works committee head Bernie Scalzo praised the town's street crew for their work during the recent snow, blizzard and ice conditions. He commented that too many local residents have little regard for the efforts due to the way they park cars. They often park so that it is difficult to plow, and won't even move vehicles after the storm in order to aid in widening streets.

Scalzo reported that the plow on the 550 dump trump broke during plowing. It was repaired by Barhites in Clifford at a cost of \$582. Due to the fact that Gibbons Ford, Scranton, was supposed to deliver the Borough's new truck last October, Gibbons has agreed to pay half the repair cost. The new Ford truck was fi-

nally delivered on Jan. 23.

MAIN ST. MANAGER

Council Member Tracey Lazier said Paul Daugevelo was the only one who applied for the Main Street Coordinator job to serve as planner to promote Main Street businesses. It will pay \$400 month. She said he will be interviewed and a recommendation will be brought to the March Council meeting.

TREE PICKUP

Street Dept. picked up old Christmas trees as the result of the Forest City Lions Club ending their annual Christmas tree pickup due to a reduction in the number of live trees used.

NEWSPAPER LETTERS

Council member Amy Bean emotionally addressed what she said were lies that were in letters published in the Susquehanna Transcript and on Facebook. She said the writer, or the newspaper, never talked to her before charging her and other members of Council and Borough officials with things they were not responsible for. She said it has affected not only her but also her family.

THIRD FLOOR PROJECT

Councilman Bob Lesjack, who was not in attendance, sent a written request for funding. Council approved \$500 to install doors to secure entry to the upstairs room. Also purchase new light fixtures for rest rooms and carpeting, as well as protective covering for the new tables. Street Dept. will remove old refrigerator and stove.

WINTERFEST/FISHING DERBY

The Parks & Recreation Commission will hold a Winterfest and Fishing Derby at Kennedy Park on Saturday, Feb. 23 from 10 to 2. The event is being planned as a senior project by Rocco Sassani and Lucas O'Neill. They will be asking business people to contribute for hot dogs, drinks and chips. They will also be selling hoodies. Among the members of the Parks & Recreation Board are Kathy Kemoschak, Tracey Lazier and Chris DeGonzague. Debbie Giddings will be in charge of the corn hole tournament. Chief

Lee Rowan is in charge of the Fishing Derby.

TAX SALE

The Susq. County treasurer was given permission to dispose of an empty lot and two trailers for unpaid property taxes. The lot is in the rear of the Maile property, 200 Block of Main Street. The two trailers in the Railroad St. trailer park are those of Sunny Christ and Kristian Jamie Peer (trailers only, not lots). Contact the SC Treasurer at 570-278-4600.

CONDEMNED HOUSE

Code Enforcement Officer Stephanie Reisch written report listed work on condemnation of house at 517 Susquehanna St. She is working with Bobbi Jo Turner of the Susq. County Housing & Redevelopment Authority to be sure the condemnation is done correctly.

She also presented a proposal to have vacant properties boarded up.

She listed five properties in various phases of enforcement for garbage and rental inspections.

Waste containers left on the street in violation of the town ordinance are being addressed.

CHURCH PARKING

A resident of 700 block of Delaware St. asked Council to look at protecting street parking for residents due to parking being used by church goers there. Council said it is a public street and parking is allowed. They will look at her complaint and see if any accommodations can be made.

Council passed the Susq. County 2018 Hazard Mitigation Plan which outlines processes for identifying natural hazards, risks and vulnerabilities. It is necessary in order to receive post-disaster grant funds.

TRAFFIC CONTROL

A Main Street businessman questioned police control of local traffic situations especially during road construction due to utility repair. Council will have the police look at traffic plans for such disruptions and Council will advise utilities they must have a proper plan for traffic detours.

More insurance funds received from fire at Herrick Building

by Theresa Opeka

Two additional storage buildings for a total of \$16,218.15. Ross made a motion to accept the payment. All voted in favor. Motion passed

HARRINGTON
Harvatine said McAndrew said the applicant for the conditional use permit doesn't have to be present at the hearing as long as she has a representative or agent there.

SECRETARY RAISE
In new business, Harvatine said the auditors decided to give Harvatine a \$25/month raise to \$711 a month as secretary. They also decided to keep the same salaries of \$17.50/hr for the Road Master and \$15.25/hr for the supervisors.

mate for the roller last fall. The roller was damaged in the fire that destroyed the township building. Instead, the company charged \$750 for going back and forth from their Wilkes-Barre location without even giving an estimate. McAndrew told the supervisors that after speaking to 4 or 5 people, they will credit the township.

INSURANCE CLAIM
Harvatine said George Dickover, Insurance Claims Adjuster from Selective Insurance, said the insurance company will pay the following due to the fire: \$4,858.50 for debris removal; \$3,342 for the Toro mower; \$4,175.15 for the additional trailer rental; \$2,442.50 for trailer removal and \$1,400 for

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