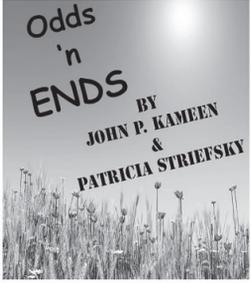


THE FOREST CITY NEWS



Odds n' ENDS
BY
JOHN P. KAMEEN
&
PATRICIA STRIEFSKY

Can't beat the tasty homemade flavors at McDonnell's Family Restaurant on Main Street in Carbondale, our longest running Dining Guide advertiser. He had expanded days for his recent St. Patrick's menu, any of which were excellent especially his Irish stew. All entrees got his homemade Irish soda bread. On his specials menu you can't beat the size, taste and price of his roasted tenderloin (filet mignon) or add the rib combo to his tenderloin. Good service, great prices are what owner Robert McDonnell always provides.

Sure sign of Spring!—Panorama Golf Course opened last Wednesday. Area golfers are looking forward to a better weather year in 2019 than 2018.

There is light at the end of the tunnel for start of the new sidewalks on the east side of Main St. A state grant of \$273,000 was approved some time ago for the project. Engineering for the project was discussed with the new Borough Engineering firm, JHA Companies, at the April 1 Council meeting. Following engineering, bids will be sought.

Forest City Street Dept. Bob Tedesco and Wally Miller used nighttime hours to clean Main Street with the town's street sweeper. There was an especially large quantity of anti-skid on the street after this difficult winter.

Paul Ferraro saw an article in the April 2nd New York Times about Matthew Kasson, son of former residents Mr. & Mrs. Art Kasson. Matt is a mycologist at West Virginia University and is doing a study on fungi being able to survive under extreme conditions. Quite an honor to get a mention in the NYT.

Some good economic news to ponder: In 2018 6.1 trillion cubic feet of natural gas was produced in Susquehanna County making it the No. 1 gas producing County in the U.S. The County once had 12% unemployment. It is now 3% and companies in the county cannot get enough new employees.

Our subscriber Jim Spano sent the following message: Six best doctors in the world.
1. Sunlight
2. Rest
3. Exercise
4. Diet
5. Self-confidence
6. Friends

I'm kind of confused when I read about the PA State Legislature considering laws to keep vaping products out of the hands of minors, while at the same time considering legislation to legalize recreational use of marijuana.

My friend, Dick Giddings, Clifford, emailed this to me recently: "A veteran is someone who, at one point in their life, wrote a blank check made payable to the United States of America for any amount, up to and including their life."

Here is an unhappy fact! The total consumer debt in the US is over \$4 trillion which is auto, student loans, personal loans and credit card. (Not mortgages) The average credit card debt per borrower is \$5,736. WOW!

Much business discussed at Herrick Twp. monthly meeting

by Theresa Opeka
Numerous issues were on the agenda at the Monday, April 1 meeting of the Herrick Township Supervisors. In old business, the township received a \$750 credit from Medico Industries.

DCNR GRANT
Lynn Conrad, Project Manager, Rail-Trail Council of NEPA, explained the process of applying for a DCNR grant to resurface the trail between Herrick and Union Dale. She first thanked the supervisors for being the municipal sponsor on the 6.5 mile improvement project between Herrick and Ararat. She said she especially appreciates Supervisor/Secretary Nancy Harvatine for all of her work. She said she is asking for the township's support for the new 2 mile project that will run from Herrick to below Skyline Drive in Union Dale. The last time it was done was in 2006 and the sandy mixture is not holding up well. She said it also needs to become handicap accessible. She said both municipalities were notified and the state will pay 80% with the Rail-Trail Council providing the remaining 20%. She stressed it won't cost the township anything.

They won't hear whether or not they received the grant until October and if it is, it won't be bid out until this time next year. Harvatine made a motion to send a letter of support for the project. Conrad asked Supervisor/Road Master Brian Zembrzycki if she answered all of his questions. He said yes, as long as it won't cost the township anything and seconded the vote. Supervisor Elliot Ross abstained. Motion passed.

DONATIONS
The supervisors voted in favor of donating \$100 to the Envirothon being held May 3 at Elk Mountain Ski Resort.

The township received thank you's from Union Dale Fire Company, True Friends Animal Welfare Center and the Susquehanna County Library for donations they received from the township.

LINE OF CREDIT
In new business, the township now has a line of credit with New Milford Hardware. Ross suggested the road staff should have names on the list.

PORT-A-JOHN
Harvatine said they have been having problems with Jim Locker taking care of the

Easter event On Main St. Wed., Apr. 17

Forest City Council authorized the closing of Main Street for an Easter Egg hunt and Easter Parade on Wednesday, April 17, from 5 to 8pm. The event is sponsored by GFCBA.

Stands will include: Kennedy Park Board - Sweatshirt sale; GFCBA; FC Nursing and Rehab, Tumblin' Tots - Egg Decorating; FC Senior Center - Hot Dogs; and Frugal Living - Fundraiser for Kennedy Park.

Other participants will be: Elegante Restaurant, Hornbeck Chevrolet, Kelley's Salon, Red Cross Pharmacy, Shirley's Restaurant, Maria's Restaurant and Deli; Ros-Al Floral, All in a Basket, House of Flowers, HNB, FNB, Zazzera's, Tobacco Road, Forest City Area Historical Society, Jessie's Salon, The Barking Cupcake, Kevin Lesjack Funeral Home, and The Speakeasy.

Participating businesses will be open and you can go in and fill out a coupon to win a candy basket from each business.

The Easter Egg Hunt will take place at 5:45 PM in the Honesdale National Bank parking lot.

Rick Priebe will be also performing on Main Street.

Franceski Lumber Closed Sat., April 13

Franceski Lumber will be closed all day on Saturday, April 13. They will reopen on Monday, April 15.

Port-a-John at the park. Zembrzycki said he had three issues with him not coming to clean it. They said they would like to go to Reeves and also need a handicapped one as well.

EMAIL FROM SCHULTZ

Harvatine said she received a lengthy email from Kurt Schultz and that it was written in the first person like Harvatine wrote it herself. She said he "put words in my mouth" and didn't read it since they were not her statements. Schultz was not at the meeting. She checked with Solicitor Marissa McAndrew and she said they don't have to respond. Ross said he should write the letter in his words and come to the meeting. Zembrzycki agreed.

STATEMENT OF INTEREST

The township received a Statement of Financial Interest from both Elliot Ross and B.J. Zembrzycki.

NEW TWP. BUILDING

The Susquehanna County Planning Commission granted preliminary approval for the land development plan for the site of the new township building. Harvatine said they need to have a new plan because they are making the new building 10 feet larger. She made a motion to approve the plan pending favorable review from the planning commission which will meet Thursday, April 11 at 7:30. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

HANDICAPPED

Harvatine said if anyone knows of any residents who are hard of hearing, are non-English speaking or handicapped to let her know so she could send the information to the county.

SPOTTED LANTERNFLY

Harvatine said there will be an informational meeting on Tuesday, April 16, 7pm, at the Clifford Township Fire Hall that will address the Spotted Lanternfly, an invasive non-native species that attacks fruit trees and other trees. Vincent Cotrone, Penn State Urban Forester, will share his expertise. The Mountain View Garden Club and Lackawanna and Susquehanna County Master Gardeners are sponsoring the meeting.

ANSWERING SERVICE

Harvatine said they received a letter from Connie Kane, Susquehanna/Wyoming Counties, saying they entered into an agreement with WESP Communications, an answering service. The service will take calls after hours and direct them to necessary personnel.

Forest City Area Hist. Society April Meeting

The Forest City Area Historical Society (FCAHS) will be meeting on Sunday, April 14, 2019 beginning at 6:00 PM at the society's headquarters at the corner of Dundaff and Main Streets, Forest City. The FCAHS is now accepting applications for membership and membership renewals for 2019. The FCAHS was organized on February 21, 2010, has become incorporated and has a 501(c)(3) non-profit status. The FCAHS encompasses the following communities: Browndale, Forest City, Richmondale and Vandling.

Memberships are for one year and may be any one of the following types: an Individual membership for \$15.00 or a Family membership for \$25.00. A Lifetime Membership for \$125.00 is also available.

Anyone interested in joining the Forest City Area Historical Society should contact Juliann Doyle, Membership Chair by calling 570-499-4908, by e-mail at: jdoyle@nep.net. Membership applications are available on the web site and should be sent to Juliann at 305 Martin Street, Browndale, PA 18421. New members are always welcome!!

Visit the web site for the FCAHS at: www.forestcityareahistorical-society.com to learn more about the organization or to download a membership application. LIKE us on Facebook, also!!

WMH Health Center now open



The Wayne Memorial Health Care Center at the corner of Dundaff and Hudson Streets, Forest City, opened for business Monday, April 8. The Vandling office and the Main Street x-ray and blood center closed Friday, April 5th. Bloodwork will now be done at the new Health Center while x-rays will be done at Wayne Memorial Hospital in Honesdale.

Council gets new Borough engineering firm Due to dissatisfaction with previous firm

Forest City Borough Council at its April 1st meeting, hired JHA Companies to serve as its new engineer for several upcoming projects. JHA Companies has offices in Montrose and made a presentation to Council at the February meeting.

The hiring of the new engineering company comes after many months of Council being critical of the services supplied by its former engineers, KBA Engineering, Mayfield. Council has been struggling with problems stemming for the long ago sewer project as well as the storm water projects, and most recently, with the sidewalk project on the west side of Main Street.

Council has sought to get repairs on many of the problems which date back to completion of the three projects. Much of the Council's discussions revolved around what they indicated was inadequate service from KBA Engineering. Council Pres. Nick Cost said in March that there are 18 different problems with the sidewalk project.

Council hired JHA Companies to begin the process of engineering the sidewalk project on the east side of

STATUE GIFTS \$10,000

Donations to repair the Doughboy Statue and Coal Miners' Memorial exceeded \$10,000 April 8th. John Chernesky, treasurer of Charles & Martin Skubic Post # 524 American Legion, has deposited over \$7,000 in public donations, while Forest City Borough donated \$3,000 on April 1st.

Anyone wishing to help the Doughboy Statue Fund reach its \$14,300 goal can send them to:

Doughboy Statue Fund
636 Main Street
Forest City PA 18421

All donations will be published in The Forest City News.

FC Senior Center Easter on Main April 17

The Forest City Senior Center, located at 535 Main Street in Forest City, will sell refreshments to participants of the Community Easter Egg Hunt April 17 from 5:00pm to 8:00pm. Hot dogs will be available for \$1.50, fruit punch and coffee will be offered for \$1.00, and a hot dog and drink combo will sell for \$2.00. Participants will also get the chance to purchase raffle tickets to win an Easter Basket. All proceeds will directly benefit activities of the Forest City Senior Center.

For more information, please call 570-785-3386.

Main Street. However, there appeared to be confusion about the scope of services being awarded to JHA. It ended up requiring the passage and withdrawal of two different Council resolutions before the contract was passed. The News learned later that the parties will have to meet to iron out some additional details of the contract.

Though the contract would cover engineering of sidewalks in the 400, 500 and 600 blocks of Main Street, President Cost indicated there may not be enough grant money to cover all the blocks and possibly only one block could be taken care of. The grant totals \$273,000 and does not cover engineering fees.

Later in the meeting, Council member Tracy Lazier questioned why the 300 block, which is also part of the commercial district, was not included. It was advised that the grant was written to cover only the 400, 500 and 600 blocks.

The first JHA Contract which was approved, was to provide \$3,500 for a survey of the 400, 500 and 600 blocks of Main street for the new East side sidewalks. It also includes up to \$23,500 to do the engineering for the sidewalks in those three blocks. It did not include

"Chandeliers" Removed from 3rd floor name

Last month, at the request of Building Committee chairperson Bob Lesjack, Forest City Council changed the name of the 3rd floor of the Borough Building to "Chandeliers @ Pentecost Hall. Council rescinded that action at the April 1 meeting.

Local resident Barbara Michel questioned the renaming, since the 3rd floor name of William Pentecost Hall was the only designation of the town's founder in Forest City. She stated that many people had questioned the new name.

On motion by Chris DeGonzague, seconded by Amy Bean, Council voted 5-0 to change the name back to William Pentecost Hall.

Councilman Lesjack was not present at the meeting.

work on easements which were an issue in the west side sidewalks. These and other details also will have to be discussed at a future meeting.

The second JHA contract was for \$300 to provide structural engineering services involved with the possible condemnation of a house at 517 Susquehanna St.

Council tabled a bid from JHA for engineering of repairs to a section of Susquehanna St., on the road to the cemeteries, which is sinking apparently due to water runoff from the 50 year old RAMP abandoned mine project in that area.

Later in the meeting Bill Orasin Sr. and Barbara Michel, both residents of this section of Susquehanna St., expressed their concern with any excavation which may take place there which could involve the drainage from their homes. Pres. Cost said no decisions had been made about any corrective action and that engineering would have to be done on the project. He said Abandoned Mines Officials had inspected the RAMP area and would provide 600 feet of pipe for any corrective measures needed.

In reply to a question from local resident Rachel Habelter on whether Council had met with sidewalk contractor Leeward Construction about problems with the sidewalks, President Cost said local officials were presently deciding which way to go in order to move forward in resolving the problems.

Night at the Races in Pleasant Mount April 13

The Costello Monahan Brown American Legion Post 964 will hold its 15th Annual Night at the Races on Saturday, April 13. Doors open at 6 PM and post time is at 7 PM.

The event is held at the Pleasant Mount Fire Hall. There will be door prizes and refreshments.

For more information please call 570-448-2817.

Mother's Day Photos for The Forest City News

The Forest City News will be accepting photographs for its annual Mother's Day edition. The date of the publication for this edition is Wednesday, May 8. This year Mother's Day is on May 12th.

This year's edition will be in full color.

The cost is \$20 for color.

Anyone interested in having their picture in this issue can email or drop off a picture at the News office no later than Wed., May 1. You can email photos to fcnnews@nep.net.

Everyone who submits a photo will also have the photo included on our website, in color, for FREE.

