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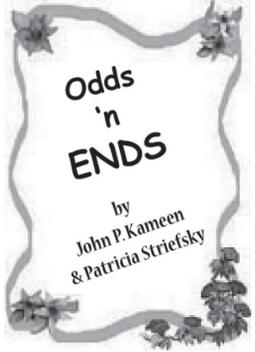
VOL. 132, NO. 21

Forest City - Starting Line for Steamtown Marathon October 6, 2019

Wednesday, April 24, 2019

2nd Annual Trail Town Festival August 3, 2019

THE FOREST CITY NEWS



Cathy White, Union Dale, sent us this photo of an albino robin in her back yard. We thought at first the bird was covered with frost but that was not so.

There may be some shortened Thanksgiving dinners this year as the traditional opening of buck season has been changed from Monday to the Saturday after Thanksgiving. Hunters will be pushing away from the turkey table to open up camps on Friday to be ready to hit the woods on Saturday. Still no definite action on Sunday hunting.

Plate d'Azure, across from the Anthracite Hotel in Carbondale, has some exquisite specialty items whenever you visit there. As a Dining Guide advertiser you can be sure they will have 3 or 4 specials in addition to soup, burgers and sandwiches. As a Lenten special we had their fresh fish delicacy, done with lemon and butter. Friendly and efficient service, and we even had dessert (rice pudding) with the coupon we got at our last visit. Their new hours are Tuesday-Saturday 7 am to 3 pm serving breakfast/lunch and Sunday 8 am to 2 pm serving breakfast/brunch. Party platters and private parties are still offered. Well worth the trip.

I said good-by to Abby Rodriguez on Friday as she prepared to close Barking Cupcake Bakery on Main Street, and move it to Honesdale. She expressed her thanks to all her faithful customers but feel her prospects are better in Honesdale with a larger population and more traffic. Permitting and inspections caused her almost a year's delay, and much extra expense, in opening here in 2017. She and husband, Brian, are now living just a short distance from their new Honesdale location so long drives early in the mornings will be eliminated. She made us some delicious cinnamon buns for our final order. We wish her the best.

We have been asked what tax exoneration for tax collectors means. Tax collectors are given the list of taxes due from property owners in their areas. If some property owners do not pay, the unpaid taxes are turned back to the County tax claim bureau. That requires the municipality to "exonerate" them of those unpaid taxes. It DOESN'T mean tax collectors don't have to pay their own taxes!

Easter on Main was a great event last Wednesday in Forest City. It was a beautiful night and brought loads of people to town to enjoy crafts, music, an Easter Egg Hunt and the chance to win Easter baskets donated by area businesses. Great job to all coordinated the event!

Speeding concerns discussed at Clifford Township meeting

by Theresa Opeka

The Clifford Township Supervisors held their monthly meeting on Tuesday, April 9.

Kathy Elkins raised concerns about speeding traffic on Main Street. "Someone talked about trucks on Main Street last time. I have been following them since September. I have video, names and plates of trucks and names of truckers. I have clocked them going 68 in a 35 mph zone. One almost jackknifed in front of my house. Someone is going to get killed. The state police told me the supervisors don't want anything to do with it. The speed limit can't be enforced with police enforcement. I have told them to slow down and they flip me the bird and laugh. I fear for all the kids on Main Street. The road is being ripped up. If you go to the state, the road will get repaired."

Searle said they can't put a red light there. Elkins said, "The state police say you need a light and signs." Knowlton said, "We tried back when the bridge on Route 106 was replaced and they shot us down." Elkins said, "We didn't have trucks back then. I hear the jake brake at 2 in the morning. Marcho said, "The state told us we can't put a jake brake sign on the other end based on the grade."

Solicitor Joseph McGraw said, "The township can't put a traffic sign on a state road. All we can do is ask." Elkins said that is what she was doing. McGraw said, "There is a formula where a set amount of trucks are allowed. They do a traffic study."

Knowlton said they will keep pursuing it. Jim Pettinato said, "I will second everything she said but maybe we should contact a state official. There are ways of getting things done."

Booths said the speed sign the township used last year to measure drivers speed was used on both ends of town and is good for a day or two but then it is forgotten. A man in the audience asked if it would be feasible to reach out to the trucking companies.

Susquehanna County Commissioner Alan Hall, who was in attendance suggested the

Hist. Society Museum events Scheduled

The Forest City Area Historical Society announced a number of events for the upcoming year at its April 14 meeting.

*Museum hours will be the 1st Saturday of each month 11AM to 1PM.

*Members and friends are invited to the final banquet of the 250th Anniversary of Anthracite Committee on Sat., May 4 at Tamaqua, PA from 2-7. There is no charge. Anyone interested contact Pres. Kameen at 570-785-3800.

*Breakfast Buffet Sunday, May 19, 7AM to 11AM.

*Museum open Memorial Day weekend Sat., May 25, 11 AM to 1PM.

*Old Time Fiddlers Friday, June 28, 7PM

*Jay Smar Folk Music, date TBA

*Trail Town Festival Saturday, August 4, all day, Museum open, programs.

**"John Wilkes Booth Trial", Date TBA

**"Murder at the Museum" by Tammy O'Reilly, w/dinner, September, date TBA

supervisors send a letter to the PennDOT District 4 office in Dunmore and the Northern Tier Regional Planning and Development Commission. He said he sits on the Transportation Board and they may be able to help.

HAZMAT

Marcho said the county EMA dropped off hazmat materials at the township building that will be used in the event of an emergency in the area.

CHILDREN AT PLAY SIGNS

Booths said he took up a collection for Children at Play signs for Elkview Drive and has put them up.

PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments from the audience when Searle asked how the township is doing or if there were any suggestions. He said they are looking for small businesses to locate there.

Susq. Co. Commissioner Alan Hall said, "Clifford has always been a good bedroom community. The township has some of the highest property values in the county. The last thing we need is a big manufacturing area. Just have people come back to a safe place to raise a family. Everyone is doing a nice job."

The question was raised if anyone was interested in the vacant supermarket building. Searle said a person may be looking at it. He also said the mayor of Forest City is supportive of the township.

Commissioner Hall said, "The county will continue to support you. Our economic team has helped people in Forest City and we also team up with Penn State and the college in Scranton."

Marcho said, "A couple of properties are problem properties. The bank owns one and a mortgage company owns the other. We have gotten involved and are trying to make something happen. First goal is the market."

A man in the audience asked if the former supermarket building is in good shape. Marcho said it would probably need to be gutted.

The next meeting will be held Tuesday, May 14 at 7pm.

Committee Appts. made at Vandling Council

Vandling Borough Council appointed Council members to various committees at the monthly meeting held on Monday, April 15. The committees are as follows:

Sanitation/Sewer/Health - Bill Boyle/John Carachilo

Streets - Fran Pantzar/John Mayers

Recreation - John Carachilo/Bill Matos

Building & Grounds - Fran Pantzar/Bill Matos

Fire/Safety/Police - Mayor Brady/John Mayers

Code Enforcement - Fran Pantzar/John Mayers

Finance & Budget - Bill Boyle/John Mayers

FC Lions Club Breakfast Sun., April 28

The Forest City Lions Club will hold a Pancake, Sausage, and Egg Breakfast on Sunday, April 28, 2019 from 8:00 am to noon at EL-EGANTE RESTAURANT, Main Street, Forest City. Adults \$6.00. COME OUT AND SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL LIONS CLUB.

Easter on Main attracts crowd to Forest City



The sun shined bright at the Easter on Main event in Forest City on Wednesday, April 17 and brought people to town to enjoy vendors, food, wine, crafts and an Easter Egg Hunt. Pictured above is the large group of children and adults who scooped up eggs filled with candy in the parking lot of Honesdale National Bank.

Doughboy fund over \$14,300 goal

The American Legion Doughboy Statue Fund exceeded its goal of \$14,300. The money is for repairs to the 93-year-old WWI statue of the American Doughboy and the Anthracite Coal Miners' Memorial, both located in William Penn Park, Forest City.

Drive Chairman John P. Kameen extended his thanks to all who made generous contributions to the effort. Many of the donations, which will be listed in an upcoming issue of the News, came from former Forest City area residents, many now living out-of-state.

All funds received over and above the goal will be placed in a fund for future care of both memorials.

The Restoration Company informed Legion Commander Col. (Ret.) Jeffrey Swegel they will not be able to make the repairs before Memorial Day due to their workload.

The Forest City Area Historical Society has indicated to the Legion that it would honor the 100th anniversary of the local Post at the August 4, Trail Town Festival. If restoration is completed by then, an unveiling would be scheduled.

Historical Society wall replacement Held up due to possible Boro lawsuit

The Forest City Area Historical Society cannot proceed with the replacement of its deteriorating wall across the front of the building due to issues between Forest City Borough and Leeward Construction. President John Kameen told Society members at the April 14 meeting the impasse between Council and Leeward, which constructed the new sidewalk in front of the building, may end up in lawsuit, according to Council President Nick

Cost. State Rep. Jon Fritz, at the request of Edward Tourje and John Kameen, arranged a meeting with the Society and Leeward at which the Leeward representative told President Kameen the claimed-defective sidewalk was installed Dec. 2016 and was inspected and accepted by the Borough and Leeward was paid for it. "Leeward does not own the sidewalk," said the construction company representative.

The Society received \$17,500 from five area benefactors to replace the wall with a new vers-a-lock wall, however the contractor, Dave Colachino, requires an assurance from the Borough or Leeward that he will not be held responsible for any of the problems which currently exist on the sidewalk.

Pres. Kameen said the Society cannot proceed with the wall replacement until the litigation issue is resolved.

Paving bid accepted for Vandling Roads

Vandling Borough Council awarded street paving work to Andrew Baldan Construction at the monthly meeting on Monday, April 15. Baldan was the low bidder at last month's meeting at \$48,000. KBA Engineering reviewed the bid and saw no reason why Baldan should not be awarded it.

Council discussed the possibility of having an inspector on the job during the paving. They will consult with KBA on that matter. Some of the streets to be patched and paved include Ash and Hillside, 2nd and 3rd and various storm drains that need to be fixed.

Councilman John Mayers said in addition, he got estimates from Baldan for a spot to be fixed in front of Jennifer Slick's house in the development. He said the estimate was \$1,500 and would be treated separately from the \$48,000 bid.

Councilman Bill Matos said the storm drain in front of his house needs to be fixed. He said they will look into it and hopefully it can be fixed when the paving is being done.

Councilman Mayers said he will be meeting with PennDot to discuss the project in the near future.

Street Department worker Tom Collins was asked to look at a few of the catch basins and report back at next month's meeting.

Bill Krall reported a problem in front of his property where a busted drain exists and asked that it be repaired. President Fran Pantzar said he and Tom Collins Jr. will take a look at it.

CORRESPONDENCE
Council received a letter

from Scott Dunkelburger with the Commonwealth Financing Authority regarding a grant that Vandling applied for the LSA/Peterlin Sewer project. The request was denied due to lack of funding at this time.

The Board of Elections will be using the Municipal Building for the May 21 election.

The Dept. of Transportation will hold a Stormwater Facility Operation and Maintenance Course on April 26. John Mayers and John Carachilo may attend.

Joseph Sosa, U.S. Census, sent a letter looking for Census workers for the upcoming 2020 census. Applications can be found at www.census.gov.

The Browndale Volunteer Firefighters Relief Audit is complete for 2016-17. It can be viewed by contacting the Vandling Secretary.

PETERLIN DRIVE

\$160,000 has been approved for the LSA/Peterlin Drive Project. The Borough's share will be \$28,000 which will come out of the liquid fuels money.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman John Carachilo said he contacted PPL about ordering free trees for 2020. He said they need to decide what kind and how many they need and there will be no delivery fee.

Carachilo said the flags have arrived and he will be contacting NEP Telephone Co. to hang them. He thanked the former Vandling Recreation Board for their help in getting the flags. He would like to do a project for Veteran flags in the future.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS
Council signed an agree-

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 fcnews@nep.net.

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

