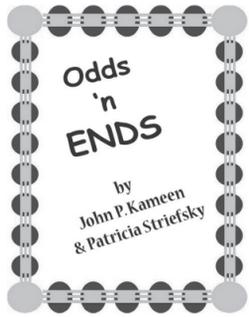


THE FOREST CITY NEWS



Please be advised that when the News takes a photo to appear in the paper we ask if the participants would put their mask down for identification purposes. They may decline if they so choose.

A fist bump to our faithful subscriber and former Thompson Market owner Fred Hobbs who is enjoying his retirement in Salida, Colorado.

Forest City Borough Council is considering a long list of rules and regulations for Kennedy Park. Some of it will depend on if the Borough changes its alcohol use policy which has been in effect there for years. During discussion it was brought up that many years ago Council operated on a rule that since the park was built with Federal funds, no alcohol was allowed. Borough Secretary Sharon Nannan said there is no Federal policy in effect now and, despite checking back, there is no indication that policy was in effect back in the '70's and '80's when the Park was built.

The Vendors Market at Kennedy Park this Sunday, Aug. 16, will have more than 40 vendors. See list on this page. The 1st one held July 19 was a big success. NEP Telephone Co. installed Wi-Fi at the Park last week for on-line credit cards for vendors.

A sign on the now-closed, Tobacco Road Main St. business, announces that the Smoke Shop is coming soon.

We will be doing a story soon on Hidden Gems Thrift Store opening soon.

Franceski Lumber Yard will be having a two-day sale by appointment only Thursday, Friday and Saturday, Aug. 13-15. Hardware, tools, lumber, etc. See ad pg. 2.

The Salvation Army Food pantry on Aug. 6 provided fresh vegetables, frozen turkey breast and hams, and cartons of canned goods for over 125 area families.

Forest City area pretty much dodged the high winds and heavy rains associated with Hurricane Isaias.

SCAM ALERT—A Forest City resident showed us a J. P. Morgan bank check she received for \$2,524.50, and a letter notifying she won \$250,000 in the "North America Consumer Promotion Draw." Sadly she has to send them a check for \$2,000 plus a processing fee to get the rest of the money. Please—No matter how legitimate these notices are, all they want is your money. Let us know so we can warn our readers not to fall for them.

One of our readers is looking thru old pictures to find a photo of the former Lahoda Valley Service Station, Herrick Center, which we talked about here last week. His family ran the business in the late 1940s before the Lahodas.

2020-21 FCR School Bus/Van Drivers

At their meeting on Mon., July 27, the Forest City School Board approved the following bus and van drivers for the 2020-21 school year.

Contracted Carriers:

Jason W. Hunt LLC; Kreutz, Inc.; O'Neill Busing II, Inc.; J.D. Transportation; Joseph Ewain Busing; Jacki Lynn O'Neill; Thomas Nebzydowski Busing LLC; Rolling Meadows Busing LLC; SB & Sons.

Bus Drivers:

Sharon Arbuco, Joseph Ewain, Logan Fenstermacher, Jordan Mead, Bradley Medved, Meghan Nebzydowski, Thomas Nebzydowski, Benjamin O'Neill, Donald Smith, Matthew Solomon, Annette Proehl (pre-K); Janet Curtis (pre-K), Trudy Butcher (pre-K).

Substitute Drivers:

Louis Fox, Jason Hunt, Carol Mullican, F. Michael Nebzydowski, Carolyn Non, Mark O'Neill, Michael Rock, Theresa Stratton, Robert Weaver.

Van Drivers:

Beverly Burleigh, Gerarda Burleigh, Kenneth Cahoon, Nicholas Cost, Angela Davell, Carol Hollister, Judy Kowalewski, Nancy Kowalewski, Kenneth Medved, Jackie O'Neill, Carrie Reeder, Frank Rodgers.

Substitute Van Drivers:

Chance Burleigh, Scott Burleigh, Taylor Burleigh, Sidney Hoehne, David Kowalewski, John Kowalewski, Jr., Barbara Kreutz, Mark O'Neill, Theresa Stratton

Parent Contracts:

Jennifer Anderson

No Swimming At Ken. Park Until 2021

Forest City Council President Nick Cost reported to Council on Monday Aug. 3rd that it will not be possible to begin swimming at Kennedy Park until 2021. Council recently received a \$2,000 donation from the Winans Family, Forest City, in memory of their 13-year-old son, Aaron, who drowned in a swimming accident in the Lackawanna River at Simpson.

Pres. Cost had Council approve a contract for \$64.60 per week for water testing next year which is required by the Pennsylvania Dept. of Health. Also signage, safety equipment, first aid supplies and a list of rules must be secured before swimming is allowed.

Council decided it will open swimming in 2021 from May to August with a starting date Memorial Day weekend and ending date on Labor Day.

3,877 Voters in Susq. Co. used Mail-in ballots

The following is courtesy of the County Independent, Montrose.

In the June Primary Election, according to statistics obtained from the Pennsylvania Dept. of State and the Susquehanna County Voter Registration office, a total of 3,877 mail-in and absentee ballots were voted. Of that total, 3,221 were mail-in ballots and 647 were absentee ballots.

Out of the County's 15,150 registered Republicans, 2,101 or 13.8%, voted by mail-in while 1,776 of the County's 7,166 registered Democrats, or 24.7%, did mail-ins.

Pennsylvania Write in ballots

Eligible voters may apply for their mail-in or absentee ballot either online (votespa.com), or in person at their county election offices, or by paper forms submitted by mail. Once the county determines the voter is eligible, the counties will send a postage-paid ballot with a postage-paid return envelope to the voter to complete and return.

Editors Note: Paper forms are available at the News Office

FC Boro receives \$10,000 grant From DCNR

Forest City Borough recently received a grant award of \$10,000.00 from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources Community Conservation Partnerships Program. This Peer Grant Program funds projects that help municipalities to increase local capacity for recreation, parks and conservation. These programs, through a collaborative process, focus on a specific need identified by the grantee and its partners. This is a pilot program which will provide Forest City with a Peer Consultant who will work with a team of volunteers to maximize Forest City's Outdoor Town Potential.

An Outdoor Town is a place that uses its natural assets to bring people together and revitalize economies. Forest City and its surrounding area have much to offer. The D&H Rail Trail, Kennedy Park, State Game Lands, the Lackawanna River and Elk Mountain Ski Resort to name a few.

If you are interested in being part of this exciting opportunity by serving on a committee, please contact The Greater Forest City Business Alliance, Forest City Borough or Rail Trail Council of NEPA.

GFCBA13@gmail.com, fc-boro@nep.net, lynnn.trails@nep.net

Regular Business At School Board

In addition to announcing the school's re-opening plan at the July 27 Board meeting the following items were addressed:

Kyreek Johnson was approved as voluntary Varsity Golf Coach for 2020-21 with a conversion to pay the position upon the official start of the season.

Approved the following agreements: with Northeast Data for networking infrastructure for \$2,773; a three year agreement with Adobe Creative Cloud for \$2,460; with WesternNGR for internet security and content filtering for \$5,364; with NEIU-19 for Special Education Services; a two year lease with NEIU-19 for early intervention services; with PA Treatment & Healing of Scranton.

Also approved Comprehensive Consulting Services Inc. for on-site drug and alcohol testing services for contracted bus/van drivers.

The next Board meeting will be Monday, August 17, at 7:30pm and will be done virtually.

Drawn Together on Main St. F.C. Wed., Aug. 19

The Forest City Business Alliance would like to invite everyone to come out this Wednesday, Aug. 19—and every 3rd Wednesday of the month—to Main St. Forest City for "Drawn Together, Dog Days of Summer", from 5 to 8:30 p.m.

Enjoy the festivities which include music, market vendors, chalk art on Main St., and the chance to win prizes. There's fun for the whole family, even your pet. Bring your pup along for a Doggy Splash Pad at Frugal Living.

FC Council EMC to answer COVID-19 Questions

On September 8 at 6 PM, the Forest City Borough Emergency Management Coordinator (EMC) will be at the Regular Monthly Council meeting to answer questions and concerns regarding COVID-19. This will take place at the borough building on the 3rd floor. Please remember to wear a mask and practice social distancing as mandated by the Governor.

Council reports that \$10,000 DCNR grant Will be to evaluate various Boro needs

Forest City Council announced at its Aug. 3rd meeting that they have been informed by Deb McNamara, of Rail Trail Council, that a \$10,000 Peer grant has been awarded by DCNR Community Conservation Partnerships Program.

According to the announcement from DCNR a project manager has been assigned from the Bureau of Recreation and Conservation to work with Rail Trail and the Borough to look at the whole town to determine the needs so that Forest City can be classified as an outdoor town.

Main St. Coordinator Paul Daugevelo said the study grant can open up possibilities for additional grants.

A/C & HEAT BIDS
Councilman Bob Lesjack, head of the William Pentecost Hall renovation, was given permission to seek bids for installation of an air conditioning and heating system in the Hall. Since it will exceed the Borough's purchasing limit, bids must be sought.

Lesjack also asked that bids be sought for the replacement of the roof on the Borough Building but he was advised that engineering specifications must be prepared before bids can be sought.

Lesjack also added he would like to see the Borough or town organizations to sponsor music events at the new Gazebo at Kennedy Park next year.

DISASTER PROCLAMATION
Council passed a resolution to extend the Borough's Disaster Proclamation to continue until COVID issues have resolved. The Proclamation, recommended by the Susq. County Emergency Management Office, was issued in March and had to be renewed weekly. This will avoid the weekly renewal.

MAYORS REPORT
Mayor Chris Grinton said he will meet with Lisa Mazzarella of WVIA-TV about resuming work on an Our Town show for the tv station. He also was in contact with Philadelphia Inquirer about

a COVID-related story on the town.

He also advised that Johnson College is looking at a Franceski Lumber Co. building for a possible local campus, and that someone is looking at a building purchase for a Community Center.

He added that there is lots going on with the Rail Trail and that "the area is going to pop."

FUNDS APPROVED

Council approved purchase of four tires for the 2017 Ford Explorer police car with the low bid of \$642 from Goodyear of Allentown with mounting by M&M Auto, Vandling. The other bidder was Kost Tire, Forest City.

Prince Excavating was approved for \$1,150 to repair pave cuts in the 400 block of Higgins St. and on Roxy Road, N. Main St.

ALLEY COMPLAINT

Acting on complaints from Stephanie Reisch, Hudson St., and Dennis Mrakovich, Lackawanna St., the Borough will take action to repair a trench in an alley located in the 500 block between Lackawanna and Susquehanna St. The condition appears to have resulted from the sewage replacement project.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council approved membership in GFCBA at no cost but agreed to make a \$50 donation to the local group.

Council member Amy Bean said she received several email complaints about failure to consistently use face masks by volunteers at Kennedy Park events. Council member Tracy Lazier said masks were removed for pictures of the volunteers at some events. Council Pres. Nick Cost, one of the consistent volunteers at the events, said he always wears his mask, but extended his apologies and will look into the complaints.

Council person Lazier also extended her thanks to various groups who sponsored dinners at the Park during the past months. One donor was anonymous, others were FCRHS Class of 1971, Forest City Parks & Recreation, D. G's Do-Gooders Club,

Free Family Picnic & Farmer's Market at Kennedy Park Sunday, Aug. 16

Fitzsimmons Insurance and Erie Insurance, in conjunction with Kennedy Park, will sponsor a Free Forest City Family Picnic on Sunday, August 16, from noon to 3. The event will feature a Vendor market, hot dogs, hamburgers, chips, and drinks served by the Parks and Recreation Board and DG's Do Gooders. There will also be many free drawings, games, children's activities, prizes, live music by Tony Maddi and friends, and special polka hour with Jude from 12-1 pm. Plus so much more!!!

The vendor market will take place from 10 AM to 4 PM. The following vendors have signed up: August 2020 Vendors

1. Viv's Vibrant Beauties- Yonique! Makeup by Viviana
2. Scentsy by Elizabeth Lawless- Scentsy products
3. doTerra Essential Oils- essential oils and more
4. Brown Dog Leather- variety of handcrafted leather-works
5. Careyed Away Signs- reclaimed wooden signs
6. VINYL BOSSES- vinyl decals, masks, shirts and more
7. Koere's Jewelry Box- selection of unique jewelry
8. The Familiar- metaphysical items, stones, sage and more
9. Stella the Hair Bow Fairy- selection of handmade hair accessories
10. Jems by Jean and Buttons & Bows- fabulous jewelry and crafts
11. Lularoe by Heather Kubus- Women's and children's clothing

12. Stryker Hollow Farms- live chicks, ducks, guineas, and more!

13. Avon by Angela Davall

14. Krafts by Melissa- various handcrafted items, old fashioned lollipops and more

15. Nothing's Perfect Crafting by Dawn Witko- variety of craft items

16. Cheryl's Creation (Cheryl LaCoe)- handmade items, lollipops, beanies and more

17. Linda Leonard- crocheted and ceramic crafts

18. Deep Roots Hard Cider- local hard cider products

19. LBC Distillery- local distillery products

20. Burke's Maple Farm- variety of local maple products

21. The Booted Baker- variety of delicious baked treats

22. Wander Woman Creations by Drea- handmade jewelry, trinkets and more

23. KERSPLATCrafts- handmade creations and more

24. 31 Independent Consultant Arleen Peck

25. Wonderful World of Tupperware by Michelle/Michelle's Candle Creations

26. Denis Halstead's Farm- local, quality beef products

27. Mamabear Creations- customizable tumblers and pouches

28. Oprisko Kielbasa Market- smoked cheeses and meats

29. Perfectly Polished with Marilyn- Color Street Independent Consultant

30. Linda Warner- craft items and more!

31. Brenda's Beautiful Bling!-\$5 Papparazzi jewelry

32. McCorn Funny Farm- a Farm extravaganza or pro-

duce and more
33. B & G Winery LLC- local winery
34. #AARONSTRONG- benefits The Aaron Winan's foundation
35. GranmieJack's Makings- wooden crafts, wreaths, ornaments and more
36. Pop's Sugar Shack- honey and maple products
37. Jennifer's Smart Savings and Shopping- variety of businesses to help
38. Nelstra Gallery- pop culture, photography, crocheted items and more
39. DeHaven Family Farm- non GMO organic vegetables
40. Greyson's Forest City Rock Painting Station
41. Jo and Bri's Creation- handcrafted items made by students from FCR
42. JC Crafts- handcrafted jewelry, wooden toys, bird feeders & more
43. The Crystal Spirit- metaphysical, sage, incense, crystals and more
44. Amanda's Creations- all natural bath and body products
45. Jaime's Hair Wraps- beautiful woven hair wraps for children and adults

Charles & Martin Skubic Post 524 American Legion and Richmondale Hunting Club. Another free picnic will be held at the Aug. 16 Vendor Market sponsored by Fitzsimmons Insurance and Erie Insurance.

It was also reported that a grant was received toward new Christmas lights for Main St.

PUBLIC WORKS

In the Public Works Report \$505.00 was received in Saturday recycling donations. Workers took down the graduation banners and put back the business banners with the use of NEP Telephone pole ladder. And trees and stumps were removed at Kennedy Park

CODE ENFORCEMENT

On Code Enforcement five letters of violation were sent to property owners for grass and other conditions. Some rental properties, including commercial, have not been inspected after new tenants moved in. All code violations complaints must be reported in writing on forms available at boro website www.forest-cityborough.com, or at Boro office. They can be mailed or placed in drop box at bottom of stairs in Boro Building.

Code Enforcement Officer Chris DeGonzague reported he is working on a list of questions from members of the community regarding the Borough's preparedness for the COVID-19 pandemic.

A four-page list of Rules and Regulations for Kennedy park was provided to all Council members.

Police Chief Lee Rowan said he has had to ticket vehicles which park in the designated police parking spots on the south side of Center Street, next to the Borough Building. He said a traffic ordinance restricts all parking on that side except for on handicapped parking space.

Chief Rowans was also directed to move police vehicles from a parking area on the north side of Center St. due to the deterioration of a building nearby.

The next Council meeting will be Tuesday, Sept. 8 at 6pm due to Labor Day.

East Ararat UM Church BBQ Sat., Aug. 15

The East Ararat United Methodist Church will be having a Chicken BBQ on Sat., August 15 from 11AM-2PM. The cost is \$10.00. Please contact Jackie Burrows at 570-766-5322, or January Roney at 570-493-2470 for tickets.

