

# THE FOREST CITY NEWS



The pandemic scams are just rolling in. Last week we had two folks who got large envelopes indicating the receiver had to fill out a survey or their voter registration COULD be cancelled. As hard as the scammer tried to make it look legitimate it appeared to be a come-on for a donation request.

Another local man was lucky enough to get THREE scam letters. One with a \$9,498.55 check as the winner of Publisher's Clearing House (PCH). "Call our claims agent Jon Carpenter immediately and keep this letter confidential," it said. So you call and they get all your bank info and you get fleeced! The other two letters proclaimed he was the winner of two different lotteries—Gold Coast Mega Lottery and Eurozone Millones de Lisbon, Portugal. He was amazed that you can win a lottery without even having to buy a ticket!

Please folks—Hang up your phone, hit "delete" on your computer, or toss mail in garbage, whenever you get anything that is "too good to be true."

This is not a scam—Received notice that a parent or caregiver having to reduce their hours or leave their job to care for child or children whose school or childcare has closed due to COVID should go to U.S. Dept. of Labor website Families First Coronavirus Response Act, or for possible unemployment benefits for the same reasons go to Labor & Industry PUA webpage for Pandemic Unemployed Assistance Program. You may be eligible for both.

A huge tractor trailer had the misfortune to lose its drive shaft on Center Street Friday afternoon after leaving Frugal Living Factory. Needed two large wreckers to handle the situation.

Very large crowd at the free Pandemic picnic Sunday at Kennedy park. Great list of vendors and good food. Hats off to FC Parks & Recreation, Fitzsimmons Insurance and Erie Insurance that provided the free food.

Middle age is just walking around all day muttering things like...  
"What was I going to say?"  
"What did I come in here for?"  
"Did I already take my pill?"  
"How did I get this bruise?"  
"Why am I sore?"  
"Where did I leave my phone?"  
"Who moved my water glass?"  
"Did the dryer shrink these pants?"  
"That's it. Diet starts tomorrow."  
"\$2.99 a pound for apples? The nerve."  
"I could have sworn that was my password."  
"Who in the world is calling me at 9 p.m.?"

## 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



## "Just Believe" Once Again an Issue at Herrick Twp. Meeting

by Tammy O'Reilly

The Herrick Twp. Board of Supervisors met on Mon., Aug. 3, at the Herrick Center Baptist Church where once again the Just Believe Recovery Center was a topic of discussion.

Don Herr stated that he is concerned with the vegetation between the property of Just Believe and the road coming into Endless Mt. Resort which is not being maintained, and impeding the ability to see when pulling out of the driveway.

Supervisor Brian Zembrzycki noted that the township does not have a lawn-mowing ordinance, however, resort unit owner Catherine Meredith stated that section 407A of Herrick Township's zoning ordinance says that the buffer area needs to be maintained and it clearly is not. Ms. Meredith requested a legal opinion in writing on the issue, and, Chairman Zembrzycki stated that he would call the solicitor while also advising Ms. Meredith to email a formal request to the township.

Also discussed was the special meeting held on July 17 when the Planning Commission and Zoning Board met to review the plans for the installation of a communication tower. The plan was approved as a special exception under the zoning ordinance. The tower will be installed on the south knob of Elk Mt.

The planning commission will also meet on August 13 to review the addition plan of Bernard Jr. and Linda Zembrzycki for their lands located along SR#171.

The secretary, reading a report by zoning office, John Watts, stated that the codes inspection company had placed a stop work order on a property at Lewis Lake where a new foundation was installed but no permits issued. The zoning office issued four permits.

Chairman Zembrzycki made a motion to approve the change order for the new township building. Nancy Harvatine seconded it with all in favor. Zembrzycki will meet with Coyne Electric regarding electrical receptacles and phone installation.

An email was received, as requested, from Ryan Brown showing photos of the fire extinguisher in his office and handicap parking space. Chairman Zembrzycki noted that he had inspected these items and the handicap parking space needed to be moved.

Kurt Schultz had sent an email regarding the status of Brown's conditional use permit which has not been issued as of this date.

The Susquehanna County Tax Claim Bureau upset tax sale will be held September 14, at 10:00 a.m. Six Herrick Twp. properties are scheduled for sale if the taxes are not paid.

## Rte. 106 in Clifford scheduled to re-open

by Tammy O'Reilly

There was good news at the Clifford Twp. Supervisors meeting on Tuesday night, August 11, when it was announced that State Rte. 106 might be re-opened as early as Thursday, August 13. The road has been closed for repairs for more than a week, causing headaches for local residents, businesses, and traffic.

The Supervisors announced that Price Muehleisen has been hired as the new Building & Park Manager and began work the beginning of this month.

Also announced was that effective September 1, Scholars in Training Pre-school LLC will begin renting the space being vacated by Daydreamer Daycare which is closing as of August 28.

Solicitor Joseph McGraw spoke on a number of issues including a prior complaint on dogs running loose and noted that since there is existing Pennsylvania law, addressing unsecured pets which the Township could enforce, the need to create their own leash law seemed unnecessary.

McGraw also advised that he had received multiple correspondences from Tennessee Gas regarding the pipeline/permit compression station in Clifford. They wanted to keep the public aware of what was going on, and assure them that they were going through all the regulatory

## FCR Awarded Continuity of Ed. & Equity Grant

Forest City Regional was one of three area schools awarded a Continuity of Education and Equity Grant (CEEG) for the 2020-21 academic year.

Forest City received \$16,950, as did Blue Ridge School District, and Montrose Area received \$25,824.

CEEG grants are designed to help provide access and inclusion for all learners by bridging the gap for students who are currently limited in their ability to participate in continuity of education.

In addition, the Susquehanna County Career and Technical Education Center received a \$47,896 Career and Technical Education Equity Grant.

processes required.

Supervisor Searle then noted that several townships and boroughs were creating resolutions in support of the 2nd Amendment and asked that Solicitor McGraw read a resolution prepared at the request of the Supervisors. The resolution began by noting that Clifford Township, recognizing that the right to bear arms was enshrined in both the state and federal constitutions, would not support or enforce any act or law that infringed on a law-abiding citizens right to bear arms. The words "law-abiding" were stressed throughout, and Solicitor McGraw explained that in some circumstances there were exclusions to the resolution. Supervisor Searle made a motion to adopt the resolution and Supervisor Knowlton seconded it with all in favor. Several members of the audience praised their decision to have it written.

Other items discussed were: the free COVID testing being done at the Fire Co. on Saturday, August 15; the fact that there were 66 police calls during the month of July, and that road signs were disappearing in the township; the purchase of a new piece of equipment that can be attached to a 3-point hitch and used to groom and grade the walking trails; and the fact that volunteers are still needed for the Annual Clean-up and E-Cycling day scheduled for September 19 from 9 to noon.

At the end of the meeting, Michael Barhite, of Barhite Sales and Rentals presented the Supervisors with reports on two recently repaired bridges—Welsh Hill and TinkerBrook. The reports were prepared by his daughter, Sydney, who plans to go to school for engineering. Believing there is no better experience than hands on, Sydney read all the manuals and blueprints then worked side-by-side with her father on every aspect of the bridge repairs, while at the same time documenting the progress with stacks of photos also provided to the Supervisor. Quite an achievement for a Mt. View High School student just about to enter her senior year.



A Youth Fishing Derby will be held at Kennedy Park on Saturday, August 8. The event was sponsored by the Forest City Lions Club and coordinated by Police Chief Lee Rowan. Pictured are the winners of the fishing derby. Jonah Gorel was absent from photo.

## 31 participants in this year's Fishing Derby

A fishing derby was held on Saturday, August 16 at Kennedy Park after being rescheduled due to weather cancellation on Sunday, August 2. The event was run by the Forest City Police Dept. and the Forest City Lions Club.

There were 31 children participating from age 2 through 15. There were 21 male and 10 female participants. They caught a total of 60 fish consisting of Sunfish, Perch and Bass. Fish caught were as follows: 52 sunfish ranging in sizes from 4 1/2 inches to 9 1/2 inches; Perch total was 7 ranging in sizes from 1 1/4 inch to 9 1/2 inch and 1 bass measuring 6 1/4 inches. This fishing derby was catch and release. They divided the children into 2 age groups, ages 1 through 7 and ages 8 through 15. They

had 15 participants in the group of 1 through 7 and 16 participants in the age group of 8 to 15.

Winners in age group 1 through 7 are as follows:

Most Fish Caught: Michael Pevec, Waymart, age 7

1st Place: Jackson Brooks, Vandling, age 5

2nd Place: Michael Novak, Forest City, age 7

3rd Place: Noah Parcinski, Union Dale, age 4

4th Place: Ryland Smith, Browndale, age 5

5th Place: Blake German, Union Dale, age 7

Winners in the 8 through 15 are as follows:

Most fish Caught: Robert Cortez, Forest City, age 10

1st Place: Caleb Corey Union Dale, age 12

2nd Place: Keara McDowell, Forest City, age 12

3rd Place: Alex Thorton,

Carbondale, age 9  
4th Place: Jonah Gorel, Forest City, age 9

5th Place: Emma Mrakovich, Richmondale, Age 12

They would like to thank all participants and family that attended the Fishing Derby and look forward to seeing you at future events. They would also like to thank the following sponsors of this Fishing Derby. They are: Forest City Lions Club; NEP Telephone Company; KW Oil Co.; Frank O'Neill Builders, Pleasant Mount; Zazzera's Supermarket; Whites Crossing Sport Shop; PA Fish and Boat Commission; Forest City Parks and Recreation Board and all the people who volunteered their time. All these sponsors are what make this and every event as success. Thank You all.

## Roads dominate discussion at Clinton Township August meeting

by Tammy O'Reilly

Several topics were discussed at the Clinton Township Supervisor meeting on Wednesday night, including the deterioration in the center of Burns Road which was paved only last year. Supervisor Zefran noted that he felt the work was not up to specification and had talked to the Redevelopment Authority. Solicitor Treat agreed to write a letter to the company who performed the work, Leeward Construction, giving them the opportunity to correct the problem.

It was also suggested that Solicitor Treat write a letter to Camp Bonim regarding parking along Burns Road. On a prior "Camp Day," the road was so full of vehicles it was nearly impossible for residents to get through which created not just an inconvenience, but also a safety issue should an ambulance or fire truck need to get through.

Having received several complaints about the truck traffic on Ravnikar Road, the Supervisors inquired if they have any power to regulate what type of traffic uses a

dirt road in the township. Solicitor Treat noted that if the trucks were doing work on a property on the road, the township could not stop them from gaining access to that property, but could suggest they use an alternate route.

It was announced that the township might be able to get a block grant to pave Brook Street but residents on the street will need to be surveyed.

A motion was made by Chairman Zefran and seconded by Brian Non to send letters informing those residents that someone from the township would be visiting them to conduct the survey.

Woodland Design, which has been going over the township ordinances, requested a work session meeting with the Supervisors and the Planning Commission to propose recommendations that might benefit the township. The meeting has been scheduled for August 27 at 7 p.m. and will be open to the public.

Other topics of discussion concerned: water drainage on Vine and Chestnut Streets;

the placement of "School Bus Stop Ahead" signs at the bottom of Maple Hill Road and Route 247; how to improve the bidding process for the township; the noise ordinance in regard to target practicing and fireworks; the painting of crosswalks in Browndale; and the hiring of Derrick Gibbon on a 60 day probation period as a new township employee.

The purchase of a new fire truck by Browndale Fire Company was brought up during public comment when one resident asked whether any money was given to them for the truck, or brought up to residents first.

Supervisor Zefran acknowledged that the township had budgeted money for the Fire Company and had unanimously voted to release money to them, at which point the resident reminded the Supervisors that a survey revealed the residents were not in favor of giving the fire company any money and since the Supervisors work for the people, the wishes of the people should be honored.

## Historical Society will do genealogical research After receipt of 331 family files from Mr. Orasin

The Forest City Area Historical Society will begin doing genealogical research for the public. Though they have been doing this on a smaller scale since the Society was established, the recent receipt of a treasure trove of family genealogical research from Frank Orasin will provide a data base for this service.

At the Society meeting on Sunday, August 9, President John P. Kameen announced that Mr. Frank Orasin, of Saratoga, California, who has been doing such research on many Forest City families over the years, has donated his data base on 331 families to the Society.

Mr. Orasin, though he has never lived in Forest City, has deep roots to the town through the extensive Orasin Families.

Society Director and Society Curator Barb Klobucar, who has been doing genealogical research for those con-

tacting the Society, will be in charge of handling requests for the information.

The Society considered putting the names of the 331 families on line but for privacy reasons they decided against it. Also every family genealogy will have many other names, than just the family name, attached to it. The digitized files will allow all names to be accessed.

In addition to the vast Orasin files, the Society has access to local cemetery information through a two volume registry written ten years ago by Janet Bennet Belcher, and also access to the 134 years of The Forest City News which is available in the long-preserved actual print editions, as well as on microfilm and, in recent years, on the Forest City News server.

The Society will institute a system, and a charge, for doing the genealogical research. When the system

goes into effect, anyone seeking family information fills out an on-line questionnaire with the names, dates and other family name information. A fee of \$10.00 paid thru Paypal will be charged to see if Ms. Klobucar can find if the Society has your family information. If the Society has this information, a fee of \$25.00, paid by Paypal, will be charged and the information will be transmitted. In the event more work is required such as cemetery or obituary searches, a \$25.00 per hour will be charged.

The new system is not yet in operation. An announcement will be made on-line and in The Forest City News when the system is operational. Over the past few years from one to four requests per month for such information are received by the Society and have been handled at no charge.