



McChg. Schools To Present Spring Chorus Concert

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Benefit Shoot Held For Scouts

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THURSDAY WEEKLY

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McCONNELLSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

May 5, 2016

New Dollar General Site Work Begins



Excavation is under way for a new 10,640-square-foot Dollar General Store that will replace the existing one at 295 Lincoln Way West in Todd Township. The new store will stand to the east of and adjacent to the old store along the north side of Lincoln Way West (old Rte. 30). The new Dollar General Store is slated to get 34 parking spaces, a big improvement over the limited number of spaces available at the very popular present store.

Speed Limit Now 70 mph On Most PA Interstate Highways

Remains 55 on I-70 in Fulton County

By The Associated Press
HARRISBURG, Pa. — Motorists will get to drive up to 70 mph on nearly 1,000 miles of Pennsylvania highway once transportation crews complete work they began this week posting signs with the new speed limit.

State transportation officials said Monday that the 70-mph signs will be posted on 396 miles of the Pennsylvania Turnpike and 400 miles of five state highways. That's in addition to about 200 miles where the speed limit rose to 70 in 2014.

Roadways that will get the new 70-mph signs include sections of Interstates 79, 80, 99 and 380 and U.S. 15.

The speed limit will rise on all remaining sections of the turnpike system that are now posted at 65 mph, including extensions in southwestern Pennsylvania, officials said.

Transportation Secretary Leslie Richards said agency officials studied factors such as speed, traffic data and the physical characteristics of the highways

before deciding where it would be safe to raise the speed limit. Areas that did not qualify for the increase had crash histories, work zones, heavy or weaving traffic, or other characteristics that made a higher limit less safe, officials said.

About three dozen states already have speed limits of 70 mph or higher. Pennsylvania lawmakers allowed the higher speed limits in a 2013 law that also raised motorist taxes and fees in an effort to deliver more than \$2 billion extra per year to transportation improvements.

Almost 90 percent of the Pennsylvania Turnpike or 398 miles of the 552-mile system, will be posted as 70-mph zones.

Places where the speed limit is 55 mph will not rise, including work zones, tunnels, mainline toll plazas, the eastern slope of the Allegheny Mountains and the seven-mile stretch east of the Bensalem interchange in Bucks County.

In 2014, the turnpike speed limit rose to 70 mph on a 97-mile stretch in south-central Pennsylvania between the Blue Mountain and Morgantown interchanges.

The other stretches of highways that will have the 70-mph speed limit include:

- I-79 from Exit 190 in Erie County, 97 miles south to just north of the Pa. 228 interchange in Butler County.
- I-79 from I-70 in Washington County, 33 miles south to the West Virginia state line.

- I-80 from the Ohio state border, 190 miles east to a point near mile-marker 190 in Clinton County.

- I-80 near mile marker 195 in Union County, 52 miles east to a point near mile-marker 247 in Columbia County.

- I-99 from Exit 68 in Centre County, 34 miles south to a point near mile-marker 34 in Blair County.

- I-99 from Exit 28 in Blair County, 28 miles south to the intersection with the Pennsylvania Turnpike in Bedford County.

- I-80 from I-34 in Lackawanna County, 21 miles south to Exit 3 in Monroe County.

- U.S. 15 from the interchange with Pa. 14 in Lycoming County, 49 miles north to the New York state line.



Forbes Road Forming Booster Club

Kickoff meeting slated for May 12

By Chanin Rotz-Mountz
NEWS EDITOR

In hopes of bolstering school spirit within the student body and community as a whole and encouraging participation in a variety of activities, officials at the Forbes Road School District are set to host a kickoff meeting for the formation of a booster club later this month.

The first meeting of the Forbes Road Spirit Boosters will get under way in the high school library at 7 p.m. next Thursday, May 12, under the direction of several school board members and district Principal Maria Scott. Among the items on the meeting agenda are the establishment of subcommittees, the acceptance of nominations for officers and a general overview of what the club hopes to achieve through its creation.

Participation in the club is not limited to parents or guardians of

district students. Coaches, faculty, grandparents, high school students and even concerned residents are also encouraged to be a part of this new organization.

According to Scott, "We're excited about the idea of having a booster club that spans all of our extracurricular activities. Because we're a small district, there's a lot of extracurricular crossover here at Forbes. It's not unusual for one student to play field hockey and softball while also participating in drama, FFA and Envirothon."

Parents of these students can be spread very thin as they try to support their children in all of these activities individually. By joining the new booster club, fundraising, volunteering and spirit activities will all be harnessed under one organization, growing school spirit with more coordinated effort," she added.

Subcommittees to be established include those to oversee ac-

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King Pleads Not Guilty To Rape

To appear at July 12 call of the criminal trial list

STAFF REPORT
A northern Fulton County man waived his right to formal arraignment

this week on the first of two sets of rape allegations involving a child and will reappear in county court this summer.



Thomas King

Thomas Stuart King of 1754 Pump Station Road, Harrisonville, waived his right to arraignment in the Fulton County Court of Common Pleas by mail Tuesday. King pleaded not guilty to two counts each of rape by forcible compulsion, statutory sexual assault, corruption of minors; three counts each of indecent assault and aggravated indecent assault; and one count of criminal attempt-involuntary deviate sexual intercourse.

He will next appear in court on July 12 for call of the criminal trial list and is represented by at-

torney Heidi Fisher Eakin of Lemoyne.

An affidavit of probable cause filed in this case indicates that Fulton County Services for Children received a complaint from a mandated reporter last December. A mandated reporter is an individual who has a legal responsibility to report suspected child abuse and can include, but is not limited to, clergy, a school employee, persons licensed or certified to practice in the health field and law enforcement.

The report made to Services for Children, according to the investigating officer, Pennsylvania State Police Trooper Tim Lear of the McConnellsburg substation, alleges a 13-year-old female was raped by King over the summer of 2015 at his residence located in Taylor Township.

Charging documents allege the inappropriate touching and sexual acts against the child occurred between June 22, 2015, and July 31, 2015.

In addition, King, 52, is accused of propositioning the child for sex again in the month of September. The girl reportedly denied her advances but was asked not to tell anyone.

County Commissioners Hold Weekly Meetings

By Chanin Rotz-Mountz
NEWS EDITOR

The Fulton County commissioners tended to Clean and Green matters Tuesday and pondered future allocations and expenses for the county senior centers.

Chief assessor Michelle Sowers sat down before the commissioners May 3 to discuss a Clean and Green assessment issue and whether rollback taxes should be waived. The property owners, Sowers said, are seeking to split their 16-acre tract by selling six acres to the owner of an adjoin-

ing tract also enrolled in Clean and Green. She stressed that the use of the property is not changing and at no time will the six acres be a stand-alone parcel.

Sowers was encouraged to check with solicitor Stanley Kerlin further before a decision is rendered.

In other matters, the commissioners discussed an upcoming tri-county commissioners meeting of the Bedford-Huntingdon-Fulton Area Agency on Aging (AAA). The commissioners discussed the need to tabulate the most current expenses paid by the senior groups at the Hustontown, McConnellsburg and Warfordsburg senior centers. Among the utilities mentioned were telephone, cable, electric, trash removal, grass mowing and snow removal. The commissioners added the county and its seniors deserve to receive their fair share when it comes to various AAA services as well as allocations to offset expenses.

Chair Stuart Ush was authorized to sign an environmental review for Buck Valley Park as part of a meeting with community development co-ordina-

tor Karen Hann.

Chief Financial Officer Doug Tengel appeared before the commissioners on Tuesday as he did on April 26 for "routine business updates," according to the commissioners' meeting minutes. Other action taken last week included the adoption of a resolution naming Tengel the contact person for the county as required to apply for Winter Storm Jonas federal disaster-relief reimbursement through Pennsylvania Emergency Management Agency.

A service agreement was penned with Alternative Living Solutions, which will provide services as needed to Services for Children and Juvenile Probation. The commissioners met with True North Wellness Franklin/Fulton County Director Gary Minnier and regional marketing manager/peer support supervisor Larissa Jacobsen and signed a proclamation naming May 1 through May 7 Children's Mental Health Awareness Week.

The commissioners adjourned last Tuesday's meeting at 10:35 a.m. but reconvened later that evening as the Board of Elections.

DEATHS

Eddy, Inez S., 77, McConnellsburg
Stains, Emma J., 71, St. Thomas

OBITUARIES, Page B3



Halvorson Concedes In 9th District Race

Shuster gets GOP nomination

STAFF REPORT

Art Halvorson, a retired U.S. Coast Guard captain and real-estate developer who made headlines in recent years for his campaign to "Rescue America" conceded Monday in the 9th Congressional District primary election.

The race between Halvorson and incumbent U.S. Rep. Bill Shuster was a tight one as election results streamed in last Tuesday and were then canvassed days later by boards of elections in the 9th District, which includes Fulton County as well as the bordering counties of

Bedford, Huntingdon and Franklin.

Halvorson narrowly took Fulton County by a margin of 1,368 votes to 1,296 votes. He also won in Bedford, Blair and Franklin counties, while Shuster was reportedly victorious in the western portion of his 12-county district and in Fayette County by 3,900 votes.

In a campaign message Monday, Halvorson said, "We can't win within one percentage point of beating a deeply entrenched incumbent who outspent us 15 to 1, and who wielded every advantage that incumbent affords. Despite having the full weight of the Washington Cartel against

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