

BLESSINGS AT EASTER

THURSDAY
WEEKLY

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MCCONNELLSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

APRIL 9, 2009

Public A "No Show" At Town Meeting

More meetings
scheduled by
commissioners; next
gathering set for May 7

By **Chanin Rotz-Mountz**
STAFF WRITER

Armed with a Power Point presentation and an array of information related to upcoming and ongoing area projects, Fulton County commissioners Bonnie Mellott Keefer, Daniel Swain II and David Hoover II gathered at the Hustontown Senior Center last Thursday evening for their second town meeting of 2009.

Unfortunately, for the second straight year, members of the public were a no show at the town meeting in Hustontown that was designed to give input from a county level and also answer questions about issues relevant to northern Fulton County.

Discouraged at the lack of participation from county residents in 2008 and 2009 at that particular location, talks on the matter could result in a change of venue for the commissioners to another northern area of Fulton County, such as Waterfall.

The next town meeting will

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Well, Septic Workshop April 23

A well and septic system workshop for homeowners will be held from 10:00 a.m. to noon on Thursday, April 23, at the Fulton Theatre on North Second Street in McConnellsburg.

This informal workshop will answer lots of "how to" questions, including how to prevent well contamination, conserve water, get rid of odors from water, keep your septic system working, and determine if the well will keep up during drought.

Penn State Extension educators George Hurd (Franklin Co.) and Tom McCarty (Cumberland Co.) will conduct the workshop using models, video clips and materials. There is no cost to attend.

The workshop will provide some basic information helpful for everyone responsible for their

See **WORKSHOP**, Page A2

DEATHS

Bean, Myrtie, 85, Orbisonia
Hendershot, Hazel, 92, Berk. Spgs.
Mellott, Raymond Sr., 90, Florida
Mills, Audrey, 71, Everett
Mosebey, Edyth, 96, Wells Valley
Oakman, Harry, 90, Ohio
Omps, Robert, 64, Crystal Spring
Seville, Richard, 63, McCbg.
Smith, Grace, 64, Needmore
Van Pelt, Robert, 94, Breezewood

OBITUARIES, Page B3



Trout Season Opens April 18

Time still left to get
license, trout stamp

By **Chanin Rotz-Mountz**
STAFF WRITER

With trout season already under way Saturday in neighboring Franklin County, local anglers have an extra two weeks to finalize what type of bait and rod they will be using, in addition to choosing the location of their first cast, for the opening day scheduled for April 18 in Fulton County.

Last Friday amid bouts of steady rainfall, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission officers along with local volunteers and landowners made their final preparations for Fulton County's 8 a.m. season opener, including stocking a variety of trout in 12 different locations in the northern end of the county.

Among the stops in Dublin Township were the Ditmer and Rubeck properties along Great Cove Road. An entourage of helpers, including longtime fish stockers Garey Sprowl and Frank Mellott, donned their hip-waders and raincoats to volunteer their services and hoist buckets and nets filled with fish from the Huntsdale fish hatchery truck operated by fish culturist Craig Pugh.

According to Waterways Conservation Officer (WCO) Anthony Quarracino and supervisor Corey Britcher of Fish and Boat's Southcentral Regional Office, the most recent stock resulted in a total of 2,400 fish, equating to 1,500 pounds, being released into the county's waterways. Among those were a total of 40 trophy-sized Palamino trout.

Additional fish trucked in from the Reynoldsdale hatchery supply a portion of Fulton County as well under the direction of fellow WCO Ted Kane.

Even though Fulton County's help is notably smaller than that of Franklin County, Quarracino noted area helpers are loyal and extra usually come onboard as the hatchery truck is observed travelling from stop to stop.

Additional help will likely be



Larry Rubeck accepts a bucket filled with fish from fellow volunteer Frank Mellott last Friday morning in preparation for the opening day of trout season on April 18. The trout were transported to 12 locations in Dublin Township by Craig Pugh, fish culturist from the Huntsdale Hatchery.

needed along the way as pre-stockings of brook, brown and rainbow trout are slated for April 9 at Cowans Gap State Park; Little Brush Creek and Oregon Creek, Sideling Hill Creek and Laurel Fork on April 14; April 15 at Big Cove Creek and Spring Run; and April 17 at the south and north branches of the Little Aughwick Creek.

With time quickly dwindling until the first line is cast next Saturday, licenses and the necessary trout stamp can still be purchased locally. Purchases can be made, WCO Quarracino further reminded residents, at the Fulton County treasurer's office and at Keller's Country Store in Hustontown and at the Fort Loudon-based Keystone Country Store.



Jeff Truman dumps a net full of trout in the stream running through the Rubeck Farm located along Great Cove Road in Dublin Township.

Forbes Road Board Accepts Resignations

To use grant money
for new computers

By **Chanin Rotz-Mountz**
STAFF WRITER

Forbes Road School Board reviewed several resignations Monday night and announced plans to begin interviewing interested candidates for the position of district superintendent.

Among the resignations tendered and accepted by the board during its monthly meeting were elementary boys basketball coach Tom Taylor, teacher aide Kristy Harrison and senior high math teacher Stephanie Holiday.

Holiday, who only submitted her resignation Friday for the reported purpose of accepting a teaching position at another district, will step down from her position at the high school level on July 30. Meanwhile, Harrison's resignation is effective June 5.

On the heels of interviews held on April 2, 3 and 6 to fill the vacant position of library aide, the board met behind closed doors to hear a recommendation for a replacement by Principal Fred Foster. After reconvening 15 minutes later, on a 8-0 roll-call vote the board hired Amanda Brown at an hourly rate. Brown will begin her duties immediately following spring break on April 14.

Soon to be retiring Superintendent Dr. Merrill Arnold announced interviews for the superintendent's position will be held at 6:30 a.m. on April 14 and 16. Arnold also noted the interviews will be closed to the public.

Arnold further indicated to fellow board members and administrators negotiation meetings with teachers are tentatively scheduled for 4:30 p.m. on April 15, May 5 and May 20.

In other personnel-related matters, the board added Misti Keebaugh and Kayla Knepper to the district's teacher substitute list. Keebaugh possesses certification in English, and Knepper is certified in elementary education.

Under the category of finance, the board approved the 2009-10 general operating budget for Tuscarora Intermediate Unit #11 in the amount of \$2,955,073. As previously noted by school district representative Dr. Walter Curfman, Forbes Road's share in the operating budget has not increased in multiple years.

A low bid totalling \$1,087.94 submitted by Robert Figard Transportation was accepted. Only one other bid was turned in for the transportation route that will provide three bus and two van runs for the tennis team's away games.

Ralph Helman was granted permission to provide Extended School Year transportation for the summer reading program. During the board's previous work session, it was discussed whether the route should be given to Helman, the Intermediate Unit or whether it should be advertised.

Sealed bids will be accepted this spring for the sale of the district's old International tractor.

The board approved utilizing \$10,000 in REAP grant money to purchase a total of 65 student computers and 12 teacher computers. In addition, through the grant process, the district will be turning in its older model computers. The project will be financed over a three-year period.

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Dual Bridge Removal On I-70

Beginning April 13, work will get under way on Interstate 70, near the village of Crystal Springs, Fulton County to replace two dual bridge structures that carry Interstate 70 over T-390 (Lodge Road) in Brush Creek Township.

The contractor, New Enterprise Stone and Lime Co. Inc. of New Enterprise will place concrete barriers to redirect traffic patterns. Traffic will be reduced to one lane on both east and west bound lanes of Interstate 70.

The overall project will consist of removing two concrete bridge structures that carry Interstate 70 over Township Road 390 (Lodge Road) and replacing them with a single concrete box culvert.

A 3-mile detour of Township Road 390 (Lodge Road) will be in place for the duration of the project. The detour will take travelers from T-390 (Lodge Road) to Route 3017 (Old Route 126) to Route 915 to Route 4005 (Pleasant Valley Road) to Township Road 500 (Camp Meeting Road) and back to Township Road 390 (Lodge Road).

The \$2.47 million project is being funded with 100 percent state money and is expected to be completed by mid-November, 2009.

Schetrompf Making Mark With Pool Skills

Tonya Schetrompf
nets winnings
in tourney at
Valley Forge

By **Chanin Rotz-Mountz**
STAFF WRITER

A Fulton County native has begun to leave her mark in the world of pool, making an impressive finish in the world's second-largest pool tournament held in Valley Forge, Pa., last month.

Thirty-seven-year-old Tonya Schetrompf, currently of Hancock, Md., garnered a 12th-place division standing in the Rally In The Valley pool tourney that kicked off March 19 and ended several days later on March 22. Organized by the TAPS League, the event saw more than 10,000 competitors in the four-bracket division, including Schetrompf's husband, Jayme.

According to Schetrompf, the daughter of McConnellsburg residents Junior and Millie Truax, while she enjoyed playing pool and had been dabbling in the hobby for several years, she didn't get serious about the sport until she met her husband.

"I've been playing for about 11 years, but I started getting serious about four years ago,"

said Schetrompf, who netted \$250 in earnings for her performance at the tournament. "Recently a lot of people have been encouraging me to start practicing more because they've seen me play. Plus watching the other women play has been an inspiration to me."

Schetrompf stated she has a pool table in her 1518 Pierre Road home and does practice and play for fun with her husband. However, much of her time at the table occurs during several nights of league play throughout the course of the week. Schetrompf is a member of the APA Pool League, a nationwide organization based locally in Hagerstown, Md., as well as the TAPS League out of Winchester, Va. She also participates in league play in Martinsburg, W.Va.

She noted she had been playing year-round but intends to take some time off this summer to spend some quality time with her family. Looking ahead to the future, though, Schetrompf indicated she has already made reservations for the 2010 Rally In The Valley tournament and hopes to someday achieve the skills currently possessed by her husband when it comes to moving the cueball out of sticky spots.

"I wish I was as good as my



Fulton County native **Tonya Schetrompf** took high marks in the Rally In The Valley pool tournament held March 19-22 in Valley Forge, Pa. The tournament was organized by the TAPS League and saw over 10,000 competitors.

husband," concluded Schetrompf, who added in gest that she is enjoying the status in-

involved with possessing the largest trophy in the family pool room.

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