

SENTINEL LOCAL NEWS

SINCE 1884

SERVING NORTHERN DAUPHIN, LOWER NORTHUMBERLAND AND WESTERN SCHUYLKILL COUNTIES

top news

- Memorial Day events are planned.
- Railroad club open second Saturdays of the month.
- Bike rodeo to be held in Lykens.
- Trout rodeos slated at Gutshall Lake.

sports news

- Four track and field athletes qualify for states.
- UDA and WV girls' take league titles.
- Twin County Softball League announces upcoming matches.

Town hall meeting addressing opioid addiction held for concerned citizens

By Duane Good
EDITOR

No parent wants to outlive a child – or wishes death on them.

But at least one police officer has had parents tell him that a fatal overdose may be “the only way out” for a son or daughter caught in the grip of addiction to heroin or prescription painkillers.

Finding other ways out was the topic of a May 17 town hall meeting for *Sentinel*-area residents concerned about the escalating issue of opioid addiction north of Peters Mountain.

Sponsored by Dauphin County, the meeting was held at Trinity United Methodist Church, Elizabethtown, and fea-



Bob Stout of the Halifax Borough Police Department speaks as part of a panel discussion. (Submitted photo)

tured a panel of speakers including county officials, police officers and teachers.

A similar meeting was

held in the Harrisburg area last week. Typically, “upper end” residents might see heroin/painkiller addiction as an issue limited to more urban areas. Not so, last week’s speakers said.

“It’s here, and it’s here in a big way,” a police officer noted.

“If you think it’s not here and kids in school aren’t doing it, you’re crazy,” said another panelist.

Deaths by opioid overdose in upper Dauphin County are not just a small fraction of the ones occurring throughout the county in recent years, according to Coroner Graham Hetrick, one of the panelists.

Oftentimes, a heroin

addict begins with a legitimate need for painkillers, develops a dependency, then turns to heroin either when painkillers are not available, or when they can only afford to buy heroin, which is less expensive overall. (Both heroin and painkillers, such as Oxycontin, are derived from the same source – opium.)

Panelists said they have seen a notable shift in the past decade or more among young people abusing alcohol and turning to opioids, crystal meth or other drugs.

The majority of DUI (Driving Under the Influence) arrests in the region no longer are for alcohol, but are for con-

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TRI-COUNTY BRIEF

Accident claims life of area man

LOWER MAHANOY TWP. • State police at Stonington said a head-on collision resulted in the death of Christopher A. Franki, 50, of Elizabethtown, May 19 on Route 225 in Lower Mahanoy Twp.

Police said Franki was northbound on the highway in the area of Raupstal Road, south of Line Mountain High School.

For unknown reasons, his 2002 Mercedes-Benz E320 entered the opposite lane on a right curve in the road. The car entered the path of a 2014 Mitsubishi Fuso FE160 and struck the truck head-on, police said.

The truck’s driver and passenger were identified as Richard L. Berry, 60, of Northumberland; and Colby L. Ernest, 25, of Sunbury. Police

SEE BRIEF • PAGE A2

Renovation plans moving forward for the Union House Apartment project in Lykens

Story and Photos
by Duane Good

LYKENS • Journey’s 1981 hit “Don’t Stop Believing” wouldn’t have sounded out of place at a May 19 ceremony marking the formal start of the Union House Apartments project.

Officials with the Lykens Community Development Corp., Lykens Borough, Dauphin County and many other entities did not stop believing that a plan first conceived more than five years ago would eventually see the light of day.

That plan – to renovate the former Lykens Hotel and Patriotic Order Sons of America building into affordable apartments – is moving forward. Renovation of both buildings will continue through 2016 with a target completion date of about a year from now.

Last week’s ceremony was, for many in attendance, a cele-



Kevin Jury, president of the Lykens Community Development Corporation, speaks at the May 19 ceremony.

bration – both for the preservation of the two buildings and of what they could mean to the Lykens downtown area.

It is hoped that the buildings, once re-booted, will serve as a catalyst for the addition of new

businesses and services in the community. (Retail and office spaces are planned for both facilities.)

The ceremony also marked an official end to any frustra-

SEE HOTEL • PAGE A4

AMAZING ANIMALS ON PAGE A-5



HONORING OUR NATION'S HEROES MEMORIAL DAY

5.30.16



Local events highlight caring, Lupus Foundation



Halifax Communities That Care sponsored CTC Day May 21 at Halifax Area High School.

ABOVE: Avery Weber of Halifax, age 7, goes airborne while testing her skill at completing the inflatable obstacle course. (Sentinel photo by Tom Degnitz)



A pig roast to benefit the Lupus Foundation of Pennsylvania was held May 21 at the Short Mountain Conservation Club in Loyaltown. The event featured food, a Chinese auction and musical entertainment throughout the day.

ABOVE: Ashton Carl of Tower City, age 3, eyes up one the many items at the Chinese auction. (Sentinel photo by Ron Schmick)



PUBLIC NOTICES IN THIS WEEK'S SENTINEL:

• Halifax Twp. – Roadwork bids sought. 2015 Combined Statement of Revenues.

• Upper Dauphin Area School District – Invites proposals for Video Surveillance System Replacement Project.

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COMMUNITY

Town Hall

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trolled substances, police said.

Another officer commented on how a recent string of burglaries was traced to individuals selling stolen items to support their addictions.

In just Dauphin County alone, an estimated 1,200 pounds of painkillers and other prescription drugs were turned into police stations as part of an ongoing disposal program.

The prevalence of opioid addiction is something the public needs to take seriously, panelists said. Overdose deaths have quadrupled since 1999, as have sales of Oxycontin and other painkillers.

In Pennsylvania alone, more than 2,700 people died in 2014 as the result of an overdose.

"If that many people died in a terrorist attack, we'd go crazy," said county Chief Detective John Goshert.

"We have to ask the right questions," Hetrick noted.

"Out of all the countries in the world, why do Americans consume the most opioids? And why are we allowing it to happen?"

While many concerns were expressed at the meeting, speakers also said steps already are being taken to push back.

All police departments in the county – both upper and lower ends – are now equipped with Narcan, a drug designed to counter the effects of an opioid overdose. As reported in the *Sentinel* last month, Halifax Borough police used Narcan to save the life of an overdose victim.

The county's Department of Drug and Alcohol Services continues to offer avenues of treatment for people ready to be freed of their addictions. It's never too late for an addict to seek treatment while they are alive, panelists said.

"We can't help you if you're dead," as one put it.

More information on the county's services is available by calling 717-635-2254.

During a lengthy discussion following the panelists' presentation, audience

members stressed the need for better access to treatment services for "upper end" residents, as well as more availability of support groups locally for individuals affected by addiction and their families.

Also stressed was the need to avoid judging or stigmatizing people struggling with addiction, as well as their families. It was pointed out that addiction crosses all social and economic lines and that anyone can fall into its snare. (Some military combat veterans fighting Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder have been known to end up abusing opioids.)

Panelists for the local meeting included Goshert; Hetrick; Chris Still and Bob Stout, Halifax Borough Police; Edward Lloyd and Kyle Tobin, Pennsylvania State Police; and Joann Sites, Upper Dauphin Area High School wellness instructor.

Additional speakers were George Hartwick III, county commissioner; and Cheryl Dondero, director of the county's Drug and Alcohol Services.



The town hall meeting was held May 17 at Trinity United Methodist Church, Elizabethville.

Lifeline adds board members

MILLERSBURG • The board of directors of Lifeline Pregnancy Care Center elected two new board members during a recent meeting.

Sheila Bowman of Millersburg was an accountant for Herbert, Rowland and Grubic, Inc., for more than 15 years before leaving the company. She and her husband, Carl, reside in Millersburg. She has two sons, a daughter and eight grandchildren. Bowman volunteers at her church, Millersburg Assembly of God, and the Millersburg Senior Center.

Steve Carroll retired from The Salvation Army after 39 years of service five years ago from Massachusetts and now lives with his wife, Betzann, in Halifax. The Carrolls have two children,

who are both Salvation Army officers: Captain Steve Carroll Jr. who serves with his wife, Captain Delia on The Salvation Army's Divisional Headquarters in Pittsburgh, and Captain Helen Johnson who serves with her husband Captain Kevin as corps officers (pastors) at The Salvation Army in Clearfield, PA.

Carroll also was elected to serve as the board's interim vice president, temporarily replacing Dave Strohecker of Halifax who has taken a short leave of absence to work on special projects.

Lifeline Pregnancy Care Center, 403 Union Street, serves northern Dauphin, western Schuylkill and southern Northumberland County areas. They can be reached at 717-692-2183 or lifeline@pa.net



Sheila Bowman



Major Steve Carroll

Confirmation observed at area churches



LEFT: The Rite of Confirmation was celebrated at Trinity UCC, Millersburg, as part of the observance of the Festival of Pentecost, May 15. A reception for the confirmands followed the service.

Pictured are the Rev. John C. Miller and (from left): Aiden Harman, son of David Harman; Joshua Rothermel, son of Mile and Jill Rothermel; and Myah Smeltz, daughter of Brian and Karen Smeltz. (Submitted photo)

RIGHT: The Rite of Confirmation was celebrated at St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, Berrysburg, on the Day of Pentecost, May 15.

The newly confirmed members were presented with a keepsake cross for Thrivent Financial of Lutherans. The congregation congratulates the newly confirmed youth for completing this important part of their faith journey.

Pictured (from left): Cameron Thompson, Pastor Thomas G. Bruner Jr. and Elijah Conte. (Submitted photo)



OPEN MEMORIAL DAY 7AM TO 5PM

BG's Value Market

Every Wednesday 5% SENIOR DISCOUNT!

717-692-4707 -DOUBLE-COUPONS See Details At Store Millersburg Store Only DVD RENTALS

OPEN DAILY: 7 AM - 9 PM Prices Effective Tuesday, 5/24/16 thru Monday, 5/30/16

Middleswarth Weekenders

10 oz. 2/\$5

Dannon or Oikos Greek Yogurt

5 oz. Asst. Var. 88¢

Turkey Hill Original Ice Cream

Asst. 48 oz. \$2.38

Turkey Hill Tea or Drinks

\$1.88 gal.

USDA 80% Lean Ground Chuck

\$3.48 lb.

Fresh All Natural Boneless Chicken Breasts

\$2.18 lb.

Best Yet Butter

\$2.48

TASTE THE SIZZLE

USDA Fully Trimmed Beef **VALUE PACK**

Top Sirloin Steaklb. **\$5.29**

USDA Select Beef

Half N.Y. Strip Loinlb. **\$5.49**

Boneless Beef

Sirloin Tip Roastlb. **\$3.78**

Sirloin Tip Steakslb. **\$3.98**

Fully Trimmed **VALUE PACK**

N.Y. Strip Steaks.....lb. **\$9.98**

Prairie Fresh

Baby Back Spare Ribslb. **\$3.98**

Fresh Pork

Flat Spare Ribslb. **\$2.68**

Fresh Pork Loin **VALUE PACK**

Boneless Country Ribslb. **\$1.98**

Fresh Pork

Whole Boneless Pork Loin.....lb. **\$1.98**

Center Cut Pork Loin

Boneless Pork Chopslb. **\$2.88**

Prima Porta Hot or Sweet **VALUE PACK**

Fresh Italian Sausagelb. **\$1.98**

PRE-PACKAGED MEATS

All Natural Chicken **VALUE PACK**

Legs-Drums-Thighs.....lb. **88¢**

Asst. Var. (Excl. Beef & Cheese)

Hatfield Meat Franks1 lb. **3/\$3**

Asst. Var.

Kunzler Sliced Baconlb. **\$3.68**

Johnsenville All Var.

Smoked Sausage.....13.5 oz. **2/\$6**

Hillshire Farms Kielbasa or

Smoked Sausage.....14 oz. **2/\$7**

BG's Store Made Frozen

1/4 lb. Beef Patties12 ct. pkg. **\$12.98**

Kunzler

Grill Franks 16 oz. **\$2.48**

SEAFOOD

Steamed #2

Seasoned Cooked Crabs.....6 ct. **\$7.98**

41-50 ct. Ready-to-Eat Wholey

Cooked Shrimp.....lb. **\$7.98**

USA Farm Raised

Littleneck Clams50 ct. bag **\$11.98**

1893 Best Yet Virginia Deli Ham

\$3.28 lb.

Clearfield American Cheese

\$4.18 lb.

Bagged Russet Potatoes 5 lb.

\$2.98

DELICATESSEN

Giordano

Premium Corned Beef.....lb. **\$7.68**

Sahlens

Roasted Chicken Breastlb. **\$6.48**

Land-O-Lakes

Cheddar American Cheeselb. **\$4.98**

ASK

Creamy Cole Slaw.....lb. **\$2.28**

Winter Gardens, ASK, Grandma's

Macaroni or Potato Saladslb. **\$2.28**

BG's Store Made

Meaty Pasta Saladlb. **\$4.98**

PRODUCE

Fresh

Lemons or Limeseach **88¢**

Loose Crisp

Gala,Granny Smith,Fuji Apples lb. **\$1.48**

Fresh

Broccoli Crownslb. **\$1.48**

Cluster

Tomatoeslb. **\$1.18**

Sweet

Vadalia Onionslb. **98¢**

Fresh Express Salad Mix

Garden Salad 12 oz.

Old Fashioned Cole Slaw 14 oz.

\$1.58

IN STORE BAKERY

- FLAVOR OF THE WEEK DONUT -

French Apple

White

Hot Dog or Hamburg Buns 6 pk. **\$1.48**

Fresh Baked

Sticky Buns6 pk. **\$3.68**

with nuts6 pk. **\$3.98**

Assorted Store Baked

Homestyle Cookies.....10/**\$1.28**

Fresh Baked 8"

Cherry, Apple, Blueberry Pies..ea. **\$3.98**

Kraft Cracker Barrel or Shredded Cheese

7-8 oz. \$2.18

General Mills

Cookie Crisp 11 oz. 12 oz.

French Toast Crunch 11 oz. 12 oz.

Golden Grahams 12 oz.

Honey Nut Cherrios 12 oz.

Cinn. Toast Crunch 12 oz.

Jif Peanut Butter

15-16 oz. \$1.78

Maxwell House Coffee

28-30 oz. Excl. Decaf \$6.98

GROCERY

Classic Yellow

French's Mustard20 oz. **\$1.88**

8 Qt. Tub or 10 Ct. Sticks

Crystal Light Drink Mix 1-2 oz.. **\$1.48**

Betty Crocker

Suddenly Salad6-7 oz. **\$1.48**

Asst.

Mardi Gras Napkins.....250 ct. **\$1.68**

Pickle Chips, Stackers, Midgets

Vlasic Spears, Gherkins ..16-24 oz. **\$1.88**

Granulated

Domino Sugar4 lb. **\$1.98**

Asst.

A-1 Steak Sauce10 oz. **\$2.28**

Regular or Decaf

Lipton Tea50-100 ct. **\$2.98**

Asst.

ERA Detergent50 oz. **\$2.98**

DAIRY & FROZEN

I.W.S White or Yellow

Kraft American Cheese..12 oz. **\$2.18**

Regular, Lite, Fat Free

Breakstone's Sour Cream 16 oz. **\$1.38**

Reg. or Light

Philadelphia Cream Cheese..8 oz. **\$1.48**

Real Cream

Reddi-Whip Topping6 oz. **\$1.88**

Hanover Steam-in-Bag 7 Var.

Purple Line Veggies.....10 oz. **88¢**

Asst. Var.

McCain Fries19-32 oz. **\$1.98**

Asst. Var.

Lindy's Italian Ice.....6 pk. **2/\$3**

Tyson Nuggets, Patties, Tenders

Chicken Portions.....25-32 oz. **\$3.88**

Asst. Var.

Klondike I.C. Novelties ..4-6 pk. **2/\$5**

Gatorade

32 oz. Bottle 88¢

Bush's Best Baked Beans

22-28 oz. \$1.48

Dixie

8" or 10" Plates \$1.88

22-48 ct.

Kraft BBQ Sauce

18 oz. 88¢

Ragu Pasta Sauce

16-24 oz. \$1.48

Heinz Ketchup

38 oz. \$2.38

Kraft Salad Dressing

16 oz. \$1.88

Best Yet Spring Water

24 pk. \$2.38

Bounty Basic Paper Towels

6 rolls \$4.98

Kraft Mayonnaise or Miracle Whip

Asst. 22-30 oz. \$2.98

Best Yet 12 PK Soda

\$2.48

Charmin Basic Bath Tissue

12 Rolls Double Rolls \$4.98

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