

Rockhill Council to pursue more state liquid fuels money

By DOROTHY NOBLE
Contributing Writer

Rockhill Council's May meeting Monday night began with the swearing in of Tim Cisney as councilman by Mayor Mike Detwiler.

After some discussion on possible road work, council directed secretary Sue McConaughy to contact PennDOT to recommend required action on widening streets so the borough can qualify for additional liquid fuels funds. She reported several months ago that the borough cannot be reimbursed for repairs or snowplowing for many roads in the borough because their narrowness excludes them. Councilman Walt Bilger pointed out that telephone poles would need to be moved in many instances. Cisney said that the telephone company should pay those costs.

Code enforcement officer Robert Hornbaker reported on the status of three trees on Hill Street near Valley Street on the right of way by the Scholl and the Booher properties. Council decided the trees were a hazard and opted to cut them down rather than trim the old maples.

At Detwiler's suggestion, Council also agreed to reimburse Marvin Byers the \$200 he spent cutting trees on the borough right of way on Oak and Culvert streets.

Council requests that citizens bring to the attention of the council or the code enforcement officer the location of any dangerous trees. It was pointed out that the borough lacks a tree commission or committee, which was a requirement of the grant money the borough received for tree plantings several years ago.

Councilman Ted Leab brought up the condition of the ball field. Several council members said that the teams were supposed to maintain the field. Leab reported the hopper is overflowing, boards and trash are stacked and scattered about, and grass is in need of cutting. McConaughy said they ought not to play ball there. Council designat-

ed Leab to handle cleaning up the situation with the ball teams.

President Ford mentioned he had a couple of complaints regarding a Bridge Street property owner's grass planting within the borough's 50-ft. right of way. Since the planting was roped off, it restricted neighbors from parking there. This touched off a discussion on parking rights. Councilman Walt Bilger said people should park in front of their own place. McConaughy followed with, "I wouldn't like somebody pulling up in front of my house and parking." She added that those neighbors should go park on the carnival grounds. Ford reminded the council that they couldn't stop anyone from parking in the borough right of way. McConaughy declared that because she maintains her property, "I'd stop them."

Council took no action regarding the grass situation, but then questioned whether a resident who owns property across the street got a building permit for his swimming pool and dog kennel. Hornbaker was dispatched to take measurements. When he returned, he advised that the kennel and stones placed there infringed upon the right of way, but he could not be certain about other parts of the lot without a survey. Council decided to send a letter to that property owner.

Bilger inquired about the forthcoming ordinance against burning, and expressed his opinion that all burning should be stopped. Cisney, who raised the issue during the April meeting, said he was bombarded with burning this month and was willing to turn in the violators to the district justice. McConaughy said council instructed its solicitor last month to draft an ordinance, which would have to be advertised and approved.

Resident Jake Ramsey interjected, "How are you going to enforce one ordinance and not others? Building (restrictions) in the flood plain is not enforced."

"How are you going to enforce one ordinance and not others? Building (restrictions) in the flood plain is not enforced."

Jake Ramsey

Bilger suggested eliminating burn barrels. He said at least four people told him that an ordinance prohibiting burning was the "best thing they ever heard." Cisney said he had been approached by a resident of over 30 years who was irate over anti-burning. Regarding the smell and smoke generated by East Broad Top, Cisney explained to him, "What can you do with the train? The only thing you can do is take a survey of the people in the community, the borough, and ask them how much of the borough tax money they want to tie up in litigation to try to stop it."

At the beginning of the meeting, Bilger noticed there was no pay-check on the bill list for McConaughy. He asked her if she paid herself this month. Bilger added her check had not been listed last month either. He recalled her explanation last month that her printer had malfunctioned and the bills list was incomplete. She said that last month she may not have been paid, and explained that she wrote her check for this month that day.

Bilger asked, "How do we make a motion to pay bills when we don't know what they are?" President Jim Ford said that this month's bill list should specify that it includes April 3 through May 6, not May 7. Council agreed on Cisney's motion to approve the bills that were listed.



Photo by Rebecca Berdar

Above, Hilary Barnes, a sophomore Spanish linguistics student at Juniata College, holds up a "manzana" for Virginia Lecrone's first-year Spanish class at Juniata Valley High School to identify. Barnes participates in the college's fledgling "Language in Motion" program, where collegians prepare education presentations for area high schools.

College students help teens put 'Language in Motion'

By REBECCA BERDAR
Daily News Staff Writer

Learning a foreign language may seem like a trial at times, but local high school students are learning — from kids not much older than themselves — that they might actually have some fun along the way.

In its pilot year, Juniata College's "Language in Motion" program has supplemented language courses at Huntingdon Area, Juniata Valley and Tussey Mountain high schools in French, German, Russian and Spanish using the talents of roughly 10 volunteers.

Program director Deb Roney said the program took its queue from the college's "Science in Motion" program, another outreach program which brings high tech scientific devices to schools. But, instead of bringing equipment to high schools, Language in Motion brings students.

"These are advanced language students, exchange students and returned study abroad students," Roney explained. "They come to the program with a range of (majors)." The program, made possible by a \$5,000 cooperative grant through the U.S. Department of Education, aims to strengthen high school students' foreign language skills while giving them a taste of different cul-

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Deb Roney
Program director

tures. "Most of the time these programs are just about cultural enrichment, but we're going for language activity," said Roney.

During a visit to Juniata Valley High School last week, Juniata College sophomore Hilary Barnes, a native of Stroudsburg, Monroe County, who studies Spanish linguistics, gave first year Spanish students a rundown on fruit and vegetable names. She has also conducted sessions teaching students colloquialisms and given students' vocabulary a boost using music.

The program also includes lessons on stereotypes.

Virginia Lecrone, Spanish teacher at Juniata Valley, said it's great for her students to see young adults like themselves mastering foreign language. Roney agreed that the college students are linguistic role models for the younger set.

"They are not much older than the high school student," she said. The younger kids see them in action and "catch the spirit" of foreign language.

She said most of all, they find out that learning a foreign language isn't impossible, after meeting students who speak multiple languages.

Lecrone said she was pleased with the program from the start and the participant's willingness to tailor the program to meet each teacher's needs.

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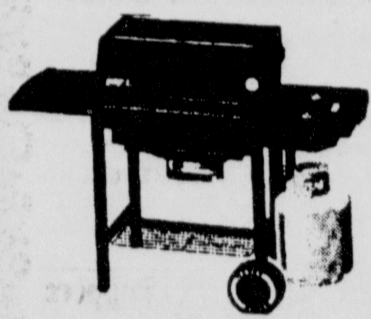


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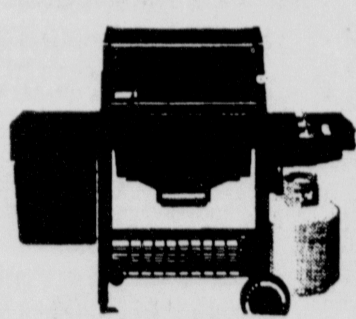


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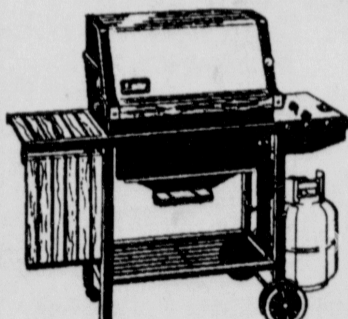


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