



SPORTS / B1
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Judge: EBT foundation can buy line

Organization able to purchase remaining several miles at northern end of line

By **WILLIAM KIBLER**
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A Huntingdon County judge

Wednesday ruled that the organization that owns almost all of the East Broad Top Railroad can buy the remaining several miles at the northern end of the right-of-way from the EBT's former operator, thus making the historic narrow gauge line whole again, while extending the right-of-way far enough to connect with the Norfolk Southern mainline at

Mount Union.
Judge Roy Ghaner ruled that the East Broad Top Foundation has 14 days to exercise its right of first refusal to intervene in former operator Larry Salone's East Broad Top Railroad Preservation Association's proposed sale for \$2 million to local railroad enthusiast Stephen Lane's Juniata & Aughwick Railroad.

The foundation board will convene next week to vote, and is expected to match Lane's offer, thus executing the purchase, according to Bennett Levin, foundation member and chairman of the organization's Property Committee, adding, however, that he didn't want to be "presumptuous" in making a definitive prediction. Salone first notified the founda-

tion of Lane's offer in August 2025, giving the foundation 60 days to exercise its right to match, after which there was a delay on the foundation's part, followed by a request for proof that Lane's offer was genuine, and not an attempt to extort money from the foundation.
See **Line**/Page **A5**

Logan fills vacant supervisor position

Former supervisor Albright chosen to replace recently deceased member

By **WILLIAM KIBLER**
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The Logan Township supervisors Thursday chose former supervisor Art Albright to replace recently deceased supervisor Patrick Jones from among six candidates who applied for the seat.
Four of those candidates made their pitches to the board Tuesday, after which members contacted Manager Tim Brown with their preferences.
When they served on the board together in the latter half of the 1990s, Albright made a comment that still resonates with board Chairman Jim Patterson about how to conduct township business, in connection with an issue on which they had opposing views.
"You didn't know where I was coming from," Patterson said. "I said 'I disagree.'"
Albright then said, "'Why not agree to disagree?'" Patterson recalled.
It has proven to be a good approach to municipal governance, according to Patterson.
Actually, "I said 'agree to disagree agreeably,'" Albright said, chuckling.
"I think you're a good fit," Patterson said.
One of Albright's key contributions during his previous time on the board was in helping the township's five fire companies to obtain five new fire trucks, Patterson said.
See **Supervisor**/Page **A3**



Mirror photo by Colette Costlow
Rik-N-Nik owner Rick Ardini adds some caramelized onions to his cheesogi. Rik-N-Nik is selling their original cheesogis at Ebensburg's 35th annual PotatoFest.

Hot potatoes

Ebensburg's PotatoFest still packing in crowds in 35th year

By **COLETTE COSTLOW**
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If you've ever wondered how many potatoes it takes to put on Ebensburg's annual PotatoFest, a few loyal vendors have the answer — a lot.
Wingnutz Grill uses at least 650 pounds of potatoes for their ribbon and regular cut fries. Holy Protection of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church purchases 250 pounds to make potato candy and pierogies.
Adding up all the spuds used by the 300 vendors at the festival probably amounts to a couple thousand pounds of potatoes, said Community Development Director Danaea Koss, noting many of those potatoes are locally grown.
The festival — celebrating its 35th year Saturday — is a matter of keeping up regional traditions for many visitors from near and far, Koss said.
"We have a really good following, and

we're well loved by the local and extended community," she said.
PotatoFest is Ebensburg's largest event, Koss said, usually bringing in more than 30,000 visitors from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on the last Saturday in September.
Many residents grew up attending PotatoFest, so it's also nostalgic, Koss said.
The festival is a great fundraising opportunity for community businesses, organizations and church groups who also promote the local heritage, she said.
The Cambria County Farm Bureau spreads information about the area's potato history each year, she said, pointing out that the area is recognized as the second-largest potato supplier in the state.
One thing is certain: there is no shortage of potatoes at the festival. Everything in downtown Ebensburg is starch-focused, from potato pizza to pierogi sandwiches to baked potato bars.

"People come back for their favorites, and there's a love of it," Koss said.

Cheesogi

Caramelized onions, two slices of American cheese and two pierogies sandwiched between two slices of bread make up Rik-N-Nik's original cheesogi. Come Saturday, the business is preparing to sell 500 of the unique creation.
According to owner Rick Ardini, the Altoona Curve sold their version of a cheesogi featuring meat pierogies. When the Curve burger took off, however, the minor league baseball stadium discontinued their cheesogi, but Ardini didn't forget.
Instead, he created his own meatless version about 15 years ago when he started selling his products at PotatoFest.
"PotatoFest starts at 9 a.m., and we needed a food item that could be considered breakfast and start selling right away," he said. "And also something that you can eat at 4 in the afternoon."

See **Potatoes**/Page **A4**

On the Net
See more about this story at
<https://youtu.be/85YWFyUOLk> or scan the QR code below.

Tyrone residents share input on borough's future

Borough hosts first of three workshops to solicit feedback on comprehensive plan

By **MATT CHURELLA**
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TYRONE — Several borough

residents gathered Thursday evening at the Church of the Good Shepherd to share their input on what the future of Tyrone should look like.
The event featured the first of three workshops to solicit feedback for Tyrone Borough's comprehensive plan, which aims to outline how the borough is going to build and grow over the next decade.

Thursday's workshop focused around a theme of "explore the future" and had participants working together to answer several questions: What if Tyrone became one of Pennsylvania's greatest small towns; if downtown was brought back to life; and if Tyrone pursued a bigger transformation across the whole community.

The participants then filled out an anonymous questionnaire related to those topics and were encouraged to describe Tyrone using only one word. The responses were then collected and will be used to help the borough develop its comprehensive plan, Mayor John Harlow said.
To Harlow, Tyrone is "home." Harlow declined to state what his vision for the borough

is, noting he doesn't want to skew the results of any future surveys for the plan.
At the end of the day, the plan can't be his vision or that of the borough council, he said.
"It's got to be the vision of the community," Harlow said. "All I want to do is make (Tyrone) better."
See **Future**/Page **A3**

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