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*Pirates snap losing streak with win over Brewers*

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# Bedford Gazette

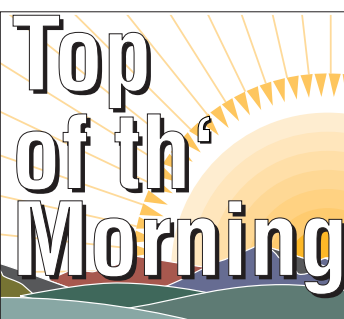
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WEDNESDAY



**Everett Fire Company released its call report for August.**

Volunteers ran 20 calls for the months, bringing the total calls for the year up to 163. The calls included six motor vehicle crashes, five inside investigations, three ambulance assists, two brush/tree fires, an automatic alarm, a landing zone, a call for wires down and one call to assist Everett Police Department. The fire company has upcoming fundraisers: a gun drawing on Sept. 7, chicken barbecue on Sept. 14 and a food auction on Sept. 28. Follow Everett Fire Company n Facebook for updates.

**The Bedford County commissioners approved an engineering contract for Jackson Mill Covered Bridge in East Providence Township.**

A bridge approach is "pretty deteriorated," according to Aaron Craig, engineer with P. Joseph Lehman Inc. The bridge is a three-span structure and the spans that are the approaches are 100 percent timber and not covered. The two short spans on the mill side of the bridge are the ones of immediate concern. A detour has been posted. Craig said he's not sure until the engineering is completed when the bridge may be repaired and reopened to traffic but it may be next spring. The bridge, which carries Covered Bridge Road over Brush Creek south of Breeze-wood, was built in 1875 and refurbished in the 1990s. The engineering contract with Lehman was approved at \$23,300.

**The Bedford County commissioners awarded a contract for work on Sweet Root Road, Bedford Township.**

The commissioners approved the \$178,746 bid from Grannas Brothers Stone and Asphalt of Hollidaysburg to reconstruct and repave about 6,000 feet of Sweet Root from the Harry Rose residence to the iron bridge. Grannas Brothers submitted the low bid. The work will be funded through the township's Community Development Block Grant entitlement program which is administered by the county's planning office. Township Supervisor Greg Crist has said he expects the work to take place this fall.

**Deaths**

**(Obituaries on Page 16)**  
**HYRE, Audrey Tolva, 99,** formerly of Hyndman.  
**LOWERY, Darrell Lee, 72,** of Woodbridge, Va., formerly of Hyndman.  
**WERTZ, Theodore W. "Ted," 58,** of Manns Choice, died Tuesday, Sept. 3, 2013, at Windber Hospice. Obituary in Thursday's Gazette. Arrangements by Timothy A. Berkebile Funeral Home, Bedford.

## Parking, sign changes coming to Bedford

**By Sharyn Maust**  
**Gazette Managing Editor**  
Bedford residents and businesses could see some parking and sandwich board changes coming, based on borough council's plans. To accommodate the Bedford Heritage Trail's expansion south to the Omni Bedford Springs, council on Tuesday accepted a recommendation

from its infrastructure committee to designate the biking/walking trail's route at the south edge of the borough. The trail will follow South Richard Street as it emerges from the Bedford Elks. At Simpson Street, the trail will go west one block to Juliana before it ends, leaving walkers and bikers on their own to the downtown area. But because bikes aren't allowed on the

sidewalks, a designated lane in the street is being planned. Walkers remain on the sidewalks. Committee chairman Steve Lambert told council that the recommendation is to take away the parking on the east side of South Richard between the borough line and Simpson and on the north side of the one block of East Simpson Street.

This is a residential area, but several council members agreed that few people park on the street in those areas because most of the homes have driveways. Setting a no parking zone during set hours was considered but the committee said they found that confusing for both motorists and bikers.

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## Shuster tours local plant, discusses Obamacare, Syria

**By Bridgett Weaver**  
**Gazette Staff Writer**  
CESSNA — U.S. Rep. Bill Shuster visited Bedford Reinforced Plastics Tuesday afternoon to answer questions from staff there.

Bedford Reinforced Plastics makes fiberglass reinforced plastic building material which is strong, lightweight and nonconductive. Shuster received a tour before sitting down in the conference room and giving a short overview on things that he's been working on during the congressional break this summer.

He said he is focusing on replacing Obamacare, reforming spending in the Capitol and determining whether bombing Syria is the most beneficial option available to the United States.

On replacing Obamacare he said they need to come up with a better option because some small businesses are opting to pay the penalty for not providing healthcare for employees as a cheaper option to providing insurance.

"It's not because they don't want to (provide insurance)," Shuster said. "It's because they can't afford it."

He also said Congress could get rid of every committee in DC, and they would still have a deficit because the things sucking up most of the money are so-called

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Gazette Photo/Bridgett Weaver  
**Congressman Bill Shuster reaches over to check out some of the special plastic made at Bedford Reinforced Plastics Tuesday afternoon. Shuster was with Sales Manager Tom Wright and Marketing Director Eric Kidd for a tour, which was followed by a meeting where staff members could ask Shuster questions.**

## Property assessment appeals under way

**By Elizabeth Coyle**  
**Gazette Associate Editor**  
The 2013 property assessment appeal season began Tuesday with the first of 45 scheduled appeals before the Bedford County Board of Assessment and Revision of Taxes this week.

The Bedford County commissioners also sit as the assessment appeals board which is tasked with hearing and deciding appeals.

After last year's marathon of about 1,000 appeals following the 2012 reassessment, the schedule is relatively light.

Commissioner Kirt Morris said more will be scheduled in coming weeks. Property owners had until Tuesday to file an appeal and the last stragglers were in the assessment office filing appeals to beat the deadline.

"I think most of them are residential and most of them came in late which tells me they weren't upset until they got their school taxes," Morris said. School taxes generally come out after budgets are settled on June 30.

The appeals started with four organizations seeking tax exempt status for their parcels.

Southern Cove Power Reunion, which owns a 47-acre lot with seven buildings that include a larger pole building and several other similar sized or smaller outbuildings near New Enterprise, had been rejected previously by the board for tax

—Continued on Page 3

## Roadkill Cafe adds postal service

**By Cara Beemiller**  
**Gazette Staff Writer**  
A popular one-stop shop in Artemas is adding another service to its expanded business. As of Tuesday, Snider's Grocery and Roadkill Cafe in Artemas, owned and operated by Barb Snider, is an official Village Post Office location with the United States Postal Service (USPS).

According to the USPS website, Village Post Offices are operated by community businesses to provide selected postal products and services, including stamps and Priority Mail Flat Rate packages and envelopes.

Although Artemas currently has a post office located approximately one mile from Roadkill Cafe, the idea of the Village Post Office is to add convenience and not competition.

"It seems like everybody that comes through the area stops at (Snider's Grocery and Roadkill) —Continued on Page 7



Gazette Photo/Cara Beemiller  
**The Village Post Office located inside the Snider's Grocery and Roadkill Cafe in Artemas is officially in operation as of Tuesday. Pictured from left to right are John Murphy, retail specialist with the United States Post Office; Barb Snider, owner of the Road Kill Cafe and Wendy Collins, Artemas post master.**

## Obama gains support for Syria strike

WASHINGTON (AP) — President Barack Obama gained ground Tuesday in his drive for congressional backing of a military strike against Syria, winning critical support from House Speaker John Boehner while key Senate Democrats and Republicans agreed to back a no-combat-troops-on-the-ground action in retaliation for a chemical weapons attack.

Officials said the emerging Senate measure would receive a vote Wednesday in the Senate Foreign Relations Committee. Approval is likely.

"You're probably going to win" Congress' backing, Sen. Rand Paul of Kentucky, a conservative and likely opponent of the measure, conceded in a late-afternoon exchange with Secretary of State John Kerry.

The leader of House Republicans, Boehner emerged from a meeting at the White House —Continued on Page 5

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# Shuster visits plant . . .

—Continued from Page 1 entitlement programs like Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security.

While these are necessities, they need reformed so there is something left for future generations.

"The way it's going right now, it's not going to be there for your kids and grandkids," he said.

Shuster also said he is not yet convinced to support Obama in authorizing force against the Syrian government. He said he's glad Obama decided to come to Congress to make his case before legislators and the rest of Americans.

"He was going to go bomb Syria without coming to Congress until he got the feeling that there were a lot of people on both sides of the aisle saying, 'Whoa, wait a minute,'" he said.

Although he does think that while Syrian President Bashar Assad has done terrible things that should be punished, he is worried that attacking Syrian government will only open the door to other threats.

"If we go in and weaken (Assad), will we enable al-Qaida to go in and take their weapons of mass destruction?" Shuster asked.

He said he would need to know the answer to that before lending his support to Obama.

"No doubt they will use them again Israel, Turkey, the U.S. or whoever they don't like," Shuster said of al-Qaida taking Syria's weapons of mass destruction.



Gazette Photo/Bridgett Weaver  
**Congressman Bill Shuster asks a question to Sales Manager Tom Wright during a tour of Bedford Reinforced Plastics Tuesday afternoon. Shuster stopped in Bedford for a tour and a town hall-style meeting at Bedford Reinforced Plastics.**

Tom Wright, sales manager at Bedford Reinforced Plastics, said after the meeting that a company from which they receive the glass needed to make their plastic has recently built a facility in Egypt, causing a special interest in the stability of the middle east.

Before ending the meeting, Shuster took questions from staff members who were there.

One man asked his thoughts on immigration laws. Shuster said he thinks the United States has been too relaxed on enforcement of the laws in place. He also said that granting amnesty to ille-

gal immigrants is not the answer.

"For me, amnesty is not an option," he said. "It's just going to encourage people to come over and wait it out."

Another staff member asked what the company can do about pulling the trigger on future expenditures that are a little risky in this economic climate.

Shuster said with the uncertainty right now, businesses are keeping their money close.

"The only thing (businesses) spend money on are things that are going to increase productivity," he said. "The uncertainty is killing us."

# Bedford parking . . .

—Continued from Page 1

Council decided it would contact the state Department of Transportation about the 6-foot wide bike lane and find out what must be done for the trail designation, since Richard Street is a state road. After that, council will consider an ordinance change to ban the parking.

In a related item, council agreed to maintain a small strip of the trail in exchange for it crossing private property. Council reported that Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Smith of South Richard Street were agreeable to allowing the trail to cross a small portion of their property between the Elks and the sidewalk and street bike lane in the borough, but did not want the responsibility of maintaining it. Council approved a letter to the Smiths stating that.

The sandwich board discussion stemmed from a discussion of both tacky looking and badly placed boards.

Lambert and council member Jim Wehling said they knew of seven or eight sandwich boards that fit one of the other part of those descriptions. While council wasn't so concerned about the boards' appearances, the liability issue if someone trips and falls, for example, could be huge.

Bedford has an ordinance against sandwich boards and consistently turns down requests for them except for special occasions. But it also hasn't been pursuing violations.

That could change, with violators being cited or the ordinance being changed to set

standards for the boards like any other sign in the historic district.

Regarding the historic district, Mayor Bill Leibfreid said he was approached by someone looking for a concise list of property changes that can or can't be made under the historic district ordinance. The task was given to Borough Manager Barbara Diehl to prepare. If the list is approved, it will be sent to borough residents with their water/sewer bills.

In other business, council accepted a low bid of \$130,000 from New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co. for the borough's paving program this fall, pending a review to be sure nothing was excluded. Three bids were received, with Cottle's Asphalt Maintenance coming in at \$167,813 and IA Construction at \$169,052. A representative of Cottle's questioned the \$37,000 difference and asked that council be sure everyone was bidding on the same work.

Council agreed to purchase a 2014 replacement police cruiser through a co-op program. Bedford Ford quoted a \$22,427 price, with a trade-in to be determined.

A wage reopener was approved for non-uniformed borough employees. It will grant a 2.5 percent wage increase in 2014, 2 percent in 2015 and 2.5 percent in 2016. The contract reopener covers employees of the water and municipal authorities and the borough itself. The number of workers and cost of the package wasn't available at the meeting. The reopener passed 6-1.

Wehling voted no, saying he thought it was too much.

Council appointed Larry McCahan to the borough zoning hearing board to replace Gordon Bowers, who resigned. A resolution of thanks was approved for Bowers, who served for 10 years.

A similar resolution was approved for Frank Grazier III for his 16 years on the municipal authority.

Council approved the dates and street closings for the Fall Foliage Festival the first two weekends in October; the antique car parade on Oct. 12; the "Downtown on the Farm" event for Sept. 12 on Juliana Street; and the Bedford High School Homecoming parade on Oct. 18. People for Parks also was given permission to use the Green for Fall Foliage parking.

Council determined that it did not have to approve a fund raising haunted house. The Discovery Time School intends to hold the haunted house at a private residence owned by Juniata Realty, currently vacant, at 320 W. Pitt Street. The haunted house is being planned for Friday and Saturday evenings in October. Face painting and a bounce house also is planned for the rear of the property, which adjoins Fort Bedford Park, the first Fall Foliage weekend.

It was reported at the council meeting that Bedford Heritage Trust submitted its 501(c)3 application on Aug. 13. The borough paid the \$850 application fee. The trust is working toward taking over operation of the Fort Bedford Museum.

# Pa. teachers go on strike

PITTSBURGH (AP) — Teachers in three Pennsylvania school districts went on strike Tuesday, while classes began as scheduled for many more of the state's roughly 1.7 million public school students.

In northeastern Pennsylvania, members of the Old Forge Education Association in Lackawanna County began walking a picket line after negotiations broke down last week. No new talks were held over the weekend.

"When your hand is forced, this is where you end up," said Shawn Nee, the union's vice president, said Tuesday.

In nearby Luzerne County, Wyoming Area School District teachers went on strike Tuesday after three years of fruitless bargaining. Union president Melissa Dolman said that if there is no progress, teachers will not return to the classroom until Sept. 30.

In western Pennsylvania, union representations and officials in the Shaler Area School District met for about six hours Monday with a state-appointed mediator but were unable to reach agreement. Melissa Ravas, president of

the Shaler Area Education Association, said teachers were expecting a new offer Monday but didn't receive one.

Shaler schools Superintendent Wesley Shipley said the next negotiating session is planned for Wednesday evening.

Officials said that under state law, all instructional days lost due to the walkouts must be made up by the end of June of next year.

Tim Eller, a spokesman for the state Department of Education, said that if a strike

reaches a point where there aren't enough days left in the school year for students to complete studies, the Secretary of Education can petition a local court of common pleas to end it.

That day will be reached on Sept. 24 for Shaler, Eller said, but calculations aren't complete yet for the other two school districts.

Elsewhere, students arrived for their first day of school in many of the state's 500 school districts, though some began classes before Labor Day.

# Pa. boy accidentally shoots brother

SHIPPENSBURG, Pa. (AP) — An 8-year-old boy remains hospitalized after police say he was accidentally shot in the head by his 6-year-old brother in Cumberland County.

Pennsylvania State Police responded to a 911 call from a Southampton Township home around 1 p.m. Sunday.

The mother told state troopers there was a loaded revolver and loaded rifle next to the bed in the master bedroom where she was sleeping. Police said the woman told authorities she was sleeping and didn't hear the shooting but her younger son reported shooting his brother.

Police documents state the home was unfit for children because of trash and debris.

The wounded child was flown to Hershey Medical Center but his condition was not released.

The investigation continues and no charges are currently filed in the case.

# Cafe adds postal service . . .

—Continued from Page 1 Cafe)," said John Murphy, USPS retail specialist. "This place obviously is very accessible and gives people a little more convenience."

Snider said she doesn't believe the Village Post Office will add a lot more business, but hopes it will be more convenient for some of her customers.

"I don't think it will be real busy with the post office being open but it will be more convenient for some people," said Snider.

Customers will be able to drop off packages, purchase flat rate boxes and envelopes as well as stamps during Snider's business' regular business hours, from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m., seven days a week.

"As long as someone is here they can sell stamps or take a package," said Murphy.

At the end of each day, Wendy Collins, post master of Artemas, will pick up the packages from Snider's business to be shipped.

Snider said that Collins has been a big help with getting the Village Post Office set up and knows that she will continue to help her any time she needs.

Snider, who has owned the grocery store and Roadkill Cafe since 1984, said she has been wanting to do this for years and is happy to see it all finally come together.

"When they were talking about opening the post office in Artemas I would have loved to have had it in here," said Snider. "I just thought it would be neat to have everything all right here together, like a one stop shop."



Gazette Photos/Cara Beemiller  
**This display, located inside Snider's Grocery and Roadkill Cafe in Artemas, works as a guide to help customers choose a Priority Mail Flat Rate box to ship their items.**

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