FRIDAY-SATURDAY, OCT. 11-12, 2013

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MORE INSIDE

In today's edition.

Government shutdown day 11

After weeks of ultimatums, President Barack Obama and House Republicans are exploring whether they can end a budget standoff that has triggered a partial government shutdown and edged Washington to the verge of a historic, economyjarring federal default. A7



The largest organization representing companies involved in Pennsylvania's natural gas drilling boom waded into gubernatorial politics and attacked proposals to raise taxes on the industry. A9



DuBois wins

DuBois more Brent Mazary and Brookville's Tyler Gotwald watch Mazary's shot on goal Thursday. The Beavers beat the Raiders 4-2 on Senior Night. **B1**

■ This week's poll - at www.thecourierexpress. com - asks, "How often do you vote?'

Obituaries

• Victor C. Bish, 70

Tomorrow's **Forecast**



Cloudy with a chance of showers or patchy drizzle. Highs in the upper 60s. Chance of rain 40 percent. Full report, A3

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75 Cents

Stop in today!



The DuBois Volunteer Fire Department visited Mother's Day Out Preschool at Lakeside Church on Thursday. In conjunction with Fire Prevention Week, a block party will be held from 5-8 p.m. tonight on West Long Avenue with fire truck rides, displays, prizes and the band Back Alley performing, weather permitting. (Photo submitted)

DuBois receives \$\$ for water monitoring

By Kimberly Finnigan

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DuBOIS — A new grant will help protect drinking water in DuBois.

At Thursday's DuBois City Council work session, Redevelopment Authority Director Joe Mitchell announced that DuBois has received a \$40,000 grant from the North Central Pennsylvania Regional Planning and Development Commission. Mitchell said the grant requires a 15 percent match and will be used to buy more water quality monitoring meters.

He said the meters will be linked by radio instead of satellite to save on costs, but all the

See Water, Page A9

Clearfield council eyes new police car

By Kimberly Finnigan

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CLEARFIELD Clearfield Borough Council is debating whether to buy now or wait until later.

At Thursday's work session, police Chief Vince McMcGinnis and Borough Operations Manager Leslie Stott spoke about buying a new police car for the department.

Stott said in the past, when the department bought a new vehicle, the lights and

equipment were taken out of the old vehicle and installed in the new one. However, Stott said the equipment has become outdated.

Stott said the department got an estimate on a 2013 Ford Taurus with police interceptor content from Dotts Motor for a state contract price of \$33,990. The package includes lights, sirens and a rear partition between the front and back seats.

McGinnis said he would prefer a 2014 with an Ecoboost V6 engine that would get better gas mileage and perform better. A price on that vehicle will not be available until the regular council meeting next week. Stott said \$25,000 was

designated for a new police car in this year's budget and the rest can be taken from the 2014 budget. Stott said it will take

about four months for the new vehicle to arrive.

Councilman Jim Kling questioned whether the \$25,000 amount is correct.

"I may be wrong, but I re-

call that we had set aside 50 percent of the amount of a new car in the 2013 budget," Kling said.

Stott said she had checked the budget and \$25,000 is the amount listed.

McGinnis said the department has been having trouble keeping the vehicles in working order.

"I know you don't want to hear this, but we need to start thinking about getting a new vehicle each year," McGinnis said. "They're really starting to nickel and

dime us to death and the mileage is getting up there on some of them. It's not what the council wants to hear, but it's going to have to be done."

The council voted to hold off on voting on a new vehicle until the price of the 2014 is available.

"This late in the model year, I think it may be wise to wait and see what the price is going to be for a newer vehicle with a better engine, especially if we're See Police car, Page A9



A herd of elk greeted Gov. Tom Corbett and his staff who visited the Elk Country Visitor Center Thursday. The trip to Elk County was the governor's way of highlighting the Pennsylvania Wilds as a top destination for travelers and to mark 100 years since elk were reintroduced to the region. (Photo by Katie Weidenboerner)



Gov. Tom Corbett, right, and wife Susan use binoculars to get a closer look at a herd of 38 cows and calves and one bull elk which grazed in a field at the Elk Country Visitors Center in Benezette Thursday afternoon. (Photo by Katie Weidenboerner)

Gov. Tom Corbett visits elk country

By Katie Weidenboerner

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BENEZETTE — Gov. Tom Corbett visited the Elk Country Visitor Center Thursday to highlight the Pennsylvania Wilds as a tourist destination and to mark the 100-year anniversary of the elk being reintroduced into the region.

"Unique tourist destinations like the Elk Country Visitor Center support Pennsylvania's tourism industry and help create and sustain local jobs," Corbett said. "Attendance at the center has grown to 200,000 tourists annually, each spending money and supporting local small businesses.'

Tourism is Pennsylvania's second largest industry, providing nearly

300,000 jobs across the state and an estimated \$3.8 billion in state and local tax revenues.

Elk County

While not the first time the governor has traveled to the region, Thursday was the first time he paid a visit to the elk herd.

Fall is the peak season for viewing elk in the Pennsylvania Wilds because the "rut," or mating season,

Thursday the parking lot at the center was full and hundreds of people wandered the grounds to see the elk.

Corbett saw a herd of 38 cows and calves and one bull on the ground, perused the displays at the center

and took a horsedrawn wagon ride through some of the grounds at the center.

The center is nestled on 245 acres owned by the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources in Benezette. The non-profit Keystone Elk Country Alliance, a Pennsylvania-based wildlife conservation organization, operates the center using money raised from the private sector.

Corbett lauded partnerships such as the one between DCNR and KECA as "the wave of the future."

"I think it's the future of the industry, not just in Pennsylvania, but around the country," Corbett said.

The governor's wife, Susan, has been involved in the Gettysburg Foundation, a public-private partnership that raised \$120 million to create a museum in Gettysburg.

'Now, while there is this (federal) shutdown at the federal site, the museum and visitor center in Gettysburg is still opening and greeting visitors," she said.

The DCNR is finalizing a 35-year agreement with KECA, which has doubled its staff by creating nine jobs to help operate the center.

The center's gift shop provides more than 60 small local vendors and artisans with a new market opportunity.

The number of lodging establishments near the center has almost doubled.

Three wineries with elk themes have popped up and local stores and restaurants continue to expand.



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