

# WILLIAMSPORT SUN-GAZETTE

## Grant supports building 'Healthy Aging' center

By **SETH NOLAN**  
snolan@sungazette.com

Loyalsock Township is moving closer to a STEP Center for Healthy Aging location, thanks to a recent grant.

The \$150,000 grant from the First Community Foundation Partnership of Pennsylvania will contribute to a \$300,000 match grant from the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

When the township first applied for the DCNR grant, it was denied because the township didn't have the funds to match, according to Bill Burdett, township manager. But now, with funding opportunities being explored and the match money in hand, the STEP Center is looking like a doable project.

The very preliminary total cost of the building is \$850,000, Burdett said.

The township's pool projects also are moving along.

Contractors working on the wading pool and liner replacement project in are expected to break ground in September, according to an update at the supervisors' meeting this week.

Contracts for the wading pool were sent out to Premier Pool Renovations Inc.

All of the work should be done in the fall except for plaster and installation of the features.

Those last two steps have to wait until the concrete cures, said Shannon Lukowsky, director of recreation and parks. They will be done next spring.

The supervisors discussed what the township's next move is after

Lycoming County Resource Management Services announced it will be ending commercial tub grinding by June 30.

The county would let Williamsport, South Williamsport, Old Lycoming Township and Montoursville use its tub grinders — machines used to reduce wood, shrubbery and other green waste into mulch or fuel.

The county landfill said it lost about \$45,000 to the service in 2017 between maintenance, fuel and manpower.

Loyalsock Township may have to turn to Clinton County as an alternative.

The township has used Clinton County's tub grinders in the past when scheduling difficulties arose with Lycoming County.

"When we get filled up, we want to grind it as soon as we can," Burdett said.

But Clinton County's new prices are \$325 an hour, with a \$150 mobilization fee to get the grinder there.

"Last year, we had the grinder here four times," Burdett said. "It was here for about four to five days each time."

Using last year's volume as an estimate, the cost to use Clinton County's service would be \$13,000 a year.

That's why the township will start actively enforcing people outside of the township who frequently dump there.

The gated site with key-card or membership access hopefully will bring the volume down, Burdett said.

The supervisors will meet next at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 27 at the township building, 2501 E. Third St.