



KEVIN RAUCH/THE EXPRESS

At top the ribbon is cut to open the new pavilion. At right, Citizen's Hose Company of South Renovo President Kevin Tripp presented plaques to a few people who helped the Riverview Pavilion become a reality. From left, Terry and Carmen Banfill stand with Tripp and South Renovo Mayor Robert Cozzi as Tripp presented those three with plaques of appreciation.

For the seniors Ribbon cutting officially opens Riverview Pavilion in South Renovo

By KEVIN RAUCH
For The Express

SOUTH RENOVO — With nearly 100 people in attendance, the Citizen's Hose Company of South Renovo along with STEP officials from Clinton County held a ribbon cutting ceremony at the site of their new pavilion in South Renovo.

The pavilion will be open to the public with an emphasis on those senior citizens from STEP Office



of Aging that utilize the inside of the Citizen's Hose Company daily.

The project was spearheaded by Citizen's Hose Company President Kevin Tripp and made a large step toward coming into fruition with a \$17,860 STEP grant that came via the Clinton County Commissioners. Tripp turned to over a dozen other entities for donations eventually accounting for just under \$30,000 for the pavilion to become a reality.

The appropriately titled Riverview Pavilion could not describe the structure more accurately. Picnic tables sit underneath a lit roof with a perfect view of not only the Susquehanna River but the abundance of mountains looking both up and down river. There is power on site so those using the pavilion have that convenience if planning picnic style outings.

"I've wanted to do something like this for a long

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time" said Tripp, following Wednesday's ceremony. "It was just a perfect spot for something like this... a large flat area with a great view of the river and it was simply an empty grass lot for as long as I can remember.

"I hope the people who come here daily as part of STEP really enjoy it. I think it offers them a great experience," Tripp continued.

As with any project that is more of a luxury than necessity, all involved with the project spoke about the coordination that Tripp had to do for an extensive period of time, particularly when faced with setbacks. The theme throughout the ceremony was that every time an obstacle was encountered, someone from the area came forward and kept the project moving.

Tripp presented plaques of appreciation to Terry and Carmen Banfill as well as to South Renovo Mayor Robert Cozzi for their efforts.

As the guest speakers spoke moments before the ribbon cutting, it was the Construction Trades Class from Bucktail Area High School that garnered a lion's share of praise.

"The Construction Trades class is such an asset to this community. I highly encourage everyone to send letters of support of the class to the Keystone Central School District. What they have done over recent years for the area has been phenomenal," Tripp told the audience.

Commissioner Jeff Snyder reiterated the admiration of the Bucktail trades class.

"(Teacher) Bill Probst and his students are top notch. That class has proven to be so beneficial to this area whenever given the opportunity," Snyder said.

Snyder also talked about what a great asset the Riverview Pavilion would be if the plans to unite the Whiskey Springs and Bloody Skillet ATV Trails becomes a reality. That planned ATV connector would unite the trails with Renovo/South Renovo serving as a hub, he said.

The Construction Trades students constructed eight picnic tables for the South Renovo pavilion. Citizen's Hose Company of South Renovo donated lumber for six tables to be built, while Chapman Township donated two picnic table kits for the students to assemble.

Following songs by the Renovo Area Community Choir and an official raising of the flag, it was the senior citizens that not only showed appreciation, but those in attendance were reminded why the pavilion became a reality.

"STEP really helped to make this all possible. I love that we gave everyone a place to come and sit and enjoy the views, especially the senior citizens. They deserve it," summed up Tripp.



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At top, Those who stop by the STEP office daily were quite appreciative of the newly opened pavilion just a few steps away from the Citizen's Hose Company. Following lunch those at this table were discussing an upcoming Rummikub tournament that will be open for everyone to participate in. From left are Ray Logue, Doris Teti, Ginny Serafini, Myrna Werts, Anna O'Neil and Bonnie Hess. Above, the Construction Trades Class at Bucktail Area High School made eight picnic tables for the Riverview Pavilion at the Citizen's Hose Company in South Renovo. Pictured working on a table are from left, Richard Perry, Kenny Winkelman, Cody Hand and Aaron Lucas. Behind them are: Billy Yednak, Klynn Lundfelt and Logan Long. At left, Mackenzie Brennan, left, and Kalah Ross put finishing touches on one of the picnic tables. Below, Just a day removed from the grand opening, seniors were already utilizing the new pavilion. From left, are Ethel Young, Donald Pagnotto, Mary Stephens, Sylvia Crossley.

