

Amphitheater nears completion



Work crews from Erie's E.E. Austin & Son Inc. install a blue plastic membrane on the roof of the Highmark Amphitheater on Wednesday at Liberty Park. (JACK HANRAHAN/ERIE TIMES-NEWS)

Construction continues in Liberty Park

By Jack Hanrahan

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Construction of the new permanent roof at the Highmark Amphitheater at Liberty Park will be finished before the end of May, according to Chuck Jenkins, 57, vice president of Erie's E.E. Austin & Son Inc.

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What's happening:

Work crews from Erie's E.E. Austin & Son Inc., started to install the blue, hard plastic covering over the glue-laminated wood beam structure.

The permanent roof replaces the fabric canopy that was destroyed by a storm on June 12, 2015.

Work that still needs to be completed includes a retaining wall and landscaping.

By the numbers:

\$557,000 The Port Authority board of directors approved a \$557,000 construction bid from E.E. Austin to handle the construction of a permanent roof over the amphitheater.

\$60,000 The Port Authority in September announced a two-year, \$60,000 naming-rights deal with Highmark for the venue. As part of that deal, Highmark's name and logo will be affixed to the amphitheater.

“The new structure certainly expands the stage area and the aesthetics are a big improvement. The wet weather and wind knocked off a couple of work days, but we will have it finished before Memorial Day.”

Chuck Jenkins, vice president of Erie's E.E. Austin & Son Inc.

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