

LETTERS TO EDITOR

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Dear Editor:
CITIZENS OF THE BOROUGH OF UNION DALE
 I am posting this letter to inform the voters of the Borough of Union Dale that this will be my last year (2017) as Mayor.

At years end, I will have served ten (years) as Mayor. Two (2) appointed and two (2) four year terms elected.

I am a firm believer in term limits; no elected official should serve more than two (2) terms in any office; be that local, county, state, or federal. I believe that is what our founding fathers were trying to stress when they established the election process. Serve your terms and go home to your business or profession and do not make government your life's work.

It is time for me to go away and let someone else have the opportunity to serve the borough. It has been an honor to serve as Mayor. There is a certain feeling of pride when someone calls you Mayor, as if you are respected. Or not.

The duties in a small borough are not that great and the time commitment is not large. A few meetings to attend and administer the police department. Since we only have one part time officer and one (1) car that is a simple task.

Getting on the ballot and elected is fairly easy also. Contact the voter registration people in Montrose and they will tell you what you need to do.

Again, thank you for electing me to serve as your Mayor. It has been an honor.

Mayor Keith Foster
 Union Dale Borough

**Book signing
 Wed., Feb. 15th
 At FC Library**

On Wednesday, Feb. 15, at 2PM, author Randy Williams will be discussing and signing his new book "Sherlock Holmes and the Autumn of Terror."

The author, along with a team of three of the world's top forensic scientists and criminologists, Dr. Michael M. Baden, Dr. Cyril H. Wecht and Dr. Henry C. Lee, have convincingly solved the infamous Jack the Ripper murders of 1888 in London. Their true life resolution of the case is presented in the book in the form of a Sherlock Holmes novel.

The actual facts of the case and the evidence that led Randy and his team to the real killer will be revealed to the reader through Holmes' investigative methods.

The author states: "During the thirty-four months it took me to write it, I met some lifelong idols and heroes, found much more evidence against the person I suspected of being Jack the Ripper since 2012 and learned so much more about Sherlock Holmes, Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the actual Ripper case, England and its history, religion, criminology, forensic science, classical music, opera magic superstition and occultism, architecture, Scotland Yard, Socialism/Anarchism and much, much more."

The book was released on October 31, 2016 to five star review on Amazon and will be available at the Library at the signing.

**Indoor yard sale
 at Ladore Lodge**

An indoor yard sale will be held on Saturday, Feb. 18, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Ladore Camp, 287 Owego Tpke., Waymart. To reserve a space to sell call 570-488-6129. Cost is \$10.

**FC Council Jan. agenda
 Addressed Many Topics**

Snow removal was a topic discussed at the Jan. 9th Forest City Council meeting. D. Eileen Daugherty, 41 Depot St., said that due to parked cars on lower Depot St. the Borough plow is unable to properly plow the street making it difficult to get out of her garage. She noted her son is handicapped and has special needs requirements for treatment.

Council's Street Committee head Bernie Scalzo said that this year's snowfalls have been especially difficult for the town's plowing crews. He said there have been snowfalls coming immediately after local plowing was completed from a previous storm which did not give the street crew time to rest.

Scalzo said he would meet with the Safety Committee to see if anything different could be done there and at other spots in town. He said odd/even side parking hasn't worked previously and that he would talk to the plowing crew to see if anything could be done better.

Due to severe icing on Dec. 26, Borough crews were called to salt and cinder Rte. 247, from the Borough garage, down Dundaff St., to Main Street since several vehicles were stuck and PennDOT was not out yet.

NEW SIDEWALK RULES

Solicitor Paul Smith presented a draft of new rules for the new Main Street sidewalks. He said he had received several new suggestions that day and would incorporate them into the new ordinance and bring it to the next meeting.

The ordinance states that the care and upkeep of the new sidewalks is the responsibility of the property owner. They must clear a 36-inch path clear of ice and snow within 24 hours of a storm, and cannot

use any salt-based ice melter on the new concrete.

Repairs of any cracks one-inch or more must be made and any work in which the sidewalk is dug up, requires a Borough permit and the sidewalk must be repaired according to original condition specifications.

BUILDING REMODELING

Councilman Bob Lesjack reported on the remodeling and restoration underway in the Borough Building. He said all painting is not yet completed and he thanked Bob Tedesco, Wally Miller, Tony Wilcox and John Williams for helping with the painting and other work.

Council agreed to spend an additional \$7,265 in work which will include \$6,175 to construct a semi-circular, 12-position, marble topped desk for the Council Chambers. Council also will have their photos taken for a collage to be placed on the wall of Council Chambers.

Council declined a proposal from Dempsey Supply to provide protective mats to protect the new wood floors in the Borough Bldg. at a cost of \$95/month. Instead they will purchase two sets of carpets from Sam's Club for \$160 and will clean them themselves.

PARK \$40,000 GRANT

As reported last week, Council received a \$40,000 DCNR grant to re-construct the basketball and tennis courts at Kennedy Park. The Borough must contribute an additional \$20,000 toward the project.

President William D. Orasin thanked Cindi Stone and Sharon Vannan for helping to write the grant which was done completely by the Council and staff. He said some of the match will come from the Baseball Association and from a Rotary Club donation, and

that other funds will come from the natural gas Act 13 Impact Fees. Orasin said that is like tripling the effect of the Impact Fees to get a \$40,000 grant.

When the project is completed, local businesses may be asked to sponsor benches to be placed around the courts.

RECYCLING GRANT

Forest City Borough will receive a \$1,928 Recycling Performance grant from Penna. DEP. The award reflects the 186.7 tons of residential and commercial materials recycled here in calendar year 2014.

HIRE POLICE OFFICER

Council approved the hiring of Anthony Adam Telesco III as a part-time police officer at a rate of pay of \$12.75/hr. Telesco has been serving as an unpaid intern in the police dept. since August, updating records and putting records into the new police computer system.

NEW BIDDING LIMITS

New bidding rules now in effect for the borough are: Contracts and purchases under \$10,700 require no formal bid or telephone quotes; Greater than \$10,700 and less than \$19,700 require three telephone or written/email quotes; Greater than \$19,700 require formal bidding process.

IRS MILEAGE FEE

The new IRS mileage reimbursement rate will be 53.5cents per mile, a decrease from the 2016 rate.

HIRE BORO AUDITOR

Council hired Brian T. Kelly, CPA, to provide the required audits for the Borough for 2016. The costs will not exceed \$7,500.

POLICE, FIRE REPORTS

Council accepted the 2016 reports of the Forest City Fire Dept. and Forest City Police Department.

Lenox, Susq. County, is beginning of \$1.9 billion Atlantic Sunrise pipeline

The Atlantic Sunrise Natural Gas Pipeline project, to be built by Williams Partners, reached a key milestone in its Federal approval process on January 3, 2017. The new pipeline would run from near Lenox, in Susquehanna County, to the Maryland border below York, PA.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) on Dec. 30 published its final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the project, concluding that environmental impacts would be reduced to "less than significant levels" with the implementation of mitigation measures proposed by the company and FERC. Final FERC

**Developer says
 No to Susq. Co.
 Incinerator**

The developer who expressed an interest in putting an industrial waste incinerator in Susquehanna County has announced that they shelved plans for the project off the I81 exit at Gibson.

Tyler Corners LP announced recently that since the site needed millions in infrastructure to develop its planned park it would cancel the project.

A spokesman said they were not giving up entirely, just not doing anything to advance the project now.

approval is expected early this year with construction to begin in mid-2017

The project, estimated for completion in mid-2018, will have a huge economic impact on Susquehanna County. The pipeline will connect with the Transco Pipeline near Lenox, in Susquehanna County, and travel south thru Glenwood into Wyoming County.

Its economic impact is estimated at \$18.2 million for Susquehanna County with 230 jobs supported and a labor in-

**Progress Dinner
 for Chamber of
 Commerce**

The Greater Carbondale Chamber of Commerce will host its 12th Annual Celebrating Progress Dinner, Thursday, January 26th at the Carbondale Grand Hotel, in Carbondale according to Executive Director Laure Carlo.

Guest speaker for the evening is Dirk Mumford Chairman of the Board of Trustee's for Wayne Memorial Hospital and Health System.

This dinner is an opportunity for networking, camaraderie and education said Carlo. The Greater Carbondale Chamber of Commerce is proud to be a membership driven organization committed to fostering economic vitality in our communities.

Introduction of the 2017 GCCC board will be presented by new board president Michele Bannon.

Tickets are \$45 per person; contact the Greater Carbondale Chamber of Commerce at 570-282-1690 for your reservation.

come of \$13.3million.

The pipeline will create a much needed path from the huge Marcellus shale natural gas supplies of Susquehanna County to markets along the Eastern Seaboard. The nearly \$3 billion expansion of the existing Transco natural gas pipeline is designed to increase deliveries by 1.7 billion cubic feet per day, enough to provide gas service to seven million homes.

Williams Partners net investment in the Atlantic Sunrise project is expected to be approximately \$1.9 billion.

Pennsylvania State University researchers forecast the Atlantic Sunrise project to directly and indirectly support approximately 8,000 jobs in the 10 Pennsylvania counties during the project's construction phase, resulting in an estimated \$1.6 billion economic impact in the project area.

Williams Partners, based in Tulsa, Oklahoma, owns and operates more than 33,000 miles of pipelines system wide, providing natural gas for clean-power generation, heating and industrial use.

**Free Luncheon
 at Christ Church
 Sat., Jan. 28**

A FREE Community New Year 2017 Luncheon will be held at Christ Episcopal Church, Corner Delaware & Dundaff Streets, Forest City on Saturday, January 28th from Noon - 1:30 PM. Bring your family & friends and share a hearty lunch & wonderful camaraderie.

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Pleasant Mount News
 By Theresa Opeka
 570-679-2065 bu7294@gmail.com

Happy Birthday to: Steve Richner, Clara Keast, Carol Nebzydowski, Christopher Mikulak, Christopher Fico, Christopher Walters, Amy Perry, Rachel Terry, Joyce Nyberg, Colleen Kelly, Roxanne Snigar, Charles Megivern Sr., Jackson Watson and Luke Faletta.

Happy 54th Wedding Anniversary to Al and Sally Asinari!

Congratulations to our area youth: Don Nguyen, Pleasant Mount, on being named Student of the Month for January at Forest City Regional High School. Excelling in both academics and music, Don has been awarded a full tuition scholarship to West Chester University and will have a double major in Spanish and Music. Congratulations also go out to Dominique Jonas, Pleasant Mount, for attaining the President's List at Lackawanna College for the fall semester.

The impending announcement of two state prisons that will be closed in the state has spurred a group, Save SCI Waymart, on Facebook to show support for SCI Waymart, one of the five mentioned for consideration. This would be a devastating loss for our area. Seven hundred jobs would be lost and would definitely have a ripple effect on other local businesses. If jobs would be transferred, people would have to move. There also might be a rise in unemployment, something this area definitely does not need.

Well, it is now official, we have a new president. Hopefully, everyone in Washington can work

together for the good of our country. We live in the best country in the world and take many things for granted.

Forecasters have really seemed to drop the ball lately with the freezing rain and ice we have had. Last week, we were only supposed to have a brief period of freezing rain on Tuesday morning before it turned over to rain in the afternoon. Well, it didn't start raining until after noon and the temperature fell throughout the afternoon, with the trees and power lines accumulating ice. I woke up the next morning and it looked worse than the day before. School was closed for two days. In the afternoon, you could hear the ice falling off the trees. What an eerie sound. I understand forecasting isn't a perfect science but it just seems like this area is "forgotten" quite a bit, not being in the target area for news.

Have a great week and take care!

**Medical use of
 Marijuana is
 Legal in PA**

Forest City Borough was approached recently about a Medical Marijuana Disbursement Facility here. Borough Solicitor Paul Smith told Council they cannot prohibit such a facility but can determine from the Zoning law where it could be located.

Gov. Tom Wolfe signed the law last April which legalized the use of medical marijuana for those suffering one of 17 different medical conditions. They include: post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), cancer, seizures, multiple sclerosis, Crohn's disease and Huntington's disease.

The State Dept. of Health will issue up to 12 permits for growers/processors and up to 27 permits for dispensaries across the Commonwealth.

According to published reports the 10-county north-east region will be issued four dispensary permits and two grower/processor permits.

The application period is Feb. 20 thru March20.

The Times Tribune reported recently that a Dunmore-based company has received zoning approval in Covington Twp. for a proposed marijuana growing and processing facility. Plans call for a 25,000 sq. ft. enclosed, secure facility along State Rte. 435, where they plan to grow and process cannabis and refine it to forms approved by the state, such as oils.

**FCR Class 1967
 reunion mtg.
 Wed., Jan. 25**

The Class of 1967 will have another planning meeting for the 50th reunion. Members of the class interested in planning the reunion should meet on Wednesday, January 25 @ 6:00 PM at the Elegante Restaurant on Main Street in Forest City. Class members are encouraged to attend.

**Ziti with your
 Sweetie Feb. 12**

Ziti with your Sweetie dinner Theater by the Clifford Community Youth Group on Sunday, Feb. 12, 2017 at 2 p.m. in the Clifford Fire Hall, Rte. 106, Main St. Clifford. There will be salad, ziti with meatballs, beverage and dessert will be served while youth present "Cafe Murder, a Comedy." A donation \$10 will be accepted.

Tickets available by contacting Robin at 570-222-4344 or Lisa 570-222-5493, or from any youth group member or limited tickets available at the door.

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 *Sun., Jan. 29 - The Lee Delray Band (4-8p.m.)
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