

THE FOREST CITY NEWS



The Main Street sidewalk contractor completed work on schedule June 30. Guess we are awaiting the badly needed repaving of our Main Street.

We rather enjoyed the July 4th fireworks display from our back deck. Two of them in the Browndale area were very visible to all of us in Forest City. There was another in the Industrial Park as well as a number in and around the streets in town. Couldn't have asked for better weather that day.

Mayor Pauline Wilcox tells us there will be a Fishing Derby sponsored by the Police Dept. at Kennedy Park on Saturday, Aug. 5th from 9am to noon. More details later.

Sign in shoe repair store: "We will heel you; We will save your sole; We will even dye for you."

Sign in an Optometrist's office: "If you don't see what you're looking for, you've come to the right place."

The reason many old timers don't mind being called seniors is that the term comes with a 10% discount.

THE SENILITY PRAYER: Grant me the senility to forget the people I never liked anyway, the good fortune to run into the ones I do, and the eyesight to tell the difference.

The "New" Herrick Lodge has been added to the Dining Guide this week. Check them out on Facebook where you will find daily specials. Happy Hour is Monday through Friday from 5 PM to 7 PM. Stop in and check it out.

Congratulations to Vandling resident Noah Yates on his full scholarship to the United States Military Academy at West Point. We have had several area residents attend this prestigious academy and glad to add another area resident to the list.

I just read that 4,153,237 people got married last year; not to cause any trouble but shouldn't that be an even number?

Today a man knocked on my door and asked for a small donation towards the local swimming pool. I gave him a glass of water.

If I had a dollar for every girl that found me unattractive, they would eventually find me attractive.

I find it ironic that the colors red, white, and blue stand for freedom until they are flashing behind you.

When wearing a bikini, women reveal 90 % of their body... men are so polite they only look at the covered parts.

In the 2017 Tourist Guide published by the Forest City News on June 28, it was incorrectly printed that the Forest City Lions Club would be held in August. The correct date is Friday, July 28. See page 8 for an entry blank for the tournament. Sorry for any inconvenience.

DA Klein diagnosed with neck cancer

District Attorney Robert Klein has been diagnosed with neck cancer. On June 12th, the District Attorney underwent a six-hour surgical procedure that included the removal of his tonsils and a neck dissection to remove a mass. Both the tonsils and mass were determined to be cancerous. The cancer was confined to high in the neck area and involved the tonsils, tongue, and lymph nodes. Following the successful surgery the prognosis is very positive, due to the cancer's location, the fact that the District Attorney is a non-smoker and is in excellent physical health.

While doctors are confident that all of the cancer was removed, further treatment is both recommended and required. This treatment will consist of both radiation and chemotherapy. Treatments will take place over a six-week period and will start in approximately two to three weeks.

The residents of Susque-

hanna County can be assured that the District Attorney will continue to perform all duties of his office without interruption. While the District Attorney may not be able to maintain his normal ten- to twelve-hour work-day schedule, because of the required treatment, he will make every effort to schedule the treatments before or after normal office working hours.

It is important to note that while this is not something for which anyone would volunteer, the District Attorney looks at this as an opportunity to show just how tough and resilient we, the residents of Susquehanna County are; it takes a great deal to beat us! He will fight this battle with the same aggressive and vigilant approach that he has taken to the fight against drugs and crime in our community.

The District Attorney asks that everyone join him in this fight against crime by continuing to be vigilant and

providing information about drug and criminal activity. It is only through the continuing efforts of our citizens, working in partnership with law enforcement, that we are making the progress we are as we move closer to our common goal of eradicating the drug problems in our community.

Drug dealers take notice: The FIGHT AGAINST DRUGS will not stop or even slow down during this temporary challenge.

The District Attorney further wants to recognize his dedicated and hardworking staff. His staff is comprised of the most professional and competent individuals in their respective fields. With the continuing assistance and support of his staff, the District Attorney remains confident that the citizens of Susquehanna County will continue to receive the level of professional service that they have come to expect and deserve.

Yates accepts full scholarship to West Point

Noah Yates, Vandling, a rising Senior at Forest City Regional High School, has accepted a full scholarship to play Division I football at the United States Military Academy at West Point in the Fall of 2018.

Since Forest City does not have a football program, Yates has been playing football for Carbondale Area as part of a co-sponsorship agreement that began in 2012. Carbondale ended the agreement in 2015 when the PIAA moved to six classifications. Yates was allowed to continue in the program and finish his eligibility.

Yates was named to the Lackawanna Football Conference Division III first team all stars as a punter when he was a sophomore and he was a second-team all-star last season as a wide receiver.

Yates is a member of the National Honor Society and an honor roll student at Forest City.

Hunter Safety Course in B'dale Sun., Aug. 13

A Hunter Safety Course will be held on Sun., August 13, from 9 AM to 3:30 PM at the Browndale Fire Company, Browndale, PA.

You must be 11 years of age or older. You can register on PA Game Commission Website. There are 25 seats available.

It is sponsored by the Browndale Sportsman's Club.

A light lunch will be provided.



Fire damages home at 603 Railroad Street.

Family of five suffers Fire-damaged home

Another young Forest City family has found its life overturned by fire. The blaze hit the home of Mr. and Mrs. Eric Bennett, 603 Railroad Street, on Sunday, July 2nd, around 7AM. The couple has three children.

Mr. Bennett told the News he was on the 1st floor of the two-story home when he heard popping sounds upstairs. When he investigated he found a fire around a window air-conditioning unit in one of the bedrooms. He said he woke up a daughter who was in another bedroom and got her out.

Forest City and Browndale fire units arrived quickly but the fire seriously damaged the entire upstairs while

smoke and water damaged much of the downstairs.

The Bennett's car was parked in the driveway next to the home and Mr. Bennett was able to move the car just before the air-conditioning unit fell from the upstairs window into the driveway.

It was less than two months ago, on May 12, that a fire destroyed the St. Hilaire home on Delaware and devastated Ed and Christie St. Hilaire and their three children.

Mr. Bennett said they had lived here for nine years. The home had been completely remodeled during that time.

Committee seeking Vietnam Veterans to be honored as Distinguished Citizens Aug. 5th

In addition to honoring the two Distinguished Citizens (to be announced here next week) the Distinguished Citizen Committee also unanimously decided to honor all area Vietnam Veterans as Distinguished Citizens.

It was brought to the attention of the Historical Society several months ago, by a former resident, that some 50 years since the start of the Vietnam War, might be a good time to try and give the Vietnam vets the honor and recognition which they truly deserved, and did not receive at the time.

A committee of the Historical Society is now attempting to locate all area Vietnam vets to be honored at ceremonies at the Historical Society Museum on Saturday, August 5 at 1PM. The committee consists of Paul Ferraro, Bob Wirts, Dave Homisak, Tammy O'Reilly, Dave Opeka, Deb Giddings and John Kameen.

Those honored will be any person who was in the service from Feb. 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975, regardless of whether they served in Vietnam. It was noted that many service personnel at that time served in backup and supply capacities for the war effort. Also any member of the service at that time did face the

possibility of being sent to Vietnam.

The names of all service members, living and deceased, during this time period, from this entire area, living or deceased, will be placed on a plaque at the Forest City Area Historical Society. Those veterans who attend the August 5th event will receive a lapel pin designating them as Vietnam Vets.

All area Vietnam veterans, or their families, are asked to call Paul Ferraro, also a Vietnam veteran, at 570-785-5177 or 679-2452, or contact the Forest City News at 570-785-3800. At that time they will be provided with details of the event, and given a formal invitation to attend Aug. 5th.

Others wishing to provide names, or arrange to attend the event, can do so by email to john@forestcitynews.com

Free luncheon at Christ Church

The Stone Soup Kitchen at Christ Church will hold its FREE Community Luncheon at Christ Episcopal Church, corner of Delaware and Dundaff Streets, Forest City, on Saturday, July 22, from noon to 1:30 p.m. Bring your family and friends. Share a hearty lunch and wonderful camaraderie.

St. Juliana's Rock Lake Picnic to celebrate 150th year August 19

St. Juliana's Rock Lake 150th Picnic will be held on Saturday, August 19, 2017, at 2048 Creamton Drive, Mount Pleasant.

A Family Style Ham & Turkey Dinner will be held from 11:30 AM to 3:30 PM (Take-outs available until 3pm). Supper will be served at 5:00 PM.

Republican Women picnic Thurs., July 20

The Susquehanna County Council of Republican Women will hold its annual picnic on Thursday, July 20, at 5:30 p.m. at Green Gables pavilion, Main St., New Milford. The cost is \$18 per person. RSVP to Marion O'Malley, 570-278-4015 or momalley@epix.net.

which will be installed in the basement in order to raise people to the 2nd floor Museum, handicapped access requires a new and enlarged doorway to the basement as well as a new handicapped access bathroom in the basement.

Donations can be made to officers of the Historical Society: President John P. Kameen, Vice President David Homisak, Secretary Juliann Doyle or Treasurer Robert Wirts.

Donations can be mailed to Juliann Doyle, 305 Martin St., Browndale, PA 18421, or John P. Kameen, 636 Main St., Forest City PA 18421

Mass will be celebrated at 6:30 PM.

There will be a Giant Flea Market - BINGO - Games - Prizes - 50/50 Raffle.

Square Dancing by "Just Us" from 8:00 PM - 11:00 PM (sponsored by Ed Howell).

As we celebrate the 150th year of the Picnic, a commemorative bronze-cast coin is being cast. The cost is \$10/coin. To order, please call Rose at 570-798-2539 or the Parish Office at 570-785-3838.

Get a subscription to the News 570-785-3800

Fire-devastated family says thanks for community support

By Art McLain

What started off as an average day for one of the families in Forest City turned tragic when their house and the house next door suddenly caught on fire. All seemed normal enough when Christie St. Hilaire left to pick up her daughters from school. Upon returning home she found their house engulfed in flames. With her husband, Ed, working 3 hours away all Christie could do was wonder what the family would do next.

Fire companies from several surrounding towns fought the fire. There were people everywhere with news reporters and people gathered around wishing that they could help. One firefighter who didn't recognize Christie asked if she really needed to smoke a cigarette as he had more than enough smoke fighting the fire. After a friend explained to the firefighter who Christie was he apologized and later was one of the first people to return to lend assistance to the family. "We became pretty

good friends," Christie said.

The St. Hilaire family lost nearly everything and the reason why is wasn't entirely everything is that they had been notified by their landlord that they were going to have to move in the near future. Ed had packed and moved pictures and keepsakes and in hindsight it preserved many of their precious belongings. Furniture, clothes, toys and all of the household items were gone. Their family would have to start all over again.

The St. Hilaire family had moved to Forest City from New Jersey about 5 years ago. Ed had relatives in Browndale and when they visited the area they fell in love with Forest City and had recently bought a house right across the street from the one that they were renting. Ed is skilled in building and remodeling and was working on their new house but they had not planned to move into it for several months. This is the story about the spirit of the commu-

nity and how people came together to help the St. Hilaire family get their family's life back together.

Please keep in mind that the St. Hilaire family does not know every name of all of the people who helped them. Through a fund that was set up to help them, a collection jar at Turkey Hill, fundraising by the Forest City Regional School, collections from workers on the gas pipeline, and donations made to the Red Cross; many of the donors were anonymous. The St. Hilaire family wishes to thank everyone who helped them and they wrote a letter to express their appreciation, which follows.

"We would like to extend our sincere thanks to Forest City, Browndale, Union Dale, Clifford, Waymart, Grattan Singer, Pleasant Mount, Greenfield Township, Carbondale and the Mayfield Fire Departments for their efforts. To Chief James Johnson and Mayor Pauline Wilcox for advocating for our family. To Superintendent Jes-



The St. Hilaire family is returning to normalcy after a fire devastated their home. Pictured from left to right: Mehlayia, Christie, Emalyn, Ed and Cloey St. Hilaire

sica Aquilina, Principal Brian Kelly and the entire FCR School for their support and donations. To Linde Corporation, UGI, The Salvation Army, First National Bank, Turkey Hill, Zazzera's Supermarket, Cornerstone Bible Church and the Forest City Historical Society for organiz-

ing donations and benefits. To Gina Puri, Bonita Bensley and Jessica Love for showing family support when we didn't have a home. And lastly to our entire community for coming together and helping our family endure this tragedy. You all made us feel eternally grateful."

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