

THE FOREST CITY NEWS



Tony Wilcox noticed in the Sept. 6 Looking Back column that the fire at 511 Main St. was 90 years from the time the building was built. Good eye, Tony!!

Two area people with relatives suffering from lyme's disease told us it is a sinister and life-changing disease. The key is to catch it early. Anytime you are near vegetation, woods, even cutting grass, you should check your body. The tiny tick must be attached for some time before it transfers the disease.

The PBS series on Vietnam War by Ken Burns started last Sunday. It is a 10 part, 18 hr. series.

FCR School got underway Tuesday after a 3-week delay caused by the construction project. Last day of school is listed as June 8 pending NO snow days.

Saw about a dozen photos of nice bucks which were taken within a mile radius of Forest City. Should be a good deer season in this area.

Diane Foster sent us a story and photo from the Nov. 1962 Binghamton Press, about her father, Gar Foster, shooting the first coyote in Susq. County and she was there when he got it. Back then they were called coy dogs, even wild dogs, and were not often seen. They are now called coyotes and are much more prevalent.

The annual Bud Caffery Memorial Golf Tournament is at Memorial Links, Pleasant Mt., Sun., Sept. 24, benefit the PM Historical Society and Costello Monahan Brown American Legion. Details are elsewhere in this edition.

A loyal subscriber who recently moved from Forest City sent us this note: For 37 years of my life I lived in Forest City. I love the memories and the hometown hospitality of Forest City! I truly miss it!

No write-in vote Needed for Cost

Councilman Nick Cost, who recently had his name withdrawn as Mayor from the November election ballot in order to remain as Councilman, does not have to run on write-ins for a Council seat. He has two years remaining on his present Council term.

There will be no one on the ballot for Mayor so a write-in vote will be required for that local office.

There will also be only three candidates on the ballot for four seats on Forest City Council. The 4th seat will have to be filled by write-ins. The three Council candidates are incumbent Chris DeGonzague, and new comers Tracey Lazier and Amy Bean.

Special Garbage Meeting in FC Sept. 26

The Forest City Borough Council will hold a Special Public Work Session on Tuesday, September 26, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Forest City Borough Building at 535 Main Street, Forest City, PA 18421. The purpose of the meeting is to allow council members to review and discuss the Garbage Bids received at the September 5, 2017 meeting.



Concerns on school construction Addressed at Board meeting

A parent brought his concerns about student safety while the school is under construction to the Sept. 11 school board meeting. His principal concern, about security of the building, was answered by Supt. Dr. Jessica Aquilina stating that two armed guards will be stationed all day at the two entrances.

He also questioned whether the exterior areas would be safe and was told that bus exit and entrance routes have been established along with cars bringing students to the school.

He was also told that demolition and all work producing loud noises has been completed.

He was also advised that all workers, as well as anyone on the property, must have state mandated clearances.

OTHER BUSINESS

*Dr. Aquilina, in noting the retirement of special

ed coordinator Donna Potis, said she will be greatly missed after her 11 years at FCR. Ms. Potis had a great feeling for the special ed students and helped produce a good learning environment for them.

*Michelle Gillette asked if the volleyball team could finish its season at the Carbondale gym but Dr. Aquilina said they discussed it but want them back in their home gym.

*Contracts with Northeast data for \$5,037 and with WVIA for \$1,140/yr. were approved.

*Since a qualified language or ESL teacher could not be found, Middlebury Languages will be used to provide German I and II. The district has Spanish but must also provide a 2nd language. Cost for 10 students is \$2,000 for content and \$400 per student for instruction. Dr. Aquilina said there would be the ability to have 20 stu-

dents take the language.

*Student handbooks for elementary and high school students were approved and can be found on-line.

*Stacy Watkins was approved as an intern with NHS Human Services and the District's partial program for the school year.

*Five days unpaid leave was granted to Marisa Evans to fulfill educational observation hours.

*Amanda Cino and Richard Priebe were named advisors to the school newspaper.

*David Pollak was named JV girls soccer coach.

*Construction change orders for \$14,664 were approved.

*Substitute support staff members approved are: Genine Langman, Kelly McFadden, Keil Muehleisen and Alexandra Rugiero.

*Steamtown Marathon and Palette Pals were given permission to use the building for their events.

Armed guards at school doors Until security entrances are in

In order to provide protection to FCR students returning to school while the building is under construction, the District has contracted for armed guards to be placed at the two entry points to the school. All other areas where construction is taking place will be closed-in, according to Supt. Dr. Jessica Aquilina.

The District contracted with Forest City Borough and with United American

Security to have the guards in place from 7:30am to 3:30pm for six to eight weeks until the building entrances are made secure. One Forest City part-time officer and one UAS security officer will be on duty daily.

Forest City Borough will charge \$25/hour for the part time officer. All costs associated with the service will be invoiced to the School District and paid to the Bor-

ough on a bi-weekly basis. The amount the officer will be paid by the Borough was not listed. Only part-time officers will be used.

According to the contract with UAS, they will be paid \$23.00 per hour for straight time. The amount the guard will be paid was not noted.

Dr. Aquilina noted that all officers will have the proper state mandated clearances.

Historical Society fund drive at \$4,725

Forest City Area Historical Society treasurer Bob Wirts reported at the Sept. 10 meeting that \$4,725 has been raised for the new elevator and handicapped access project. Approximately \$10,000 was allocated previously in donations for the project. The total cost will be \$30,000.

Pres. John P. Kameen said the elevator is at the company awaiting approval of the Forest City building permit to begin. There will also be a new handicapped entrance and a handicapped accessible bathroom in the basement.

More donations are needed and can be mailed to Juliann Doyle, Secretary, 305

Martin St., Browndale, PA 18421, or John P. Kameen, President, 636 Main St., Forest City, PA 18421.

All donations will be acknowledged at a later date in The Forest City News unless otherwise instructed.

A donation in the amount of \$1,500 was received from Ann Monasky, Silver Springs, Maryland. She is the daughter of the late Dr. George Monasky, formerly of Browndale.

The Society also extended its thanks to Max and Jessica Rosas of Max Deli for sponsoring a Mexican Night to benefit the elevator fund. All proceeds were donated in the amount of \$1,005.

The Society got a letter of thanks from School Supt. Dr. Jessica Aquilina for allowing Forest City Regional School to use the Historical Society during July and August for both the Summer Kindergarten Readiness Program and the Special Education Extended School Program due to the

construction program at the school. The school choral group also used the building. The Society provided their facilities at no charge as service to the school, the community and the students.

The History Telling program of recording senior citizen memories is proceeding according to Roseann Swegel. Jon Harcharek has been visiting the Nursing Home and Personal Care for the project.

Paul and Mary Ferraro announced the Catholic Choral Society will perform at the Museum March 18, 2018. The Society will also participate in the Main St. Christmas program on Dec. 2nd with performances of the FCR band and chorus at the Museum.

Vice Pres. Dave Homisak and Joann Homisak donated a number of photos and artifacts for display. Anyone with memorabilia items to donate can bring them to the News Office.

Bullying policy in effect

A new Bullying Policy was explained to Forest City Regional School Board Sept. 11 by HS Principal Dr. Michael Elia and Elem. Principal Brian Kelly. It was developed this summer by a 19-member committee of teachers and professionals, and goes into effect at the start of school.

The policy is called STAR—Stop, Think, Act, Report—and will cover grades 3 to 12.

STOP—Tell bully to stop immediately.
THINK—Think of the strategy which you will be taught by the teachers.

ACT—Use the strategy you have been taught and walk away.

REPORT—Report the action to teachers or anonymously in writing and place it in one of six boxes around the school.

Both elementary and high school students will be instructed, in 25 lessons, over the next weeks about the definition of bullying and what they are expected to do in the

event they witness or are the object of bullying.

A complete explanation of the policy, as well as a copy of the Bullying Report is on the school website at www.fcrcsd.org

Blood Drive in Browndale Fri., Sept. 22

The Browndale Fire Station will be turned into a Community Red Cross Blood donation center from 1:00 to 6:00 PM on Friday, September 22, 2017. The Browndale Fire Station is located on Route 247, 620 Marion Street, Browndale. Please stop by to donate the gift of life!

If you would like to make an appointment to donate blood, please call 1-800-RED-CROSS (1-800-733-2767) or go on-line to: www.redcrossblood.org. You may also walk in. Please help support the Red Cross and donate blood. "Give the gift of life. Give Blood"



Pictured above is an elementary classroom at Forest City Regional School. School opened on Tuesday, September 19.

FCR School opening brings many changes

Forest City Regional School Superintendent Dr. Jessica Aquilina explained to parents and students on Tuesday, September 12 during an informational meeting what they will see when students begin classes on September 19.

School renovation work will continue into the 2018 school year. The safety and security of the students is of the utmost importance. Demolition work is all completed. Temporary fencing will remain in place for the near future.

All openings to the school will be secure with new glass doors and plywood, where need be.

The school has hired armed security officers for the entrances who will be on duty from 7:30 AM to 3:30 PM. The cost to the school district will be \$384 per day for six to eight weeks.

All air quality testing is completed as well as water testing. The emergency fire alarm system is operational and during the first week of school a fire drill will be held to test the new emergency evacuation plan.

Visitor access for the high school will be through the right hand door to the gym in the front of the school. Access to the elementary office will be in the back outside of the elementary

gym. No one will be granted access to the school after 2:55 PM.

Drop off and pick up has changed somewhat for this year. Pick up will be in front of the high school for high school students and the elementary students can be picked up in the elementary traffic circle just like last year.

Students in K-9 must be dropped off in the back of the school in the Safe Student Drop Off Zone. Those students will go directly to the cafeteria. Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors will enter through the administrative office entrance and will go to the high school gym.

Parents dropping off students are not permitted to get out of the vehicles in the parking lot. Parents must wait in the line and not just drop and leave.

September 21 will be the next meeting with Grimm Construction, the contractor.

The dress code has changed and can be found under the student handbook on the school's website.

Dr. Henry Nebzydowski, school board member, said "the project is in the best interests of the school community. It is being paid by the taxpayers and is a good expense."

Forest City Council Business Transacted

At the Oct. 5 Forest City Council meeting the following matters were handled:

*The new police car is at the graphics shop and will have its radio installed. It should be in service shortly. No bids were received on the two old police cars. One will be junked.

*Councilman Bob Lesjack was approved to expend \$5,000 for the repair of the two restrooms on the 2nd floor to complete the restoration project there.

*Resident Paul Ravnikar asked if the curbs in the 900 block could be repaired. He also asked Council to look at the corner of North and Main St. for parking issues.

*Council will look at costs for a gas generator for emergency electricity in the Boro Building.

*Boro Treasurer Sharon Vannan reported that \$1,000 donations were received toward the town's National Nite Out on August 1 by Linde Corporation and UGI Utilities Inc.

*The Area Agency on Aging got permission to get bids for repainting the Senior Citizen at their cost.

*A request for allowing two police officers to be stationed at the school for about a month due to construction, with the officers being paid \$20.00 per hour, was deferred for discussion with the School Superintendent.

*Only \$170 was realized from sale of items no longer needed at the Boro Bldg. Some filing cabinets, desks and chairs still remain.

*Councilman Ed Pearsall said 1,355 Kennedy Park fundraising letters were

sent out at a cost of \$239. Thus far contributions total \$1,215.

*Pearsall said the specs of the Kennedy Park basketball and tennis courts are not ready, so that project won't happen this year. They received a grant from DCNR for \$20,005 for the project.

*Pearsall also said they have two volunteers for the new Kennedy Park Board, Rick Priebe and Rachel Habeltin. He said past members of the Kennedy Park Board are welcome to be members.

*Mayor Pauline Wilcox said first responders and other citizens who assisted at the fire will be honored at the Oct. 2nd Council meeting.

*Main St. Coordinator Art McLain said he has met with Ed Tomaine, Carbondale, who was opening a Karate school at 511 Main St., in an effort to assist him in finding another location.

*New Code Enforcement officer Stephanie Reisch gave a report on outdoor burning, grass mowing and dumpster issues. She also asked residents to put house numbers on homes which presently do not have them, to help with safety issues such as fire and ambulance response.

*KBA Engineer Dennis Kutch has not yet prepared estimates for repairs needed to the exterior of the Boro Building.

*Councilman Bernie Scalzo said a "no Parking" sign and post were taken from Vision 200 Industrial Park. Anyone with information should call the local police.

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