

LOOKING BACK

10 YEARS AGO December 12, 2007

Tom Heller is the new president of the Forest City Regional School Board. Nancy Marcinkus was installed as the new school director from Pleasant Mount.

The Forest City Commercial Association Christmas promotion is now underway. The Grand Prize is a one night trip for two to Mount Airy Resort and Casino in the Poconos.

Dr. Tammy Carlson, owner of TLC Eyecare, Vandling, in conjunction with the Forest City Lions Club, held vision screenings on Nov. 7th and 14th for grades third through sixth at Forest City Regional Elementary School.

Plaudits to Henry Majdic and the Vandling Recreation Board members who installed the beautiful decorations on the Vandling Playground.

Deaths: June L. (Paye) Chesnick, born in Forest City; Virginia DeLucy, Carbondale; Leo A. Stermole, Ellicott City, Maryland; Michael Hathazi, Lenoxville; Thomas F. Stipulkosky, Texas; Dorothy Torre, Carbondale; George H. Moore, Mayfield.

20 YEARS AGO December 10, 1997

Community Bank & Trust Co. has announced that it will build a central office building in Clarks Summit. The bank will no longer use the space now occupied in the Kartri Building at 528 Main St.

One hundred and ten years ago this week the Forest City News was born.

The Belmont Fire Company invites everyone to their open house scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 14. The feature of the open house will be the new 1998 Braun ambulance.

Bob Trusky, Forest City, was elected to his third term as president of the Forest City Regional School Board.

Deaths: Sandra Jean Price, Nicholson; Paul S. Conklin, Greenville, NC; Jane Corbin Ritter, RR 2 Waymart.

30 YEARS AGO December 10, 1987

The Forest City News celebrates its 100th anniversary this week.

Noreen Swegel, a member of the Forest City Regional School Board, was presented a certificate for ten years of service by Dr. Michael P. DeStefano.

Jerry's Sport Center Inc. is now the new occupant of the former Ames Building in Vandling.

Steve Sheptak, Union Dale, was elected president of the Forest City Regional School Board for the 1988 year.

Deaths: Mrs. Mary Zefran, Brown Dale; Charles Bourke, RD 1, Honesdale; Cecil Spencer, born in Pleasant Mount; Edna Dawson, Binghamton, NY; Arden L. Thorne, Preston Park; June Gelatt, Binghamton, NY; Louis A. Amatucci, New York.

40 YEARS AGO December 8, 1978

Jack Sisko and Jack Majdic were elected co-captains of the Foresters basketball squad.

Miss Mary Jane Konchar passed the state board of exams as a Licensed Practical Nurse.

Incumbent Clifford Supervisor Dennis Pfahl was defeated in a recount of votes over Llewellyn "Red" Abbott.

Deaths: Wesley Sklanka, RD 2, Union Dale; Mrs. Signa Bengds, RD 1, Pleasant Mount; Mrs. Anna Atkinson, Railroad Street.

50 YEARS AGO December 14, 1967

A crew of local men converged

on the Ice Pond recreation area Saturday afternoon to begin cleanup activities. The volunteers, recruited by Jim Romich, were: Tony O'Koren, John Treven, Joe Nadzak, Mike Soltis, John Kameen and several younger residents of the borough.

S/Sgt. Joseph J. Ondrako, who was stationed at Andrews Air Force Base, MD, for the last 16 months, left December 8th for a one year tour of duty in Saudi Arabia. He is a radio operator and has been for 16 years.

The hard rubber game check used by the Forest House of Forest City, PA, has been reported to Coin World and attributed by Joseph F. Sheroschick of Forest City. Presumably the greater number of the game checks were destroyed by fire, so the piece must be considered fairly scarce.

Miss Shirley Yale, 17, of Union Dale, has been named coed correspondent for the 1967-68 school year, according to an announcement by Miss Margaret Hauser, editor of Coed Magazine.

The following officers were elected at a recent meeting of the Forest City Fire Department: President, John Kresock; vice president, David Supko; recording secretary, James McCusker Jr.; financial secretary, John Bucknavage; treasurer, John Bronchella; fire chief, James McCusker Sr.; chief engineer, Fred Lang; foreman, Steve Lucas; 1st asst. foreman, Frank Gliha; 2nd asst. foreman, Bill Paulin; captain, Dave Kerzic.

60 YEARS AGO December 12, 1957

The Forest City Joint School Board adopts Resolution authorizing filing of proper applications with Public School Building Authority for approval of a new school building project.

Forest City Borough Council discusses possibility of erecting traffic lights at several Main Street intersections.

Rev. Joseph Falzone, serving as Vicar of the Christ Episcopal Church, will be ordained to the Sacred Priesthood of the Episcopal Church on Wednesday.

Construction on the Stillwater Dam project will begin April 1st.

Deaths reported: Mrs. Theresa Morrison, 741 Hudson Street; Mrs. Jennie Chesnick, 223 Ash Street, Vandling; Mrs. Bridget Purisky, 90 Depot Street; Mrs. Catherine Ondrako, Binghamton, former local resident.

70 YEARS AGO December 11, 1947

Forest City Borough's assessed valuation is set at \$885,556 for real estate assessment purposes and \$127,273 for occupational assessment, an overall increase of \$105,234 over the previous year.

The Enterprise Hose Co. will start January 15th to raise funds to purchase a new fire truck to replace the 1919 model pumper now serving the department.

Abe Solomon has purchased the Karketa property in Vandling. Mr. and Mrs. Karketa plan to leave for California.

Willard E. Gibson, Union Dale, was fatally stricken while visiting his ill father in the Carbondale General Hospital.

80 YEARS AGO December 20, 1937

Russell Yanovich, Andrew Struss, Henry Turk, George Hornbeck and Walter Cebular were among the 400 applicants who took examinations for entry in the Pennsylvania Motor Police at Wyoming on Saturday.

Mrs. Belle Lavin incurred injuries Friday afternoon. She was

struck by a missile that exploded while she was burning papers in the yard of her home.

Attorney Joseph Strassman was admitted to the Susquehanna County Bar by Judge A. B. Smith, Monday, upon recommendation of Attorney Edward P. Little.

Michael Kuruts passed away this morning at the family home at 514 Main Street.

90 YEARS AGO December 8, 1927

The Charles & Martin Skubic Post of the American Legion has acquired the building of the former Bethel Congregational Church and will remodel the building for Legion functions.

Artists and workers have completed the work of renovating the interior of St. Joseph's Church.

Dr. H. R. Bell succeeds F. T. Gelder as president of the Forest City Kiwanis Club.

James Cleary was named president of the newly organized Forest City School Board. James Johnson and Frank Darrow retired after 16 and 12 years respectively. They were succeeded by John Cherney and Stanley Benarick.

100 YEARS AGO December 13, 1917

The sugar famine has struck the area and many a household is sugarless.

The Simpson viaduct was opened to public use this week.

Forest City, Vandling and Brown Dale have adopted the rule that book accounts must be settled every two weeks.

Forest City Borough Council petitions the Public Service Commission for the erection of an adequate station to accommodate Erie Railroad passengers.

110 YEARS AGO December 12, 1907

Forest City was visited by a \$60,000 fire this morning. The Davis Opera House, Morgan's Store and the Kirby buildings were destroyed. Fire destroyed the stock of four merchants and destroyed much property.

Forest City Borough Council, heading pleas of teamsters and visiting farmers has decided to place a watering trough in front of the Borough Building.

The Gem Theatre, which opened two weeks ago, went out of business on Wednesday.

Burgess Jennings calls Council's attention to the deplorable sidewalk conditions in the Borough.

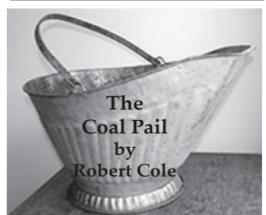
120 YEARS AGO December 9, 1897

On account of the coming holidays, the Erie paymaster will arrive tomorrow to pay the local miners and laborers their monthly earnings.

Rev. P. B. Kennedy has tendered his resignation as minister of the local Presbyterian Church and has accepted a call from an Asbury, NJ, church.

The car replacer invented by R. E. Alexander of this place, now in general use on all leading railroads in this country, has been introduced into use on several European railroads.

J.J. Fletcher has been named agent at the Forest City Erie



The Coal Pail by Robert Cole

The following short stories are of life as a young boy in the Forest City Area and are written by Robert Cole, Bordenoxton, NJ. His parents were Alfred and Jessie Atkinson Cole. He was born in 1940 in his grandparent's house on Railroad Street. His grandparents were Richard and Jessie Atkinson.

Springtime brought out the warm weather and a great time to get outside and play.

There was a building on Higgins Alley that they called the Zevon Hall. It had a dirt planter sort of on the side. We would all go over there and play allies. They were marbles but we called them allies. All of the boys had an old sock full of the allies. The best ones were the ones we called puries. I Jumbo purie and 1 small shooter purie. Sometimes we would trade them off for more allies

The game was make a circle and anty up so many a pot. The large one was the bowler.

Sometimes as many as 50 allies in the pot. Start by using the bowler to knock as many as you can out of the circle. You got to keep all that you knocked out and then you kept going until you missed. If you got stuck in the circle, you were finished. It was the next person's turn.

Sometimes the kids got angry and grabbed all of the allies out of the pot and rolled them down the hill towards Bruce Bloxham's lumber yard and everyone would chase after them to see how many you could grab. All fair game.

100 YEARS AGO THIS WEEK

Items from the Independent Republican, Montrose Democrat and Tri-Weekly Journal Submitted by Betty Smith, Susquehanna County Historical Society, Montrose
Back issues of 100 Years Ago can be accessed at www.susqcohistoc.org

Fell Twp., Lackawanna Co. The body of Ralph Burdick was found Monday by children on their way to school, near the John Russell farm on the Crystal Lake road, shortly before nine o'clock. It is surmised that Mr. Burdick became exhausted traveling through the snow on his way home to the Consolidated Water company's farm at Newton lake. The snow was drifted quite deeply where the body was found. Mr. Burdick rode to the Russell farm at noon Sunday with John Beck, proprietor of the Falls hotel, and when he arrived there told Mr. Beck that he was going to visit at the Russell home. He left there after a short visit and this was the last time he was seen alive. Deputy Coroner W. S. Johnson, of Carbondale, was called when the body was discovered and he ordered it removed to the Burdick home at Newton lake.

Susquehanna - At a meeting of the Dairywomen's League, held at Utica last week, Attorney J. D. Miller, of Susquehanna, was chosen one of the directors. Fully 1000 delegates from New York, Connecticut, Pennsylvania and New Jersey assembled to consider their best interests as milk producers.

Kingsley - A. E. Tiffany had two more sheep killed by dogs last week. He had 26 and they have been dropping out, one and two at a time, until he has only 11 left. Good encouragement for any one to go into sheep raising for a farm industry. ALSO H. W. Jeffers and family accompanied by Mr. and Mrs. Frank MacMane, of Plainsboro, N. J., spent a few days last week with friends in this vicinity, hunting and making merry, generally, and ate Thanksgiving turkey dinner with Mrs. B. M. Jeffers, at the Jeffers farm.

Harford - Skating parties are very fashionable now. ALSO Frank Peck, of South Harford, and Mrs. Emmaline Cynthia Tower DeSwarte, of North Harford, were married in Montrose by F. A. Davies, Esq. ALSO The coldest storm of the season visited us Saturday, breaking trees, fences and windows for several different families.

West Auburn - The Wyalusing Rocket prints the following concerning a prosperous Auburn farmer. Raymond Dibble, formerly of Wyalusing, has been making extensive repairs and improvements to his home the past week. New siding and windows add much to the appearance of the structure and a large plate glass door, placed at the front

of the house, is a very material improvement. He has seventeen cows and several head of blooded young cattle.

Thompson - The stores in town have put on quite a Christmas appearance, notwithstanding the hard times and the urgent appeal for economy.

Forest City - Leo O'Hara is acting as Erie section foreman, a position held by his father, the late Patrick O'Hara, for many years. Daniel O'Hara left Monday for camp at Spartansburg, S. C. His brother, John, left yesterday for his home in Rochester, N. Y. ALSO A sugar famine has struck the town and many a household is sugarless.

Uniondale - Robert Spencer was severely injured Monday afternoon by being kicked by a horse. He was leading two horses from the town water kettle and dropped the halter of one of the steeds and in picking it up was kicked in the face by the other horse. The calk of the shoe struck him just below the eye and opened his cheek so that five stitches were required to put it in

place.

News Briefs: Ice, nine inches in thickness, is reported on nearby lakes and ponds and if the cold weather continues it is probable ice cutting will start next week. The first of the week the mercury registered from two to eight degrees below zero in some places, which is very unusual for so early in the winter. ALSO There is a big local demand for stove wood, and farmers are busy in the woodlots these days. The price runs from \$2.50 to \$3.00 per cord, according to quality. ALSO Pennsylvania has more recruits than any other state. About 275,000 men have enlisted since the outbreak of the war. ALSO Between August 1 and December 1 the railroads transported 1,500,000 men to training camps and embarkation points. To insure the safety of the men in transit the railroads have adopted an average speed of 25 miles an hour except when freight cars needed for the transportation of equipment are included in the trains. The speed is then reduced to 20 miles.

"Faith Matters"

It's Beginning to Look A Lot Like Christmas

Familiar melodies and words, perky rhythms, lights and decorations tell us it's a special time of year. The one very special aspect of the Christmas season is the lights. If nothing else, it is a celebration of lights in the darkest season of the year. In many communities, people gather specifically to see the holiday lights come on for the first time. And usually there is a loud cheer and rejoicing when the lights do come on.

None of us likes to sit in darkness very long. Edison's invention of the light bulb transformed fearfully dark environments into welcoming places of enjoyment, safety, productivity and healing. Jesus' advent into the world transforms the lives of all who embrace His light into lives of blessing for themselves and for others. Many testify that when they accepted Jesus into

their lives, light replaced the darkness that had been there fulfilling the ancient prophesy: "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned (Isaiah 9:2).

So if darkness is surrounding you this Christmas season, receive Jesus' light into your life and for the rest of your life stay in His circle of light. Jesus said that He was the light of the world and that whoever would follow Him would never walk in darkness (John 8:12). The Apostle Peter wrote to those who were following Christ that they were called out of darkness into His wonderful light. Enjoy the light of Christ's coming not just into the world but into your life. Merry Christmas!

Rev. Jay Best is the Pastor of Community Bible Church, Route 107, Heart Lake Road, Jermy. Look for the three crosses! Sunday services are at 10:30 a.m. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service 7:30

Coming Events

Dec. 16 - Clifford Vacation Bible School Christmas cookie walk, Sat., 9 a.m. until noon or until cookie are gone, Clifford UM Church, Main St., Clifford. \$14 large container, \$7 small container.

Dec. 16 - Chapel Community Kitchen, Cold Springs, 11:30 a.m., Christmas dinner, FREE. Takeouts after 1 p.m. 570-253-4033.

Jan. 21 - Forest City Area Emergency Services designer purse bingo, 380 Railroad St., Forest City, \$25, doors open at noon, games 1 p.m., 570-785-3837.

June thru Oct. - Day trip at Ladore Lodge, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., \$15, Tues., Wed. or Thurs., lunch incl., outdoor recreational games, boat rides, heated pool & hot tub, Call 570-488-6129 to Barb or Linda.

Every Friday - Trinity's Episcopal, Carbondale, knitting group meets Friday at 6 p.m. ALL are welcome to join in for some great fun. Bring your favorite projects - knitting, crochet, or any other craft. Or come to learn and share with others! Call Elinor Daily for more information, 570-222-3568.



Week of December 18
Monday - Fish Almondine, scalloped potatoes, snap peas, ww roll, oatmeal cookie..

Tuesday - Turkey salad sandwich on ww roll, creamy pumpkin soup, slice beets.

Wednesday - Breaded Pork chop, carrots, boodles w/cabbage, spice cake

Thursday - Roast Turkey, roasted sweet potatoes, green bean casserole, bread stuffing spiced peaches

Friday - Baked spaghetti, salad, Italian veggie medley, sorbet.

For reservations, please call a day ahead at Forest City, 10-2, 785-3386. At Lenoxville, 10-2, THURSDAY ONLY, 222-9550, or you can call the Senior Service office at: 278-7664 or 800-634-3746



Week of Dec. 18
MON. - Grilled cheese sandwich, tomato soup, Goldfish crackers, Smiley fries, winter blend veggies, assorted yogurt.

TUES. - Penne pasta w/ meatballs, garlic breadstick, salad, steamed broccoli.

WED. - Baked chicken, stuffing, mashed potatoes, gravy, roll, chocolate cream pie.

THURS. - Macaroni & cheese, cheese quesadilla, salad, two-toned peas & carrots.

FRI. - Turkey BBQ sandwich, oven crisp fries, seasoned green beans.

Assorted fruits, raw veggies, juices and milks available every day. 1% or fat free white & chocolate milk available daily. Alternate: Tuna Salad

BREAKFAST
Monday - Sausage & cheese on croissant.

Tuesday - Egg & cheese on croissant.

Wednesday - Bacon, egg & cheese on croissant.

Thursday - Ham, egg & cheese on croissant (hs).

Friday - Egg & cheese on bagel. *Choice of assorted fruit or juice, milk. *Alternate breakfast: assorted whole grain or reduced sugar cereals.

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