

THE FOREST CITY NEWS



The News staff would like to express their heartfelt condolences to the family of James Irving who passed away on Saturday, Jan. 13. Jim is the father of Forest City News employee Jennifer Butler. May the family find peace in knowing that he loved them deeply. Those we hold closest to our hearts never truly leave us. They live on in the memories and love they brought into our lives.

Joe Ferraro, formerly of Vandling, told us a true story of sportsmanship. Many years ago he was deer hunting in Ararat and hit a buck but couldn't find it. As he was leaving the woods he saw 3 Ararat hunters and told them about the buck. He had to return to New Jersey for work but on his way back decided to call his boss and take the shift off. When he returned to Ararat he heard the hunters talking. The three had found it and said it was his deer and had it ready for him to tag. He said they wanted to help him pull it out of the woods. It was a good example of sportsmanship way back then.

Several months ago TheIma May told us she saw a black panther at her Ararat house one morning. She has a 40 lb. dog and the animal was easily double his size, with a long tail, a characteristic of mountain lions. It is not too far away from the spot where there was a trail-cam pix of a mt. lion which we published a few years ago. The Game Commission still says no proof of mt. lions in Penna!!

Just came across a copy of a grocery ad from the Forest City A&P store from our edition January 13, 1956-- 52 years ago. My, how times have changed—Chuck Roast 29c lb.; Fresh Ground Beef 3 lbs. \$1.00; Florida Grapefruit 5 lb. bag 29c; Florida Oranges lg. size. doz. 39c; Iceberg Lettuce 2 lg. hds. 25c; Jane Parker Apple Pie 39c; Keebler Club Crackers 1 lb. pkg. 35c; Betty Crocker Cake Mixes 3 pkgs. 95c; Ideal Dog Food 6 1 lb. cans 85c; Red Circle or Bokar Coffee 1 lb. bag 83c; Banquet chicken pies 5 for 95c. And those of us old enough to remember, they ground the coffee at the checkout counter and you always smelled coffee when you went in the door.

It's been a topsy-turvy weather pattern this past month with several long stretches of single digit and below zero temps, followed by a week of January thaw and then heavy rain. The frigid weather returned the past weekend, again back in single digits and below. However, weather forecasters say we can have 40s and 50s this weekend. For you younger folks out there, I can't help but recall we have had these major swings in weather all this writer's life. The only difference is the hype imposed by the Weather Channel (now naming winter storms like they do hurricanes) and our intrepid TV forecasters. I have a photo taken about 25 years ago in front of a local thermometer registering 25-below zero. I'm not taking sides on global warming but we could use some of it this winter, especially with regard to our heating bills!

We had several subscribers last week changing their address to warmer climes. Can't blame them.

First new business to open on Main Street in several years Gets Certificate from County



The Barking Cupcake, 703 Main St., Forest City, held its Grand Opening on Saturday, Jan. 6th. The turnout on one of the coldest days of the year was such that it was sold out by Saturday afternoon. Shown above, owner Abigail Rodriguez, receives a certificate of appreciation from Susq. County Commissioner Maryann Warren, for opening a new Susquehanna County business. The Susquehanna County Economic Development Board recently began a new program honoring any new business opening in the County. The Barking Cupcake is the first new business to open on Forest City's Main Street in several years. Shown above are, from left, the owner's husband, Brian Weiss, Ms. Rodriguez and Commissioner Warren. For orders, or inquiries, phone 570-785-3030 or refer to her Facebook page @TheBarkingCupcake.

NEP Telephone & FC Lions Club donates to local Adopt-a-Cemetery program



The Adopt-a-Cemetery program wishes like to thank the North Eastern Pennsylvania Telephone Company and the Lions Club of Forest City for their donation to the Adopt-a-Cemetery program. Donations makes it possible to buy signs for cemeteries in need, haul top soil, buy equipment, paint, etc., to clean up the plots and honor our dead. Some cemeteries only need minor work like cutting brush or a new sign. Others needed a lot of tender loving care. To date, it has worked on 12 cemeteries in Susquehanna County and only lost one back to nature. The initial clean up is not the problem, the problem is going back year after year to maintain them. So your donation has certainly made it possible to keep these projects going. Pictured are Deb Giddings, Adopt-a-Cemetery Coordinator, with Steven Tourje, President of North Eastern Pennsylvania Telephone Company and President of Lions Club of Forest City.

SEE OUR DINING GUIDE ON PAGE 7 WIN \$20.00 GIFT CERTIFICATE

Purse bingo at FCAES Jan. 21

The Forest City Area emergency services presents designer purse bingo with Michael Kors, Kate Spade, Coach, and Dooney & Bourke on Sunday, January 21, 2018 (snow date - January 28th) 380 Railroad St., Forest City. The cost for tickets is \$25 and doors open at noon. Games start at 1 p.m., regular games, specials, 50/50 purse, basket raffles for tickets see members of emergency services or call 570-785-3837 ask for Barbara or leave message.

Forest City Borough Council conducts Regular business at Jan. 2 meeting

At its first meeting of the year, with new Mayor Tammy Rogalski and new Council members Amy Bean and Tracy Lazier, the following items were addressed:

*Approved \$1,300 to make repairs to two police cars, the 2014 Chevy Impala and the 2010 SUV. When asked by Council person Tracy Lazier why three police cars are needed, Chief Jim Johnson replied there are times when three police officers are on duty.

*President Nick Cost stated the new police contract has been negotiated and will be sent to all Council members and will be brought up for approval at the Feb. 5 meeting. He said the Council gained some and lost some on the new contract.

*Code Enforcement Officer Stephanie Reisch was given permission to attend a conference on the International Maintenance Code to be held in Feb. in Lackawanna County at a cost of \$125.

*The Boro Building elevator malfunctioned recently and was repaired at a cost of \$1,200.

*Councilman Bob Lesjack reported on the Boro building renovations including final work on the 2nd floor employee rest rooms and the painting, lights, bathrooms and floor sanding on the 3rd floor.

*Lesjack said that with the modernizations, it will be necessary to have weekly cleaning of the building. Council will seek costs for a cleaning contractor.

*Mayor Tammy Rogalski reminded Main Street property owners about rules concerning cleaning of sidewalks of snow and ice. Businesses must also be aware that their sidewalk conditions can affect neighboring businesses. Violators will be warned and can be fined.

*Due to the possible sale of land adjacent to Kennedy Park, the officers of the Disc Golf League at the Park will be advised that two of the holes were inadvertently located on private property and they must move them to Park property.

*Administration Committee head Joann Matarese told new Council members and Borough employees they must file "Statement of Financial Interest" forms at the February meeting. After passage of the Real Estate Tax levy she got resolutions for Bank Signature Authorizations at HNB and Landmark Bank.

*Local resident Mark Novak asked if Council would consider re-opening discussion on the garbage contract as he feels it is unfair especially to elderly who have very little garbage. Pres. Cost said the public had the opportunity to attend public meetings last year when the contract was being discussed. He said the contract is for three years and that is when the discussion will be re-opened. Novak disputed that the public's wishes were taken into consideration but he also questioned whether the Boro has the right to tax

residents for garbage collection. Solicitor Paul Smith said Council is within its right to impose fees for municipal services.

*Main Street Coordinator Art McLain said two deteriorated buildings have been demolished. He said the Barking Cupcake Bakery will have its grand opening Jan 6th, and he hopes other businesses can be brought to the Main St. in 2018.

*Recent damage to the Boro Building boiler was caused by a broken water pipe which entered the electrical controls. It was paid for by an insurance check of \$5,002.

*The Borough supplied salt and cinders to Vandling which cost Vandling \$650.

*A demolition permit was applied for on Dec. 28 by Prince Excavating to remove the fire-damaged property at 746 Delaware St.

*Code Enforcement Officer Stephanie Reisch's report said she will be enforcing the Borough Ordinance on junk cars in the near future as a result of complaints received.

*Public Works removed two trees at Kennedy Park and two trees on Center Street. They also had four new tires installed on the pick-up truck, and picked up and delivered all remaining Borough garbage bags to Franceski Waste & Recycling which reimbursed the Borough for them. Residents also were reimbursed until Dec. 31st for all bags they had previously purchased under the old trash contract.

D.G.'s expresses thanks for 2017 charitable giving

We, at D.G.'S Bar, would like to thank all of you for your generous support throughout the years. Your donations have helped make this the best year ever.

This year was our 15th year for Toys for Kids, with all of the toys staying in the Forest City Regional School District. We hold fundraisers and collect donations throughout the year. We donated \$12,882 worth of toys, gloves, hats, and gifts, to over 120 children and with our monetary donations from the Carbondale Legion, Auxiliary and SAL, The National Wild Turkey Federation, Bill & Anne Wolfe, In Memory of Danny "Ziggy" Zigon, In Memory of Jimmy Miller, and an anonymous donor. We purchased food vouchers from Zazzera's Supermarket in Forest City for the 70 families. Zazzera's also donated a portion of the food vouchers.

The Dollar General Store of Forest City, its workers and customers, donated many bags of toys, hats, gloves, etc. Kost Tire of Forest City also ran a special and donated over \$650 worth of toys. And the Forest City Police Department ran a program called Cops for Kids, where instead of citations for summary offenses, they asked for a toy donation. This program collected over \$250 worth of toys.

We want to thank the National Wild Turkey Federation

New code Co. Being sought For Forest City

Forest City Council reported Jan. 2nd that Code Inspections Inc., which handled building permits and inspections in Forest City, terminated its service as of Jan. 2nd.

Council was receiving proposals from other firms to serve the Borough but was not able to make a decision at the Jan. 5th meeting. Council President Nick Cost said the new Codes Inspection firm will be selected at the Feb. 5 meeting.

Borough Secretary Sharon Vannan said Codes Inspection Inc. will continue to do inspections of all permits they have issued for the next 30 days but will not be issuing any permits.

for their generous donation from their golf tournament fundraiser and the Ladies Auxiliary of the Pleasant Mount Emergency Services for donating to Toys for Kids instead of a gift exchange. Tumblin Tots continues to support the program by collecting toys at the day care. How thoughtful all of you are.

We also had a donation of 120 stockings and purchased gifts and candy to fill them.

There are so many more people to thank and this thank you only touches on a few. The many people who donated by way of the Cuss Jar, the toys donated all year, the money donated by many and even the pennies donated for the cause were greatly appreciated.

The National Honor Society had the pleasure of filling the stockings and sorting out all the presents.

This year was a first; the School sent a bus and students down to load all of the toys and presents. We filled the bus twice. Thanks Brad Medved for all your help.

We want to thank all of the generous donors that make this possible every year and with all of your help this makes our grand total of donations for the 15 years over \$78,742.

As always, we will continue to support the Fire Companies, Auxiliaries, churches, the VFW and Auxiliary, The American Legion, Legion Auxiliary and SAL in any endeavor you may have. D.G.'S Do Gooders also helps out many people in the area throughout the year who need a little helping hand.

Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for all your donations and help to make these things possible.

Holiday pickup Of FC trash Day later

Forest City Council wishes to announce that with the new garbage contractor, County Waste, if there is a holiday anytime during the week, the regular Friday garbage collection pickup will be moved to Saturday.

Council eyes Industrial Park Parking ban

A proposal to ban parking on Commerce Boulevard in the VISION 2000 Industrial Park was presented to Council on Jan. 2nd. If enacted at the Feb. 5th meeting, vehicles would be prohibited from parking on any portion of the paved surfaces and shoulders in the park including the roundabouts.

The 28 acre park is owned by Greater Forest City Industries Inc., but after it was built with state and federal grants, Forest City Borough took over ownership and maintenance of the roads.

There is a Trailhead of the D&H Rail Trail located along Commerce Blvd. During the winter snowmobile season, users of the Rail Trail are allowed to park their vehicles and trailers on GFCA land in order to access the Trail.

Council will entertain comments from the public at the Feb. 5 Council meeting prior to passage of the ordinance.

Fire destroys barn At Jonas Cold Springs Farm

Several cows perished when a fire broke out around 2 PM Tuesday, January 9 at the Jonas Cold Springs Farm near Pleasant Mount.

The farm is family-owned dairy farm.

A fire lieutenant said 120 cows were in the barn when the fire broke out.

The cows that made it out were moved to a nearby barn. It's not known at this time how many of the cows were killed.

"There's a large number of cows that were lost. It was an operating dairy farm. They did move some cows to another location to milk them later tonight. Right now, the family is gathering things up and trying to figure out what to do with the farm and what's left," said Lt. Robert Muller, Mount Pleasant Emergency Services.

No one was injured.

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