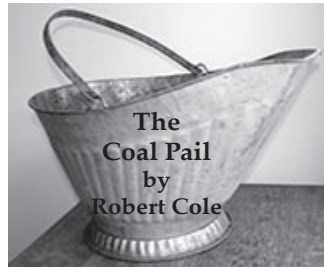


# LOOKING BACK

## 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.usgcbstoc.org



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

Forest City - Two ladies from this place attended a meeting of a certain society in Uniondale recently. They became absorbed in the deliberations and when they came from the meeting they found that the train had gone. There they were and Forest City six miles away. They had to prepare breakfast for their huddies the following morning and the only alternative was to walk. And they did. ALSO Monday morning when M. H Loomis, the milkman, stepped into the Model Restaurant for lunch, he left his team standing in front of the restaurant. He had hardly entered when his team became frightened and ran on the sidewalk and into Morris Kasson's plate glass window and broke it into a hundred pieces. They then backed out and proceeded across the street, but turned before they got to the McGrath barber shop and ran down the street to where they collided with E. E. Horton's laundry sleigh in front of the Candy Kitchen, and were stopped. The sleigh pole struck the Horton horse near the shoulder and inflicted a ragged wound. The shafts of the Horton sleigh were smashed. No damage was done to the Loomis team or to the load of milk.

would be difficult to picture. Both stand over 6 ft., with symmetrical, well-proportioned bodies, and it is unnecessary to assert that they always command attention and respect—especially the latter, when in the presence of men the size of the writer, at least. They appear as chummy as boys, though their hair is tinged with gray. Both have seen the day when they could split and pile four cords of wood in a day, with their axes, so they said, and after looking them over casually, we did not feel it discreet to question any assertions they might chose to make, especially when they are together.

Uniondale - Section Foreman Gettle is kept busy in his efforts to keep the railroad clear of snow. It is shovel, shovel, from early morning to close of day and then the same thing is repeated at night. With the deep falls of snow and the numerous wrecks the men feel the severe strain.

Lanesboro - The finding of what was thought to be a bomb under the Starrucca bridge has been reported to be a practical joke, as it proved to be a can filled with water. However strict vigilance should be maintained as the destruction of this important bridge would sadly cripple the transporting ability of the Erie, as well as destroying one of the wonders of stone bridge construction.

Montrose - Fire completely destroyed the large planing mill, owned and operated by Clark L. Stephens, in the rear of the Exchange Hotel property, South Main street. Poor water pressure at the start could not help to quell the flames and the building was practically burned to the ground. Acting Chief D. A. Watrous, Geo. B. Felker, Carlisle Smith and G.D. Ayres, as well as several others, had a narrow escape when the west wall gave way and the blazing timbers crashed outward. The mill was originally built for a fork factory and as such was operated by the late Azur and George Lathrop, it having been started shortly after the Crandall toy factory burned in the late '80's.

Silver Lake - The sleighing is fine. The skating on Quaker Lake and Laurel Lake was fine before the last snow.

Montrose - Those who like whole-wheat bread know there is nothing more wholesome. Parties who have been unable to secure this kind of flour will be interested to know that the Foster Milling Co., of this place, has a liberal supply now in stock.

Birchardville - A cablegram received by C. D Dayton announced the safe arrival of the ship on which his son, Elmer Dayton, was a passenger, at a foreign port. He will act as a Y. M. C. A. secretary in France.

Harford - The high school has decided to purchase a service flag in honor of the young men who have been drafted or volunteered. Thus far, the names are: Claude Lewis, Frank Bell, Harold Adams, Ross Greenwood, Frank Hill, Howard Meade, Eldridge Shoupe, Paul Smith, Simon March, Hallie Forsythe, Stanley Adams, Paul Wilcox, Wayne Booth, George Booth, William Gillispie, Henry Jones, Clayton Sweetser, Washington Gow, Clifton Brainard, Bruce Hawley, Otwell Potter, Harold Chamberlain and Prof. Leigh Allen.

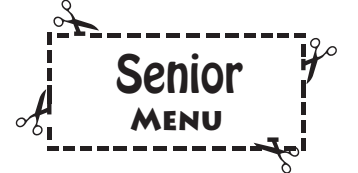
200 Years Ago from the Montrose Centinel, Montrose, Pa, January 18, 1818.

Brooklyn - Delbert, young son of Archie Salisbury, had the misfortune to have his hand caught in the cogs of a fodder cutter one day last week and three fingers were so badly injured that it was necessary to amputate them. Dr Preston attended him.

\*A bill passed the Lower House to incorporate a company for the purpose of making a Turnpike from this place to Nicholas M. Cary's in New Milford. After the holidays are over and the members get regulated we shall rejoice. Thousands of dollars of public money are annually squandered away by the public servants in this state in keeping, what they call the holidays, which continue two weeks. Such things are abominable, and ought to be abolished.

Clifford - W. C. Richards and G. S. Hallstead are both well-known citizens of this place, and a pair of sturdier, more imposing men

\*Reward to Revolutionary Soldiers. "We cannot omit introducing a circumstance which shews [correct spelling] the timely benevolence of the President in calling the attention of Congress to this subject;—which is—that within a few hours of the moment we are now writing, we were supplicated by an aged man (say of 63) for the donation of a quarter of a dollar, to purchase food; he declared that for 18 hours he had not broken his fast, and was destitute of a cent. This person, whose look confirmed his distress, we know, was a captain of Artillery in the United States army, at the commencement of the revolution; was severely wounded in the campaign of 1776 on Long Island; was a long time a prisoner; served through the war of Independence, and obtained the brevet of Major at its conclusion" Boston Cent.



**Senior MENU**  
**Week of Jan. 22**  
Monday - Cheeseburger, oven-browned potatoes, sauteed cabbage, fresh fruit salad.  
Tuesday - Rosemary chicken, brussel sprouts medley, herbed rice, berry crisp.  
Wednesday - Smoked kielbasa, haluski, mashed potatoes, spiced warmed applesauce, doughnut.  
Thursday - Roast beef, mashed potatoes, cauliflower & peas, ww roll, scalloped peas.  
Friday - Chicken salad sandwich, cabbage soup or orange.  
*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*

**10 YEARS AGO**  
January 16, 2008  
A Federal Judge has ordered Forest City to construct a new sewer system which will cost upwards of \$10 Million.  
Forest City Borough Council kept Jim Lowry as its President at the reorganization meeting.

City; Mrs. Frances Novak, Forest City; Mrs. Ada Repash, Vandling; John C. Race, RD 1, Forest City; Thomas (Buddy) Janezic, Westosville, PA, former local resident; Peter Bendyk, Long Island.  
**50 YEARS AGO**  
January 18, 1968  
Mayor Tom Butler and Chief of Police Donald Armstrong of Vandling Borough have issued a warning to snowmobile operators on Borough streets, and all drivers are asked to stop, at every intersection and to look both ways for possible traffic.

The Freedman Theatre has inaugurated a series of Saturday matinees.  
Fred Jones, local appliance salesman, wins trip to the West Indies as the result of his winning a sales contest.  
Property rights of franchises of the Scranton Water Company have been taken over by the Federal Water Company.

Thanks to the efforts of the local Salvation Army and local volunteers, 38 area families with more than 80 children have Christmas gifts, winter clothes and a turkey dinner with all the trimmings.  
Forest City was awarded \$39,000 in grants for three projects.  
Christ Episcopal Church in Forest City will host the Coats for the Community program.

Over 120 men of St. Agnes Holy Name Society and the Holy Name Societies of other parishes of Forest City received communion in a body at St. Agnes Church last Sunday morning. James Fitzsimmons served as master of ceremonies.

E. H. Ledyard, Pleasant Mount, president of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Telephone Company for the past 19 years, died in a Binghamton hospital on Monday.  
**100 YEARS AGO**  
January 10, 1918  
John Franko succeeds Jacob Evans as Burgess of Forest City. New councilmen seated were Henry L. Bayless, Michael Goskowski, Herbert Morgan and Mathias Kamin.

Deaths: Carl Westgate, Forest City; Harold Thomas, Vandling; Leo Chrapowicki, born in Forest City; Joseph Bock, Forest City; Beatrice Valinski Costolnick, Carbondale; John S. Wielebinski, Moosic; Joseph A. Lisowski, born in Forest City; Mark J. Brennan, Jermy; Thomasina Falbo, Carbondale; Lenore Brophy, Carbondale; William F. Congdon, Greenfield Twp.; Robert E. Sherwood, born in Vandling.

Marine Cpl. Paul Ferraro, son of Mr. and Mrs. John Ferraro of Vandling, has been awarded a Meritorious Mast from the Marine Corps for achievement and devotion to duty. In a letter to Cpl. Ferraro's parents, his commanding officer stated: "I have been in the Marine Corps long enough to observe countless young men. Your son stands out as one of the finest."

Stockholders of the First National Bank renamed their officers and directors at their annual meeting on Tuesday.  
The local Greek Catholics observed their Christmas on Monday, January 7.  
Michael Laskowski, Depot Street, died from injuries he received in the Clifford mine of the Hillside Coal and Iron Co. Saturday morning.

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**20 YEARS AGO**  
January 14, 1998  
A \$1,000 donation to the Forest City Commercial Association Main Street Christmas light fund was made last week by Jerry's Sport Center, Inc.

Miss Joyce Gaydosh, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Gaydosh, Union Dale, has been awarded a Master of Arts degree in German by Tufts University, Medford, Mass. Miss Gaydosh studied the past year with the Tufts M.A. program in Tuebingen, West Germany.  
**60 YEARS AGO**  
January 16, 1958  
The News is sponsoring a "Bring Industry to Forest City" contest, aimed at encouraging profitable and satisfactory employment in the Greater Forest City Area.

The following new local applications for liquor licenses have been filed by P. F. Murray, Mary A. Jones, Michael Novick, Alexander Peterson, John Lukas, Louis Gardena and John Sosenko.  
A "calf" blizzard hit the area on Tuesday.

Vandling Borough Council elected a reluctant president of council on Monday, Jan. 5. President Rick Kulasinsky told his fellow council members at the start of the reorganization meeting that he would not accept another term as council head.  
After being a faithful employee of the News for almost 30 years, our typesetter Julia Harvatin has retired.

Local and area merchants report business as good as has been in many years, with not very much stock being carried over.  
C. F. Colburn has purchased a farm along the Susquehanna River near Windsor, NY. He expects to move there shortly.  
**110 YEARS AGO**  
January 9, 1908  
Total number of deaths recorded in the Borough during the past year was 67.  
Local fishermen journeying to Millers Pond report fine catches of pickerel through the ice.

People are saying that Vandling is not a borough yet, but if everyone took a hold in the "Stump" it might be a city someday.  
Candidates to fill local officials are many with the Primary election only a few weeks away.  
**130 YEARS AGO**  
January 12, 1888  
A petition is being circulated asking the directors of the Clifford Township School Board that the local school be enlarged so as to accommodate all of the Forest City students of school age.

Community Bank & Trust Co. last week announced the promotion of Thomas Sheridan to the position of executive vice president and chief operating officer of the institution.  
Fire losses totalling \$54,050 were listed in the 1987 Fire Report issued by Forest City Fire Chief Paul Lukas. Most of the loss came in a fire at the Barry Saam home on Hudson Street.  
The Forest City Police Department responded to 3,614 calls during 1987 which was only four more than in 1986.  
Deaths recorded: Mary Bebla, Simpson; Isabelle Merlock, RD 1, Forest City (Castle Garden); William J. Lauther, formerly of Vandling.

Deaths recorded: Joseph Rudolph, North Main Street; Raymond D. Fallon, 500 Susquehanna Street.  
**70 YEARS AGO**  
January 15, 1948  
Borough Council prepares \$20,500 budget with no tax increase.  
Robert Spencer, Union Dale, was named chairman of Susquehanna County Board of County Commissioners.  
At six o'clock this morning the mercury dropped to the lowest to date, 12 below zero.  
Michael J. Connally, retired undertaker, died Tuesday. Lew F. Allen, former local resident, died in Loronado, California.  
Forest City High School Home Economics class girls participate in State Farm Show programs in Harrisburg.

Work on the new breaker is underway.  
Herman Hermes, of this place, has been admitted to the County Bar at Montrose.  
**School LUNCH MENU**  
**Week of Jan. 22**  
MON. - Chicken Strips, dipping sauces, mashed potato w/gravy, glazed carrot coins, birthday cake, applesauce.  
TUES. - Macaroni & Cheese, steamed broccoli, Italian style, stewed tomatoes, roll, 3 bean mixed up salad, orange smiles.  
WED. - Penne pasta w/meatballs, garlic breadstick, salad, Calif. blend vegetables, Craisins.  
THURS. - Seasoned Pork Sand., Plain or BBQ, oven crisp fries seasoned, green beans, crunchy apples, frozen fruit pop.  
FRI. - Thin Crust Pizza, garden salad, two-toned peas & corn, diced peaches & pineapple.

Atty. Franklin B. Gelder, Dunmore, died on Tuesday, January, 5th, after a long hospitalization as the result of an auto accident in November. His family owned The Forest City News for 58 years.  
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Supreme Court Justice George W. Maxey, Forest City native, announced Tuesday that he will not run for governor of Pennsylvania.  
Leopold Stermole Sr., Forest City, was named mercantile appraiser of Susquehanna County.  
Stephen Lukas, Vandling, named to position with claims department of State Unemployment Bureau.  
Lewis L. Whipple, local water company official, claimed by death.  
**90 YEARS AGO**  
January 1928  
Receipts and expenditures of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Telephone Company for 1927 were \$43,114.47 and \$41,608.20 respectively, according to annual statement made public.

Tom Butler is elected assistant secretary of Lackawanna River Basin Sewer Authority.  
Joseph Shvitz is elected president of Browndale Fire Company.  
Kathleen Prezelski named to Dean's List at Kutztown State College as a major in Special Education for the Visually Handicapped.  
Edward Tourje, chairman of the Susq. County Planning Commission, is appointed to a new six-year term.  
Connie Shemro named to the Governing Board of the Coal Company Theatre.  
Deaths: Austin Roney, Forest City; Mrs. Agnes Oven, Forest

## Coming Events

- Jan. 20 - Christ Episcopal Church, Forest City, FREE Community Meal serving 12 noon to 1:00 PM.
- 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.
- Jan. 28 - Clifford Fire Co. BBQ, Sun., 11 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
- Feb. 4 - Forest City Lions Club SUPER BOWL RAFFLE. Tickets \$5.00 each. Tickets contact a Lions Club member.
- Feb. 9 - Red Cross blood donation, Browndale Fire Station, 1 to 6 p.m., Fri., CALL 1800REDCROSS.
- Feb. 17 - Nature discovery hike at 1 p.m.. Meet at Rail-trail office at 948 N. Main St., Union Dale. RSVP to reserve snow shows at Trails@nep.net.
- March 4 NEPA 2018 Wedding Showcase, The Antracite Center, 41 N. Main St., Carbondale, 1 to 4 p.m., LCS Solutions Wedding Events 570.954.9443 Lisa LCSolutionsLC.com
- Apr. 15 It's Ruff Without a Roof Dog Rescue "Purse BINGO" event, Sun., Scott Township Hose Company, Montdale, 1 p.m. doors open.

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**BREAKFAST**  
Monday - Sausage & cheese on croissant. (HS) - Blueberries or pancakes (ELE.)  
Tuesday - Egg & cheese on croissant. (HS) - Cheese omelet mini, cinnamon roll (ELE.)  
Wednesday - Bacon, egg & cheese on croissant. (HS) - Assorted Yogurt Zee-Zee, Bar (ELE.)  
Thursday - Ham, egg & cheese on croissant (HS). - Breakfast Sausage Pizza (ELE.)  
Friday - Egg & cheese on bagel (HS) - Bagel w/cream cheese or jelly (ELE.)

*\*Choice of assorted fruit or juice, milk. \*Alternate breakfast: assorted whole grain or reduced sugar cereals.*

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