

LOOKING BACK

10 YEARS AGO February 20, 2008

Grand Prize winner in the Forest City Commercial Association's Valentine's Day promotion was Cheryl Natishak. She won three \$25 gift certificates to Coalminer's Inn, Giuseppe's, and Elegante.

The Hancock Herald reports that gas drilling could begin soon in Pleasant Mount. The farm of Tom and Alice Sampson is being eyed for possible drilling in the spring.

The Rail Trail Council is looking into developing a management plan for the trail.

Joan Marcel was elected President of the Vandling Recreation Board and Alice Puntar will serve as Vice-President.

Deaths: Anna M. Sheroshek, Forest City; Steven J. Zimowski, Union Dale; Esther L. Ross, Syracuse, NY; Wanda A. Keene, Dalton; Pauline Savage Timko, born in Union Dale.

20 YEARS AGO February 18, 1998

A former Pleasant Mount man on the organ transplant list is the subject of an area wide fundraising campaign. Jim Biondo, husband of the former Debbie Newark, is suffering from chronic hepatitis C which has damaged his liver.

In 1997, the Forest City Fire Department had 88 responses. Motor vehicle accidents comprised the highest category of responses with a total of 20.

The Lackawanna River Basin Sewer Authority granted GFCl, Inc. an easement access to its property for use as an access road to the Vision 2000 Industrial Park to be built off of Rte. 247 in Forest City.

Deaths: Ann M. Polensek, Forest City; Frank P. Chrapowicki, born in Forest City; Paul R. Snyder, born in Lenox Twp.; Donald Frederick Stearns, Thompson; and Richard W. Silver, formerly of Thompson.

30 YEARS AGO Feb. 18, 1988

Bob Lesjack, RD 1 Forest City, gave the class president's address as he received his diploma in mortuary science from Simmons School of Mortuary Science in Syracuse, NY.

PA Gas & Water Co., announced that William Bobinchak has been named Chief Filter Plant Operator at the company's Forest City Water Treatment Plant in Forest City.

Jack Race, a resident of the Crystal Lake area, is chief pilot for a humanitarian program, intended to fight blindness around the world.

Arlene Klemensic was recently appointed Assistant Director for the 1988 OHW Follies Show.

Deaths: Helen Burnakis, Vandling; Stephen Gamble, Pleasant Mount; Jacob Gallick, born in Simpson; Penelope Morgan, born in Pleasant Mount; Joseph Dearie, born in Forest City; Edith Race, RD 1 Forest City; Thomas Harvey, New York; Leo Zablocky, born in Lakewood; Frank Swetter, Detroit.

40 YEARS AGO February 16, 1978

The FCRHS Lady Foresters win their 3rd consecutive Wayne League Basketball crown with an overall record of 6-2 and go into the Class A playoffs.

Community National Bank announces intention to declare a 5% stock dividend.

John Levchak named to honor society at Penn State Worthington Scranton campus.

Richard Paulin was the winner of the 2nd annual Snowmobile Slalom held at the Kennedy Park Winter Carnival.

Deaths: Frank Bostjancic, Lackawanna Street; Mrs. Reed H. Burman, Thompson; Mrs. Sadie Leonard, RD 1, Pleasant Mount; Raymond Lewis, RD 1, Union Dale.

50 YEARS AGO February 22, 1968

PFC Andrew Seaman, son of Larry Seaman, North Street, and

the late Isabelle Seaman, was struck in the hand by a sniper's bullet while on duty at Soc Trang, Vietnam.

Sp 4. Richard J. Fortuner, son of Mr. and Mrs. Emil Fortuner, Forest City, has been assigned to the First Field Force, now in An Khe, Vietnam.

The annual Heart Fund Drive during the month of February will be sponsored locally by the Forest City BPW Club.

The Class of '43 will hold a meeting February 27 at Paul's Place, N. Main Street, to discuss plans for a 25th year class reunion.

Local police officers are urging use of turn signals or hand signals by motorists going to and from church on Sunday. Police report that in the Dundaff Street area motorists often cause near accidents or tie up traffic by failing to show the officer on duty which way they are going to turn.

Deaths recorded: William Miluszycki Sr., Pleasant Mt., Mrs. Frank Korosec, Vandling.
60 YEARS AGO
February 20, 1958

A total of \$1,148 was collected in Forest City during the March of Dimes Campaign.

Bernard Mayers, Forest City High School senior, is the recipient of a University of Scranton scholarship.

The region was hit by a blizzard estimated at 4 to 5 feet of snow accompanied by winds resulting in thirty foot drifts in rural areas.

Captain Philip J. Garm, USMC executive officer of the U.S. Marine Barracks of Norfolk, VA, has been promoted to the rank of Major.

70 YEARS AGO February 19, 1948

Keystone State Shoe Co. employees come under an 8-point workers benefit plan outlined by the parent company, the Endicott-Johnson Corp.

Fran Chesnick, pitching star of the Union Dale baseball team, has been placed under contract with the New York Yankee baseball organizations.

Thirteen Forest City High School seniors have been accorded the honor of being listed in "Who's Who in American High Schools." Those honored are James Burshnick, Joseph Carey, Paul Davies, Charles Erzen, Alice Kuzmicky, Margaret O'Peke, Florence Para, Mary Petrus, Jean Quinn, Josephine Swedersky, Ann Walsh, Romaine Wescott and Frances Zaitz.

St. Joseph's Parish has acquired a two-acre plot adjacent to the southerly portion of the parish cemetery for future development.

80 YEARS AGO February 17, 1938

The Forest City Poor District Farm, located in Herrick Township, has been sold to Anthony, Sklanka of Brooklyn Twp. Consideration was \$6,300.

Wesley Johns was in a hero's role when he snatched a four-year-old Carbondale girl from the path of an onrushing train that was less than ten feet away.

Mrs. Gertrude Puntar, Vandling, observed her 88th birthday Sunday. She was guest of honor at a surprise party sponsored by the Slovenian Women's Union of the St. Joseph's Church, held at the home of Mrs. Andrew Orasin.

The St. Agnes Parish Men's Club will hold its annual St. Patrick's Dinner on Sunday, March 13th.

90 YEARS AGO February 23, 1928

The Ruby Chapter, Order of the Eastern Star, will observe its 25th anniversary Friday, March 9, in Hotel Muchitz.

T. J. Pentecost has resigned as Second Ward assessor. William Bailey is seeking appointment to the vacancy.

Mr. and Mrs. George Thompson, Vandling, observed their 25th wedding anniversary on Thursday.

T.P. McCormick submitted to major surgery at St. Joseph's Hospital.

100 YEARS AGO February 21, 1918

For the first time in six weeks street cars are reaching Forest City. Runs were formerly made to the Vandling switch because of the deep snow.

LOST - sidewalks on both sides of Main Street. Now that a thaw has come, the walks should be cleaned - advertisement in *The News*.

S. L. "Roxy" Rothapfel in company with a group of distinguished screen artists, visited Forest City while touring the East on behalf of the Red Cross campaign. Among the visiting guests were Jolly Bill Steinke, Florence Turner, Sidney Olcott, Larry Trimble, Sheldon Lewis and Forest City's own Pat O'Malley.

110 YEARS AGO February 20, 1908

The bridge that spanned the Lackawanna River at the old D&H southwest of the borough was swept by high waters Saturday.

The Democrats scored easy victories in Tuesday's election. John Burdick and J. N. Cable were elected School Directors in Union Dale and Dan Gibson was elected to the Borough Council.

Mrs. Robert Burt, Vandling, died at the family home following a six-month illness.

120 YEARS AGO February 17, 1898

The Hillside Coal & Iron Co. did not deduct house rent from the pay envelopes of employment living in company houses, on account of the very small pay generally due.

A meeting has been called for a public petition to court for a free county bridge to the O&W Station just across the river.

The iceman has completed storing their ice supplies for the coming summer season.

Tuesday's election is over and several contests were in the limelight.

130 YEARS AGO February 16, 1888

Notice of the Susquehanna County Court to hear a petition for the incorporation of the village of Forest City as a borough will be held March 26th.

Dunn has started to build a large dwelling house on his lot adjoining the Methodist Church on Dundaff Street.

Work is underway on new breaker.

Z. C. Bell opened his new hotel on Tuesday.

The hamlet formerly known as Williams Mines will hereafter be known as New Buffalo.

Coming Events

LENT - Pizza sale Fridays, Feb. 23, all Fridays in March, Christ Episcopal Church, Forest City, 12-cut 3-cheese pizza, \$10 or 12-cut potato/cheese/onion pizza \$12, 3 to 6 p.m. Advance orders recommended. Call 570-785-3425 & leave message.

Feb. 24 - Lady Forester's Softball Team 2nd Annual bingo game night/pasta dinner, Forest City Regional High School cafeteria on Sat., 1-3 p.m., takeouts. Cost: \$10 per dinner, dinner 4 PM, bingo games 5:30 PM. Cost \$30. Doors will open at 3 PM. Michele Gillette (570-466-5813) Judy Graham (570-862-0370) any softball player or coach.

Feb. 24 - Ladore indoor yard sale, Sat., 10 a.m.-3 p.m., 287 Owego Tpke., Waymart, More info. call 570-488-6129.

Feb. 24 - NEPA Beekeepers Assoc., beekeeping class, Wayne Cty. Visitors Bureau, 11 a.m.-4 p.m., \$10, Pre-register 570-497-6402, purepaphoney@gmail.com.

March 3 - All you-can-eat spaghetti & meatball dinner, Christ Episcopal Church, Forest City, Sat., 5 - 7 p.m. Takeouts 3:30 -4:30 p.m. Cost \$10 570-785-3425.

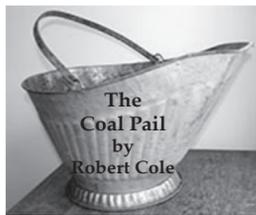
March 3 - Everything must go flea market, Sat., 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Trinity Episcopal Church, Carbondale.

March 4 NEPA 2018 Wedding Showcase, The Anthracite Center, 41 N. Main St., Carbondale, 1 to 4 p.m., LCS Solutions Wedding Events 570.954.9443 Lisa LCSolutionsLC.com.

March 10 - Sat., Forest City Area Emergency Services, March meat raffle, 5-9 p.m. no admission, 570-785-5025.

March 12, 19, & 26 - Gentle yoga & water aerobics, Ladore Lodge, Waymart, \$10 class, open swim also available Tues., Wed. Thurs., 10 a.m.-8 p.m. \$7 hr. Call 488-6129 for more info.

March 15 - Chicken & biscuit dinner, Thurs., noon - 6 p.m., Trinity Episcopal Church, Carbondale. For more information call 570-282-3620.



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.

This story has been told so many times that it is hard to remember who was there and who wasn't. I don't think that I was there but I do remember hearing about it right after it happened. Fi-- Ed Fotusky likes to tell this. Most likely Billy Yan-chitis and Bolis Atkinson were there. Cow Town across the railroad on the top of the rock pile before you went down to the pump house was a cement old foundation that was most likely part of the mining days. We called it the Alamo. There was a 55 gallon drum part full of water there and the cap was there too. Somebody took a pound of carbide and dropped it into the barrel. OUCH. Then screwed on the cap. All ran over to the old stone building we called the powder shanty in Cow Town. Every one thought it was a dud. A 1/2 hr. went by and there was this awful ROAR from the top of the rock pile?? WHAT DO YOU THINK WOULD HAPPEN TODAY??



Week of Feb. 26

MON. - Boneless wings w/ wing or BBQ sauce, oven crisp fries, seasoned green beans.

TUES. - French toast sticks, syrup, potato rounds, sausage pattie

WED. - Chicken alfredo, garlic breadstick, salad, steamed broccoli.

THURS. - Steak & cheese hoagie, peppers & onions, sweet potato puffs, chick p salad, fruited Jello.

FRI. - Cheese Stix, sauce, salad, glazed carrots.

Alternates (HS) alternates: Mondays & Thursdays: cheeseburger, Tues, Wed, Fridays: chicken filet sandwich Grab n Go - Thai Chili, Chicken Ranch Wrap (ELE) Alternate: Hot dog

BREAKFAST

Monday - Cinnamon glazed toast sticks.

Tuesday - Egg & cheese on a croissant.

Wednesday - Assorted Yogurt w/ ultimate breakfast round

Thursday - Breakfast sausage pizza

Friday - Bagel w/cream cheese or jelly *Choice of assorted fruit or juice, milk. *Alternate breakfast: assorted whole grain or reduced sugar cereals.

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Week of Feb. 26

Monday - Chicken salad sandwich, cabbage & tomato soup, orange.

Tuesday - Apple ginger pork chop, mashed potatoes, peas & carrots, ww roll, oatmeal cookie.

Wednesday - Meatloaf, dilled carrots, mashed potatoes, ww roll, cherry gelatin.

Thursday - Unavailable.

Friday - Unavailable.

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

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.susquehanna.org

Herrick Center - John Opeka was drowned in Lowe Lake, Feb. 14. Mr. Opeka bought the Davis farm, which borders the lake, about 3 years ago. He was engaged in putting up ice, and went to the lake alone after dinner, leaving his sons busy at the ice-house. When they finished they looked down to the lake and seeing nothing of their father went down and found his body near the shore, in about 7 ft. of water. He had broken through the thin ice, which had formed where the ice had been cut. He leaves a wife and sons John, Anthony, Frank, Paul and William and two daughters, Mary and Fannie at home. John was born in Austria fifty-one years ago and located in Forest City, when a young man.

South Montrose - Fire completely destroyed the large general store of Frank E. Barron on Sunday morning. Flames were seen shooting from the basement by a neighbor. An alarm brought out all the men of the vicinity, who formed a bucket brigade and succeeded in saving the nearby buildings, but the store and sheds attached were burned, together with practically all the contents. M. L. Lake & Son had an office in the building and were losers in the fire. Mr. Barron conducted the post-office and all the books, stamps, etc. were found in good condition in a safe. The Lehigh Valley station, also located in the burned building, met with some loss.

Rush - O. L. Devine will have a sale of personal property and stock at his farm. Mr. Devine and family will move to Battle Creek, Iowa, next month, where he has secured employment with his brother, Charles Warner, formerly of Montrose.

Susquehanna - The building known as Gettie's bakery and owned by Mrs. Ella Matthews of Grand street, caught fire about 11:30 Monday night and the resulting damage totals up to about \$3000. William Gettie conducted a bakery on the first floor, the second floor being occupied by James Brown and sister, Miss Kate Brown. Smoke and flames trapped Miss Brown until State Trooper Graves and Thomas A. Keefe reached a second story window and rescued her. Firemen were greatly delayed by a frozen hydrant.

Friendsville - The ladies of the Red Cross Knitting Circle have, to date, completed 19 sweaters, 22 pairs of socks and 13 pairs of wristlets, and are calling for more yarn. The financial condition of our organization is excellent and our list of members continues to grow slowly, but surely.

Gibson - Mr. and Mrs. Ward Craft are moving to Iowa this week and will be accompanied by Guy Craft. We are sorry to lose these industrious people from our community, but hope to see Guy come back to us soon.

Forest City - Frank P. Flora appeared before the naturalization court at Scranton and renounced all allegiance to Victor Emanuel and all other kings, princes and potentates of the Italian government.

Uniondale - The ice industry was a large asset to the community a few years ago but nothing has been done owning largely to the ex-

sive freight rates on the railroad. Clifford - This community needs a physician and a blacksmith. A good location, in the midst of a prosperous farming community.

Hop Bottom - Our Boy Scouts have shoveled wide paths across the main street, in a good many places, and walks where people were unable to clean them off, thus improving the looks of the town.

Dimock - The large Winans stone quarry, it is said, will again reopen about March 1st, if the weather permits, after a long delay. ALSO D. V. Shaw, who is getting along in years and drives the kid wagon, seems to stand the extreme cold weather good, for a man of his age, not missing a single trip this winter.

Franklin Forks - There was no school today on account of the illness of our teacher, Miss Mae Smith. We hope for her speedy recovery.

New Milford - The first of the week several residents on the north end of Main street noticed that teamsters, who were hauling ice from the creamery pond, were abusing their teams. It is said they would put nearly four tons of ice on a load and then lash their teams across bare spots in the road. They were reported to their employer who soon put a stop to such treatment. The loads were made lighter and the teams were doubled over the bare spots. There is a law against the abuse of dumb animals and it is everyone's duty to report such cases.

East Lynn, Springville Twp. - The Valentine social held at Stark Miller's was a financial success. The proceeds, which were \$46.25, are to be used for the benefit of the Red Cross.

Montrose - The death of Augustus Pettibone Bush occurred here on Feb. 1, 1918. He was born in Bridgewater Twp. 90 years ago. His wife, Elizabeth Jackson Bush, died April 10, 1915. Augustus became an almost helpless invalid by a stroke of paralysis in the summer of 1882. He moved to Montrose and had resided here since. He was the son of Adrian and Amy Kellum Bush, the former being a son of Caleb Bush (1755-1821), a Revolutionary soldier, who came from Litchfield county, Connecticut in 1809 and purchased 500 acres of timber land in North Bridgewater. The latter was a daughter of Luther Kellum (1760-1846) who came from Stonington, Conn., and when but 16 years old entered the Revolutionary army, serving three years.

200 Years Ago from the Montrose Centinel, February 21, 1818.

*MELANCHOLY CATASTROPHE. On Thursday last, the house of Wm. B. Welch, in Springville township, was consumed by fire, and dreadful to relate, two of his children were burnt in it one of whom was entirely consumed, and the other died in the course of the day. The parents of the children were from home, and the house was set on fire by the children's playing with that destructive element. This should be a warning to all parents not to leave small children alone. We understand Mr. Welch lost all his furniture and provisions.

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