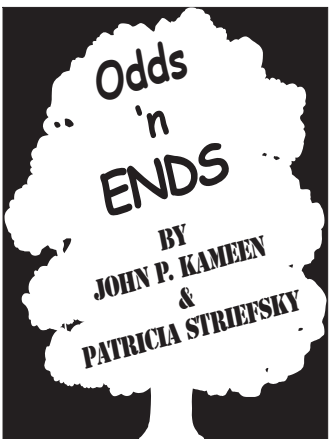


THE FOREST CITY NEWS



Robert Cole, the writer of our weekly "Cole Pail" column about when Forest City when he was a kid, sent us the following appraisal of "Civilization in 2018":

- *Our Phones - Wireless
- *Cooking - Fireless
- *Cars - Keyless
- *Food - Fatless
- *Tires - Tubeless
- *Dress - Sleeveless
- *Youth - Jobless
- *Leaders - Shameless
- *Relationships - Meaningless
- *Attitudes - Careless
- *Babies - Fatherless
- *Feelings - Heartless
- *Education - Valueless
- *Children - Mannerless
- We are-SPEECHLESS, Our Government-is CLUELESS,
- And our Politicians-are WORTHLESS!
- You should be scared - S-less

"The Eternal Winter" has been coined by the News Office staff as a suitable name for the past four months. Unfortunately there seems to be no long term relief in sight. Even when the weatherman tantalizes us with a 7-day forecast containing a "70's", it doesn't happen. Sunday morning the Weather Channel reported that the "Atlantic Block" is leaving and there is hope for some encroaching southern warmth. We'll see if it happens!

I blame the snow and icy roads from last week on the fact that I took my snow tires off! Don't do it yet, but when you do, Kost Tire's Forest City manager Chet Wasileski is ready to put that new rubber on your wheels.

Browndale Fire Company's drive-in dinner was working perfectly Sunday morning. Drive-in, hand them your ticket and get a delicious BBQ chicken and the trimmings, without ever leaving your car.

All in a Basket on Main Street in Forest City will no longer offer UPS shipping services at the store. Owner Jennifer Tighe is sorry for any inconvenience this may cause.

Light Parade in Forest City Sat., August 4

A Light Parade will be held on Saturday, August 4 in Forest City in conjunction with the Trail-Town Festival. The parade will kick off at 9 PM from the VISION 2000 Industrial Park and continue up Rte. 247 to Main Street where it will turn right and head up Main Street where it will end at D.G.'s Bar. The theme for the light parade will be "Lights, Lights, and More Lights." Anyone interested in participating is asked to contact Chris Grinton at 570-960-2754 or email him cgltd.cg@gmail.com.

FC Lions Club Pancake breakfast Set for April 29

The Forest City Lions Club will hold a pancake breakfast at Elegante' Restaurant, Forest City, on Sunday, April 29 from 8 AM to Noon. The cost is Adults \$6.00, Children under 12 - \$3.00. SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL LIONS CLUB!

Wayne County Community Foundation Presents Grant to Browndale Fire Company



On March 29th, the Wayne County Community Foundation presented a grant to the Browndale Fire Company. The Grant will permit them to purchase a new laptop computer for the offices and to use for reporting to the state. The Browndale Fire Co. protects an area of 38 sq. miles in Clinton Twp., Wayne County, PA. It was organized in 1913. Pictured in the photo left to right are Juliann Doyle, Browndale Fire Co. and Ron Rowe, WCCF Board Member.

Wayne County moved to a New Congressional District

State court action, which wiped off the map the existing Pennsylvania Congressional Districts, has left Forest City in one congressional district, while Vandling and Browndale are in another Congressional District. The changes were ruled by the State Supreme Court despite the fact that the drawing up of state congressional districts is listed as a function of the legislature by the Penna. Constitution.

FOREST CITY

Forest City's Congressional District has been renamed the 12th District. It was formerly the 10th District. It is by far the largest in land area of any District in Pennsylvania. It will still be served by incumbent Republican Congressman Tom Marino if he is re-elected in the November election.

VANDLING

Vandling will now be in the 8th Congressional District with its Democrat Congressman Matt Cartwright, and he will remain as their Congressman if he is re-elected in November.

BROWDALE

Browndale/Clinton Township will be the orphan as all of Wayne County has now been removed from the heavily Republican 10th Congressional District represented by Congressman Tom Marino, and will now be, along with Vandling, in Congressman Cartwright's 8th Congressional District. This District, with all of Lackawanna and Luzerne County, along with Monroe and Pike Counties, will be predominantly Democrat oriented.

Browndale/Clinton Twp. will be represented by Cong. Marino until the swearing in of their new Congressman in January.

12TH DISTRICT

The new 12th District of Congressman Marino covers enough land area to be a state. It has all or parts of FIFTEEN

Office hours For FC Mayor

Forest City Borough Mayor Tammy Rogalski will hold office hours on the first Thursday of every month beginning May 10 from 4 to 6 p.m. in the office at the borough building. Please come visit!

COUNTIES. The counties are: Bradford, Centre, Clinton, Juniata, Lycoming, Mifflin, Northumberland, Perry, Potter, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union and Wyoming.

According to a legal ad, the total population of the 12th District is 705,688 while the total population of the 8th District is 705,687.

REP. FRITZ COMMENTS

State Representative Jonathan Fritz, who represents Forest City and Browndale/Clinton Twp. in the 11th District of the State Legislature, commented on the re-districting which moved Wayne County out of the 10th District into the new 8th District: "I am disappointed in this decision, and firmly believe the Pennsylvania Supreme Court overstepped its bounds by drawing its own map. The creation of congressional districts is a legislative process which is described in our state constitution. This occurrence of judicial activism has led to confusion for the voters."

The new districts gave incumbent members of Congress, and potential candidates for those seats, only days to gather the required petition signatures to get on the Primary ballot. News reports indicated that some new districts had incumbent Congressmen who no longer resided in the district.

Sen. Baker office hours in FC Tues., April 17

Senator Lisa Baker, R-20th, announced that Field Representative Tom Yoniski will be available for consultation from 10 a.m.-12 p.m. on Tuesday, April 17 at the Forest City Borough Building, 535 Main St., Forest City.

While appointments are recommended, walk-ins are welcome.

Constituents are encouraged to visit with any questions or problems relating to state matters and no appointment is necessary though they can be scheduled. Concerns may also be addressed by visiting Senator Baker's district office at 22 Dallas Shopping Center, Dallas, by visiting her website at www.senatorbaker.com or by calling (570) 675-3931.

Mother's Day Photos for The Forest City News

The Forest City News will be accepting photographs for its annual Mother's Day edition. The date of the publication for this edition is Wednesday, May 9. This year Mother's Day is on May 13th.

This year's edition will be in full color.

The cost is \$20 for color.

Anyone interested in having their picture in this issue can email or drop off a picture at the News office no later than Wed., May 2. You can email photos to fnews@nep.net.

Everyone who submits a photo will also have the photo included on our website, in color, for FREE.

Disaster Relief Van new to area



The Salvation Army recently took delivery of a Disaster Van which can be used at any area emergencies. Shown above are Trudy Bucher, Forest City Salvation Army Director and Michael Cipilewski, District Manager of Salvation Army Services.

Forest City Council discusses many Police matters at session

Forest City Council again turned down a \$5,200 request from Chief Jim Johnson to purchase eight new 9mm pistols for the Police Department. Johnson and Mayor Tammy Rogalski again presented the request at the April 2nd Council meeting after failing to get approval at the March Council session.

Johnson is seeking to replace the personal firearms now carried by the town's special police officers with Borough-owned weapons all of the same caliber. He said it was advantageous for all in the department to be carrying the same type and caliber of weapon.

The discussion on the subject got very contentious with the Mayor, Chief Johnson, Council members and the audience all giving their opinions on the subject. Several Council members expressed their opposition to spending \$5,200 since the special officers all have their own weapons.

Mayor Rogalski and Chief Johnson presented it as a safety issue that would enhance police protection for the public. The Mayor

and Police Chief indicated the money for the purchase was in the Borough budget. Johnson stated that some \$21,000 from Act 13 Natural Gas Impact Funds was put in the budget for 2018 for such expenditures.

Some audience members favored the purchase for public safety reasons while others discussed the merits of whether the 9mm caliber was sufficient when state police all carry 45 caliber pistols.

Mayor Rogalski told Council "If Council doesn't approve, and if something terrible happens, I will refer them to Council."

Council then approved \$1,387 for the police department to purchase and install weapon vertical mounts, overhead gun racks, gun-lock timers and a rear cargo mount for two of the police vehicles.

Mayor exited the meeting following the failure of Council to make a motion to vote on the weapons purchase.

POLICE CONTRACT

Council also approved a new five year police contract for Assistant Chief Lee Row-

an. Rowan's base salary for the 1st year will be \$48,817 with 2.5% increases the 1st two years and 2.0% increases the final three years. The Borough makes a 5% annual contribution to his pension fund.

Rowan will have a 40 hour work week and will receive time and a half for overtime. Other parts of the contract include 20 days vacation, 12 personal days and 11 holidays. The officer receives \$50,000 life insurance, \$800 clothing allowance and \$500 vision and dental expense. Council also agreed to reimburse copays and deductibles on his health insurance.

The contract is retroactive to January 1st of this year.

POLICE PARKING

Council also signed a "Release & Hold Harmless" agreement with F&L Realty (Zazzera's Market) to allow parking of the police vehicles in the Zazzera Market parking lot. Council had previously approved having the police vehicles in the First National Bank Parking lot, however it was reported the vehicles hindered snow plowing of the Bank's lot.

\$10,000 in building repairs Approved by FC Council

Other Building Issues Brought to Council's Attention

Forest City Council, at its April 2 meeting, approved expenses of about \$10,000 for repairs to the Senior Center and the front of the Borough Building.

Councilman Chris DeGonzague received approval for \$5,379 to Home Depot for replacement of the floor in the Senior Center. Also approved was \$6,200 to Mesko Glass to replace the front door and the front windows of the Senior Center.

Council President Nick Cost said that water had rotted the entrance and floor of the Senior Center requiring it to be replaced. He said the new bronze and glass front of the Center will improve the looks of the Main Street building.

Bloodmobile Fri., April 13

The Browndale Fire Station will be turned into a Community Red Cross Blood donation center from 1 to 6 PM on Friday, April 13, 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.red-crossblood.org. You may also walk in. Please help support the Red Cross and donate blood. "Give the gift of life, Give Blood".

Council also approved repairs to a wall in the Forest City Branch Library.

They also agreed to install a wall-mounted locked mail box at the Borough Building entrance to eliminate the post offices boxes and have mail delivered directly to the building. Borough Secretary Sharon Vannan said it would save \$148 in annual postal box fees but could also be used for the elderly to drop off sewer payments and avoid having to climb the steps to the office. A photo of the box was shown with a cost of \$80.

3RD FLOOR REPAIRS

Further repairs for the 3rd floor brought some criticism from Council and the public. Councilman Bob Lesjack, who has been in charge of the building improvement project, reported that six chandeliers had been installed, the bathroom has been completed, painting is underway by the Public Works Dept.

After some questioning at the last Council meeting by local resident John Scipita, about the intended use of the 3rd floor, Lesjack said he contacted the town's building inspection company, BIU of PA, Inc., about securing an occupancy permit to determine how many people would be allowed on the 3rd floor. He said he couldn't order tables and chairs until the occupancy

is determined.

Several comments from the audience questioned the 3rd floor occupancy as well as the expenses for the chandeliers and what the place would be used for. Lesjack said it was for parties and other public events and would produce revenue through its rental use.

Abigail Rodriguez, the owner of the new Forest City Barking Cupcake Bakery, asked if the Borough had to go thru the same onerous permit system as she did, which resulted in keeping her from opening her business for almost two years. She said she had to provide architectural plans before the permit officer would even let her paint.

Councilman DeGonzague said there are no structural changes being made so the same permitting does not apply.

MOLD PROBLEM?

Rachel Habetler, a local resident suggested that there is a mold problem in the basement of the Borough Building. She stated that the mold can spread upward and said she can smell the mold on the first floor. She said it is a serious health issue

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