

# LOOKING BACK

## 10 YEARS AGO

November 19, 2008

The Forest City Lions Club celebrates its 60th anniversary at the Crystal Pines and highlights many community services.

Forest City Regional Class of 1973 donates \$10,000 to Forest City Regional Education Foundation.

9th annual Thanksgiving dinner is held by the Roman Catholic Community of Forest City and Rev. Patrick Albert.

Lisa Coons opens salon in own home in Clinton Twp.

Jason Maille is inducted into the N.E. PA Athletic Hall of Fame.

Deaths: Joseph A Vavro, Binghamton, N.Y.; Walter A. Randis, Scranton; Catherine McLaine, Dunmore; Dorothy A. Pachuta, Mt. Pleasant Twp.; Carol Malinchak, Carbondale; Mary Niekrewicz, Waymart; Walter J. Wagner, Brownale; Mary Debish, Carbondale; Anna C. Best, Childs.

## 20 YEARS AGO

November 18, 1998

Property owners in Vandling will see no tax increase for 1999 under a tentative budget passed on November 10. However, residents will see their garbage fee increase by \$10 per year.

Forest City Regional School got a new business manager last week but lost a school director. Rose Emmett, Forest City, was named as the new business manager to replace Roseann Swegel. Brian Fitzsimmons, a Forest City school director for just 2 1/2 years, tendered his resignation at the November 9th board meeting.

Deaths: Stanley F. Kupiec, Forest City; Donald R. Zvolensky, Mercerville, NY; Richard Herenreder, born in Carbondale; Gary William Pencek, Nicholson; Broncha Nebzydowski Neary, born in Forest City; Anna L. Swegel, born in Forest City; Msgr. Raymond Revak, born in Simpson; Frank J. Zimowski, South Gibson; Frank A. Suraci, Elmhurst; James E. Dottle, Carbondale; Jason P. Svecz, born in Carbondale; Marion E. Gillette, Waymart; Clara S. Monasky, Forest City.

## 30 YEARS AGO

November 17, 1988

Community Bank & Trust Co. last week announced that it has made a \$1000 contribution to the Northern Wayne Volunteer Ambulance Association. The money will be added to the fund drive now underway.

Forest City Borough is definitely Joe McDade country as local voters gave the thirteen term incumbent Congressman their largest number of votes. McDade received 577 votes to Robert Cordaro's 222 votes.

A new stop on the Main Stem for Christmas presents is the newly opened Country Peddler at 701 Main Street, where the Rexall Drug Store used to be.

Thomas Tedesco Sr. of Union Dale was honored by his family on October 30th on the occasion of his 90th birthday.

Deaths: Duke Redd, RD 2, Waymart; Cecelia Konchar, formerly of Forest City; Paul Zabaga, born in Forest City; Julia Forschner, Aldenville; Tillie Abar, formerly of Forest City.

## 40 YEARS AGO

November 16, 1978

For the first time since the days of Eisenhower all Republican candidates were victorious in Forest City. Thornburgh-Scranton ticket carried the town by 150 over the Flaherty-Casey gubernatorial team. The Republican gubernatorial candidates also won in Vandling and Brownale, both traditional bastions.

Gary Mihelc, age 25, son of Bill and Valerie Mihelc, fatally injured in car crash in Delaware County, PA.

A total of \$3,228 was raised in Forest City Fire Dept. Envelope Drive.

Forest City Area Volunteer Ambulance Assoc. held a mortgage burning dinner-dance Saturday night to celebrate the fact that they paid off their new

building in two years.

Deaths: Henry L. Bayless, former local bank official; Carl Dobish, Lake Como, died in fire at Allen Inn, Honesdale; Lela Cottrell, Bumwood.

## 50 YEARS AGO

November 28, 1968

The issue of December 5th marks the beginning of the 82nd year of publication of the News. The "Hometown newspaper" has many functions, the first being to record and chronicle the civic, political, religious and personal events of the area coverage. It is a week-by-week history of the matters of importance of the Greater Forest City Area.

Joseph Walsh, co-owner of the local Big Chief Market, underwent abdominal surgery at St. Joseph's Hospital last week. He was reported to be much improved at this writing.

Mr. and Mrs. Michael Oleska of Orson quietly observed their 61st wedding anniversary on November 17th. The couple was united in marriage in Slatington, PA, on November 17, 1907. Their union was blessed with eight children, six of whom are living. Mr. and Mrs. Oleska are members of St. John's Church in Forest City.

## 60 YEARS AGO

November 27, 1958

The November meeting of the Forest City Joint School Parent Teacher's Association held last Wednesday evening has been termed as one of the best meetings in recent years. The students asked the parents' panel questions of the present day youth. The parents give their own personal opinions.

Local music lovers had a rare treat in store with the announcement that the Scranton Philharmonic will present three nationally renowned guest conductors at their concerts this season. Of local interest, Leon Petrus, son of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Petrus, Delaware Street, is a member of the Philharmonic for the third season.

## 70 YEARS AGO

November 25, 1948

Atty. A. James Martin, Arlington, VA, former local resident associated with the U.S. Dept. of Agriculture, was admitted to practice before the U.S. Supreme Court.

Borough Council ponders imposition of Wage Tax to alleviate local borough budget deficits.

Burgess A. B. Cimochowski warns local residents against purchase of tickets from solicitors under guise of a Dunmore Legion Post selling tickets for benefit of OUR church.

## 80 YEARS AGO

November 24, 1938

The Forest City Tamburitzon Club with Mrs. Frances Gerstel as president was reorganized. Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Cost, Delaware St., will mark their 25th wedding anniversary on Thanksgiving Day.

St. Anthony's Parish has acquired the use of a hall for a series of game parties.

Prof. H. H. Rounds marked the fiftieth anniversary of his teaching career Saturday at a party of friends and former pupils at the home of Mr. and Mrs. H. T. Williams of Union Dale.

Deaths: Mrs. Marion Paukstis, Susquehanna St.; Vasil Brasso, Vandling; Thomas F. Haggerty, Pleasant Mount.

## 90 YEARS AGO

November 22, 1928

The new Lincoln School on Hudson and Depot Streets will be formally opened on Monday. Carbondale Radio Station WNBW is now broadcasting. The Hudson Coal Co. has opened the Stillwater mine, idle for the past half year.

Miss Helen Gumbach became the bride of Stanley Washeleski on Sunday, Nov. 18, in a ceremony in St. John's Church.

Joseph Duffy was appointed to the Senatorial District Conference's Committee to compile the vote of counties for state senator.

## 100 YEARS AGO

November 28, 1918

The cost of maintaining the emergency hospital in the Forest City High School during the recent epidemic is about \$4,000 according to the Board of Health. One hundred forty nine patients were admitted. Deaths were listed at 26.

Philip Evans has purchased the Frank Walker Restaurant.

Word has been received here of the death of Joseph Dearie, who was killed in action in France. Report that Joseph Meran, who was reported missing in action, has been clarified with the news that he was wounded in action in France, where he is now convalescing in a base hospital.

## 110 YEARS AGO

November 26, 1908

The contractor placing the new sewer system here is experiencing trouble with pockets of quicksand.

The smoke stack on the local electric plant is out of order and local townspeople are without electricity.

Pierce Dunn, the Ararat checker maker, was the first turkey man in town this season. He has a flock of 150 birds.

From the school notice in this issue: Adam Spyhalski has returned to school after working in the breaker; Mrs. Tusar's students are earning little stars for perfect attendance; mumps and whooping cough have caused a large number of absences.

## 120 YEARS AGO

November 26, 1898

The Hillside Cemetery Association has been formed and application for a charter has been made. J. D. Caryl, L. P. Wedeman and H. H. Purple are the principle movers in the matter.

The D&H Company is busy with plans for the erection of a breaker at its Clinton mine south of the border.

E. Morgan has sold out his local store and stock to J. L. Morgan and Brothers of Pleasant Mount.

There will be a cantata entitled "The Drunkard's Reform" on Thanksgiving night.



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.

It was all of the time that I lived in my Grandma Atkinson's home on Railroad St. in Forest City that the winters in the house were very cold. We had a potbelly stove in the living room that burned coal. In the kitchen was a cook stove that also burned coal. The house was not heated really well. Only just heat that radiated off the stoves. UUKK.

There was a small register that transferred the heat to the upstairs. Not a lot of heat but heat rises. I can remember getting dressed for school and standing by the stove pipe from the living room that came up through the floor into my bedroom. Got dressed quick. We had lots of blankets to keep us warm through the night. I hated to get out from the warm covers to get dressed. OUCH.

I remember the frost on the windows in my bedroom. Looked like snow. The snow used to pile up to the midway of the downstairs windows and hard to get out of the house. Had to shovel to Railroad Street. WOW--No snow like that now and it lasted until MARCH. We are spoiled now because all you have to do is set the thermostat and you have instant heat. Kids today do not know what it was like then.

## Coming Events

## Senior MENU

### Week of Nov. 26

Monday - Baked fish florentine, scalloped potatoes, broccoli & cauliflower, dinner roll, chocolate chip cookie.

Tuesday - Chicken Alfredo, garlic spinach, minestrone soup, sorbet.

Wednesday - Meatloaf, mashed potato, carrots & broccoli, dinner roll, cottage cheese & berries.

Thursday - Glazed pork loin, mashed sweet potatoes, green beans, dinner roll, cinnamon baked apples.

Friday - BBQ chicken, roasted red potato, broccoli biscuit w/margarine, rice pudding.

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

## The Forest City News

the News and Advertising Voice of the Greater Forest City Area

DISPLAY ADS  
CLASSIFIED ADS  
JOB PRINTING

636 Main Street  
Forest City  
785-3800

## School LUNCH MENU

### Week of Nov. 26

MON. - No School

TUES. - Hamburger or cheeseburger, roasted potatoes, baked beans, assorted fruit.

WED. - Pasta w/meat sauce, garlic breadstick, salad, teamed broccoli, applesauce, fruit.

THURS. - Popcorn chicken w/ dipping sauce, potato wedges, glazed carrots, apple, strawberry cup.

FRI. - Mickey's pizza, salad, seasoned green beans, fruit.

Available Daily: Chef or Caesar Salad, Sunbutter & Jelly, Turkey or Ham Hoagies or Wraps, and various Grab-n-Go Specials.

### BREAKFAST

Mon. - Sausage & Ch. on Croissant

Tues. - Egg & Ch. on Croissant

Wed. - Bacon, Egg & Ch. Croissant

Thurs. - Ham, Egg & Ch. on Croissant

Fri. - Egg & ch. on bagel

## 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.suscobiosoc.org

Forest City - The epidemic of Spanish influenza we are glad to state has passed, and conditions here are rapidly approaching normal, says the Forest City News. There are about 6 cases in the temporary hospital, and all but one is convalescing. It is expected that the hospital will be closed this week and the building will be thoroughly fumigated for the reopening.

Also, Sgt. Stanley Horosko was killed in France during the last drive. Prior to his death he had been wounded and left the hospital to rejoin his command. His father was killed in the mines when Stanley was 10 and his stepfather met a similar fate last January. He is survived by his mother and four sisters.

Thompson - "Old Glory" In 1864 an order called the Patriotic Union League was organized at Jenkins Hollow, one mile north of Thompson borough, with 25 or 30 charter members. C. P. Jenkins, of the borough is the only charter member living. B. C. Stoddard, of Amsterdam, N.Y., and Samuel Burr, now in a soldiers' home, are the only ones living at the present time, so far as is known. When the League was organized, C. B. Jenkins was detailed to purchase a flag for the order. He found it impossible to get one ready-made in Susquehanna, so purchased material of Grettenburg, Rosenbaum & Co., who furnished him the design for field and stars. The young ladies of the vicinity met at the home of Cyrus Hall and made the flag—all hand-made. Of the "girls" present on that occasion only two are now living—Nannie Hall, now Mrs. B. F. Barnes, and Wealthy Gelatt, now Mrs. Larrabee, both residing in Thompson. The flag is now in Mr. Jenkin's possession and he is very choice of it. It is used only on special or eventful occasions. It was used at the close of the Civil War, Spanish-American War, and again last evening at the jollification.

East Kingsley - The aeroplanes travelling between Scranton and Binghamton are a pleasing sight now that the Peace treaty between Germany and the Allies has been signed.

Montrose - Friends in this vicinity learn with regret of the contemplated removal of Dr. W. B. Van de Sand and wife to the west. Dr. Van de Sand has built up a good osteopathic practice in Montrose and as both himself and wife have been

active in community welfare work they have made many friends. Dr. Van de Sand's health has not been the best and he expects to locate in a less rigorous climate.

Also, William Green, of Hopbottom, while driving his Ford car down Public avenue, Tuesday, skidded into a steeply sloping gutter near the People's Bazaar and brought up suddenly against the curb and a telephone pole. The steering gear and forward portions of the car were badly twisted and bent. Meehan Bros., blacksmiths, straightened out the worst portions and Mr. Green and a companion heated other parts in the stove in Patrick's cigar store and hammered them straight on the sidewalk—and the goldamed little Ford rambled right along towards home.

Susquehanna - Henry Teskey received a telegram from the War Department announcing that his son, Corp. James Teskey, had died in France of wounds received in action.

At the time he joined the colors, Teskey was employed as chief clerk in the office of Shop Superintendent Depute of the Erie railroad at this place. He has three other brothers in the service.

Springville - About a month ago, Mina Ferris, a widow, with several grown children, married Wilbur Valentine. Mina's children arrived and proceeded to remove all the newlyweds furniture, an officer from Montrose arrested two of the sons, who entered bail for a hearing at Montrose, Nov. 27th.

Rushville - J. A. Shaddock, a successful apiarist, has disposed of 1,500 pounds of honey to customers in this vicinity and to wholesalers in Scranton during the past season.

West Auburn - R. B. Swisher, manager of the telephone company, had a narrow escape recently, from serious injury, when knocked down by an infuriated cow. As it was, he received several bad bruises; the cow's horn pierced his hand below the thumb.

Lanesboro - Earl Wheeler, son of Mr. and Mrs. Oliver Wheeler, was wounded in action in France on Oct. 18, according to a letter written by his brother, Arthur, who is also in the service over there. A bursting shell caused a compound fracture of one of Soldier Wheeler's limbs and he is now in a base hospital. Six other soldiers were also wounded by the shell.

## Looking Back Crime Classic

1908 Forest City gun battle ends as suspects flee into woods

It all began on November 11, 1908 when three men brandishing weapons entered the home of William Tinker in Union Dale and demanded money from him and his elderly housekeeper, Mrs. Wurtz.

When Tinker didn't move fast enough, the three men beat him with the butt of a revolver then bound the terrified Mrs. Wurtz before making off with a pocket watch and \$13 in cash.

The very next night, three men confronted John Tiscavicz in Simpson and demanded he turn over his money. When Tiscavicz refused, one of the men knocked him to the ground while a second cut out the pocket of his trousers. Luckily, Tiscavicz's cries for help alerted his neighbors who scared off the thieves.

On Nov. 15, Peter Sloveletzkig was accosted by three armed bandits, brutally beaten, robbed of \$17, and thrown down an embankment where he was found the next morning, bleeding and unconscious.

The trio of unknown bandits had been terrorizing the area for several months, keeping residents frightened and alert, leading to the authorities first real break.

On November 17, the Forest City Police received a tip about three suspicious men—fitting the description of their suspects—hiding out in a cave just outside of town. Forest City called in the state police for help, and by late afternoon, a bevy of local and state lawmen had converged on the cave. But it was almost dark, and the trio hunkering down inside had already seen them approach. Hoping to catch the "copers" off-guard, the three men came out shooting, and soon, a full-fledged gun battle was being waged. One bullet flew so close to an officer's head, he could actually feel the heat coming off the tiny slug. And then, a blood-curdling scream pierced the air.

The bandits, taking full advantage of the momentary pause, tore into the woods and took cover, dodging in and out among the trees. The authorities pursued, but soon lost sight of their quarry and called off the search. But it wasn't a total loss. At first light, they found a blood trail leading into the forest; confirmation that they had hit one of their targets.

Although the three ruthless thugs made good on their escape and were never found, local lawmen can be credited with scaring them off. For after the gun-fight, the rash of local robberies immediately ceased.

#1 Small Business Insurer



Nationwide®  
is on your side

See why over

500,000

small business owners trust us.

Give me a call to get a quote for your business.

Richard R. Kresock  
Kresock Insurance Agency  
(570)785-5454  
kresocr@nationwide.com  
www.nationwide.com/kresock

Nationwide, the Nationwide N and Eagle, Nationwide is on your side, and other marks displayed in this message are service marks of Nationwide Mutual Insurance Company and/or its affiliates, unless otherwise disclosed. Coming Strategic Study: The Small Business Sector for Property-Casualty Insurance: Market Shift Coming, 2014. Third-party marks that appear in this message are the property of their respective owners. ©2017 Nationwide CMO-0329AO.4 (03/17) 6848609

## Upper Valley Oil Co.

P.O. Box 57, Forest City

## HEATING OIL

GUARANTEED  
LOWEST PRICES  
Call 1-800-774-5600

SERVING FOREST CITY, VANDLING, BROWDALE,  
UNION DALE, SIMPSON AND RICHMONDALE AREAS