

Main Street Tree Winners



First National Bank - Grade 6, Mrs. Lombardi's Class



Shirley's Restaurant - Grade 3, Mrs. Shelp's Class



McGovern Insurance Agency - Grade 1, Mrs. Bilsky's Class

The Main Street trees were decorated by the FCR Elementary students and their teachers and then judged for "Most Festive" by volunteers from FC Senior Center. Winning trees and classes are: McGovern Insurance Agency - Grade 1, Mrs. Bilsky's Class; Shirley's Restaurant - Grade 3, Mrs. Shelp's Class; and First National Bank - Grade 6, Mrs. Lombardi's Class.

2018 Important Stories in the NEWS

The following are some of the important stories covered during 2018:

January

Forest City Mayor Tammy Rogalski sworn-in
Nick Cost to head Forest City Council
John Carachilo returns to Vandling Council
Barking Cupcake first new Main St. business in long time
MacKenzie Hartman hits 1,000 point milestone at FCRHS
News computers hit by Ransomware

February

Trail Town Festival is set for August to bring back Light Parade
Injured Trooper Seth Kelly, Pleasant Mt., attends State of Union Address
\$273,000 grant awarded for East Side Main Street sidewalks
Doreen Henstell, age 108, passes away
Sherry Sparks, Union Dale, Red Cross volunteer in Puerto Rico
Salvation Army moves food pantry to Sacred Heart Church hall

March

Historical Society to celebrate 250th anniversary of Anthracite
Winter storm, heavy winds, wallop area
Forest City Council signs new lease for Forest City Branch Library
Forest City Lions Club is 70 years old
Clifford Supervisors address losses of town businesses
Wayne Memorial Hospital to build Health Center on Legion Hall site

April

Jerry Taylor retires from post office after 31 years
Celebration of Life for former teacher David St. Ledger
Wayne County moved to new Congressional District
\$10,000 Boro Building repairs are approved
Council rejects Chief Johnson request for 8 new pistols
State Rep. John Fritz discusses economic needs in Forest City
Gas line installation begins in VISION 2000 Industrial Park

May

Dr. Carl O'Hara in Forest City 35 years
Steven Tourje awarded Lions Club Distinguished Service award
Speakeasy Saloon, Ararat, remodels and re-opens
Clinton Twp. purchases new \$80,000 truck
New Dog Park at Babe Ruth Field OK'd by Council
Zefrans continue efforts to build Browndale-to-Forest City sidewalk

Harry & Peggy Newak celebrate 65th wedding anniversary
FCR School Board to again raise real estate taxes
Drug Rehab Center proposed for Stone Bridge Inn, Herrick Twp.

Full time police officer to be hired for FCR School District

June

Jim Richards retires from Post Office after 38 years
31 Hometown Heroes added to Historical Society Museum
54 students graduate from FCRHS
Council approves new gun purchase for police dept.
Union Dale Council accepts resignation of President Montenegro
Herrick Twp. drug rehab center faces opposition at 3 hour public hearing

July

Dr. Joseph Sisko and two local fire companies are 2018 Distinguished Citizens
FC Mayor Tammy Rogalski resigns after six months
FC parking meters operational after two year respite
Groundbreaking held for Wayne Memorial Health Center in Forest City
Chris Glinton is new Forest City Mayor

August

Forest City's first Trailtown Festival is huge success
Herrick Twp. municipal building destroyed in daytime fire
Historical signage dedicated on Rail Trail
Herrick Planners say "No" to drug/alcohol center
Basketball/tennis court at Kennedy Park bid too high

September

Susq. County Commissioners donate \$20,000 to Forest City Emergency Services
Herrick Twp. to receive \$440,000 in fire insurance for building
Jesse's Salon opens business on Main St.
Ashley Fitzsimmons named 2018 National Outstanding Customer Support Rep. of the Year
Construction of new Kevin Lesjack Funeral home begins
Johnson College eyes Forest City for satellite campus
\$160,000 sewer grant awarded to Vandling

October

Another success for Steamtown Marathon start line at FCRHS
Forest City's Longest Beaded Necklace in Guinness Book of World Records
FC Borough Council to remove Main St. snow using meter money
Ararat section of Rail Trail has ribbon-cutting
Jim Fitzsimmons/John Shea win Wivey's Memorial Golf League championship
Benefactors entirely fund \$17,500 wall replacement at Historical Society
Gas releases at UGI regulator station alarms local residents

November

Open House held for \$10 million school remodeling
Spano (Kartri/Ames) Building sold to Cicilioni Properties LLC
Stone Bridge Inn owners re-apply for sale as drug/alcohol center
Dunn's Pond developers seek aid from Herrick Twp. supervisors
Historical Society eyes "Stone Face" access for public
Vandling imposes \$52 local employee service tax

December

GFCBA/FCRS Christmas in Our Small Town held
Susq. County offices on ballot in 2019
FCR girls get new basketball coach
School bus accident on Main Street
Salvation Army distributing toys and food to needy
Clinton Twp. questions Waymart Wind Farm plans
News suffers Ransomware attack which deletes news, billing and circulation files
Public hearing for Herrick Twp. Drug/Rehab Center

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Pleasant Mount News
By Theresa Opeka
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Happy Birthday to: Chelsey Hicks, Montana Cook, Dorothy Moose, Kenneth Pratchler, Darryl Burleigh, Hope Hoanzl, Michael Davis, Matt Dodge, Adam Kulikowski, Joshua Hnatko, Josh Hall, Kyra Fortuner, Leroy Spoor, Colin Ennis, Michelle Brooking, Ruth Jones, Karen Ashcom, Shane Malicky, Susan Gesford, Macy Babcock, Catherine Cook, Suzanne Sheerin, Bob Bailey, Gloria Hnatko, Tony Walbach, Brian Jonas, Katherine O'Neill, Ruth Ann Knapp, Brandy Price, Mike Rosenfeld, Steve Rubustelli, Amy Watson, Bruce Stanton, Kelsey Biondo, Brianna Weist, Emily Gorton, Lily Zukosky, Alexandra Reed and Jeremiah Burleigh.

Happy Anniversary to: Matthew and Kathryn Pisarcik and Tony and Megan Walbeck

Cub Scout Pack 407 will be having a Pancake Breakfast, Sunday, December 30, 8am-noon at the Pleasant Mount Emergency Services Dining Hall, 389 Great Bend Turnpike, Pleasant Mount. The breakfast will include: Pancakes, sausage, eggs, potatoes, coffee, tea and juice. Cost is \$9 for adults, \$5 for children 5-13 and under 4, free. For tickets call Kyle at 570-877-3161 or email kcannon1014@gmail.com.

Pleasant Mount American Legion Post 964 wishes all our members and friends a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Next meeting is January 2, 2019.

Christmas Eve is the most important day during Christmas for Slovaks. It is called 'Stedyden' (The Generous Day). The actual evening is called 'Stedy večer' (The Generous Evening) and the Christmas season is called 'Vianoce'. Merry!

Happy Christmas in Slovak is 'Vesele' Vianoce'. Slovak Christmas trees are decorated with colored lights, fruits, handmade decorations made of wood, baked goods made with honey in the form of angels and other religious symbols and sweets. The trees are kept until January 6, Epiphany or Three Kings. Then the children are allowed to finally eat the candies and other sweets from the tree. Christmas gifts are brought by the Jezisko (Baby Jesus). A common tradition is to have the children leave the room when the presents are being brought by Jesus. When a bell is rung, the children run to the Christmas tree to try and see the Baby Jesus but they always narrowly miss him. On Christmas Eve morning, the carp is killed and gutted. It was custom to fast throughout the day and if you managed to get by without food, you would see a little golden pig after Midnight Mass. The main Christmas meal is known as the 'velija' and consists of 12 dishes. It normally has lots of courses and includes fish and Kapustnica, a thick cabbage soup with sausage, meat, dried mushrooms and cream. Some soup is made with dried plums and apples. Carp is often the fish dish that is eaten. Some may buy it live and keep it in their bath until it is time to kill it and cook it. Other dishes might include baked ham or a roast goose, 'bobajky', small pieces of bread mixed with butter and sauerkrat or sweetened with honey and poppyseeds, potato salad, pirohy dumplings, vegetables and plenty of walnut rolls or cookies.

May you have a Happy and Blessed 2019!

Clinton Twp. residents question expenses; May see Browndale sidewalks soon

by Theresa Opeka

Issues involving roads, Browndale and the Waymart Wind Farm, along with passage of the budget for 2019 were discussed at the Wednesday, December 12 meeting of the Clinton Township Supervisors.

A correction to last month's article regarding a Dirt and Gravel Road project on Ravnikar Road. Supervisor/Road Master Brian Non said the all dirt project would start at the top of the road where the blacktop ends and would be 6400 feet in length. Last month's article said the road would blacktop for about 6400 feet. Non said there is an update for the project. The supervisors have decided to hold off doing the project due to the weather. They will rebid the project next year and Wayco said they will the price plus for any other roads that may be included.

Non said, "Sorry if you live on Ravnikar or Smith Road. We needed a lot of cinders last month." Don Salak said he gave Non credit for not paving Smith Road due to the rain and sluice pipe. Non said they are aware of a severe ice problem on Little Keen Road and notification will be sent to the property owner that action needs to be taken to correct the problem within 15 days. Solicitor Jeff Treat will be notified if no action is taken.

Dr. James Zefran asked how much money has been brought in so far this year from the wage tax. Secretary Jill Droppa said about \$200,000. Zefran asked the supervisors if they are saving money with the new LED lights in Browndale. Supervisor Ken Coles they weren't charged for the conversion but they will be saving money eventually. Right now, they are paying the same rate. The savings will be very small. Zefran asked if the savings will get passed on to those who pay for them. Coles said eventually. Zefran asked how much was in the light fund. Supervisor Russ Curtis

said about \$9,000. Zefran said, "Why is there such a high amount in the account?" Coles replied, "I don't know. We'll look into it and check with the county. You will get a small amount back."

Zefran next asked about the proposed purchase of a generator. "You are going to put a generator in for what reason?" he said. Non said, "It would be used as a shelter for a natural disaster." Zefran said the township has the Browndale Fire hall. "Why do we need two in a township this size? We are trying to save money?" he said. Coles said, "During the last hurricane, no one on this side of the mountain could go anywhere. There were 150 trees down." Curtis said, "We are waiting to hear back from the county on a grant." Zefran asked if the action was tabled for now and the supervisors said yes. Salak said it was a good idea for the generator. Ron Poska said the building could freeze up with no heat.

Linda Zefran talked about the Browndale sidewalk project which has been going on for six years. She said it has been delayed due to requirements from PennDOT. They applied for and got two grants for \$300,000 and \$93,000. She said hopefully it should be put out to bid in January. It will take 8-10 weeks to complete and if it is a mild winter, they hope to start sometime in March or April and finish in June. The project will now go from Front Street in Browndale to Railroad Street in Forest City.

The tentative budget for 2019 was passed. Total estimated receipts are \$733,103.06 and total estimated expenses are \$381,634.00.

The township's year end meeting will take place on Friday, December 28 at 7pm. The reorganizational meeting will take place on Monday, January 7 at 7pm. The regular meeting will follow.

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