

# 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.suscohistoc.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.

**10 YEARS AGO**  
December 10, 2008  
New signs for Neighborhood Watch are being installed with proctor Stephanie Reich overseeing the movement.

Mary Emmett was elected to her second term as president of the Forest City Regional School Board.

Forest City Council jacks up Main Street meter fines to \$5 effective May 1, 2009.

Seven-year-old Dan Congdon captures racing championships.

Herrick Township gets requests to take over Herrick Ridge Road.

Deaths: Patrick J. Newcomb Sr., Honesdale; Rita Minor, Aldenville; Louise Holbert Fuanzini Roney, Bethany; Florence Morris, Forest City; Peter Marcho, Clifford; James MacAllister, Lenoxville; Vera Fay Whitman, Union Dale; Darryl L. Barney, Carbondale.

**20 YEARS AGO**  
Dec. 9, 1998

Do your Christmas shopping in Forest City and have a chance to win a mulching lawn mower and two string trimmers.

A downed tree in Greenfield Township interrupted electrical service to about 7,000 homes last Saturday evening.

The Forest City Rotary Club 1998 Holiday Basketball Tournament will be held Dec. 26-28 at Forest City Regional High School.

One of the largest deer shot in the area was a beautiful 11-pointer owned by Aaron Dombroski near Stillwater. The trophy had an 18 inch spread.

Deaths: Marie O'Reilly, Union Dale; John J. Twardzik, Scranton; Pearl I. Laskowski, FC Nursing Center; Lawrence T. Fleming, Forest City; Catherine Anna Thorn, RD 1 Thompson.

**30 YEARS AGO**  
December 8, 1988

After undertaking extensive renovations totalling about \$1 million, the former Ames building in Vandling began being occupied by Jerry's Sport Center, Inc., the weekend after Thanksgiving.

James Wells was elected president of the Forest City Regional School Board at the reorganization meeting held on Dec. 5.

Drew Sparks, Forest City, is presently associated with Ed Beautz Real Estate, Union Dale office.

Mary Pribula was elected to serve as head of the Tri-County Senior Citizens' Group for 1989.

Deaths: Ambrose Kelly, Carbondale; Genevieve M. Sharp, Thompson; Elizabeth Finn, R. D. 1 Forest City; Sophie Decknick, Simpson and Margaret Robinson, South Gibson.

**40 YEARS AGO**  
December 7, 1978

Steve Weinberg has been hired as a consultant on Community Development matters by Forest City Borough Council.

Atty. Robert Fields appointed Forest City Borough solicitor replacing the late Atty. Ulric McHale.

Orson Corey, Union Dale, elected president of the Forest City Regional School Board.

John Marsicano, Jim Strifsky and Jim Tuser named to All-Star team of N. E. Penna. Soccer League.

A ten point buck, with 18-in. spread, weighing in at 151 lbs. was bagged in Ararat last week by a New Jersey hunter.

Bill Maile and Bob Risboskin named to All-Star team in Susquehanna County Basketball tournament.

Deaths: Mrs. Molly Duffy, formerly of Forest City; John Swegel, Bethlehem, PA; William Marsden, RD 1, Pleasant Mount.

**50 YEARS AGO**  
December 19, 1968

Senator Ted Kennedy last week wrote a letter to Forest City Borough Council thanking them for establishing Kennedy Park. His letter, in part, stated:

"On behalf of the Kennedy Family may I extend my gratitude for your remembrance."

Forest City Regional School Board at a special session Monday, approved participation of the District in the Lackawanna County Area Vocational-Technical School Program.

A total of 83 buck deer were bagged by area deer hunters and reported to the News Office during the 1968 season.

Ninety pints of blood were secured at the recent Bloodmobile visit.

Fire Chief James McCusker, Sr. has named Fred Lang and James McCusker, Jr. as assistant chiefs.

A girls basketball team has been formed at Forest City Regional School to compete in Interscholastic games.

Mrs. Bernadette Slick was recently informed that she has been licensed as a real estate salesman with Northern Real Estate and has opened offices in Vandling.

**60 YEARS AGO**  
December 18, 1958

Mrs. John S. Obelenus, 765 Hudson St., was selected head of the March of Dimes in Forest City. Mrs. Blanche Petrus, Susquehanna County March of Dimes director, made the announcement today.

A/3 Robert Kigerl has just been assigned to the Headquarters Squadron of the 340th Bombardment Wing at Whitman AFB. The 340th is an organization of the Eighth Air Force and SAC and is also equipped with B-47 strato jet bombers and KC-97 tankers.

Deaths recorded during the week: Harry Burke, 114 Ash St., Vandling; died Friday at home after a brief illness; Harry M. Morse of Pleasant Mount died Friday at home after a brief illness.

Marine Sgt. Edward T. Kowalewski, RD 1, Union Dale, recently received a letter of commendation for efficient action in fighting a fire at the 2nd Security Station, Washington, D.C.

**NO 70 YEARS AGO**  
**80 YEARS AGO**  
December 15, 1938

A group of local citizens organized the Forest City Industrial Development Association has purchased the former Klots Throwing building and will make it ready for occupancy of a prospective concern.

John Lenio, of the Hillside Volunteer Hose Co., was named Chief of the Forest City Fire Department succeeding Howard Lowry, of the Enterprise Hose Company.

Monroe Allen, mechanic at the Yale Garage, Union Dale, had a harrowing experience when fire started in the garage, enveloping him in flames. Quick action on his part, when he ran outside and rolled himself in a water puddle, extinguished the fire. He suffered burns of his arms and legs.

Borough Council vigorously reprimanded those firemen who were responsible for the negligence when last Thursday all three fire trucks left the borough to attend a fire in Dundaff, leaving the Borough with no protection whatever.

**90 YEARS AGO**  
December 13, 1928

Taylor Night-Hawks, fast Lackawanna basketball team, defeated the Forest City Collegians 37-33 in an exciting game here Friday night.

Misses Geraldine and Catherine Cleary, daughters of Patrick Cleary, expect to leave for Norfolk, VA, shortly to accept positions there.

Frank Kerzic, Vandling, the father of twelve children, was killed in a premature blast at Richmondale Colliery yesterday morning.

Aaron Freedman, local native, has been named manager of the Fox Theater in Philadelphia, the largest movie house in that city.

The Union Dale High School orchestra, under the direction of

Prof. Butler, is meeting for rehearsal at the J. N. Cable home.

**100 YEARS AGO**  
December 19, 1918

A meeting of local and area citizens will be held tomorrow evening here to organize interest for the building of a state road from Forest City to Susquehanna.

The Forest City policemen will use fund-raising proceeds to defray expenses to entertain the "boys in khaki" when they come home.

Lawrence Sapudar, of Herrick Center, is busy drawing hay to Forest City. He claims hay is in great demand, bringing about 20 dollars a ton in the barn.

Deaths recorded: Earl W. Bonham, Susquehanna St.; Charles A. Wademan, Union Dale; William Painter Sr., Caneacta, NY, formerly of Vandling.

**110 YEARS AGO**  
December 18, 1908

Stephen Zachovitz, a miner in the No. 2 shaft, dropped dead from heart failure shortly after reporting for work Tuesday.

Thomas Thomas of Electric, Mont., who left here 18 years ago is visiting former friends locally.

Oscar Weible, of Union Dale, has rejoined his regiment now located in Alaska.

A Part of the Clifford Trestle has been taken down, which would seem to verify the report that Clifford breaker is a thing of the past.

**120 YEARS AGO**  
December 15, 1898

The Dewey Glee Club, a musical organization, was formed here last week. David J. Jones is musical director. Other officers are Alfred Davis, general manager; Richard Jones, chairman; William Evans, secretary-treasurer.

Miss Rose Freeman, a student at Scranton Business College, is spending her vacation at her parents' home here.

The death of Mrs. Rose Ebdon, wife of Champ Ebdon, occurred this morning at the family home on Delaware St.

**130 YEARS AGO**  
December 13, 1888

A special election will be held Wednesday, Jan. 2, to determine whether or not a wage tax shall be levied to be used for the purpose of putting in fire plugs and providing adequate water supply in case of fire.

Charles Van Meter has sold his Burnwood property and will take up residence in Forest City.

### Senior MENU

#### Week of Dec. 17

Monday- Roast Turkey, green bean casserole, mashed potatoes, stuffing, pumpkin pie.

Tuesday -Spaghetti w/ meat sauce, zucchini & peppers, chocolate brownie.

Wednesday - Baked pork chop, parsnied carrots, cabbage w/noodles, black forest pudding.

Thursday - Chicken Ala King, lemon pepper broccoli, herbed brown rice, scalloped peas.

Friday - Waldorf Salad w/Chicken, chicken & rice soup, marinated bean salad, dinner roll, scalloped peas

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

### School LUNCH MENU

#### Week of Dec. 17

MON. - Chicken strips w/ dipping sauce, potatoes wedges, steamed broccoli, bean salad, roll, assorted fruit.

TUES. - Seasoned pork sandwich, plain or BBQ, fries, roasted cauliflower, assorted fruit.

WED. - Pasta w/ meatballs, garlic breadstick, salad, seasoned green beans, applesauce, Mandarin oranges.

THURS. -Holiday Meal: Baked ham, stuffing, mashed w/gravy, carrots, cranberry sauce, fruit, chocolate cream pie

FRI. -Mac & ch. Quesadilla, garden salad, peas & carrots, applesauce.

Available Daily: Chef or Ceaser 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. on Croissant

Thurs. - Ham, egg & ch. on Croissant  
Fri. - Egg & ch. on bagel  
\*Choice of assorted fruit or juice, milk.

With "Our Boys" in the Field. Mr. and Mrs. Fred Terboss, of Great Bend, have been notified by the War department of the death of their grandson, Max Green, a former Great Bend young man. He was killed in action in France on Nov. 10. Harold VanVleck, son of Mr. and Mrs. Hubert VanVleck, of Great Bend, has been wounded—the degree was undetermined. The War department has notified Mr. and Mrs. Fred McIntosh, of Susquehanna, of the death of their son Lewis, in France. Pneumonia contracted in the trenches was the cause of his death. Lieut. Alphonsus J. Calby, who has been at Camp Dix, N. J., arrived home the first of the week

## Coming Events

Dec. 15 - Free community lunch Christ Church Delaware & Dundaff St's Forest City. Noon - 1 p.m.

Dec. 15 - Cookie Walk Clifford U.M. Church Main St. 9 - noon \$14 for lg. container, \$7 for small

Dec. 15 - Ziti Dinner Lenoxville Community Hall Rte.374 Lenoxville \$10

Dec. 15 - Christmas Dinner Cold Spring Chapel Upper Woods Rd. & Great Bend Tpk. 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. For info call 570-253-4033

Jan. 31 - New Year's Eve Party Trinity Banquet Facility Prospect St. Simpson 8 p.m. \$50 570-947-0212

Every Friday - Trinity's knitting group meets Friday at 6 p.m. ALL are welcome to join in for some great fun. Bring your favorite projects - knitting, crochet, or any other craft. Or come to learn and share with others! Call Elinor Daily for more information, 570-222-3568.

Feb. 24 - Ladore indoor yard sale, 10 a.m.-2 p.m., 287 Owego Tpk., Waymart, Spaces available \$10. Call 570-488-6129.

2nd Wednesday - The Union Dale Fire Co. meetings are the 2nd Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m.

and resumed his dental practice. Word was received of the death on shipboard of Archie Tanner, a New Milford young man, who was returning from France. Death was due to influenza. A letter was received from Sgt. Robert Wood, son of Mrs. Nettie Wood, written after the signing of the armistice, tells of the joyousness of the boys over the culmination of hostilities. He said that just before 11 o'clock on the morning of Nov. 11 both sides laid down a terrific artillery barrage that he did not believe a "mosquito could have lived through," and a few minutes after the firing had suddenly died away, the Yanks and Huns were in No Man's Land exchanging souvenirs. That night the Germans sent up red, white and blue rockets throughout the night. He has been in eight battles. He writes that he is riding a horse that was formerly German property and which he has named Hindenburg. It balks sometimes, he says, but you couldn't expect anything more.

Forest City - In a letter to his brother, Frank Louis Skubic tells of the joy of the French people when they learned of the signing of the armistice. American soldiers were proclaimed their deliverers and entitled to the best of everything in the possession of the people. It was a day he will always remember. In the midst of ruined homes the people rejoiced like never before and the boys in khaki were greatly pleased as the reception tendered them by the liberated people. ALSO John McGranaghan has opened undertaking parlors in the Bartholomay building, South Main Street. He has eight years' experience, the last three years being in the employ of John R. Bell, coming here from Hancock, NY.

## The Forest City News

the News and Advertising Voice of the Greater Forest City Area

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