

Wayne Co. Coroner makes statement on opioid epidemic

As Coroner of our beloved Wayne County, I am the first to acknowledge that Wayne County is not exempt from the opioid epidemic. It's also no secret that the post-mortem examination and testing performed on suspected opioid deaths can be an expensive endeavor. But it is a necessary and worthwhile expense. In an effort to provide the most accurate and up-to-date statistics, I have implemented a partnership with Overdose-FreePA which is an initiative of the University of Pittsburgh to provide overdose information on the popular resource website, www.overdosefreepa.pitt.edu. This website enables anyone with internet connection to access overdose statistics. Our office notifies UPitt as soon as we finalize the cause and manner of death upon concluding an investigation.

Since 2016, more than 40 people have died in Wayne County due to overdoses. I am hopeful that through education and communication, we will continue to have a positive impact in reducing these statistics. We are so fortunate to have the Wayne County Heroin Prevention Task Force and its efforts in Narcan accessibility and training.

A steward of county funds, I am committed to investigating all facts and circumstances regarding each death referred to this office. However, the financial strain these deaths place on the annual budget is undeniable.

I am pleased to announce that the Office of the Wayne County Coroner has applied for, secured, and received a total of \$20,000 in grants from the Pennsylvania Department of Health Prescription Drug Monitoring Program's Opioid Overdose Surveillance program (ESOOs). These funds are deposited in the General Fund of Wayne County, credited as Coroner income, and

purposed to offset the cost of toxicology testing. To obtain these grant funds, the Office of the Coroner provided circumstantial information to the DOH regarding overdose death cases while carefully redacting and strategically de-identifying personal information. The data provided to the Department of Health will be used to combat the overdose epidemic at a state level while focusing on the rural demographics of our region.

The first \$10,000 check was received by Wayne County in September of 2018. The second \$10,000 check was received on January 2, 2019. As of this date, \$36,448.43 has been spent in toxicology and laboratory testing for 2018 cases. This \$20,000.00 grant certainly helps our fiscal responsibility and alleviates, in part, the taxpayer's

Thompson Hose Co. Super Bowl Food Sale

The Thompson Hose Co. will have a PIZZA, WINGS & MORE SALE on Super Bowl Sunday, Feb. 3rd from 12:00 - 6:00pm.

Menu includes: Wings: Hot, Mild, Garlic, Honey Mustard, BBQ; 16" round Pizza Plain, Pepperoni, Mushroom, Banana Peppers, Onions, Sausage; Fryer Food: Mozzarella Sticks, Battered Cauliflower & Mushrooms, Poppers, & Perogies.

To Preorder Call 570-442-1107, 570-442-1208, or Day of call 570-727-2431.

burden. I am excited to announce that the Wayne County Coroner's Office is a recipient of this grant, and I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Deputy Coroners who comprise the best staff a Coroner could hope for. The commitment and integrity displayed by the professionally trained and highly educated staff enables the Wayne County Coroner's Office to be among the most qualified and efficient in the Commonwealth.

In closing, our hearts and prayers go out to the families and loved ones of those who have lost their lives to addiction. May it be known that as this office investigates each and every death, we will never lose sight of the fact that we not looking at "just another body," but rather, we are entrusted with the privilege to speak for those who can no longer speak for themselves.

As Coroner of this county, I will always be an advocate for the deceased in pursuing truth, providing dignity, and exhibiting an unwavering commitment to fulfilling the responsibility entrusted to me.

Sincerely,
Edward R. Howell
Edward Howell
Wayne County Coroner
Vice President, Pennsylvania State Coroners Association
MARK M. JAMES
Chief Deputy
LAURA WALKER-SWINGLE
Deputy & Death Investigation Supervisor
AIMEE L. PEARSON Deputy & Administrative Assistant
EDWARD R. HOWELL
Coroner
CAROL R. LIENERT Deputy & Coroner Emeritus
ROBERT MORCOM Deputy
ETTA DAY Deputy

Kevin M. Lesjack Funeral Home Now Open

Kevin M. Lesjack, Funeral Director and Owner of the Kevin M. Lesjack Funeral Home announces the re-opening of the Kevin M. Lesjack Funeral Home at 513 Main Street, Forest City.

The new funeral home is a custom, three piece modular building from Cornerstone Industries. The new funeral home is warm and comfortable, with a spacious gathering room for celebrating and remembering a life that was lived. We offer all aspects of funeral service, including cremation, cremation with viewing, traditional services with earth burials or entombment, and out of town services. Lesjack said, "Forest City is my home. The new funeral home is designed to meet the needs of Forest City and the surrounding area."

Join us for our Open House on Sunday January 27th from 1 to 4pm.

For more information about the Lesjack Funeral Home and the new building, please visit www.lesjackfuneralhome.com or call 570-785-3153.

Kevin M. Lesjack is a second generation funeral director. He is a graduate of Forest City Regional High School, Kutztown University and Simmons Institute of Funeral Service. He purchased the McGranaghan-Lesjack Funeral Home in 2007 from his parents, Robert and Barbara Lesjack. His wife is the former Melissa Jeannette from Morris Plains, NJ and they have two young boys, Owen and Reed.

Emilia Cullen is 2019 New Year's Baby At Wayne Memorial Hospital



Emilia Cullen made her appearance at 3:10 a.m. on January 2nd to become the first baby born at Wayne Memorial Hospital in 2019.

Proud parents Sara and Jameson Cullen from Lakewood, with the help of Certified Nurse Midwife Christina MacDowell, welcomed 8 lb. 8 oz. and 21 inch Emilia to their now family of four. Son Declan was born 22 months ago on March 17. Natasha Freethy, RN, presented a gift basket filled with baby goodies from the New Beginnings Birthing Suites.

Pictured left to right: Dad Jameson and mom Sara Cullen holding Emilia, Pat Konzman and Natasha Freethy.

Kid Power Up program being considered at FCR

Forester Families need your help! We would like our students in the 3rd-6th grades at Forest City Regional to participate in an exciting program through UNICEF. The program is called Kid Power Up. Our goal is to give each student a fitbit to count their steps here at school. For every 2,500 steps they take, they earn one point. For every 10 points we walk through the program at school, UNICEF donates a meal for a malnourished child in a third world country. UNICEF Kid Power gives kids the power to save lives. By getting active with this program, kids go on missions to learn about new cultures and earn points. Points unlock funding from partners that are used to deliver lifesaving packets to severely malnourished children around the world. The more the kids move, the more points they earn, the more lives they save.

If you want to look up more information about the UNICEF [SC1] Kid Power Program this is the link for the program.

<https://www.donorschoose.org/school/forest-city-regional-elementary-school/55204/?active=true>

We are trying to reach our goals by the beginning of the year so that our kids can start saving lives around the world. Please help us reach our goal if you are able.

Herrick Meeting cont. from page 1

MISCELLANEOUS

Harvatine said she will be absent from the March meeting.

Zembryzcki said the township received the roller.

A representative from True View Security Solutions, Binghamton, NY, introduced himself and gave the supervisors material about commercial grade security systems they could possibly use in the new township building.

Harvatine said they met with the engineer who will be working on the plans for the new building this past Saturday to get the plans started. They will meet again at the end of the month.

CONDITIONAL USE PERMIT

Ed Sandy asked if the applicant, Cindy Bellino, will be at the next conditional use permit hearing for Stone Bridge Inn & Restaurant and if not, why not. Ross said her son was at the last meeting. Sandy said, "They were asking questions you didn't know and it wasn't fair to you."

The next conditional use permit hearing to change Stone Bridge into a drug and

help teachers and schools raise money for projects they want to help their class with. We have set up a link for each grade from 3rd-6th. There is only one link for each grade but all classes will participate. If you would like to participate in helping your child's grade buy the fit bit bands to Power Up our Foresters, or if you know of a company/business that would help us reach our goal, please share the link with them.

3rd Grade- Mrs. Shelp- <https://www.donorschoose.org/Mrs.Shelp3rd>

4th Grade- Mrs. Bolcavage- <https://www.donorschoose.org/Bolcavage4thgrade>

5th Grade- Mr. Pryal- <https://www.donorschoose.org/Pryal5>

6th Grade- Mrs. Tully- <https://www.donorschoose.org/Mrs.Tully6th>

If you prefer to give to all four classes, here is a link that will show you how far along each grade is to reaching their goal.

<https://www.donorschoose.org/school/forest-city-regional-elementary-school/55204/?active=true>

We are trying to reach our goals by the beginning of the year so that our kids can start saving lives around the world. Please help us reach our goal if you are able.

Blood Drive at Browndale Fire Co. Fri., Feb. 8

The Browndale Fire Station will be held on Monday, January 28 at 6pm at the Speakeasy Saloon & Resort. It will continue the next night if necessary.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, February 4 at 7pm at the Herrick Center Baptist Church Hall.

Blood Drive at Browndale Fire Co. Fri., Feb. 8

The Browndale Fire Station will be turned into a Community Red Cross Blood donation center from 1:00 to 6:00 PM on Friday, February 8, 2019. The Browndale Fire Station is located 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.redcrossblood.org. You may also walk in. Please help support the Red Cross and donate blood. "Give the gift of life, Give Blood".

The Forest City News
FOUNDED DECEMBER 8, 1887
Publication Number 204880

Is published weekly on Wednesdays at a subscription rate of \$35.00 per year in Susquehanna, Lackawanna, and Wayne Counties; \$45.00 per year in all other mailing zones, and is published by The Forest City News, Inc., John P. Kamen, President, Patricia M. Strefsky, Secretary, and the publication office is 636 Main Street, Forest City, PA 18421.

Periodical rate postage, paid at Forest City, PA. Phone 570-785-3800; FAX 570-785-9840. Member of Pennsylvania NewsMEDIA and National Newspaper Association (NNA).
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Forest City News, 636 Main Street, Forest City, PA 18421.
All artwork, layout, design and news features remain the sole property of The Forest City News, Inc. Reproduction in whole or any part of any advertisement or news feature is strictly forbidden.

Pleasant Mount News
By Theresa Opeka
570-679-2065 bu7294@gmail.com

Happy Birthday to: Luke Wenk, Bill McCormick, Ben McCormick, Bryn Mae Vinton, Jennifer Chuplygin, Debbie Wenk, Kimberley Santillo, Scott Lewis, Judy Cribbs, Melanie Casper, Julie Whitney, Sylvia Bailey, Sharon Bennett, Cindy Warburton, Robert Lynesky, John Walker, Steve Kowalsky, Ann Medved, Brandy Price, Tanya Saul, Brian McGraw, Vanessa Hnatko, Martin Medved Jr., Terry Caffery, Peter Terry, Nellie Mead, Eric Eltz, Brian McGraw, Madison McElwee, Nick Lillie, Athina Bifano and Chase Gaudisio.

Happy Anniversary to: Don and Lourdes Christina and Joe and Lisa Wildenstein.

Congratulations to Christopher Larson, Pleasant Mount, who made the Dean's List at Misericordia University for the Fall 2018 semester.

Chapel Community Kitchen asks "Czy Jestes' Głodny?" Our Polish friends in the community will recognize this question and we will gladly cook for all of them. On January 19

Activities scheduled for Trinity Church, C'dale

Free Community Luncheon, Saturday, January 19th from 12:00 pm-1:00 pm at the Trinity Episcopal Church, 58 River Street, Carbondale - Everyone is Welcome!

Trinity Episcopal Church, 58 River Street, Carbondale is having a soup sale on Thursday, January 31st. Pick up at the Church Hall. All orders must be in by Friday, January 25th. \$8 per quart.

Your choice of Vegetable Beef or Wedding Soup. Call church office to order (570) 282-3620.

LETTERS TO EDITOR

LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Editor:

No well balanced diet is complete without dairy products, they provide nutrients that are vital to overall health. Yet due to our previous administrations' misguided directives to the USDA to remove all milk fat and chocolate flavoring from school lunches, we are faced with a new generation of children that hate milk due to the low fat (1%) and flavor and now know that milk consumption in schools has steeply declined in response, since 2010.

Moreover, we also have many educated mothers who were taught by University professionals that meat is anathema, a beautiful, thin body is the only way to a successful life and this can only be achieved by eating vegetables and fruits in limited quantities and washing it down with silk, soybean, coconut and almond beverages...a total of 15 plant based drinks ...sold as milk but made almost entirely of synthesized materials and a smattering of whatever the name claims... and artificially fortified with vitamins and minerals and lots and lots of water.

Nothing I can think of is more organic than whole milk. It provides all the calcium, minerals, Vitamin D, protein, riboflavin and potassium our children need for good bones and teeth. And it is 97% fat free.

Respectfully yours,
Nancy Non
Pleasant Mount

at 11:30, diners can beat the winter blues at Cold Spring Chapel's Community Kitchen. In the interest of recovering from all the heavy holiday meals, the "Souper Sisters" are serving hoagies and potato/bacon soup this month. Cake, cookies and rice pudding will round out the meal. Beverages, both hot and cold, are also available. The chapel cooks look forward to beginning yet another year at the kitchen. Please join us for good food and good fellowship. Take outs are available after 1:15 pm. In the event of a snow or ice storm, the Chapel Community Kitchen will be closed. For more information please call 570-253-4033 or find us on Facebook!

Pleasant Mount Library Happenings: Friday, January 18th: Family Movie Night, 6pm. Saturday, January 19th: Quilts Of Valor meets at 9:30 a.m. Tuesday, January 22nd: Toddler Play Group 4-6 p.m.

Lady Foresters Softball Team 3rd Bingo Event

The Lady Forester Softball team will hold their 3rd annual Bingo event on Sat., Feb. 23 in the Forest City school cafeteria located at 100 Susquehanna St. Doors open at 3 p.m. with games starting promptly at 4.

Tickets are \$25 and include 17 games of bingo. Food and beverages will be available, but because this is a fundraiser it's asked that no outside food be brought in.

Additional Bingo cards are available, as are: raffle tickets, Basket of Gold chances, and special bingo game cards.

For tickets or questions, contact Judy at 570-862-0370 or Michele at 570-466-5813.

LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Editor:

Thank you for your generous donations during our 2018 fundraisers! You helped provide many children's and adult programs and services to our community members. We hope for your continued support for your local library through our 2019 fundraising efforts.

Pleasant Mt. Public Library
375 Great Bend Tpke.
Pleasant Mt., PA 18453

LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Editor:

Another year has come and gone and it is time to renew my subscription. I enjoy the paper very much as I like seeing what is happening in town. I still have property back there and the News lets me know what is going on.

Joan Rine
Napanoch, NY

LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Editor:

Lame Streamers? I know that the lame stream media is still shocked and heartbroken that Crooked Hillary is STILL NOT, and never will be, President.

My only question for the lame streamers, especially Wolfman Blitzer and Rachel MadCow and their cronies at CNN and MSNBC is:

"If, God forbid, WWII breaks out, whose side will you guys be on?"

Happy New Year,
Vic Maestri
Old Forge

LETTER TO EDITOR

Dear Editor:

Lame Streamers? I know that the lame stream media is still shocked and heartbroken that Crooked Hillary is STILL NOT, and never will be, President.

My only question for the lame streamers, especially Wolfman Blitzer and Rachel MadCow and their cronies at CNN and MSNBC is:

"If, God forbid, WWII breaks out, whose side will you guys be on?"

Happy New Year,
Vic Maestri
Old Forge

CABLE'S DELI
Union Dale * Phone: 570-679-2151
*Subs & Sandwiches *Novelty Ice Cream
* Summer Salads *Stromboli
*Party Platters *Ice
*All Local Newspapers
Order Party Platters for your Events!
OPEN DAILY 6 a.m. - 6 p.m. CLOSED Wednesdays

CHET'S PLACE
Uniondale, PA - 570-679-2129 *www.chetsplace.com
Music Every Wednesday 5-9 p.m.
Dinner Specials Every Friday Night

Arlo's Tavern
Ararat, PA
570-727-3970
LIVE MUSIC EVERY WEEKEND
Happy Hour 5-7 p.m.
Beer Specials Everyday
Sat., Jan., 19 (7 p.m.)
Matt Bennick Band
Sun., Jan., 20 (4 p.m.)
Clarence Spady & Friends
A Tribute to George Wesely

Barhites Sales & Rentals, LLC
1720 State Route 106, Clifford, PA 18413
570-222-2807
BRING IN THIS COUPON FOR 10% OFF
ANY SALE OR RENTAL
(EXCLUDING WESTERN PLOWS)
ECHO Ask Any Pro! BEAR CAT COLUMBIA
eXmark OREGON TROY-BILT