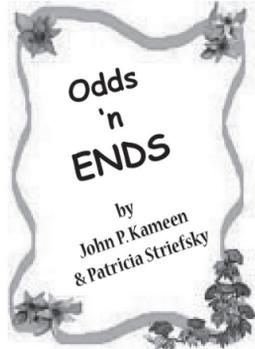


THE FOREST CITY NEWS



Our visit to Dining Guide restaurants took us to Lakewood Lodge where we enjoyed their Lenten special of baked or fried haddock, served with a very large salad and homemade fries. It happened to be a lovely winter day with a bright sun as we sat in their windowed dining room with views of the beautiful Endless Mountains. Service was excellent. Prices are very reasonable.

The Forest City street crew of Bob Tedesco and Wally Miller were sweeping Main Street sidewalks in preparation of a street sweeping before Easter. Despite last week's snow I hope there will be no more cinders needed as it will take a hefty street cleaner to handle the cinders already there.

The Clifford Township Volunteer Fire Co. is selling 2,000 tickets for a \$100 donation each, to win \$147,500 in cash prizes, including a \$50,000 1st prize. 50 cash prizes will be awarded July 27. If you buy before April 1st, five additional \$100 prizes will be awarded. To get your ticket phone 570-222-2274, leave your name and a call back number. You can get friends and relatives to go in on one or more tickets if you want.

We remind you to support the American Legion's fundraiser to repair the Doughboy Statue and the Miner's Memorial. They hope to get the money so that repairs can be made before Memorial Day.

If you are motoring around our area in late afternoon and early evening, you begin to see groups of deer scrounging some nourishment in the bare fields. They just need some sun and warmer temperatures to get those grasses growing. However, they all look like they have wintered well.

Don't know how you go about "researching" this statistic. The Scranton-Wilkes-Barre Metro area is the most unhappy place in the United States. According to NBC News, this study was done two years ago by two researchers, one from Harvard and one from University of British Columbia. Must have talked to some pretty pessimistic folks to get this result!

Our condolences to the family of Claribel Todd who died last week. She was a member of our community since 1952 when she and husband, Boyd, moved to Crystal Lake. She was a lovely, lively lady who contributed much to our community. Our regards to her children, Don and Joann Todd Hall, and to her brother, Ed Tourje, and all her grandchildren and family. Our area has lost a wonderful person after a long and productive life.

Friday Pizza Sales at Christ Church for Lent

Christ Episcopal Church, Dundaff and Delaware Sts., Forest City, will offer a Take and Bake Pizza Sale every Friday throughout Lent.

Beginning March 8 and continuing through April 19 you can pick-up a prepared 12 cut, 3 cheese pizza for \$10 or a 12 cut potato/cheese/ onion pizza for \$12 between 3 and 6 p.m., at the church. You can then bake the pizza at home.

Advance orders are recommended. Call 570-785-3425 and leave a call back message.

Benefits the good works of the church.



FCR School Board sets Graduation Fri., June 14

Forest City Regional School Board has set Friday, June 14 as the firm date for graduation of the Senior Class of 2018-19. At the March 11 Board meeting, Superintendent Dr. Jessica Aquilina said that this is a firm date since any additional snow days would be made up in additional time. She said parents and students want a firm date to graduate rather than have to wait much later for their graduation plans.

The last day of school for students is Thursday, June 13. Last day for faculty and staff is June 17. The Board approved the filing of two PLANCON documents regarding the recently completed school expansion and modernization project. Supt. Aquilina said that due to the fact that a total of 1,109 sq. ft. of educational space was added to the school it provides instructional space for 44 additional students. As a result, the State's percentage reimbursement payment on the School's bond issue will be increased.

Dr. Aquilina also noted that repairs to the new terrazzo in the project will be made in June.

The Board approved contracts with UGI Energy Services to purchase natural gas and electricity over the next 3-4 years. They are the present suppliers for the District. Business Manager Kathy Seifried selected them to continue after reviewing 13 possible providers.

The Board thanked Susquehanna County Commissioner Aland Hall, who attended last month's meeting, and the other Commissioners, Mary Ann Warren and Elizabeth Arnold, for arranging to have the Penn-

sylvania Ag Lab visit the school for one week during the 2019-20 school year. The Ag Lab allows all students to become familiar with the importance of agriculture in daily life.

The Board approved a sabbatical leave from Feb. 25 to the end of this school year, for faculty member Mrs. Bridget Moran.

Supt. Aquilina congratulated the Board for increasing the substitute teacher pay last month to \$110 per day. She said the increase resulted in 13 additional teachers applying for substitute teacher work in Forest City Regional. She said the staff no longer has to scramble to find substitutes for faculty replacements.

The following extracurricular appointments were approved: Jennifer Dovin as girls' and boys' intramural volleyball coach; Corey Brewer as assistant varsity coach; Art Bronson as volunteer baseball scorekeeper.

Carrie Lynn Reeder was approved as a substitute van driver for this school year.

The audit report for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2018 was approved and no findings were reported.

In reply to a question on the recently published results of the SAT testing of 43 schools in Northeastern Pennsylvania, Dr. Aquilina said they are presently satisfied with the FCR position of 22 of 43 schools. However she indicated that the School's long range plan, approved last year, states the school will try to have more students take the test which leads to college attendance. She said 36 students took the test. FCR was 5th among six Susquehanna County schools.

Clinton Roads Discussed

Various issues, including those about roads, were discussed at the Wednesday, March 13 meeting of the Clinton Township Supervisors. Supervisor/Road Master Brian Non said they got their round of cinders. They will put a pipe in Little Keen Road when the weather breaks.

BIDS
The township received only one bid for modified/DSA from Bill Pykus. Non made a motion to accept the \$12.25/ton delivered. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

BLACKTOPPING
Non said he met with Scott Maciak, PennDOT, to discuss Smith, Ravnikar, Burns and Flat Rock Roads. He said he doesn't suggest blacktopping Flat Rock because core samples are needed and there might be a grant for it. He said the block grant for Ravnikar for \$250,000 still looks good.

AUDIT
The auditors said the audit was completed last month and no issues were found.

RAISE
Non made a motion to give Kevin Weist a raise from \$14.50/hr to \$15.50/hr because he is doing a lot of mechanical work. All voted in favor. Motion passed.

TAR AND CHIP
Don Salak asked about tarring and chipping roads before blacktopping others like Ravnikar. Non said, "They were supposed to get done last year and have grants but with the weather last year, it got delayed. They will be done first. Scott Maciak said blacktop will be expensive this year. We will rebidding projects." Matt Curtis said, "Why can't they (contractors) be held to the same price?" Non said, "They were going to start too late in the season." Solicitor Jeff Treat said, "Yes and we told them no." Non said, "Projects may be cheaper in the spring because they are waiting for their first project." Curtis said, "That is my money. Their feet should be held to the fire."

Non said they are looking at a new truck but it will cost \$150,000. He said they can buy used but it is hard to find one in 4 wheel drive. Supervisor Russ Curtis said, "I don't think we can afford

a new truck now. We have three other projects now. Get the backhoe and the other truck paid for. Have a rainy day fund." Supervisor Ken Coles said, "Hate to put more money into the 1999 but I agree with Russ." The issue was tabled.

ROADS
Next, Non talked about grading and rolling the roads. They requested a double drum. "Conservation said the double drum roller should be used for pavement and the single for the dirt roads," he said. Jeff Weinberger said, "You can use something wrong for 25 years and it can still be wrong." Russ Curtis said, "That is your opinion. I've been out there." Coles said, "Let's hold a special meeting. Rebid the single drum. We'll donate our time for the meeting." Treat asked why not advertise it for both.

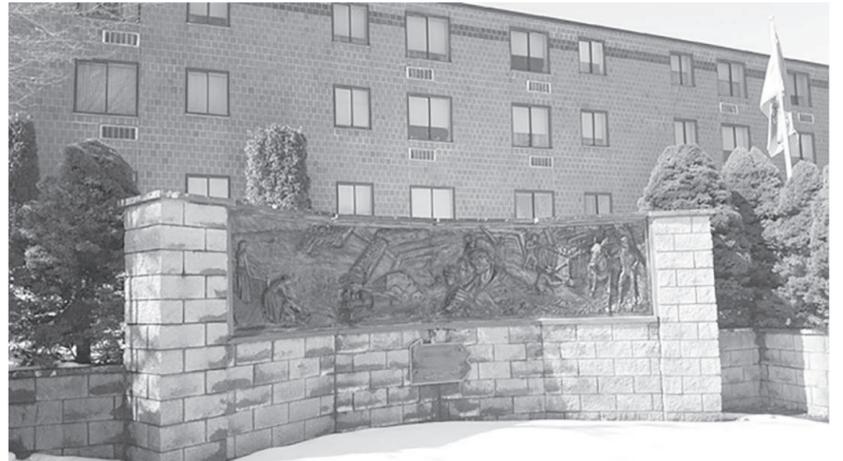
WEBSITE
Matt Curtis asked about the minutes not being updated on the township's website since October. Secretary Jill Droppa said the format of the website changed and they are having trouble with it. Non said, "The woman who set it up was supposed to get more training and she never came back."

CENSUS
Droppa said a representative with the 2020 Census team notified the township they are hiring for the census. Pay rates range from \$17.50/hr for Census Field Supervisors to \$16/hr for address canvassers and enumerators. For more information, you can contact 1-855-JOB-2020 or go online to 2020census.gov/jobs.

The next meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 10 at 7pm.

FC Lions Club Breakfast Sun., April 28

The Forest City Lions Club will hold a Pancake, Sausage, and Egg Breakfast on Sunday, April 28, 2019 from 8:00 am to noon at ELEGANTE RESTAURANT, Main Street, Forest City. Adults \$6.00. COME OUT AND SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL LIONS CLUB.



Donations to Doughboy Statue Fund will also be used to do maintenance of Anthracite Miners Memorial in front of William Penn Apartments.

History of Forest City's Doughboy Statue and Plea for area donations

They stand prominently in many American communities, including Forest City. They honor soldiers who fought in foreign wars. They are known as the Doughboy Statue. There were only 140 to 150 still in existence when a census of them was conducted a number of years ago.

It was created by E. M. Viquesny to honor the dead of World War I and was called the Spirit of the American Doughboy. It was copyrighted in 1920 and 1934. It sold for \$1,000, not including the base.

Ours consists of a granite base on which stands a seven-foot figure of a World War I soldier, with gun with fixed bayonet and throwing a grenade. It is intended to show the detail of the uniform, from the gas mask down to the hobnails on the boots, and barbed wire at the base.

It is not solid bronze like many statues but was created out of

sheets of bronze over a copper base. Most of them were sold and installed in towns across the U.S. from 1920 to the late 1930s.

The Doughboy in William Penn Park in front of William Penn Apartments at 331 Main Street was dedicated on September 22, 1927. The dedication was preceded by a parade with over 2,500 in the line of march.

When dedicated, a bronze plaque listed the names of 13 Forest City WW I soldiers killed in action; Three soldiers from Vandling; and two soldiers from Elkdale. Following World War II additional names were added with a plaque.

In 1986, the Forest City Arts Council joined with Charles & Martin Skubic Post #524 American Legion to add the names of those killed in action in Korea and Vietnam. Added to the statue was a bas-relief sculpture, designed by Phyllis Holup,

Poyntelle, and engraved by Anthony Konchar of Forest City Memorial Company.

The Forest City American Legion is spearheading an effort to raise \$14,300 to repair the Doughboy as well as do some maintenance on the Forest City Anthracite Coalminers' Memorial located on the same site.

The Forest City News has agreed to provide publicity for the drive, and use the News Office address to collect gifts. The names of all contributors will be published.

Any business or individual wishing to donate, in any amount, can send to:

Doughboy Statue Fund
636 Main Street
Forest City, PA 18421-1430

If funds can be raised quickly, it is hoped the repairs can be accomplished by Memorial Day 2019.

Vandling Boro receives six bids for roadwork

Vandling Borough Council opened bids for roadwork at its monthly meeting on Monday, March 18. Six bids were received. The low bidder was Andrew Baldan Construction of Mayfield with a bid of \$48,000. The second lowest bid was Nick's Excavating with a bid of \$68,293.88. The bids will be given to KBA Engineering for review and they will make a recommendation to Council. Council will accept the most responsible bid which may not necessarily be the lowest bid.

CORRESPONDENCE
A letter was received from Keith Williams, Americans with Disabilities Act Training. A training program will be held on June 27 at the Hilton if any Council members would like to attend.

PPL Electric Utilities is con-

ducting a Community Roots Program whereby municipalities can order free trees to be planted in the community. Local governments and environmentally-focused groups can visit pplcommunityroots.com to order free trees. There is no cost to receive the trees, which will be distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. When a year's quantity of trees is claimed, requesters still looking for trees can opt for a future year.

Councilman John Carachilo will look into the program.

Forest City Area Emergency Services sent a request for their 2019 donation.

B'DALE FIRE CO.

Fire Chief Josh Debevec reported 12 calls for the month of February.

SOLICITOR REPORT

Atty. Paul Smith reported that he spoke with County Waste about the damage to a fence at 410 Main Street and

they have been in contact with the owner and taking care of the issue.

FARMER'S MARKET

Secretary Nancy Perri said she has made Lackawanna County aware of the problem with Vandling residents not receiving Farmer's Market Vouchers. She offered the Borough Building as a location to give out the vouchers if they are in need of one.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Street Department worker Tom Collins asked about the warning that was given to Vandling about recycling. He was told that everyone in the county got the warning, not just Vandling. County Waste provided a list of items allowed and not allowed for recycling. The article can be found on page 2 of this edition.

The next meeting will be held on Monday, April 15 at 7 PM.

\$147,500.00
CASH Prizes!
Clifford Cash
Only 2,000 tickets will be sold!



1st-Prize: \$50,000 2nd-Prize: \$30,000
3rd-Prize: \$20,000 4th-Prize: \$15,000
Drawing for prizes 1 through 50 July 27, 2019

"April Fool Cash-Early Bird Drawing."
5-\$100 tickets will be drawn April 1, 2019.
ALL tickets are eligible for all PRIZES.

\$100.00 Donation Per Ticket

Call 570.222.CASH
(2274)

Leave your name and call back number!