

# THE FOREST CITY NEWS



Capt. Harry Newak will be featured on Thursday, June 6 on Newswatch 16 at 5:30 PM on WNEP to discuss his D-Day experience with Ryan Leckey. Capt. Newak was a participant in the recent Memorial Day Parade held in Forest City on Monday, May 27.

Once again the Thompson Town Fair was an enjoyable day filled with chicken BBQ's, activities for the kids, music, antique cars, and carriage rides. Many area folks were on hand and they enjoyed the day.

There is still another day to get an ad in our FCR graduation tabloid. If you want to congratulate your child, grandchild, niece, nephew, cousin or friend, you have till tomorrow, June 6. You can email [patricia@forestcitynews.com](mailto:patricia@forestcitynews.com) with ad information. Cost of ads are \$35, \$60, \$120, or \$200.

The Rev. Brian J.T. Clark told parishioners of Ascension Parish, Forest City, and St. Katherine Drexel Parish, Pleasant Mt. and Rock Lake, he will be re-assigned July 1st to Christ the King Parish, Archbald. He shed some tears in his announcement which ends a four year assignment here. His youth and vitality were enjoyed by his flock, and these attributes were probably a reason for his moving on, as the priests in the Roman Catholic Scranton Diocese continue to be spread thin. No replacement has been announced. The community wishes him well.

June 3rd and 41 degrees here? Global warming? We're also ahead of last year's rainfall. No flooding issues here. Stillwater at its usual level. Lawns and woods may be wetter than last year. Tough on golf courses. Lake Lorain Golf Course closed due to wet conditions.

## CORRECTION

The \$3,000 donation of Forest City Borough should have been listed on the contribution list of donors to the Doughboy/Miners' Memorial fund drive. It was previously announced on Pg. 1 with photo when it was given, but it also was supposed to be at the top of the donor list. We apologize for the omission.

The Doughboy Statue donation of \$500 by Dave and John Kowalewski, Forest City, was made in memory of the Kowalewski Brothers: Leo, Stanley, John, Joseph and Edward.

The Forest City News will once again publish its Graduation Tabloid of Forest City Regional High School graduating seniors for 2019 in its June 12th edition. The tab will include photos of the seniors and biographies if they have provided them to the school. Anyone interested in purchasing an ad for their graduate(s) can do so. The cost is as follows:

5 x 3 inches - \$35  
5 x 5 inches - \$60  
1/2 Page - \$120  
Full page - \$200

To purchase an ad contact the Forest City News at 570-785-3800, mail it to or drop it off at the News office at 636 Main St., Forest City, or by email to [patricia@forestcitynews.com](mailto:patricia@forestcitynews.com). The deadline for submitting is June 6th.

## No storm water tax yet after Vandling public hearing

A record crowd of 16 was in attendance at the monthly meeting of Vandling Borough Council on Monday, May 20.

Council accepted comments from the public on its storm water discharge plan. The pollution reduction plan is to reduce pollutants from storm water discharge into local streams which feed into Chesapeake Bay. Only one person had a comment. Dave Kowalewski asked if a rain water tax was going to have to be instituted. Councilman John Mayers said "not at this time. There is talk in Luzerne County but if Lackawanna County gets pulled into a larger body it could happen. Right now the minor amount of money involved can be done by Council."

Councilman John Mayers discussed the stormwater permitting process. The current stormwater permit will expire in September. The new permit was requested at the end of February. There are three sections. A request for waiver to be exempt from silt and nutrient abatement since there is less than 1,000 residents in an urbanized area. There are three outfalls in the borough and none of them have silt reaching the water and there is no contamination of water.

Section two is that a report must be filed on annual basis and it must meet certain criteria. Also a pollution reduction plan has been done.

Section three says that the stormwater ordinance must be current.

The new permit would begin in September 2019 and be valid for 5 years.

## CORRESPONDENCE

PennDot approved the paving project documents to begin work on borough streets. Andrew Baldan Construction will begin the work at the end of June. They were the low bidder.

Council received a letter from DEP regarding the Performance Recycling Grant for 2017. The borough will be getting \$706.

Adams Cable Service sent a letter informing residents of a rate increase. Expanded basic service will now be \$75.99 a month.

The GFCBA will hold a Mixer at Shirley's Diner on June 5. Council members are invited to attend.

A training program for Americans with disabilities will be held in June.

A copy of the Solid Waste Management Plan is available for viewing.

A letter was received from SRL, Smart Recycling, asking the borough to consider their services.

Franceski Lumber Co. sent a letter informing them that they will be closing and all accounts must be paid in full.

## B'DALE FIRE CO. REPORT

Fire Chief Josh Debevec reported there were 21 calls for the month of April and 424 hours of training. Gun raffle tickets are now available and the annual Car Show will be held on Saturday, June 1. Debevec asked Council to consider a donation to purchase a new fire truck.

## MAYOR

Mayor Joe Brady wished all the residents of Vandling a safe and enjoyable Memorial Day and to remember the veterans. He also asked everyone to go out and vote on May 21.

## SOLICITOR

Solicitor Paul Smith said the wording of the ordinance regarding the weight limit on Peterlin Drive needs to be changed from 10,000 lbs. to 5 tons.

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilman John Mayers discussed the food vouchers available in Lackawanna County. He said they will be available in early June. He is not sure how many or when in June they will be available through the Lackawanna Co. Area Agency on Aging. He said there are 10 community senior centers in Lack. Co. where they are being distributed and Carbondale is the closest. It is on a first come, first serve basis and there are various stipulations such as age and residence.

cont. on page 4



Those participating in the Memorial Day program, from left: Flag bearer, Alyssa Cahoon, Gloria Edwards, Pauline Wilcox, Mayor Chris Grinton, Dusti Swegel, Ray Benasutti, Abbie Swegel, Andy Trotter, Robert Lesjack, John Chernesky, Paul Kalasinski, Stephanie Collier, Col. Jeff Swegel, Fred Glavich, Joseph Lozinak, Rev. Brian J.T. Clarke.

## Always moving ceremonies Held here for Memorial Day

The 2019 Memorial Day program, which has been a constant here for many years, took on new life with an expanded parade and speaking program at the Doughboy Statue at William Penn Park on Memorial Day, May 27. Charles & Martin Skubic Post #524 Commander Col. (Ret.) Jeffrey Swegel was Master of Ceremonies.

Col. Swegel called attention to the fundraiser for the renovation of the Doughboy Statue and Miners' Memorial, and that he hopes the renovation can be completed by Labor Day or Veteran's Day. He thanked The Forest City News and especially the former residents who generously supported the effort which raised over \$20,000.

Col. Swegel also noted that for the first time, the name of WWII KIA John Lozinak would read in the Roll Call of the Dead. Swegel said another name had been read for many years as a result of a case of "Stolen Valor" which took many years to correct.

The annual parade, which assembled at Franceski Lumber Co., was led by the flag bearers of SCI Waymart, and included Forest City Regional Band, Lynettes Twirllettes, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, Little League, Girls softball, Miss Poppy, members of Council, emergency vehicles from all area fire companies with the Browndale Fire Co. marching unit.

Two parade marchers included local businessman Paul Ferraro in a Revolutionary War uniform, and also Andrew Trotter, Herrick Twp., who proudly marched in a WWI Doughboy uniform, so appropriate for the program conducted in front of the Forest City Doughboy statue.

Rev. Brian J. T. Clarke offered the invocation and benediction, followed by the welcome by Mayor Chris Grinton who found himself quite emotional in addressing the somber crowd.

Legion Auxiliary officers Gloria Edwards and Dusti Swegel placed the wreath on the Doughboy Memorial in honor of WWI, WWII, Korean, Vietnam service personnel who

paid the supreme sacrifice.

The crowd was moved by the emotional comments of Legion Adjutant Stephanie Collier who introduced special guest, Gold Star Mother Margaret Granville, who was Ms. Collier's former mother-in-law as the result of the death of Staff Sergeant Joseph Granville, who was Ms. Collier's husband, and took his life after traumatic service in the Middle East conflict.

Adjutant Collier stated that 22 veterans a day commit suicide and many of them are as a direct result of war trauma. "All their deaths are important," she said.

Legion Auxiliary President Pauline Wilcox presented the award to Miss Poppy, Alyssa Cahoon, who then read her essay which pointed to the red flower as "a personal token of loss."

The American Legion 8th Grade medals were presented to Riley Bossick and David Heath, and to runnersup Gabby Rydzik and Justin Pecko. The Legion Essay Contest awards went to Hannah Slivkanich (1st Place), and Grace Ursich (2nd Place).

Principal address was by Robert Lesjack, a Vietnam Veteran, former local businessman and present member of Council. He traced the list of fallen Americans from Valley Forge, through the trenches of France, the platoons of Vietnam and now in Afghanistan.

He called it a "somber holiday" which calls upon Americans to honor the valiant fallen members of our services, but also to honor the family and friends of the fallen who live with the loss for a lifetime.

After relating a recent incident in which the honor guard at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier at Arlington National Cemetery braved a vicious storm and never faltered in their honoring of the unknown soldiers, he read a poem to "Unknown Soldiers" which called upon all Americans to "Honor your sacrifices as you lay at rest."

Legionnaires Fred Glavich and John Chernesky then performed the always moving Roll

Call of the Dead of all service area personnel from WWI thru the Mideast War, followed by the salute to the dead by the Legion firing squad.

The Forest City Regional Band, under the direction of John Scavone, played several musical selections during the program, and the program ended with the playing of "Taps" by a bugler from FCR Band.

All who attended the ceremonies were than invited to a free luncheon, catered by Zazzera's Super Market, which was held at Forest City Emergency Services immediately following the services.

The American Legion Aux. would like to thank all those who came out after the doughboy ceremony to share a meal with the veterans at the American Legion Auxiliary luncheon. They had an overwhelmingly large turnout & appreciated Zazzera's coming to the rescue and delivering more food to handle such a high demand this year. Everything was delicious, and they will certainly be sure to plan for a larger crowd next year. It was a beautiful day spent honoring the fallen veterans.

Mayor Grinton asked the News to thank all who participated in the parade and in the program, and also those youngsters and veterans who placed almost 1,200 flags on the graves of veterans in area cemeteries. He stated he was very proud to be Mayor of Forest City.

## Open House & Ribbon Cutting at FC Family Health June 7

The Forest City Family Health Center and Wayne Memorial Outpatient Services will hold an Open House and ribbon cutting on Friday, June 7 from 2 PM to 4 PM with the ribbon cutting at 3 PM. It will be held at their new location at 100 Dundaff Street, Forest City, PA. Refreshments will be served.



Main Street building with long local history, presently serving Frugal Living, after consolidating operations in Forest City.

## Ribbon cutting on July 1st For Main Street business

Fred and Katie Cicilioni, owners of Frugal Living, 535 Main Street, Forest City, announced a ribbon cutting for their new facility in the former Spano Building on Monday, July 1 from 4 to 6pm. Following the ribbon cutting and tour of the facility, refreshments will be served.

Cicilioni Properties LLC purchased the building last year. Their company, Frugal Living LLC, had been occupying a portion of one of the two Spano buildings for the past few years. Their slogan is "Frugal Products for Everyday Living."

Owners Alfred and Catherine Cicilioni began in Forest City a number of years ago at 500 Main Street as the Super Baby Store. They have since expanded from baby products to other home products which they receive from import and domestic suppliers and sell online through Amazon and Walmart.

The 110-year-old building has had many tenants and uses of the years. It was built in 1909 by Klots Throwing

Co. as a silk mill. In 1929 it became Walgene Silk Co. until 1938. From then until 1944 it was occupied by Easton Underwear and Silas Mills, and also leased by A & P.

In 1944 Wayne Garment took ownership of the building. They built the 60x90 2 story annex in 1949. Wayne Garment used the buildings until 1960. In 1982 Kartri Sales bought the unoccupied building for manufacturing shower curtains. In 1998 Community Bank rented the 2nd & 3rd floors as its corporate offices.

Kartri moved out completely in 2001 and Community Bank moved its corporate offices to Clarks Summit in 2004. Jim Spano bought the building in 2007 and it was used for various purposes, including warehousing for the Super Baby Store, until last year when Cicilioni Properties purchased it.

The Cicilionis told the News recently they plan to increase employment in the near future.

## Tomi-Ann Holliday heading to Lackawanna College to play softball



Tomi-Ann Holliday, a member of the Forest City Regional Girls Softball Team, and a senior at Forest City Regional High School, signed a letter of intent to continue her academic and athletic careers for Lackawanna College. Standing left to right Brian Durkin, Forest City Athletic Director; Joe Miraglia- HS Head softball coach; Brian Neuberry- HS Assistant softball coach; Dr. Jessica Aquilina- Forest City Superintendent. Sitting left to right: Tim Brennan- Step Father; Alyssa Holliday- Sister; Tomi-Ann Holliday; and Tracy Brennan- Mother.

