

Forest City Area Historical Society Scholarship

Forest City Area Historical Society has established a scholarship fund with the Community Foundation. It will honor the many benefactors to the Society. Its purpose is to provide financial assistance to graduates of Forest City Regional High School who are furthering their education.

Forest City was settled in 1864 as the northern entrance to the anthracite coal industry, but at its founding 100-foot hemlocks towered over everything. The hemlocks became a source of timber as rail access and mining boomed, and hemlock bark was essential for leather tanning. Forest City sits in the southeastern corner of Susquehanna County where three counties meet in the mountains of Northeastern Pennsylvania.

The Historical Society Museum is a gem well worth a visit, and is handicap accessible. Its collection includes photos of honored Hometown Hero veterans, 19th century home and mining tools and equipment—including a proverbial “canary in the coal mine” cage, ethnic costumes from the Polish, Slovenian, Lithuanians, Italian, and Slovak

immigrant working families, yearbooks and class pictures, a pulpit bible from 1881 and much more.

The Museum encompasses the artifacts and history of the adjacent communities of Forest City, Vandling, Browndale, Richmondale, and Union Dale. It is housed in a historic Methodist church, which still features its fully functioning hand-powered 1888 church bell. Admission is free, but for a tiny one dollar or more donation, strong and stout visitors may ring the church bell

and hear it tolling out over the hills just as it did 137 years ago. Please visit the Society’s website or Facebook page for seasonal hours or an appointment. The Society is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization so if you would like to help build this new scholarship or support the Society’s work, your donations are tax deductible.

