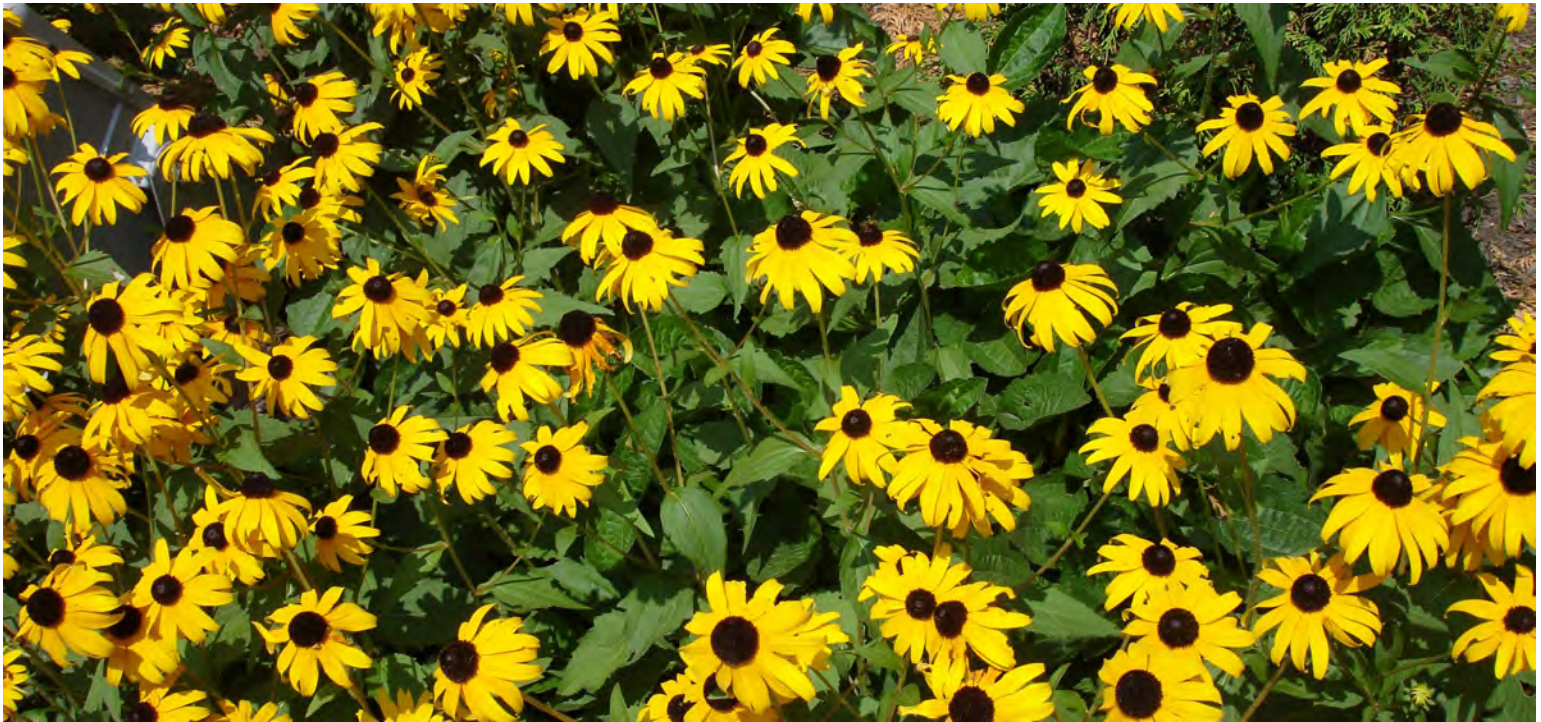




If it could only be like this always - always summer, always alone, the fruit always ripe. ~ Evelyn Waugh



Black-Eyed Susans on Kirmar Parkway, Wanamie

Newport Township Public Business

By John Jarecki ~ Two developments in recent Township business, the announcement of Glen Lyon's distressed economic status and the resignation of Township Business Manager Rich Zika, are important and complex matters. I have given each of them a separate article. Other developments in Township business at Commissioners' meetings in April, May and June, and at a Commissioner's work session on May 17 are covered here.

April 4, 2016: Commissioner John Zyla announced that the Commissioners have asked Township police officers to become involved in building code enforcement. Specifically, he asked them to report to Police Chief Jeremy Blank cases of people moving in or out of Township housing. Chief Blank will then pass this information on to Debbie Forgach Zaleski, the Commissioner in charge of building code enforcement.

Commissioner Mike Roke said that Newport Township had returned to Nanticoke's Stickney Fire Company, a fire engine that Stickney had donated to Newport several years ago, the reason being that we no longer need it. Stickney, in turn, will donate it to Luzerne County Community College, which has an emergency workers training program.

May 2, 2016: Commissioner John Zyla responded to the complaints of several residents of Ridgeview who said that people were using

private property near their homes as a shooting range. They said that the shooting was noisy, annoying, non-stop, and dangerous to residents because of its nearness to their homes.

Mr. Zyla said he had held a meeting with representatives of the Pennsylvania State Game Commission, State Representative Gerald Mullery, State Senator John Yudichak, and with the owners of the property where the shooting occurs. He said that the Game Commission representatives had said that it was not their function to deal with this problem. They suggested to cooperate with the landowners to stop the shooting. But the Township, Mr. Zyla said, may not have the manpower to do this and, at the same time, deal with police problems in other parts of the community.

The Commissioners approved a motion to authorize Police Chief Jeremy Blank to execute a contract with Northern Tier Research to provide testing services for blood alcohol and drug use. These services would be used, for example, if the police stop a person suspected of driving while intoxicated (DUI). If this person does not have insurance to pay for the test, the Township would have to pay the cost.

The Commissioners also approved a motion to appoint Jeff Pisanchyn as Building Code Enforcement Officer at a rate of \$25/hour. Mr. Zyla said that the Commissioners wanted to have a

(Continued on next page)

INSIDE: Township Business (p.1-2), Letter to Editors (p.2), Status of Glen Lyon, Letter to Editors (p.3), NTCO President's Message, Charley Pankhurst (p.4), Flora & Fauna, Recreation (p.5), Legion Auxiliary News (p.6)

Obituaries (p.7), Taste of Township, Elizabeth Howell (p.8), Hoagie Sale & Scholarship (p.9), Township Veterans (p.10), Memorial Day (p.11), New Business (p.12), Reilly Donations (p.13), Primary Results (p. 14), Fire

Dept. Fundraiser & Playground Clean-ups (p.15), NTCO Tea Party & National Night Out (p.16), NTCO at RailRiders Game, Legion events (p.17), Monthly food distribution & Class Reunions (p.18), Newport Township Teachers

(p.19), 1922 Glen Lyon Baseball Team (p.20), Ads (p.21-23), NTCO (p. 24).

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person in that position who would be doing only code enforcement and not, at the same time, another Township job.

May 17, 2016: At their work session, the Commissioners discussed some of their options in ending the shooting near homes in Ridgeview: 1) enacting an ordinance to regulate firing ranges, 2) enacting an ordinance dealing with excessive noise, and 3) enforcing the trespass laws. They did not make a decision.

June 6, 2016: Solicitor Rich Shiptoski announced the Commissioners' response to the complaints of people in Ridgeview about use of nearby private property as a shooting range. The Commissioners, he said, have decided to send a letter to the landowner on whose property the shooting takes place that 1) tells him that the shooting is a violation of the Township's nuisance ordinance, the shooting being loud and repetitive and therefore annoying, and 2) asks him to post "no trespassing" signs on his property, which would allow the Township police to go on his property and stop the shooting.

Mr. Shiptoski said that an alternate way of dealing with the shooting, direct regulation of firearms, has serious problems. The State legislature in 2014 passed Act 192, which severely limited the regulation of firearms by local governments. In another piece of legislation, the legislature gave the National Rifle Association (NRA) the right to sue local governments in certain matters having to do with local firearm regulations. Although the provision was later overturned by a court, many local governments have recently rescinded their gun regulations because they are afraid of costly legal defense fees that they might have to pay in these kinds of lawsuits.

Township Business Manager Rich Zika Resigns

By John Jarecki - Township Business Manager Rich Zika resigned in a letter received by the Township on April 19, as was announced at the Commissioners' April work session on that day.

Articles published in the Citizens' Voice and Times Leader newspapers on April 11 tell us that 1) President of the Board of Commissioners Paul Czapracki said that "the township was notified Wednesday [April 6] that 'one of their accounts' was missing money," and that 2) Commissioner Mike Roke said that "there were some irregularities discovered in the refuse and recycling fund."

The articles also tell us that Mr. Czapracki said that the Township followed the required procedure of notifying its Police Department, whose Chief, Jeremy Blank, then notified the State Police in Wyoming. The State Police, Chief Blank said, will do the investigation.

When Commissioners Mike Roke, John Zyla and Paul Czapracki mentioned the investigation to Mr. Zika on Friday April 9, he said that he would resign effective immediately and that he would send in a formal letter of resignation. That letter was received by the Commissioners on April 19.

At the Commissioners' meeting of May 2, Paul Czapracki said that, because the Township was without a manager, the Commissioners had asked for outside assistance, and had received help from State Senator John Yudichak's office, State Representative Gerald Mullery's office, Hanover Township Manager Sammy Guesto, Plymouth Township Supervisor Gale Conrad, and Nanticoke Interim City Manager Donna Wall.

He also said that several Township residents have volunteered to help: John Elmy (former Township Manager) is Acting Township Manager, Carolyn Phillips is helping Administrative Assistant Kelli Valaitis in the Township Office, and Peter Wanchisen (former Vice President of Consumer Lending at PNC Bank) and Steve Phillips (Executive Director of the Berwick Industrial Development Association) are acting as consultants to the Township.

Mr. Czapracki also said that he, John Zyla, Mr. Elmy, and Mr. Wanchisen had met with representatives of the State Attorney General's office in Harrisburg and asked for assistance in resolving this matter. He added that, when the investigation is complete, the Commissioners will release the results to the public.

The Commissioners voted to accept the resignation of Rich Zika as Township Manager, to advertise for a new Manager, and to include Mr. Elmy, Mr Phillips, and Mr. Wanchisen, in addition to the

Commissioners themselves, on the panel that will interview candidates for the vacant position.

At their meeting on June 6, the Commissioners announced that they had advertised for the position of Township Business Manager. They said that they had seven applicants and expected to interview several of them by the end of the week.

On Tuesday June 7, as reported in the Times Leader, Township Administrative Assistant Kelli Valaitis resigned, giving the reason that she had asked the Commissioners: 1) to do a forensic audit of general Township funds, not just the two funds involved with Mr. Zika's resignation, and 2) to change her position from part-time to full-time, since she was now working 40 hours a week. When the Commissioners chose not to act upon her request until a new Township Manager was hired, she opted to resign.

Note Added: On June 14 at a special meeting, the Commissioners voted to appoint Township Resident Peter Wanchisen as Township Business Manager.

Letter to the Editors Where Are The People?

This is just a personal viewpoint, but I feel compelled to write. Having viewed as a child and participated as an adult in many Memorial Day and Flag Day ceremonies, I just have to ask: where are the people? I seem to recall as a child being part of throngs of folks lining the highways to view the parades on Memorial Day and the Fourth of July, and watching Flag Day ceremonies. Now, granted, they were not always in Newport Township, but they were always so crowded! Even so, I do recall those in the Township being much more attended than they have been in recent years. Again, perhaps my feelings are prejudiced because I am a veteran, but, number one, the people to whom those ceremonies are dedicated paid dearly the price for the freedom we casually take for granted. Even those still living may still be suffering and paying their own price, and even some of those still struggle to attend. Number two, if those folks involved in those ceremonies, many of whom are "aging out," still find the energy and desire in their hearts to take the time out of their lives to organize and participate, where are the friends and families who boast that they, too, know or have relatives that have served their country? What would anyone have to say if one year no flags were replaced on the cemeteries, no ceremonies held, no markers placed on graves of deceased veterans, no funeral honors given? A Township resident recently wrote an editorial in the Citizens' Voice pointing out that the local media ignored the anniversary of D-Day with the only exception being Snoopy in the Peanuts comic strip acknowledging the Day! How sad! Yes, I understand that lives are busy, people have to work, places to go, things to do, and I understood that Newport Township is not alone in being guilty of the "where are the people?" problem, but this is where I live, this is where I chose to return after military service, this is where I belong to the Legion and the Auxiliary, and this is where I would certainly appreciate seeing more of the public pay tribute to our flag, our veterans, and the greatest nation God ever created. Thank you for your attention.

With all due respect,
Lorrie Materewicz

Newport Township Now!

On the social media website, www.facebook.com, is a very engaging page called Newport Township Now! It was created and is maintained by Patrick Dane Cooper and Lauren Gorney. There you will find current events, political issues, and even petitions concerning the Township. Comments and opinions are welcome! Newport Township Now! is interested in hearing what you have to say. There is more happening in the Township than meets the eye. We invite all residents and former residents to check it out!

Economically Distressed Status of Glen Lyon

By John Jarecki ~ In February, the Economic Innovation Group (EIG), a bipartisan organization headquartered in Washington D.C. that promotes investment and economic growth, released a report on the economic well-being of communities across the country. The report (a shock to many of us) rated Glen Lyon as the most economically distressed community in the state.

EIG rated communities on seven economic measures, listed below along with data from Glen Lyon compared with that from Luzerne County:

	Glen Lyon	Luzerne County
percent adults not working	53	45
percent adults without a high school degree	19	11
housing vacancy rate	31	11
poverty rate	48	16
median income as percent of state median income	44	85
percent change in employment 2010-2013	-13.6	5.7
percent change in number of businesses 2010-2013	-30	2.1

One of these measurements, the high rate of housing vacancies, we already know. Another, percent loss in businesses, seems not to tell us much because we have so few businesses to begin with. But the high poverty rate (3 times that of the County) and the low median income (half that of the County) are striking.

Township officials have already begun to look for ways to improve the situation. On March 31, former Township Manager Rich Zika, former Commissioner John Wilkes, and Commissioner John Vishnefski met with representatives of State Senator John Yudichak, State Representative Gerald Mullery, and the State Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED). The State officials said that, although nothing could be done quickly, there are a good number of State programs involving grants from which our community might benefit.

Others have come forward also. Heather Feist, Agency Relations Coordinator, and Richard Kutz, Food Bank Director, both of the Weinberg Northeast Regional Food Bank, met with members of the Newport Township Community Organization (NTCO) and arranged for the two organizations, along with the Glen Lyon American Legion Auxiliary, to cooperate in a monthly food distribution to those in need at the Glen Lyon American Legion at 65 Newport Street.

As of this writing in early June, the first distribution is scheduled for Wednesday June 22 from 6 to 7 pm. Only families in Newport Township are eligible. In order to ensure enough food is available, recipients must preregister. Preregistration will begin on June 15. Further information on registration will be placed on the Newport Now and NTCO Facebook pages on June 15.

NTCO President Steve Phillips has offered his services in revitalizing Glen Lyon and found a community revitalization program associated with Senator Bob Casey's office. Kathy Pohlidal, Director of the Ruth Matthews Bourger Women With Children Program at Misericordia University, and a native of Glen Lyon, has experience in writing grant applications. She has offered her services in applying for grants based on an assessment of the needs of the community.

We all hope that the EIG report, unwelcome as it is, will lead to real improvements in Glen Lyon's economic status.

Glen Lyon/Alden & Consolidated Fire Companies of Newport Township will sponsor a breakfast on Sunday, July 24 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon at the R Bar, Kirmar Ave, Alden. Cost: \$8.00 per person and will include eggs, bacon, home fries, toast, beverage and dessert. Eat in or take out. Delivery available. Contact any Newport Township Firefighter, the R Bar, or Len at 570-430-7212.

Glen Lyon American Legion Auxiliary 539 will sponsor a blood drive in conjunction with the American Red Cross at the Post home, 62 Newport Street on Monday, July 18th from 2:00 to 7:00 pm. Donors must be at least 16 years of age.



Summer flowers brighten the entrance to KVal's in Glen Lyon

Letter to the Editors Glen Lyon - A Distressed Community

When Heidi Jarecki approached the Newport Township Board of Commissioners at the May 2016 regular board meeting regarding the recent controversy of "Glen Lyon being the most distressed town in Pennsylvania," it was disappointing to note the apathy and negativity of the municipal fathers' attitude toward her suggestion of holding a town meeting to address the issue for further solutions to the degrading accusations. I believe that Mrs. Jarecki was right on target that the allegations, and those facts that support this accusation, must be addressed by the Glen Lyon residents; and those residents who feel it in their heart that either the truth or media spinning of the data demands their attention and must be addressed for resolution.

The solving of an issue such as this falls not only on those elected officials of a community, but the solving and responsibility of correction fall on every knowledgeable member of the accused community and, to an extent, those members of the extended municipality. The problem may have arisen due to lack of effort by past generations, but the solution must be addressed now to enable a sustainable quality of life for future generations. A town meeting is a good place to start to provide up-to-date information as to cause and effect, to develop ideas, to organize committees and volunteer groups, and develop transparency of a continuum of success. A town meeting may explore the possible talent that the municipality may have to offer and the qualifications of its residents which may ascend to the leadership roles necessary for success.

A town meeting may also indicate the support, or non-support, of its residents to erase the stigma of the charges that have fallen upon us. Let's see where each and every one of us "Glen Lyoners" stands on our legacy to provide a quality of life for our children and grandchildren. By the way, the issue of a "distressed community" appeared to be forgotten with no mention of it at the June Commissioners' meeting.

Tom Kashatus
Life-Long Glen Lyon Resident

Turkey Hoagie and Italian Hoagie Sale

By Debbie Fudjak ~ St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church, 153 East Main Street, Glen Lyon, is holding a turkey hoagie and Italian hoagie sale on Thursday, September 1, 2016 from 11 am to 5 pm. A bake sale will also be held at the same time in the church hall. The cost of the hoagies is \$5.00 each. Call 570-736-6908 by August 28th to order.

NTCO President's Message

During the past quarter, the Newport Township Community Organization continued its policy of serving not only Newport Township, but the entire local area. Continuing a volunteer activity it instituted early in its formative years, the Community Organization participated in the Great American Cleanup of Pennsylvania and held a Community Pride Event on March 19th and cleaned up four miles along the Municipality's major thoroughfare, the Kirmar Parkway. During this activity, 214 volunteers participated. Eight of those individuals were under 18 years of age. These persons contributed 100 hours of volunteer service, filled 110 bags of trash, 4 bags of cans, and collected 10 tires. It should also be noted that during this event, a number of needles and Suboxone strips were also collected. Suboxone is a legitimate prescription which is effectively used to wean addicts off opiates. Suboxone has become so popular with addicts that it has turned into a street drug. It is now being bartered or exchanged for money, heroin, or other illegal drugs.

The Community Organization is partnering with the Weinberg Regional Food Bank and the American Legion Auxiliary Unit 539 to host a food distribution. The initial event was slated to be held on June 22nd. In the future, food distribution will take place on the fourth Wednesday of the month. The distribution point will be the American Legion Post on Newport Street, Glen Lyon. Only families residing in Newport Township are eligible to receive food at these events. Clients must pre-register to insure that adequate food supplies are available. Recipient families are required to provide their full names, address, phone number, and total number of persons in their household. On distribution days, participants are asked to bring two forms of identification, including an address, for all who are registered. Former Community Organization President and Secretary, Palmira Miller, is coordinating this event on behalf of NTCO.

With the recent announcement that some alleged financial irregularities may have occurred as a result of the former Township Manager's actions, several Community Organization members have volunteered their services to assist the Township's elected officials in resolving the outstanding issues confronting the Municipality.

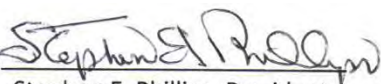
This writer believes that the resignation of the former Township Manager poses several short-term challenges for the local officials. However, it also provides those individuals the chance to embark on a wide-ranging goal setting opportunity to assist in moving the Municipality from a reactive mode. Any assistance local residents can offer to the Township at this juncture will be greatly appreciated.

The Community Organization was the featured group at the Rail-Riders baseball game on June 18th. This is the third time that your Community Organization participated in this event during the past several years. The NTCO once again had the chance to present its story through the public address system and the team's radio coverage.

Recreation Chairman Merlyn "Murph" Fletcher has once again developed a comprehensive program of activities for area residents which will occur throughout the year.

The Community Organization gratefully acknowledges the \$1,000.00 contribution it received from Luzerne Foundation and the \$800.00 donation by Reilly Finishing Technologies. These funds will be utilized to assist in underwriting the cost of numerous programs which benefit area residents.

Respectfully submitted



Stephen E. Phillips, President

Not once, not twice, but....

Character consists of what you do on the third and fourth tries.
~ James Michener, American novelist

I never knew....did you?

By Murph Fletcher ~ Western stagecoach companies were big business in the latter half of the 19th century. In addition to passengers and freight, stages hauled gold and silver bullion as well as mining company payrolls.

Stage robbery was a constant danger and bandits employed many strategies to ambush a stagecoach. Thieves rarely met with much resistance from stage drivers, since they had passenger safety foremost in mind. The gang was usually after the Wells Fargo money box with its valuable contents. Passengers were seldom hurt, but they were certainly relieved of their cash, watches and jewelry. Before the completion of the transcontinental railroad over Donner Pass in 1868, the only transportation through the Sierra was by stage. Rugged Teamsters held rein over six wild-eyed horses as they tore along the precipitous mountain trails. The stagecoaches were driven by skilled and fearless men who pushed themselves and their spirited horses to the limit. One of the most famous drivers was Charles Darkey Parkhurst, who had come West from New England in 1852 seeking his fortune in the Gold Rush. He spent 15 years running stages, sometimes partnering with Hank Monk, the celebrated driver from Carson City. Over the years, Parkhurst's reputation as an expert whip grew. From 20 feet away, he could slice open the end of an envelope or cut a cigar out of a man's mouth. Parkhurst smoked cigars, chewed wads of tobacco, drank with the best of them, and exuded supreme confidence behind the reins. His judgment was sound and pleasant manners won him many friends. One afternoon as Charley drove down from Carson Pass, the lead horses veered off the road and a wrenching jolt threw him from the rig. He hung on to the reins as the horses dragged him along on his stomach. Amazingly, Parkhurst managed to steer the frightened horses back onto the road and save all his grateful passengers.

During the 1850s, bands of surly highwaymen stalked the roads. These outlaws would level their shotguns at stage drivers and shout, "Throw down the gold box!" Charley Parkhurst had no patience for the crooks despite their demands and threatening gestures. The most notorious road agent was nicknamed Sugarfoot. When he and his gang accosted Charley's stage, it was the last robbery the thief ever attempted. Charley cracked his whip defiantly, and when his horses bolted, he turned around and fired his revolver at the crooks. Sugarfoot was later found dead with a fatal bullet wound in his stomach. In appreciation of his bravery, Wells Fargo presented Parkhurst with a large watch and chain made of solid gold. In 1865, Parkhurst grew tired of the demanding job of driving and he opened his own stage station. He later sold the business and retired to a ranch near Soquel, Calif. The years slipped by and Charley died on Dec. 29, 1879, at the age of 67. A few days later, the Sacramento Daily Bee published his obituary. It read; On Sunday last, there died a person known as Charley Parkhurst, aged 67, who was well-known to old residents as a stage driver. He was in early days accounted one of the most expert manipulators of the reins who ever sat on the box of a coach. It was discovered when friendly hands were preparing him for his final rest, that Charley Parkhurst was unmistakably a well-developed woman! Once it was discovered that Charley was a woman, there were plenty of people say they had always thought he wasn't like other men. Even though he wore leather gloves summer and winter, many noticed that his hands were small and smooth. He slept in the stables with his beloved horses and was never known to have had a girlfriend. Charley never volunteered clues to her past. Loose-fitting clothing hid her femininity and after a horse kicked her, an eye patch over one eye helped conceal her face. She weighed 175 pounds, could handle herself in a fistfight and drank whiskey like one of the boys. It turns out that Charley's real name was Charlotte Parkhurst. Abandoned as a child, she was raised in a New Hampshire orphanage unloved and surrounded by poverty. Charlotte ran away when she was 15 years old and soon discovered that life in the working world was easier for men. So she decided to masquerade as one for the rest of her life.

The rest is history. Well, almost. There is one last thing. On November 3, 1868, Charlotte Parkhurst cast her vote in the national election dressed as a man. She became the first woman to vote in the United States, 52 years before Congress passed the 19th amendment giving American women the right to vote!

The Flora and Fauna of Newport Township



Red-Tailed Hawk

By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ The red-tailed hawk shown above was spotted soaring over the Penobscot Mountain Trail in the vicinity of Wanamie one summer afternoon. They can be seen fairly often in the Township.

Red-Tailed Hawk Facts

1. The red-tailed hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*) is the most common hawk in North America, and can be easily identified by its red tail feathers.
2. The red-tailed hawk is a bird of prey, one of three species colloquially known in the United States as the "chicken hawk".
3. The red-tailed hawk breeds from central Alaska, the Yukon, and the Northwest Territories east to southern Quebec and the Maritime Provinces of Canada, and south to Florida, the West Indies, and Central America. The winter range stretches from southern Canada south throughout the remainder of the breeding range.
4. Because they are so common and easily trained as capable hunters, the majority of hawks captured for falconry in the United States are red-tails.
5. Females are up to 25% larger than males. The wingspan can range from 41 to 56 inches.
6. Its preferred habitat is mixed forest and field, with high bluffs or trees that may be used as perch sites. It occupies a wide range of habitats and altitudes, including deserts, grasslands, coastal regions, mountains, foothills, coniferous and deciduous woodlands, tropical rainforests, agricultural fields and urban areas. Being as the red-tailed hawk is an open-country hunter, the parks and greenways of urban and suburban areas make an ideal habitat for them and they are known to be nesting in and around New York City's Central Park.
7. In flight, this hawk soars with wings often in a slight dihedral, flapping as little as possible to conserve energy. Active flight is slow and deliberate, with deep wing beats. In wind, it occasionally hovers on beating wings and remains stationary above the ground. When soaring or flapping its wings, it typically travels from 20 to 40 mph but when diving may exceed 120 mph.
8. The prey animals most commonly caught are mice, field mice, squirrels and rabbits. However, red-tailed hawks are also capable of preying upon birds such as starlings and blackbirds mid-flight. Jackrabbits that weigh up to twice that of the hawk are also taken. About 85% of their diet comes from rodent populations.
9. The main competitor and only true natural predator of red-tailed hawks is the great horned owl, which has been known to attack the hawk and its nest, as well as compete for food.
10. They are considered to be sacred in Native American cultures. The feathers of this particular bird are frequently used for various ceremonies and rituals. The red-tailed hawk is believed to be connected to the spirit world.

11. The red-tailed hawk has a very intimidating cry. So much so, its call is often used in movies and commercials when showing bald eagles.
12. They have great eyesight and can spot a small rodent on the ground from 100 feet in the air.



**Newport Township Community Organization
Presents**



**Play,
Learn &
Grow
Together**

**Summer Program Schedule Available at:
<http://www.newporttownship.org>
Facebook: Newport Township Recreation Program**

Summer Program Schedule

May 22	High Tea	R Bar, Alden
June 14	Flag Day	Wanamie Recreation Park
June 21	PA Game Commission	Alden Playground
June 28	Bald Eagle	Coal Street Glen Lyon
July 5	Reading and Stories	Wanamie Recreation Park
July 12	Music and Sing-Along	Coal Street Glen Lyon
July 19	Butterfly Tent	Alden Playground
August 2	Game Day	Wanamie Recreation Park
August 9	Swimming	Mocanaqua Pool

These events are sponsored by the NTCO and run from 10:00 am until 12:00 noon.

Holy Spirit Parish, St. Adalbert's Church in Glen Lyon will hold Vacation Bible School daily from Monday, July 25 to Friday, July 29 from 9:00 am to 12:30 pm. The theme this year is "Cave Quest." Those attending must be pre-registered. Call the Parish Office at 570-736-6372 or Ann Marie at 570-417-2449 for more information.

Also on August 2, the Newport Township Crime Watch is sponsoring "National Night Out" at St. Faustina Grove in Sheatown. See page 16 for more information.



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American Legion Auxiliary News

By *Lorrie Materewicz* ~ On March 15, the Newport Township American Legion Auxiliary Unit 539 ventured to the Wilkes-Barre Veterans' Hospital to sponsor a bingo for the Community Living Center. Their theme for the visit was St. Patrick's Day and they treated the Veterans to shamrock necklaces, stickers, and themed cupcakes and beverages. Coupon books used for canteen/PX purchases in the hospital were given as prizes, and the group ensured that each Veteran received a prize. Members of the Auxiliary visit these Veterans often and support them in different ways, such as the recent hygiene article collection in the township. Information as to how to offer your own support may be directed to Lorrie Materewicz at 570-736-7177.



Standing: Al Chesney, Janet Wenner, Faye Maloney (Vice President), Sally Billings (Secretary), Donna Burd. Seated: Harriet Clyder Kipps, Lorrie Materewicz. At left of Al Chesney is Joe Kommach.

Rambus Honors

Part of the Memorial Day celebration at the Glen Lyon American Legion on May 30th was that Joe Rambus was surrounded by family and friends as a guest of honor for a rare ceremony - the celebration of 60 years of continuous membership and service to the American Legion! Let me do the math for you. That means he became a member of the American Legion in 1956! The ceremony was a surprise to Joe, whose family kept it a carefully guarded secret. He was presented with two certificates, one was from National Headquarters and the other was from Post 539. Both were presented by Post 539 Commander Shawn Swicklik to the sounds of cheers and applause from his family, friends, fellow Legionnaires, and SAL members present. It is such a joy and pleasure to sit with Joe and listen to his stories of "the good old days." We only wish we could see him more often. Congratulations Joe, and here's to 60 more years!



Pictured above is Post 539 Commander Shawn Swicklik presenting certificates to Joe Rambus, with daughter Faith Kropiewnicki in the background.

Honorary Life member

The Newport Township American Legion Auxiliary Unit 539 holds its monthly meeting the first Thursday of every month, and normally the usual business is discussed. However, during the June meeting, a special surprise ceremony was held for one of the oldest members of the unit. Member Stephanie Stogoski joined the Auxiliary in 1992, and for most of the years since, she has held one office or another in the organization. Because of this and by unanimous vote of the members, the distinction of "Honorary Life Member" was conferred upon Stephie during the course of the June meeting. She is the first member of the unit to receive this distinction and honor, and was presented with a certificate by Unit President Lorrie Materewicz. Criteria for the honor includes having had to have been an officer continuously for a minimum of 15 years. Congratulations Stephie, and here's to another 15 years!



Pictured at left is Lorrie Materewicz presenting the Honorary Life Member Certificate to Steph Stogoski

Auxiliary Yard Sale

Saturday June 4th was the day of the first Glen Lyon Auxiliary 539 yard/bake sale of the year held at the American Legion post home on Newport Street. A hall full of vendors had plenty of merchandise for sale at very reasonable prices and the bake sale of homemade goodies was something to behold. A hot lunch to dine in or take out was available as well, with Polish food a specialty. The hours were 8 am to 4 pm. A second identical event is planned for a weekend in August and spaces are \$10 with tables and chairs provided. As all may already know, the venue is handicapped-accessible, parking is ample, and there are bathroom facilities. Proceeds from the bake sale and lunch benefit the Auxiliary's Veteran's Fund. For vendor space or further information, contact Lorrie Materewicz at 570-736-7177. We thank the public for their support and hope to see you at our next yard/bake sale.



Pictured above is left to right: Dan Williams, Tom Kashatus, Wren D'Antonio and Mary Martin. Pictured left is Al Chesney tending his stand.

Newport Township Obituaries

By Tom Kashatus

SKURSKI, Eleanor M., (nee Cobosko), 89, of Nanticoke passed away March 2, 2016, in Lehigh Valley Hospital, Bethlehem. Eleanor was born January 1, 1927, in Newport Township.

NEYHARD, Erica Dawn, 31, of Glen Lyon passed away suddenly Sunday, February 28, 2016, at her home. She was a graduate of Greater Nanticoke Area High School.

LACK, Stella M., (nee Gawarecki) 87, of Glen Lyon passed away Friday, March 4, 2016, at Birchwood Nursing and Rehabilitation Center in Nanticoke. Stella was born - and raised - in Glen Lyon on November 11, 1928.

CWIKLIK, Walter E., 93, of Center Street, Wanamie, died Saturday, March 5, 2016, at home. Walter was born - and raised - in Glen Lyon on June 4, 1922. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School and Philadelphia College of Pharmacy. Walter was an enlisted veteran of the US Army in WW II from 1942-46 and served in the Pacific Theater.

MISKIEWICZ, Gregory P., 67, of Sheatown passed away unexpectedly Saturday, March 5, 2016, in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. Gregory was born May 18, 1948. Greg was a US Air Force and Vietnam veteran.

BURKE, Eliza Jane (nee Dempsey), 69, of Ridgeview, Newport Township, passed away Tuesday, March 8, 2016, in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. Eliza was born in Plymouth on April 29, 1946.

SMOLINSKI, William J. Jr., 42, of Rock Street, Glen Lyon, passed away Wednesday, March 9, 2016, in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. Billy was born in Wilkes Barre on May 26, 1973. He was a graduate of Greater Nanticoke Area High School.

SCHULTZ, Minerva Y. (nee Yurek), 85, of Cleveland, Ohio, and formerly of West Enterprise Street, Glen Lyon, passed away Tuesday, March 8, 2016. Minerva was born in Glen Lyon on November 28, 1930. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School, Class of '48.

SKLADZIEN, Joseph L., 66, of Hanover Township lost his battle with lung cancer on Thursday, March 17, 2016, in the care of hospice at the VA Medical Center in Plains Township. Joseph was born at Saint Joseph's Center in Scranton in 1949. Joseph was raised in Sheatown and was a member of the Newport Township Class of '67. Joseph was a combat veteran of the Vietnam War and served his country in the US Army as an Airborne Ranger in the 173rd Airborne Brigade.

SIMCHICK, Rose Marie (nee Weiler), 76, of Hanover Township passed away Friday, March 18, 2016.

WOJCIECHOWSKI, Camille, 76, of Nanticoke, and formerly of Sheatown, passed away March 19, 2016.

GEORGE, James, 77, of Wapwallopen passed away Sunday, April 3, 2016, in Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center in Plains Township. James was born in Slocum. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of '57.

WAZOWICZ, Lucy A., 92, of Alden, entered into eternal life on Sunday, April 3, 2016, at Guardian Elder Care Center in Sheatown. Lucy was born on July 3, 1923. She graduated from Newport Township High School, Class of '41 as Valedictorian.

NETHERCOTT, Fred J. III, 73, of Glen Lyon passed away Thursday, April 7, 2016, in Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center in Plains Township. Fred was born in Brooklyn, NY, on July 9, 1942. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School, Class of '60.

WINTERGRASS, Ann Mary (nee Butka), 72, of Palm Coast, FL, and formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away Friday, April 8, 2016. Ann Mary was born November 29, 1943. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School.

REPOTSKI, Richard, 70, of San Antonio, TX, and formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away April 12, 2106 at VA Medical Center in Texas. He attended Newport Township schools and graduated from the University of Texas with a Master's Degree in Business. Richard was a US Army veteran serving for four years and a US Air Force veteran, for eight years.

ZIEMBA, Eugene P., 79, of Upper Gwynedd Township and Harvey's Lake, and formerly of Wanamie, passed away April 13, 2016. Gene was born in Nanticoke on December 21, 1936. He graduated from Newport Township High School, Class of '54 and thereafter served in the US Army in Zweibrucken and Karlsruhe, Germany. Gene received a B.S. Degree from King's College.

KIRSCHNER, David R., 42, of Sugar Notch, and formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away Saturday, April 16, 2016 at his residence. David was born in Nanticoke on May 19, 1973.

ROKE, John, 46, of Glen Lyon, passed away Sunday, April 17, 2016, in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. John was born August 21, 1969, in Wilkes-Barre. John graduated from John S. Fine High School, Class of '87.

ANDREAS, Caroline (nee Strunk), 89, of Conyngham Township, passed away Saturday, April 16, 2016, at her home. Raised in Slocum Township. Caroline graduated from Newport Township High School and later from College Misericordia.

BALBERCHAK, Andrew J., 96, of Sheatown and formerly of Ashley, passed away Tuesday, April 19, 2016 at Guardian Elder Care Center in Newport Township. Andrew was born in Kingston on September 21, 1919. He was a US Army veteran of World War II.

ARNOLD, Shirley, (nee Ogin), 83, of Slocum Township, passed away Thursday, April 14, 2016 at the University Hospital of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. Shirley was born November 21, 1932.

BRUNI, Peter, 84, of Pittston, and formerly of Newport Township, passed away Tuesday, April 19, 2016, at Celtic Hospice, Geisinger South, Wilkes-Barre. Peter was born April 6, 1932. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School and was a US Army veteran serving during the Korean War.

OSTROWSKI, Eugene, 69, of Berwick, and formerly of Wanamie, passed away Wednesday, April 20, 2016, in Berwick Hospital Center. Gene was born in Nanticoke on September 17, 1946. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of '64.

WINTERS, Alice M., (nee Delaney), 97, formerly of Kingston, passed away Friday, April 22, 2016 at the Mercy Center, Dallas. Alice was born April 27, 1918, in Sheatown. She graduated from the former Kingston High School and Wyoming Seminary Dean School of Business.

PETRINI, Frederick A., 79, formerly of Nanticoke and Glen Lyon, passed away Sunday, April 24, 2016 at his home in Phoenixville. He graduated from Newport Township High School Class of '55 and Wilkes University and was a US Army veteran.

GELSLEICHTER, Ronald P., 65, of Glen Lyon, passed away Thursday, April 18, 2016.

ECKROTE, Calvin "Cappy" 70, of Shickshinny Valley, and formerly of Alden, passed away Monday, April 25, 2016 at his residence. "Cappy" was born in Nanticoke on December 15, 1945. He was raised in Alden and attended Newport Township schools.

BADMAN, James H. Jr., (84), of Mountain Top, passed away Saturday, May 14, 2016 at his home. James was born in Slocum. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School and then served in the US Air Force during the Korean War.

SHUTTA, Leonard J. Sr. "Rusty," 91, of Nanticoke passed away Sunday, May 29, 2016 in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. Leonard was born and raised in Glen Lyon on October 27, 1924. He graduated from Newport Township High School. Leonard was always proud to serve his country during World War II as gunner with the US Air Force.

Please note: The preceding obituaries are in abbreviated form due to space limitations. A more extensive account of these obituaries can be found on our website: www.newporttownship.com or use the following link: <http://www.newporttownship.com/Obituaries/Obituaries>. To place an obituary in our newsletter, you may notify Tom Kashatus at (570) 736-6981 or email tomkash@verizon.net.

Taste of the Township

The Hot Dog



By Heidi and Paul Jarecki
~ The average American eats 50 hot dogs every year and the residents of Newport Township certainly eat their share. Pictured left is one that was served at the Fireman's Picnic held at St.

Faustina's Grove in Sheatown. Sure looks tasty!

Hot Dog Facts

1. While it is often thought that hot dogs are the all-American food, they were first invented in 1484 in Frankfurt, Germany (hence the nickname "frankfurters"), where pork sausages similar to hot dogs originated. Wiener refers to Vienna, Austria, whose Austrian name is "Wien" (pronounced vean, rhymes with bean), home to a sausage made of a mixture of pork and beef.
2. Pork and beef are the traditional meats used in hot dogs. Less expensive hot dogs are often made with chicken or turkey, using low-cost mechanically separated poultry.
3. What are the most popular hot dog toppings in the U.S.? Mustard for adults and ketchup for kids.
4. 7-Eleven sells the most hot dogs annually at 100 million.
5. Baseball fans will consume more than 26 million hot dogs at US baseball stadiums this season. That's enough to circle the bases 36,000 times.
6. Dodgers Stadium in Los Angeles is hot dog heaven, selling the most hot dogs per year out of any ballpark in the country.
7. Another claim of inventing the hot dog is Harry M. Stevens, an American sports concessionaire whose vendors sold German sausages and rolls to spectators at the old New York Polo Grounds during the winter. He called them "Dachshund sandwiches", but a New York Post cartoonist "couldn't spell dachshund, so when he drew the cartoon, he called them hot dogs.
8. The association between hot dogs and baseball began as early as 1893 with Chris von der Ahe, a German immigrant who owned not only the St. Louis Browns, but also an amusement park.
9. NASA has approved hot dogs as a regular item on Apollo moon flights, Skylab missions and space shuttle flights. Hot dogs were one of the first food eaten on the moon. Apollo 11 astronauts Neil Armstrong and "Buzz" Aldrin Jr. ate hot dogs on their 1969 journey.
10. The current world record holder for the world's longest hot dog was created at the Akasaka Prince Hotel in Tokyo, in 2006. The hot dog, certified by Guinness as the record holder, was 60.3 meters in length.
11. In 1957, the U.S. Chamber of Commerce officially designated July as National Hot Dog month.
12. It is estimated that more than 20 billion hot dogs are consumed annually in America with close to 150 million of those consumed on the Fourth of July alone!
13. The average hot dog is consumed in 6.1 bites. (average sized mouth tested) .
14. A hot dog can often be seen under the names of frankfurter, frank, red hot, wiener, weenie, durger, coney, or just "dog".
15. The history of the hot dog and the history of New York's Coney Island are intertwined to such a point that the hot dog played a major role in the boardwalk's growth. In 1870, stand owner Charles Feltman started selling his brand of sausages in rolls. In 1916, another piece of history was made: Nathan Handwerker, a onetime employee of the Feltman family, decided to strike out on his own with slightly cheaper hot dogs, a move that proved a huge success—the restaurant chain that bears his name is still active today. Every year on Coney Island, crowds celebrate the Fourth of July by attending the Nathan's Hot Dog Eating Contest.

Elizabeth Howell Turns 100

By Janice Howell ~ Elizabeth Howell celebrated her 100th birthday on May 24. Born in Glen Lyon, she is the daughter of the late Andrew Barron and Elizabeth Butchko Barron, the third oldest of seven siblings. Sisters Emma Isdepski and Helen Laskowski and brothers John, Joseph, and Paul are all deceased. Surviving is her youngest brother Andrew, who resides in New Cumberland, Pa. He is 89.



Elizabeth was married to the late Harry Howell, Jr. in 1938 until his passing in 1994 after 56 years of marriage. Soon after they were married, they relocated to Baltimore, Maryland. Their only son, Harry Howell III, was born there in 1948. Her husband's work as a construction supervisor soon required the family to leave Baltimore and travel the US and abroad. After his retirement in the early 1970's, they resettled in Sheatown.

Volunteering for both St Andrew's Episcopal Church in Alden, and Holy Child Church in Sheatown, where she was a member, was an important part of her life. She was always available for the Welsh cookie sale at St Andrew's and to volunteer at various fund raisers at Holy Child.

A homemaker all of her life, she enjoys reading, sewing and most of all cooking. She loves collecting recipes. Especially enjoyable were the family and holiday meals she prepared and her delicious home-baked pies and desserts.

Elizabeth's only child, Harry Howell III, resides in Glen Lyon with his wife, Janice. She is the grandmother of three granddaughters: Heather Fritz, Bloomsburg, Amy Berneski, Swoyersville, and Lindsay Wilson, Avon, MA. She has one great granddaughter, Ava Wilson.

Elizabeth has been a resident of Wyoming Manor, Wyoming, PA for the past year.

The NTCO wishes Mrs. Howell a very happy 100th birthday and blessings of good health for many more years to come!

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The first question which the priest and the Levite asked was: "If I stop to help this man, what will happen to me?" But ... the good Samaritan reversed the question: If I do not stop to help this man, what will happen to Him?"

~ Martin Luther King Jr.



Pictured left is the assembly line of the “Heavenly Hoagie” sale sponsored by the Altar and Rosary Society, St. Adalbert’s Church, Holy Spirit Parish on Election Day, April 26. Standing l. to r.: Rev. Louis Kaminski, Ann Marie Gorgas, Stephie Stogoski and Carol Sobotka. Sitting: Carol Wilkes, JoAnne Thomas and Bernadine Betkoski.

Below is the presentation of the Altar and Rosary Society’s “Growing in Faith” Scholarship of \$500.00 to Samantha Russin on Sunday June 5 during the 8:00 Mass. The applicants were required to fulfill certain criteria and to write an essay: “Why is Being a Member of St. Adalbert’s Church, Holy Spirit Parish Important to Me?” A second presentation was made at Awards Day at GNA High School on June 6 with Barbara Paganucci representing the Altar and Rosary Society. Samantha will enter the Physician’s Assistant Program at King’s College in the fall. Good Luck, Samantha!



Pictured left are officers of the Altar and Rosary Society making the presentation to Samantha: Jennifer Morgis, Samantha Russin, Carol Sobotka and Stephanie Stogoski.

At right are: Christopher Russin, Joe Hillan, Phoebe Hillan, Samantha Russin, Marianne Capece, and Phoebe Tarnowski.



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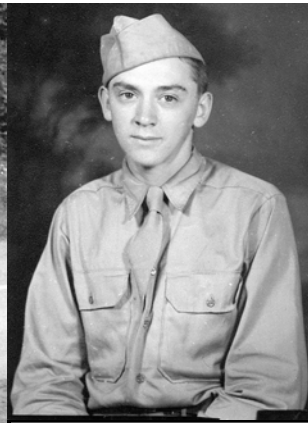
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Angelo Billings
World War I



Left, Charles Billings and right,
Albert Billings, Korean War



Nicholas Billings
World War II

Remembering Newport Township Veterans: Lee Produces A Family of Veterans

By Sally Billings

Bartolomeo Bellini and Mary Terassa Bellini, his wife, immigrated to Glen Lyon from Italy. Even though Bart was a proud Italian, he changed the family's last name to Billings because of the discrimination against Italian immigrants at the time. He thought his children would have a better life if their last name did not sound Italian.

ANGELO (BELLINI) BILLINGS

Angelo Billings was born on September 24, 1892, in Glen Lyon, and was one of seven children of Bart and Mary Terassa. He enlisted in and served in the United States Navy during World War I. When he was discharged and returned home, he eventually joined the ranks of the many coal miners in Glen Lyon. Angelo met Margaret Borla of Scranton and they married on September 30, 1924. Initially, they resided in Scranton. Margaret gave birth to three children while living in Scranton, Nicholas, Mary Teresa and Margaret. The family moved to Glen Lyon in 1930. Two additional children were born in Glen Lyon, Charles and Albert. One of Angelo's cousins built Angelo a home in the Lee section of Glen Lyon and the family moved there in 1939. Angelo became very active in the Newport Township American Legion and was a clarinetist and cymbal player in the Legion's Drum and Bugle Corp. Angelo earned a living for his family by working in the mines his whole life; however, he would not let his sons take the same path and encouraged them to pursue other opportunities. Angelo passed away on his birthday in 1969.

NICHOLAS BILLINGS

Nick was born on October 19, 1927, in Scranton. He moved to Glen Lyon with his family at age 3, then to Lee at age 12. He graduated from Newport Township High School in 1945 and entered the U.S. Army in the summer of 1946. In the Army, Nick certainly found his calling, being trained in auto mechanics. The Army also sent Nick to Coyne Electrical and Refrigeration Institute in Chicago for training. After training, he was stationed in Alaska, being honorably discharged in December of 1947. Upon returning home from the service, Nick worked as an employee in the auto mechanic's trade; however, he decided he wanted to be his own boss and in approximately 1948, he opened a 5-bay mechanic's garage named, what else, "Nick's Garage", on the family property in Lee. In 1971, he added an auto parts store across the street from the garage. At one time, he even owned a used car lot in Lee! Nick was a very talented mechanic and a jack of all trades. He could fix just

about anything. He also had a great mind for business and kept up with the changes in the industry. In 1989, after 41 years in business, Nick retired, married Sally, and in 1990, they had a son Kyle. Nick served as Commander of the Glen Lyon American Legion for a number of years and was instrumental in establishing the Sons of the American Legion Squadron 539 at the Legion. He was a Fourth Degree Knight with the Knights of Columbus and a member of the Knights' initiation team. He enjoyed Canadian fishing trips, woodworking and in years past, performing with the Polka Pals dance club. Nick passed away on May 30, 2006.

CHARLES BILLINGS

Charlie was born on December 3, 1931, in Glen Lyon. He moved with his family to Lee at age 8.

He graduated from Newport Township High School in 1949 and entered the U.S. Army Medical Corp in 1952 during the Korean War. He was trained at and graduated from the Brooke Army Medical Center in San Antonio, TX, then had additional training in Valley Forge General Hospital. After training, Charlie was stationed at the Fort Dix Army base and worked as a psychiatric technician. He was honorably discharged in 1954. After returning home, Charlie earned a Bachelor's degree in Business Administration from Wilkes College in 1960. He then moved to River Vale, New Jersey, where he earned his Master's degree in School Administration Supervision in 1972. He was employed for 28 years as a business education teacher in Tenafly High School in River Vale. During this time, Charlie was a soccer coach at Tenafly who guided the team to eight league championships and was voted into the Soccer Coach's Hall of Fame. In 1989, Charlie semi-retired and moved to Milford where he works part-time as a Court Crier in the Pike County Courthouse. Charlie enjoys hunting and fishing and visiting with his two sisters, Margaret and Mary Teresa, in Phoenix.

ALBERT BILLINGS

Al was born on November 22, 1932, in Glen Lyon. He moved with his family to Lee at age 7. He attended Newport Township High School and entered the U.S. Marine Corp in 1953 during the Korean War. Al was deployed to Korea and was honorably discharged in 1955. After returning from the service, Al moved to New Jersey for better employment opportunities. Al played the accordion beautifully and was employed as accordion teacher in a music store in Old Bridge. There he met and married Dolores. Al and Dolores moved to Howell, and Dolores gave birth to a daughter, Debbie. Al spent all of his married life in New Jersey, mostly working for Brockway Glass, in Freehold. In approximately 2000, he semi-retired and moved to Hershey, near his daughter and her family, where he worked part-time at Hershey Park. Al's sense of humor was off the charts and he was just a full-of-fun guy. Al was an avid volunteer and was always there to lend a hand. Al passed away on March 10, 2014.

MARY TERESA AND MARGARET

Mary Teresa (Theresa) and Margaret (Margie) are the two sisters of the Billings family. Theresa married Joseph Loria, whom she met at San Souci Park. She lived most of her married life in the Parsons section of Wilkes-Barre. Theresa has three daughters, Sara, Margaret and Catherine and she resides with her daughters, Sara and Catherine, in Phoenix. Margie married Joseph Kelan, whom she also met at San Souci Park. Margie lived her entire married life in Lakewood, New Jersey. Margie now resides near her sister in Phoenix.

Let us resolve...

If our country is worth dying for in time of war, let us resolve that it is truly worth living for in time of peace.

~ Hamilton Fish

Memorial Day Activities

By *Lorrie Materewicz* ~ Memorial Day fell on the traditional date this year, May 30th, a Monday and full military honor ceremonies were sponsored by VFW Post 8353 of Glen Lyon along with American Legion Post 539, Jeffries-Slapikas Post 971, Auxiliary Unit 539 and SAL Squadron 539, escorted by the Newport Township Police. The flag-bedecked caravan of vehicles left the Glen Lyon Legion for the west end ceremonies promptly at 9:15, held their solemn ceremonies there in the center of the highway, and then proceeded to St. Nicholas Cemetery at the east end of Glen Lyon, finally culminating with the flag raising to full staff at the post home. A meal and social hour followed for those who participated in the ceremonies. Also, members of the Wanamie post went on to render honors at those cemeteries they normally do on an annual basis, retiring to Glen Lyon for their meal. If any member of the public has not been present for these annual ceremonies, this writer highly recommends you attend and honor our fallen veterans. Their sacrifice allows you to live the life of freedom you enjoy on a daily basis.



Pictured above at St. Nicholas Cemetery are left to right, Barb Meyers (Auxiliary chaplain), Sally Billings (Auxiliary secretary), Janet Wenner (Auxiliary vice president), Leanne Wenner (Legion Member), Ed Bienkowski (Bugler), Joe Figerski (Legion Officer of the Day), Mark Rinehammer (Rifleman), Jerry Wenner (Rifleman), Bernie Mihneski (Rifleman), Ed Stavetski (Legion member), Kyle Pegarella (SAL Commander), Joe Molski (VFW Commander), Shawn Swicklik (Legion Post 539 Commander), Mark Kaminoka (Rifleman), Mike Pauska (Flag Bearer), Unable to be seen are Flag Bearer Glenn Kipps, Flag Bearer Mike Figmic, and Kyle Billings.



Above: Father Louis Kaminski, Pastor of Holy Spirit Parish, conducts a Memorial Day Mass at St. Adalbert's Cemetery in Glen Lyon.

Post 971 Celebrates Memorial Day

By *Tom Kashatus* ~ As the Memorial Day Detail of the Jeffries-Slapikas American Legion Post of Wanamie moved on schedule from the cemeteries of: Saint Vladimir's of Polander Hill, Alden; East Kir-mar Avenue behind the Alden hose house; the American Legion Memorial on Robert Street, Sheatown; Holy Trinity Cemetery, Sheatown; Saint Nicholas Cemetery, Glen Lyon; Old Newport Center Cemetery; new Saint Mary's Cemetery, Wanamie, Old Saint Mary's Cemetery, Wanamie, and the memorial adjacent to the Wanamie Hose House, it was disappointing to observe the turnout by the public throughout the festivities. At four stops, there was no one - no family, friends, or just observers in general. It's almost unbelievable to note how things have changed over the years. However, it was gratifying to see that all cemeteries have been maintained to almost perfection, thanks to those volunteers and church crews who have accepted the responsibility to perform that task.

One pleasurable moment that took place was at the Robert Street Memorial when Post 971 bestowed the honor and respect to Clem Scott, World War II veteran of Sheatown, for his continuous membership in the post for over 70 years. Due to health concerns, Mr. Scott was unable to attend the festivities; however as a tribute for his service, his daughter, Maryellen, received an American flag that flew over the Capitol in Washington, D.C. The presentation was made by Adjutant Edward Kalinowski and Post Commander Paul Kearney. Mr. Scott enlisted into the US Army Air Corps in 1942 and served until 1946. After basic training, he became a tail gunner in a B-17. After his military service, Mr. Scott married Dorothy (Butka) Scott and worked for the Internal Revenue Service as a revenue agent.

Adjutant Kalinowski, (570) 735-8561, stated that it's always a pleasure and honor to receive new members for the Post. Post 971 meets on the second Tuesday of the month from September to May at 7:00 p.m. at the Glen Lyon American Legion Post 539.



Shown above left to right are members of the Post detail during the flag presentation to Dr. Maryellen Scott on behalf of her father, Clem Scott: Jack Zwiebel, Eugene Novak, Adjutant Kalinowski, Dr. Scott, Commander Kearney, Joseph Wallace, Michael Hitzner, Brad Kessler, and Dennis Boor.



On the left, ceremonies at St. Michael's and St Adalbert's Cemeteries in Glen Lyon.

**New Business in the Township:
Joe Moreck, Handyman**



By Tom Kashatus ~
 Joseph Moreck recently moved into Glen Lyon from the Dallas area and settled on Coal Street with his family - wife, Krystel, and daughter, Isabella. He graduated from Wyoming Area in Exeter and has gained construction experience in a number of areas to be proficient in his field as a "Handyman." Joe's hopes are to establish himself in Newport Township as the base of his operation and become a viable member of the Glen Lyon

and Newport Township community. Throughout his career he has gained experience reading blueprints; running electrical wire and bending conduits; installing 3 phase electrical panels; hooking up lighting control panels; and residential wiring of houses and services. Joe also has experience in carpentry, decks, painting, fences, concrete, plumbing, framing, siding, pressure washing, tile, flooring, and carpeting. Joe stated that he is pleased with his neighborhood and is looking forward to meeting the folks residing in Glen Lyon.

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**Independence Day 1906
 Pittston Gazette, Thursday, July 5, 1906
 Five Lives Lost. Frightful Accident at Wanamie Last Night. Dynamite Exploded, The Victims Were Celebrating Holiday.**

Independence Day was marked at Wanamie by one of the most frightful accidents that ever happened in this county. Five boys were instantly killed and three others were terribly injured by an explosion of dynamite. The victims of the accident were: KILLED Joseph Rachunis, aged 16 years; Frank Rachunis, aged 10 years; Michael Soovo, aged 16 years; Frank Long, aged 12 years; Modack Spienkiewicz, aged 14 years. INJURED Joseph Shutwitz, aged 10 years; Thomas Shukwitz, aged 14 years; Joseph Breszcrat, aged 16 years. The scene of the accident was No.1 Patch, Wanamie, which consists of company houses occupied by employees of the Lehigh and Wilkes Barre Coal Co. whose mines are located in that section. It is at the base of the Wilkes-Barre Mountain. Close to the settlement is a level spot where the boys of the neighborhood congregate to spend their leisure hours. About 6 o'clock last evening a crowd of boys were at this spot. They had a piece of iron pipe, about 18 inches long and one inch in diameter. The boys had dynamite and powder, with which they were celebrating the holiday. One of the boys stuck a stick of dynamite in the pipe for filling, and filled in the intervening space with powder. Then the boys lit the powder. The powder flashed up, but the dynamite failed to explode. One of the boys then took the pipe containing the dynamite in his hands and began hammering it on a stone, apparently for the purpose of loosening the dynamite. He was warned against doing so, but persisted in hammering the stone with the pipe. Suddenly a terrific explosion occurred, and the results were frightful. The bodies of the five boys who were killed were frightfully mangled. The bodies were gathered up by the people who were attracted to the scene and were carried to the family homes. It was with much difficulty that the bodies were identified. In several cases the faces were mutilated. In some cases hands were missing, while others were minus the feet. Terrible gashes were torn in several of the bodies. The Shukwitz boys were removed to the Mercy Hospital, Wilkes- Barre. Thomas was so badly injured that it is feared that he cannot recover. The amputation of both legs and one arm was necessary. Joseph will suffer the loss of toes from both feet, but will recover. Joseph Breszcrat was badly cut about the face and head. The terrible accident cast a gloom over the whole community, and the relatives of the victims are in an agony of grief over their terrible losses. The boys had left their homes but a short time before they were mangled by the explosion.

Independence Day Facts

Independence Day of the United States, also referred to as Fourth of July or July Fourth in the U.S., is a federal holiday commemorating the adoption of the Declaration of Independence on July 4, 1776 by the Continental Congress declaring that the thirteen American colonies regarded themselves as a new nation, the United States of America, and no longer part of the British Empire. Independence Day is commonly associated with fireworks, parades, barbecues, carnivals, fairs, picnics, concerts, baseball games, family reunions, and political speeches and ceremonies, in addition to various other public and private events celebrating the history, government, and traditions of the United States. Independence Day is the National Day of the United States.

Source: Wikipedia

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Reilly Finishing Contributes to NTCO



Shown at the check presentation from Reilly Finishing Technologies are left to right: V.P. of Finance and Administration Larry Marianacci; V.P. of Operations Doug Kraffack; NTCO President Stephen Phillips; Human Resources Manager Kathy Kobylarz; and NTCO 1st V.P. Tom Kashatus.

By Tom Kashatus ~ The Newport Township Community Organization and West Side Playground Association of Nanticoke are the beneficiaries of the Reilly Finishing Technologies' special Christmas project for the 2015 holiday season. For the past two years, commuters who traveled Alden Road from Robert Street in Sheatown to West Main Street, Nanticoke during the Christmas holidays may have noticed the decorated and lighted trees on Reilly Finishing Technologies' property. The trees along "Christmas Tree Lane" were purchased and planted by Reilly's and offered to local businesses for sponsorship and advertising with a fee of \$175.00. There is a first time fee of \$25.00 for the business sign. This past year \$3,400.00 was raised and \$2,800.00 was donated to West Side Playground for a new merry-go-round and \$800.00 was donated to the NTCO which was used to purchase a computer for a Newport Police Department's patrol vehicle. Owner and President Joseph J. Reilly and Human Resources Manager Kathy Kobylarz stated, "All money collected is donated to our community. Reilly provides the land, electricity and lights, and local companies are the sponsors. It's a great way to help our own community."

Special appreciation is given to this year's sponsors from Nanticoke City and Newport Township: Air Excellence, Bob's Auto Service, Broadway Garage, Ceppa's Notary, Corbett Insurance, Delta Electric, Dorrance Auto, Emjaze Signs, Lecia's Styling Studio, Lee's Oil Co., Luksh Electric, NTCO, One Stop Auto, Parkway Inn, Petroski Plumbing, R Bar, Reilly Finishing Technologies, Sanitary Bakery, Suburban Oil, Tarnowski's Kielbasa, and Winfield Peters Enterprise.

The tree decorating was done by Reilly employees Bob Fink, Amanda Cragle, and Kathy Kobylarz, and Hanna Fink.

Glen Lyon Couples Celebrate Milestone Anniversaries

Marcy and Ed Raiewski celebrated their 25th Anniversary.

Mary Lou and Francis Zaleski celebrated their 50th Anniversary. They are the parents of Aimee Zaleski and Peter Zaleski. They have one grandson, Christian.

Betty and Leonard Straub celebrated their 60th Anniversary. They have one daughter, Jane.

Congratulations to all!

Joseph J. Reilly
President

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Rick Temarantz
President

Primary Election Results for 2016

By Tom Kashatus ~ With approximately 40% of registered voters going to the polls in the April 26 primary election, the final tallies - by ward - for Newport Township are as follows: ballots cast (1st) Glen Lyon, Democrat - 327, Republican - 106; (2nd) Wanamie/Alden, Democrat - 290, Republican - 90; (3rd) Sheatown/Ridgeview, Democrat - 226, Republican - 94. However, the spirited contest on the Republican side inspired by Donald Trump has increased Republican registration and encouraged an increase in the Republican totals at the polls.

In contested categories on the Democrat side, the results were as follows: President, Hillary Clinton garnered 402 votes to Bernie Sanders' 364 votes; US Senator - Katie McGinty (336) edged Joe Sestak (322), and John Fetterman received 64 votes; PA Attorney General - Stephen Zappala (330) led by a wide margin over Josh Shapiro (207) and John Morganelli (205) votes. Other vote totals for non-contested positions were for PA Treasurer, Joe Torselli (568); PA Auditor General, Eugene DePasquale (585); US Congress of the 11th PA District, Mike Marsicano (627); and PA Representative of the 119th Legislative District, Gerald Mullery (757) of Alden, Newport Township.

In contested categories on the Republican side the results were as follows: President, Donald Trump, 250 and Ted Cruz, 28; PA Attorney General, Joe Peters (165) beat John Rafferty (51). Other vote totals for non-contested positions were: for US Senator, Pat Toomey (216); PA Treasurer, Otto Voit (179); PA Auditor General, John Brown (181); US Congress of the 11th PA District, Lou Barletta (261); and PA Representative of the 119th Legislative District, Justin Behrins (183).

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Above is a scene from Opening Day ceremonies for the Nanticoke Area Little League baseball season. The event was held at the Joseph and Phoebe Hillan Little League Ballfield in Wanamie on May 14.

Do what you can, with what you have, where you are. ~ Theodore Roosevelt



Pictured left is the Good Friday Food Tent Sale held April 1st in the former Del Balso Ford Parking Lot in Nanticoke. Part of the proceeds benefited the Newport Township Fire Departments.

Pictured below is the Wanamie Recreation Park cleanup sponsored by the Newport Township Recreation Board on April 9. The following day, efforts were concentrated on the Alden and Glen Lyon Coal Street Playgrounds. The Recreation Board wishes to thank all the volunteers who turned out.

The Recreation Board also wishes to thank the NTCO for their contribution towards the purchase of mulch. Recreation Commissioner Jack Vishnefski, Board members and volunteers spread the new mulch in the Alden and Coal Street Playgrounds. Donated playground equipment will soon be assembled in the Alden Playground.



Recreation Board Sponsors Forums

The Newport Township Recreation Board recently met with a representative from the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources concerning grant opportunities. It was recommended that the Board develop a five-year plan and strategy to upgrade and further enhance the parks and playgrounds in the Township. A public forum was held on June 13 to get residents' input and the turnout was extremely disappointing. The Board will host additional forums in the near future. Tell us what you want! A dog park? An outdoor amphitheater? A water slide? A designated soccer field? We want to hear from you!



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Florence Konopke, Manager

A High Tea Party Sponsored by the Newport Township Community Organization



A High Tea Party sponsored by the Newport Township Community Organization's Recreation Program was held on May 22 in the Alden Room of the R Bar in Alden. Pictured left are the party organizers: top row l. to r. Murph Fletcher, Christy Emelett, Jessica Saraka, Amy Saraka, Kayleigh Saraka, and Caitlin Beamer. Bottom row: Brooklyn Blank, Krissy Blank, Mary Margaret Kashatus and Kristen Depka.



Pictured above, 1st row left to right: unidentified, Madeline Spenser, Amanda Karnowski, Lily Pearce, Grace Yudichak, Calenoria Stephenson. 2nd row: Rylie Domashinski, Page Davis, Sophia Pazgan, Anna Yudichak, Evelyn Yudichak, Layla Pearse. 3rd row: Brooklyn Blank, Layla Levandowski, Alyssa Mierzwa, Sarah Yudichak, Rylee O'Neil, Ella Namowicz, Kayleigh Saraka.



NTCO Tea Party

By Murph Fletcher ~ When the children arrived at the R Bar, each received a name tag and then selected their head band. Once all children arrived, they were seated and asked to introduce themselves. After introductions, each child received a pair of gloves to conform to the tea party standard. Jessica Saraka spoke about the history and origins of tea parties. She then began explaining the proper use of the table settings: hold the handle of the teacup using your thumb and your first one or two fingers. There is no need to stick out your pinky. Do not loop your fingers through the handle or cradle the side or bottom of the cup with your hands. Take small, quiet sips of your tea. Do not blow on the tea if it is too hot. When you are not drinking tea, place the cup on the saucer. Make sure to place the napkin on your lap and never on the table; if you leave the table, put the napkin in your seat. It is fine to eat most of the foods with your fingers, taking small bites; however, use a fork when trying to eat messy foods.

The menu and order of presentation was given. Proper etiquette was explained with the children giving examples of good and bad manners. Games and coloring were the next activities, conducted by Brooklyn Blank and Kayleigh Saraka. After the games and a group picture, the children sat at their selected spot at the tables and began enjoying their tea, scones, mini-sandwiches and cookies. The children's behavior was a tribute to what they learned this day and made it a day they may long remember.

Thank you to all who made the day a unique learning experience for the children.

Newport Township Crime Watch Sponsors National Night Out

National Night Out will be held at the St. Faustina Grove in Sheatown on August 2 from 5 to 8 pm. Sponsored by the Newport Township Crime Watch, it is an annual event to bring attention to the development of community and local police partnerships to deter crime in our neighborhoods. Participating will be the Newport Township Fire Police, Newport Township Police Department, Newport Township Fire Departments with their "jaws of life," the Nanticoke City Smoke House, Nanticoke Life Flight, Victim's Resource Center, Candy's Place, The PA State Police, District Attorney Stefanie Salavantis, contractor Ron Papiak with a backhoe demonstration, Binks Garage with a wrecker demonstration, Kevin Barrett demonstrating martial arts, and representatives of area legislators. There will be a "bouncy house," face painting, a chili cook-off by the NTCO, children's games, bake sale, "selfie booth," and a basket raffle. Residents are asked to watch for additional information throughout the month of July.

What is National Night Out ?

"... a chance to bring neighborhoods together with the men and women who protect them. The safety of our communities depends on both law enforcement and the citizens they serve, and tonight's events will enhance that cooperation." ~ Joe Biden, Vice President

"The best way to prevent crime is to know your neighbors & your surroundings. National Night Out triumphs over a culture that isolates us from each other and allows us to rediscover our own communities." ~ Kay Bailey Hutchison, Senator

"Preventing and solving crime is a community effort. National Night Out is an excellent program that helps the department build relationships with citizens and create safer neighborhoods. This is one of the events we look forward to each year."

~ Chief George Turner, Atlanta Police Department

NTCO Featured Organization at RailRiders Game



The Newport Township Community Organization (NTCO) was one of the featured community organizations at the baseball game between the Gwinnett Braves and the Scranton/Wilkes Barre RailRiders on Saturday, June 18th. Left picture shows Tom Kashatus and President Stephen Phillips with former Marine Captain and Vietnam veteran, Marty Basar, of Hanover Township. Marty was also recognized for his volunteerism in Hanover Green of Hanover Township and especially for those affairs regarding the memories of past veterans of Hanover Green. Middle picture shows President Phillips giving an on-field interview of the mission and accomplishments of the NTCO since its inception with Rachael Mark of the RailRiders. Right picture shows Tom Kashatus throwing out the first pitch for the game. During the third inning, Murph Fletcher of the NTCO was interviewed on the radio and spoke of his summer recreation program in Newport Township. Holding down the fort at the ballpark entrance with information packets regarding the NTCO was Mrs. Carolyn Phillips. A number of residents of White Haven Center, a state facility for the intellectually disabled, attended the game as guests of the NTCO.

Flag Day

By *Lorrie Materewicz* ~ Flag Day is June 14th, and that fell on a Tuesday this year. Newport Township American Legion Post 539, along with its Auxiliary, SAL, and Riders, plus VFW Post 8353 and Jeffries-Slapikas Post 971 joined forces to celebrate the day with a traditional ceremony outside the Legion at 6 pm. The ceremony included a short prayer by the Legion Chaplain, followed by formal presentation of worn and tattered flags to Legion officers for inspection before being escorted to the patriotic-colored burn barrel for honored and proper disposal. The Township Fire Department was on hand for honor and safety reasons. Following the ceremony, participants and the public were invited for hamburgers, hot dogs, and beverages. As previously noted in this publication, worn and tattered flags may be turned in to any Legion member or to the Glen Lyon Post Office at any time throughout the year, or by calling 570-736-7177 (Lorrie) for pick up.

Night At The Races

By *Lorrie Materewicz* ~ The first annual Night at the Races sponsored by SAL Squadron 539 was held at the Glen Lyon American Legion on Newport Street on Saturday, June 11. Doors opened at 6:30 and races started at 7 pm. Tickets were ten dollars pre-sold and were also available at the door, and each ticket purchased a horse and all the food and beverage you could consume. And food and beverages there were: a thirty-five foot buffet of homemade cuisine to suit every tastebud in the Township, plus desserts to fill every sweet tooth and beverages to quench every thirst. And because ticket sales were brisk, an eleventh race had to be added, but DJ Jimmy kept the entertainment flowing between races along with 50/50's and instant bingo. There was even a loser's lottery after every race so everyone would feel like a winner at some point in the evening. This event was a great success, so if you missed it, be sure to get your tickets when they go on sale next year. To those of you who attended this year, thank you for your support.



Flag Day Celebration Pictured l to r: Lorrie Materewicz, Auxiliary President; Jerry Wenner, Legion Vice Commander; Fran Kirshener; Legion Treasurer; and Bernie Michneski, Legion Member

Flag Day Facts

In the United States, Flag Day is celebrated on June 14. It commemorates the adoption of the flag of the United States, which happened on June 14, 1777, by resolution of the Second Continental Congress. The United States Army also celebrates the Army's birthday on this date; Congress adopted "the American continental army" after reaching a consensus position in the Committee of the Whole on June 14, 1775.

In 1916, the President of the United States issued a proclamation that officially established June 14 as Flag Day; in August 1949, National Flag Day was established by an Act of Congress. Flag Day is not an official federal holiday. Title 36 of the United States Code, Subtitle I, Part A, CHAPTER 1, § 110 is the official statute on Flag Day; however, it is at the president's discretion to officially proclaim the observance. On June 14, 1937, Pennsylvania became the first U.S. state to celebrate Flag Day as a state holiday, beginning in the town of Rennerdale. New York Statutes designate the second Sunday in June as Flag Day, a state holiday.

Source: Wikipedia



Above photo shows volunteers from various Township organizations preparing food items brought to the Glen Lyon American Legion by the Weinberg Food Bank for distribution to those in need. The first event took place June 22, and will continue on the 4th Wednesday of each month.

Monthly Food Distribution at the Glen Lyon American Legion

By *John Jarecki* ~ The Newport Township Community Organization (NTCO) and the Glen Lyon American Legion Auxiliary are cooperating with the Weinberg Northeast Regional Food Bank to provide a free monthly food distribution to those in need at the Glen Lyon American Legion at 65 Newport Street on the 4th Wednesday of each month from 6 to 7 pm.

Only families living in Newport Township are eligible. In order to participate, they must register before the day of distribution by calling 570-760-4392. Families are required to provide their full name, address, phone number, and the total number of people in their household.

On the day of the distribution, families must bring a form of identification that includes an address and some kind of identification for everyone in the household. Forms of identification can include a birth certificate, Social Security card, or medical card.

For more information, see the NTCO website and the Newport Township Now! Facebook page.



St. Faustina Parish, Nanticoke, held its annual church picnic at their Grove in Sheatown on June 24, 25, and 26. Pictured above are polka dancers stepping up to the music of Joe Stanky and the Cadets. The picnic was blessed with perfect summer weather.

GNA Class of '75 Holds 40th Reunion

By *Peter Selecky* ~ On September 26, 2015, GNA Class of '75 held its 40th reunion with a total of 85 classmates in attendance. Newport Township was well represented with 19+ classmates. A clambake catered by Anthracite Café along with a DJ for dancing rounded out the day. It was great to see fellow classmates, some we haven't seen in 40 years! The day and night was filled with stories of growing up together and the life-long friendships that make up this class. A memorial lighting of sky lanterns was held to honor those classmates who are deceased.



The Newport Kids from the Class of '75: Sitting: Cindy Pientka Dorris, Damian Butz, Mary Rinehamer McGinnis, Sharon Zyla, Cynthia Sopka, Peter Selecky, John Stapert. Standing: Elwood Orr, Nancy Paluck Tkatch, Lisa Gorgus Schwartz, Susan Gregus, Janet Smith Wenner, Marianne Sergott Clancy, Carol Cesarz Golanoski, Albert Mitchell, Jane Straub, Christine Roke, John Ulichney, David Brunozi.

Upcoming Newport High School Reunions

Class of '56 is planning their 60th Reunion on Saturday, August 6 from 12 noon to 5:00 pm at the Nuangola Grove at Lake Nuangola. Dress is casual. Please contact Norma Frankiewicz Roche for more information at 570-474-5254. \$25.00 per person.

Class of '66 is planning their 50th Reunion on September 17 at the R Bar in Alden. Please contact Joyce Huk Chwalek for more information at 570-650-4880.

The All-Newport Reunion will be held Sunday, October 9, 2016 at Holy Transfiguration Hall in the Hanover Section of Nanticoke (Rhode). Invitations will be mailed in July. Please contact Heidi and Paul Jarecki at 570-736-6782 if you wish to be added to the mailing list. The classes from the Sixties are under-represented, and anyone who attended Newport Township schools is encouraged to attend. Phoebe Thomas Hillan heads the Committee.

NTCO Memorabilia is available for all reunions. Contact Heidi and Paul Jarecki at 570-736-6782 for more information and advance orders.

Don't Worry.....

Don't look for happiness, create it. ~ Author Unknown

Smiling is good for the heart, laughing is good for the soul, and loving will keep you living, laughing, and smiling. ~ Author Unknown



Pictured above left is Clara Belefski as a high school student at Newport Township High School. She is 17 years old. Above right are Clara's close friends who were all teachers in the Newport Township system. The picture was taken at a retirement party in 1969. From left to right: Elizabeth Krushinski, Clara Belefski and Helen Krolikowsky.

Newport Township Teachers: Clara E. Belefski

By Susan Mary Najaka (Niece) ~ Clara E. Belefski was born in Glen Lyon Pennsylvania on November 7, 1903, the fourth of nine children. She was the daughter of Jacob and Leona Konieczny Belefski. Her siblings were Mary, Stanley, Rose, Celia, Leona, Clementine, Edward and Tad. They resided at the family homestead on East Main St, Glen Lyon where Clara was a lifelong resident.

Clara was a 1920 graduate of Newport Township High School. In 1921, her mother passed away and Clara was needed to help raise the younger children. She entered the Bloomsburg State Normal School on June 18, 1923 at the age of 19 for the Summer School Session. She was part of a group of students who were candidates for an initial certificate, leading to a normal school teaching certificate. Each summer's worth of courses was equivalent to one half of a regular semester.

Clara took extension courses during the 1923-24 academic year, and by the time she enrolled for summer school in 1924 had taught one school term, and by the summer of 1925 a second term. She again took extension courses in 1925-1926 and attended summer school twice more in 1926 and 1927. With the five summer sessions and two years of extension courses, Clara was eligible to graduate, which she did on August 19, 1927 in the primary group, which meant she was qualified as an elementary school teacher.

She taught for 45 years in the Newport Township School District and Greater Nanticoke Area, retiring in 1969. She was a first grade teacher for many of those years. She returned to work in the library at K.M. Smith School under a federal program during her early retirement years.

She was a member of St. Michael's Church, Glen Lyon, the parish Altar and Rosary Society, Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 8353 Auxiliary, Glen Lyon, American Legion Post 539, Glen Lyon, The Pennsylvania Association of School Retirees, The Wilkes University Polish Room Organization and the Pi Beta Gamma Club of Wyoming Valley.

Clara owned a lake-front cottage at Lily Lake and lived next door to Leo and Josephine Swithers. Josephine was also a teacher in Newport Township and Greater Nanticoke Area. They greatly enjoyed spending summers together taking long walks, visiting with neighbors, picking mushrooms and having dinner at the Lily Lake Hotel.

They both loved to entertain family members who enjoyed coming to the lake for swimming, fishing, and boating activities. At this time Clara was a buddy and constant companion to this writer (niece Susan Najaka) after her sister Clementine Najaka (Susan's Mom) passed away in 1977 at the age of 63.

Elizabeth Krushinski, Helen Krolikowski and Clara were the "Three Musketeers" of Newport Township who relished each

other's company. Elizabeth and Helen were also teachers in Newport and Nanticoke schools. They could be spotted at various church and club card party socials playing pinochle together and going to the horse races at Pocono Downs with the Pi Beta Gamma Club every summer. The ladies liked to paint ceramics which was a popular pastime in the 1960's and 1970's.

Additional hobbies Clara pursued were gardening with her sisters, traveling with friends and relatives, reading and cooking Polish favorites.

She enjoyed thirty-one years of retirement in good health and died on January 19, 2000 at the age of 96 at the Mercy Hospital, Wilkes Barre. Her funeral was held at St. Michael's Church and she was buried at the parish cemetery.

My Aunt Clara was like a second mother to this writer and she was also a role model as a teacher to me and her many students who aspired to pursue a career in education.

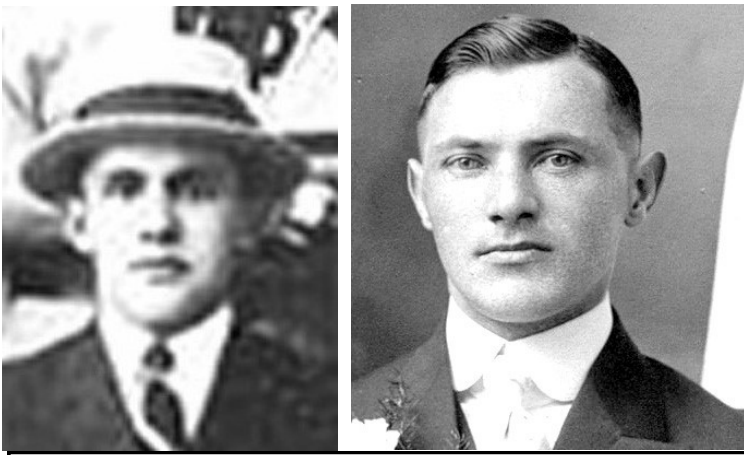
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Pictured left is Pete Turek, manager of the Glen Lyon team.
Pictured right is "Lefty" Kriefski, pitcher for Nanticoke.

Semi-Pro Baseball in Northeastern Pennsylvania: The 1922 Season for Glen Lyon and Nanticoke Part I

By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ The 1922 season for the Glen Lyon and Nanticoke semiprofessional baseball teams began in April and ended in October. Glen Lyon and Nanticoke each had strong teams but these two ancient and bitter rivals played in two different leagues, Glen Lyon in the County League (comprised of Glen Lyon, Parsons, Blackman's, Alden, Warrior Run, Miners Mills, Ashley and Larksville), and Nanticoke in the Wyoming League (comprised of Nanticoke, Newtown, Larksville (a second team), East End, Luzerne and Duryea). They would both vie for their league championships in a grueling intense struggle with the teams in their respective leagues, but their destiny, fueled by intense competitiveness, would lead them on a collision course and to a dramatic climax to the season. Nanticoke was led by Managers Nanny Yock, R. Davis and Dunderdale while Glen Lyon was managed by Peter Turek.

Both leagues had stringent rules about registering new players and this would be a point of contention with the teams. Negligence with the rules brought about constant complaints and some protests even resulted in the League's Advisory Board ordering the replaying of games. The most important players to be signed were the pitchers. Since games were played once a week, the team's number one pitcher usually started every game. And because good pitching could stop good hitting, a dominating pitcher could propel his team to a championship. Nanticoke signed a good one in Kostanty "Lefty" Kriefski. The Glen Lyon native was considered one of the best pitchers in the coal region. He played professionally with the Wilkes Barre Barons and was a star on several local semiprofessional teams. He pitched in many big games under enormous pressure when large "winner-take-all" purses were at stake. In 1920, he won ten straight games for the Nans and was still going strong. Glen Lyon also had a very good pitcher in Slim Williams, a product of Wayne County who resided in Sunbury. Up until this season, he appeared only in amateur circles but was so impressive that he was offered a contract to pitch for the St. Louis Cardinals and would go south with the team the following April.

Nanticoke's season started slowly but their prospects significantly improved when they signed pitcher Lefty Kriefski on May 16th. On July 9th, Newtown wrapped up the first half pennant after winning a thrilling battle with second place Larksville. In the second half of the season, Nanticoke started strong with five straight victories and leaped into first position before being defeated on August 27th by East End, another team on the rise. Then on September 3rd, before a crowd of more than 6,000 fans at Edgewater Park in Nanticoke, Luzerne handed Nanticoke a terrific jolt by winning two games, the first being a replay of a protested game on July 23. In this game which resumed play in the bottom of the 11th inning with the score tied at 3 and two outs, Horiacher, Luzerne's star pitcher, got the third out by retiring Shinse, Nanticoke's first baseman. In the 12th inning, both Kriefski and Horiacher struck out the side. In

the top of the 13th inning, Luzerne scored on a walk, a sacrifice and a double. In the bottom of the 13th, Horiacher retired the side for the victory. In the second game, Luzerne won 5 to 1. Luzerne's wins were largely attributed to Horiacher's great pitching and timely hitting. Nanticoke won their final two games but the damage was done and the second half ended in a three-way tie among Nanticoke, Luzerne and East End. To decide the championship, a two-game series was played. In the first game, Nanticoke lost to East End 2-1 and in the second game East End defeated Luzerne 4-3. As a result East End was declared the second half champion. East End would go on to win the overall championship by defeating the first half winner, Newtown, in a season-ending three game series.

Meanwhile, Glen Lyon got off to a good start and were in a neck and neck race with Parsons and Blackman's. On May 28th, Glen Lyon played Parsons in a crucial game at Suburban Park before a huge crowd. Garvey pitched for Parsons and Javilaski for Glen Lyon. Parsons won 4-1 with Garvey striking out 13. Glen Lyon's only run came on a home run by Niagahan, Glen Lyon's second baseman. Glen Lyon would win their next 5 games as Slim Williams took over the starting pitcher's role. On July 9th Parsons and Glen Lyon met for the second time with the first half pennant on the line. Before a crowd of 8,000 fans, the largest ever at Hollenback Park field, Parsons defeated Glen Lyon 3-2 on a home run by Trudnick, Parson's left fielder, in the bottom of the 10th inning. Godfray, the pitcher for Parsons, and Williams for Glen Lyon both did effective work. Godfray struck out 11 and Williams, 8. With their victory, Parsons won the first half pennant. In the second half, Glen Lyon and Parsons met at Glen Lyon on August 7th and Glen Lyon finally beat Parsons. With the score tied at 0-0 in the top of the eleventh inning, Glen Lyon scored on two errors and a double by Hiram George, Glen Lyon's third baseman. George would score on Javilaski's hit and Glen Lyon won, 3-0. George Fraley, Parson's pitcher, gave up 3 runs on three hits while striking out 12. Williams got the win with 10 strikeouts. On August 14th, the teams met again. This time Parsons won 4-1 with George Fraley outdueling Williams and Javilaski. Fraley was the star of the game. The South Wilkes-Barre product pitched superb ball, allowing only three hits and getting seven strikeouts. Glen Lyon, Parsons and Blackman's all played well to end the season in a three-way tie for first place. A two game series was arranged to determine the championship. Glen Lyon won the first game 8-5 over Blackman's. Glen Lyon overcame a five run first inning deficit with eight runs in the eighth inning for the win. Williams relieved Dzwielski in the third inning. Dzwielski and George had home runs in the victory. For the final game of the series between Glen Lyon and Parsons, baseball fans from all parts of Luzerne County gathered at Edgewater Park in Nanticoke on October 1st. In the second game, Williams pitched superbly striking out 16 and scattering four hits in a 4-2 win for Glen Lyon. The big hit of the game came when Dzwielski tripled with two on in the first. Fraley took the loss.

With their victory, Glen Lyon won the second half pennant and all awaited the series between the first half and second half winners to determine an overall champion. This series was not to be. Manager Watkins of Parsons stated that a meeting had been arranged with Glen Lyon manager Turek to schedule a return game between the two teams but the Glen Lyon manager failed to appear. Parsons was well worked up over the matter and their fans demanded a return game with Glen Lyon but to no avail. Glen Lyon claimed the overall championship. As this was happening, it was reported in the Wilkes-Barre Record newspaper that an argument was raging in the lower end of the county as to the representative merits of the Glen Lyon team of the County League and the Nanticoke team of the Wyoming League. Glen Lyon banked heavily upon its pitching sensation Williams, but the Nanticoke rooters were satisfied that Kriefski was his equal. What followed was an amazing series of games that legends are made of.

(Part II will appear in the Fall Newsletter)

Never give up!

It ain't over till it's over. ~ Yogi Berra

When you come to a fork in a road, take it. ~ Yogi Berra

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The Good Old Summertime

Summer is the time when one sheds one's tensions with one's clothes, and the right kind of day is jeweled balm for the battered spirit. A few of those days and you can become drunk with the belief that all's right with the world. ~ Ada Louise Huxtable

I almost wish we were butterflies and liv'd but three summer days — three such days with you I could fill with more delight than fifty common years could ever contain. ~ John Keats

When I was a young man, I wanted to change the world. I found it was difficult to change the world, so I tried to change my nation. When I found I couldn't change the nation, I began to focus on my town. I couldn't change the town and as an older man, I tried to change my family. Now, as an old man, I realize the only thing I can change is myself, and suddenly I realized that if long ago I had changed myself, I could have made an impact on my family. My family and I could have made an impact on our town. Their impact could have changed the nation and I could have changed the world. ~ Author Unknown

Go the extra mile. It's never crowded. ~ Author Unknown

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Meat Lover Pizza	12.99
(Ham, Pepperoni, Meat Ball, Sausage, Chicken)	
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(Black Olives, Onion, Green Pepper, Mushrooms)	
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Bacon, Egg & Cheese	2.49
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Turkey Bacon, Egg & Cheese	2.99
2 Hash Brown	1.49

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3 Eggs Omlet	3.99
Southwest Omlet	3.99
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2/\$5.49

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Ham	2.99
Turkey	2.99
Turkey & Ham	2.99
Tuna Salad	3.29
Chicken Salad	3.29

Extra Meat or Egg add 50¢

Add \$1.00 for French Fries with any meal order

	5pcs	10cs
Mozzarella Sticks	2.99	5.49
Potato Pancake	-	3.49
Perogie	2.99	5.49
French Fries	Small	Large
Fries	1.39	1.99
Cheese Fries	1.99	2.49
Loaded Fries	2.49	3.79
Wing Fries	2.49	3.79

Chicken Wings

5 pcs	\$4.49	30 pcs	\$19.99
10 pcs	\$7.99	50 pcs	\$29.99

Chicken Tender

3 pcs	\$4.99
5 pcs	\$7.99

Chicken Nuggets

5 pcs	\$2.29
10 pcs	\$3.99

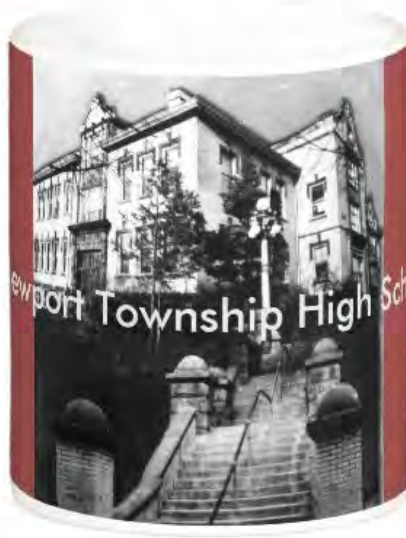
Hot Sub

Cheese Steak	4.99
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Chicken Wings Sub	3.99
Chicken Parm.	3.99
Tuna Melt	3.99

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New Item!
Classic Mug with a Classic High School!



The NTCO is pleased to offer its newest item! For a donation of \$10.00 each, you can enjoy your morning coffee or tea while reflecting on your care-free youth! The mug features a composite black and white photograph of Newport Township High School and its famous steps, with wide red stripes bordering each side. "Newport Township High School" is printed across the center in light gray lettering. If mailed, include postage: East Coast, \$7.15 for one, and \$9.00 for two. West Coast, \$12.00 for one, and \$15.00 for two. Contact Heidi and Paul Jarecki, 28 West Main Street, Glen Lyon, PA 18617. Phone: 570-736-6782. Email: hselecky@pa.metrocast.net. Proceeds benefit NTCO projects, such as recreation activities, environmental clean-ups, and this newsletter. As always, we thank you for your support.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

We would be honored and proud to have you as a member of the Newport Township Community Organization. Your membership will show approval of and help support our many projects to benefit your hometown! Membership is \$5.00 per year per person based on the calendar year January through December or a lifetime membership is available for \$50.00. Send application with fee to NTCO, 113 Railroad Ave., Wanamie, Nanticoke, PA 18634.

Name _____
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NTCO NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

NTCO will make available printed copies of its quarterly newsletter to those living outside the area. An annual fee of \$10.00 covers the cost of mailing via the US Postal Service. Send your check payable to "NTCO" to Heidi Jarecki, 28 W. Main St., Glen Lyon, PA 18617.

If you have internet access, please furnish your email address to Thomas Kashatus at tomkash@verizon.net to be entered into our data base. You will then be notified of new publications on NTCO's website at <http://newporttownship.com>. Photographs on internet publications are viewable in color. Hard copies are printed in black and white.

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Be Proud of Newport and Make Newport Proud of You!
 ~ The Late Honorable Paul R. Selecky

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NTCO MEETINGS

NTCO's meetings are held on the second Tuesday of the month at the Municipal Building in Wanamie at 6:45 p.m. We invite you to attend, share your ideas and help develop new programs to benefit Newport Township. There are many ways to showcase your talents and the community will reap the rewards!

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION OFFICERS/CONTACTS

President: Stephen Phillips 570-735-3991
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 Second Vice President: Bill Hourigan 570-736-6096
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