



[W]inter tames man, woman and beast. ~ William Shakespeare, *The Taming of the Shrew*



A Winter's Day on Fairchild's Pond, Alden

Newport Township Public Business

By John Jarecki ~ The following are items of Township business discussed or acted upon at meetings of the Newport Township Commissioners in October, November, and December of 2019.

October 7, 2019: Residents' comments included requests that the Commissioners support State House Bill 1918 and State Senate Bill 1202 that put a moratorium on the Governor's Executive Order to close the White Haven Center for mentally disadvantaged persons and that they support a resolution against the closing of the State Correctional Institution at Retreat (SCI Retreat).

Roy Tinney was sworn in as a Newport Township Fire Police Officer by Leonard Paczkowski, Chief of Fire Police Officers.

Financial Oversight Consultant Jennifer Polito reported that, as of the end of the third quarter of 2019, that is September 30, 2019, the Township had income of \$970,628 and expenditures of \$832,515.

The Commissioners approved the following resolutions to: 1) hold Luzerne County harmless in the demolition of the property at 1246 Center Street in Wanamie in order to allow it to be demolished under the County's Scattered Site Demolition Program; 2) transfer, at the end of the third quarter of 2019, the usual funds from the Township's Refuse and Recycling Account to its General Fund Account.

Township Administrative Assistant Joe Hillan included the following in his report on the demolition of blighted Township properties:

- 1) 125-131 East Main Street, Glen Lyon: The Township has asked the County and School District to forgive taxes on this property. When they do, the Township will take ownership of the property and work toward demolishing it.
- 2) 1246 Center Street, Wanamie: Tonight the Commissioners approved a resolution to hold Luzerne County harmless in the demolition of the property in order to allow it to be demolished under the County's Scattered Site Demolition Program.
- 3) 23-25 Newport Street, Glen Lyon: The owner is demolishing the property himself and is now waiting for the bank to deal with difficulties arising from the mortgage.
- 4) 161-162 Brown Row, Wanamie: The Township still has a fair amount of work to be done on this property.
- 5) 40 Rock Street, Glen Lyon: This is the first property to be chosen for Luzerne County's Blighted Property Program. The next County meeting on this program will be attended by Joe Hillan.

Township Manager Peter Wanchisen included the following items in his report.

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- 1) The Township received notification from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDot) that Newport Township's 2019 allocation of Liquid Fuels Funds (State funds for upkeep of community roads, based on length of roads and population) is \$150,009.
- 2) The Township received notification from the State that it was successful in getting a grant of \$160,000 under the State Flood Mitigation Program. This amount will be combined with a \$150,000 State Gaming grant to fully fund the Glen Lyon Railroad Street Storm Sewer Renovation Project.
- 3) The Township received notification from J.P. Mascaro that, effective immediately, Mascaro will charge the Township \$100 per ton to process commingled recycling material. The cost of disposing recyclables is now going up because China is no longer taking American recyclables, thereby greatly reducing demand for them, and therefore their value.
- 4) The Township received notification from the State Bureau of Justice that it will receive approximately \$700 toward the purchase of bullet proof vests. This amount will approximately cover the cost of one vest. A vest has a life span of about 5 years.
- 5) The Township received notification from the State Department of Conservation of Natural Resources (DCNR) that its request for a grant to refurbish the basketball court in the Wanamie Recreation Park has been turned down because other projects were in greater need of being done.

November 4, 2019. Residents comments included a discussion of the need for better cell phone service in Glen Lyon and the need to slow traffic for safety reasons in the Polander Hill section of Alden.

Township Manager Peter Wanchisen announced that the Township has changed its recycling service provider from J.P. Mascaro to Solomon Inc. Solomon will process commingled recyclables at \$25 a ton, much less than the \$100 per ton that Mascaro was charging.

Commissioner John Zyla reported that one of our full time Police Officers, William Kishbaugh, has resigned to take a better paying position with Kingston Township. The Commissioners held a personnel meeting after their public meeting in order to discuss what could be done to prevent officers from leaving.

Financial Oversight Consultant Jennifer Polito reported that a proposed Township budget for 2020 has been presented to the Commissioners for their consideration and comments. A special Commissioners' meeting will be held on December 17 to vote on the proposed budget.

The Commissioners voted to approve 1) applying for a State gaming grant in the amount of \$70,950 to purchase a new Ford F550 Dump Truck with a snow plow, 2) applying for a State gaming grant of \$237,775 to fund street paving projects throughout the Township, 3) renewing the relationship of the Township with the Luzerne County Tax Office according to which the Tax Office collects property taxes for the Township, and 4) granting to Joe Hillan authority to sign checks drawn on Newport Township deposit accounts. (This is in preparation for Joe becoming Township manager in January of 2020.)

Township Administrative Assistant Joe Hillan included the following in his report on the demolition of blighted Township properties:

- 1) 125-131 East Main Street, Glen Lyon: The School District has forgiven its taxes on this property. The Township is waiting for Luzerne County to also respond to the request for tax forgiveness. Word was received from the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) that a grant to demolish this property is available through State Representative Gerald Mullery's office.
- 2) 1246 Center Street, Wanamie: An application was submitted to have the property demolished under Luzerne County's Scattered Site Demolition Program. The Township expects to hear from them in a week or two.
- 3) 161-162 Brown Row, Wanamie: The Township is trying to get the deed to the property. It can then be demolished.
- 4) 40 Rock Street, Glen Lyon: This is the first property to be chosen for Luzerne County's Blighted Property Program. The Township is still waiting for County action.

Township Manager Peter Wanchisen included that following items in his report:

- 1) The Township received notification from John Elmy that the Township Fire Company intends to apply for a grant in the amount

\$25,000 through the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) to purchase an electric generator.

2) Ransom Quarry owner Howard DeGilio agreed to block access of off-road vehicles to an area near Ridgeview in order to reduce traffic and littering there. The Township has a good relationship with Ransom Quarry, which has helped the Township in the past.

December 2, 2019. There were no residents' comments.

The Commissioners approved an amendment to the International Property Maintenance Code (IPMC) which regulates real estate in Newport Township. The amendment specifies certain items that the Code leaves to be determined by individual municipalities, such as the height of grass that is prohibited (greater than 6 inches) and the period of the year (October to May) during which heating requirements are in effect for houses and work places. This amendment also amends the Code to require carbon monoxide detectors in houses heated by fossil fuels or that are attached to a garage.

The Commissioners approved 1) a request from Norman Bodek to provide a cost of living increase to the Firemen's Pension Fund, 2) the appointment of Joe Hillan as Township Secretary as of January 1, 2020, 3) the authorizing of Joe Hillan to have access to Township Berkheimer tax data as of January 1, 2020, 4) a resolution supporting two State bills that impose a moratorium on the closing of State Correctional Institution at Retreat (SCI Retreat), 5) the naming of Ken Pollock Auto Group as the towing service to be called before any others when towing illegally parked vehicles along Vista Drive (Ken Pollock owns a good deal of property along Vista Drive), and 7) a resolution that authorizes Hanover Township to act as the lead in applying for a State gaming grant on behalf of the Lower South Valley Council of Governments (LSVCOG) in the amount of \$500,000.

The Commissioners approved resolutions authorizing the Township to submit applications for the following State gaming grants: 1) Fire Station upgrade (\$431,000), 2) purchase of a fully-equipped police rated pickup truck (\$81,431.70), 3) acquisition and demolition projects in the township (\$500,000.00), and 4) upgrade to the basketball court in the Wanamie Recreation Park (\$50,050.00). The acquisition and demolition program is intended to work with property owners in the demolition of deteriorating buildings. There are about 29 properties that are candidates for this program.

The following is an update by Joe Hillan on the demolition of blighted Township properties:

- 1) 125-131 East Main Street, Glen Lyon: Both the School District and Luzerne County have forgiven taxes on the property. An application was submitted for a grant of \$60,000 from the Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to demolish the building.
- 2) 1246 Center Street, Wanamie: The application to demolished the property under Luzerne County's Scattered Site Demolition Program has been approved. The Luzerne County Historical Society is checking the historical value of the building.
- 3) 161-162 Brown Row, Wanamie: The Township has purchased the property in the County's repository sale and is waiting to receive the deed. Then the demolition will move forward.
- 4) 40 Rock Street, Glen Lyon: The Township is still waiting for action under the County's Blighted Property Program.



Following the Blue Mass and breakfast at St. Andrew's Church in Alden on November 10, parishioners Colleen Benscoter and Susan Maza presented the Township Fire Companies with a donation.

NTCO PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Stephen E. Phillips ~ The Newport Township Community Organization continues its efforts to improve both the overall quality of life and expansion of the Area's tax base.

During October, the Organization, in concert with the Township's Board of Commissioners, facilitated a public meeting with Mike Dziak, the CEO of the Earth Conservancy, to review that entity's proposed plans for its acreage in the Municipality, and the benefits which could potentially accrue to the community.

Currently much of Earth Conservancy's holdings in the Township may be located too far away from major highways to generate substantial industrial development in the near term. However, as the Earth Conservancy's parcels are developed in adjacent communities, Newport Township's sites may become attractive to residential development to house the prospective employees who are expected to obtain jobs in the neighboring locales.

Newport Township is expected to retain large tracts of land which can be utilized for recreational and open space uses.

In addition, some Earth Conservancy acreage may be used to generate solar power, or become the locations of back offices. This type of office use does not require that these parcels be located as close to major thoroughfares as prospective industrial development sites.

The NTCO has continued its successful program of monthly free food distribution to qualified Township residents. American Legion Post 539 in Glen Lyon has remained an important adjunct in the provision of this vital community service. Approximately 100 families are the beneficiaries of this program, and nearly 10 individuals in the Ken Pollock Apartments receive special boxes of this food obtained from the Commission on Economic Opportunity via the Weinburg Food Bank.

This organization would like to gratefully acknowledge the services rendered during the past three years by the Township's retiring manager, Peter F. Wanchisen. He assumed this role during a period of turmoil within the Township, and he continued to carry out his duties in an exemplary manner. The NTCO enjoyed a close working relationship with Mr. Wanchisen during his tenure, and we all wish him a happy, healthy, and enjoyable retirement.

The NTCO congratulates Joe Hillan, Jr. on his appointment as Township Manager commencing in January, and based on his performance as Mr. Wanchisen's Assistant, we are confident he too will carry out his duties in a similar manner.

This Organization would also be remiss if it did not congratulate Township native and resident Bernice Prushinski Shipp on her appointment as the Township's Administrative Assistant.

The NTCO looks forward to continuing its existing close working relationship with both of these individuals, and offers its assistance to them and the Township's elected officials whenever they deem it advisable.

The Community Organization participated in the first annual Township Christmas tree lighting ceremony on December 3rd. The event was sponsored by Newport United, and it is hoped that future events will continue to attract other volunteer groups and local residents. Refreshments were provided to those in attendance, and several Christmas carols were sung by those present.

In conclusion, once again this writer has the honor and privilege of offering wishes for a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year to all of our very faithful readers.

We look forward to your continued support and encouragement during the coming year.

Editorial: Donate to Local Organizations

As editors of the Newport Township Community News, we recognize the value and contributions of our sister community organizations. Each one serves a unique purpose and each is dependent on support for fundraisers from residents. Without that support, all of our local volunteer groups would cease to exist. With the New Year, we hope that our readers might consider a donation however large or small to keep us all going. Give to the organization of your choice. We can assure you it'll go a long way.

We thank you and wish you all a healthy and happy New Year and may all your dreams come true! Heidi and Paul Jarecki

How Times Change or Does Change Come with Time?

By Tom Kashatus ~ Commissioner John Zyla of Sheatown likes traveling to Glen Lyon to visit with friends, especially now since he has retired. As he proceeded down East Main Street for the past two years, he was disturbed by the sight of unadorned trash on the property/empty lot at 146 East Main Street and felt something had to be done to clean it up. The deed for the lot listed 146 East Main, LLC as the owner, with Michael and Lindsay Yetter of Carbondale as the primary officers of the LLC. The property is located on the corner of East Main and Third Streets across from Saint Denis Church and was the former site of Gionta's Café.

The trashy lot became an issue at a number of commissioners meetings. A number of citations were written over the years for accumulation of junk, high grass and weeds, abandoned vehicles, trash etc. and mailed, with no results or any useful attempt to clean up the mess. Magistrate hearings were set and no one showed. Warrants for arrest were issued and unfortunately, due to legal restrictions, none were served on the out-of-town absentee landlords.

Finally, Police Commissioner Zyla gave permission to Newport Township Chief Jeremy Blank to have his officers travel to Carbondale in Lackawanna County to serve the warrants; and with the assistance of Carbondale Police, Ms. Yetter was arrested at work, cited, and was arraigned before Carbondale Magistrate Sean McGraw. After her arraignment, Ms Yetter and her case were released to Magistrate Donald Whittaker where she was found guilty of all charges. She was forced to clean up the property. Her fines totaled over \$1,500.00. Commissioner Zyla is very pleased with the decision of Magistrate Whittaker and feels that the punishment will have a lasting effect on enforcing future violations of property maintenance ordinances.

The Newport Township Commissioners have taken the position that they will do whatever has to be done, according to law, to insure properties in Newport Township are kept respectable. Absentee landlords will be no exception to the long arm of the law and code enforcement.



148 East Main Street Two Years Ago



148 East Main Street Today

SCI Retreat

At press time of this Newsletter, there has been no official announcement concerning the proposed closing of SCI Retreat by the State Department of Corrections. Such a move would have a serious impact on Luzerne County and especially on Newport Township. We hope for a positive outcome.

Halloween Trunk or Treat

Sponsored by the Newport Township Women's Activity Group, Trunk or Treat was held in the Municipal Garage on Saturday, October 26. The Group would like to acknowledge all participants: Newport Township Crime Watch, Nanticoke Area Little League, Newport Township Lions Club, Newport Township Recreation Board, the Fire Department, the Police Department, the Fire Police, the Street Department, Paul Kearney, and the Newport Board of Commissioners. Bicycles were raffled off, and over 250 children dressed in very creative costumes, as evidenced in the photos. Even some adults got into the act!



News and Notices from the Township



Railroad Street Project

Pictured above: Work has begun on the Railroad Street project in Glen Lyon. The street is in danger of collapse due to weakened storm drains. The project was awarded to Don Bower Inc. of Berwick and is funded by a State gaming grant and an additional grant from the State Department of Community and Economic Development under its Flood Mitigation Program.

Refuse and Recycling Fee

The Newport Township Board of Commissioners announced the 2020 Refuse and Recycling Rates. The refuse fee is \$200.00 per unit and the recycling fee is \$40.00 per unit for a total of \$240.00. If payment is received by February 29, 2020 the discounted fee will be \$235.00 per unit. If payment is made between March 1 and March 31, the penalty fee of \$275.00 will be charged. This year residents have been given the opportunity of having an extra month to pay at the discounted rate.

Community Calendar

In cooperation with Newport United, a community calendar is being developed by the Township. Township organizations are asked to submit their events and fundraisers to Bernice Shipp, Administrative Assistant, with the goal of keeping residents informed and of preventing events from being held on the same day. Please refer to the township website www.newporttownship.org and click on Calendar of Events. This will also aid Newport United with announcements on the electronic community bulletin board in Sheatown. All non-profit groups are encouraged to participate. The Township phone number is 570-735-4735 or email to: Bernice.shipp@newporttownship.org.

CATS

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP HAS A MIXTURE OF RESIDENTS WHO HAVE VARYING VIEWS ON CATS. SOME LOVE THEM, OTHERS DO NOT. OUR COMMISSIONERS ATTEMPT TO WALK THE FINE LINE THAT RESPECTS BOTH POINTS OF VIEW. RECENTLY THERE HAS BEEN AN INCREASE IN THE NUMBER OF COMPLAINTS ABOUT CATS CAUSING DAMAGE AND CREATING UNSANITARY CONDITIONS. THIS IS AN ATTEMPT TO ADDRESS CAT ISSUES AND MINIMIZE BAD EXPERIENCES IN OUR COMMUNITY.

1. ORDINANCE 1976-4 CLEARLY PUTS FORTH THE RESPONSIBILITIES OF CAT OWNERS; SPECIFICALLY THE FACT THAT RESIDENTS WHO OWN AND SHELTER CATS ARE LIMITED TO THREE CATS, AND MUST ENSURE THAT THEY ARE EITHER IN THE RESIDENCE OR SECURED BY A LEASH SO THAT THEY ARE NOT ALLOWED TO STRAY FROM THE PREMISES.
2. IN ADDITION TO PRIVATELY OWNED CATS, THERE IS AN ISSUE OF WILD FERRAL CATS. RESIDENTS ARE CONTRIBUTING TO THE PROBLEM BY FEEDING AND IN SOME CASES PROVIDING SHELTER TO THESE ANIMALS. WHAT NEEDS TO BE CONSIDERED IS THE FACT THAT WHAT MIGHT BE TWO OR THREE ROAMING CATS TODAY CAN EASILY BE TEN OR FIFTEEN IN A SHORT PERIOD OF TIME. THE S.P.C.A. HAS A PROGRAM THAT ELIMINATES PROBLEMS ASSOCIATED WITH FERRAL CAT BREEDING. THIS PROGRAM IS THE MOST HUMANE APPROACH AND SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BY ANYONE FEEDING OR SHELTERING THESE ANIMALS.

REGARDLESS OF YOUR VIEW OF CATS, WILD OR DOMESTIC, CONSIDERATION OF OTHERS IS THE KEY TO HARMONY WITHIN OUR COMMUNITY. CONTACT THE MUNICIPAL AT 570-735-4735 IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING WILD OR DOMESTIC CATS IN NEWPORT TOWNSHIP.

YOUR UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION IS REQUESTED.

APPRECIATIVELY,

JOSEPH HILLAN

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP MANAGER

Township Recreation Board Seeks New Member

A vacancy on the Newport Township Recreation Board due to the recent resignation of member Valerie Bartle needs to be filled by March 2020. The Board's mission is to improve parks, playgrounds, and recreational opportunities for all residents. The Board works in conjunction with local sports and recreation groups, such as NTCO, and Commissioner Jack Vishnefski to develop a master plan, along with fundraising and grant seeking. Applicants should be Newport Township residents, at least 18 years of age and should send a letter of introduction to Jack Vishnefski, Newport Township Municipal Building, 351 West Kirmar Ave. Wanamie, PA 18634. The Board meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 5:00 pm in the Municipal Building. Members are Judy Pazgan, Scott Spencer, Kristen Kaminski, Heidi Jarecki.

Newport Township Crime Watch

By Sue Heinz ~ In October, Newport Township Crime Watch took part in the Women's Activity Group's Trunk or Treat event at the Municipal Garage. Crime Watch was represented by Christy Emelett and Kayleigh Saraka. At the November meeting, our guest speaker was Rachael Wydra, RN, PA Department of Health. She spoke about the opioid crisis and Narcan, an antidote to drug overdose. Narcan was distributed to members who were instructed in its use.

Newport Township Crime Watch meets on the 2nd Thursday of each month at 7 pm in the Community Room of the Municipal Building on Kirmar Avenue in Wanamie. All meetings are open to the public.

Beginning in July, 2020, Crime Watch will collect \$5.00 dues from participating members as required in order to obtain 501c3 status as a non profit organization. Participating members are those who hold office or vote on any issue. Any township resident can still attend meetings and bring up any concerns or questions they may have without paying the dues. The community is encouraged to attend meetings and meet with our Police officers. If however you wish to take a more active role in the Crime Watch organization, you are certainly welcome to become a dues paying member. Dues will be collected on an annual basis and begin in July of 2020.

Crime Watch will be meeting on January 9, February 13 and March 12. Plans will begin for the 5th Annual NNO Community Picnic tentatively scheduled for August 4. Check the Newport Township Crime Watch Facebook page for further details.

Obituaries

By Tom Kashatus ~ These obituaries are in reference to individuals who have ties to Newport Township and/or Newport Township High School. The obituaries are published in abbreviated form due to limited space; thusly, a more complete obituary can be found on our web site, www.newporttownship.com. There is also a link leading to the original newspaper obituary or that of the funeral home. Your comments are always welcome; and, if someone is missed, please notify this writer at tomkashatus@gmail.com or call (570) 736-6981.

BUYDOS, Elsie M., (nee Bartlebaugh), 64, of Glen Lyon, passed away September 3, 2019. Elsie was born on August 3, 1955. She was a graduate of Scranton Tech High School and Shippensburg University with an associate degree in nursing.

OBAZA, Louise T. (nee Repotski), 89, of Mountain Top, and formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away September 4, 2019. Louise was born and raised in Glen Lyon. She graduated from Newport Township High School Class of 1947 and Mercy Hospital School of Nursing.

STRUNK, Luther Samuel, 96, of Mesa, AZ for the past 30 years, and formerly of Sheatown and Shavertown, passed away September 1, 2019. Luther was born in Nanticoke on June 29, 1923. He attended Newport Township High School prior to induction into the US Army. He was a combat veteran of World War II serving with I Company, 330th Regiment of the 83rd Infantry.

RINEHIMER, Elwood D. "Rhiney," 99, of Glen Lyon, passed away September 4, 2019, at his home. Elwood was born in Pond Hill on March 14, 1920, and raised in Alden and Wanamie. He graduated from Newport Township High School Class of '40. He was a US Air Force veteran serving in the Pacific Theater during World War II at Henderson Air Force Base, Guadalcanal.

HAEFELE, Loren H., 78, of Hunlock Creek, and formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away Thursday, September 5, 2019.

PRICE, Tamrus J., 66, of Nanticoke, formerly of Sheatown, passed away September 12, 2019. Tamrus was born November 15, 1952. She attended Pulaski School in Glen Lyon and graduated from John S. Fine High School Class of 1970.

MAZUKA, Joseph J. Jr., 49, of Wilkes Barre, formerly of Wanamie, passed away September 11, 2019. Joseph graduated from John S. Fine High School Class of '86.

KLUGER, David S., 67, of Dallas, formerly of Alden and Glen Lyon, died Tuesday, September 17, 2019 at home. David grew up in Alden. He was educated in Newport Township schools and graduated from John S. Fine High School and Luzerne County Community College.

KLEPACZ, Rev. Reese E., 46, of Glen Lyon, passed away September 19, 2019. Rev. Klepacz was born in Wilkes Barre on November 10, 1972. He served as minister of Valley View Chapel in Larksville and Sunlight Church in Anthony, Kansas.

SKALLA, Dorothy (nee Streimikis), 95, of Sheatown, passed away September 24, 2019. Dorothy was born on May 24, 1924 and raised in Wanamie. Dorothy was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of '42 and Bucknell Junior College, now Wilkes University, Class of '44.

TABBIT, Rose M. (nee Genetin), 82, of Manville, NJ, and formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away July 10, 2019. Rose was born in Brooklyn in 1936 and raised in Glen Lyon. She graduated from Newport Township High School, Class of 1954.

RUDUSKY, Basil M., MD, 86, of Mountain Top, formerly of Alden, passed away October 6, 2019. Dr. Rudusky, a cardiologist, was born in Wilkes-Barre and raised in Alden. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of '51 and the University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine.

PISANESCHI, Rosemary (nee Soboleski), 81, of Shickshinny, passed away October 16, 2019. Rosemary was born on March 22, 1938 in Glen Lyon.

HOFFECKER, Loretta B. (nee Bezdecki), 95, of Maris Grove, formerly of Wanamie, passed away on July 19, 2019. She was born on December 10, 1923 and raised in Wanamie.

ROGOWICZ, Edward J., 85, of Hershey, and formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away on October 22, 2019. Edward was born on April 25, 1934 and raised in Glen Lyon. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of '52 and Millersville University. He was a veteran of the US Army enlisting after high school graduation.

MORRISSEY, Charles F. Sr., "The Ole Man," 86, of Ashley, and formerly of Alden and Wanamie, passed away on October 29, 2019. Charles was born December 19, 1933. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School and a veteran of the US Army serving during the Korean War and stationed in LaRochelle, France.

SEIFERT, Edward A., 67, of Glen Lyon, passed away October 29, 2019 in the Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, Plains Township. He was a US Navy veteran.

MAKOWSKI, Thalia, "Hannah," (nee Dymeterko), 97, of Lindenhurst, NY, and born and raised in Glen Lyon, passed away November 9, 2019.

SHUTTA, Alfred M. Sr., 83, of Bernardston, MA, and formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away at Baystate Medical Center in Springfield, MA on May 12, 2019. Alfred was born on April 20, 1936 and raised in Glen Lyon. He was a 21-year veteran of the US Air Force serving in the US, France, Korea, and Vietnam.

SWALES, Ann Marie, (nee Stock), 92, of Wanamie, passed away on November 24, 2019. Ann Marie was born and raised in Nanticoke.

BUTSICK, Joseph Michael, 86, of Hamilton, Montana, formerly of Wanamie, passed away November 13, 2019. Joseph was born in Plymouth on January 16, 1933. Joseph was raised in Edwardsville and graduated from Edwardsville High School. He was a veteran of the US Air Force.

KLING, Sherry Lynn, 54, of Kingston, and formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away November 22, 2019. Sherry was born in Nanticoke on November 25, 1964 and raised in Glen Lyon. She was a graduate of John S. Fine High School.

VASILAKOS, Cheryl Ann (nee Jacobs), 72, of Berwick, passed away October 12, 2018. Cheryl was born in Berwick and raised in Conyngham Township. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of '64.

FLORA, Lucille F. (nee Rentko), 74, of Sugar Notch, and formerly of Sheatown, passed away on November 27, 2019. Lucille was born in Nanticoke on November 4, 1945. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1963.

YUDISKY, Olga, (nee Krasulski), 96, of Alden, passed away November 28, 2019. Olga was born in Alden on July 24, 1923. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of '41.

PFIFFERLING, Margaret Carole, (nee Price), 77, of Alden, passed away December 4, 2019. Margaret was born June 24, 1942. She graduated from Newport Township High School Class of 1960.

ELDRIDGE, Arlene M. (nee Kosker), 74, of Alden, died December 3, 2019. She was born in Nanticoke on October 27, 1945, and graduated from Vailsburg High School, Newark, NJ.

GONSHOR, Norman J., 89, of South Chesterfield, VA, and formerly of Alden and Mountain Top, died December 4, 2019. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1948.

DAVIES, Christopher L., 39, of Sheatown, passed away November 13, 2019, Christopher was born August 1, 1980. He graduated from John S. Fine High School.

MORECK, Janice L., (nee Dziwak), 62, of South Montrose, and formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away November 28, 2019. Janice was born in Kingston on May 31, 1957.

STAVETSKI, Peter P. Jr., 85, of Glen Lyon, passed away December 8, 2019. Peter was a graduate of Newport Township High School and Wilkes College School of Business. He worked as an accountant in New York City.

The Flora and Fauna of Newport Township



Eastern Gray Squirrel

By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ A familiar sight to most bird lovers is a squirrel on their bird feeder. This one pictured above was helping himself to breakfast one winter morning on Engle Street in Glen Lyon.

Squirrels are members of the Sciuridae, a family that includes small or medium-size rodents, with 50 genera and 268 species. The squirrel family includes tree squirrels, ground squirrels, chipmunks, marmots (including woodchucks), flying squirrels, and prairie dogs among other rodents. Squirrels are indigenous to the Americas, Eurasia, and Africa. Squirrels are generally small animals, ranging in size from the African pygmy squirrel at 2.8–3.9 inches in length to the Laotian giant flying squirrel at 3 feet 7 inches in length. Squirrels live in almost every habitat, from tropical rainforest to semiarid desert, avoiding only the high Polar Regions and the driest of deserts.

The word "squirrel", first attested in 1327, comes from the Anglo-Norman *esquirel* which is from a Latin word *sciurus*. This Latin word was borrowed from the ancient Greek word *skiouros*, which means shadow-tailed, referring to the bushy appendage possessed by many of its members.

The phylogeny (evolutionary development) of squirrels is fairly straightforward. The three main lineages are the Ratafinae, Sciurillinae, and all other subfamilies. The Ratafinae contain a mere handful of living species in tropical Asia. The pygmy squirrel of tropical South America is the sole living member of the Sciurillinae. The third lineage, by far the largest, has a nearly world-wide distribution. This supports the hypothesis that the common ancestor of all squirrels, living and fossil, lived in North America.

Because squirrels cannot digest cellulose, they must rely on foods rich in protein, carbohydrates, and fats. Squirrels, being primarily herbivores, eat a wide variety of plants, as well as nuts, seeds, conifer cones, fruits, fungi, and green vegetation. Some squirrels, however, also consume meat. Squirrels have been known to eat small birds, young snakes, and smaller rodents, as well as bird eggs and insects.

The eastern gray squirrel is native to eastern North America and is found from New Brunswick to Manitoba, south to East Texas and Florida. Eastern gray squirrels have a high enough tolerance for humans to inhabit residential neighborhoods and raid bird feeders for millet, corn, and sunflower seeds. In the wild, eastern gray squirrels can be found inhabiting large areas of mature, dense woodland ecosystems, generally covering 100 acres of land. These forests usually contain large amounts of dense vegetation that provides them with sufficient amount of food sources and favorable shelters. Oak-hickory hardwood forests are preferred over coniferous (evergreen) forests.

Squirrel Facts

1. Squirrels are divided into five subfamilies, with about 58 genera and some 285 species.
2. The oldest squirrel fossil, *Hesperopetes*, dates back to the Chadronian (about 40–35 million years ago) and is similar to modern flying squirrels.
3. All species have either four or five toes on each paw.
4. Tree squirrels, unlike most mammals, can descend a tree head-first. They do so by rotating their ankles 180 degrees, enabling the hind paws to point backward and thus grip the tree bark from the opposite direction.
5. Gray squirrels were first introduced to Britain in the 1870s, as fashionable additions to estates. They spread rapidly across England, and have almost entirely displaced native red squirrels. Gray squirrels also carry the squirrel pox virus, to which red squirrels have no immunity.
6. Gray squirrels were eaten in earlier times by Native Americans and their meat is still popular with hunters across most of their range in North America. Today, it is still available for human consumption and is occasionally sold in the United Kingdom. However, physicians in the United States have warned that squirrel brains should not be eaten, because of the risk that they may carry Creutzfeldt–Jakob disease, a fatal degenerative brain disorder.
7. The eastern gray squirrel is a hoarder. It hoards food in numerous small caches for later recovery. Each squirrel is estimated to make several thousand caches each season. The squirrels have very accurate spatial memory for the locations of these caches, and use distant and nearby landmarks to retrieve them.
8. Squirrels are very trusting animals, and are of the very few wild animal species which will eat out of a person's hand.



Newsletter in Slovakia! John and Chris Selecky of Laguna Beach, CA were in the medieval mining town of Banská Štiavnica in Slovakia this summer. They toured the "Old Castle," which was originally the Chapel of St. Michal but later was transformed into a Castle when the Turks invaded. After the tour, they enjoyed reading the Newsletter. John grew up in Glen Lyon and is a member of the Newport Class of '59.

Taste of the Township

Garlic



By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~
Garlic (*Allium sativum*) is a species in the onion genus, *Allium*. Its close relatives include the onion, shallot, leek, chives, and Chinese onion. The garlic plant's bulb is the most commonly used part of the plant. Garlic bulbs are normally divided into numerous fleshy sections called cloves. Garlic cloves are used for consumption (raw or cooked) or for medicinal

purposes. They have a characteristic pungent, spicy flavor that mellows and sweetens considerably with cooking. It imparts a garlic flavor and aroma in food, minus the spiciness. Garlic contains rich amounts of vitamins B6 and C and the dietary minerals manganese and phosphorus.

Garlic is native to Central Asia and northeastern Iran where it can currently be found growing wild. The wild plant called *Allium longicuspis* evolved for thousands of years, eventually shaping itself into the form of the modern *Allium sativum*, or garlic. Garlic is one of the oldest known food flavoring and seasoning plants. It was domesticated during Neolithic times, around 8,000 BC, with the development of agriculture and the making of polished stone implements. The use of garlic in China dates back thousands of years. It was consumed by ancient Greek and Roman soldiers and sailors. It was known to ancient Egyptians, and has been used both as a food flavoring and as a traditional medicine. It has long been a common seasoning worldwide.

The chemicals responsible for the sharp flavor of garlic are produced when the plant's cells are damaged. When a cell is broken by chopping, chewing, or crushing, enzymes stored in cell vacuoles trigger the breakdown of several sulfur-containing compounds stored in the cell fluids. The resultant compounds are responsible for the sharp or hot taste and strong smell of garlic. Some of the compounds are unstable and continue to react over time. Among the members of the onion family, garlic has by far the highest concentrations of initial reaction products, making garlic much more potent than onions, shallots, or leeks.

A large number of sulfur compounds contribute to the smell and taste of garlic. Allicin has been found to be the compound most responsible for the "hot" sensation of raw garlic. The process of cooking garlic removes allicin, thus mellowing its spiciness. Because of its strong odor, garlic is sometimes called the "stinking rose." When eaten in quantity, garlic may be strongly evident in the diner's sweat and garlic breath the following day. This is because garlic's strong-smelling sulfur compounds are metabolized, forming allyl methyl sulfide. Allyl methyl sulfide cannot be digested and is passed into the blood. It is carried to the lungs and the skin, where it is excreted. The effect of eating garlic may be present for a long time.

Garlic Facts

1. Garlic is one of the oldest food flavorings that was discovered in ancient times.
2. In 2016, world production of garlic was 26.6 million tons, with China alone accounting for 80% of the total. India was the second largest producer with 5% of world production followed by Bangladesh the third largest producer with 0.38% .
3. Because garlic might reduce platelet aggregation, people taking anticoagulant medication are cautioned about consuming garlic. If higher-than-recommended doses of garlic are taken with anticoagulant medications, this can lead to a higher risk of bleeding.
4. Some people suffer from allergies to garlic and other species of *Allium*.
5. In folklore, garlic has been regarded as a force for both good and evil. In Europe, many cultures have used garlic for protection or white magic, perhaps owing to its reputation in folk medicine. Central European folk beliefs considered garlic a

powerful ward against demons, werewolves, and vampires. To ward off vampires, garlic could be worn, hung in windows, or rubbed on chimneys and keyholes.

6. Garlic's use as an herbal remedy is as varied as it is widespread. In ancient China garlic was prescribed for respiratory ailments, digestive issues, diarrhea, and parasites. It was also used in combination with other herbs to treat fatigue, impotency, headaches, and insomnia. It was used similarly in ancient India and was prescribed to fight infections.
7. Garlic and onions are toxic to cats and dogs.
8. Drinking lemon juice or eating a few slices of lemon will stop bad garlic breath.
9. Garlic used to be called Russian penicillin and was given to soldiers in World War II.
10. Garlic can thin the blood similar to the effect of aspirin.
11. The majority of garlic grown in the United States comes from California.
12. If your rose garden is being attacked by aphids, an excellent home remedy to get rid of them is to spritz the leaves and blooms with a mixture of crushed garlic and water.

Chicken with 40 Cloves of Garlic

A French Recipe, by Marion Burros in the New York Times

Ingredients

2/3 cup olive oil	1 teaspoon dried tarragon
8 chicken drumsticks	1/2 cup dry vermouth
8 chicken thighs	2 1/2 teaspoons salt
4 celery ribs, cut into 4 inch-long strips	1/4 tsp. freshly ground pepper
2 cups chopped onion	dash grated nutmeg
6 parsley sprigs	40 cloves garlic, unpeeled

Freshly sliced French bread

Preparation

1. Put the oil in shallow dish and add the chicken pieces; coat evenly with oil.
2. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
3. In a heavy 6-quart casserole, combine the celery, onions, parsley and tarragon. Lay the oiled chicken pieces on top. Pour on the vermouth. Sprinkle with salt and pepper and a dash of nutmeg. Tuck the garlic cloves in and around the chicken pieces. Cover the casserole tightly with aluminum foil and then the lid. Bake 90 minutes without removing the lid.
4. Serve chicken, pan juices and garlic cloves with French bread. Diners should squeeze the buds of garlic from their husks onto the bread, then spread the garlic like butter. Use the bread to mop up the luscious sauce.



Newport Community News in South Africa

Gene and Sharon Bartosiewicz of Pittston Township traveled to South Africa recently and took along the Newsletter. We are excited! This is the first time the Newsletter has been seen on the African continent. Gene's maternal grandmother was Julia Roman, who operated the Sugar Bowl restaurant in Glen Lyon for many years. Gene is the son of Eleanor Roman Bartosiewicz, and the nephew of the late Irene Roman Jones, lifetime resident of Glen Lyon.



"For the Glory of Newport High"

Class of 1964

The Newport Township High School Class of 1964 held its 55th year reunion at the R Bar and Grill in Alden on October 5. Pictured right are: Front Row from left: Cathy Popadynec Lowman, Paula Koznik Kutz, Mary Margaret Kashatus, Karen Lawrence Justus, Illaria Skordy Steele, Paul Rudowski, Donald Frinsko. Second Row from left: Jim Murphy, Joe Ciampi, Joe Wilkes, Bob Golaszewski, Gary Sergott, Ron Samuels, Steve Masakowski, Terry Knouse, Ed Haines, Dennis Sweeny, John Jarecki, and Ron Wojciechowski.



All Class Reunion

Pictured left are attendees to the All Class Reunion held on October 13 at Holy Transfiguration Hall. Emil Augustine served as Master of Ceremonies.

Newsletter in Ireland!

Pictured below are Paul Gregory, Class of '59, and his wife Peg who traveled to Belfast, Ireland in September. After a long day of tourism, they headed to the Crown Bar and enjoyed some Irish lamb stew and a pint of Guinness, while checking out the Newsletter.



Class of 1962 celebrated their collective 75th birthday with a party at the Italian Club in Glen Lyon. Pictured are: First row: Jim Capece, Nancy Siefertowski Toole, Bernie Mihneski, Carol Sokoloski Sobotka, Mary Labeda Lesnicki. Second row: Paulette DeLuca Ward, Jo Ann Shutta Kowalski. Third row: Eugene Macur, Stanley Czapracki, Ralph Faull, Charlene Woehrl Bolinski, Bonnie Powis Cvejkus.





American Legion Auxiliary Unit 539

By Lorrie Materewicz

In alliance with National POW/MIA Recognition Day, the Newport Township American Legion Auxiliary Unit 539 sponsored its third annual one-mile Walk of Warriors in Glen Lyon on Saturday, September 21. Step-off was 9 am from the St. Nicholas Church parking lot on the east side of Glen Lyon and culminated at the American Legion on the west side. The group was led by the Township police cruiser driven by Chief of Police Jeremy Blank as well as the Township Fire Police. Once at the Legion, a welcoming speech by Auxiliary President Janet Wenner was followed by a POW/MIA ceremony and a catered luncheon. All proceeds benefitted the National League of POW/MIA Families headquartered in Arlington, Va. Their mission is the location and repatriation of remains of US soldiers from the Vietnam War.

Unit 539 would like to extend much thanks to Police Chief Jeremy Blank for the cruiser escort, the Township Fire Police for traffic control and security, Joe Hillan for the inspiring and perfectly timed patriotic songs from St. Adalbert's bell system, Amy Saraka and Newport Township Crime Watch for the donation of bottled water, the St. Nicholas Parish Community for the use of their parking lot as our muster area, Newport Decal, our T-shirt vendor, for their patience and talent, George Kubasik for his generosity and skill as our videographer and contributor to Auxiliary history, the American Legion leadership for the use of the venue and the POW table, all the donors and volunteers who made the event a success, and, last but not least, to the editors of this newsletter who allowed us the use of this space as platform to publicly acknowledge all those involved. We hope to see all of you again next year. God Bless!

Blue Star Banners Presented

Three members of the Newport Township American Legion Auxiliary Unit 539 visited 5 area mothers of service members on Sunday, November 10th to present them with gift packages, each containing a Blue Star banner, patriotic floral bouquet, Blue Star lapel pin, and a framed copy of "A Blue Star Mother's Prayer." They also received a folder containing the history of the banner, information on the local chapters of Blue Star Mothers in northeastern Pennsylvania, and an application for same. The presentations were originally scheduled for Veterans Day, but scheduling was more easily accommodated on November 10th. The gift packages were presented by Auxiliary President Janet Wenner and Treasurer/ Project Coordinator Sally Billings accompanied by Secretary Lorrie Materewicz who recorded the events and soldiers' data. Recipients were Heather Brennan, Linda Hourigan, Jamie Miller, Gertrude O'Brien, and Janet Wenner who accepted on behalf of her daughter, Jacqueline Saunders who is in North Carolina with her husband, Stan, stationed there with the US Army.

The Blue Star Banner, or service flag as it is sometimes called, is 8" wide by 15" long with a red border surrounding a field of white, and contains one blue star for each active-duty service member (up to 5 per flag). It is suspended on a wooden dowel by gold cording with tassels, and is meant to be hung indoors facing out in the front window of the authorized family member's home.

The Blue Star's history started during World War I when it was designed by Army Captain Robert L. Queisser of the 5th Ohio Infantry. He had two sons serving on the front lines. President

Pictured are, kneeling, l to r: Lorrie Materewicz, canine Angel, Emilie Parsons (stroller), Leanne Wenner, Gabriel Kamionka, Helen Allen, Angel Gregory, Sally Gorgas, Fire Captain Leonard Paczkowski, Fire Police Robert Shemanski. Second Row, l to r: Faith Kropiewnicki, Robert Kropiewnicki, Palmira Miller, Marianne Shemanski, Janet Wenner, Sally Billings, Heidi Jarecki, Eleanor Hamrick, Crystal Bogdon, Christine Novak, Police Chief Jeremy Blank, Francis Kirschner. Back Row, l to r: Kathy Sobocinski, Joseph Goodas, Jerry Wenner, Deborah Zaleski, Patrick McMullen, Eileen McMullen, Fire Police Ronald Jones. Attending but not available for the photo were Amy and Kayleigh Saraka, Sue Heinz, Paul Jarecki, and Fire Police David Namowicz.

Woodrow Wilson became part of the history in 1918 when he approved a suggestion of the Women's Committee of the Council of National Defense for mothers who had lost a child serving in wartime to wear a gold star on the then traditional black arm band. This led to covering the blue star on the banner with a gold star. Currently, this may still be done, with the gold star being on top and slightly smaller so that the blue star still shows. Later, Gold Star Banners were presented to mothers whose son or daughter lost their lives in the service of their country.

During World War II, the use of the service flag became much more common, many being handmade by the mothers themselves. In 1960 Congress chartered the Blue Star Mothers of America as a Veterans Service Organization, and in 1966, the Department of Defense revised the specifications for the manufacture, design, and display of the flag, similar to the Flag Code adopted years earlier. These rules designate the size and display. If displayed with an American flag, the banner should be of equal or smaller size and displayed below the US flag. Authorized family members allowed to display a Blue Star banner include biological, step, foster, and adoptive parents; biological, step, or adoptive children; siblings and half-siblings.

Blue and Gold Star banners may be purchased online, in stores, or made by hand following the guidelines as outlined by the Department of Defense. Blue Star mothers are always informed that, even when their children leave the military, they remain Blue Star mothers; once a Blue Star mother, always a Blue Star mother.

If any reader is aware of any other township resident with a child on active duty, please contact Lorrie at 570-736-7177. Thank you and God Bless.

Meet Your Hometown Heroes

This article presents the children of the Blue Star Mothers, our hometown heroes currently serving on active duty in the United States military. We are pleased and proud to salute them. Please note that some units and locations have been purposely deleted due to the information being of a sensitive nature.

Soldier's Name: Katelyn Jobeth Harrison
Parent: Heather Brennan
Age: 27
Branch of Service: Army
Length of Service: 2 years
Rank: Specialist 4
Stationed At: "Somewhere" in Poland
Job Description: Fuel Specialist
Previous Deployments: Fort Jackson, S.C.
Marital Status: Single, One child

Soldier's Name: Patrick William Hourigan
Parents: Linda and William Hourigan
Age: 44
Branch of Service: Navy
Length of Service: 21 years
Rank: Captain
Stationed At: The Pentagon
Job Description: Fighter Pilot. Currently flies the F-18 Super Hornet.
 Yes, he is a "Top Gun!"

(Continued on next page)

(Continued from previous page)

Previous Deployments: Desert Storm, Japan, Singapore
Marital Status: Married, 4 Children

Soldier's Name: Christopher John Miller
Parents: Jamie and Chris Miller
Age: 25

Branch of Service: Navy
Length of Service: 2.5 years
Rank: IT3 (Information Technician Third Class)
Stationed At: Coronado, Calif.
Job Description: Information Systems Technician (Guides landing craft and amphibious vehicles in the vicinity of the beach from the surf line to the high water mark and coordinates movements over the beach of equipment, troops, and supplies).
Previous Deployments: Basic Training in Illinois
Marital Status: Married, No Children

Soldier's Name: Patrick Michael O'Brien
Parent: Gert O'Brien
Age: 37

Branch of Service: Air Force
Length of Service: 7 Years
Rank: 2nd Lieutenant (originally an enlisted member)
Stationed At: Maxwell Air Force Base, Alabama
Job Description: Hydraulics Mechanic
Previous Deployments: Korea, Iraq, Kuwait
Marital Status: Married, One Child

Soldier's Name: Stanley M. Saunders
Parent: Mother-in-law Janet Wenner
Age: 39

Branch of Service: Army
Length of Service: 21 Years
Rank: Sergeant First Class
Stationed At: Fort Bragg, N.C.
Job Description: Senior Generator Mechanic
Previous Deployments: Kosovo (once), Iraq (twice), Afghanistan (three times)
Marital Status: Married (to another veteran and Unit 539 Auxiliary member), 4 children

Opinion: Remember When?

By Tom Kashatus ~ Remember when: (1) Retreat State Hospital, the Luzerne County Home for the Indigent and Mentally Ill, was the sixth ward of Newport Township and Jack Reardon was its commissioner; (2) Jack Stralka was commissioner of Newport Township's First Ward and voters packed its first precinct, No. 4 Hose House and second precinct, Glen Lyon VFW on election day; (3) Pete Keblish was commissioner of Newport Township's Second Ward and voters crammed its first precinct at Keblish's Bar and second precinct at No. 1 Hose House; (4) Charlie Wilkes was commissioner of the Third Ward and most voters could walk to the polls at its first precinct at the Wanamie Hose Company and second precinct at Deluca's on the corner of Center Street and Vandermark Road; (5) Jimmy Sweeney was commissioner of Alden and most voters walked to the polls at the Alden Hose House; and (6) "Murph" Belles was commissioner in Sheatown and the voters filled the Sheatown Hose House. There was a time when Newport Township had nine polling precincts and residents voted in record numbers. During the vote count after 8:00 p.m., residents had to stand outside the precinct because the inside was jam-packed with on-lookers.

Today there are two polling precincts; and for some insane reason they are both located in the same place – the Newport Township Municipal Building and the Municipal Garage on West Kirmar Avenue along the Wanamie straightaway. If a resident doesn't have transportation or access to transportation and is not familiar with the absentee voter process, he or she is out of luck when it comes to voting. Elimination of precinct jobs at the polls certainly has a negative effect on voting numbers as time goes by. Time and circumstances have taken their toll on voting to make it harder and less encouraging to participate in the process.

As election day has passed, the numbers for Newport Township Commissioner (three to be elected) revealed that incumbents Deborah For-gach-Zaleski (D) was high vote getter with 590 votes, followed by Paul Czapracki (D) with 569, Michael Roke (D) with 450. Kelly Valaitis (R) had 343 votes. Commissioners John Zyla (D) and John Vishnefski (D) will not be up for re-election until 2021 as their terms expire in January 2022.

As we look to the future, these voting precincts changes might bring anxiety to Newport Township residents and negatively affect the right for everyone to vote.

Newport Township Obituary



KASHATUS, Jr., Dr. William Charles, 90, of Valley Forge and Lake Silkworth, died Friday, November 29, 2019, from heart failure. Dr. Kashatus was an oncologist on the staffs of several Philadelphia and local hospitals. He was a Glen Lyon native, born on April 23, 1929, to William C. Kashatus, Sr. and Mary Matikiewicz Kashatus. He graduated from Newport Township High School Class of '47, Wilkes College with a degree in Chemistry in 1951, and Bucknell University with a M.S. in Chemistry in 1953. He was a U.S. Army veteran and subsequently graduated from Hahnemann

Medical College in 1959. He did an internship at Wilkes Barre General Hospital prior to returning to Hahnemann to complete a residency in Pathology and serving in many positions there. He was a prominent educator earning the Lindback Award for teaching excellence in 1969. He pioneered the innovative Wilkes/Hahnemann 6-year B.S./M.D. program. His true love was the art of practicing medicine and devoting time to many cancer patients as he continued to make house calls. Dr. Kashatus is survived by his wife of 65 years, Balbina (Markiewicz) Kashatus; children, William C Kashatus III (wife, Jacqueline Butler); and Anne Stephanie Kessler (husband, Jack); sisters, Dorothy Pawlowski (husband, Stanley) of Audubon; and Maryanne Benner (husband, Jim) of Pine Barrens, NJ. Arrangements were made with Grontkowski Funeral Home, Nanticoke and burial was in Saint Mary's Cemetery in Hanover Township.



Newsletter Spotted on Anna Maria Island!

Anna Maria Island, a barrier island off the west coast of Florida, was introduced to the Newsletter by Peter and Annamarie (no kidding!) Selecky, residents of Bradenton, FL. Peter grew up in Glen Lyon and graduated from John S. Fine High School in 1975.

Newport Township Budget for 2020

by John Jarecki

At a special meeting on December 17, the Township Commissioners approved a budget for 2020. The budget is divided into four major parts, of which revenue and expenses are listed in the following table.

	Revenue	Expenses
General Budget	\$ 1,107,775	\$ 1,107,775
Refuse Budget	321,970	321,970
Recycling Budget	66,000	66,000
Liquid Fuels Budget	150,009	150,009
Total	\$1,645,754	\$1,645,754

For the 2020 budget as a whole, the five largest sources of revenue are listed in the following table along with the corresponding amounts from the 2019 budget.

	2019	2020
Real Estate Tax	\$449,631	\$486,090
Refuse and Recycling Fees	365,597	387,970
Earned Income Tax	375,000	383,240
Liquid Fuels Payment from State	153,102	150,009
State Shared Revenue	45,450	46,800
Total Revenue	\$1,601,733	\$1,645,754

These amount to about 88% of total income. The following is a list of Township taxes and their rates for 2020, with corresponding amounts from 2019.

	2019	2020
Real Estate Tax		
(for General Government)	3.25 mills	3.75 mills
(for Fire Protection)	.15 mills	.15 mills
Emergency and Municipal Tax	\$52	\$52
Earned Income Tax	.50 %	.50 %
Real Estate Transfer Tax	.50 %	.50 %
Per Capita Tax	\$5	\$5

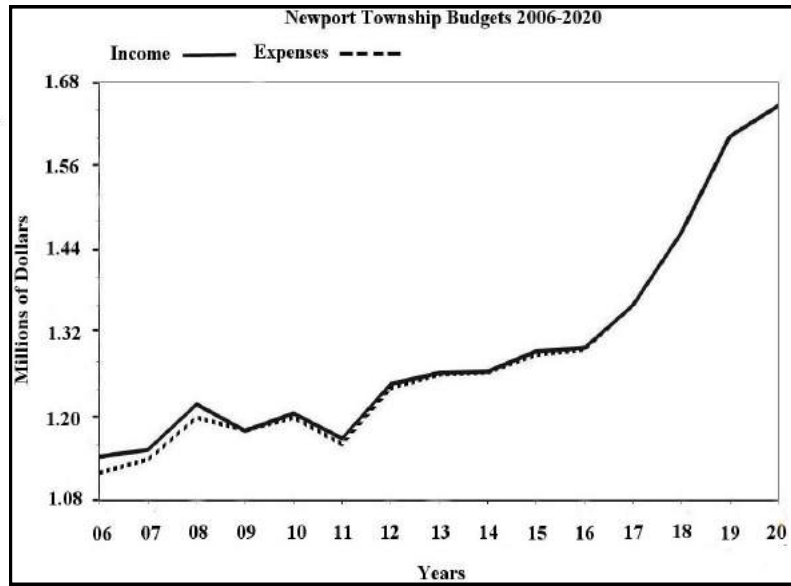
The largest source of 2020 revenue is the real estate tax. It's rate is .50 mills higher than last year (a mill is \$1.00 of tax on every \$1000 of property value), and it is expected to bring in about \$36,000 more than last year. The earned income tax rate for 2020 is the same as last year, but the tax is expected to bring in \$8000 more in revenue than in 2019. The trash and recycling fee has been increased from \$195 in 2019 to \$235 (if paid by February 29) in 2020. These increases in income match increases in expenses, as we will see below.

The six largest expenditures from the 2020 budget are listed in the following categories along with the corresponding amounts from the 2019 budget.

	2019	2020
Refuse and Recycling	\$272,592	\$300,138
Street Department	305,298	296,077
Police Department	219,035	273,864
Employee Fringe Benefits	209,122	216,866
General Government	245,058	206,455
Fire Department	191,922	194,602
Total Expenditures	\$1,601,733	\$1,645,754

These categories amount to about 90% of total expenses. Mainly Township expenses have increased in the cost of handling refuse and recycling and in salaries for the police department. The cost of picking up refuse has increased, at least in part, because wages have increased in an improving economy. Similarly, the salaries of police officers have increased, at least in part, because of the economy. During most of 2019 the Township employed 4 full time officers because, with plentiful openings for full time officers, no one was willing to work at part time positions at the salaries the Township offered. Toward the end of the year one of the Township's full time officers resigned to take a higher paying position with another municipality. Because of these conditions, the Township allocated for 2020 more funds to police officer salaries, in the hope that higher pay rates would attract part time officers.

The following chart shows the changes in total income and expenditures in the Township budget from 2006 to 2020. For the period 2006 to 2016, the income and expenses increased at a rate of about 1.5%, slightly less than the inflation rate of 2% for the period. Since 2016, however, Township officials, now more active in managing finances, have increased revenue and expenditures by an average of about 5.2% a year.



Buck Season Starts Early

By Tom Kashatus ~ Pennsylvania hunters flocked to their favorite spots early this year to begin buck season on the Saturday after Thanksgiving. In the past, buck season began on the Monday after Thanksgiving, ran for two weeks, and subsequently ended on the second Saturday. The early start was controversial as opinions differed among many of the hunters, game wardens, butchers, and law enforcement. Early returns to the NTCO Newsletter are below.



Pictured left is Nikolas Makowski shown with his Dad Kevin. Being in the mentor program, he felled this 6 pointer in Salem Township on the 3rd day of the season using his 308 Mossburg MVP bolt action rifle. At right are Russ Brassington and his daughter, Ashley. Being an avid bow hunter, Russ bagged this 8 pointer in Newport Township with his crossbow.

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Peter Wanchisen Honored on Retirement as Township Manager

By John Jarecki ~ Peter Wanchisen, retiring Township Manager, was honored by the Township Commissioners at their meeting on December 2. He was presented with a plaque of appreciation in gratitude "for his dedicated and professional service to Newport Township in his role as Township Manager during a critical period for the Newport municipality from 2016 to 2019."

Mr. Wanchisen was appointed Manager in June of 2016 two months after the previous Manager Richard Zika abruptly resigned after accusations that he stole Township funds. Without a Manager, the Township administration was in disarray, relying on help from volunteers, office staffs of our State Senator and Representative, and officials of nearby local governments.

Mr. Wanchisen reestablished the normal functions of the Township administration, and took several steps to prevent future theft of Township funds: requiring that all financial work in the township office be checked by two people, hiring both a financial consultant to ensure that Township accounting be done correctly, and an accountant with a reputation for thorough careful work to audit Township finances, and finally ending the acceptance of cash payments in the Township office.

He has continued to work with great energy in reducing the costs paid by the Township for such items as electricity and insurance, updating the list of Township residents for purposes of collecting taxes and refuse fees, reorganizing how work is done in the Township office, updating the job requirements for Township Manager, and setting up a Township funds account that can be used to apply for State matching grants.

On receiving the award, Mr. Wanchisen expressed his appreciation for the cooperation and support that he received from Township workers and members of the community who volunteered their time and effort.

We at the Newsletter thank him for his excellent service to the community and wish him all the best in his retirement.



From left: Township Administrative Assistant Joe Hillan, Attorney John Solt, Township Commissioners Mike Roke, John Zyla, and Paul Czapracki, Township Manager Peter Wanchisen, Township Commissioners Jack Vishnefski and Debbie Zaleski.



Above: The Newport Township Community News recently spread to One Happy Island, Aruba. Neil and Joan Bavitz of Wanamic are taking a break from sun and sand by getting caught up on Township news.



Part-time Glen Lyon residents Pat and Eileen McMullen completed a 120-mile hike of the Camino de Santiago in Spain this past September. Pictured left is Eileen in front of the Cathedral of Santiago de Compostela. When they arrived at the end of their journey, they relaxed by reading the Newport Township Community News.

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570-736-6585 John & Anastasia Vishnefski

Super Bowl Sunday Hoagie Sale

The Altar and Rosary Society of St. Adalbert's Church in Glen Lyon will offer Italian Hoagies for sale on Sunday, February 2. Cost is \$6.00 each. Pickup will be between 11:30 am and 1:00 pm. Delivery is available. Call Carol at 570-736-7149 to place your order. Order sheets are also on the tables in back of the Church.

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To shorten winter, borrow some money due in spring. ~ W.J. Vogel



Seated left to right: Mike Dziac, President and CEO of Earth Conservancy, Joe Hillan, Township Manager, Steve Phillips, NTCO President and Debbie Zaleski, Township Commissioner

Master Plan for Development of Earth Conservancy Land in Newport Township

By John Jarecki ~ At a meeting on October 15 cosponsored by NTCO and Township Commissioners, Mike Dziac, President and CEO of Earth Conservancy (EC), gave a presentation at the Newport Township Municipal Building describing an EC-commissioned master plan, written by Borton-Lawson Engineering Inc., for development of a 2,500-acre tract of land in the Township.

EC came into existence in 1994 to manage and develop approximately 16,300 acres of land formerly owned by Blue Coal Corporation while also conserving green space and having a positive effect on local communities. EC has since found use for about 10,000 acres of this land, and a good portion of the remaining land is in Newport and Hanover Townships. Given this situation, in 2019 EC commissioned the writing of a master plan for its Newport Township land. On the accompanying map of the Township at right, EC land is indicated, in an approximate way, as the large area inside the broken black line, roughly bounded by Glen Lyon in the west, Wanamie in the south, Nanticoke in the east, and the Susquehanna River in the north.

Some of the important points in the EC plan for land use development in Newport Township are the following:

There are a number of hindrances to development of the land: 1) about one-third of the area has a slope of 20% or more, 2) a good portion of the land is scarred by surface mining, 3) streams in the area suffer from acid mine drainage, 4) access to utilities is limited, and 5) roadway access to Interstate 81 is in need of improvement.

Therefore, only a small portion of the EC land, the report concludes, is suitable for commercial and residential development. This includes a number of small areas along Kirmar Parkway between Glen Lyon and Wanamie, between Wanamie and Alden, and along Middle Road near the R Bar between Alden and the Luzerne County Community College. The rest of the land is more suitable for conservation and recreation.

The main hindrance to commercial development of Newport Township land is the lack of good roadway access to Interstate 81. One way of improving this situation is to extend the South Valley Parkway, which now ends at Prospect Street in Nanticoke, as far as Kirmar Parkway near the former K. M. Smith Elementary School.

Mr. Dziac, in his presentation, gave a short history of the work done by EC since its inception. At that time, he said, EC wrote its 1996 Land Use Plan and its 1999 Lower Wyoming Valley Open Space Plan, which have been a guide to EC's efforts over the years. Following those plans, EC has placed about 8,000 acres in conservation land, about 80% of which is now in Pinchot State Forest, and administered by the State's Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR). It has reclaimed about 2,000 acres of abandoned mine land. It has turned a good deal of land in Nanticoke and Hanover Township into commercial real estate, creating about 2,000 jobs in the process. It has encouraged the State to build the South Valley Parkway.

At the present time, EC is cooperating with several companies that have expressed interest in developing land in Newport Township. One of the companies, which produces solar energy, has signed an agreement to investigate the feasibility of using 60 to 70 acres of land near the site of the former St. Vladimir's Church in Alden to build a 10 megawatt electricity generating facility. The company would lease the land for 25 years with the possibility of extension. It will spend about a year investigating the economic possibilities and the permitting process. It will check out whether it can connect to UGI power lines and whether there are customers, such as businesses, that use large amounts of power in the immediate area.

Another company is a vertically integrated solar energy company from India that produces a range of products from semiconductor chips to entire solar electricity generating farms. It is planning to put four large facilities in the United States, one of which will be in Pennsylvania. It is looking for 300 to 500 acres of land for a 100 megawatt production facility. EC has shown them such a parcel of land in Newport Township near the power line connecting to the Hunlock Creek Electrical Plant. There are problems with the property in that the land has steep slopes and is in need of abandoned mine reclamation, which would require a grant from the State in order to be accomplished.

A third company, a developer from New Jersey, is interested in a 130 acre parcel of land across Middle Road from Luzerne County Community College (LCC), 40 acres of which are in Newport Township. EC is now, with the help of funds from the State's Abandoned Mine Reclamation Program, reclaiming this land and also building roadways into the property and furnishing it with water, electricity, and sewers. The developer, if he goes through with the project, will likely build warehouses on the land. He may get a tax break on business profits, but Newport Township will receive taxes on the land itself, which will be a good source of municipal revenue.



Above map: Newport Township with approximate area of Earth Conservancy land inside the broken black line.

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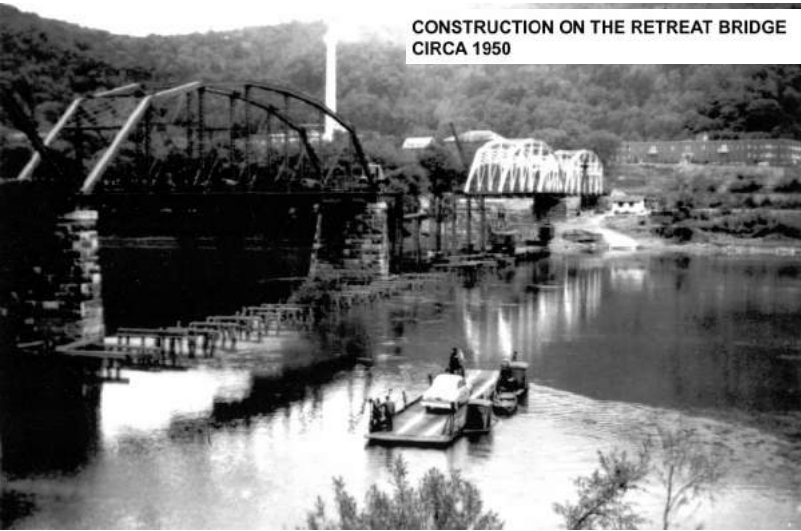
Retreat State Hospital 1900-1981, State Correctional Institute 1988-present



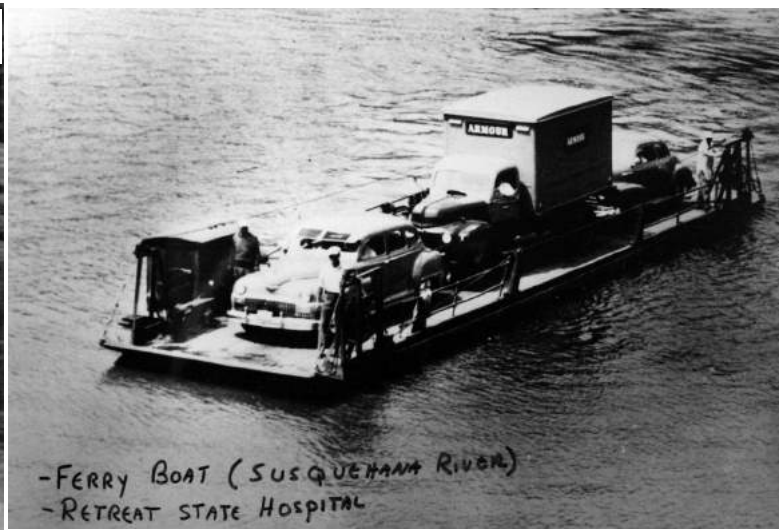
CAR ON THE RETREAT FERRY, 1940



RETREAT STATE HOSPITAL



CONSTRUCTION ON THE RETREAT BRIDGE
CIRCA 1950



- FERRY BOAT (SUSQUEHANNA RIVER)
- RETREAT STATE HOSPITAL



AERIAL VIEW OF
RETREAT STATE HOSPITAL

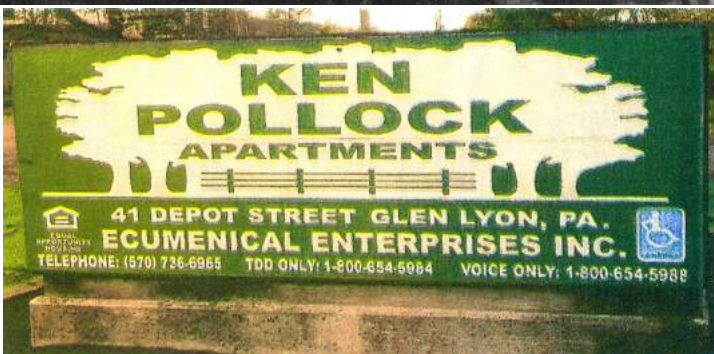


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Reilly Plating Tree Lighting



On December 12th, Reilly Finishing threw the switch to light up Christmas trees along Christmas Tree Lane on Alden Road in Sheatown. It was the seventh annual Christmas Tree lighting by Reilly Finishing Technologies. A sponsorship fee is charged for each tree and all funds received are donated to the communities of Nanticoke and Newport Township to benefit the public. Pictured above at right are three generations of the Reilly family: Joseph Reilly Jr., owner Joseph Reilly, and Charles Reilly, previous owner. Below is the gathering at the R Bar in Alden following the ceremony.

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President

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- Hustle is getting the order because you got there first, or stayed with it after everyone else gave up.
- Hustle is shoe leather and elbow grease and sweat, And missing lunch.
- Hustle is getting prospects to say "yes" After they've said "no" twenty times.
- Hustle is doing more for a customer than the other person is doing.
- Hustle is believing in yourself and the business you're in.
- Hustle is providing top quality service.
- Hustle is the sheer joy of winning.
- Hustle is being the hardest loser in town.
- Hustle is hating to take a vacation because you might miss a piece of the action.
- Hustle is hopping out of bed late at night to write down a great idea.
- Hustle is heaven if you're a hustler.
- Hustle is hell if you're not.



Wildfire Warning

Pictured left is the wildfire danger sign installed in Sheatown by the Pennsylvania Bureau of Forestry. The Wanamic Tract of the Pinchot State Forest covers 1,132 acres of land previously owned by Earth Conservancy. The District's goal is to protect lands in the Penobscot Ridge Highlands, an important conservation area in Luzerne County. Please heed the dangers of wildfires.



Church Events: Left, a spaghetti dinner was held at St. Adalbert's on October 6. Above, St. Andrew's held a Fall Festival on October 11-12

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Pictured left: Mary Kutz on her Newport Township High School Graduation, 1925
Right: As Pulaski Junior High School Librarian, 1970.

in 1933, was an aide at the 1936 High School Basketball team banquet; and directing a school play in 1940 entitled, "Bringing Santa Claus Up to Date." Some of the characters in the play were acted by familiar names: Arthur Hoover, Dorothy Tarnowski, Romaine Buchkowski (Byzchowski), Eleanor Genetini, Lorraine Cobosco, John Pocreva, Lawrence Mayeski, and John Samulewicz. She was a judge in Field Day sponsored by the Newport Athletic Council to raise money for high school band uniforms; participated in the Pulaski Milk Fund card party; was a teacher-sponsor in the Junior Red Cross (1947); and belonged to the Pulaski Junior High School PTA (1961).

Newport Township Teachers: Mary Kutz

By Heidi Jarecki with help from Jim Boyle ~ Mary C. Kutz was born in Glen Lyon on May 31, 1907. Her parents were John and Helen Mazur Kuc (Kutz), who both emigrated from Poland. John worked at the Susquehanna Collieries and much later, was employed as a janitor for the Newport Township School District. John and Helen were parents to Louis, Leon (Leo), Mary, Joseph, Walter, and Anna Boyle. They were charter members of St. Michael's Church on West Main Street.

The family lived for a while at 90 West Main Street in Glen Lyon. In 1930, John bought property at 50 West Main Street and built what became known as the Kutz Building. It featured apartments upstairs where the family lived and retail space on the ground floor. In July, 1934, Dr. R.M. Johnson, an optometrist in Berwick, announced the opening of a branch office in the Kutz Building. Then, Mary's brother Walter attended Temple Dental School and in August, 1936 was notified he passed the state boards. He promptly opened a dental office in the Kutz Building. Walter served in the United States Army from 1941 to 1944. Upon his discharge, he established an office in Wilkes-Barre and later moved to Kingston. In 1936, the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board moved a state liquor store from 212 East Main Street (the Gronka Building) to new quarters at 50 West Main Street in the right store front. The liquor store closed in February, 1978 due to lack of sales. A citizens group attempted to keep the store open to no avail. On the left side of the ground floor was space utilized at first as an ice cream /drug store. In about 1944, Bart's Cleaners/Glen Lyon 5 & 10 opened for business. Advertisements from that time offered knitting yarns, socks, work gloves, pots and pans, buttons, and greeting cards for sale. Martha Honabaugh was employed there for many years. It closed in about 1958. The last retail businesses in the Kutz Building were Whiting's Rub-A-Dub Doggie pet supplies and grooming and later, Susie's Red Caboose.

John Kutz passed away on January 9, 1950. Helen died on January 15, 1968.

Mary attended Newport Township schools and graduated from the High School in 1925. She attended Bloomsburg State Teachers' College, and while there was active in the U.N.I. Club, and the Women's Student Government Association. She received her teaching certificate on June 10, 1927. On March 2, 1929, the Newport Township School Board elected her and Ruth Cease of Sheatown to succeed Alice Mulherin and Catherine Selecky who resigned their positions to be married. Their salaries were set at \$1,000 a year. Mary taught second grade in the Kosciuszko School. She continued her education by attending summer sessions at Bloomsburg and earned her Bachelor's degree in Primary Education on May 24, 1938. She also took extension courses at New York University and later received her Master's Degree in Library Science from Millersville College.

Mary taught second grade until 1950. She participated in many school activities, such as hosting a Valentine's Day party

Committee, the Reymont Club of Wyoming Valley (a professional Polish men and women's organization of which she was a charter member), Pi Beta Gamma, St. Michael's annual card party and dance, the Newport Township Charity Ball, the Polish Union, the Pennsylvania State Education Association and the National Educational Association.

Mary was very artistic and musically talented. She played piano and mastered calligraphy so well that she was often given the work of engraving all the high school diplomas. She painted pictures and designed jewelry. Sometime in the 1950's, Mary became interested in ceramics and it became a major hobby. She owned a kiln and often made decorative ceramics that served as centerpieces for her many charitable events. She also decorated pysanky eggs. She enjoyed giving her art as gifts, especially to her family.

In 1950, perhaps to utilize her abilities, Mary was assigned to the Pulaski Junior High School as the art craft teacher. Then by 1953, she became librarian of the Pulaski Library. The national school library standards that were in place during the 1950s were published in 1945 by the American Library Association. The standards contained six sections: the school library in education; service to pupils and teachers; standards of personnel; book collection and other library resources; housing the library; and administration and supervision. It is in this role that Mary is fondly remembered by this writer, herself a retired librarian. While some students may have wondered about the value of memorizing the Dewey Decimal System, it opened a new world to many. In 1953, 413 students took part in National Book Week at the Pulaski School. Emphasis was placed on the use of the library as part of the reading course, which encouraged students to read one book a week. This was a joint effort by Miss Kutz and Eleanor Materewicz who served as reading class instructor.

In the 1960's, Miss Kutz organized a Ceramics Club in the Junior High School. Among the members were: Karen Lawrence, Doreen Poremba, Mary Margaret Kashatus, Christine Gregory, Lois Polniaszek, Mary Ann Benick, Frances Wilski, Jean Presnal, Eileen Sarpolis, Madelyn Wall, Mary Selecky and Mary Ann Tarnowski. The club occasionally put on demonstrations at PTA meetings and other events. Members designed such items as piggy banks, baskets, dishes, and Christmas trees.

In the late 1960's, the Newport Township School District joined with the Nanticoke School District to become the Greater Nanticoke Area (GNA) School District. Miss Kutz continued as librarian at Pulaski until her retirement.

Mary Kutz retired from teaching in June, 1972 after 43 years. Her fellow retirees included Frances Kovalski, Alice Krusheski, and John Wilkes. But, she wasn't ready to hang up her keys just yet. She remained active in several organizations and at least until 1978, she was a substitute English teacher for GNA.

And, in addition to all of her activities, she was a second Mom to her nephew, Jim Boyle.

Mary C. Kutz (when asked what her middle initial stood for, she would say, "Mary Christmas Kutz") passed away on December 29, 1993 at Little Flower Manor, Wilkes-Barre. She is interred in St. Michael's Cemetery, Glen Lyon.

Miss Kutz and the Ceramics Club

By Mary Selecky ~ Mary Ann Tarnowski Murphy and I were invited to Miss Kutz's to see her ceramic work and asked us if we were interested in learning how to do this. What an interesting adventure we both had. Miss Kutz was a great teacher, was patient with us, taught us how to handle greenware (the unfinished ceramic that came from a mold after pouring liquid clay into a mold to set), and how to clean up the seams that would be formed by the mold. We used fine screen material and if more was needed, Miss Kutz used a very sharp knife trimmer. Then the piece would be fired in a very hot kiln. It was easier to handle then.

Miss Kutz was a better artist than I will ever be and would outline the flowers, letters, etc if we were painting something like the piggy bank. I know I was nervous about painting with gold, so sometimes Miss Kutz would do that for us. The piece would be fired again. We would then apply a glaze - I know I liked the Mother of Pearl. The effect was so shiny and had some hues in it. I still have three pieces - piggy bank, candy dish, and Christmas tree. It was fun!



Pictured are types of ceramic pieces Miss Kutz taught her students to make. Above and left: a personalized piggy bank, and Christmas tree. Below, a candy dish. Miss Kutz made hundreds of Christmas trees to adorn holiday party tables. Courtesy of Mary Selecky.



Coal Miners' Equipment: Pickaxe and Shovel

By Heidi Jarecki ~ Coal mining was tough physical labor. Traditional mining, also known as old-school mining, was in use until the early 1900's. It is a mining method which involved the use of manual tools, such as pickaxes, shovels, hammers and chisels. Coal miners would lie on their backs and use a pickaxe to undercut the coal seam. The method of cracking rock was called fire-setting, by which the rock was heated with fire to expand it. Once the rock was heated, it was quenched with water to break it. This was in general use until 1867 when Alfred Nobel invented dynamite. Dynamite was then used almost exclusively to blast the coal seam. Miners would then blast the coal, shovel it into a cart, and then be paid by the tonnage.

A pickaxe (pick-axe or pick) is a t-shaped hand tool used for prying. Its head is typically metal, attached perpendicularly to a longer handle, usually made of wood. A standard pickaxe has a pointed end on one side of its head and a broad flat blade opposite. A mining pickaxe typically features two spikes, one slightly longer than the other, used for breaking and prying. The pick had its origins as an agricultural tool in prehistoric times. The term "pickaxe" has its roots in the Latin word *picus*, from which "woodpecker" also has its origins.

Shovels are hand tools consisting of a broad blade fixed to a medium length handle. Shovel blades are usually made of sheet steel or hard plastics; the handles are made of wood or fiberglass. Shovels also had their origins as an agricultural tool. The word "shovel" has German roots from *schaufel*, meaning "to shove."

Manual shoveling, often in combination with picking, was the chief means of excavation in construction, mining, and quarrying. Until the 1950s, groups of workers called "labor gangs" were assigned to whatever digging was needed. The cost of labor, even when each worker was poorly paid, was a tremendous expense. Given the importance and cost of manual labor in industry in the late 19th and early 20th centuries, the "science of shoveling" was of great interest to developers of scientific management. This led to the development of varied shovel designs with different size scoops, based on the material's density. The invention of purpose-built shovels was a ground-breaking development. Hand shovels have since been adapted for many different tasks and environments. As an example, snow shovels come readily to mind. A coal shovel was designed for shoveling coal, coke or similar fuels and on occasion did double duty removing ashes from fireplaces or furnaces. A large coal shovel was used by the fireman of a coal-fired steam locomotive or a steam-powered ship.

The science of shoveling has faded out of scientific management concern and labor gangs have long been replaced by steam shovels, backhoes, and bulldozers. However, shovels are still in demand for places where mechanical excavators can't reach.

Sources: Wikipedia; www.dep.pa.gov; various websites

Did you know? In Pennsylvania, anthracite mining is spread out over six counties, the majority of mines being in Schuylkill, Northumberland, and Luzerne counties. As of 2015 the Anthracite region has produced a total of 4,614,391 tons of coal.



Newport Township Fire Companies held a spaghetti dinner at the R Bar in Alden on Sunday, November 3. Pictured are: Back Row: Gerald Shemanski Jr., Joseph Nealon Jr., Ronald Jones, Robert Shemanski, Len Paczkowski, David McGovern, Nick Kowalski, Ron Womelsdorf, and Norman Bodek. Front row: Rose Dillon, Ryan Shemanski, Jason Poremba, and Janine Floryshak.



On Election Day, November 5, the Altar and Rosary Society held a hoagie and bake sale. Pictured above are: standing, Heidi Jarecki, Carol Sobotka, Sylvia Vassia, and Ann Marie Gorgas. Seated are: Stephanie Stogoski and Carol Wilkes.



The Newport Township Women's Activity Group held its Fall Bingo on Sunday November 10 in St. Adalbert's Church Hall. It also featured a bake sale and Chinese auction. All proceeds benefit children in the Township.



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Above: **Santa Claus** arrived early on the Newport Fire Truck on December 14 and visited the Municipal Garage in Wanamie. He checked his list twice and was assisted by the elves from the Newport Township Women's Activity Group.



Left and Below: On November 10th, Rev. Charles Warwick of St. Andrew's Church in Alden celebrated a **Blue Mass** honoring Township first responders. Following the Mass, breakfast was served by parishioners.



Community Tree Lighting

Residents of Newport Township gathered on December 3 for the first Community Christmas Tree Lighting in front of the Municipal Building in Wanamie. Cookies, hot chocolate, and caroling were featured. The event was sponsored by Newport United. Township Commissioner and President of Newport United John Zyla, Joe Hillan, and Heidi Jarecki led the countdown. Other commissioners in attendance were Debbie Zaleski and Jack Vishnefski. Newport United hopes to make this an annual event.

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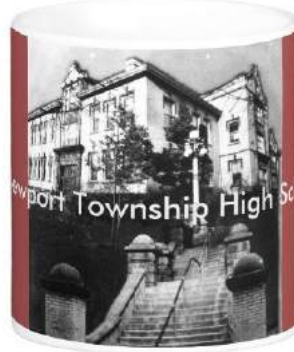
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Monthly Food Distribution

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Two Ways to Remember Newport High School

Pictured above left is the miniature of Newport High School designed by the Cat's Meow. Send a donation of \$15.00 plus \$3.00 for shipping and it will be yours!

For a donation of \$10.00, you can enjoy your morning coffee or tea while reflecting on your care-free youth! The mug, pictured below left, 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: \$7.15 for one, and \$9.00 for two. Contact Heidi and Paul Jarecki, 28 West Main Street, Glen Lyon, PA 18617. Email: hselecky@pa.metrocast.net. Phone 570-733-2540. Check out NTCO's website.

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 Newsletter Editors: Heidi & Paul Jarecki 570-733-2540
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 Website <http://www.newporttownship.com>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Stephen Phillips 570-735-3991
 Mary Jo Evans 570-736-7277
 Heidi Jarecki 570-733-2540
 Joe Maloney 570-736-6828
 Carol Jarecki 570-736-6620



We are on Facebook!

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; email: hselecky@pa.metrocast.net

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://www.newporttownship.com>. Photographs on internet publications are viewable in color. Hard copies are printed in black and white.

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NTCO RECYCLES

We recycle metals—motor blocks, brake drums, wheel rims, lawnmowers, pipe, charcoal grills, appliances, bed frames and springs, swimming pools, bicycles, exercise equipment, etc. We also recycle car batteries, electrical cords and wires, old Christmas lights, and aluminum products to raise funds for our Community projects. The public's participation is always appreciated. For assistance please call Tom Kashatus at (570) 736-6981 or email tomkash@verizon.net

Be Proud of Newport and Make Newport Proud of You!

~ The Late Honorable Paul R. Selecky