



Be at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let every new year find you a better man. ~ Benjamin Franklin



A Mural in the former St. Stanislaus Orphanage, Sheatown

Newport Township Public Business

By John Jarecki ~ The following are items of Township business discussed or acted on by the Newport Township Commissioners at their meetings in October, November, and December of 2020.

October 5, 2020: Residents' Comments: Heidi Jarecki said that the Newport Township Crime Watch is selling, as a fundraiser, signs that read "We Support Our Police." Residents can get one of these signs by contacting Amy Saraka or any member of Crime Watch.

On the recommendation of the Township Civil Service Commission, the Commissioners voted to hire Angel Brazdzonis as a part time Police Officer and Thomas Mercadante as a full time Police Officer.

Township Manager Joe Hillan included the following in his report:

1) Demolitions:

129-133 East Main Street in Glen Lyon. There has been a delay in

demolition work because of removal of asbestos on the site. Demolition should be complete by the end of October.

161-162 Brown Row in Wanamie. Bids for demolition of the building were opened this afternoon. There will be a vote on awarding a contract later in this meeting.

2) Census Update: As of September 30, Newport Township's response rate to the 2020 Census was 60.3%. The national rate is 69%.

3) GBT Reality Corporation is working with a contractor in making a final decision as whether to go ahead with constructing its proposed Dollar General store which will be located at 357 West Kirmar Avenue next to the Municipal Building.

4) On Thursday September 17, the Off Highway Vehicle Recreational Park Feasibility Study Committee held its first meeting. Members of the Committee gave their opinions of what (Continued on next page)

Inside: Township Business p.1-2; NTCO President's Message, Tribute to Veterans p.3; Halloween, p.4; Township News & Notices, p.5; Flora & Fauna, p.6; Township Events, p.7; Taste of the Township, p.8; Township Budget, Recycling, p. 9;

Obituaries, p.10-11; General Election, Whiting's Pet Supplies, p.12; Irving Ruckel, p.13; Newport Township Teachers, p.14-15; Home Town Heroes, p. 16-17; Coronavirus Vaccines, p.17;

Buck Season Report, p.18; Glen Lyon's Inclined Plane, p.19; Ad, p.20; Christmas in the Township, p.21; Ads, p.22-23; NTCO, p.24.

Happy New Year Everybody!

Please support our advertisers who help make this publication possible.

changes this facility would bring to the area. A public meeting on this topic will be held in the near future. The feasibility study is funded by a grant to the Earth Conservancy from the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR).

5) The Luzerne County Planning Commission has submitted a new Zoning Ordinance to the County Council for adoption. The proposed updated ordinance would replace a previous one that was adopted in 1964 and last amended in the 1980's. It takes into account changes in transportation and landscape that have occurred since then.

6) In response to numerous residents' complaints about long wait times for service from Atlantic Broadband Cable, the company's Customer Care Manager Greg Kosicki was contacted. He said the company was aware of the problem and was working to reduce wait times.

New Business:

The Commissioners voted 1) to award a contract in the amount of \$8,200 to Brdaric Excavating for the demolition and site clearance of the building at 161-162 Brown Row in Wanamie, 2) to approve Resolution #5 of 2020, which adopts an updated Luzerne County 2020 Hazard Mitigation Plan, and 3) to approve a mutual release and settlement agreement between Daniel Kowalski and Newport Township.

November 2, 2020: Residents' Comments: Palmira Miller said that the Food Distribution conducted by the Newport Township Community Organization (NTCO) and the Glen Lyon American Legion will be held on Saturday, November 7 and Saturday, December 5 at the Wanamie Recreation Park. She added that, after December, it is uncertain whether a distribution will be held because of the need to hold it outdoors due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the possibility of inclement weather.

Financial Consultant Jennifer Polito reported that, for the first 10 months of 2020, Township income has been approximately \$1.45 million and expenses have been approximately \$1.35 million. She added that she is closely monitoring Township Earned Income Tax (EIT) receipts, and will soon be able to tell whether these receipts have decreased because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Township Manager Joe Hillan included the following in his report:

1) Demolition Update:

129-133 East Main Street in Glen Lyon. The demolition of all four buildings on the site is now complete.

161-162 Brown Row in Wanamie. Demolition of the home on the site is complete.

2) The proposed Township budget for 2021 will be available for public inspection on the Township website (www.newporttownship.org) and at the Municipal Building until the December 7 Commissioners' meeting. (Details of the proposed 2021 budget are in a separate article on page 9.)

3) Census Update: As of October 31, 2020, the Township's response rate is 60.7%. The National rate is 67.0%.

4) Newport Township has received word that GBT Reality Corporation will begin preliminary engineering work in the near future on their proposed Dollar General store on West Kirmar Avenue. At this time, GBT Reality has not made a final decision to build the store.

New Business:

1) The Commissioners approved Ordinance #7 of 2020 regulating the storage and collection of refuse. It requires that dumpsters have to be fenced in.

2) The Commissioners approved Resolution #12 of 2020 authorizing Hanover Township to act as lead applicant in applying for a State gaming grant on behalf of the Lower South Valley Council of Governments (LSVCOG). The grant would be used to purchase a new trommel screen to be used at the Earth Conservancy's compost facility in Newport Township.

3) The Commissioners approved a 1.3% Cost of Living increase in pension payments to Norman Bodek for 2021 from the Firemen's Pension Plan. Mr. Bodek requested the increase, and the Pension Plan actuary Beyer Barber authorized it.

4) The Commissioners approved a continuation of an agreement between Newport Township and Luzerne County through calendar year 2021 according to which Luzerne County collects Township Municipal Taxes.

5) The Commissioners approved a series of resolutions authorizing Township Manager Joe Hillan to apply for State gaming grants as listed in the adjoining column.

Resolution Number	Amount Requested	Purpose of Grant
6	\$50,050	Upgrade basketball court surface and accessories at Wanamie Rec Park
7	\$73,463.09	Purchase Police rated Ford Explorer and Police operations equipment
8	\$72,830	Purchase a Ford F550 dump truck with snow plow and salt spreader
9	\$271,000	Fund acquisition and demolition of blighted Township properties
10	\$240,000	Fund repaving of 6 streets in Newport Township
11	\$175,000	Fund upgrading and remodeling the Newport Township Fire Station

December 7, 2020: The December Commissioners' meeting was held as an online virtual meeting because of an increase in the number of COVID-19 cases.

There were no residents' comments.

Financial Oversight Consultant Jennifer Polito reported that, through the first 11 months of the year, the Township had an income of \$1.64 million and expenses of \$1.53 million. She said that there was some decrease in Earned Income Tax (EIT) revenue during 2020 because of the COVID-19 pandemic. In spite of that, she said, the Township had enough funds on hand that it would not have to take out a Tax Anticipation Note (TAN) to cover expenses during the first few months of 2021 until tax revenue begins to come in.

Township Manager Joe Hillan included the following items in his report:

1) Because of the increase in COVID-19 cases, the Township Municipal Office will closed to the public until further notice. Residents can obtain building permits and occupancy inspection forms online at newporttownship.org. Forms can be either emailed or mailed to the Municipal office, or they can be dropped into the mailbox near the front door of the Municipal Building for processing. For further assistance, email joehillan@newporttownship.org or call 570-735-4735.

2) The building at 116-118 West Main Street in Glen Lyon is the next dilapidated property the Township is planning to demolish. The Newport Township Authority is in the process of purchasing 116 West Main Street, but there is a problem in taking ownership of 118 West Main because the Township has not been able to contact the owner. The Township Solicitor may provide options in this case.

3) GBT Reality Corporation is doing preliminary surveying for its proposed Dollar General store on West Kirmar Avenue just west of the Township Municipal Building. They have not, however, made a final decision on whether to go ahead with the project.

4) Earth Conservancy has been working on constructing an emergency access road into Glen Lyon that would bypass Fanucci's Hill by following the old roadway out of Glen Lyon to the area of St. Nicholas Cemetery and then intersecting with Kirmar Parkway. The project should be completed by late spring.

5) The annual audit of Newport Township and the Newport Township Authority was completed by Certified Public Accountant Joseph Aliciene. The report showed no irregularities.

New Business:

1) The Commissioners approved Ordinance #8 of 2020 approving the proposed budget and setting tax rates for the year 2021.

2) The Commissioners voted to hire Angel Brazdzonis as a full time Police Officer with the Newport Township Police Department. He was previously a part time Officer, and replaces full time Officer Thomas Mercadante, who recently left for another position with Hanover Township.

3) The Commissioners approved Resolution #13 of 2020, which amended the Articles of Incorporation of the Newport Township Sewer Authority to increase its term of existence to a date not exceeding two years from the date of approval of the Articles of Amendment.

4) The Commissioners voted to reappoint Mr. Joseph Deluca to a five year term on the Newport Township Sewer Authority.

5) The Commissioners approved an employment agreement between Joseph Hillan and Newport Township by which Mr. Hillan would serve as Township Manager/Building Code Official from January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021.

NTCO President's Report

By Stephen E. Phillips ~ Although many of this Organization's members, supporters, and Newsletter readers have never experienced a pandemic of such historic proportions, we would be remiss if once again we did not extend our sincere wishes for a happy, prosperous, joyous, and especially a healthy Christmas and New Year. Everyone is encouraged to practice preventive measures to the maximum extent possible to assist in warding off the ravages of the coronavirus. Please be willing to sacrifice a little enjoyment for this year to help insure that you can celebrate many more holidays in the future.

Obviously, the Newport Township Community Organization, along with many of its contemporary entities, was unable to sponsor and participate in its usual number of events. We all hope that 2021 will signal a return to normalcy.

On a brighter note, under the guidance of the Program's coordinator, Palmyra Miller, we were able to continue our monthly food distribution for residents throughout the year. Because health regulations precluded us from continuing to utilize the American Legion Home in Glen Lyon, this activity was moved to the Township's Recreation Park in Wanamie. A drive-through method of distribution was utilized to provide diverse foodstuffs for as many as 150 families. Kudos to the Township's Fire Police, and Township Public Works employees under the direction of Township Manager Joe Hillan who provided invaluable support to this effort.

On a more disappointing note, it should be stated that residents of the Township responded very poorly from a participation standpoint in completing their U.S. Census forms. The Community response on a percentage basis lagged behind the Nation, State, and the remainder of Luzerne County. This could have a negative effect on the funding that Newport Township receives from the federal government and thus potentially necessitate a tax increase to aid in underwriting the cost of various municipal services.

Given the difficult times and conditions under which all volunteer groups are operating, it is imperative that you lend your assistance, from both a volunteer and financial perspective, to the numerous organizations striving to improve our overall quality of life in the local area. With many activities being cancelled, many individuals have more time to spend with their families. Everyone is encouraged to spend time with their family members and strengthen familial bonds during these trying times.

In conclusion, please remain safe and enjoy the holidays to the maximum extent possible.

Freedom is not Free

Acquired and submitted by Murph Fletcher ~ As I came out of the supermarket that sunny day, pushing my cart of groceries towards my car, I saw an old man with the hood of his car up and a lady sitting inside the car, with the door open. The old man was looking at the engine. I put my groceries away in my car, and continued to watch the old gentleman from about twenty five feet away.

I saw a young man in his early twenties with a grocery bag in his arm walking towards the old man. The old gentleman saw him coming too, and took a few steps towards him. I saw the old gentleman point to his open hood and say something. The young man put his grocery bag into what looked like a brand new Cadillac Escalade. He then turned back to the old man. I heard him yell at the old gentleman saying: "You shouldn't even be allowed to drive a car at your age." And then with a wave of his hand, he got in his car and peeled rubber out of the parking lot. I saw the old gentleman pull out his handkerchief, and mop his brow as he went back to his car and again looked at the engine. He then went to his wife and spoke with her; he appeared to tell her it would be okay. I had seen enough, and I approached the old man. He saw me coming and stood straight, and as I got near him I said, "Looks like you're having a problem." He smiled sheepishly, and quietly nodded his head. I looked under the hood myself, and knew that whatever the problem was, it was beyond me. Looking around, I saw a gas station up the road, and I told the old man that I would be right back. I drove to the station and went inside. I saw three attendants working on cars. I approached one of them, and related the problem the old man had with his car. I offered to pay them if they could follow me back down and help him.

The old man had pushed the heavy car under the shade of a tree and appeared to be comforting his wife. When he saw us he straightened up and thanked me for my help. As the mechanics diagnosed the problem (overheated engine), I spoke with the old gentleman. When I shook hands with him earlier, he had noticed my Marine Corps ring and had commented about it, telling me that he had been a Marine too. I nodded and asked the usual question, "What outfit did you serve with?" He said that he served with the first Marine Division at Guadalcanal, Peleliu and Okinawa. He had hit three of the worst ones, and retired from the Corps after the war was over. As we talked we heard the car engine come on and saw the mechanics lower the hood. They came over to us as the old man reached for his wallet, but was stopped by me. I told him I would just put the bill on my AAA card. He still reached for the wallet and handed me a card that I assumed had his name and address on it, and I stuck it in my pocket. We all shook hands all around again, and I said my goodbyes to his wife.

I then told the two mechanics that I would follow them back up to the station. Once at the station, I told them that they had interrupted their own jobs to come along with me and help the old man. I said I wanted to pay for the help, but they refused to charge me. One of them pulled out a card from his pocket, looking exactly like the card the old man had given to me. Both of the men told me then that they were Marine Corps Reserves. Once again we shook hands all around and as I was leaving, one of them told me I should look at the card the old man had given to me. I said I would and drove off.

For some reason I had gone about two blocks, when I pulled over and took the card out of my pocket and looked at it for a long, long time. The name of the old gentleman was on the card in gold leaf and under his name was written: "Congressional Medal of Honor Society." I sat there motionless, looking at the card and reading it over and over. I looked up from the card and smiled to no one but myself and marveled that on this day, four Marines had all come together because one of us needed help. He was an old man all right, but it felt good to have stood next to greatness and courage, and an honor to have been in his presence. Remember, old men like him gave you, and all of us, Freedom for America.

Thanks to those who served and still serve, and to all of those who supported them, and who continue to support them. America is not at war. The U.S. Military is at war. America is at the Mall.

If you don't stand behind our troops, please stand in front of them! Remember, Freedom isn't Free. Thousands have paid the price so that you can enjoy what you have today.

D's Old Fashioned Pierogies



Pasties \$7.00



Pierogi: \$7.00/doz. Choose from:
Potato & Cheese, Sauerkraut; Sweet
Cabbage; Meat; Potato & Onion; and
Jalapeno & Potato.

Farmer's Cheese Pierogi: \$7.50/doz.
Haluski: \$4.00 per pound

Order: (570) 735-9088 1054 W. Main Ave., Wanamie

The Lookout House

"Fine Dining in a Casual Atmosphere"
Banquets and Catering

1373 State Route 93
Drums, PA 18222

Tel| 570-788-5229

Web| www.lookouthouserestaurant.com

Hours| Mon-Sat 4:30-10:00; Sun 12:00-8:00



Halloween in the Township



The spirit of Halloween is alive and well in Newport Township. Pumpkins, witches, skeletons, ghosts, and Draculas are all featured. Due to the pandemic, trick or treating was at its lowest participation in decades. Above top right is Heidi Jarecki in Wanamie with the biggest leaf she ever saw! If a bigger one is found, let us know!



Township Manager, Commissioners, and Police Officers: L to R Joe Hillan, Blake Brown, Debbie Zaleski, William Dubiak, Jack Vishnefski, Tom Mercadante, John Zyla, Angel Brazdzonis, Jeremy Blank, Mike Roke, and Tom Nalbhone. Commissioner Paul Czapracki was absent.



Police Commissioner John Zyla swearing in new Police Officer Angel Brazdzonis.

Refuse Pickup in Inclement Weather

Newport Township residents are reminded that in the event of inclement weather during the winter months that the refuse and recycling collection may be delayed. Residents should leave their refuse and recycling at the curb and it will be picked up in a timely manner as soon as weather conditions permit.

Refuse Fees

The Newport Township Refuse and Recycling Fee for 2021 was recently announced by the Newport Township Board of Commissioners. The fee schedule is as follows:

If payment is received by January 31, 2021, pay \$235.00 per unit.
If payment is received from February 1 to February 28, 2021, pay \$240.00 per unit.

If payment is received from March 1 to March 31, 2021, pay \$275.00 per unit.

A 1.5 % monthly interest charge will be added to unpaid accounts after April 1, 2021.

If there are any questions, please call 570-735-4735 from 8:30 am to 3:00 pm Monday thru Friday.

Joseph Hillan
Township Manager



Show Your Support for Our Police!

The Newport Township Crime Watch is offering these signs shown left in support of our Police Department. Cost is \$15.00 each. Contact President Amy Saraka at 570-709-4524. All proceeds benefit the Newport Township Police Department. Thank you!

NOTICE

The Newport Township Board of Commissioners approved the 2021 Budget and tax rates as listed below in Ordinance #8 of 2020.

ORDINANCE #8 OF 2020

AN ORDINANCE OF THE TOWNSHIP OF NEWPORT, COUNTY OF LUZERNE, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING THE BUDGET AND SETTING THE TAX RATES FOR THE YEAR 2021

BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED, AND IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF NEWPORT TOWNSHIP, COUNTY OF LUZERNE, AND COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA.

THAT THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR 2021, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,244,676 IS HEREBY APPROVED AND SUBMITTED, AND

THE REFUSE BUDGET FOR 2021, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$321,970 IS HEREBY APPROVED AS SUBMITTED; AND

THE RECYCLING BUDGET FOR 2021, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$66,000 IS HEREBY APPROVED AS SUBMITTED; AND

THE LIQUID FUELS BUDGET FOR 2021, IN THE AMOUNT OF \$137,951 IS HEREBY APPROVED AS SUBMITTED; AND

THAT TAXES ARE, AND THE SAME IS HEREBY LEVIED ON ALL REAL PROPERTY, OCCUPATION, REALTY TRANSFERS, AND PERCAPITA WITHIN THE TOWNSHIP OF NEWPORT, SUBJECT TO TAXATION FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2020, AS FOLLOWS:

TAX RATE FOR GENERAL PURPOSES, THE SUM OF	3.75 MILLS
TAX RATE FOR FIRE PROTECTION, THE SUM OF	.15 MILLS
EMERGENCY AND MUNICIPAL TAX	\$52.00
EARNED INCOME TAX, RESIDENT (PERCENT)	.5000
REALY TRANSFER TAX (PERCENT)	.5000
PER CAPITA	\$5.00

That any ordinance, or part of ordinance, conflicting with this ordinance be and the same is hereby repealed insofar as the same affects this ordinance.

Adopted the 7th day of December, 2020 AD

The Flora and Fauna of Newport Township The Groundhog



By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ One fall morning, I was refilling our bird feeders in our back yard. We store birdseed in two large metal garbage cans under our porch. We cover the cans securely to make sure squirrels could not enter to eat the seeds. When I opened the can I was surprised to see a large groundhog hiding in the bottom of the can and yes, you guessed it, eating the seeds. I tipped the can over and the groundhog ran off. How he got into the sealed can, I will never know but how he replaced the cover is even more of a mystery.

The groundhog (*Marmota monax*), also known as a woodchuck, is a rodent of the family Sciuridae, belonging to the group of large ground squirrels known as marmots. It was first scientifically described by Carl Linnaeus in 1758. The groundhog is also referred to as a chuck, woodshock, groundpig, whistlepig, whistler, thickwood badger, Canada marmot, monax, moonack, weenusk, and red monk. The groundhog is by far the largest sciurid in its geographical range. Adults may measure from 16.5 to 27.0 inches in total length. Weights of adult groundhogs typically fall between 4 and 13.9 pounds.

Groundhogs have four incisor teeth which grow 1/16 inch per week. Constant usage wears them down again by about that much each week.

Groundhogs are well-adapted for digging with short, powerful limbs and curved, thick claws and are excellent burrowers, using burrows for sleeping, rearing young, and hibernating. Groundhogs are one of the few species that enter into true hibernation, and often build a separate winter burrow for this purpose. In most areas, groundhogs hibernate from October to March or April, but in more temperate areas, they may hibernate as little as three months. The groundhog prefers open country and the edges of woodland, and is rarely far from a burrow entrance. It constructs dens in well-drained soil, and most have summer and winter dens. Human activity has increased food access and abundance. Mostly herbivorous, groundhogs eat primarily wild grasses and other vegetation, including berries and agricultural crops. In early spring, dandelion and coltsfoot are important groundhog food items. Groundhogs also occasionally eat grubs, grasshoppers, insects, snails and other small animals, but are not as omnivorous as many other Sciuridae.

Groundhog Day is a popular American tradition observed in the United States and Canada on February 2. It derives from the Pennsylvania Dutch superstition that if a groundhog emerging from its burrow on this day sees its shadow due to clear weather, it will retreat to its den and winter will persist for six more weeks; but if it does not see its shadow because of cloudiness, spring will arrive early.

Groundhog Facts

1. The observance of Groundhog Day in the United States first occurred in German communities in Pennsylvania, according to known records. The earliest mention of Groundhog Day is an entry on February 2, 1840.
2. The Groundhog Day ceremony held at Punxsutawney in western Pennsylvania, centering on a semi-mythical groundhog named Punxsutawney Phil, has become the most attended. The groundhog was not named Phil until 1961, possibly as an indirect reference to Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh.
3. The Groundhog Day celebration held in Punxsutawney attracts crowds as large as 40,000 each year. The average draw had been about 2,000 until the 1993 movie Groundhog Day,

which is set at the festivities in Punxsutawney, after which attendance rose to about 10,000.

4. Wild predators of adult groundhogs include coyotes, badgers, bobcats and foxes (largely red foxes).
5. Despite their heavy-bodied appearance, groundhogs are accomplished swimmers and occasionally climb trees when escaping predators or when they want to survey their surroundings. They prefer to retreat to their burrows when threatened.
6. Groundhogs are used in medical research on hepatitis B-induced liver cancer. Woodchucks are also used in biomedical research investigating metabolic function, obesity, energy balance, the endocrine system, reproduction, neurology, cardiovascular disease, cerebrovascular disease, and neoplastic disease. Researching the hibernation patterns of groundhogs may lead to benefits for humans, including lowering of the heart rate in complicated surgical procedures.



Newsletter Seen in Sedona, AZ!

Our Newsletter was recently spotted at Cathedral Rock in Sedona, Arizona. Cathedral Rock is one of the most photographed rock formations in Arizona, after the Grand Canyon. It emanates a mystical energy. Shown soaking up the energy are John and Chris Selecky of Laguna Beach, CA. John grew up in Glen Lyon.

TARNOWSKI'S KIELBASA

579 EAST MAIN STREET ♦ NANTICOKE, PA 18634

"The Original Recipe Since 1946"



Plymouth Alive

1st Place 2019

Best Smoked Keilbasa

570-736-6585

Plymouth Alive

1st Place 2016

Best Fresh Keilbasa

John & Anastasia Vishnefski



**VISHNEFSKI
ELECTRICAL**


Daniel Vishnefski

570-574-3785

daniel@vishelectrical.com

152 Fair Lane

Nanticoke, PA 18634

www.vishelectrical.com 

No job too small

- Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial
- All work Guaranteed

Licensed and Insured #PA105381

TOWNSHIP EVENTS IN COVID-19 TIMES



Pictured above left is the Newport Township Fire Department's drive-through Spaghetti Dinner, held on October 25 at the R-Bar in Alden. At left is the Township Christmas Tree Lighting sponsored by Newport United in front of the Municipal Building. Above is the Hoagie and Bake Sale at St. Nicholas Church in Glen Lyon. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, adjustments and cancellations have had to be made to most Township events for everyone's safety.

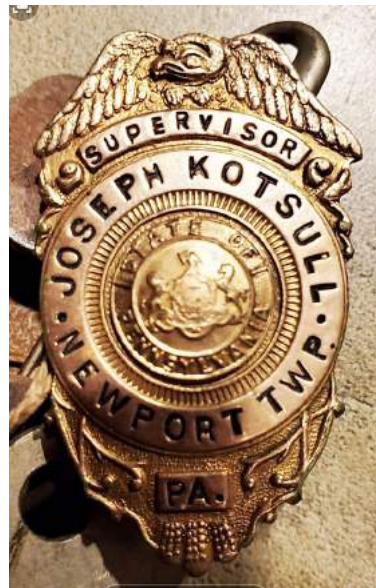


Taylor Bartle

Pictured left is Taylor Bartle of Newport Center shortly after being crowned Pennsylvania Grand Ambassador at the 2020 East Coast USA Pennsylvania Pageant in June 2020. Taylor is also a member of the GNA Homecoming Court. She is Vice President of the Senior Class, and a member of the volleyball, swim, and track and field teams. She is also a member of Student Council.

After high school, she plans to pursue a degree in physical therapy.

Taylor is the daughter of Keith and Valerie Bartle. Her brothers are Cooper and Jackson. She is the granddaughter of Dawson and Linda Jenkins of Alden and also of Nancy and the late Daniel Bartle of Nanticoke. Congratulations, Taylor!



Badge Found in Attic

Eugene Jakuboski of Alden came across the badge shown left in the attic of his home and wondered about its history and significance. Turns out Joseph Kotsull was well known in the Township. He was born in Alden and lived at 24 Newport Avenue. He married Helen Tutak and together they had three children. He was employed at the Truesdale Mines and was drafted in World War I. In 1932 he was chosen to be Supervisor for Alden and Sheatown by the Newport Board of Commissioners and was authorized to make payroll payments on the Board's behalf,

as well as other duties. In 1940, he was appointed road supervisor for the entire township. The following year Joseph was elected Township tax collector and served until 1945. He was elected to the Board of Commissioners in 1951 and resigned in 1959. Joseph passed away in 1964 at age 70.

Taste of the Township Peppers



By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~

If you want a successful summer garden, try growing peppers. You won't be disappointed.

All peppers are members of the nightshade family, which also includes potatoes, tomatoes and eggplant. They are also part of the genus *Capsicum*, which includes hot varieties, known as chili peppers, and sweet varieties, such as the bell pepper. *Capsicum annuum*, one group of the *Capsicum* species, accounts for most of the varieties

grown in this country. The word pepper comes from the Greek word *pipari* (pee-PAIR-ree) which means "black spice." Peppers are commonly broken down into three groupings: bell peppers, sweet peppers, and hot peppers. Most popular pepper varieties are seen as falling into one of these categories or as a cross between them. In spite of sharing the same name, our table pepper and the sweet and hot peppers we grow are not related. The black and white ground pepper are the seeds of the plant, *Piper nigrum*.

Something like the bell pepper and hot peppers have been cultivated for more than 9000 years, with the earliest cultivation having taken place in South and Central American civilizations. The earliest fossils are from southwestern Ecuador, where families grew their own peppers about 6,100 years ago. *Capsicum* fruits have been a part of human diets since about 7,500 BC, and are one of the oldest cultivated crops in the Americas. Columbus brought them to Europe in 1493.

While the bell pepper is a member of the *Capsicum annuum* genus like the hot chili peppers, it is the only variety that doesn't produce any capsaicin, which is the compound that produces the heat in chili peppers. Capsaicin binds with pain receptors in the mouth and throat, potentially evoking pain to the brainstem and thalamus where heat and discomfort are perceived. This absence of capsaicin is due to a recessive form of a gene that eliminates the compound and, consequently, the "hot" taste usually associated with the rest of the genus *Capsicum*.

The intensity of the "heat" of chili peppers is commonly reported in Scoville Heat Units (SHU). Historically, it was a measure of the dilution of an amount of chili extract added to sugar syrup before its heat becomes undetectable to a panel of tasters; the more it has to be diluted to be undetectable, the more "hot" the variety, and therefore the higher the rating. The modern method is an analysis of SHU using high-performance liquid chromatography (HPLC) to directly measure the capsaicinoid content of a chili pepper variety. Pure capsaicin is a hydrophobic (a surface which pushes water away), colorless, odorless, and crystalline-to-waxy solid at room temperature, and measures at 16,000,000 SHU.

Pepper Facts

1. Up until the arrival of Spanish and Portuguese explorers in the New World, peppers grew only in Latin America.
2. *Capsicum* contains approximately 20-27 species, five of which are domesticated.
3. The color of bell peppers can be green, red, yellow, orange, and more rarely, white, purple, blue, brown, and black, depending on when they are harvested and the specific cultivar.
4. Green peppers are unripe bell peppers, while the other colors are all ripe.
5. The taste of ripe peppers can vary with growing conditions and post-harvest storage treatment; the sweetest are fruit allowed to ripen fully on the plant in full sunshine, while fruit harvested green and after-ripened in storage are less sweet.
6. Bell peppers offer a number of nutritional values. They are excellent sources of vitamin C and vitamin A. They also are a source of vitamin B6, folic acid, beta-carotene, and fiber. Red peppers also contain lycopene, believed important for reducing

risk of certain cancers (prostate cancer, cancer of the cervix, bladder, and pancreas. Various studies on red peppers or their components support the view that bell peppers have a protective effect against cataracts, rheumatoid arthritis, and lung cancer.

7. When Christopher Columbus and his crew reached the Caribbean, they were the first Europeans to encounter *Capsicum*, calling them "peppers" because they, like black pepper of the genus *Piper* known in Europe, have a spicy, hot taste.
8. The spread of chili peppers to Asia occurred through its introduction by Portuguese traders. It was introduced in India by the Portuguese towards the end of the 15th century.
9. In 2016, 34.5 million tons of green chili peppers and 3.9 million tons of dried chili peppers were produced worldwide. China was the world's largest producer of green chili, providing half of the global total. Global production of dried chili peppers was about one ninth of fresh production, led by India with 36% of the world's total.
10. Capsaicin is produced by the plant as a defense against mammalian predators and microbes, in particular a *fusarium* fungus carried by hemipteran insects such as cicadas, aphids, plant hoppers, leafhoppers, and shield bugs that attack certain species of chili peppers.

Sausage and Peppers

- 2 tablespoons vegetable oil
- 1 medium onion peeled and diced
- 1 large green bell pepper, cored, seeds removed, and sliced into thin strips
- 1-2 lbs of fresh sausage, preferably Tarnowski's fresh sausage, cut into bite size pieces.
- 2 large cans diced tomatoes (more if needed)
- 1 cup cooked and drained wide egg noodles
- Parmesan cheese for serving

Heat vegetable oil in large heavy pot until shimmering over medium heat. Cook onion and pepper until softened, stirring occasionally. Add sausage and tomatoes. (Tomatoes should cover the sausage, depending on how much sausage is being cooked.) Bring to a soft boil, turn down heat and let simmer until the sausage is cooked through, 1 to 2 hours, stirring occasionally. Do not cook over high heat. Serve over cooked noodles and a sprinkle of parmesan cheese on top if desired. Mmmm, especially on a cold winter day! Enjoy!

Sources: Garden.Org, kitchenproject.com, newworldencyclopedia.org, Wikipedia, epicurious.com. Recipe supplied by Heidi Jarecki.



Broadway Jewelry & Watch Repair

class rings · expert jewelry repairs · watch batteries

John Dolan | 2 North Broadway
owner/jeweler | Nanticoke, PA 18634
broadwayjewelry2@gmail.com | (570)740-6313

Tuesday - Friday 10-5, Saturday 10 -3, closed Sunday & Monday

joe's handyman services

Joseph Moreck

(570) 550-7709

jmoreck@gmail.com

Proficient in Electrical - Residential/Commercial

Dry Wall, Decks, Sheds, Painting, Framing

Plumbing, Roofing, Pressure Washing &

Remodeling

Owner

75 Coal Street

Glen Lyon, PA 18617

Newport Township Budget for 2021

by John Jarecki

At their meeting on December 7, 2020, the Township Commissioners approved a budget for 2021. The budget is divided into four major parts, of which revenue and expenses are listed in the following table.

	Revenue	Expenses
General Budget	\$ 1,244,676	\$ 1,244,676
Refuse Budget	321,970	321,970
Recycling Budget	66,000	66,000
Liquid Fuels Budget	137,951	137,951
Total	\$1,770,597	\$1,770,597

For the 2021 budget as a whole, the five largest sources of revenue are listed in the following table along with the corresponding amounts from the 2020 budget.

	2020	2021
Real Estate Tax	\$486,090	\$543,000
Earned Income Tax	383,240	400,000
Refuse and Recycling Fees	387,970	387,970
Liquid Fuels Payment from State	150,009	137,951
Building Code Enforcement	40,000	126,000
Total Revenue	\$1,645,754	\$1,770,597

These amount to about 90% of total income. The following is a list of Township taxes and their rates for 2021, with corresponding amounts from 2020. There has been no change.

	2020	2021
Real Estate Tax		
(for General Government)	3.75 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

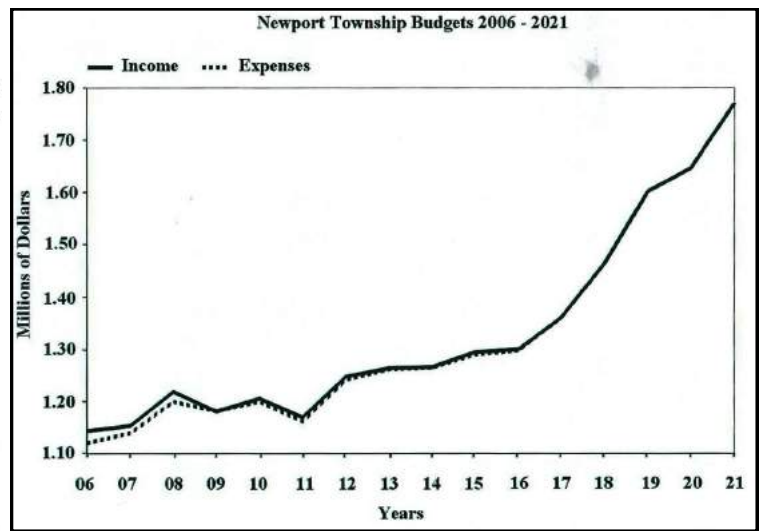
The largest source of 2021 revenue is the real estate tax. Although its rate is the same as last year, it is expected bring in about \$57,000 more this year. Expected real estate tax income is determined by using Luzerne County's yearly assessment of property values in Newport Township. This assessment value has increased since last year. Similarly, the earned income tax rate for 2021 is the same as last year, but the tax is expected to bring in \$17,000 more in revenue than in 2020. Expected earned income tax revenue is determined according to the actual average earned income tax revenue for the past three years. This revenue average has increased. Expected income from building code enforcement has increased by about \$86,000 from last year. The Township expects this increased revenue because of new construction projects, such as the apartments that developer Jay Naparolo is planning to construct on the site of the former K. M. Smith Elementary School. The trash and recycling fee is the unchanged at \$235 if paid on time. These increases in income match increases in expenses.

The six largest expenditures from the 2021 budget are listed in the following categories along with the corresponding amounts from the 2020 budget.

	2020	2021
Police Department	\$273,864	\$334,993
Refuse and Recycling	300,138	300,138
Street Department	296,077	297,300
Employee Fringe Benefits	216,866	261,414
General Government	206,455	218,768
Fire Department	194,602	203,723
Total Expenditures	\$1,645,754	\$1,770,597

These categories amount to about 91% of total expenses. Most of the increase in Township expenses have been in the categories of Employee Fringe Benefits and the Police Department. Fringe Benefits have risen by about \$43,000 mainly to pay for increases in medical insurance, Social Security and Medicare costs, and in Police and Non-Uniformed Employees pension funds. Police expenses have risen by about \$61,000 mainly to pay higher salaries for full time officers. At the same time, there has been a decrease of about \$36,000 in the amount allocated for part time officers. The Township has hired more full time officers because, before the pandemic and with the economy doing well, it was difficult to find people willing to take part time positions. There are now 5 full time Police Officers and 2 part time.

The following chart shows the changes in total income and expenditures in the Township budget from 2006 to 2021. 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 7.2% a year.



At left is Conner Kudrako-Kashatus helping his grandfather Tom Kashatus recycle metals to benefit the NTCO.

Recycling for Property Owners, Landlords, and Tenants

By Tom Kashatus ~ For the year 2020, we have all noticed that our garbage/refuse and recycling fee has increased. When it comes to recycling, we are all involved – property owners, landlords, and tenants – children and especially adults. One of the purposes of recycling was to save money and, as a matter of fact, make money for municipalities.

This benefit has been slowly changing and now has changed dramatically. There was a time when municipalities were paid for their recyclables by the depots that received them or at least were given credit toward their garbage/refuse fees. Today, Newport Township where the recyclables are picked up by the Public Works Department has to pay a fee to have recyclables processed. The price for this process is determined by the tonnage collected. That is why it is important for all residents to insure that the recyclables that are placed at the curb meet the proper standards and are “clean,” that is, free of paper boxes (excluding clean cardboard); unauthorized plastic materials, metals, and window pane glass; and other unauthorized materials, such as paper plates, napkins, etc. If there is no triangle, shown right, on the plastic item, it is not recyclable and should be placed with the garbage. It is also recommended to remove paper wrappings and rinse out any remaining food content from containers. Plastic bottle caps are not recyclable and should be placed in the garbage. Old habits are difficult to break and change, but this has to be done to meet the requirements of today's recycling standards.



There is a certain amount of political philosophy behind these changes, but it is mainly common sense. We must pass on good habits to future generations. For those who say, “Oh what the heck, why take the time to recycle? I'll just put everything in the garbage,” that's not the answer. We have a responsibility to recycle for a cleaner environment which affects the quality of life for everyone, now and into the future.

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 website, 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.

McCLOSKEY, Atty. Sylvester J., 92, passed away September 7, 2020. Sylvester was born February 13, 1928 in Newport Township, and raised in Alden. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1945 and was a US Army veteran attaining the rank of Sergeant. He earned his bachelor's degree from George Washington University and his law degree in 1952.

KELLAR, Emily, 83, a lifetime resident of Alden, died September 8, 2020. Emily was born April 14, 1937. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1944.

ROMANOWSKI, Henrietta (nee Stryczynski), 92, formerly of Nanticoke and Newport Township, passed away September 9, 2020. Henrietta was born in Glen Lyon on May 5, 1928.

OWENS, Regina "Jean" (nee Pikutis), 83, of Old Newport Street, Sheatown, passed away September 11, 2020.

FOX, Frances, 76, formerly of Wilkes Barre and Glen Lyon, passed away September 9, 2020.

HARCHARIK, Regina Florence (nee Kovalich), 91, formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away September 13, 2020. Regina was born on February 12, 1929 and raised in Glen Lyon. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1946.

ECKROTE, Wendell "Popeye," 79, a resident of Alden, passed away September 16, 2020. "Popeye" was born August 7, 1941. He was raised in Alden and attended Newport Township schools.

BAVITZ, Gerald T., 92, of Old Newport Street, Sheatown, passed away September 12, 2020. He was born in Nanticoke on May 23, 1928, and raised in Nanticoke. He was a US Marine Corps veteran.

LECHLEITNER, Leandra A. (nee Kotch), 75, formerly of Mocanaqua, passed away September 20, 2020. Leandra was born in Nanticoke on October 29, 1944 and raised in Mocanaqua. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1961.

NUTAITIS, Frank J., 53, formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away September 21, 2020. Frank was born on May 22, 1967 and raised in Glen Lyon. He was a graduate of John S. Fine High School Class of 1985 and Wilkes University with a bachelor's degree in English and Education. He was a teacher in the Greater Nanticoke Area School District.

RAVIN, Peter P., DDS, 91, formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away September 25, 2020. Dr. Ravin was born and raised in Glen Lyon. He was a Newport Township High School graduate with the Class of 1946. Dr. Ravin continued his education at the University of Georgia, Temple University School of Dentistry, and graduated from the University of Pennsylvania Medical School. He was a US Navy veteran as a dental officer serving aboard the USS Rockbridge.

BUSHELLI, Joseph A., 91, formerly of Sheatown, passed away October 9, 2020. Joseph was born on November 12, 1928. He was a member of the Newport Township Fire Company.

SCHIMMEL, Janet L. (nee Betz), 78, passed away September 16, 2020. Janet was born on November 26, 1941 in Dorrance. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1959.

OZEHOWSKI, Anna (nee Kociban), 93, of Glen Lyon, passed away October 13, 2020. Anna was born October 26, 1927 in Lee. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1944.

RUSSIN, Joseph A., 87, a long time resident of Glen Lyon, passed away October 24, 2020. Joseph was born and raised in Glen Lyon. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1951. Joseph was a US Marine Corps veteran serving during the Korean War. He received certification for the Marine Corps Field Music

School and served in Washington D.C. as a member of the President's Band.

MACKOWSKI, Stanley F. "Mack," 85, formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away October 26, 2020. "Mack" was born in Glen Lyon on November 11, 1934 and raised in Glen Lyon. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1953. He was a US Army veteran and retired from the Army Reserves in 1963.

PANETTA, Mark Angelo, 44, of Wanamie, passed away October 29, 2020. Mark was born on June 19, 1976. He was a graduate of John S. Fine High School Class of 1994 and attended Luzerne County Community College.

SCHWARTZ, Mary (nee Turner), 78, formerly of West Enterprise Street, Glen Lyon, passed away October 31, 2020. Mary was born on July 28, 1942. She was a Glen Lyon resident most of her life and attended Newport Township schools.

MARCINCAVAGE, Albin M., 73, formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away November 3, 2020. "Al" was born in Wilkes Barre. He was a US Army veteran serving as a Staff Sergeant with the 109th Field Artillery of the Pennsylvania National Guard in Nanticoke.

RINEHIMER, Irvin Vincent, 84, of Kingston, formerly of Alden, passed away November 4, 2020. Irvin was born on July 20, 1936. He was raised in Alden and was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1956. He was a US Army veteran, serving for 20 years.

SULLIVAN, Joan J. (nee Meshinski), 79, of Nanticoke, formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away November 7, 2020. Joan was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1959.

FOX, Frank W., 52, of Wilkes Barre, formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away November 7, 2020.

REGULSKI, Marilyn, (nee Prebish), 77, of Nanticoke, formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away May 9, 2020. Marilyn was born on December 18, 1943, in Wilkes Barre. She was raised in Glen Lyon, attended Newport Township schools and graduated from Newport Township High School.

ARTMONT, Regina (nee Kowalski), 92, of Nanticoke, formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away November 8, 2020. She was raised in Glen Lyon and attended Newport Township schools.

HOTKO, Leona Helene (nee Drozdowski), 91, formerly of Newport Township, passed away November 8, 2020. Leona was born on June 22, 1929. She was raised in Wanamie and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1947.

THOMAS, Irene E. (nee Wasielewski), 95, of Nanticoke, and formerly of Sheatown and Wanamie, passed away November 12, 2020. Irene was born on October 15, 1925, in Nanticoke. She resided in Maryland during World War II and worked for Glen O. Martin for the war effort.

MARTINELL, Ralph "Dusty," 88, of Murietta, CA, formerly of Newport Center, Sheatown, passed away March 20, 2020. "Dusty" was born on June 28, 1932 in Newport Center. He graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1950 where he was an outstanding three sport athlete – football, basketball, and baseball. He was a US Coast Guard veteran during the Korean War era and later graduated from Western Maryland University with a degree in Education. He retired as a principal from West Islip School District, Long Island, New York.

SIPPLE, Glen, 43, of Glen Lyon passed away November 17, 2020.

SUFFREN, John Edward "Jack," 86, a native of Wanamie, passed away November 16, 2020. "Jack" was born on June 1, 1934. He was raised in Wanamie and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1952, Wilkes College, and Montclair State University with a Master's Degree in Mathematics. He retired as a math teacher from Nutley High School after a 40 year career.

CHEPOLIS, Michael A., 73, of Sheatown, passed away on September 12, 2020. Michael was born on July 8, 1947 in Nanticoke and raised in Sheatown. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1965. He was a US Air Force veteran serving as Sergeant in Southeast Asia during the Vietnam War.

(Continued on next page)

RAIEWSKI, Edward J., of Glen Lyon, passed away November 27, 2020. He is survived by his wife, Marcella (Benick) Raiewski.

BARRON, Andrew D., 93, formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away July 17, 2020. Andrew was born in Glen Lyon on December 19, 1926 and raised in Glen Lyon. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1943. Andy was a World War II US Navy veteran serving with the Joint Communications Activities in Guam. He also served aboard the U.S.S. Maury in the Persian Gulf during the Korean War.

LARSON, Eleanor B. (nee Kowaleski), 90, of Glen Lyon, formerly of Main Road Lee, passed away November 30, 2020. Eleanor was born in Glen Lyon on February 21, 1930 and raised in Lee. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1947 and Thomas Jefferson School of Nursing Class of 1950 where she was first employed. She also worked for Nanticoke State Hospital and retired from Retreat State Hospital.

SCOTT, Dorothy W. (nee Waslofski), 91, formerly of Alden and Wilkes-Barre, passed away on November 26, 2020. Dorothy was born in Alden on March 31, 1929 and raised in Alden. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1947, and later, Luzerne County Community College, and Wilkes University.

GLEN, Gerald L. (originally Gayeski), 84, formerly of Glen Lyon, died on May 4, 2020. Gerald was born and raised in Glen Lyon. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School Class of 1953, The Citadel in Charleston, SC, and Cornell University with a Doctorate in Physical Chemistry. He was employed by Owens Illinois and later was a consultant with the American Laser Institute and attended meetings throughout the world.

570-258-0505

The Alden Room at R Bar & Grill

~ CALL US FOR ALL OF YOUR CATERING NEEDS ~

rbarcatering@yahoo.com | 119 E. Kirmar Ave.
Like us on Facebook | Nanticoke, PA 18634

One Stop Service Center, Inc.
7 Alden Road • Nanticoke, PA 18634

Major & Minor Repairs • Air Conditioning Service
Electronic Diagnostics • 24 Hour Towing
Emissions • Inspections • Certified Technicians

(570) 735-5333
(570) 735-5354 FAX
After Hours Towing 991-0112
www.1stopservicecenter.com



Rick Temarantz
President

KEN POLLOCK APARTMENTS

41 DEPOT STREET GLEN LYON, PA.
ECUMENICAL ENTERPRISES INC.

TELEPHONE: (570) 736-6965 TDD ONLY: 1-800-654-5984 VOICE ONLY: 1-800-654-5988

Low and moderate income rentals and elderly rentals include electric range, refrigerator, off street parking, community room, coin operated laundry, video surveillance, handicap assessable.

Applications accepted by appointment. Equal Housing. Call: (570) 736-6965 or (570) 855-8417

Joy Bird, Manager

Blasi
PRINTING CORP.

1490 Sans Souci Parkway
Hanover Township, PA 18706

Phone: 570-824-3557 • Fax: 570-824-8954

www.blasiprinting.com

At Blasi Printing, we want to help our new and existing customers grow their sales through printed and promotional items. With our in house graphic design team, we can put your logo on just about anything. From brochures, mailers and post cards to pens, golf balls and clothing... and with the installation of our new 5 Color Komori Press with an inline aqueous coating finisher we can now handle your more complex and detailed jobs.



The above photos show the voting activity of the Newport Township Second Ward (Wanamie, Alden, Sheatown, and Ridgeview) inside the Municipal Garage at about 4:00 pm on November 3, 2020.

The General Election in Newport Township

By Tom Kashatus ~ (Note: The vote totals and results listed below are of machine, absentee, mail-in, and provisional ballots as of Thursday, November 19, 2020 for Newport Township.)

After many, many years, the Democrats' tight hold on Newport Township has definitely been broken. For a municipality that has consistently voted Democrat in municipal, school board, county, state, and federal general elections, President Donald Trump has broken that hold – not once but twice. In 2016 he defeated Hillary Clinton by 285 votes – 1,026 to 741. This year on November 3, he defeated Joe Biden by 314 votes – 1,151 to 837. Joe Biden, however, has been declared the victor of this year's election statewide as the blue states (which traditionally vote Democrat but voted for President Trump in 2016) of Pennsylvania, Michigan, Wisconsin, and Minnesota turned the tables on the President this time with Democrat majorities and gave their electoral votes to Joe Biden. The red states (which traditionally vote Republican) of Arizona and Georgia gave close majorities as well as their electoral votes to Joe Biden. Vice President Michael Pence, a former governor of Indiana, ran with President Trump while Senator Kamala Harris of California ran with former Delaware Senator/Vice President Joe Biden. Senator Harris will be the first female Vice President ever.

Not only did President Trump carry his own weight, he helped to

carry Stacey Garrity (R), 919 votes, and Timothy Defoor (R), 927 votes, to statewide victories over incumbent Joe Torsella (D), 917 votes, and Nina Ahmad (D), 876 votes, for State Treasurer and Auditor General. Incumbent Josh Shapiro (D) led Heidi Heidelbaugh (R) in his quest for a second term for Pennsylvania Attorney General (1,048 to 857 votes). Shapiro went on to win a hard fought statewide victory.

Incumbent Congressman of the 9th District, Dan Mueser (R) of Dallas, led in Newport Township with 969 votes over Gary Wegman (D) with 814 votes. Mr. Wegman of the Reading area visited the Wanamie polling places on Election Day. In 2018 Congressman Meuser's challenger, Denny Wolf (D) of Millville carried Newport Township handily. Newport Township was the only municipality in Luzerne County to carry Mr. Wolf.

In the race for State Representative of the 119th Legislative District, local son Gerry Mullery (D) of Alden was complimented with a leading total of 577 votes (1281 to 704) over John Chura (R) Mayor of West Hazleton. Rep. Mullery overcame the Republican's challenge and the onslaught of President Trump and was successful for a sixth term. Another local son, Rep. Eddie Day Pashinski (D), originally from Sheatown and now of Wilkes Barre, ran unopposed for his seat in the 121st Legislative District of PA. He will be serving his eighth consecutive term.

The Newport Township Fire Police were on hand doing their usual superb job directing traffic at the polls throughout the day.



Whiting's Pet Supplies Returns to Glen Lyon

Edited by Heidi Jarecki ~ A new pet supply store has opened at 50 West Main Street in Glen Lyon. However, long-term local residents may realize that Whiting's isn't new at all, but rather has returned home to Newport Township. Carol Whiting, the owner of Whiting Pet Supplies, first started her grooming business in 1997 in Glen Lyon. Historically, the building was previously home to a liquor store, a dentist's office, and a five and dime, and was known as the Kutz Building. It was purchased by Carol and her husband Donn in 1999. In 2004, Whiting's Pet Supplies expanded and opened a second store in Duryea. Every year, the business continued to grow until it became too difficult to manage both locations. In 2007, Whiting's decided to close their original Glen Lyon location. A year later, the store moved to an 8,000 square foot location in Plains. The square footage served them well, allowing Carol to install a fish pond in the middle of the store. In the meantime, Susie's Red Caboose gift shop operated in the Glen Lyon location for a number of years. Due to poor landlord management, Whiting's moved its location yet again after only ten months. After less than a

year in Plains, Whiting's Pet Supplies found a long-term home in the Back Mountain in 2008. The business remained in Shavertown for twelve years, until Carol decided it was time to return home once more. In addition to ongoing issues with the landlord and property management, COVID-19 played a significant role in the most recent move. "As the COVID-19 situation continues to impact brick and mortar businesses, we have to do everything in our power to stay afloat," said Carol. "Moving our storefront back to where we started is a business decision we couldn't ignore." It was also an easy decision. Carol and Donn live right next door to the building which they own. In addition to their storefront at 50 West Main Street, Whiting's Pet Supplies also has a robust online presence where customers can shop for in-store pickup or local delivery. Customers can also order by phone. Whiting's no longer offers grooming services, but is concentrating on the retail and delivery portion of the business instead. Whether customers choose to shop online or in-store, they will find a wide selection of pet supplies, including food, toys, treats and chews, bedding, grooming supplies, and flea and tick treatments. In addition to the typical dog and cat supplies, Whiting's caters to fish and small animal lovers as well, with aquarium filters, pond supplies, indoor and wild bird seed, reptile lightbulbs and more. Some of the brands they carry include Abady, Nutrisource, Victor, Canine Caviar, Fromm and Rawz. They also carry raw, frozen, freeze-dried, and air-dried pet foods. If a pet needs to keep warm this winter, Whiting's offers a selection of pajamas, coats, and sweaters. Store hours are Monday through Friday, 10 am to 6 pm; Saturday 10 am to 2 pm. Closed on Sunday. Customers can shop online 24/7 at whitingsonline.com or call the store at 570-733-2011. 12

Irving Ruckel

Outstanding Basketball Player and Coach



Irv Ruckel as a senior at Bloomsburg State Teachers College

By Heidi Jarecki ~ Irving "Junie" Ruckel was born in Wanamie on May 9, 1912. His parents were Irving Sr. and Elizabeth "Lizzie" Young Ruckel. His siblings included Kelvin, Wilbur, Elwood and twin sisters Veda Thomas and Velma Trumbower. The family lived at 44 East Main Street, Wanamie. Irving Jr. was the third oldest child. The family belonged to the Methodist Episcopal Church in Wanamie and was active in its societies. Kelvin the oldest son served as a Newport Township police officer and later was a bus driver. Wilbur was captain of the High School basketball team in 1928. That year, the team won the Central Scholastic League Championship. Wilbur went on to coach in New Jersey. Elwood was employed at the Luzerne County Register of Wills office for 43 years.

The family's history in the Township begins with Emanuel Ruckel, Irving Sr.'s father. Emanuel was born in 1835 in Pennsylvania of German descent. He was employed as a boatman in Lightstreet, Columbia County. Emanuel was mustered on March 4, 1865 in Harrisburg and served in the Civil War with the 74th Pennsylvania Infantry, Company A. In about 1875, Emanuel and his wife Harriet located to Wanamie, where he found employment with the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal Company. They were the parents of nine children. In 1891, he was elected supervisor of the Township. By 1900, his occupation was listed as a mail carrier. When he passed away in 1914 at age 79, several fellow veterans of the Civil War from the Wyoming Valley came to pay their last respects at his funeral. He and Harriet are interred in Pine Hill Cemetery, Shickshinny.

Irving Sr. was born in 1872 and married Elizabeth "Lizzie" Young of Alden on October 12, 1898. He was an electrician by trade. He was a charter member of Wanamie Lodge 549, Junior Mechanics. He worked for the People's Street Railway Company as a superintendent. In 1924, he was appointed director on the Newport Township School Board to fill the vacancy of the late Frank Kaminski. The following year, he was elected to the School Board for an additional term along with Stanley Kolashinski, Fred Rhodes, and Steven Sweeney. Lizzie taught Sunday School for many years. Irving Sr. passed away on May 13, 1943 and Lizzie passed away on August 24, 1947. They are interred in Newport Cemetery.


Irving Jr. was educated in Newport Township Schools. Like his brother Wilbur, he was an outstanding basketball player on the Newport High School team. He played forward and was part of a team that played together for three seasons. Coached by Art Jenkins, the team pulled off a sensational victory over G.A.R. on December 19, 1930. As reported, "Newport's youngsters are not tall or heavy, but have the knack of finding the hoop from all angles and all positions, and their showing last night warrants the prediction that they will cause trouble for Nanticoke and the other Anthracite League contenders when the PIAA race gets under way next week." By February, 1931 Duryea and Nanticoke were vying for first place. Newport beat Plains by a score of 43 to 16 and St. John's by a rather lopsided score of 58 to 9. Newport already had one win over Nanticoke (38 to 36) when they met on March 3. It was billed as "a hectic game that will have much to do in deciding the winner of the Anthracite League. Newport who has played a steady game of ball all season will try to put a sprag in the works and aspirations of the (Nanticoke) crew." Nanticoke beat Newport by a score of 38 to 28. Irving Ruckel was top scorer for Newport with 9 points. In the final game of the season, Newport lost to Pittston by a score of 29 to 17. The team finished the year with a 10-7 record.

Following graduation in June, 1931, Irving attended Bloomsburg State Teachers College. He majored in secondary education with a concentration in geography and social studies. He played basketball all four years and was Captain in his third and fourth years. He also lettered in baseball and track. He graduated in 1935 with a bachelor's degree. He played professional basketball in the Pennsylvania State Professional League, American League, New York-New England and Midwestern Leagues. In 1937, Irving began his teaching and coaching career in Pine Plains, New York. Basketball teams coached by him lost only five games over a four year span and won league championships. On July 22, 1940, Irving married Aileen Shearn of Sunbury, a fellow student at Bloomsburg. In 1941, he and Aileen moved to Middletown, New York near Port Jervis where he taught high school English and served as track coach. During World War II, he enlisted in the Navy and was a physical training instructor. He was named honor man of his company. Following his discharge from the Navy, he returned to Middletown, and in 1946, began studies towards a Master's Degree at Bucknell University in Lewisburg. While in Middletown, he was an active member of the Phoenix Fire Company. He eventually earned his Master's and then pursued doctoral studies at New York University. In about 1950, he took a teaching position in Lindenhurst, NY on the southern shore of Long Island.

His final teaching position was with the Oyster Bay (Long Island) School District as Recreation Director in 1952. He developed a Teenage Club which was one of the most active groups of its kind. The group engaged in such projects as decorating Oyster Bay at Halloween, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. In 1953 the group decorated storefronts and shop windows for President Eisenhower's visit. In 1954, the annual award for American citizenship given by World Week magazine was bestowed on Irving Ruckel's Teenage Club. It was recognized as one of the most civic-minded in the country by the New York Youth Commission Council. In 1955, Irving developed spring and summer recreation activities, ranging from baseball to softball, tennis, swimming, and arts and crafts. A patriotic mardi gras kicked off the summer program on July 4 and included Native American lore, baby week, sports week, and swim for health week. On April 9, 1956, Irving was honored at a testimonial dinner for "outstanding service developing unusual recreation programs for youth."

Irving retired in 1976 as a sales representative for Harcourt, Brace, & World Textbook Company. He was employed by the Pennsylvania State Department Office on Aging and served on the Governor's White House Conference Committee on Aging. He also authored articles in education and recreation journals.

Aileen and Irving were the parents of two children, Barry and Sandra. They had two grandchildren. The couple retired to Mechanicsburg, where they were active with the Wesley United Methodist Church. Irving was a member of American Legion Post 109 and the Rotary Club. He passed away on March 15, 1999 at age 86. Aileen died on June 10, 2005. They are interred in Riverview Cemetery in Northumberland.



Joseph J. Reilly
President

130 Alden Road,
Nanticoke, PA 18634

office: 570.735.7777
direct: 570.735.7793 x214
fax: 570.735.7878
cell: 570.510.8827
email: joereilly@reillyfinishing.com

www.ReillyFinishing.com

What is HUSTLE?

Hustle is doing something that everyone is absolutely certain can't be done.

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.



MR. W. HUTCHINSON

Faculty

William Hutchinson



Newport Township Teachers: William Hutchison

By Heidi Jarecki, with help from Elaine Hutchinson ~ William "Bill" Henry Hutchinson was born on July 22, 1894 in Sheatown, the youngest of five siblings. His parents were Thomas and Florence (Flora) Louisa Bendle Hutchinson. Thomas was born in Haswell, England in 1857 and Flora was born in Skeltenham, England in 1855. They immigrated to this country in 1889. Their children were Daisey (Mrs. William Ryland) who remained in Cheltenham England, John (who never married), Mae (Mrs. Edmund Pugsley), all of whom were born in England. Charlotte known as Lottie (Mrs. John Womelsdorf) and William were born in this country. The family lived in White Mills in Wayne County, and then by 1893 moved to 34 John Street in Sheatown where William was born. Thomas found employment with the Alden Coal Company and the family lived on Prospect Hill. Their last move was to 182 Robert Street in Sheatown. The family belonged to St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Alden and was active in its societies. According to family lore, the Hutchinsons owned the first automobile in Sheatown! Thomas passed away on April 13, 1937 at age 79. Flora passed away on November 6, 1943 at age 87.

William was educated in Newport Township schools. He likely attended the Kirmar Street School in Alden for the elementary grades. While in high school, he played left field on the baseball team, and played violin in the High School orchestra. On May 5, 1911, he performed in the orchestra's annual concert. He graduated from the Central (Newport) High School in Wanamie on June 14, 1912 with a class of 12 students in the 20th annual commencement exercises. The class flower was the red rose and the class colors were gold and black. The graduates were: Julia Prentice, Edna Jenkins, Elizabeth Morris, Leah Craig, Mary Jones, Barbara Swanberry, John Barrett, Lester Yohey, Freas Keene, Charles Moore, Samuel Varker and William Hutchinson. During commencement exercises, William delivered an oration entitled "The Crusades." He also participated in a violin duet with Charles Moore and had a role in a comedy called "A Perplexing Situation."

Upon graduation, William attended East Stroudsburg Normal School and earned his K-12 teaching certificate. He remained active in the Alumni Association throughout his life. In 1913, he applied for a teaching position and on September 18, was elected by the Newport Township School Board to fill one of three vacancies. At that young age, he succeeded Edward O'Brien as teacher-principal at the Robert Street School in Sheatown. His salary was \$50.00 per month. In November of the same year, he was assigned as instructor in the Night School in the Kirmar Street School. In 1914, he took the position of teacher-principal at the Enterprise Street School in Glen Lyon to fill a vacancy left by Peter Turek. William taught 6th grade. His salary was increased to \$75.00 per month. Both Edward O'Brien and Peter Turek were transferred to the High School because more teachers were needed. William was reappointed to the Enterprise Street School in 1915.

In October, 1916, he was appointed to the executive board of the Teachers of Newport Township Public Schools. The duty of the board was to arrange for programs to be carried out at the

monthly institutes. The Superintendent of Schools then was T.A. Dixon. William served in various capacities, including vice president in 1930.

As early as 1916, William became active with the Patriotic Order Sons of America (P.O.S. of A.) Company E, Washington Camp No. 296 which held meetings intermittently at St. Andrew's Church. The local group had its beginnings in 1888. He served in a variety of offices, on the local level and the district level as well as with the junior Lincoln Camp. In 1923, William was elected Grand American, an office equivalent to President of the group. In 1930, Camp 296 participated in the dedication of the new Pershing School in Alden. In 1931, an indoor baseball league was initiated to help increase membership. He was elected District President in 1932 and District Treasurer the following year. He was still active in 1953, and the local group disbanded in about 1957.

In January, 1917, the Sheatown Hose Company No. 4 filed an application with the Court of Common Pleas for a charter. It was granted on March 5, 1917. William was elected Trustee. He served in a variety of roles, and in 1927 was elected vice-president. In 1941, he was chosen to be treasurer. He remained active with the Hose Company all of his life. In 1986, the Sheatown Hose House joined with the Wanamie Hose House to form the Newport Township Consolidated Fire Company. In April 1917, the United States entered World War I. William enlisted with the 109th Pennsylvania Field Artillery of the 28th Division and in August left for officer training at Fort Niagara in western New York State. Before leaving for the front, William was among those honored by the Knights of Pythias Lodge with a patriotic sendoff. Following basic training, the 109th arrived in France in May 1918 and participated in the Second Battle of the Marne, the last major German offensive on the Western Front. The Germans were defeated by an Allied counterattack, supported by several hundred tanks. The 109th was then deployed to Belgium before returning home in 1919.



In November, 1919, the Alumni of East Stroudsburg State Normal School honored those members who fought in World War I by dedicating a statue affectionately known as "Julia." The statue, pictured left, is a female figure representing Alma Mater, a Latin phrase that translates into "generous" or "kind" Mother. In her hand, the statue holds a wreath in dedication to those who lost their lives. The names of those veteran alumni are engraved on the base of the statue and William Hutchinson is among those so honored. Julia still sits prominently at the entrance to campus.

By attending summer sessions, William earned his Bachelor's Degree from Susquehanna University in June, 1930. He was among ten students from Luzerne County, including Albert Stair of Alden.

He also took extension courses with New York University and earned his principal certificate.

Beginning in the 1920's, William was an active member of the Nanticoke Lodge 541, Free and Accepted Masons. The group was a large one with over 200 members and held annual banquets, sometimes at the Hotel Sterling in Wilkes-Barre.

William was a hunter and fisherman. He was a member of the United Sportsmen of Pennsylvania Camp 177 of Alden. He served on the fish committee, whose responsibility was the restocking of Lake Nuangola with catfish, yellow perch, and sunfish. He was among a group of sportsmen who helped feed game following a particularly devastating snowstorm that destroyed their food sources in 1936. In 1941, William was a member of a committee for the Newport Township Sportsmen which raised money for the American Red Cross war relief fund.

He was also a member of the American Legion Post 539 in Glen Lyon and participated on multiple committees. In 1933, he served on the Publicity Committee for the annual Legion Show. In 1936, plans were being made for an American Legion junior baseball league. William served as manager of the Alden and Sheatown boys. (Continued on next page)

Boys under 17 years of age were eligible to play. Chester Rogowicz was appointed chairman of the League and Zig Najaka served as secretary.

William served on various committees for the annual field day sponsored by the Alden Playground Association, which provided recreational opportunities for the children in the Township. He also served as a judge at the field day held at the High School every year usually in May.

In 1935, he was still teacher-principal at the Sheatown School. By then, his salary was \$1852.60. The following year was when the Newport Township High School Basketball Team won the state championship. A banquet was held in their honor and William was among those who attended it.

On June 5, 1937, William married Frances E. Redwood, at Nebo Baptist Church parsonage in Nanticoke. She was born in Wales. Frances had been a member of the nursing staff at Retreat Hospital. After their marriage, the couple lived at 185 Robert Street, Sheatown. They were the parents of one daughter, Elaine who graduated with the Newport Class of 1955. Following high school, Elaine followed in her father's footsteps by attending East Stroudsburg State University and becoming a teacher. She spent her entire career in the Phoenixville (PA) Area School District.

In 1937, William continued as principal of the Sheatown School. In September, 1940, the Lincoln School in Stearns Station was abandoned and students were transferred to the Sheatown School. Then in November 1940, the Sheatown School developed serious structural problems due to mining activities underneath the school. The walls, floors, and ceilings were separated about two inches from their joints. Inspections were conducted by engineers of the Department of Labor and Industry. The Sheatown School which at that time offered classes for 1st grade through 5th grade was forced to close and all teachers and students were transferred to K.M. Smith School. The Enterprise Street School in Glen Lyon was also closed for the same reason.

Also in 1940, William was appointed to the Newport Township Athletic Council which oversaw all aspects of high school sports. The Council raised money to fund such projects as purchasing major-ette uniforms. He continued serving until 1949.

On December 7, 1941, Frances was preparing a British style tea, and William turned on the radio. He heard that the Japanese had bombed Pearl Harbor. He got in the car and drove to the Army Recruiting Center in Wanamie to enlist. It was closed on Sundays. First thing on Monday morning before school started he went to the Recruiting Center. However, they would not enlist him because he was 42 years old. He asked what he could do to help the war effort. They told him to drive coal trucks, because once the young men left, they would need coal to fuel the factories to make military equipment. So that's what he did. William would come home from school, rest a bit, eat a meal, and then drive the coal trucks for four hours. He drove on every holiday and all through the summers until the war ended.

In September, 1942, William was transferred from his teaching post at K.M. Smith School to the principalship at Columbus School in Wanamie. Throughout the war years, he helped conduct scrap metal drives throughout the Township. In 1942, he reported a collection of two tons of scrap metal and the following year, the Township salvage committee of which he was a member, conducted a drive in honor of five young men from the Township who gave their lives for their country: John Trotski, Phillip Butz, John Mazaika, Edward Slapikas, and Keith Jeffries.

In 1943, William began teaching algebra and biology at Newport High School where he remained until his retirement in 1956. In 1949, he codirected the senior class play, "Aunt Tillie Goes to Town," along with Dale Richards. In 1950, he was moderator of the high school Biology Club. Following his retirement, he served as a substitute teacher.

In his spare time, William was interested in wood working. He made furniture pieces, a knickknack shelf and a silverware box. He was knowledgeable in electricity and plumbing and was able to fix things. In the late 1940's he built a two-car garage in back of his house and put in a work bench for all of his tools.

Immensely devoted to St. Andrew's Church, William served on the Church Council and sang tenor in the choir (Frances also

sang in the choir). Together they performed in several cantata-pageants and various Christmas programs.

William and Frances's daughter Elaine recalls taking educational trips with her parents. "During the summer months, he would take me and my Mom around the Northeastern United States (Niagara Falls, New England states) and the southern part of Canada. He wanted me to know the history of the United States. We also visited New York City about twice a year. We had relatives in New Jersey who we visited for several holidays and then he would take me over to New York so I could learn and experience the Empire State Building, the Statue of Liberty, the United Nations, and many museums. On the way back from the Jersey shore, he would stop in Philadelphia so I could learn about the Liberty Bell and Independence Hall. We also spent time in Washington, DC."

William Hutchinson passed away on July 30, 1958 at age 64. Frances Hutchinson passed away on September 10, 2003 at age 97. They are interred in Hanover Green Cemetery.

William was memorialized by The Newport Township High School Class of 1959 in its yearbook: "As a citizen of the community which he loved so well, he offered his services willingly and freely to many organizations. Our memories shall be filled with his devotion to the school, the church, and many civic interests. His sudden death...has taken from our midst a sincere friend and capable teacher. It is with regret that we sadly whisper, 'Farewell.'"

**GET THE FNCB®
BANK LOCAL
ADVANTAGE!**

**Visit our Nanticoke
Community Office today!**
194 S. Market St. | Nanticoke, PA
(570) 258-3622

1-877-TRY-FNCB | fncb.com
Member FDIC

360 Performance Automotive
Nanticoke, PA
71 W. Broad Street of corner of
Broad & Hanover streets
Hours: 9AM to 6PM Mon thru Fri
Call: 1-833-360-2886
Engine Repair; Oil Change; Brake, Suspension,
Muffler & Exhaust Services; Vehicle Inspections;
Transmission Repair; Electric Car repair; etc.

THOR'S SELF STORAGE
570-735-1600

CORNER OF WEST MAIN AVE & WEST KIRMAR AVE
(WANAMIE) NANTICOKE, PA

HOURS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY



Hometown Hero: Gilbert J. Chesney

By Heidi Jarecki ~ Gilbert John Chesney was born on October 28, 1922, the son of Peter and Stasia Kishel Chesney. Peter Sczesney was born in Poland, immigrated to this country and found employment with the Susquehanna Colliery in Glen Lyon. Stasia was born in Glen Lyon, the daughter of John and Stephania Kishel. Her maternal grandparents were John and Valeria Tarnowski.

Peter and Stasia were the parents of three sons, Edmund, Gilbert and Thomas. The family lived at 73 Railroad Street and belonged to St. Michael's Church on West Main Street. Peter was active with the Holy Name Society and belonged to United Mine Workers, Local 1167. Beginning in 1955, he was appointed an auxiliary police officer by the Township Commissioners to safeguard children walking to and from school. Stasia was employed as a janitoress in the Pulaski School. She was active with the VFW Post 8353 Auxiliary. Peter died on August 25, 1967 and Stasia passed away on March 24, 1991. They are interred in St. Michael's Cemetery, Glen Lyon.

All three sons were educated in Newport Township schools and served in the Armed Services during World War II. Edmund, an outstanding football player, graduated from Newport High School with the Class of 1940. He joined the Army, rose to the rank of Captain and served with the Army Quartermaster Corps in the Pacific Theater. Upon return, he graduated from the Temple School of Pharmacy in Philadelphia and became a pharmacist, first in Glen Lyon and later in Berwick. He passed away in 2010. Thomas, the youngest son, joined the Navy and was stationed in Leyte, the Philippines. Upon discharge in 1947, he graduated from Kingston High School in 1948 and Keystone Junior College in 1950. He was the owner and administrator of Maple Hill Nursing Home in Dallas. He passed away in 2005.

Growing up, Gilbert was an active member of the Glen Lyon Boy Scouts Troop 374, sponsored by St. Michael's Church. During the summer months beginning in 1940, he played baseball with the Glen Lyon Colts, a youth baseball team sponsored by the Glen Lyon Condors. He was a member of the Newport High School Class of 1943. In his sophomore year, Gilbert was elected vice president of his Class. He played defensive end on the football team, pictured left, and was a member of the Lettermen's Club.

Gilbert was employed at the Middletown (PA) Air Depot when he registered for the draft on June 30, 1942 at the local Selective Service Board No. 7 in Wanamie. The Middletown site focused on aircraft maintenance and material supply, particularly during World War II. It later became the Harrisburg International Airport.



On January 8, 1943, Gilbert reported to the Wilkes-Barre Induction Center for a final physical examination. On January 15, 1943, along with 37 other men from the Township, he was inducted into the United States Army at Wilkes-Barre, and was sent to the New Cumberland Reception Center. Gilbert was assigned to the Air Corps at Goudsboro, North Carolina. He also trained at MacDill Field, Florida where he received his wings. Transferred in April, 1944 to Langley Field, Virginia, he rose to the rank of Technical Sergeant. He went overseas on June 7, 1944 (one day after D-Day) and was stationed first in North Africa before going to Italy. Italy had surrendered to the Allies on September 8, 1943 and a month later, on October 13, 1943, it declared war on Nazi Germany, its onetime Axis powers partner.

Gilbert was assigned to the 15th Air Force, 32nd Squadron, 301st and served as an engineer and gunner on a B-17 aircraft. Beginning on July 8, 1944, he participated in two missions of "sustained operational activities against the enemy." The goal of his third mission on July 26, 1944 was to bomb the aircraft engine factory, the Vosendorf oil refinery and Markersdorf Airfield located in Wiener Neudorf eight miles south of Vienna in the industrial area of Austria. (On March 12, 1938, German troops had marched into Austria to annex the German-speaking nation for the Third Reich.) That mission was accomplished. On the return flight to its home base, the squadron was attacked by German aircraft and engaged in a fierce battle. Gilbert's plane was hit and crashed in a wooded area near the village of Strallegg, Austria. In all, two B-17s crashed in the same vicinity.



As reported by the Strallegg Police Inspector, "On July 26, 1944 at 11:00 hours in the morning north of Strallegg an aerial combat took place. During this combat, an American bomber type Fortress Flying G17 was shot down over Strallegg. Another bomber, type Boeing Serial G17 crashed west. The crew of the former bomber was 10 men. Seven men lost their lives in the crash and three parachutists were captured, one of them severely wounded. The Police had orders to guard the crashed planes till the arrival of the Recovery Commission. The wreckage was taken to Graz by truck and train."

The remains of seventeen of the nineteen crew members who perished were found by Johann Lechner who was the grave digger and lived in the village. The remains of fifteen crew members were buried in a common grave in the town cemetery on July 27, 1944. Two were buried in the woods. Only six of them could be identified. The names of the other eleven were unknown at that time. In official reports, Johann stated he had taken off the identification tags (it is unclear how many) before burial and handed them over to community police. The burial was ordered by the Burgermeister (the chief magistrate) of Strallegg.

On August 1, 1944, the body of another crew member was found north of the village near a farm house, the identity of whom could be established. Six days later, on August 7, a second body of an American soldier was found in the same woods by the innkeeper. They were buried by order of the Burgermeister.

T/Sergeant Gilbert John Chesney was listed as Missing in Action and was officially declared dead on July 27, 1945. He was 22 years old.

Upon receiving notification of Gilbert's death on August 6, 1945, a memorial Mass was offered on August 9 at St. Michael's Church, Rev. Anthony Lafaj officiating, and Gold Star status was bestowed on the family shortly after.

On November 10, 1945, Peter and Stasia received a letter from Major General Edward F. Witsell, acting for the (Continued on next page)

adjutant general, stating that an Air Medal by order of the President of the United States would be awarded posthumously to their son "for meritorious achievement in aerial flight while participating in sustained operational activities against the enemy from July 8, 1944 to July 26, 1944." The award was made by an officer from the Third Service Command in Baltimore.

On September 9, 1946, Gilbert's remains were moved from the town cemetery in Strallegg to the U.S. Military Cemetery in St. Avold, France.

In January, 1947, Peter and Stasia Chesney requested their son's remains be brought to Glen Lyon for burial. The process began on January 15, 1948 and on April 23, his remains were disinterred from the U.S. Military Cemetery in France and arrived on American soil on July 13, 1948 in New York City. They were then transported by train with full military escort and arrived in Nanticoke at the DL & W Station on July 16. The casket was met by an escort from American Legion Post 539, Jeffries-Slapikas American Legion Post 971, and Chester Stralka VFW Post 8353. Raymond Polniaszek, long-time funeral director in Glen Lyon, then brought the body to the home of his parents.

On Monday, July 19, 1948 the funeral took place with military tributes. Three requiem Masses were celebrated in St. Michael's Church with Rev. Anthony Lafaj, Rev. Czekala, and Rev. J. Grauzlis officiating.

Technical Sergeant Gilbert J. Chesney is interred in St. Michael's Cemetery, Glen Lyon.



26.7.1944, B17 G 44 – 6168
15th. US Air Force, 301st. BG, BS32

† Ralph C. Delonnay, Pilot (MI)
† Paul M. Kerr, Co Pilot (OH)
† Bobbie L. Massey (TX)
† Jack S. Kuhn (MI)
† Gilbert J. Chesney (PA)
† Joseph K. Salasek (IL)
† Eugene H. Anderson (OK)
† Roscoe G. Fulton (CO)
George Demos (IL)
Melvin K. Stark (IA)

On April 12, 1944, an American B24 bomber crashed near Strallegg, Austria. Its crew of 11 men perished. On July 26, 1944, two B17's crashed in the same vicinity. In grateful recognition, the Town of Strallegg erected a memorial (pictured above top) honoring the men of the three aircraft who gave their lives for the freedom of Austria and indeed, all of Europe.

Gilbert J. Chesney is among those so honored.

How Coronavirus Vaccines Work

By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ All vaccines work in the same way. They trick the body's immune system into believing that the body is being infected by a particular disease organism and the body's immune system is mobilized against that particular organism. The vaccine imitates the disease organism without actually infecting its host. The body's immune system is activated, but what is more important, the vaccine injects memory into the immune system. When the body is attacked by that disease, the immune system remembers and immediately attacks the disease organism before it can overwhelm its victim. Protection is proportional to how strong the individual's immune system is. Many individuals have strong immune systems and others do not. As people get older, their immune systems gradually diminish, making them more susceptible to disease and thus the vaccines are less effective. Some people because of their genetic makeup may have diminished immune systems. And some people who have contracted diseases which attack the immune system are compromised.

Vaccines have an inherent range of effectiveness. Influenza vaccines effectiveness ranges from 10% to 61% but even at those levels, they prevent millions of cases and thousands of deaths. To put things in perspective, in 1918 the first wave of the flu pandemic in the United States provided as high as 94% protection against the second wave, far better than the best modern vaccine affords (J. Barry).

The human immune system basically works in the following way: the body recognizes the invading disease organism by identifying chemicals within the invading organism. These chemicals are almost always proteins which are located on the invading organism's surface. These chemicals are referred to as antigens. The body then produces antibodies, which are themselves proteins that will attach to the invading organism's antigens and will thereby neutralize the invading organism and prevent them from attacking the host's cells.

The most common types of vaccines are:

Attenuated live viruses - Weakened forms of a live virus that cannot cause illness, but will create an immune response. Examples include flu, measles, mumps, rubella and chickenpox vaccines.

Inactivated viruses - A version of the virus that has been killed. Although the virus is dead, antibodies will still be produced. Examples include the flu and polio vaccines.

The most often mentioned coronavirus vaccines (Pfizer, Moderna, AstraZeneca and Johnson and Johnson) are neither of these. They are made in the lab using genetic engineering.

Both the Moderna and the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccines utilize mRNA, or messenger RNA, technology, meaning they teach cells to make a protein that prompts an immune response. This process is known as translation. After injection, the vaccine particles bump into human cells and fuse to them, releasing mRNA. The human cell's molecules read its sequence and build COVID virus surface proteins and release them. An immune response against these proteins then follows. The mRNA from the vaccine is eventually destroyed by the cell, leaving no permanent trace. Because of their fragility, the mRNA molecules will quickly fall apart at room temperature. That is why cold storage is necessary. Pfizer has built special containers with dry ice, thermal sensors and GPS trackers to ensure the vaccines can be transported at -94 degrees Fahrenheit to stay viable. The Moderna vaccine requires normal refrigeration.

The AstraZeneca, the Russian Sputnik-V, the Johnson & Johnson and CanSino of China vaccines use adenovirus technology. It is based on a harmless adenovirus from a chimpanzee, which has been engineered in the lab to include genes from the coronavirus that causes COVID-19. When the genetically modified adenovirus is injected into human cells, they make coronavirus proteins (antigens) that prime the immune system to respond to future infections. The adenovirus vaccines cost much less than other coronavirus vaccines and are much easier to distribute.

It is because of technological advances over the last ten years that the coronavirus vaccines were produced so quickly and effectively.

Sources: Wikipedia, www.cdc.gov/coronavirus, www.who.int, www.winchesterhospital.org, www.nytimes.com, <https://theconversation.com>, www.webforum.org, John Barry, *The Great Influenza*



Nikolas Makowski, right, of Wanamie shot an 8 point buck.



Cody Forgach of Fairview Township and formerly of Wanamie, shot this 6 pointer.



Kevin Makowski, right, of Wanamie shot this 12 point buck.

Buck Season Report

By Tom Kashatus ~ The hunters pictured on this page have called into the NTCO to announce their harvests of buck during the archery and rifle deer hunting season for 2020 and for publication in the Winter Newsletter. All deer were taken in Newport Township.

As deer season runs past the NTCO Winter Newsletter deadline, this writer will take additional announcements for publication in the Spring Newsletter. Please include the following: Weight, number of points, weapon used, where harvested, and any other desired personal information. Call Tom Kashatus at 570-736-6981 or email tomkashatus@gmail.com.



Amber Borysewicz of Pittston shot this 7 point buck in Newport Township.



Mike Pauska of Glen Lyon shot this beauty, a 9 pointer.



Dawson Jenkins of Alden shot this beautiful 9 pointer in Newport Township during archery season.



Pictured left: Jason Misiewicz (left), Dave Wildoner (center), and Brian Pauska (right) are shown with their harvest on opening day. Jason and Dave of Glen Lyon are shown with their 7 point bucks and Brian of Newport Center shot an 8 point buck, all in Newport Township.

Pictured right: Valerie Bartle, Kennedy Early Childhood School Principal, of Newport Center, bagged this 8 pointer.





Pictured above left is the Inclined Plane built by the Susquehanna Coal Company to transport waste material from the breaker to the top of Retreat Mountain. Above right is the Power House at the top of the mountain. Power was needed to pull the added weight in the loaded cars to the top. Some years separate the two pictures indicated by the presence of the utility pole. Pictured left is an enlarged cropping of a 1938 aerial photograph which shows the extent of the slag heap at the top. Note East and West Enterprise Streets on either side of the Plane. An enlarged aerial photograph of the same vintage which shows the town of Glen Lyon is on display in the Glen Lyon Post Office. Above left photo taken by the late John Jarecki Sr.

Glen Lyon's Inclined Plane

By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ An inclined plane, also known as a ramp, is a flat supporting surface tilted at an angle, with one end higher than the other, used as an aid for raising or lowering a load. Inclined planes are widely used to move heavy loads over vertical obstacles. Examples are a ramp for loading goods into a truck, a person walking up a pedestrian ramp, and an automobile or railroad train climbing a grade.

Occasionally mining operations used the principle to transport material up a steep hill or mountainside. A straight ramp would be cut into the side of the hill, and cars on two sets of rails would be pulled up and down by a cable system. The car going down, usually empty would be pulled by gravity. The car loaded with material went up, aided by power supplied by a steam engine, Corliss engine, or electricity. The ascending car needs energy to make up for the added weight. These inclined planes are sometimes called funiculars or cable railways but the principle is the same.

The city of Pittsburgh once boasted twenty three inclines built on the hillsides. Ten of them were built and owned by the Monongahela Inclined Plane Company. Most of the earliest planes were constructed by the mining companies. Only two are still in operation, the Duquesne Incline and Monongahela Incline, which carry passengers between Mount Washington and the Monongahela River.

The Johnstown (PA) Inclined Plane is still in use, albeit as a tourist attraction. The Cambria Iron Company began construction of the incline in 1890, to carry people, horses and wagons to the new community of Westmont. The Johnstown Plane was designed by Samuel Diescher of Pittsburgh, internationally known as an engineer of vertical railroads. He also designed machinery to

operate the first Ferris wheel, unveiled at the Chicago World's Colombian Exposition in 1893. The Johnstown Plane is generally regarded as the steepest incline in the world.

Closer to home are the Ashley Planes. The Planes were built in 1837–1838 by the Lehigh Coal & Navigation Company. It was a freight cable railroad situated along three separately powered inclined plane sections located between Ashley at the foot, and Mountain Top over 1,000 feet above. It was built concurrently with rail lines and an extension of the Lehigh Canal. It sent goods and passengers via Mountain Top by rail to White Haven.

Glen Lyon's inclined plane was built by the Susquehanna Coal Company to carry rock, culm, and slag material from the breaker at the foot to the top of the mountain. It was situated between East and West Enterprise Streets.

In Tony Doren's *A General History of Glen Lyon Pennsylvania*, it is described thus: "The breaker disgorged a monumental amount of waste and it had to be moved expeditiously to avoid burying the colliery. Most of it was moved to a culm bank at the top of Retreat Mountain on an inclined plane railroad. The railroad...ran a distance of 450 feet up the mountainside. Descending empty cars assisted a hoist engine located at the top in pulling loaded ascending cars. The inclined plane railroad replaced mules, which were first used to haul breaker waste to a culm bank on the side of Retreat Mountain near West Enterprise Street.

"Over the years, the black culm bank on top of Retreat Mountain grew to gigantic proportions, its upward incline inching to such great height that at times the bank disappeared into low-lying clouds. The bank caught fire in the 1940s and burned for years; its yellow sulfuric smoke roiled over the valley and was particularly acrid to the nose on rainy days." The fire was eventually extinguished in the 1970s.

Remnants of the inclined plane can still be seen today. Unfortunately, there was little regard by the coal industry for any long-term environmental impact back then. The coal industry provided employment for thousands of immigrants and today, its legacy, both good and bad, lives on.

Sources: Wikipedia, various websites, Tony Doren's *A General History of Glen Lyon*, and a tip of the hat to Bob Deluca.



50 W. Main Street
Glen Lyon, PA 18617
(570) 733-2011
www.whitingsonline.com

Your pet nutrition specialists!

At Whiting's Pet Supplies, we offer the area's largest selection of premium pet foods, treats, toys, beds, grooming supplies, and everything else you need to raise a happy and healthy pet—even your fish and reptile.

Shop in-store or online from the comfort of your home!

Find products from these leading brands and more:

- Nutrisource
- Victor
- Fromm
- Stella & Chewy
- Redbarn
- Fussie Cat
- Zignature
- Canine Caviar
- Rawz
- Boreal
- Kong
- Vital Essentials
- Seresto
- Tropiclean
- Ziwi Peak

Store Hours:

**Mon – Fri 10am – 6pm
Saturday 10am – 2pm**

Be Loyal, Buy Local!

**Free local delivery on
orders over \$50!**



CHRISTMAS IN NEWPORT TOWNSHIP



A ride through the Township during the month of December shows residents' creativity and love for the Christmas Season. Even though the current pandemic may have curtailed the usual family gatherings and township events, never forget that Christmas is a joyful time for giving and receiving. The NTCO and the editors and contributors of the Newsletter would like to extend to all of our readers a wish for a Happy and Healthy New Year!

- INSURANCE ESTIMATES
- COLLISION REPAIRS

- STATE INSPECTION
- FULL AUTO REPAIRS



BOB'S AUTO CENTER



445 W. Union St., Nanticoke, PA 18634

Phone: 735-4301

FAX: 735-0889

Bob Raineri, Proprietor

Dan Kozak, Sales
Maggie Kozak, Sales

Tony DiMaria, Service Manager

Dorrance Auto Center, Inc.

94 Robert Street Sheatown
Nanticoke, PA 18634

Clean, Guaranteed Used Car & Truck Sales

BUY . SELL . TRADE

Office (570) 735-4645 . Cell (570) 239-0348

Mon. Wed. Thurs. 10-6 TU. Fri. Sat. 10-5

Other Hours By Appointment

www.dorranceautocenter.com

the
BUS STOP
cafe



Open Daily
Serving Breakfast & Lunch

2 East Broad Street
Nanticoke, PA 18634

570-735-7855

Call ahead for takeouts

PHONE 735-2161 OR 735-4163



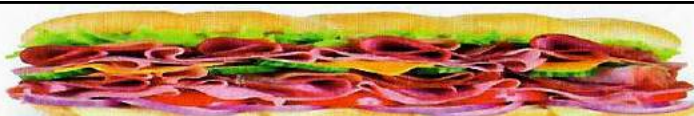
ALLEN KROPIEWNICKI

EASTERN FUEL OIL

SHEATOWN

2 NORTHERN AVENUE

NANTICOKE, PA. 18634



Subs, Pierogies & More

235 W. MAIN ST.
NANTICOKE 570-258-0552



Rehabilitation & Skilled Nursing

147 Old Newport Street
Nanticoke, PA 18634

(570) 735-7300, ext. 5329

Cell: (570) 592-8698

Fax: (570) 740-5365

www.guardianeldercare.com

Rhonda
Ryan

92 Allan St. Route 11
West Nanticoke, PA 18634



www.rjmcglynnns.com

sales@rjmcglynnns.com



1 Old Newport Street
Fax: 570-735-0718 570-735-3011 Nanticoke, PA 18634

CEPPA'S Notary & Online Service

Title - Tag Transfers

Full Notary Service

INSTANT T-TAGS FOR ANYTHING

Atv - Boat - Transfers - Snowmobiles

416 W. Union St.

Nanticoke, PA 18634

Mon. - Fri. 9:00 - 8:30PM Sat. 9:00Am - 3:00Pm

570 735 5846

Susan A. Maza

ATTORNEY - AT - LAW

67 Public Square - Suite 600

Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18701

Telephone

570-690-9400

Email

susan@mazalawfirm.com

Speedy's Auto Center, Inc.



249 West Church St.

Nanticoke, PA

Shop 735-3230

Sales and Service

Buy - Sell - Trade

Piestrak's Gun Shop

104 Alden Mountain Road

Nanticoke, PA 18634

(570) 735-3776

FAX 735-1603

1-800-281-0716

Sedor Insurance

Marcella Sedor-Kelly
Auto / Home / Business



480 Pierce Street
Suite 107
Kingston, PA 18704

Ph.: 570-714-1296

Fx.: 570-714-1297

sedorinsurance@frontier.com

GEORGE A. STRISH, INC.

Family of Funeral Directors

"Dignified Service To Meet Your Personal Requirements"

George A. Strish, Jr.

Deborah Strish Katra

George A. Strish, III

Ashley - 105 N. Main Street

822-8575

Glen Lyon - 211 W. Main Street

736-6218

126 E. RIDGE ST.
NANTICOKE, PA 18634
(570) 735-6630



SPECIALIZING IN
WHIPPED CREAM & DECORATED CAKES
BREADS, ROLLS, PASTRIES

M.J. Beer Store now open

LOW PRICE Premium & Imported Beer to go

Store Hrs: Mon-Fri 7AM-9PM; Sat 8AM-9PM; Sun 11AM-9PM

M.J. Food Mart

Groceries, Milk, Bread, Soda, Snacks, School Supplies,
Greeting Cards, Toys, Cleaning Products,
Tobacco Products etc, PA Lottery, Phone Cards,
ATM on premises

Store Hrs: Mon-Fri 7:00AM-9PM; Sat 8AM-9PM; Sun 8AM-9PM

22 West Main St. Glen Lyon (570-736-6705)

CARL KNOREK



Since 1896

F. L. KNOREK INSURANCE AGENCY

AUTO, HOMEOWNERS, BUSINESS
FIRE, FLOOD

40 N. MARKET ST.
NANTICOKE, PENNSYLVANIA 18634
570 - 735-4140 • Fax: 570 - 735-6530

cknorek@aol.com

The Tint Shoppe Inc.



Specializing in:

- Auto Glass Tinting
- Sunroofs (Installed & Repaired)
- Truck Accessories
- Complete Air Cond. Service
- Collision Repair
- Notary Service
- Free Shuttle Service

We Accept Major Credit Cards

(570) 822-6644 Shop

(570) 825-3663 Home

(570) 970-0727 Fax

31 Blackman Street

Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

RICHARDS GARDEN EQUIPMENT

Sales and Service

New Lawn Mower Sales

New Outdoor Power Equipment and Parts

New Chain Saw Chains

Lawn Mower and Snow Blower Repair

Chain Saw Sharpening

Pickup and delivery



Sales & Service

Lowest Price Guarantee



480 Old Newport Road

Sheatown/Wanamie Line



(570) 735-1416

Shades Unlimited

Custom Window Treatments

Blinds, Shades, Shutters, Draperies
and Fabric Awnings

Free Measurements & Estimates

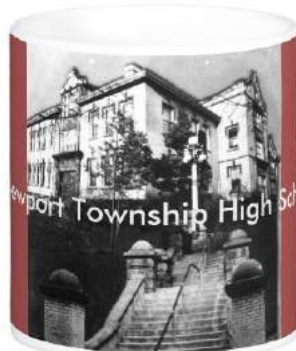
(570)-829-1234 www.shadesunltd.com

Locally Owned and Operated since 1982

Monthly Food Distribution Moved to Recreation Park

The Newport Township Community Organization, the Weinberg Regional Food Bank and the Newport Township American Legion have been working together to host a Food Distribution for those in need. However, due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the food distribution at the American Legion is temporarily suspended. When it is safe for large numbers of people to gather in small spaces, the Food Distribution will resume at the American Legion, 62 Newport Street, Glen Lyon.

With the cooperation of the Township Board of Commissioners and Township Manager Joe Hillan, outdoor distributions have taken place at the Wanamie Recreation Park and will continue throughout the winter, weather permitting. Recipients must pre-register. The NTCO apologizes for any inconvenience. Palmira Miller chairs this event for the NTCO. She can be reached at 570-592-7876.



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.

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 _____
Street Address _____
City, State _____
Zip Code _____
Phone number _____
Email address _____

NTCO NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT

Contact Joe Maloney for more information at 570-736-6828

- \$25.00 One-tenth-page or Business Card Size Ad
- \$50.00 Quarter-page Size Ad
- \$75.00 One-half-page Size Ad
- \$150.00 Full-page Size Ad

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
First Vice President: Tom Kashatus 570-736-6981
Treasurer: Peter Zaleski 570-899-8664
Secretary: Linda Conner 570-736-6580
Alternate Secretary/Treasurer: John Jarecki 570-736-6620
Newsletter Editors: Heidi & Paul Jarecki 570-733-2540
Advertising Agent: Joe Maloney 570-736-6828
Webmaster: Palmira Miller palmiram@newporttownship.com
Assistant Webmaster: John Jarecki jjarecki@pa.metrocast.net
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 tomkashatus@gmail.com 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.

Name _____
Address _____
City, State _____
Zip Code _____
Phone number _____
Email address _____

Be Proud of Newport and Make Newport Proud of You!

~ The Late Honorable Paul R. Selecky