



And now let us welcome the new year, full of things that have never been. ~ Rainer Maria Rilke



A quiet winter scene on Najaka’s Pond in Lee

Newport Township Public Business

By John Jarecki ~ The following is an account of Newport Township public business arranged in two parts. The first is a discussion of continuing projects and the second a discussion of items commented or acted on by the Township Commissioners at their monthly meetings in October, November, and December of 2021.

Glen Lyon Curb and Sidewalk Improvement Project: Funded by a \$1.4 million Luzerne County Infrastructure Improvement Grant that the Township received in 2018, this project will repair sidewalks and curbs along Main Street in Glen Lyon. In November Township Manager Joe Hillan announced that all required permits have been secured and that the Township will ask for bids for the project in early 2022.

Dollar Store Construction Project: In the fall of 2020, GBT Realty Corporation, a national company headquartered near Nashville, Tennessee, began doing preliminary work on construction of a 10,000 square foot Dollar General Store at 357 West Kirmar Avenue next to the Municipal Building. In October the contractor began site preparation for the project. Completion is tentatively scheduled for late January 2022.

NorthPoint Development Warehouse Construction Project: NorthPoint Development, a national construction company based in

Kansas City, Missouri which has constructed a number of warehouses along the South Valley Parkway, has begun construction of two warehouses just off Middle Road on reclaimed strip mine land. One of these warehouses, a 536,00 square-foot structure, will be in Hanover Township, and a second warehouse of 1.2 million square feet, will be entirely within Newport Township. This double warehouse project will be named Tradeport 164.

At a groundbreaking ceremony in October, State Senator John Yudichak said that, when the buildings begin operation, they are expected to produce nearly \$1 million in annual tax revenue, and that he expects that construction of these warehouses will be completed by May of 2022 on land that NorthPoint Development purchased from Earth Conservancy. Brent Miles, a founding partner of NorthPoint Development, said that the area’s logistics, access to infrastructure, and labor are all important factors to the companies that lease buildings here, and that “None of this would have happened without the South Valley Parkway.”

Blighted Property Remediation Project: During 2021 Newport Township received a State Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) Blight Remediation grant of \$289,970 and an LSA (gaming) grant of \$250,000 for acquisition and demolition of blighted properties. Township officials (Continued on next page)

Inside: Township Business p.1-2; NTCO President’s Message p.3; Events p.4; Township News & Notices p.5; Township Budget for 2022, 100 Years Ago p.6; Banner Project p.7; Township Events p.8;

Taste of Township p.9; Flora & Fauna p.10; Obituaries p.11; Dollar Store, Fire Police Magic Show p.12; VFW’s 75th, General Election Results p. 13; Richard Barski p. 14-15, Newport Township

Teachers p.16-17; Resident Publishes Book, Gasoline Production Facility p.17; Sheatown Service Station p.18; Edmund “Doc” Vosheski p.19; Ads p.20; Tree Lightings in the Township p.21;

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Happy New Year Everyone!

plan to demolish blighted buildings if possible in groups that are near one another in the hope that this will decrease costs. They first get permission from the owner to demolish the building, with the owner then keeping possession of the land on which the building stood.

In October, Township Manager Joe Hillan announced that the Township's Blight Remediation Committee had chosen the first five structures for demolition: 1) 26-28 Rock St., 2) 36-38 Rock St., 3) 40 Rock St., 4) 7-8 College Hill, 5) 2 Rear College Hill. Solicitor Jeffrey Rockman checked the list for liens, and inspector Jeff Pisanchyn, after beginning asbestos inspections, reported that the houses at 26-28 and 40 Rock Street were both in such bad condition that it was unsafe to conduct inspections. On October 30, the house at 26-28 Rock Street partially collapsed and was demolished as an emergency measure. An asbestos inspection has been scheduled for 36-38 Rock Street after which the Township will ask for bids for the demolition of 36-38 and 40 Rock Street.

The following are other items discussed or acted on at Township Commissioners' meetings in October, November, and December 2021.

October 4, 2021: Two residents complained that their neighbors were not maintaining their homes in compliance with Township regulations.

Heidi Jarecki gave the Commissioners an outline of the early history of Newport Township which indicated that the Township was founded in 1773. She suggested, that since 2023 will be the Township's 250th anniversary, the Commissioners appoint a committee to plan a celebration of the event. Commissioner John Zyla said that we should ask for volunteers who would like to serve on this committee.

Financial Oversight Consultant Jennifer Polito reported that, for the first nine months of 2021, Township revenue was \$1,803,831 and expenditures were \$1,034,760. The audit of Township finances is complete and all is in order. The Township ended the year 2020 with a balance of \$468,261.

The Commissioners voted to approve an agreement with Luzerne County according to which the County will collect the Township's municipal taxes through the calendar year 2022.

November 1, 2021: A resident mentioned that a woman living in her home in Wanamie was found not able to take care of herself. She had no food and could not get her grass cut and could not get her property in proper condition. The mailman brought the situation to the attention of the neighbors, who then helped her with her problems. The resident asked whether a protocol could be put into place to handle this kind of situation because it is likely that other residents will have similar problems. Commissioner Mike Roke said that each situation of this kind is different and must be handled on its own terms. Police Chief Jeremy Blank said that he had talked to the woman and offered help. He said that there are quite a few older people in the community who may need help, and that the police, because of their usual duties, are limited in what they can do to help in such cases.

The Commissioners approved a 5.9% cost of living increase for Norman Bodek under the Firemen's Pension Plan, as requested by Norman Bodek and authorized by the Pension Plan's actuary, Foster and Foster.

The Commissioners approved a storm water management permit fee schedule in accordance with Ordinance #2 of 2011.

The Commissioners voted to hire Richard J. Guziak as a part time employee with the Department of Public Works, specifically for recycling and emergency situations.

The Commissioners discussed the announcement by State Senator John Yudichak and Luzerne County officials that an energy company, Nacero Inc., is planning to construct in Newport Township a \$6 billion facility to convert natural gas to gasoline. They said it would boost the local economy. (See article on page 17.)

Township Manager Joe Hillan included the following in his report:

- 1) The Proposed Budget for 2022 has been written and is available for viewing by the public either on the Township web site or at the Municipal Building. Taxes for 2022 are the same as for 2021 with the one exception that the Property Tax for Fire Protection increases from .15 mills to .40 mills in order to raise money for a new fire truck. The Commissioners will vote on adopting it at their December 6 meeting.
- 2) The Township received proposals for snow removal from Winfield Peters for the 2021-2022 winter season. He would charge \$90 per hour, a \$5 per hour increase, the first in three years, because of increased fuel costs.

3) The project of paving Northern Avenue in Sheatown and Main Street in Wanamie used funds received from the State as compensation for the closing of the State Correctional Institution at Retreat (SCI Retreat). Paving is complete on Northern Avenue. Work has begun on handicapped ramps and storm drains on Main Street in Wanamie, and will be followed by a repaving of the street. The project is scheduled for completion in the next few weeks.

4) Gruver and Railroad Streets in Alden and the alley alongside the Wanamie Fire Station are being paved using equipment of the Lower South Valley Council of Governments (LSVCOG). (Newport Township is a participant in the LSVCOG.) Gruver Street has been paved. Railroad Street is scheduled for November 2, to be followed by the alley in Wanamie.

December 6, 2021: A resident said that she thought Nacero Inc.'s proposed facility to convert natural gas into gasoline would seriously deteriorate the quality of life in Newport Township and should not be constructed. Attorney John Solt, representing the Slusser Law Firm (Newport Township's Solicitor) said that, when Nacero applies for permits to build the facility, proper procedures would be followed and residents would have a chance to comment on Nacero's plans.

The Commissioners voted to approve (1) Ordinance #3 of 2021, the Township budget for 2022, which includes tax rates for the year 2022, and (2) Ordinance #4 of 2021, a vacant and abandoned property registration ordinance, which charges a registration fee to owners of such abandoned properties. For example, the fee for a single-family residential building is \$350 per year and for a commercial building, \$450 per year.

The Commissioners voted to approve (1) Resolution #6 of 2021, which authorizes the Township to apply for a firefighters grant, and (2) Resolution #7 of 2021, an agreement between Newport Township, Hanover Township, and Nanticoke City concerning sewer generating facilities and conveying waste water to the public waste water collection system.

The Commissioners voted to (1) approve the Kilmer Group as the Insurance Agent for Newport Township for risk management and auto insurance for the year 2022, (2) reappoint Mel Dudeck to a five year term on the Newport Township Sewer Authority, (3) approve wages for the following full time Department of Public Works (DPW) employees: Jordan Sager (\$21 per hour), Richard Guziak (\$19 per hour), and part time employees (\$13 per hour), (4) hire Brian Stashik as a full time DPW employee at \$18 per hour, and (5) approve an employee agreement between Joseph Hillan and Newport Township as Township Manager and Building Code Official from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022.

Township Manager Joe Hillan included the following in his report:

- 1) On September 29 the Auditor General's Office conducted an audit of the Township's Liquid Fuels Tax Fund for the period January 1, 2020 to December 31, 2020. On November 8 the Township received a report stating that no errors or deficiencies were found.
- 2) The project of paving Northern Avenue in Sheatown and Main Street in Wanamie, using State compensation funds resulting from the closing of SCI Retreat, has been completed by Pennsy Supply. The Township is still waiting for State approval to use the remainder of the compensation funds for further paving projects.
- 3) The project of paving Gruver and Railroad Streets in Alden and the alley alongside the Wanamie Fire Station using equipment of the LSVCOG has now been completed.
- 4) The Luzerne County Community Development Grant Project, which includes paving Franklin Street, Burnett Street, Depot Street, Stralka Lane, and 600 of Water Street was delayed this year. The Township will ask for bids for the work in the spring 2022.

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NTCO President's Report

By Stephen E. Phillips ~ Since this Organization's last publication, several potentially transformative economic development projects have occurred or been announced within the Township's confines.

On October 21, a groundbreaking took place for construction of a 1,200,000 square foot warehouse near the Municipality's boundary with Hanover Township and Nanticoke City. An additional 536,000 square foot warehouse will be built in neighboring Hanover Township. It is anticipated that both facilities will be completed by May of 2022. Companies that are expected to become the buildings' tenants have not yet been identified. Ultimately, the Newport Township site is expected to generate nearly \$1,000,000 in annual tax revenue. The two projects will contribute to the creation of approximately 1,700 new jobs. The Newport Township project will obviously be the largest development to occur in the Municipality in the last several decades.

Having a potentially greater impact is a proposed facility to develop low and zero carbon fuels from natural gas which may also be constructed in the Township between Sheatown and Ridgeview. The proposed project is expected to create about 4,000 jobs. Nacero, a company based in Houston, Texas, is expected to invest \$6 billion in the plant. The privately held company, formed in 2015, plans to build nine plants in the United States that will produce gasoline from natural gas which can then be utilized in existing vehicles. It is estimated that thousands of construction and other jobs will be created, and each of the plants is projected to employ 450 persons. It is reported that Luzerne County will be the site of Nacero's second plant. If the proposed project comes to fruition, it will represent the single largest economic development investment in the history of Luzerne County. It has been noted that much of the approximately 2,000 acres under contract for the project is mine scarred land owned by the Earth Conservancy. Upon the proposed project's completion, the site will be returned to the property tax rolls. The Chairman of Nacero's board has indicated that it requires at least a year of planning, and about four years of construction to build the plant. A timetable for construction of the Pennsylvania plant is expected to be announced within a year. A major proponent of the proposed project, State Senator John Yudichak, noted that the coalition striving to attract Nacero to the area was bipartisan with Democrats, Republicans, and Independents all working together.

On a lesser but still important scale, construction of a Dollar General facility has recently commenced. The structure will be located on Kirmar Parkway, west of and adjacent to the Township Municipal Building and Public Works Building. This is the initial commercial venture in this specific location which will generate walk-in traffic.

These preceding ventures may indicate a prelude to additional industrial, commercial, and residential growth within the Township during the ensuing years. Two integral elements for economic development are financing and land. Newport Township has historically had an abundance of vacant land; now developers are recognizing the potential for expansion within the Municipality because of its land resources.

The first two phases of the Hometown Heroes Banner Project sponsored by Newport United have been successful with over 120 banners purchased by family and friends of local veterans. The banners have been taken down and stored to protect them from the ravages of the late fall and winter seasons. They will be re-installed well in advance of Memorial Day 2022. For those individuals and families wishing to purchase a banner for a loved one, family member, or friend, please contact the Township's Municipal Building at 570-735-4735, or stop in between 7 am and 3 pm and pick up the form highlighting the requisite information for purchasing a banner.

Your Community Organization recently had the opportunity to assist Township officials and other social service agencies in assisting a Township resident who was faced with confronting some major issues. A concerted effort on the part of all parties, resulted in a possible solution. The situation could have been life threatening to the person involved, if not addressed. We are, therefore, strongly requesting that all residents keep an eye on their neighbors who may be having a problem. If you think that anything may be amiss, please contact the Municipal offices in order that steps can be initiated to involve the proper agencies to aid in correcting any issues. Before anyone can provide assistance, they have to be sure that a problem exists. No one

entity or individual can address these issues alone. It truly "takes a village."

The Organization has continued with its monthly food distribution held on the second Saturday of every month between 11 am and noon at the Township's Recreation Park in Wanamie. The program will continue during the winter months. However, the food distribution is, as can be expected, weather dependent. During the past several months, the number of individuals and families receiving food has declined. Therefore, fewer amounts of food are now being requested from the Weinberg Food Bank. The program is administered under the auspices of the Commission on Economic Opportunity.

On Sunday evening, November 30th, the Township held its third annual Community Christmas Tree Lighting celebration. The attendees participated in singing several Christmas songs, including one sung in Polish, and enjoyed refreshments and especially the visit from Santa Claus. Traffic control was provided as usual by the local Fire Police. This organization continues to remain a major asset to the Township. This publication's co-editor, Heidi Selecky Jarecki, had the honor of throwing the switch to light the tree. We hope that this remains an annual event, and that we have an ever growing attendance in subsequent years. Sponsors included the Newport Township Women's Activity Group and Newport United.

Once again, the NTCO participated in Christmas Tree Lane sponsored by Reilly Finishing Technologies. This is the program's ninth year. Reilly's returns monies received from sponsored trees to various non-profits throughout the Greater Nanticoke Area. The NTCO has been a beneficiary of the company's largess numerous times since the program's inception. The tree lighting event took place on December 7. Reilly Finishing Technologies has not just been a major employer in our immediate area, but also has been very civic minded.

In response to prior requests, the NTCO has received monetary donations to help support the Newport Township Community News. We are grateful to the following: John and Sally Kashatus, Marcy Raiewski, Kathleen and Chet Kovalski, Eric and Theresa Van Dyke, Gary and Bettyanne Sergott, John and Dorothy Lerda, Joanne Brogus, Mary Ellen and Paul Noss, Nancy Tarnowski James, Illaria Steele, and Paul and Peg Gregory. These donations are deeply appreciated.

Once again it is my honor and privilege to wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year. Thank you all for being faithful readers of our quarterly newsletter and for your interest in our beloved Newport Township.

Like the Community News?

Many of our readers have told us they enjoy our news publication. If you do, please consider a donation to help defray the cost of printing. We are grateful to our advertisers who have been the backbone of this publication. However, income from ads pays only half the costs and subscriptions cover only the cost of mailing. This is strictly a volunteer operation. We would like to continue printing the Community News and keep it free of charge to all. Please send your donation to either Steve Phillips, 113 Railroad Avenue, Wanamie, PA 18634 or to Heidi Jarecki, 28 West Main Street, Glen Lyon, PA 18617. Make checks payable to "NTCO." Thank you!

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Newport Township Events



Nanticoke/Newport Class of 1970 Holds 50th Reunion

The Nanticoke/Newport Class of 1970 held its 50th class reunion on October 9, 2021 at Apple Tree Terrace, Newberry Estates, Dallas. Music was provided by DJ Rockin' Rich following a cocktail hour and stations dinner. An icebreaker was held the night before at Benny's Brewery, Hanover Township. 1st row, l to r: Denise Chapura, JoAnne Kanjorski Thomas, Lena Gregory Moore, Karen Kmietowicz Phair, Pamela Osolnick Aftewicz, Deborah Maximowicz Malia, Charmaine Kuligowski Kuzminski, Sherry Catnes Rushton, Deborah Cresci Yendrzejewski, Jean Kovalich Capece. 2nd row: John Vishnefski, Michael Martin, Denise Ruck Sedorchak, Patricia Krasulski Fitzpatrick, Mary Ann Zaborney Kishbaugh, Eileen Moyer Younkers, Sandie Chesko Iracki, Lorraine Kolacz Novak, Patricia Stavetski Phillips, Alan Collepari, Joseph Denoy. 3rd row: Frank Paulewicz, Gary Eckrote, David Majiros, Thomas Wojciechowski, John Zyla, Robert Biscontinini, Debbie Kelner Kernig, John Williams, Kenneth Swiderski, Robert Dzugan. 4th row: Jeffrey Katra, George Kachinski, Edward Bachstein, Richard Novak, Randy Rushton, Edward Novakowski. 5th row: Leonard Paczkowski, Mark Daniels, George Smith, Barry Kwasny.



Santa Pays a Visit

On Sunday, November 28, Santa Claus took some time from his busy schedule to pay a visit to Newport Township in conjunction with the annual Christmas Tree Lighting. Santa's reindeer were unavailable because they were in training, so the Newport Township Fire Department offered to help out by bringing Santa to the Municipal Garage on the fire truck. The Newport Township Women's Activity Group provided elf assistance and Newport United had hot chocolate, cookies and popcorn available for hungry visitors. Santa checked his list twice and in some cases, three times, so everyone was on their best behavior. Judging by the smiles on the children's faces, Santa's visit was a big success!





Ground breaking for the NorthPoint warehouse located on East Kirmar Avenue in Alden was held on October 24, 2021. Pictured above are Township officials who participated. L to r: Joe Deluca, Newport Township Sewer Authority; Steve Phillips, Newport Township Authority; Township Commissioners Jack Vishnefski and John Zyla; Joe Hillan, Newport Township Manager; State Senator John Yudichak; Debbie Zaleski, Township Commissioner; Ron Jones, Newport Township Authority; Brent Miles, NorthPoint; and Terry Ostroski, Earth Conservancy CEO.

Township Manager Delivers Speech at Ground Breaking

Good Morning,

On behalf of the Newport Township Board of Commissioners and residents of the municipality, I wish to welcome all of our distinguished guests and visitors to this transformational groundbreaking ceremony. As you are all aware, the entire Wyoming Valley economy was once based upon revenue generated by the anthracite coal industry. Subsequent to the demise of this activity commencing over sixty years ago, the garment industry substantially assisted in sustaining the region's limited economic vitality. We are now on the eve of realizing the dream of many former leaders who served before us who optimistically believed that one day we could establish a broad based economy not limited to a single or limited number of similar business types. Today's event is another reiteration that our entire area is poised for the emergence of a myriad of new employment opportunities for its hard working and well trained residents. It is important to note that today we have convened on a site which was once coal ravaged land. We now view it as a gateway to potentially great economic growth. We would be remiss if we did not take this opportunity to acknowledge the work and accomplishments of the Earth Conservancy during its over a quarter century of existence. This parcel would not have been available for an economic regeneration which hopefully will extend well into the future without its unstinting commitment to improve the entire area's quality of life. One should never overlook the fact that any successful venture of this type requires a coordinated, cooperative, and concerted effort on the part of different entities. A true public/private partnership requires that developers, governmental bodies and financing sources bond together and strive to achieve a common goal. Today we can proclaim this marriage has been successful here.

However, our work is not finished. We have more challenges to meet and other obstacles to overcome. As the community which has more Earth Conservancy land within its boundaries than any other municipality, we shall endeavor to continue to broaden our base of varied employment opportunities and attract family sustaining jobs to our locale. You all are encouraged to join with us on this journey. At this time, I would like to thank Northpoint for expanding into Newport Township. After our initial meeting in August of 2020, Northpoint has proven to be a company that sets goals and keeps their word. This project is going to have a positive financial impact on Newport Township. To those in attendance and other prospective employers we say "you have a friend in Pennsylvania but you have a partner in Newport Township."

Joe Hillan

Newport Township Budget for 2022

by John Jarecki

At their meeting on December 6, 2021, the Township Commissioners approved a budget for 2022. The budget is divided into five major parts, of which revenue and expenses are listed in the following table.

	Revenue	Expenses
General Budget	\$ 1,439,700	\$ 1,439,700
Refuse Budget	326,625	326,625
Recycling Budget	67,000	67,000
Liquid Fuels Budget	139,982	139,982
Capital Purchase Budget	40,736	40,736
Total	\$2,014,043	\$2,014,043

For the 2022 budget as a whole, the six largest sources of revenue are listed in the following table along with the corresponding amounts from the 2021 budget.

	2021	2022
Real Estate Tax	\$566,100	\$610,736
Earned Income Tax	400,000	412,000
Refuse and Recycling Fees	387,970	393,625
Building Code Enforcement	126,000	203,900
Liquid Fuels Payment from State	137,951	139,982
State Shared Revenue	49,495	76,325
Total Revenue	\$1,770,597	\$2,014,043

These six sources amount to approximately 91% of total income. The following is a list of Township taxes and their rates for 2022, with corresponding amounts from 2021.

	2021	2022
Real Estate Tax		
(for General Government)	3.75 mills	3.75 mills
(for Fire Protection)	.15 mills	.40 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 2022 revenue is the real estate tax. While the real estate tax rate for General Government remains the same, the real estate tax rate for Fire Protection has increased by .25 mills. This increase is expected to raise \$40,736, which will be placed in the Capital Purchase Budget to be used in purchasing a new fire truck. All other rates remain the same. Expected income from building code enforcement has increased by about \$77,000 from last year. The Township expects this increased revenue because of new construction projects: the Dollar General Store in Wanamie and the NorthPoint warehouse under construction off Middle Road near Alden. The trash and recycling fee is

unchanged at \$235 if paid on time.

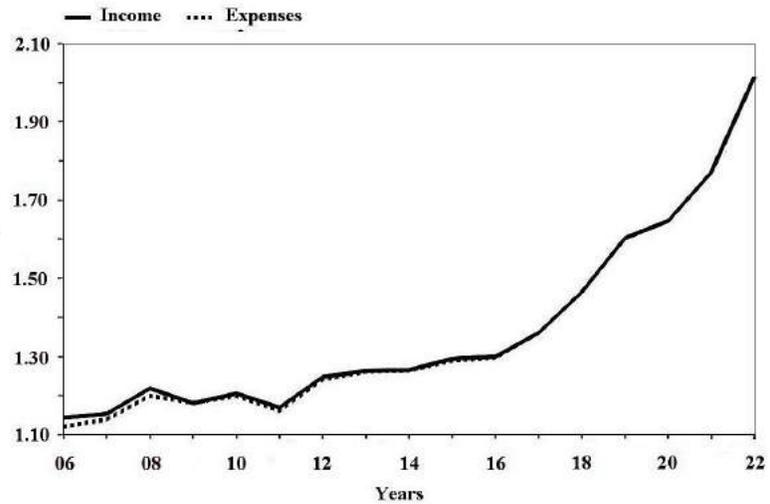
The six largest expenditures from the 2022 budget are listed in the following categories along with the corresponding amounts from the 2021 budget.

	2021	2022
Police Department	\$334,993	\$372,607
Street Department	297,300	368,740
Employee Fringe Benefits	261,414	301,994
Refuse and Recycling	300,138	300,138
Fire Department	203,723	264,549
General Government	218,768	228,283
Total Expenditures	\$1,770,597	\$2,014,043

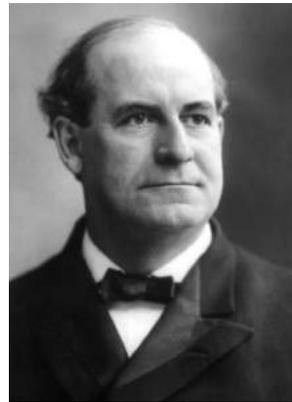
These categories amount to approximately 91% of total expenses. The largest increases in Township expenses have been in the categories of Street Department, Fire Department, Employee Fringe Benefits, and Police Department. Street Department expenses have increased by about \$71,000 mainly because of an increase in salaries and wages approved by the Commissioners at their December meeting. Fire Department expenses have increased by about \$60,000 mainly to raise money toward buying a new fire engine. Fringe Benefits have risen by about \$40,000 mainly to pay for increases in hospitalization medical insurance. Police expenses have risen by about \$38,000 mainly to increase the number of full time police officers from 4 to 5. There are now 4 full time police officers and 1 part time officer.

The following chart shows the changes in total income and expenditures in the Township budget from 2006 to 2022. 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. From 2016 to 2021, however, Township officials, more active in managing finances, increased revenue and expenditures by an average of about 7.2% a year. For 2022, revenue and expenditures increased by about 13% over 2021. About half of this revenue increase is the result of fees from new construction and an increased property tax to be used in paying for a new fire engine.

Newport Township Budgets 2006 - 2022



One Hundred Years Ago in Newport Township



By Heidi Jarecki ~ On Wednesday, October 26, 1921, William Jennings Bryan (pictured left) presented a lecture in the Roosevelt School auditorium in Glen Lyon. He had been invited by the Glen Lyon American Legion. The topic of his speech was "Man's Relationship to His Government, Society and God."

Bryan was born in Salem, Illinois on March 19, 1860. He graduated from Illinois College in 1881 and from the Union College of Law in 1883. He was admitted to the Illinois State Bar in 1883 and practiced law in Jacksonville, Illinois prior to moving to Lincoln, Nebraska in 1887. Bryan won election to the U.S. House of Representatives in 1890 and served until 1895, championing Populist causes such as the free coinage of silver, national income tax, and direct election of Senators. After mounting an unsuccessful bid for the U.S. Senate in 1894, Bryan returned to Nebraska and edited the Omaha World-Herald. Although not a declared candidate for the 1896 presidential race, Bryan secured the Democratic nomination but lost the election to Republican candidate William McKinley. The Democratic Party nominated Bryan again as its candidate for President in 1900 and 1908, and he lost both elections. President Woodrow Wilson selected Bryan, one of the elder statesmen of the Democratic Party, as his Secretary of State following the 1912 presidential election. Because he disagreed with President Wilson over policy concerning submarine warfare during World War I, Bryan resigned on June 9, 1915. Following his resignation, he continued to write and lecture.

During his speech in Glen Lyon in 1921 to a packed house, Bryan, according to newspaper reports, "paid a beautiful tribute to the members of the American Legion, saying that a man who is willing to give his life for his country offers that which is greater than anything else in the world. He said that he thought the time was not far distant when it would not be necessary for any mother's son to leave a mother's side to go to war." He spoke for two hours and twenty minutes, and "those who heard him [were] all unanimous in saying that there was not a single dull minute." He was honored at a reception following the lecture.

Bryan is perhaps better known these days as opposing counsel to defense attorney Clarence Darrow in the infamous "Scopes Monkey Trial" in Tennessee in July 10-25, 1925. William Scopes, a high school teacher, was accused of teaching human evolution which violated state law. Scopes was found guilty and fined \$100.00.

Bryan, serving as prosecutor, died on July 26, 1925.

Sources: *The Wilkes Barre Record*; *The Evening News*; <https://history.state.gov/departmenthistory/people/bryan-william-jennings>; *Wikipedia*.

Hometown Heroes Banner Project Sponsored by Newport United



By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ During the month of October, additional photo banners honoring Township natives and residents who have served in the military were placed on electric power poles throughout the Township: East Main Street Glen Lyon, West Main Street Glen Lyon, Market Street Glen Lyon, Main Street Wanamie, Center Street Wanamie, East Kirmar Avenue Alden, Robert Street Sheatown, and Old Newport Street Sheatown. Residents and friends can still purchase a banner by calling the Municipal Office at 570-735-4735.

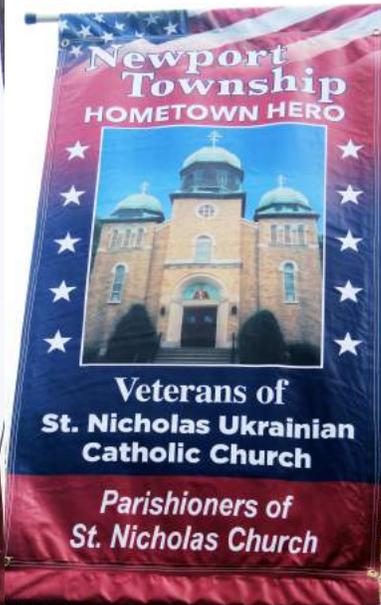
Alden: Edward Kalinowski Army Air Corps WW2; Michael Kostek Army WW2.

Glen Lyon: Anthony Boyanowski Air Force 1973-1976; Veterans of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Church; Walter Fudjak Army WW2; John Yacoboski Army WW2; Leonard Najaka Army 1942-1945; Ronald Hagenbaugh Navy Vietnam; Eugene Hagenbaugh Navy Vietnam; Albert Chesney Navy Vietnam; Gilbert Chesney Air Force Vietnam; Chester Mack Air Force Korea; Carl Smatko Air Force Vietnam; Geraldine Snopkoski Army WW2; Raymond Sokolnicki Army WW2; John Paczkowski Army 1956-1958; William Kashatus Army Korea; Jessie Olshefski Army Persian Gulf; Brian Patton Navy Iraq; Stanley Sweeney Army 1942-1945; Russell Sager Army Vietnam; Michael Pishnick Army WW2; Paul Czapracki Army Vietnam; Edward Kashnicki Air Force Philippines Formosa; Joseph Formulak Army WW2; John Sokoloski Navy Vietnam.

Sheatown: Kenneth Whittaker Army WW2; Thomas Womelsdorf Army WW2; Zigmund Butka Army WWI; Anthony Gluchowski Army Korea; Clemence Scott Army WW2; Michael Bodek Navy Vietnam; John Novak Navy WW2.

Wanamie: Frank Kiewlak Marines WW2; John Farrell Army Vietnam; Leonard Bonczewski Marines Korea; Robert Hrobak Air Force 1991-1998; Robert Hrobak Army 1959-1961; Cynthia Hrobak Boyle Navy 1988-1996 Desert Storm; Anthony Pazgan Army WW2; William Rinehamer Army WW2 Korea; Stephen Rinehamer Marines Vietnam; John Thomas Army WW2; Sarah Adams Withrow Air Force 2000-2021; Edward Phillips Army WW2; Ann Phillips Army WW2.

Pictured above are banners being hung on Fanucci's Hill in Glen Lyon by municipal DPW employees and Vishnefski Electrical Inc. employees using a boom truck owned by Daniel Vishnefski of Sheatown. Assistance was also provided by Debbie Zaleski, Steve Phillips, Joe Hillan, Jack Vishnefski, John Zyla and the Newport Township Fire Police. The Hometown Heroes Banner Project is sponsored by Newport United. The banners have been taken down to protect them from winter weather. They will be re-installed in the spring. Banners can be purchased by contacting the Municipal Office at 570-735-4735.



Township Events and Happenings



On Halloween, the Newport Township Women's Activity Group sponsored a Trunk or Treat event in the Township Municipal Garage. Other Township groups such as the Newport Township Lion's Club, Newport Township Crime Watch, the Fire Police, and the Police Department also participated. As usual, the costumes were colorful and creative. Many children went trick or treating in their neighborhoods once the sun set. At right is the hoagie, soup, and bake sale at St. Nicholas Church in Glen Lyon on October 28.



Events in the Township that have been on hold due to the COVID-19 pandemic are slowly making their way back. Pictured above left are the Elves who assisted Santa when he made his visit to the Municipal Garage on November 28. A tree lighting ceremony was also held, along with caroling. The Elves are l to r: Karen Samuels, Brenda Grabowski, Debbie Zaleski, Eileen Molecavage, Debbie Ward, Marcy Tarnowski and Sandy Wolfe. These joint events were sponsored by the Newport Township Women's Activity Group and Newport United. Pictured right is the Fall Bingo, held at St. Adalbert's Church in Glen Lyon on October 3, a fundraiser for the Women's Activity Group.



This is Not Recycling

By Tom Kashatus ~ Recycling is the process of collecting and processing materials that would otherwise be thrown away as trash and turning them into new products. Recycling can (1) benefit the community and the environment, (2) there are certain steps required to recycle materials, and (3) recycling creates jobs. One can go into a 50- page dissertation on the process of recycling, but what is seen in the picture at left is a response to nothing but downright littering. There is no benefit to littering – it creates a mess wherever it is and is ugly to look at. The only steps that can be taken to combat littering are (1) just plain hard work and (2) law enforcement. Picking up litter is a waste of someone's time that can be put to better use. The only benefit to littering, if it can be called a benefit, is creating volun-

teerism. Picking up litter is a job that is dirty and can be unhealthy. Littering is destructive to the environment. This community of Newport Township should be thankful for the effort put forth by Irene Bezdziecki and Palmira Miller of the NTCO; however those who throw garbage from the windows of passing vehicles should be walking side by side with these volunteers who put their life and health on the line to make things better for our community. One solution is to keep a small plastic bag handy in your vehicle for litter waste and dispose of it at home. Let's set a goal for residents and visitors to Newport Township to cut litter waste along our roadways by one-half by Memorial Day – or better yet, eliminate it altogether. Suggestions are always welcome.

Taste of the Township Clams



By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ When Newport Township was a bustling mining community, most restaurants and bars served seafood: crabs, shrimp, lobster, and clams. Steamed clams and clams on the half shell were popular items on menus, particularly on Friday nights. The reason for this is probably

because those were the days when Catholics refrained from eating meat.

There really was a bar on every corner! The menus and prices were usually posted in the front window. If a patron chose steamed clams, they were brought to the table in large bowls and the melted butter would be served in a pyrex dish suspended in a holder over a small lit candle to keep it warm, along with saltines or oyster crackers. Folks would have butter dripping down their chins and lots of napkins were provided. My oh my, that was good!

Clams are a type of invertebrate, an animal with no backbone. They are part of the Mollusca phylum, the second largest group of animals in the world. In this phylum, clams are classified as bivalve shellfish, meaning their bodies are enclosed in two hard outer shells that hinge at the base. Clams have two shells of equal size connected by two muscles and have a powerful burrowing foot. They live in both fresh-water and marine environments.

The term "clam" most often refers to the hard clam (*Mercenaria mercenaria*) and to a few other common edible species, such as the soft-shell clam. Other species of clams of commercial importance found on the Atlantic Coast of the United States are the surf clam and the bamboo clam, which is prized by Americans for making clam strips. On the West Coast, species that have been consumed for thousands of years include the butter clam, the Pacific razor clam, gaper clams, the geoduck clam, and the Pismo clam.

Clams can be eaten raw, steamed, boiled, baked or fried. They can also be made into clam chowder, clams casino, clam cakes, and stuffies (baked stuffed clams). A New England clam bake cooks the clams using hot rocks and seaweed. On the West Coast, they are sometimes an ingredient in making cioppino (an Italian tomato based seafood stew) and local variations of ceviche, a Mexican stew using citrus (lime) juice.

Clam Facts

1. China is the largest producer of clams.
2. Clams tend to be an exceptionally rich source of vitamin B12 and a good source of protein and niacin.
3. Clams are a food source for many different animals which include both the Pacific and Atlantic species of walrus, all known subspecies of harbor seals, most species of sea lions, including the California sea lion, bearded seals, and river otters. Birds that eat clams include the Eurasian oystercatcher, whooping crane and common crane, the American flamingo of Florida and the common sandpiper. Most species of octopus eat clams as a staple of their diet, up to and including the giants like the Giant Pacific octopus.
4. Some species of clams, particularly *Mercenaria mercenaria*, were in the past used by the native Algonquians of Eastern North America to manufacture wampum, a type of sacred jewelry, and to make shell money.
5. There are more than 15,000 clam species worldwide.
6. Clams are filter feeders. They have fine hair-like structures across their gills called cilia. These cilia move to suck in water through a long tubular structure called a siphon that reaches the surface of the mud. Their gills trap suspended particles in the water and then move them to the mouth. These suspended particles include tiny organisms which the clams eat. The clean water is then ejected through an outgoing siphon.

7. The biggest clam in the world is appropriately named the giant clam. It is found among coral reefs in the tropical Indian and Pacific oceans. The largest giant clam ever found measured over four and a half feet long and weighed around 550 pounds.
8. The longest-lived, non-colonial (that is living completely separately) animal ever discovered is a quahog clam, which had been living on the seabed off the north coast of Iceland. It is estimated to be 507 years old. The clam was nick-named "Ming" after the Chinese dynasty that was in power when the clam was born.
9. The expression, "happy as a clam at high tide (or water)" and the shorter version "happy as a clam" makes one wonder, why would a clam be "happy?" Basically, clams are most vulnerable when the tides are low because that's the time when people can easily dig them up out of the sand. On the other hand, higher waters make clams far more difficult to find and dig up. Hence, a clam is "happiest" during a high tide, or high waters, because it means they are less likely to be caught and eaten!

SEA FOOD SPECIALS

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The above ad appeared in the Times Leader on May 1, 1937. Owned by John "Dada" Kashatus, the bar eventually moved to the corner of Chestnut and West Main Streets.

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DeLuca's Inn, later known as Zubritski's, was owned by Quinto DeLuca. This ad appeared in the Times Leader on June 25, 1949.

Sources: [Wikipedia](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clam); sciencing.com/do-coral-reefs-move; justfun-facts.com/interesting-facts-about-clams; knowyourphrases.com.



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The Flora and Fauna of Newport Township American Chestnut

By Heidi and Paul Jarecki
~ The Selecky/Jarecki home on West Main Street in Glen Lyon was built in 1931. The trim, doors, bannisters, and floors on the first and second levels were constructed of American chestnut. There was once a plentiful source of this beautiful honey colored wood. These writers remember the chestnut trees that once lined the streets in Glen Lyon.

Today the American chestnut is a victim of one of America's greatest environmental tragedies.

The American chestnut tree (*Castanea dentata*) once dominated the eastern half of the United States. In the virgin forests of the Appalachian Mountains, the ridges were often pure chestnut. Mature trees could be 600 years old and average 4 to 5 feet in diameter and 80 to 100 feet tall. Specimens as large as 8 to 10 feet in diameter were recorded. Then the chestnut blight struck. *Cryphonectria parasitica*, the causal agent of chestnut blight, reduced the American chestnut from its position as the dominant tree species in the eastern forest ecosystem to little more than a shrub. First discovered in 1904 in New York City, the lethal fungus—an Asian organism to which our native chestnuts had very little resistance—spread quickly. By 1950, except for some shrub-like sprouts, the American chestnut had virtually disappeared from eastern forests.

Mature trees often grew straight and branch-free for 50 feet. The wood was lightweight, soft, easy to split, very resistant to decay; and it did not warp or shrink. For three centuries many barns and homes near the Appalachian Mountains were made from American chestnut. Because of its resistance to decay, industries throughout the region used wood from the American chestnut for posts, poles, piling, railroad ties, and split-rail fences. Its straight-grained wood was ideal for building furniture and caskets. The fruit that fell to the ground was an important cash crop and food source. The bark and wood were rich in tannic acid, which provided tannins for use in the tanning of leather. Many native animals fed on chestnuts, and chestnuts were used for livestock feed.

Chestnut Facts

1. The American chestnut has not gone extinct. The blight fungus does not kill the tree's root system underground. It has survived by sending up stump sprouts that grow vigorously in logged or otherwise disturbed sites, but will inevitably succumb to the blight and die back to the ground.
2. The tree was one of the best for timber. Straight-grained, lighter in weight than oak and more easily worked, it was as rot-resistant as redwood. It was used for virtually everything – telegraph poles, railroad ties, heavy construction, shingles, paneling, fine furniture, musical instruments, even pulp and plywood.
3. The American chestnut tree survived all adversaries for 40 million years, and then disappeared within 40. The chestnut blight has been called the greatest ecological disaster to strike the world's forests in all of history.
4. Surviving American chestnut trees are being bred for resistance to the blight, notably by The American Chestnut Foundation, which aims to reintroduce a blight-resistant American chestnut to its original forest range during the early decades of the 21st century.
5. In 2005, a hybrid tree with mostly American genes was planted on the lawn of the White House. About 2,500 chestnut trees are growing on 60 acres near West Salem, Wisconsin, which is the world's largest remaining stand of American chestnut.
6. The edible nuts of chestnut trees and shrubs have a delicious, mildly sweet taste and are incredibly versatile. They can be



incorporated into a variety of dishes, such as stuffings, salads, soups, and many more. There are many different types of chestnuts, and they share similar qualities. The most common types include the American chestnut, Chinese chestnut, Japanese or Korean chestnut, and European chestnut. Roasted chestnuts are a popular autumn and winter street food in East Asia, Europe, Philadelphia, and New York City.

Sources: acf.org/the-american-chestnut/history-american-chestnut; acf.org/va/about/chestnut-story; Wikipedia.



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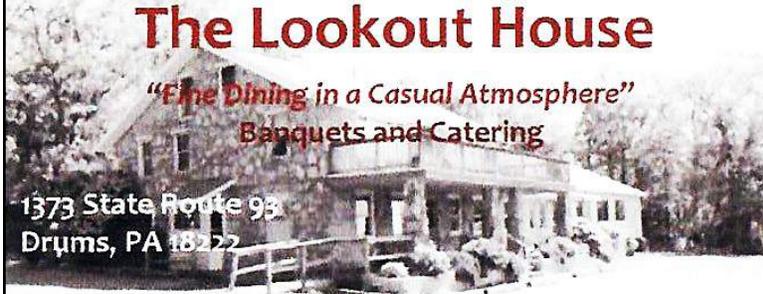


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Obituaries

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.

MAKOWSKI, Jan R., 73, of Wanamie, passed away September 2, 2021. Jan was born in 1948. He was raised in Wanamie and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1966. Jan was a US Coast Guard veteran. He was employed by Galli Ready Mix Concrete and retired from Tobyhanna Army Depot.

DUSZEWSKI, Richard J., 94, of Mountain Top, formerly of Nanticoke and Alden, passed away September 3, 2021. At age 17 Richard enlisted in the US Navy during World War II, joining five brothers in the military. He served as a gunner aboard the USS Eldorado participating in the battles of Iwo Jima and Okinawa.

MARTIN, Lorraine (nee Kaminski), 79, of Nanticoke passed away September 8, 2021. Lorraine was born and raised in Wanamie. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1959.

KELLAR, Henry A., 91, of Nanticoke, formerly of Newport Township, passed away September 9, 2021. Henry was born in Alden on April 19, 1930. He was raised in Alden and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1948 and Wilkes College with a B.S. Degree in Mathematics. He was a US Army veteran serving during the Korean War with the rank of Corporal.

FLORYSHAK, Dolores Mary (nee Boynoski), 93, a longtime resident of Glen Lyon and Nanticoke, passed away September 18, 2021. Dolores was born and raised in Glen Lyon. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1945.

WRUBEL, Chester S., 76, passed away September 28, 2021. Chester, a life-long resident of Alden, was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1963.

DERR, Mary Ellen, 65, of Glen Lyon passed away September 30, 2021. Mary Ellen was born in Nanticoke on April 15, 1956. A life resident of Glen Lyon, she attended Newport Township and Greater Nanticoke Area schools.

GROSZ, Martha E. (nee Huttenstine), 91, formerly of Dorrance Township, passed away October 4, 2021. Martha was born in Nanticoke on September 28, 1930. She was raised in Dorrance and attended Newport Township High School.

STOUT, David Leslie, 81, of Montour Township, Columbia County, formerly of Dorrance Township, died May 18, 2021. David was born in Dorrance Township on June 23, 1939. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1957, Bloomsburg State College with a B.S. in Education, and Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute with a Master's Degree in Physics.

SKLADZIEN, Carolyn "Lyne," 81, of Pittston, formerly of Newport Township, passed away October 9, 2021. Carolyn was born in Nanticoke and raised in Glen Lyon. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1958.

KENJORSKI, Danny L., 64, of Newport News, VA., and formerly of Main Road Lee, Glen Lyon, died September 30, 2021. Danny was born on July 1, 1957. He attended Newport Township schools and graduated from John S. Fine High School and Wilkes Barre Vocational Technical School in 1975.

KUSH, Eleanor Marie (nee Augustine), 84, of Nanticoke, and formerly of Alden, passed away October 14, 2021. Eleanor was born on November 12, 1936. She was raised in Alden and a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1954.

WILKES, Helen V. (nee Gizinski), 105, a longtime resident of Sheatown, passed away on October 23, 2021. Helen was born in Nanticoke on March 2, 1916. She was raised in Nanticoke and graduated from Nanticoke High School with the Class of 1934.

Helen was predeceased by her husband, John, Newport Township teacher and principal.

ELDRIDGE, Tedd O. "Toe," 43, of Sheatown, passed away October 19, 2021. Tedd was born on June 7, 1978. He was a graduate of John S. Fine High School of the Greater Nanticoke Area School District with the Class of 1996. He also attended Lackawanna Junior College.

HAYDOCK, Michael J., 66, of Sheatown, passed away October 23, 2021. Michael was born April 6, 1955. He was a lifelong resident of the Nanticoke area.

SKRIP, John Daniel "Kipper," 80, of Alden, passed away October 15, 2021. John was born on April 1, 1941. He was raised in Alden and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1959.

GRONKA, Alexandria L. "Sandra," (nee Galli), 80, of Nanticoke, formerly of Newport Township, passed away on November 1, 2021. Sandra was born in Nanticoke on January 23, 1941. She was raised in Sheatown and was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1958 and Bloomsburg University with the Class of 1962.

GROCHOWSKI, Veronica "Verna" (nee Kush), 93, of Westminster, MD, formerly of West Enterprise Street, Glen Lyon, passed away November 5, 2021. Verna was born in Glen Lyon on November 22, 1927. She was raised in Glen Lyon and was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1945.

DEKUTOSKI, Lillian M., (nee Stavetski), 85, of Lily Lake, formerly of Newport Township, passed away September 8, 2021. Lillian was born and raised in Glen Lyon and she was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1954.

OLSHEFSKI, Michael Paul, 55, of Harrisburg, formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away November 3, 2021. He was raised in Glen Lyon and graduated from John S. Fine High School of the Greater Nanticoke Area School District and Luzerne County Community College. He was a veteran of the US Air Forces stationed at Langley Air Force Base in Virginia.

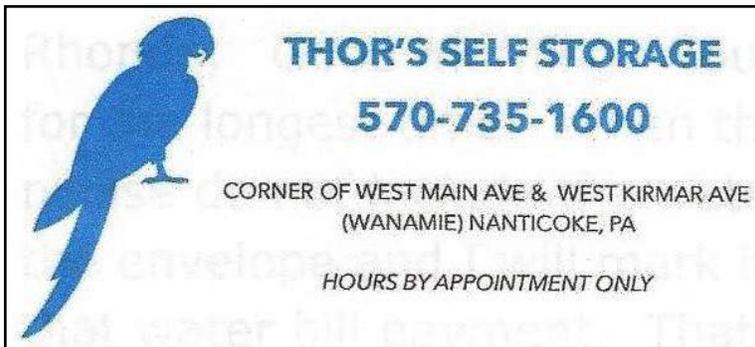
SOWA, Florence, (nee Sosinski) 96, of Sheatown, passed away November 15, 2021. She was a member of Saint Faustina Parish and volunteered her time with many organizations. She was predeceased by her husband Edward Sowa.

THOMAS, Kevin J., 68, of Glen Lyon, formerly of Wilkes Barre, passed away on November 12, 2021. Kevin was born on April 7, 1953. He was raised in Wilkes Barre and graduated from E. L. Meyers High School.

STOCKAGE, Charles J., 85, of Sweet Valley, formerly of Newport Township, passed away November 21, 2021. Charles was born in Glen Lyon on November 8, 1936. He graduated from Lake Lehman High School.

RAYDO, Loretta (nee Stoy), 89, of Liverpool, NY, formerly of Sheatown, passed away September 21, 2021. Loretta was born in Nanticoke on June 21, 1932. She was raised in Sheatown and graduated from Newport High School.

FRANK, Barry Charles, 79, of Berlin, Maryland, and formerly of Newport Township, passed away on October 24, 2021. He was born on January 6, 1942. Barry was raised in Alden; and he was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1959. He was a US Army veteran serving from 1958 to 1962. He earned a degree in Electrical Engineering and worked as a contractor for NASA.



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Above: Construction has begun on the new Dollar General Store to be located at 375 West Kirmar Avenue near the Municipal Building in Wanamie. The grand opening is tentatively set for late January, 2022.

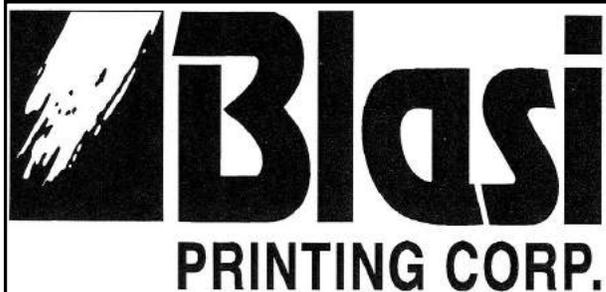


Magic Show Benefits Fire Police

The Nanticoke-Newport Fire Police Unit recently held a Magic Show at the American Legion Post 350, 23 W. Broad Street, Nanticoke. The show was dubbed “Magic on Broad Street” and was designed to be suitable for all audiences. A near-capacity crowd was chilled and thrilled and awed by five acts of not only magic but also music, fantasy, illusion, mentalism and comedy. Numerous members of the audience were chosen throughout the evening to participate in the acts. Additionally, strolling magicians performed around the room before the show began, between acts, and during intermission. Refreshments were available. After the show, a meet and greet was held and a huge basket raffle was conducted. The Fire Police are so very grateful to the performers, the disc jockey, all donors and advertisers, the patrons and our gracious hosts the Nanticoke American Legion Post 350.

Fire Police Captain Fred Kraft performed and was general chairperson. Lieutenant Ron Jones and Captain Len Paczkowski who also served as master of ceremonies were co-chairpersons. Steff Kraft led the basket raffle.

Based on the success of the show and in response to extensive popular request, the 2nd Annual Magic on Broad Street show has been scheduled for Saturday, November 12, 2022 at the Nanticoke American Legion Post 350. Hope to see you there!



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Lt. Chester F. Stralka VFW Post 8353 Celebrates 75th Anniversary

By Tom Kashatus ~ Shown above are members of Lt. Chester F. Stralka VFW Post 8353 of Glen Lyon with their Diamond Jubilee (75th Anniversary) Award from the National Commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars Matthew M. “Fritz” Mihelcic: Margaret Haydock, Joseph Figlerski, Joseph Molski, Commander Edward Padagomas, and Quartermaster Tim Derr. The award states: “In special commemoration and recognition of its seventy-five years of exceptional service to the nation and its veterans of its seven and one half decades of dedicated support for the programs and purposes of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. In Witness whereof, we have hereunto set our hands and the official seal of the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States, this 14th day of October 2021.” It is signed by Matthew M. Mihelcic.

The initial muster of Lt. Chester F. Stralka VFW Post 8353 membership of 64 World War I and World War II veterans took place on October 14, 1946 at its former home at 110 W. Main Street in Glen Lyon. It was named for Lt. Chester Stralka from Glen Lyon, a bomber pilot, who was killed in action while on a mission over Germany during World War II. (See Newsletter No. 29, Spring 2012, p. 23.) Historically, the VFW and the Post Home have played an integral and huge part in community affairs of Newport Township and Glen Lyon. The Newport Township Bidy Basketball League began at the Pulaski School under the leadership of the veterans of Post 8353. The league is still in existence today throughout the Greater Nanticoke Area. Another favorite with the children during the 1960’s and ‘70’s was the “VFW Santa Claus.” The VFW Hall was used for meetings of the United Mine Workers Union and other community affairs. The women of the VFW Auxiliary catered an array of affairs while gaining widespread notoriety for their menus and delicious cuisine. Under the leadership of its many outstanding commanders, the VFW has always stood tall when participating in military commemorative affairs, especially on Memorial Day.

Today, the VFW continues to welcome new membership and to participate in community events. With the former post home gone, meetings are now held at the Glen Lyon American Legion Post 539 on Newport Street on the 2nd Sunday of every month at 1:00 p.m.

Sources: VFW Organization: [http://digitaledition.qwinc.com/publication/?m=3914&i=722459&p=1&ver=html5](https://www.google.com/search?q=vfw+commander+in+chief&oq=VFW+Commander+in+Chief&aqs=C, VFW Magazine: <a href=).

By Tom Kashatus ~ The stage was set for the 2021 General Election in Newport Township with candidates being in contention for (1) State Judges of the Supreme, Superior, and Commonwealth Courts – competitively or for retention; (2) Luzerne County Judges for the Court of Common Pleas – competitively or retention; (3) the Luzerne County offices of District Attorney, Controller, and Council; (4) Greater Nanticoke Area School Board; and (5) Newport Township municipal offices of Commissioner, Constable, and Boards of Election: First Ward (Glen Lyon and Lee); Second Ward (Wanamie, Alden, Sheatown, and Ridgeview). Were there any surprises? Locally, no, as the overwhelming Democrat registration continued to reflect its success in local politics for municipality and school board candidates. But, for statewide and Luzerne County contests, it appears as if apathy, disorganization, and poor advertising played a crucial part in a Democrat shellacking that was difficult to overcome and may lead to a change in the political power structure of those governments. The general turn-out of registered voters for both parties totaled about 30%. Within the realm of Luzerne County and statewide contests, even though Democrats control registration numbers by large majorities, the following judicial candidates, all Republican, were retained with a yes vote: (1) John T. Bender (R) and Mary Jane Bowes (R) as Judges for the PA Superior Court, and (2) Ann Covey (R) and Renee Cohn Jubelirer (R) as Judges for the PA Commonwealth Court.

For contested judgeships the following took place: Kevin Brobson (R) over Maria McLaughlin (D) for Justice of the PA Supreme Court; Megan Sullivan (R) over Timika Lane (D) for Judge of the PA Superior Court; Lori A. Dumas (D) and Stacy Marie Wallace (R) were winners over Drew Compton (R) and David Lee Spurgeon (D) for Judge of the PA Commonwealth Court. Democrats continue to control the majorities of all three courts.

In Luzerne County six incumbent judges were on the ballot for retention regarding the office of Judge of the Court of Common Pleas of which there are a total of ten. All six judges were successful in their quest for another 10 year term: Judges Lesa S. Gelb (D), Richard M. Hughes III (R), Fred A. Pierantoni (D), Jennifer L. Rogers (D), Joseph F. Sklarosky (D), and Michael T. Vough (D). There were two contested seat for judgeship and the results are as follows: Stefanie Salavantis (R/D) a GOP candidate with a Democrat nod and Tarah Toohil (R) both outdistanced Alexandra Kokura Kravitz (D) for success. Salavantis, former District Attorney, stepped aside after two years of a four year term to run for judge. Toohil, a state representative serving a two year term, will cede her position to a replacement to be decided. Sam Sanguedolce (R), who replaced Salavantis as District Attorney, was duly elected to a two year term without opposition. Walter L. Griffith (R) defeated Michelle Bednar (D) for County Controller, a position which he previously held years ago. The most interesting County races were those for Luzerne County Council. It was a GOP sweep for all five positions in contention and successful candidates were: Chris Perry (R) incumbent, John Lombardo (R), Gregory Wolovich (R), Brian Thorton (R), and Kevin Lescavage (R). Losers were Jimmy Sabatino (D), Maryann Velez (D), Jane Walsh Waitkus (D), Shelia Saidman (D), and Matthew Vough (D). Luzerne County government will now fall under the leadership of the Republican Party. Luzerne County “court in banc” will now consist of five male judges and five female judges. Interestingly, it was 1991 when Ann Lokuta of Dupont was elected to a seat on the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas and became the first woman ever to do that.

There were no Republican candidates running for office of the Greater Nanticoke Area School Board and all Democrat nominees also received the Republican nomination. Elected to four year terms were incumbents Wendy Wiaterowski, Megan Tennesen, Frank Shepanski, David J. Hornlein, and new member Mark J. O’Connor. In local Newport Township contests for Commissioner, Constable, and Judge of Election there were no Republican candidates. John Zyla and John Vishnefski, both incumbents, will retain membership on the Board of Commissioners for another four years. Constable Norman Bodek (D) will continue serving for another six years. The First Ward Election Board will consist of Judge of Election, Joseph C. Hillan (D) and Inspectors of Election, Brooklyn Blank (D)(Majority) and Krissy Blank (R)(Minority) for another four years. The Second Ward Election Board will consist of Judge of Election, Megan Tennesen (D), and Inspectors of Election Richard Tennesen (D) (Majority) and Joseph Urban (R) (Minority) for another four years. Minority Inspectors also serve as Board members.

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Youngster From Glen Lyon Navigates Life and Achieves Success



By Richard Barski ~ I was encouraged to consider doing an article about my life's experiences as a kid from the coal-mining town of Glen Lyon for the Newport Township Community News. Naturally I gave it consideration as a unique way to present my story as a young fella growing up in the once fantastic coal-mining town, located between two mountains running east to west and that most folks have never heard of. Glen Lyon actually did make the big time in 1948 in a movie titled "The Miracle of the Bells"

starring Frank Sinatra (Father

Paul), Fred MacMurray (Dunnigan), and Lee J. Cobb (Marcus Harris). Alida Valli played the part of the actress Olga Treskovna also known as Olga Trocki, who was born in Glen Lyon and who died at age 37. Hollywood created this movie from the book of the same title because she was beloved as a Broadway and film actress. That happens to be the short answer as to why this movie took hold in Hollywood.

Once again, I'll give you the story of my life in as few words as I can (ha!). I spent my career working on short/long term contracts and therefore my story is a real zig-zag of crossing the country a number of times. I took advantage, as much as I could, to further my career and personal experiences. I invite you to sit back, relax, and hopefully enjoy this story which tells of a hometown individual who was armed only with the determination and the desire to succeed and to navigate his given time to achieve a successful and rewarding life.

My name is Richard Barski. I was born in Nanticoke on May 7, 1945, which was the day that Germany unconditionally surrendered to the Allies in Reims, France which ended World War II. My parents were Joseph Barski and Cecelia Mitros Barski. My Dad was raised in Glen Lyon and was originally a coal miner. During his last 17 years, he was employed as a barber at Retreat State Hospital. He also owned a barbershop business on Apple and West Main Street, where he worked part time. I grew up with my sister Barbara Yacaboski who now lives in Mocanaqua.

In my younger days, like many teenage boys, I worked a few weeks on the garbage truck, delivered the Sunday newspaper on Newport and West Main Streets, and was an altar boy at St. Adalbert's Church. After graduating from Newport High School, I joined the US Army in the latter half of 1964 for a two-year hitch.

I was assigned to Böblingen, West Germany, as I had acquired a secret clearance in the Army Signal Corps. The assignment had me living on base at the Panzer Barracks which were a few miles from the 7th US Army Patch Barracks and the noble commander, Lt. Gen. George S. Patton. Because I had volunteered to deliver secret documents throughout the division, my assignment did not entail typing within the Signal Corps four walls, but instead allowed me to travel to multiple locations around West Germany. For example, I delivered documents from Munich in the southeast, to Frankfurt in the central western region, and finally to Luxembourg, on Germany's western border. The travel was so extensive that many times I went from driving a jeep between locations to being flown in a small two-passenger Piper Cub. Some of the delivery locations included: Stuttgart, Munich, Bad Tolz, Baden-Baden, Karlsruhe, Heidelberg, Kaiserslautern, Frankfurt and Mannheim (where Elvis Presley had been stationed a few years earlier). Before leaving the US Army, a friend and I did a three-week spectacular sightseeing tour to Amsterdam, London and Paris. I returned stateside in late 1966 with an honorable discharge.

Military service would allow me to use the GI Bill. Instead, I used a similar program created by President Lyndon Johnson known as the "Great Society." I studied drafting technology at the Electronics Institute of Pittsburgh. Before proceeding into the story of the professional career path which I ended up choosing

for my life's work, I'd like it to be known that I consider myself a two-year technology certified graduate, who took a third year studying aircraft software courses, such as CATIA 3D, and MicroStation/AutoCAD, which have to do with aircraft design. In addition, I also studied computerized packaged software pertaining to engineering 3D modeling of equipment building, the layout of piping, and hangar detail assembly drawings. All of these 3D modeling software are used by a large number of engineering companies to make the product as needed and as stipulated in a given contract.

The first job I landed was at McDonnell Douglas Aircraft in St. Louis from 1968-72. This gave me my second secret clearance, working on structural mechanical design change orders on the F-4 Phantom Jet. Then I was assigned to work on a study proposal of the Fighter F-14 Tomcat for a few months. The study drawings were given to Grumman Aircraft. Afterwards I got placed on a huge new contract, working on design structural drawings on Mylar blueprint trace overlay for the Air Force Fighter F-15 Eagle. Its first flight was in 1972.

Shortly afterwards, I switched to Newport News Shipbuilding, laying out drawings of mechanical piping for the USS Enterprise Navy aircraft carrier, thus my third secret clearance. I then continued working with the Department of Defense contractor on the Trident submarine student trainer version at a facility in Idaho. Most Trident submarines were first assembled in Groton, CT. by General Dynamics Electric Boat.

In 1973, I was hired at Calvert Cliffs Nuclear Power Plant in Lusby Maryland, a division of Bechtel Power on the Chesapeake Bay, laying out small-bore pipe. I lived in Suitland, Maryland. I crossed paths with Bechtel's three heavy hitters, namely Casper Weinberger (Vice President), George Schulz (President), and Riley P. Bechtel (Owner) as they did their walk-through of our trailer at the end of the day. At times we played cards while waiting for heavy traffic to move off-site. Needless to say, the walk-through ended our card game right then and there!

I was transferred to the Bechtel Power Corporation office in Gaithersburg, Maryland. Subsequently I purchased a home in Walkersville, MD. near Fort. Detrick. This is where I set up house for my wife and her three young daughters. My new assignment was working on the layout of both large and small bore pipe and equipment for nuclear system projects like the Grand Gulf Nuclear in Mississippi and Davis-Besse Nuclear Power in Ohio. I would fly out of National Airport, now Reagan Airport, traveling to various locations making sure the work matched the drawings. A major project I worked on was titled "Standardized Nuclear Unit Power Plant System (SNUPPS)." This was a group of five utilities joined together to design one standard plant and then build five of these plants at four different locations in the late 1970's.

One interesting sidelight while working on SNUPPS was the time when all the young ladies were peeking out of the windows hoping to catch a glimpse of Robert Redford while he was in the process of making a movie, next door at a warehouse building in Rockville, MD.

For the next 5 1/2 years I lived in Cherry Hill, NJ. I worked for Stone and Webster Engineering on drawings for the Nine Miles Point Nuclear Project in Oswego, New York, on the east end of Lake Ontario. Once this project ended, I worked on drawings of a coal-fired unit in Tallahassee Florida. Stone and Webster next assigned me to Baton Rouge, Louisiana, to work on piping systems at the River Bend Nuclear Project in St. Francisville from 1982 to 1984.

I was moved back to the Cherry Hill NJ office and put up in the Hyatt Regency for two weeks. Now that may seem impressive. But then a large ax came down on everyone with the sudden demise of the nuclear design business.

Looking around immediately, I took a contract gig in Richmond, Virginia with the Phillip Morris Corporation for nearly two years. This showcased the most expensive high-end office building I had ever worked in. Every Friday, a young lady drove an electric golf cart down each aisle as she dropped off a free carton of cigarettes at each cubical desk. The strange but unique part, apart from the staircases and the elevators, was that Phillip Morris installed escalators everywhere. They had money to burn!

While at Phillip Morris, I took time to fly up to Seattle, Washington for ten days to tour the Butchart Gardens, a must visit, in Brentwood Bay, British Columbia. I took a ferry boat ride from Anacortes to Sidney, then drove to Victoria, the capital of British Columbia. I continued to Vancouver, and drove back to the Oregon coastal area to conclude my grand tour. I then flew back to Virginia. (Continued on next page)

The next contract I took was with Sikorsky Aircraft in Stratford, Connecticut in 1985. I was assigned to work on the 21 window frame structure on the Presidential helicopter.

When that project was completed, I went to work for Gibbs & Cox Engineering in New York City, producing drawings for Bath Iron Works' military destroyer ship. I lived four nights during the week in Hoboken, New Jersey and commuted to Glen Lyon on weekends for nearly six months.

I was then offered a job working on a blimp proposal for Goodyear Aerospace in Akron, Ohio. However, then President Ronald Reagan gave the contract to the United Kingdom. This eliminated contractor positions for all 65 workers, including myself. The Brits built only two airbus dirigibles, which ended up exploding, which in turn canceled the military contract in order to protect the aircraft carrier fleet.

The day I lost the contract on the blimp proposal, I was lucky to get an offer from Pratt & Whitney near West Palm Beach, Florida. The office was located 20 miles in the Everglades. I worked on jet-engine drawings while living on the beach in Singer Island. After six months of dealing with alligators showing up at inopportune times, including inside the office fence and underneath my car, I called it quits.

Eventually, I received a call to interview with the lead engineer at McDonnell Douglas in Long Beach, California. I took a position for the next two years from 1987-89. I worked on the C-17 cargo aircraft structure design, while living in Huntington Beach. When that project came to an end, I took a 13-month contract in Montreal, Canada to work with Canadair Company, part of the Bombardier Corporation on their first commercial 50 passenger "Regional Jet" software. This is the same company that created the snowmobile called the "Ski-Doo". By the way, Canadians would gladly correct you to say "Ski-Doo" instead of "snowmobile."

I then drove cross-country once again to Portland, Oregon. I worked on a paper mill contract for Rust Engineering Company in Beaverton, Oregon whose client was Weyerhaeuser, a lumber and forest product company. I worked a short four-month gig while enjoying the city's fresh pine forest scent. The office was close by Nike World Headquarters. The motivation behind that short assignment was to see the Snake River, and especially the beautiful Columbia River Gorge, Mount Hood, Multnomah Falls, Astoria, and Mount Saint Helens in Washington State, some 52 miles northeast of Portland.

I then took an assignment in Orlando, Florida for nearly one year during 1990-1991, to work at ECC International, a company that builds major sections of aircraft, military tanks, etc. for instructional purposes. It teaches students how to maintain and operate such mechanical items on a trainer model. I then moved to Houston where I remained for several years working for Fish Engineering, Bechtel, and Ford Bacon and Davis on a variety of projects. In 1994-1995, I worked for Sonatrach, an Algerian project involving a gas pipeline pigging process. As most folks haven't a clue what that is, you can just do a google search on 'pipeline pigging.'

Then I was with DOW Chemical Inc. in Houston, working on polypropylene equipment piping. Then with Jacobs Engineering Inc., also in Houston (1997-2000), where I worked as a designer.

Once again I took a job near my home at the Galleria area at Williams Gas Pipeline Transco, located in the former Transco Towers (now Williams Towers), a 64 story tower art deco office building, the 4th tallest building in Texas worth \$300 million. My assignment involved the pipeline launcher-receiver kicker lines which are installed every 50 or 60 miles to boost the pressure of lost friction of the natural gas moving through a steel pipe.

I then traveled back to California and accepted a contract with NASSCO in San Diego. I worked on second shift layout drawings for plans, sections, and elevations on the 'T-AKE' project, which is a monster Navy maintenance ship.

I then got a contract with Southern California Edison, San Clemente, CA., at the San Onofre Nuclear Power Plant, working updates, and incorporating changes to bring the unit up to code as per the latest regulations. The plant was located on the property of Camp Pendleton, a Marine base in California. The power plant on the base permanently ceased operation in 2013. The drive to the Marine base along the Interstate Highway 5 is approximately 25 miles

with a beautiful view of the ocean and mountains without one commercial advertisement billboard sign. Without question, it was remarkably scenic!

I then landed a much better assignment at WorleyParsons in Arcadia, California. The Horizon Oil Sands Refinery -Tar Sands Project was a very expensive, dirty oil-source project for a Canadian client. I worked at that company from 2004-06.

Moving back to Houston in 2006, I worked for Foster Wheeler on a coker gas project that was located in India. (A coker unit is a thermal cracking process in the oil refinery industry used to recover valuable elements.) Still in Houston, I switched to Bechtel Corporation to work on the Motiva Project, a \$10 billion coker gas plant in Port Arthur, Texas.

Once the project ended, I went to work for Technip USA Corporation in Houston, whose main office is in Paris, France. While involved with the ExxonMobil Plant, I assisted in running the Intergraph software for the Vent Gas Compressor Project. Approximately every four months, I would show the flow-sheet installation placement locations for all of the components to the client.

During the downturn in the economy in 2010, I took a short-term job in Chicago, IL at Middaugh Engineering. I then took a contract in Maine just five miles north of Freeport (home of L.L Bean) in Brunswick, which is the engineering office for BIW-Bath Iron Works. The assembly plant is approximately eight miles east in the town of Bath. The most interesting places to see in that area are Camden, Boothbay Harbor and DiMillo's On The Water Restaurant in Portland. This restaurant is an ex-ferry boat converted into a large restaurant with a long bar café restaurant. You order one lobster tail and you get a second one free!

After that contract, I came back to the Texas home base and worked for the following: Bayer Technology Service, a chemical plant in Baytown, Texas on a one year contract (2011-2012); Jacobs Engineering in the Baton Rouge, LA. office (2012-2013) where I traveled to the site at the Gonzales refinery; and in 2013-2014, on a major project up north at the Flint Hills Pine Bend Oil Refinery in Rosemont, Minnesota. I flew north with the lead engineer to run the dirty gas out, by way of a pipe rack flare gas system. It was a very cold chilling experience, with temperatures of minus -10 to -19 degrees while on site taking pictures of how the pipes should be run. Thank God it was only a few days as we flew up on Monday and returned late on Thursday when it warmed up to 10 to 20 degrees above zero. A ton of snow blanketed the area before our flight departed which took approximately three hours.

My last assignment was with Bechtel Corporation in Houston. I worked on the Trinidad pipeline job for only a few months before I was placed on the Sabine Pass LNG in Lake Charles, LA for the next twelve months at the Galleria office. At the end they asked me if I'd take a site job at the LNG plant in LA. Naturally I was ready for retirement at the young age of 70 in July, 2015. Bechtel was pushing everyone above age 55 out the door, as the price of oil was taking a beating.

My career path started with engineering design: bending sheet metal, casting, forging, working honeycomb extrusions, in addition to primary/secondary structures, metallic/non-metallic composites and tooling. The flip side of my professional career has been dealing with the layout of equipment-piping systems, refineries, chemical plants, tank farms, nuclear units, as well as shipbuilding, the liquid natural gas process, not to mention compressors, coolers, heaters, and sloped underground pipe. Then there's always the final extraction, namely the 11" x 17" paper isometric drawing that must be delivered only by way of intelligent smart centerline technology. This isometric sheet of paper might be the most important document for any plant facility in the country and even the world.

After a career of 47 years of working, paying taxes, and paying my dues from 1968 to 2015, I am now retired in Houston, Texas trying to escape the chilly, cold, snowy, icy weather that I once loved and cherished in northeastern Pennsylvania. Besides keeping active with exercise, walking, traveling, reading the local Houston Chronicle and books on all levels, one of my favorite pastimes is playing "Duplicate Bridge" in the American Contract Bridge League.

In conclusion, it is my wish that you found this article to be both enlightening and influential, illustrating that anyone with the desire to succeed in life and a willingness to travel or relocate can and will be successful if they possess a positive attitude and a determination to succeed. Remember that today's decisions are tomorrow's outcomes.

Thank you for taking your valuable time to read this article. Have a CAN-DO fabulous day!

Newport Township Teachers Anna Phillips



By Heidi Jarecki ~ Anna J. Morris Phillips was born in 1880 in Ohio. Her parents were Margaret and Richard Morris. Margaret was born in Wales in 1860, the daughter of Thomas and Ann Jervis and came to this country at the age of 10. Richard was also born in Wales in February, 1856 and came to this country in about 1872. Margaret and Richard were the parents of 12 children: Margaret (Maggie), Ida, Thomas, Evan, Mary Elizabeth (Lizzie), Everett, Walter, Anna, David, Joseph, Edith, and Ruth. The family found its way to Main Street in Wanamie, where Richard was employed as a fire boss with the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal Company.

The family belonged to the Wanamie Methodist Church

and was active in its societies. In 1905, the family began delivering the Wilkes-Barre Times Leader and Evening News newspapers to Wanamie subscribers. Margaret supervised the route with 13-year-old Evan Morris making the first actual delivery. Evan was followed by Lizzie, then Everett, Ruth, and Edith. Then Anna Morris Phillips's children took over, Margaret, followed by John and Edward. They were then succeeded by the children of Thomas Morris. By 1940, the route had been serviced by 15 carriers of three different generations. The following year, Norman Morris was the last of the family to deliver papers on this route.

Anna's father Richard passed away on March 19, 1909 at age 53. Margaret passed away at age 92 on July 14, 1952. At the time of her death, Margaret was the proud grandmother of 42, her great-grandchildren numbered 67, and she had 1 great-great-grandchild. Richard and Margaret are interred in Hanover Green Cemetery.

Anna was educated in Newport Township schools and graduated from Central (Newport) High School in 1898. She aspired to become a teacher and attended East Stroudsburg State Normal School. Graduation exercises were held June 24-27, 1900 and included a recital, class day, a baseball game, a commencement concert and an alumni banquet. The Commencement Address was delivered by a former governor of the Commonwealth, Robert E. Pattison. Among her classmates at East Stroudsburg was Effie Richards, also of Wanamie.

In September, 1900, Anna began her teaching career when she was hired to succeed Alice Richards. Since the Columbus School was not built until 1917, it is likely that Anna was assigned to the Half Penny School or perhaps the Central High School. Over the summer months, Anna vacationed at Lake Nuangola with friends. On Saturday, July 16, 1904, Anna married Edward Phillips of Glen Lyon at the Miner Congregational Church in Plains. Rev. Theophilus Davies officiated. Edward, who was born in Wales in 1877, was a conductor on the People's Street Railway Company, a trolley system that ran from Glen Lyon to Nanticoke. He began his employment in 1898. As such, he was well known to Township residents. As was the custom then, Anna resigned her teaching position, since only one income per family was encouraged. The couple lived at 2 East Main Street in Wanamie.

As a conductor, Edward sometimes found himself in difficult situations. For example, according to the Evening News reports in March 1912, Edward was attacked by a Glen Lyon passenger and a court case ensued. Edward testified that the man "paid his fare from [Nanticoke] to Glen Lyon, giving the conductor a five-cent piece this side of the company's power house and just before the car



TEACHERS AT THE COLUMBUS SCHOOL IN WANAMIE, 1930S
TOP ROW: KATHLENE DOWNING, ALICE KRUSHEFSKI
MIDDLE ROW: MARGARET DAVIE, ?, EDNA JENKINS, ?, ELIZABETH VAN FOSSEN
BOTTOM ROW: ?, WILBUR FISCHER, JOHN WILKES, STAN KOLLY, ANN PHILLIPS

reached Glen Lyon. After the car reached the terminal, the passenger commenced an argument with the conductor, claiming he had change coming from a half dollar. Phillips attempted to convince the man that he was in the wrong, and while the conductor had his back turned to [the defendant], the latter attacked him." The defendant was held under \$500.00 bail to answer to the charge of malicious mischief. Judgment was held against the defendant amounting to \$7.00 for destroying the conductor's coat and a fine of \$5.00 and costs on a charge of disorderly conduct. Another incident occurred in October of 1913 when a cow attempted to cross the street car track in Glen Lyon and caused the car driven by Conrad German and Edward Phillips to derail. None of the passengers were injured. However there was some damage done to the car.

Anna and Edward were both active in the Wanamie Methodist Church, the John Bunyan Lodge, the Epworth League, the Knights of Malta, and the Knights of Pythias. Edward hosted adult bible classes and served as a trustee for the Wanamie Hose House. Anna participated in organizations and events, such as a tea sponsored by the Ladies of the Welsh Congregational Church in 1913; a surprise anniversary party for Dr. and Mrs. Ray Myers; the Ladies Aid Society of the Wanamie M.E. Church; the Salvation Army Home Service; the Nurses' Home Fund; the Pythian Sisters; and the American Council No. 73, Daughters of America. She was elected treasurer of the Republican Women's Council in 1924. Edward and Anna had three children, Margaret, born in 1905, John, born in 1907, and Edward, born in 1912. Tragedy struck the young family when Edward (Senior) was admitted to the Nanticoke State Hospital on August 3, 1916 with acute appendicitis. He passed away on August 6 at age 39. His parents were Mr. and Mrs. John Abrams of Glen Lyon and he had six brothers and sisters.

Following Edward's death, Anna was reappointed as a teacher in September, 1917. She was assigned to the "Old" High School, where the middle grades were taught. In 1918, she was assigned to teach in the newly built Columbus School which once stood on West Main Street in Wanamie, taking the place of Edward O'Brien. It being the last year of World War I, Anna participated in a campaign to solicit funds for the United War Work. Beginning in 1922, Anna taught in the Wanamie Methodist Episcopal Sunday School along with Ruth Morris. That year she had 41 students, including her own children. She attended conventions of the Daughters of America and somehow found the time to join the Dundee Sewing Club in Hanover Township. In 1923, Anna was back teaching in the "Old" High School. Her salary was listed as \$1,464.20. The following year, she was once again teaching in the Columbus School, where she remained until she retired.

In September 1924, Anna's brother Joseph was killed in a gas explosion in the Auchincloss Colliery of the Glen Alden Coal Company. He

(Continued on next page)

had been an assistant mine foreman. He was married to the former Mary Hibbard and together they had five children, the oldest being 11 years old.

The teachers of Columbus School held annual social meetings. In January 1925, a sleighing party and luncheon at the Dorrance Corners Hotel was well attended. In 1930, the teachers were entertained at the Hotel Sterling at "one of the most delightful and pretty affairs on the social calendar. After dinner, cards were played and a piano recital and songs were enjoyed." On May 31, 1930, a dinner party was held at Lucille Tea Room in Berwick. In 1932, a dinner dance and card party was held at the Hotel Sterling for all teachers in the district. Anna attended each one. In 1936 and 1937, the years the Newport High School Basketball Team went to the state finals, Anna attended the banquets honoring the players held at the Glen Lyon American Legion.

On March 12, 1929, Anna's daughter Margaret married Frederick Walker of Enterprise Street, Glen Lyon in the Wanamie Methodist Episcopal Church. The couple lived at 15 Railroad Street, Glen Lyon, and had one son, Edward Walker. Anna's son John Phillips graduated from Newport High School in 1926 and was employed by Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal Company and the Huber Collieries as a storekeeper. He served with the Army during World War II. He married the former Genevieve (Jim) Petcosky. The couple had one son, Stephen. Edward Phillips became a teacher and married Ann Petcosky in 1947. They lived in Williamsport and Loyalsock Township.

Anna moved from Wanamie to Market Street in Glen Lyon and retired from teaching in 1945. She was honored for her dedication at a dinner at Forest Hills Inn, Alden on October 29, 1945, along with fellow retirees Florence Carr and Essie Griffiths. The principal speaker was Carl Christman, chairman of the Pennsylvania FTA legislation committee. Others on the program were: Norman Thomas, Glen Lyon humorist, Quinto Gionta, vocal solo, and Peter Pace, horn solo. Presentation of scrolls from the school district was made by Superintendent Andrew Rushin.

In 1948, Anna moved to Wilkes-Barre where she resided for 18 years. She was a member of Central United Methodist Church and the Ladies Sunday School Class.

Beginning in 1952, the Morris-Jervis family (Thomas and Ann Jervis were Anna's grandparents) held annual reunions. As one can imagine, hundreds of people attended these gatherings. Careful records were kept about marriages and births. The fifth reunion was held in 1957 in Nay Aug Park in Scranton and at age 76, Anna was awarded the prize for "the oldest person" that year.

The Newport Township High School Class of 1952 dedicated its yearbook to eight extraordinary teachers who had accumulated a combined 334 years of teaching: Albert Stair, 1895-1937; John Kennedy, 1900-1943; Margaret Eaton, 1902-1947; Ann Eaton, 1909-1951; Jennie Moore, 1901-1946; Florence Carr, 1902-1945; Alice Jennings, 1901-1943; and Anna Phillips, 1900-1904, 1917-1945. All eight teachers were Newport High School graduates.

In 1966, Anna became a resident of Snyder Nursing Home in Nanticoke, where she passed away on December 27, 1968. She was 88 years old. She and her husband Edward are interred in Hanover Green Cemetery.

Sources: *Wilkes-Barre Times Leader*, *Wilkes-Barre Evening News*, *Wilkes-Barre Record*, *East Stroudsburg University Archives*, *Ancestry.com*, *Archives.com*, 1952 Newportrait.

Newport Township Resident Pens Film Novelization

By Heidi Jarecki ~ Adriane Marrin, a resident of Glen Lyon, has published a novelization of her screenplay, "Adriane's Castle." Published in 2021 by Dorrance Publishing located in Pittsburgh, it tells the story of mistaken identity, stolen diamonds, and a bunch of crooks trying to get their hands on them. A murder is committed and the FBI gets involved. The setting switches from New York City to a European castle and back to New York City. The film of the same title was originally produced in 2011 and directed by Adriane Marrin. The trailer can be seen on www.YouTube.com. Another source is www.IMDb.com. The book is available through Barnes and Noble and Amazon. 17

Newport Township to be Site of \$6 Billion Low Carbon Emissions Gasoline Production Facility

By John Jarecki ~ On October 29, 2021 State Senator John Yudichak and other Luzerne County local government officials, including Newport Township Commissioner John Zyla and Nanticoke Mayor Kevin Coughlin announced that Nocera Inc., a Texas-based low carbon emissions energy company, is planning to build a \$6 billion low dollar gasoline production facility in Newport Township.

This production facility, said Senator Yudichak, will be the largest single investment in the history of Luzerne County. A study commissioned by Nocera of a similar facility in Texas suggests it would add about \$25 billion to the economy of Northeastern Pennsylvania. Commissioner John Zyla said it would bring welcome business investment to Newport Township. Nanticoke Mayor Kevin Coughlin said the construction of the facility would bring income to the area through increased demand for food and lodging by construction workers.

Nacero was founded in 2015 to produce energy with the emission of less green house gases into the atmosphere than conventional methods. It is planning to construct three production facilities in the United States that produce gasoline from natural gas using renewable energy sources and, when possible, preventing waste gases containing carbon from escaping into the atmosphere. Those three locations are: Penwell, Texas (near the New Mexico border), Kingman, Arizona (south of the Grand Canyon), and Newport Township.

The Nacero method emits into the atmosphere less than half the greenhouse gases (98% CO2) that the conventional method of producing an equal amount of gasoline from crude oil would. The reason for this is that the generation of gasoline from crude oil results in the additional production of an equal amount of other petroleum products such as jet fuel, diesel fuel, and heavy fuel oil, and this adds to greenhouse gas emissions.

Nacero is planning to build the facility on about 2000 acres of land between Ridgeview and Glen Lyon, much of it owned by Earth Conservancy (EC). Construction, starting in about two years, would last approximately four years and employ more than 3,500 workers. When completed, the facility would employ about 450 full time skilled manufacturing workers paid about \$85,000 per year.

Nacero's decision to locate the facility in Northeastern Pennsylvania is in part due to Act 66, introduced into the State Legislature by Representative Aaron Kaufer of Kingston and signed by Governor Wolf. This Act creates the Local Resources Manufacturing Tax Credit, which provides a tax credit of 47 cents per unit of natural gas purchased by an eligible company. Representative Kaufer said that, when the facility is in full operation, it will avoid the venting of 30 million tons of carbon dioxide per year into the atmosphere, roughly equivalent to removing 6.5 million cars from the roads. Reducing greenhouse gas emission to lessen the effects of climate change would ultimately be the most important result of this facility.



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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.



A History of the Sheatown Service Station

By Carol Kostek as told by Alex Kostek; additional material by Heidi Jarecki ~ Andrew Kostek (pictured above in both photos) and his brother Michael were the sons of Alex and Julia Wanchisen Kostek of Alden and later, Thomas Street in Sheatown. The family also included four daughters: Mary, Pearl, Anna and Theresa. Andrew was born in 1914, and Michael five years later. The family belonged to Holy Resurrection Church in Alden and was active in its societies.

During World War II, Andy, known as "Andy" to everyone, worked as a mechanic. He worked in Burt Walker's garage where they did truck and vehicle repairs. He repaired coal trucks that supplied coal to the power plants that kept the war effort going. Therefore, during the early years of the War, Andy was deferred. Near the end of the war, that status was changed. He was drafted and would have been part of the invasion of Japan had President Truman not approved the use of the atomic bomb.

After the War, Andy decided he wanted to own a full service garage of his own. He went into partnership with his brother Mike and plans for the Sheatown Service Station began. Construction of the garage at 110 Robert Street started in about 1950. Andy needed to continue working, so two stone masons were hired to build the structure. As was the Kostek custom, if anyone was capable of doing the job, age did not matter. At the time, Alex (Andy's son) was about ten years old and was put to work carrying the supplies to the two stone masons. That ten-year-old boy carried all the cinder blocks fast enough to keep up with the masons and the garage was built!

Sheatown Service Station did everything that needed to be done to keep a car or truck running. They did transmission work, motor repairs, and replaced mufflers, shocks, and springs. They would also wash, wax, and detail a customer's car. If a vehicle needed something done, they could do it!

Andy then decided he wanted to be involved in automobile recycling and needed a level lot. He therefore made arrangements with a coal company to bring mine fill to the approximate two acre area behind the garage. Along with the mine waste were chunks of coal and oak mine props. (Props were timber or steel posts used for roof support to hold the mine ceiling up.) Between loads, Alex and one other worker would retrieve the coal and props. The props were heavy and it took two people to carry them out. The props were then cut up with a two-man saw and used as fuel for the garage. After the wood was gone, it was Alex's job after school to smash up enough coal chunks to keep the garage furnace burning for the next 24 hours. For several years, the garage was heated with the mine props and coal chunks salvaged from the fill.

Once the level area behind the garage was finished, Andy began the recycling business. He would buy older cars and if they could be repaired, they were fixed and sold. If the cars were not able to be repaired, they were used for parts and then dismantled and recycled. Truckloads of metal were then driven to a foundry.

Along with that, Sheatown Service Station also had a contract with the Wyoming Valley Motor Club (AAA) which handled

members' vehicle problems and which covered a large area, from south Wilkes-Barre to near Shickshinny. It was a 24/7 job that kept them busy.

Sheatown Service Station owned its land, building, underground tanks, and gas lines. Gulf Oil Company put up their big sign and installed their pumps. That worked well until a gas war developed in the area. Andy had to drop the price of his gas to be able to compete with the other stations. Gulf Oil objected to their gas being sold at the lower price and ordered Andy to raise the price. Andy refused and Gulf Oil Company sued Andy Kostek. Talk about David and Goliath! In court with a lawyer representing him, Andy said that he owned the station, tanks, and lines. Once he paid for the gas, he should be able to sell it at any price he wanted. The judge in the case, Judge Frank Pinola, agreed with Andy and he won against Gulf Oil Company. However, it did not end there. Andy told Gulf Oil that the case had cost him a lot of money and demanded a substantial discount on the gas they delivered to his tanks or they were to come to Sheatown immediately and remove their huge sign and pumps. So it ended up that Andy won the case, and got a discount on the gas that was put in his tanks!

The Service Station was a member of the Newport Township Businessmen's Association and was active in community endeavors. It helped the Boy Scout Troop of Alden with a rag and scrap drive by serving as a drop-off point. The drive helped pay for camping equipment and uniforms. The service station also made contributions to the Township Heart Fund drive. In the 1950's and early 1960's, it supplied fuel for township (police) vehicles.

On Valentine's Day, 1962, Andy Kostek passed away at age 47. His son Alex was in college at the time. The family tried to keep the business going for a while, but without Andy, the heart of Sheatown Service Station was greatly diminished. It was eventually sold and then the building fell into disrepair. The property was purchased by a mini mart company, which razed the old building and built a new one on the same spot. It is currently occupied by Pen Mart. Andy's brother Mike passed away in 1987.

Today, folks drive down Robert Street and see the convenience store. Those of us who lived through the 1950's and 1960's pass by and remember the Sheatown Service Station.

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Pictured left is Doc Vosheski in 1948 with the Glen Lyon Condors. Pictured right is a 1936 drawing of Doc by Louis Yablonski, long time art teacher in the Pulaski Junior High School. The drawing appears courtesy of Doc's son Richard.

Edmund "Doc" Vosheski November 16, 1918—March 7, 1984

By John Kashatus ~ Edmund "Doc" Vosheski was a life long resident of Glen Lyon, Pennsylvania. He was an outstanding athlete at Newport Township High School and later continued his athletic prowess in professional baseball. In 1936, his junior year in high school, he led Newport to the PIAA State Championship in Basketball with a 36-34 win over New Castle at the Zembo Mosque in Harrisburg. In the Spring of '36, the 5'9 left hander pitched Newport to the first Wyoming Valley Conference Baseball Championship with a 6-3 victory over Plains High School to claim the title. "Doc", as he was known to all, was coached in both sports by Chet Rogowicz, an outstanding athlete and professional basketball player whose name is enshrined in the Southern Schuylkill Chapter of the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame.

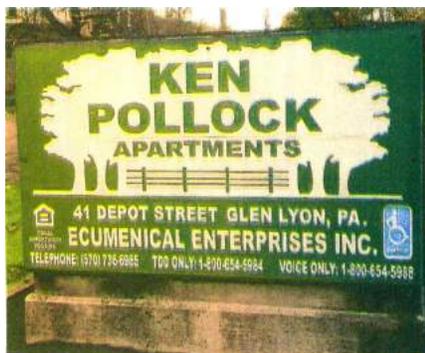
In Doc's senior year, during the Christmas holidays, a local sports-writer asked Coach Rogowicz what he wanted for Christmas and he replied, "Four more Doc Vosheski's." Doc led Newport's basketball team to the State Finals, only to lose to Pittsburgh South at Penn State's Rec Hall. That venue was selected after Newport and Wyoming Valley fans protested the original playing site in Pittsburgh. A Harrisburg newspaper proclaimed him to be the best forward in the state during those two years.

Although Newport's baseball team was eliminated in the playoffs in his senior year, Doc was selected to the first Wyoming Valley Conference All Star Team. Doc was offered basketball scholarships from Pittsburgh, Lafayette, Long Island University and Villanova, but chose to attend the University of Scranton (St. Thomas College as it was known then). As a freshman, Doc started in all but one game. Doc continued his baseball career in semi-pro baseball and organized professional baseball. After playing

with the Glen Lyon Kanadians and the legendary Glen Lyon Condors, he signed a pro contract with Hazleton/Lancaster of the Interstate League. In 1943, Doc was signed by the Knoxville Smokies of the Southern Association who were in first place. Doc had a 6-3 record while appearing in 21 games, and had a .313 batting average. His battery mate was Andy Seminick, a future Major League player and manager.

Doc entered military service, serving with the U.S. Navy during World War II. Returning from military service, Doc resumed his baseball career with the Condors, leading them to three consecutive Wyoming League Championships in 1946, '47, and '48. The Condors swept three post season final series with Doc winning all six games. When Bidy Basketball was introduced to Newport Township, Doc volunteered to coach, using his expertise to provide encouragement and skill training to Township youngsters.

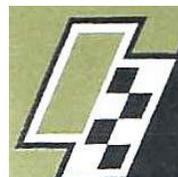
Doc was the son of Max Vosheski and Erna Katzman Vosheski. He worked in the family business (a tavern), the Susquehanna Coal Company and retired as a Corrections Officer in the State Prison System. He was married to the late Florence Yarashefski Vosheski and they were the parents of Constance Formulak (deceased), Richard, and Mark.



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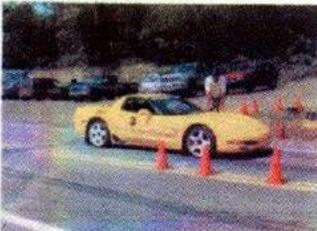
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Tree Lightings in Newport Township



Pictured above is the annual tree lighting event at the Municipal Building on November 28. Held jointly by Newport United and the Newport Township Women's Activity Group, it also featured Santa's arrival on the Fire Truck. Shown l to r are: Debbie Zaleski, John Zyla, Joe Hillan with granddaughter, Jack Vishnefski, Steve Phillips, and Paul Jarecki.

Below is the Christmas tree lighting sponsored by Reilly Plating in Sheatown along Alden Road on December 7th. This event raises money to support local charitable organizations. From l to r are: Joe Reilly, Jim Reilly, James Reilly, Joe Reilly Jr and Amy Morgans.



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3 Egg Omelet	\$4.99
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8" 12"	
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	5 pc	10 pc		Small	Large
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Pierogi	\$3.49	\$5.99	Cheese Fries	\$2.49	\$3.99
Potato Pancake		\$3.99	Loaded Fries	\$3.49	\$4.49
Chicken Nuggets		\$4.99	Wing Fries	\$2.99	\$4.29
	2 pc		Curly Fries		\$3.99
Pizza Egg Rolls	\$3.99		Cheese Curly Fries		\$4.49
	3 pc	5pc	Loaded Curly Fries		\$4.99
Chicken Tender	\$5.99	\$8.99	Funnel Cake	\$4.99	
	5 pc	10 pc	Fries (20 pc)		
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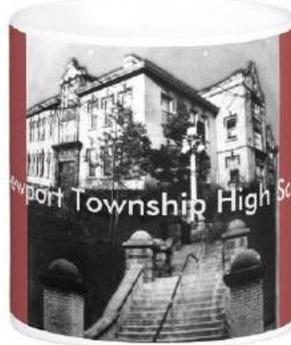
Monthly Food Distribution Held at Recreation Park

The Newport Township Community Organization and the Weinberg Regional Food Bank are working together to host a Food Distribution for those in need.

With the cooperation of the Township Board of Commissioners and Township Manager Joe Hillan, outdoor distributions take place in a drive-through format at the Wanamie Recreation Park on the second Saturday of the month between 11 am and 12 noon. Seasonal fruits and vegetables, along with milk, canned goods, rice and pasta are among the foods available. The distributions will continue throughout the winter months, weather permitting.

All recipients must pre-register. Residency needs to be confirmed.

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.

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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!

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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.

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