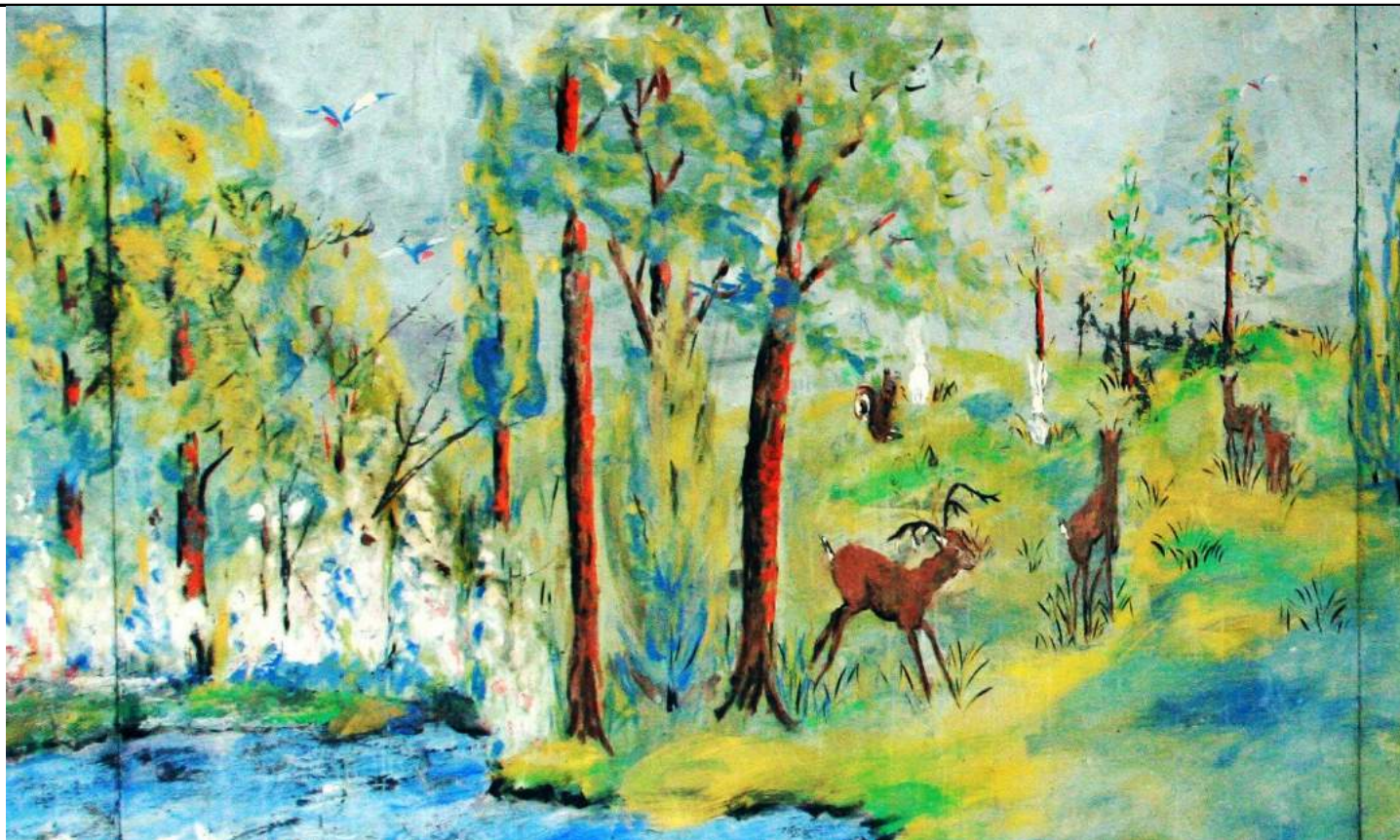




“...the drowsy hum of crickets and other sleepy sounds of the summer day...” ~ Gerald Raftery



A Mural in the former St. Stanislaus Orphanage, Sheatown

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 April, May, and June of 2022.

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 February of 2022, the Township asked for bids for the project and in March awarded a contract to Multiscape Inc. of Pittston to do the work at a cost of \$1,117,190.03. In April Multiscape started work on sidewalks and curbs on the west side of Glen Lyon. Work will continue through the summer.

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, is continuing 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

within Newport Township. This double warehouse project is named Tradeport 164. It is expected to produce nearly \$1 million in annual tax revenue. As of June 2022, the construction crew has put in place the exterior walls of the smaller warehouse.

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 are demolishing blighted buildings in groups that are, if possible, 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.

The First Group of homes chosen for demolition were at 1) 36-38 Rock Street, 2) 40 Rock Street in Glen Lyon, and 3) 260-261 Miner Avenue in Wanamie. In January of 2022 the Commissioners awarded a contract to Smart Recycling Inc (SRI) of Dunmore to demolish the buildings at a cost of \$35,400. In February, this demolition was completed.

The Second Group of homes chosen for demolition were at 1) 56-58 East Main Street, 2) 15 West Main Street, 3) 239 West Main

Inside: Township Business p.1-2; NTCTO President's Message p.3; Early Summer p.4; Township News & Notices, p.5; Demolition Projects & New Construction p.6; Township

Events p. 7-8; Apartments at Former K.M. Smith School, Primary Election, p.9; Memorial Day p.10; Taste of the Township p.11; Obituaries

p. 12-13; Flora & Fauna p.14; The Next Generation p. 15; The History of Kirmar Park Part II p.16-19; Ads p.20; Township Support for Ukraine, p. 21;

Ads p.22-23; NTCTO p.24.

Please support our advertisers who help make this publication possible.

Have a safe summer, Everyone!

Street, and 4) 168 Newport Street, all in Glen Lyon. Brdaric Excavating has completed the demolition of these buildings at a cost of \$49,400.00.

The Third Group of properties chosen for demolition were at 1) 48-50-52 -54 East Main Street and 2) 68 East Main Street, all in Glen Lyon. In April of 2022 the Commissioners awarded a contract to Brdaric Excavating of Luzerne PA for the demolition of these buildings at a cost of \$43,800. In June Brdaric completed the demolition of these buildings.

A Fourth Group of properties chosen for demolition consists of buildings at 128 West Main Street in Glen Lyon and 1050 East Main Street in Wanamie. At a special meeting on June 10, the Commissioners awarded a contract to Smart Recycling Inc (SRI) for their demolition at a cost of \$30,000.

Street Repaving Project: The Township is carrying out three street repaving projects, each of which has a different source of funding. Commissioner John Zyla said that these projects will repave at least a portion of 12 Township Streets. It is an extensive operation that the Commissioners have been trying to accomplish for the last 10 years.

The First Project will involve repaving the following streets: Center Street, Miner Avenue, and Belles Road, all in Wanamie. The Lower South Valley Council of Governments (LSVCOG) will do the repaving work using Liquid Fuels (primarily gasoline) tax funds that the Township receives from the State.

The Second Project will involve the following Streets: Franklin Street and Burnette Street in Newport Center, Depot Street, Stralka Lane, and 600 feet of Water Street in Glen Lyon. A grant from Luzerne County's Office of Community Development (OCD) will fund this project. In April 2022 the Commissioners awarded a contract to Pennsy Supply of Harrisburg to do the work at a cost of \$182,969.40.

The Third Project will involve the repaving of the following streets: Edwards Street, Old Newport Street, and Prince Street in Sheatown, and Marcella Street, Marie Street, and Railroad Street from RK Furs to Fine Street in Alden. A grant received from the State because of the closing of the State Correctional Institution at Retreat (SCI Retreat) will fund the project. In April 2022, the Commissioners awarded a contract to Pennsy Supply to do the work at a cost of \$192,571.95.

Commissioners' Meetings in April, May, and June 2022

April 4, 2022: The Commissioners approved Resolution #4 of 2022 naming the Meeting Room and Community Center in the Township Municipal Building "The John Zyla Meeting Room and Community Center." State Senator John Yudichak presented to Mr. Zyla a replica of a plaque that will be placed in the Municipal Building honoring him for his community service of 40 years as Newport Township Commissioner. Mr. Yudichak said that they were honoring Mr. Zyla because of his caring for the community and his realization that the purpose of public service is helping people. Mr. Zyla, he said, played an instrumental role in construction of the new Municipal Building, in improving Township parks and recreation, in strengthening the Police Department, and in attracting new businesses and new housing to Newport Township.

Township Financial Oversight Consultant Jennifer Polito reported that, for the first three months of this year, Township revenue was \$319,839.20 and expenditures were \$436,788.43. She said that, during the month of April, real estate tax revenue should begin coming in, which will significantly improve the financial situation of the Township.

The Commissioners approved Resolution #5 of 2022 authorizing the Township to acquire, through a 7-year lease to purchase, a Pac-Mac Model 11 RLM Series rear loader refuse truck. The price of \$175,775 is based on Costars pricing. (Costars is a State program helping municipalities make purchases.)

The Commissioners approved a motion to send a letter to the Luzerne County Zoning Hearing Board in support of the proposed project to construct apartments in the former Pulaski School building in Glen Lyon.

Township Manager Joe Hillan included the following in his report:

1) The Township received its 2022 Keystone Municipal Insurance Program dividend check for \$4,414.02. This is general liability insurance for the Township, including, for example, insurance for motor vehicles. The dividend check is for money not used by the insurance program over the past year.

2) The Township encourages residents to abide by the Wyoming Valley Sanitary Authority's (WVSA) storm water management signs, which request residents not to park in certain areas on days of WVSA street cleaning.

May 2, 2022: The Commissioners gave awards to four residents for volunteer work they have done that has improved the quality of life in the Township: Heidi Jarecki for her editorship of the Newport Township Community News and other activities, and also Ronald Jones, Leonard Paczkowski, and Steve Phillips for their numerous services to the Township.

Financial Oversight Consultant Jennifer Polito reported that, for the first four months of 2022, Township revenue was \$708,321.13 and expenditures were \$565,455.17. Real estate tax income is now coming in as it should. The Township is in good financial condition.

Township Manager Joe Hillan included the following in his report:

(1) The Township has sold 1,627 refuse stickers, as compared to 1,642 at this time last year. There are 66 residents who have not paid their refuse fee.

June 7, 2022: Commissioner John Vishnefski reported that the Newport Township Community Organization will sponsor a Summer Fun Program for children at the Wanamie Recreation Park. Two events are scheduled: a K-9 Demonstration, with Newport Township Police Officer William Dubiak and his trained police dog Axel, on Sunday June 26 at 1 pm, and a Children's Painting and Art Event on Sunday July 24 at 1pm. A third event is planned for August.

Financial Oversight Consultant Jennifer Polito reported that, for the first five months of 2022, Township revenue was \$894,480.33 and expenditures were \$558,000.77. The annual audit of Township funds will begin in July and end in August.

The Commissioners voted 1) to approve a five year lease and partial release and waiver of restriction agreement with Verizon Wireless to install a cell phone tower on Township property at 351 West Kirmar Avenue, 2) to approve the 2022 Luzerne County Radiological Emergency Response Plan, and 3) to hire Gabriel Josefowicz as a part time summer employee with the Department of Public Works at a rate of \$13 per hour.

The Township has received two new vehicles, both of which are paid for by State Local Share Account (LSA) or gaming grants that were obtained with help from State Representative Gerald Mullery and State Senator John Yudichak. The first vehicle is a 2022 Explorer police cruiser (\$80,000 LSA grant) and the second is a 2022 F-550 pick up truck with snow plow attachment (\$72,830 LSA grant), which will be used by the Township's Department of Public Works.

The Commissioners also voted to purchase a 2001 Spartan Rescue Pumper (fire truck) from the Monessen Volunteer Fire Department Hose Company #2 at a cost of \$80,000. Commissioner Mike Roke explained that the two fire trucks that our Fire Department now owns are both obsolete in that they can no longer be repaired. The previously-owned fire truck is in good condition, and is expected to last about 5 or 6 years.

Township Manager Joe Hillan included the following in his report:

1) The Township has sold 1,677 of 1,694 refuse stickers. There are 17 residents who have not paid the refuse and recycling fee. The Township has filed citations at the Magistrate's Office and are waiting for hearings to be scheduled. This is the second consecutive year that we have had a 99% compliance rate in collecting these fees.

2) The Luzerne County Zoning Hearing Board will hear requests for variances for two building projects in Newport Township. The first is a request by Alexander McNitt, proprietor of Home & Property Management of Nanticoke, for variances to construct up to 33 apartments in the former Pulaski School on Market Street in Glen Lyon and, in a later phase of the project, to construct up to 200 storage units on the property. The second is a request by Verizon Wireless for variances to construct a cell phone tower on land owned by Newport Township at 351 West Kirmar Avenue in Wanamie. Commissioner Debbie Zaleski and Township Manager Joe Hillan will attend the meeting.



A structure fire occurred on December 12, 2021 on Alden Mountain Road. Newport Township Fire Departments were assisted by Nanticoke City, Slocum Township, Nuangola Borough, and Hanover Township. No injuries were reported.

NTCO President's Report

By Stephen E. Phillips ~ During the past several years, this column has stressed the need for volunteers to provide leadership and support to their communities and the various civic and social organizations if, in fact, these entities are to become and remain successful. This Publication would, therefore, be remiss if it did not note with deep sorrow the April passing of a truly dedicated individual who embodied all the important attributes of a devoted and committed volunteer. One who always placed service above self. This person was Phoebe Ann Thomas Hillan. One only has to review her obituary to recognize the broad spectrum of services she provided to her family, her Church, a myriad of organizations, and this Township. This Organization is proud to have made her the initial recipient of the Citizenship Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service to Newport Township. May she continue to provide inspiration to others, and serve as an impetus for them to walk in her footsteps, and may she rest in peace after experiencing a life well lived.

For the second consecutive year, the Board of Township Commissioners used its May meeting as an opportunity to recognize four local residents for their volunteer efforts on behalf of the Municipality. Included in the group were Len Paczkowski, Heidi Selecky Jarecki, Ron Jones, and this writer. Their activities cover a wide spectrum of services beneficial to the Township and all were appreciative of the Commissioners' acknowledging their service. The elected officials anticipate continuing to recognize committed community residents during the May meetings in subsequent years. It is hoped that the volunteer spirit shall continue to grow in the future.

The Township was able to re-hang the Hometown Heroes banners from last year, as well as the new ones which were purchased recently, in time for the Memorial Day observance. Because of the major sidewalk construction project in Glen Lyon, some of the banners previously placed along the entire length of Main Street in the town were unable to be hung in time for the recent holiday celebration. It is gratifying to report that 160 banners were purchased during the initial three phases of the Hometown Heroes project. This indicates the patriotic spirit is still alive and well in Newport Township. It is anticipated that later this year another opportunity will be made available for families and friends to purchase additional banners.

The Newport Township Community Organization is continuing its monthly food distribution on the second Saturday of each month at 11:00 am at the Township Recreation Park in Wanamie. During the recent unavailability of NTCO Coordinator Palmira Miller for several of these events, the position has been very capably filled by Amy Saraka of Wanamie. Amy also serves as President of the Newport Township Crime Watch. We extend our sincere thanks and appreciation to Amy for substituting during the recent food distributions.

The NTCO again applauds our local state legislators and local officials for their joint efforts in removing blighted structures throughout the Township. The buildings being demolished were generally in arrears on tax payments, created an eyesore, and were a detriment to attracting new development to the Community.

As noted in prior publications, in order to maintain existing municipal services and potentially provide additional public amenities, the Township must continue to strive to expand its tax base. To succeed in this endeavor, it is imperative that a good quality of life is maintained throughout the Community. Removal of dilapidated buildings is an integral element of this effort.

The NTCO has received monetary donations to help support the Newport Township Community News. We are grateful to Marcella Sedor Kelly and Joe and Janet Molski for their contributions.

Simply Convenient now open

LOW PRICE Premium & Imported Beer to go
Store Hrs: Mon-Fri 7AM-9PM; Sat 8AM-9PM; Sun 11AM-9PM

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

Store Hrs: Mon-Fri 7:00AM-9PM; Sat 8AM-9PM; Sun 8AM-9PM
22 West Main St. Glen Lyon (570-736-6705)



Newport Crime Watch Hosts National Night Out

Where? St. Faustina's Grove, Sheatown

When? Tuesday, August 2, 2022, 4-9 pm

Come and join the fun at National Night Out as Crime Watch Groups across the country seek to promote community-police partnerships! Free Games for Children, Basket Raffle, Food Available for Purchase, Bake Sale, Informational Displays, DJ, Entertainment, and more!



Summer Fun is Back!

June 26: Meet Axel, The Newport K-9 and Police Officer Bill Dubiak

July 24: Children's Painting and Art Class with the Cup of Paint Art Studio

August: To be announced

Wanamie Recreation Park at 1:00 pm

All Township Children are Welcome!

Lunch and Refreshments Will Be Served

Sponsored by the Newport Township Community Organization

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.



Joseph J. Reilly
President

130 Alden Road,
Nanticoke, PA 18634

office: 570.735.7777

direct: 570.735.7793 x214

fax: 570.735.7878

cell: 570.510.8827

email: joereilly@reillyfinishing.com

www.ReillyFinishing.com

Signs of Early Summer in the Township



A robin's nest was discovered in Wanamie and closely guarded to protect it from predators. The young ones hatched and were immediately hungry!




Newsletter on the Road Again

Pictured are Paul and Peg Gregory enjoying the Spring Newsletter in front of the wooden Trojan Horse which stands in the plaza of Historical National Park in Canakkale, Turkey. Canakkale is near the ancient city of Troy or Ilium, known as the setting for the Greek myth of the Trojan War. The wooden horse was actually used in the 2004 film, *Troy* starring Brad Pitt and after the filming of the movie the wooden horse was donated to the city of Çanakkale. Paul grew up in Glen Lyon and is a graduate of Newport Township High School, Class of 1959.

The Lookout House
"Fine Dining in a Casual Atmosphere"
 Banquets and Catering

1373 State Route 93
 Drums, PA 18222

Tel| 570-788-5229
 Web| www.lookouthouserestaurant.com
 Hours| Mon-Sat 4:30-10:00; Sun 12:00-8:00



GET THE FNCB[®] BANK LOCAL ADVANTAGE!

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

FNCB Bank[®]
 Simply better.™

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

TARNOWSKI'S KIELBASA
 579 EAST MAIN STREET ♦ NANTICOKE, PA 18634
"The Original Recipe Since 1946"

"You Can't Beat Our Meat!"

Plymouth Alive
 1st Place 2019 and 2021
 Best Smoked Keilbasa
570-736-6585

Plymouth Alive
 1st Place 2016 and 2021
 Best Fresh Keilbasa
 John & Anastasia Vishnefski



At the April meeting Commissioner John Zyla was honored for his 40 years of continuous service to Newport Township. The Community Room in the Municipal Building was renamed "The John Zyla Meeting Room and Community Center." State Senator John Yudichak presented to Mr. Zyla a replica of a plaque that has been placed in the Meeting Room. Pictured above are: Commissioners Mike Roke and Paul Czapracki, Solicitor Christopher Slusser, Commissioner John Zyla, State Senator John Yudichak, Township Manager Joe Hillan, Commissioners Debbie Zaleski and Jack Vishnefski.



At the May meeting of the Township Commissioners, several citizens were recognized for their volunteerism and contributions to improving life in Newport Township. Pictured left are: Solicitor John Solt, Commissioners Jack Vishnefski and John Zyla, Award Recipient Leonard Paczkowski, Commissioner Mike Roke, Award Recipient Steve Phillips, Commissioner Paul Czapracki, Award Recipient Heidi Jarecki, Commissioner Debbie Zaleski, Award Recipient Ron Jones, and Township Manager Joe Hillan.



The Glen Lyon Curb and Sidewalk Improvement Project has begun. It is funded by a \$1.4 million Luzerne County Infrastructure Grant that the Township received in 2018. Pictured above is work being done on West Main Street in Glen Lyon. The contract was awarded to Multiscape, Inc. of Pittston. Work will continue through the summer.

Thank You to the Township Residents Who Take Pride in their Property

On behalf of the Newport Township Board of Commissioners, I would like to recognize Township residents that have taken time and effort to maintain their properties. The Township is making great strides in improving the quality of life for our residents. This can be seen by three highly visible projects: the continual emphasis on removing blighted properties, repaving our street network, and constructing the Glen Lyon Main Street sidewalks.

We would like to thank Newport United for initiating the Hometown Hero Banner program. This annual project has shown that Township residents and friends support recognition of our Veterans.

So, what are our residents doing to get involved and be part of the Newport Revitalization effort?

Residents are demonstrating home ownership pride by renovating, repairing, and restoring older properties along with new property development. Emphasis on continual quality of life improvement can be demonstrated by weekly activities including lawn and tree trimming, attention to removal of debris and clutter, along with cleaning public areas in our neighborhoods.

Not only does this effort result in a safer community but also enhances the environment. I strongly urge all residents, including residents who are renting properties, to join the Township's efforts in making Newport Township a more vibrant community which we all can call home.

Thanks to all for your participation.

Joe Hillan
Township Manager

Removal of Eyesores and New Construction Projects



Above, work continues on Group 3 of the Township Demolition Project. These houses are on East Main Street in Glen Lyon.



Group 4 of the Township Demolition Project is pictured: 128 West Main Street in Glen Lyon and 1050 East Main Avenue in Wanamie.

Zoning Board Approves Variances for Apartments in Former Pulaski School in Glen Lyon

By John Jarecki ~ Nanticoke real estate agent Alexander McNitt is planning to construct up to 33 luxury lofts and apartments in the former Pulaski School on Market Street in Glen Lyon. At an April meeting of the Luzerne County Zoning Hearing Board, he asked the Board to grant him variances to construct the apartments and, at a later time, up to 200 storage units on the property occupied by the school. He has owned the property since 2015.

Mr. McNitt is proprietor of Home & Property Management, which has an office at 118 South Market Street in Nanticoke. According to his attorney, he has been buying and renovating homes in the area for about 10 years.

Mr. McNitt's intention is that the apartments would be built for middle class families whose members would work in the new warehouses being built in the Nanticoke-Newport Township area. He does not intend these apartments to be subsidized low income housing.

The apartments will range in size from 445 square feet to 1,600 square feet. There will be a part time manager at the site, and Mr. McNitt's office in Nanticoke will be open full time. Mr. McNitt will have a 24 hour seven day maintenance contract covering the apartments. He will have gated tenant parking in the rear of the building.

Several residents in the neighborhood of the Pulaski School said they did not want the apartments to be built because of loss of privacy, potential blocking of an alleyway near the building, and disruptions caused by construction. The Zoning Hearing Board did not initially grant Mr. McNitt's request, saying that they wanted a clearer and more precise plan for the construction.

At the June meeting of the Zoning Board, Mr. McNitt again requested variances for the project, and the Board granted his request. Before actual construction begins, the Luzerne County Planning Commission will also have to approve the project.

Luzerne County Planning Commission Approves Townhouses at the Former K.M. Smith School

By John Jarecki ~ On June 9 the Luzerne County Planning Commission approved plans by developer Joseph Naparolo to construct 54 housing units on the property of the former K. M. Smith School on Robert Street in Sheatown. Mr. Naparolo has already constructed 29 apartments in the former school building. The new units will include 22 townhouses of 1,545 square feet, 20 townhouses of 860 square feet, and a three story 12 unit apartment building. The Luzerne County Zoning Hearing Board approved the project in July of 2020.

Sedor Insurance

Marcella Sedor-Kelly
Auto / Home / Business



Marcella Sedor Kelly
PO Box 86
Dallas, Pa. 18612-9998

Ph: 570239-6411

sedorinsurance@frontier.com

MADE BY JUST US

QUALITY HANDMADE WOOD FLAGS
ONE AT A TIME
"UNIQUE CHRISTMAS ITEMS"

BROUGHT TO YOU BY
DAVID & SHERRY
PROPRIETORS

99 WEST MAIN STREET
GLEN LYON, PA 18617



570-574-0374/0375

Township Events



Above pictured left is the **Spring Bingo** held on Sunday April 3 at St. Adalbert's Church Hall in Glen Lyon, a fundraiser for the Newport Township Women's Activity Group. The Group sponsors activities for Township children.

Pictured above right is the **Breakfast with the Easter Bunny** event held on April 3 at the Italian Club in Glen Lyon. The Easter Bunny arrived on the Newport Township Fire Truck, and was greeted by gleeful children. Pictured immediately right are the people who helped make the Breakfast possible. Front row: Terry Sokolowski, Marion Danko, Jackie Repotski, Chrissy Montgomery. Back row: Paul Czapracki, Ed Padagomas, Tom Wrubel, Denise Wrubel, the Easter Bunny, Missy Moore, Kayla Repotski and Sylvia Pennington.



Pictured above is the annual **Easter Egg Hunt** sponsored by the Newport Township Women's Activity Group on Saturday April 9 in the Wanamic Recreation Park. It was a cool, blustery day, and the children were out in full force. Two bicycles were chanced off and a good time was had by all.

Pictured right are the Easter Bunny's helpers: Standing, Debbie Zaleski, Karen Samuels, Rebecca Bavitz, The Easter Bunny, Sandy Wolfe, Debbie Ward, Brenda Grabowski, Hunter Wilkes, Carol Wilkes, and Cathy Ludorf holding Brayden Wilkes. Kneeling: Zack Tarnowski, Marcy Tarnowski, and Allie Tarnowski.



Township Military Banners

By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ During the month of July 2021, photo banners honoring Township natives and residents who served in the military were placed on electric power poles throughout the Township. (See *Newport Township Community News*, no. 66, Fall 2021.) In October, a second group of banners was installed. (See *Newport Township Community News*, no. 67, Winter 2022.) In May 2022, a third group of banners honoring veterans was added. However, due to the sidewalk project in Glen Lyon, only a few banners could be hung along Main Street. This project is sponsored by Newport United.

Thanks to Debbie Zaleski, Joe Hillan, Steve Phillips, John Zyla, Jack Vishnefski, Daniel Vishnefski, Township DPW employees, Vishnefski Electrical employees, and the Newport Township Fire Police who helped complete this project.

The third group consisted of forty banners: Jerry Formulak, Carl Becker, Earl Becker, Henry J. Brocki, James Burns, Stanley Domzalski, Daniel Dule, Peter Forgach, Andrew Frnsko, Albert Gregory, Alan J. Hillan, Harry Howell III, Harry Howell Jr., Thomas Kashatus, Albert J. Kobosko, Charles Koflanovich, Holly A. Matikiewicz, Patricia A. Patrician, Troy Rice, Harry Rinehamer, Joseph Rambus, Nello Roke, Selecky Family, Paul J. Shiptoski, Stanley J. Stoy, Lee Littleford, Chester Olenginski, Chester Olshefski, Bruno J. Siepietowski, Nicholas Billings, Ronald C. Womelsdorf Sr., John Samulevich, John Krasulski Jr., Walter Wojcik, Leonard Fundalewicz, Frank J. Czapla Sr, Michael Kardash, Jan Makowski, Paul Pawlush, and John Meshinski.



Above: Hanging banners on Fanucci's Hill in Glen Lyon. At right: Len Paczkowski of the Newport Township Fire Police directing traffic. The banners were taken down during the winter months.

First Holy Communicants

On Saturday, May 7, four children in Holy Spirit Parish received their First Holy Communion. Pictured left to right are: Gabriel Kamionka, Gavin Smith, Elizabeth Barchik, and Gabriella Gonzalez. Rev. Louis Kaminski, Pastor, was celebrant. The Mass took place in St. Mary's Church, Mocanaqua.



On Election Day, May 17, the Altar and Rosary Society of Holy Spirit Parish, St. Adalbert's Church in Glen Lyon, held a hoagie and bake sale. The assembly line is pictured: Carol Wilkes, Carol Howell, Carol Sobotka, Sylvia Vassia, Theresa Langan, and Heidi Jarecki. Not present in the picture is JoAnne Thomas. Paul Jarecki also assisted.



Pictured above is the 2022 F-550 Ford pickup truck with a snow plow and salt spreader purchased for the Township Department of Public Works (\$72,830). At right is the 2022 Explorer police cruiser (\$80,000.). Both vehicles are funded by LSA (gaming) grants. Left to right are: Commissioners John Zyla, Paul Czapracki, Mike Roke, Debbie Zaleski, John Vishnefski, and Township Manager Joe Hillan.



By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ The former KM Smith school building in Sheatown was purchased by real estate developer Jay Naparło in 2020, and is being renovated into apartments. One bedroom, two bedroom, and furnished executive suites are available with air conditioning, washer/dryer hookup, dishwasher, garbage disposal and off-street parking. In the future 54 more units will be available after new construction at the site is completed. For further information call 570-881-3946 or 757-593-5002. Landscaping is being completed and an open house will take place in the near future.

Primary Election Day at Wanamie, Newport Township

Opinion: There was a time when citizens could walk to their polling locale to vote. Will we see those days once again? What's next on the agenda to restrict voting in today's society?

By Tom Kashatus ~ This year 2022, an even numbered year, the primary and general election will, normally, consist of federal and state offices to be elected by the electorate of Pennsylvania. Those offices are for US Senator, US Congressman, Governor, Lieutenant Governor, State Senator, State Representative, and political party delegates at the county and local levels. There are times, due to vacancies for whatever reason, when special elections may be held, rather than appointment by political leadership, for filling terms of those offices when necessary to sustain reasonable continuity of the political process.

Newport Township voters basically followed final results for winners and losers throughout the state, county, and local levels. The results were as follows: for US Senator - current Lt. Governor John Fetterman (D) will run against TV personality Dr. Mehmet Oz (R) (who defeated hedge fund businessman Dave McCormick (R) in a hotly contested primary); for PA Governor - current PA Attorney General Josh Shapiro (D) will face off against current PA State Senator Doug Mastriano (R) who won a contested primary which included former PA Congressman Lou Barletta and former US Attorney Bill McSwain; for PA Lt. Governor - current PA Representative Austin Davis (D) will face off against current PA Representative Carrie Lewis DelRosso (R); for PA State Senator - of the 20th Senatorial District - incumbent PA State Senator Lisa Baker (R) will be opposed by political novice Jackie Baker (D) of Susquehanna County. (Note: Due to gerrymandering of Pennsylvania political subdivisions as a result of the 2020 census, incumbent State Senator John Yudichak (I) of the 14th State Senatorial District would have had to oppose incumbent Senator Lisa Baker in the newly restructured 20th Senatorial District due to residency status in the same senatorial district. This did not happen as Senator Yudichak decided to retire from office after his term expires this year.)

For PA State Representative of the 119th Legislative District, Newport Township, Nanticoke City, etc., first timers Northwest Area school teacher Vito Malacari (D) will run against youthful Plymouth Councilman Alec Ryncavage (R) after a hotly contested challenge with former WNEP news anchor Tom Williams (R). (Note: Incumbent Gerald Mullery (D) of Newport Township will retire from office after his term expires this year.) For PA State Representative of the 121st Legislative District, Wilkes Barre City, etc., incumbent Eddie "Day" Pashinski (D)

will be opposed by Eryn Harvey (R) who will test the waters for the first time on the political scene. (Note: Rep. Pashinski is a former resident of Sheatown and long time teacher for the Greater Nanticoke Area School District.)

Locally, for the Democratic Party of Ward # 1 of Newport Township, James Tarnowski and Deborah Forgach Zaleski were elected as Democrat County Committee-man and Committee-woman respectively. Successful candidates for those two positions in Ward # 2 were Anthony Seiwell and Megan Tennesen.

The best is for last. For the first time ever, Newport Township will be represented by two congressmen. Alden, Sheatown, Wanamie, and Ridgeview will be represented in the 8th Congressional District. Glen Lyon and Lee will be represented in the 9th Congressional District. This is all due to the 2020 census and the process of redistricting the political map. How did this happen? There may be logical (and/or illogical) reasons but there should be debate of this issue or at least a common sense discussion anyway.

For US Congress - of the 8th PA Congressional District, incumbent Matt Cartwright (D) of Moosic, Lackawanna County will face off against Jim Bogner (R) of Hazle Township, Luzerne County, which will be a repeat of the 2020 General Election. And for US Congress - of the 9th PA Congressional district, incumbent Dan Meuser (R) of Dallas, Luzerne County will face off against Amanda Waldman (D) of Susquehanna County.



**Joe's Worm
Castings**



FREE SAMPLES

Phone/(570) 735-7559
Call For Info and GREAT Prices!

Joe Michaels/Vermaculture

Red Wiggler Worms For Sale
Vermacompost Worms
Organic Gardening Is BETTER!
Amazing For Potting Soil

Memorial Day



Above, Memorial Day Services at Glen Lyon held by members of the Glen Lyon American Legion, VFW Post, and the Legion Auxiliary.



A lunch for Legion and VFW members was held at the Glen Lyon Legion on Newport Street following the services. Members of the Auxiliary prepared and served lunch. Pictured at right are Auxiliary members: Steph Stogoski, Heidi Jarecki, Faith Kropiewnicki, Terri Meyers, Tiffany Graham, Barbara Meyers, Stephanie O'Gorman, Allie Graham, and Eileen McMullen.



Sitting, left to right: Ron Trzeciak, "Vinny" Mitchell Sr., and Joe Molski. **Kneeling**: Krissy Blank. **Standing**, left to right: Stephanie O'Gorman, holding "Little Bit," Dillon Swicklik; A. L. Commander Shawn Swicklik Joe Goodas; Janet Molski; VFW Incoming Commander John Wildes; Joe Figlerski; VFW Out-going Commander Ed Padagomas; Francis Kirschner; Paul Kovalich; Jonathan Wildes; Eileen McMullen; Robert McDaniels; Patrick McMullen, Rear; Mike Figmic; Corrine Pegarella, Front; Jeremy Blank, Rear; Kyle Pegarella, holding Payton Pegarella; Austin Blank, Rear. Members & family & friends of A.L. Post 539 and V.F.W. Post 8353 posting flags at cemeteries for Memorial Day 2022.

Taste of the Township

Blueberries



By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ As a young boy, Paul remembers picking blueberries on the hill above his grandmother's house on Engle Street in Glen Lyon and with his father and brother on the hill north of Lee on the way to Lily Lake. Many old-timers knew where the wild blueberry bushes were in the woods. Today we pick them at several farms in the area all summer long. Nothing says summer like the taste of freshly picked

blueberries.

Blueberries are a group of perennial flowering plants that vary in size from 4 inches to 13 feet in height. with blue or purple berries. They are classified in the genus *Vaccinium* and contain more than 35 species which includes cranberries, bilberries, huckleberries and Madeira blueberries. The blueberry is a very old plant of unknown origin that grows in Europe, Asia and America. Some consider it native to Europe, North Africa, the Caucasus and Asia. In Spain it is widely spread in the forests of the mountainous areas. Elizabeth White and Dr. Frederick Coville, USDA Botanist, cultivated the first batch of domesticated blueberries in 1912. In commercial production of blueberries, the species with small, pea-size berries growing on low-level bushes are known as "lowbush blueberries" while the species with larger berries growing on taller, cultivated bushes are known as "highbush blueberries."

Blueberry Facts

1. Blueberries are certified as heart-healthy by the American Heart Association.
2. Blueberries were called "star fruits" by North American indigenous peoples because of the five-pointed star shape that is formed at the blossom end of the berry.
3. Prior to the early 20th century, blueberries were not the staple fruit we think of today, as they have only been in cultivation for about the last 100 years.
4. Canada is the leading producer of lowbush blueberries, while the United States produces some 40% of the world supply of highbush blueberries.
5. Wild blueberries reproduce by cross pollination, with each seed producing a plant with a different genetic composition, causing within the same species differences in growth, productivity, color, leaf characteristics, disease resistance, flavor, and other fruit characteristics.
6. Their parent species, *Malus sieversii*, originated in central Asia where there is a long history of permanent human settlement, with the first humans arriving some 100,000 years ago.
7. Dr. Frederick Coville had already made history in the world of U.S. botany as a field botanist on the first comprehensive, multidisciplinary expedition to Death Valley in the early 1890s. In 1911, Coville published a book entitled "Experiments in Blueberry Culture," in which he documented his research and the work on the cultivation of *Vaccinium* species in the United States. Coville's groundbreaking discovery was that blueberries require very acidic soil conditions, which was previously not understood.
8. Blueberry production in 2019 in tons: United States 308,760, Canada 176,127, Peru 142,427, Spain 53,380, Mexico 48,999.
9. Blueberries keep longer in storage than many other similar berries, making them an important forage crop that Native Americans dried and stored for the winter months.

Sources: <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Blueberry>;
<https://extension.illinois.edu/blogs>, <https://blueberry.org/about-blueberries/history-of-blueberries/>

Mom's Blueberry Buckle

Submitted by Heidi Jarecki

What is a "buckle?" Technically, "**buckle**" is a cake made with fruit added to the batter and topped with streusel. A **cobbler** is made with fresh fruit and a top crust that is not smooth like a pie crust but rather "cobbled" and coarse. It's usually dropped or spooned over the fruit, then baked. A **crisp** is a fruit dessert with a topping made of a combination of oats, flour, butter, and sugar (and sometimes nuts). The topping completely covers the fruit and is baked. A **crumble** is very similar to a crisp. Crumble toppings, however, usually do not contain oats, whereas crisp toppings do. A **Betty** (as in "Apple Brown Betty") is similar to a crisp, but has no oats in its buttery crumb topping. And rather than having the topping solely on top of the fruit, it's layered throughout, then baked. A **tart** is a pastry dish, usually shortcrust pastry, with an open top. It has a fruit based filling, sometimes made with custard.

3/4 c sugar	2 c sifted flour
1/4 c soft margarine	1/2 tsp. salt
1 egg	2 tsp. baking powder
1/2 c milk	2 c drained blueberries

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Grease and flour 9" square pan. Mix sugar, margarine, egg, and milk in large bowl. Add sifted dry ingredients and blend in berries. Spread in prepared pan. Sprinkle with topping:

1/2 c sugar
1/3 c flour
1/4 c soft margarine
1/2 tsp cinnamon

Mix ingredients with forks. Topping will be crumbly. Drop on top of batter covering entire surface.

Bake for 45-50 minutes. Test with cake tester. Recipe can be doubled for a 9 x 13 pan. Bake doubled recipe for 1 hour.



Have Newsletter, Will Travel

Pictured is John Selecky taking a break from touring Paris in April by reading the Spring edition of the Newsletter. John is sitting near the Arc de Triomphe, a monument commissioned by Napoleon I in 1806 following his victory at the Battle of Austerlitz in 1805. The Tour de France bicycle race ends near it each year. John grew up in Glen Lyon and graduated from Newport High School with the Class of 1959.

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.

NOVAK, Richard Joseph, 70, of Nanticoke, formerly of Newport Township, passed away March 11, 2022. Richard was born and raised in Glen Lyon. He attended Newport Township schools and graduated from Newport Township High School and Luzerne County Community College. Richard was a US Navy veteran and also served as a Newport Township Police Officer.

SOLEY, Ruth (nee Turner), 83, of Plymouth Township, formerly of Newport Township, died March 15, 2022. Ruth was born in Glen Lyon on December 21, 1938. She was raised in Glen Lyon and was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1956.

ADAMS, Alice E. (nee Bonning), 83, of Hunlock Creek, passed away March 18, 2022. She was born in Plymouth on August 24, 1938. Alice was the wife of Daniel Adams, who was born and raised in Wanamie, and who attended Newport Township schools.

SALVA, Edward, 81, of Shickshinny, formerly of Newport Township, passed away March 17, 2022. Edward was raised in Glen Lyon, and attended Newport Township schools.

SELECKY, Dr. Paul Anthony, of Huntington Beach, CA, formerly of Newport Township, passed away on March 20, 2022. Dr. Selecky was born on November 1, 1938; and he was the son of the late Paul R. and Helen (Jurchak) Selecky. He was raised in Glen Lyon and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1956. He attended undergraduate and medical school at the University of Pennsylvania and completed his internship as a US Naval officer at the U.S. Naval Hospital in Saint Albans, NY. His career took him to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii where he completed his naval duties; Harbor-UCLA Medical Center; and Hoag Memorial Hospital Presbyterian in Newport Beach, CA. Dr. Selecky was a distinguished leader and volunteer over the years in the medical field and as a community participant to "make a difference" throughout his lifetime. Dr. Selecky is survived by his wife of 60 years, Andrea (Novak) Selecky, also a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1958.

PIAVIS, Robert W., 83, of Lily Lake, formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away March 28, 2022. Robert was born on May 31, 1938. He was raised in Glen Lyon and was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1956. He attended Western Maryland College. Bob was a US Marine Corps veteran, serving from 1958 to 1964 and retired from the Pennsylvania State Police as a criminal investigator during his station in Shickshinny. He is survived by his wife of 61 years, Patricia (Domzalski) Pavis, also a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1958.

BONAR, Stanley J. "Patch," 88, of Alden, Newport Township, passed away April 2, 2022. He was born and raised in Alden and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1951. "Patch" was a US Army veteran serving with the 82nd Airborne and was a member of American Legion Post 350.

BOBIS, Bernard J. III, of Glen Lyon, passed away April 1, 2022. He was raised in Freeland and graduated from Bishop Hafey High School. He had been a bus driver for 14 years with White Transit in the Greater Nanticoke Area School District.

SHONE, Thaddeus "Ted," 80, of Shavertown, passed away April 7, 2022. Ted is survived by his wife of 58 years, Arlene (Rutkowski) Shone, a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1958.

HILLAN, Phoebe Ann (nee Thomas), 88, of Glen Lyon, passed away on April 18, 2022. Phoebe was born on August 28, 1933. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1951. After graduation she worked as a secretary to the Newport

Township High School principal. She was a member of Holy Spirit Parish, Saint Adalbert's Church. Phoebe and her late husband, Joseph, worked and volunteered together for many community organizations, for example, Parrish and Brown Printing, the School PTA, Girl Scout Leader, Diocesan Girl Scout Religious Emblem Counselor, Vacation Bible School for Holy Spirit Parish, Director of Religious Education, Life Member of the Altar and Rosary Society, High School Class Reunions, and Newport Township Little League. She was a dedicated newspaper carrier. Phoebe was honored by being the first recipient of the Citizenship Award for Outstanding Volunteer Service by the NTCO; and she and her husband were honored by Newport Township Little League with the re-naming of the field in Wanamie as "Hillan Field."

BENSCOTER, JoAnn Sandra (nee Naugle), 89, of Newark, DE, passed away February 16, 2022. JoAnn was born in Wanamie on September 19, 1932. She was raised in Wanamie and attended Newport Township schools.

NYPOWER, Donald A., 87, of Philadelphia, passed away on January 25, 2022. Donald was born on January 19, 1935. He was the husband of Mary Ellen (Skladzien) Nypower who was raised in Glen Lyon and was a Newport Township High School graduate with the Class of 1955.

ROCKEL, Shirley M. (nee Rule), 92, of Pond Hill, passed away December 26, 2021. Shirley was born in Nanticoke on July 29, 1929 and attended Newport Township High School.

NOWAK, Linda A., (nee Daniels), 74, of Glen Lyon, passed away April 19, 2022. Linda was born in Pittston on January 22, 1948. She was raised in Exeter and was a graduate of Exeter High School.

JABLONSKI, Sophia (nee Schraeder), 96, of Nanticoke and formerly of Newport Township, passed away April 23, 2022. Sophia was born in Glen Lyon in 1925. She was raised in Glen Lyon and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1943.

WENGRZYNEK, Richard, 86, of Dorrance Township, passed away on May 5, 2022. Richard was born on April 7, 1936. He was raised in Dorrance Township and attended Newport Township High School.

BAIGIS, Alvin Jr., 79, of Shavertown, formerly of Shickshinny and Newport Township, passed away May 10, 2022. Alvin was born in Shickshinny. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1960.

KLINETOB, Carol M. (nee Roke), 72, of Macungie, formerly of Newport Township, passed away April 1, 2022. Carol was born and raised in Glen Lyon and was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1967. She was also a graduate of Wilkes College with a degree in Medical Terminology and Saint Luke's School of Nursing in Bethlehem. She had been employed as an Oncology Nurse.

SLOSKY, Dolores A. (nee Gonshor), 94, of Nanticoke, formerly of Alden Station and Mountain Top, passed away May 13, 2022. Dolores was born on February 18, 1928 and raised in Alden. She graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1945.

STRALKA, Raymond J., 86, of Oxon Hill, MD, formerly of Newport Township, passed away on January 10, 2017. Raymond was born and raised in Glen Lyon. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School. He was also a graduate of Penn State University with a B.S. in Forestry; University of New Mexico (Meteorology); the USAF Air War College at Maxwell AFB; and Auburn University with a MBA. His career consisted of a State Forester with the PA DER; member of the National Weather Service; Chief Meteorological Forecaster for the 104th Weather Flight in the Maryland National Guard; and his own forestry consulting business. Preceding active duty in the Air force, Raymond was commissioned as a 2nd Lieutenant after completing ROTC at Penn State. He retired as a Lieutenant Colonel after serving 30 years in the Maryland Air National Guard.

STRALKA, Wanda Marie (nee Sharkowicz), 91, of Oxon Hill, MD, and formerly of Newport Township, passed away in Catonsville, MD, on April 10, 2022. Wanda was born and raised in Wanamie and graduated from Newport Township High School. Wanda received her nursing training at King County Hospital, Brooklyn, NY, and a B.S. Degree in nursing from George Mason University. Wanda was predeceased by her husband of 64 years, Ray Stralka.

DIEHL, Dawn Marie, 58, of Glen Lyon, passed away February 17, 2022. Dawn was born in Jersey City, NJ and was formerly a preschool teacher.

McADARRA, Mary L., 72, of Wilkes Barre, formerly of Newport Township, passed away May 20, 2022. Mary was born on October 17, 1949.

GEORGE, Willard L. Sr., 81, of Dorrance Township, passed away May 21, 2022. Willard was born in Slocum Township on September 2, 1940. He was raised in Slocum Township and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1958.

MORUCCI, David R., 87, of Bloomsburg, formerly of Newport Township, died on October 28, 2019. David “Buddy” was born in Glen Lyon on May 26, 1932. He was raised in Glen Lyon and graduated from Newport Township High School. He was predeceased by his wife Ina Harcharick Morucci.

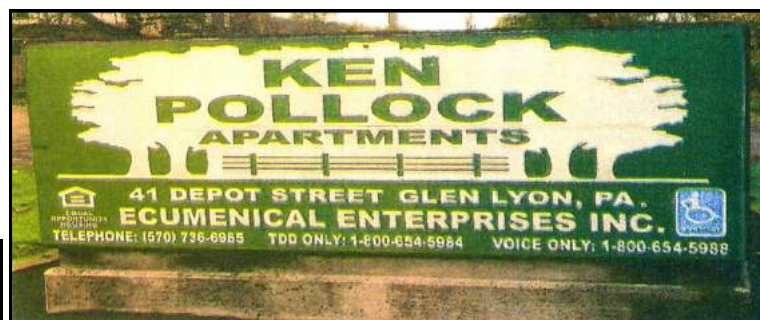
MORUCCI, Ina Claire (nee Harcharick), 86, of Bloomsburg, formerly of Newport Township, died on May 20, 2022. Ina was born in Glen Lyon on October 17, 1935. She was raised in Glen Lyon and attended Newport Township High School.

MAY, Carl R. Jr., 54, of Wanamie, passed away May 18, 2022. Carl was predeceased by his wife, Jamie L. May, who passed away in 2016.

WINCKOSKI, Sharon Ann (nee Vishnefski), 54, of Milford, Delaware, and formerly of Newport Township, passed away on December 2, 2021. Sharon was born in Wilkes Barre on July 22, 1967. She was raised in Glen Lyon and graduated from John S. Fine High School with the Class of 1985. She also graduated from College Misericordia receiving a B.S. in Occupational Therapy. Sharon had worked at Genesis Healthcare-Milford Center as an Occupational Therapist and was a member of A.O.T.A.



Above is pictured members of **Newport High School Class of 1958** who met recently at the Parkway Diner on the San Souci Highway. Class members and friends met to discuss the possibility of a 65th year Class Reunion. Sitting left to right are: Ben Dekutoski, Marie (Augustine) Cardone, Barbara (Barski) Yacuboski, Roman Repotski, Julianna (Sopko) Zarzycki, Betsy (Littleford) Matzoni, Maggie and John Sokoloski, and Tom Kashatus.



Low and moderate income rentals and elderly rentals include electric range, refrigerator, off street parking, community room, coin operated laundry, video surveillance, handicap assessable.
Applications accepted by appointment. Equal Housing. Call: (570) 736-6965 or Pat O'Brien



THOR'S SELF STORAGE

570-735-1600

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

HOURS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY



4. Firefly light is produced under nervous control within special cells (photocytes) richly supplied with air tubes (tracheae). Firefly light is a cold light with approximately 100 percent of the energy given off as light and only a minute amount of heat. By contrast, an incandescent light bulb is only 10 percent efficient—90 percent of the energy is lost as heat. Fireflies must be more efficient to save energy.

5. Firefly luciferase is used in forensics, and the enzyme has medical uses – in particular, for detecting the presence of ATP or magnesium.

6. Firefly populations are thought to be declining worldwide. Fireflies face threats including habitat loss and degradation, pesticide use, climate change and light pollution. Light pollution is the number one cause for the decrease in firefly population. Artificial lighting disturbs the communication between fireflies. Luckily, there is a simple way for everyone to reverse this trend: keep outdoor lighting off, or at least to a minimum, at night.

7. Fireflies have featured in human culture around the world for centuries. The Chinese thought these twinkling little creatures came from burning grass. A European legend warned that if a lightning bug flew in the window, someone was going to die. The Aztecs used the term firefly metaphorically, meaning a spark of knowledge in a world of ignorance or darkness. In Japan, the emergence of fireflies signifies the anticipated changing of the seasons. Firefly viewing is a special aesthetic pleasure of midsummer, celebrated in parks that exist for that one purpose. Throughout Japan, fireflies represent departed souls, often of heroes. The Vietnamese consider them similarly, while in China they are the souls of scholars who study the night.

8. The firefly or “lucicula” appears in Canto XXVI of Dante’s *Inferno*, written in the 14th century.

The Flora and Fauna of Newport Township Fireflies

By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ As children many of us have had the wonderful experience of chasing and catching fireflies during the summer. Even to us as adults, fireflies are as intriguing and mysterious as the night itself.

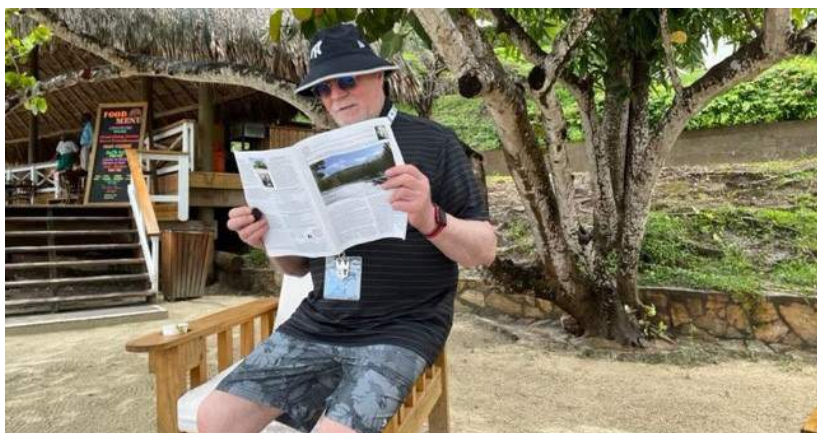
Fireflies, also called lightning bugs, are beetles in the Lampyridae family and Coleoptera order with more than 2,000 described species, many of which are light-emitting mainly during twilight, to attract mates. They are soft-bodied and range from 5 to 25 mm in length. The flattened, dark brown or black body is often marked with orange or yellow.

Fireflies undergo complete metamorphosis with four distinct stages: egg, larva, pupa, and adult. The complete life cycle can take anywhere from a couple of months to two to three years or more. Firefly larvae are voracious predators of soft-bodied invertebrates. They typically hunt for their prey in moist soil or marshy areas, using their mandibles to inject prey with paralyzing neurotoxins. (Insect mandibles are a pair of appendages near the insect’s mouth. Their function is typically to grasp, crush, or cut the insect’s food, or to defend against predators or rivals.) Once their quarry is immobilized, they secrete digestive enzymes that liquefy the prey before consumption. The adult diet varies among firefly species: some are predatory, while others feed on plant pollen or nectar.

The method by which fireflies produce light is perhaps the best known example of bioluminescence. When oxygen combines with calcium, adenosine triphosphate (ATP) and the chemical luciferin in the presence of luciferase, a bioluminescent enzyme, light is produced. The larvae of all firefly species are bioluminescent. However, not all adults are capable of producing light. Fireflies can be split into three main groups depending on their style of courtship: daytime dark fireflies, which are active during the day and do not produce light; glow-worm fireflies, whose flightless females produce long-lasting glows; and flashing fireflies (a.k.a. lightning bugs), which are probably our best-known fireflies due to the quick, bright flashes they produce.


Firefly Facts

1. Fireflies are found all over the world in temperate and tropical areas, on every continent except Antarctica. Flashing species occur primarily east of the Mississippi River, although more localized flashing populations have also been reported in the western US. The western fauna is dominated by glow-worms and daytime dark fireflies.
2. Most fireflies produce short, rhythmic flashes in a pattern characteristic of the species. The rhythmic flash pattern is part of a signal system that brings the sexes together. Both the rate of flashing and the amount of time before the female’s response to the male are important.
3. The flashing part of fireflies is called a lantern, and the firefly controls the flashing with neural stimulation and nitric oxide. The males often synchronize their flashes with one another during courtship, a capacity called *entraining* (responding to an external rhythm) once thought only possible in humans but now recognized in several animals. Colors of firefly lights range widely among different species, from yellow-green to orange to turquoise to a bright poppy red.



Newsletter Goes on a Cruise!

Pictured above is Steve Masakowski of Alden visiting Roatan, an island in the Caribbean about 40 miles off the northern coast of Honduras. Located near the Mesoamerican Barrier Reef, the largest barrier reef in the Caribbean Sea (second largest worldwide after Australia’s Great Barrier Reef), Roatan has become an important cruise ship, scuba diving and eco-tourism destination in Honduras. Christopher Columbus visited Roatan on his fourth voyage to the New World in 1502-1504. Steve is relaxing at the beach on Turquoise Bay reading the Winter 2022 edition of the Newport Township Community News.



VISHNEFSKI

ELECTRICAL INC


Daniel Vishnefski

570-574-3785

daniel@viselectrical.com

152 Fair Lane

Nanticoke, PA 18634

www.viselectrical.com 

No job too small

- Residential
- Commercial
- Industrial
- All work Guaranteed

Licensed and Insured #PA105381

The Next Generation



Riley Baird



Front row, left to right are Bob Baird, Riley, brother Brandon Baird, and Colleen Baird.

Riley Baird of Glen Lyon

By Krissy Blank ~ Riley Baird of Glen Lyon started playing basketball nine years ago. On February 3rd of this year, she reached her 1,000th point for the GNA Trojanettes. Riley said that it was such an honor. In her senior year she made it into the Trojanette record book for setting records for the most points in a game (42), most points in a half (29) and most points in a quarter (23). She also tied the school record for the most three point goals in a game with 8. Here is a little bit about this young lady. Not only does she play basketball, she also

plays field hockey and softball. Her fondest memory is making all the friends she did.

Riley's parents, Bob and Colleen, are her biggest fans! She tells future high school athletes to enjoy every moment of their high school career. Riley spends her free time with family and friends and her boyfriend. She can't live without her dogs. After she graduates, she will attend West Virginia University and plans a career in the medical field. In ten years, she sees herself working in her dream job and living with her family.

Riley, on behalf of Newport Township residents, we want to congratulate you on your 1,000 points and wish you the best of luck.



J.J. Bielecki of Sheatown

By Krissy Blank ~ J.J. Bielecki of Sheatown graduated from Greater Nanticoke High School with the Class of 2021. He recently graduated from boot camp with the Marine Corps.

Here is a little about this fine gentleman. When he was a kid he wanted to be a rock star. He loves fishing, hunting, hanging out in the woods, and enjoys being with his family and friends. J.J. wanted to be a Marine because of his grandfather who is his hero and to serve his country. The hardest part of boot camp was being away from his hometown, family, friends, and always being on the move all day without a minute of down time.

When asked what advice he would give to future recruits he said anyone thinking about the military must realize it's definitely not for everyone and to make sure they are 100% committed to their decision before joining any branch of service. His most memorable moment of boot camp was receiving his EGA after Crucible. (The Eagle, Globe, and Anchor is the official emblem and insignia of the United States Marine Corps. It is commonly referred to as an EGA. The Crucible is the 54-hour culmination to the transformation of recruit training. It is a physically and mentally challenging event that involves food and sleep deprivation and the completion of various obstacles for the potential Marine to negotiate.)

One word to describe J.J. would be "passionate." In ten years, he sees himself either still being in the Marine Corps or being successful in the civilian world with a family and a place of his own. J.J., on behalf of the residents of Newport Township, we congratulate you on making Private First Class. Your community, friends, and family are so proud of you. We wish you the best.



The History of Kirmar Park

Part II: 1907--Labor Day, 1908

By Heidi Jarecki ~ Kirmar Park was once situated on West Kirmar Avenue between Alden and Wanamie. It opened in 1896 and was originally called Power House Grove. It consisted of a large open pavilion, a baseball field, and a foot race track. It became a popular venue for picnics, dances, and private parties. Improvements were made each year, to include swings, revolving barrels, a bowling alley, and a hand-ball court. Roller skating was introduced in the summer of 1906. In the fall of 1906, the pavilion was closed in for the first time and steam heat was installed. This prolonged its use during the winter months. Occasional dances were held, but it became a hotbed of basketball activity. The sport of "basket ball" was in its infancy, having been invented by Dr. James Naismith in 1891. Locally, it caught on quickly and there were multiple teams in each town. (Please see "The History of Kirmar Park, Part I: 1896-1906" in the Spring 2022 edition of the Newport Township Community News.)

It should be noted that there were few athletic opportunities for girls and women at the turn of the century. It wasn't until the 19th Amendment was ratified by Congress on August 28, 1920 when women had the right to vote. The 19th Amendment didn't guarantee suffrage to women of color either. That was another long fight. Women were encumbered by their long skirts and other social mores that limited athletic participation. They played tennis, raced in occasional foot races and sometimes rode bicycles. Roller skating and dancing were deemed socially acceptable. Given the popularity of basketball, only a few colleges and universities supported women's basketball teams. During this time period, basketball, baseball and other sports were mostly limited to boys and men.

The rules for basketball have evolved over time, and there were four notable differences in 1907. The games consisted of two halves of 15 minutes each, which is why the scores were low by today's standards; the "basket" had a bottom, which necessitated removal of the ball every time a score was made; dribbling was restricted (one dribble per pass); and there were various weight classifications.

During the winter of 1906-1907, basketball games were played at the Power House Pavilion several times a week. Teams advertised in the local papers. On January 9, 1907, the following appeared in the Wilkes-Barre Record: "The Alden team challenges the St. Clements of Wilkes-Barre to a game at the Power House on Wednesday, January 23. Answer through the Record or address John T. Runyan, manager." Such was the popularity of the sport that any new high schools that were built included gyms that doubled as basketball courts. The Newport High School team was obliged to play at the Pavilion and other places until the gym in the new High School was completed in about 1921.

The first game of 1907 was on Wednesday January 2 between the Jolly Five of Alden and the ex-High School Team of Nanticoke. Alden beat the Nanticoke team by a score of 68 to 16, an unusually high score. Two nights later the Wanamie Athletics and Alden team played the first of a three-game series to decide the championship of teams playing at the Pavilion, Alden being victorious with the score of 31 to 20. So eager were the players that second games were often played at halftime of the first games. On Monday, January 7, it was announced that the Naskeag and Wanamie teams would play, and between halves the Monarchs of Plymouth would play the Nanticoke Orioles. And the second game of the series was played on January 9, with the Monitors and Pirates, both of Nanticoke, between halves. Alden beat



Pictured left is Dr. James Naismith (1861-1939). Naismith left his athletics director position at McGill University in Montreal to teach physical education at the YMCA International Training School in Springfield, Massachusetts. In 1891, Naismith, tasked by his boss to create an indoor sports game to help athletes keep in shape as they endured the cold New England winters, invented basketball. He is also credited with designing the first football helmet. He penned the first basketball rulebook, and established the basketball program at the University of Kansas.

9 Things You Need to Know about the Origins of Basketball

1. THE FIRST BASKETBALL WASN'T.

It was a soccer ball.

2. THE MORE THE MERRIER.

Nowhere in the original rules is the number of players per side specified. Dr. Naismith, pictured above, wanted a game adaptable enough to include whoever wanted to play. For a while the crowd on the court was a default 18, nine per side, because that's how many showed up for the first game. In 1897, though, the starting five was formalized, and substitutions allowed. But it wasn't until 1920 that a replaced starter could return to a game—just once—and not until 1945 that unlimited substitutions became the rule.

3. NO DRIBBLING ALLOWED.

In the beginning, a player could not advance the ball himself. Rather, he had to throw it from wherever he caught it. The first team credited with advancing the ball by dribbling it played at Yale in 1897. Official allowances for the dribble—just one per possession initially—were adopted four years later.

4. NO HARM, NO FOUL.

Shouldering, holding, pushing, tripping, or otherwise striking an opponent was never okay. But such offenses weren't recorded as personal fouls until 1910, with the advent of a rule disqualifying a player for committing four of them. That total was raised to five in 1946, in the inaugural rules of the Basketball Association of America (the original name of the National Basketball Association), and to six the next year.

5. "BASKET BALL" WAS NOT A EUPHEMISM.

The original description of what constituted a goal—"when the ball is thrown or batted from the grounds into the basket and stays there"—held until 1913, when open-ended nets replaced closed, woven cast-iron rims which had replaced peach baskets in the mid-1890s. When a basket was made, someone had to climb a ladder and retrieve the ball.

6. IT WAS ALMOST TACKLE BASKETBALL.

When the ball landed out of bounds, possession was determined by throwing it down court and seeing which team touched it first. That's one wrinkle Naismith didn't quite think through; scrambles to be first to the ball resulted in seriously injurious confrontations. Thus, the rule change in 1913, giving the ball to whichever team hadn't touched it last.

7. EARLY REFEREES NEEDED WATCHES.

That's because one of the official duties of early refs was timekeeping. Then again, there wasn't that much time to keep: the 24-second shot clock wasn't instituted until 1954, to combat stalling tactics NBA teams had begun to employ.

8. THE ORIGINAL GAME WAS BRIEF.

Naismith envisioned two 15-minute halves, with five minutes' rest between. When the BAA was formed in 1946, the two halves were rejiggered as four quarters of 12 minutes each to give fans more ball for their buck.

9. NOW THAT'S AN IDEA: OVERTIME BY CONSENSUS!

In the case of a tie, Naismith stipulated that the game could be continued "by agreement of the captains" until one more goal was made. It wasn't until the 1960s that such sudden death gave way to a five-minute overtime period.

Sources: www.mentalfloss.com; www.biography.com; *On the Origins of Sports: The Early History and Original Rules of Everybody's Favorite Games*, by Gary Belsky and Neil Fine, Artisan, 2016.

Wanamie with the score of 21 to 9. The third game was played Wednesday, January 16 and Alden won again by the score of 38 to 14.

Among the teams that played at the Pavilion that first winter were: Nanticoke High School Scrubs, Nanticoke High School Reserves, Naskeag of Nanticoke, St. Clement's of Wilkes-Barre, Nanticoke Orioles, Hillman Academy, the Rexalls of Plymouth, the Silent Five of Wilkes-Barre, the Pittston Comets, the Franklin Athletic Association, The Olympics, the Wilkes-Barre High School team, the St. Mary's team of Wilkes-Barre, the YMCA, the Alden second team, the Power House Defenders, the Centennials of Nanticoke, the Calvary Monarchs, Young Americus, the Susquehanna Basket Ball Team, the Blue Bells of Alden, the Winters of Nanticoke, The B.I.A. (Boys Industrial Association) Defenders, the C.S.C. (Congregation of Holy Cross, abbreviated CSC) Laurels, the All-Stars, the Honey Pot Stars, the Ridge Street Bottlers, the Hanover team, the Bliss team, the Nanticoke Brothers, the Knickerbockers, and the Keystone Juniors.

Teams were constantly being formed, disbanded, and re-organized. Players were often instructed to take a particular trolley car so that they would arrive at the Pavilion at the same time. And if a team failed to show up, they were sometimes chastised in the newspapers, for example: "The manager of the Alden team would like to know why the Wilkes-Barre Defenders failed to show up at the Power House pavilion on Wednesday (March 6, 1907) evening as they had agreed, as the large crowd which had gathered to witness the contest had to be disappointed."

On March 27, it was reported that "an interesting game of basket ball was witnessed at the Wanamie Power House pavilion last night when the Bliss Electricians and the Bliss Graphites (machinists) played a tie game. The final score was 17 to 17." The game was played "to settle a long-standing dispute." As previously mentioned, the teams had various weight classifications. On Saturday April 6, 1907, the following appeared in the Wilkes-Barre Record: "The Jolly Five of Alden challenge any ninety-five pound team in the county to a game in the Power House Pavilion on Thursday evening. Answer through the Record."

As Spring approached and basketball was winding down, Marshall's Band of Wanamie held a dance at the Pavilion on April 1, 1907. As reported, "A large crowd from Glen Lyon and Nanticoke attended and were well pleased with the music. Six couples entered the waltzing



A 1907 Bridal Gown

contest, which was won by Myron Ormes of Glen Lyon and Miss Grace Royrdon of Nanticoke. After the dance the band journeyed to serenade Mr. and Mrs. Fred Horlacher who were married earlier in the day. After showing how much noise they could make they were invited to partake of a dainty lunch." Fred Horlacher, the center for the Wanamie A.A. team, was well known at the Pavilion. What a delight for his bride!

One of the last games of the season was played on Monday, April 8. "The Auchincloss breaker boys and the inside employees [sic] played a basket ball game at the Power House pavilion on Monday evening, the breaker boys winning by the score of 33 to 6." On April 13, "the Centennial basket ball team whitewashed the Keystone team last evening at the power house. Score 50 to 4."

During the month of May, the enclosures were removed from the pavilion and the grounds were made ready for baseball games, dances, and picnics. "The People's Street Railway Company is preparing to make this year the greatest in the history of the Power House Grove. Men are at work cleaning the grounds, repairing and making several changes. The ball diamond is being changed so that the fielders will have better positions and the grounds be more satisfactory. The first picnic will be held this year on May 18 by the Power House Defenders." That same day the first baseball game of the summer was played between the Defenders of Wanamie and the Brothers of Nanticoke. A week later on May 25, the Nanticoke Brothers had a picnic and played a game with Glen Lyon. Many local teams began to develop their own baseball fields in their respective towns and the Power House

Grove was not as busy with games. On May 25, "the Alden and Wanamie base ball teams will play at Alden."

Power House Grove was not the only game in town. San Souci Park (formerly known as Hanover Grove and later Hanover Park) which was located where Hanover High School is now, made substantial improvements in 1905. "Perhaps the first thing to be erected will be the auto speedway." There was a lake nearby that was enlarged, a two story pavilion was erected which included "the finest dancing floors which it is possible to build, and there will be a full band hired for the management to play at all dances. The second floor will be divided into two private dancing halls, where private dances only will be given. Spacious balconies opening out of the dancing hall will be constructed and there refreshments will be served." In May of 1907, it included seventeen amusements, including these new ones: "Pavilion Theatre where vaudeville performances will be given, bowling alleys, shooting gallery, [and] Ferris wheel. Several of the others have been improved, notably the roller skating rink, which now has the finest floor in this part of the State, and the miniature railway, the tracks having been extended so that nearly a half mile ride is now given." There were similar parks in Wilkes-Barre, Mountain Top, and Hazleton. Stiff competition for Power House Grove!

From 1868 to 1970, Memorial Day was always held on May 30. The Uniform Monday Holiday Act moved its date to the last Monday of May to increase the number of three-day weekends for federal employees. The Memorial Day picnic sponsored by the Stickney Band of Nanticoke was held on Thursday, May 30. The big attraction was a contest for a \$10 gold piece. As advertised, "Dancing will be indulged in all day and music for this popular amusement will be furnished by the full band. Nanticokeans should patronize the picnic and other various enjoyments of



1907 \$10 Gold Piece

the Stickney Band, which entertains many on the warm summer evenings by outdoor concerts in the park. In this manner the band is able to purchase new musical instruments, not mentioning music." On May 31, it was reported "From early morning and continuing until the late afternoon cars were crowded conveying the people from the town to Wilkes-Barre, where the auto races, base ball game, circus, and numerous other amusements were taking place. In the city Nanticokeans were seen everywhere and all reported having a good time. St. Mary's Band of this town (Nanticoke) conducted the picnic at Sans Souci yesterday afternoon which was nicely crowded with people not only from Nanticoke, but in fact from all over the valley. At the Power House Grove the Stickney Band held their annual picnic, which resulted in a big success for the band men." One mishap involved Arthur Bellas who had his right leg broken above the ankle while attending the picnic. He was taken to his home in Sheatown and the next morning Dr. Moore was summoned. Two days prior, Arthur's brother Horace injured his foot badly in the mines at Stearns Station. That \$10.00 gold piece that was promised at the picnic was postponed until July 1.

Picnics and baseball games continued through the summer. On Saturday June 8, the Brotherhood of America of Alden held a picnic and a game between the YMCA of Wilkes-Barre and Alden was played. The YMCA team won by a score of 8 to 5. On June 19, the German Arbeiter Verein (Worker's Association) of Nanticoke held a picnic and the following week the G.M.P., a Polish order, held its picnic. On June 26, a baseball game was played between Nanticoke and Wanamie. Swanberry, described as the "crack" of the team, pitched for Wanamie. On July 1, as previously promised, the Stickney Band held a drawing for a \$10.00 gold piece and a ton of coal. The \$10.00 gold piece is worth over \$1,000.00 today. The price of a ton of coal in 1907 was \$4.50 (\$135.37 in today's money.) The winning tickets were announced in the paper. Admission to dances varied between 15 and 25 cents.

On July 11, "Four regular players of the Alden base ball team and a number of the pick-ups gave the Wanamie team a run for their money in a spirited game. The score during the game was close, at times tied, and at the ending of the ninth inning, the Wanamieites succeeded in passing one man over the base with a winning run, score 8 to 7."

A novelty occurred on July 13, when Joseph Beeunas of Wanamie issued a challenge to anyone to a rock drilling contest (down hole in 10 minutes time). He was willing to arrange a contest for any sum of money.

On July 15, the local branch of White Eagles held a picnic which included a waltzing contest. A panel of judges decided unanimously that

Thomas Werth of Nanticoke and Miss Katherine Freely of Wilkes-Barre were the winners. Three days later, the Zion Reformed Church held its picnic. "Cars will leave the square every half hour. The Stickney Band will furnish the music for dancing." Baseball games sometimes took place to avenge a loss. "The locals (Nanticoke) were defeated by Wanamie on the local diamond last week and sure revenge is the only thing thought of for tonight."

On Wednesday July 17, "Marshall's Band of Wanamie rendered music for the Power House Defenders baseball team at their picnic and dance. There was a good crowd in attendance. Ask Shorty Womelsdorf he will tell you about the music rendered."

The next picnic was on Saturday July 20. The United Mine Workers organized dancing by St. Mary's Band and several sporting contests, including a 100 yard dash, a bag race, a tug of war between the Deep and Old Shaft Team and the No. 2 Shaft Team, with prizes of \$1.00, \$1.50, and \$2.00. Two baseball games were played. The mines were idle that day.

The Stickney Band held a dance on Tuesday evening, July 30, and the following day, Marshall's Band held a picnic and dance. It was announced that the Power House Defenders, a baseball team, would hold a picnic and baseball game between Wanamie and Alden on August 3. Alden was victorious: "Swanberry was hit by the heavy swatters of the [Alden] team and did not seem to hold them down at any stage of the game. It seemed to be a day off for Swanberry. Bierly was too much for the Wanamie chaps when hits meant runs."

On Tuesday August 6, the Moxies played the Wanamie Juniors, and the Stickney Band held a dance that same evening. The German Order D.O.H. No. 559, German Redmen held a picnic on Saturday August 17. And on August 20, the Stickney Band held a concert and dance. Four days later, Marshall's Band held a picnic and dance.

The Eagles baseball team held a clam bake at the Grove on Sunday August 25. Rufus Howard, the chef at the Eagles' Club served the clams. A baseball game was also played. Nearly \$100.00 (\$3,008.00 in today's money) was realized and the team was able to purchase new uniforms. Uniforms typically cost \$1.00 to \$2.00 (\$30.76 to \$61.52). On Saturday, August 31, a picnic was held and two baseball games played: Wanamie vs. Alden, and the Plymouth Reds and East End.

Labor Day was celebrated on Monday September 2. Local young men were itching to play basketball, and the first game of the 1907-1908 season was played on Monday September 16 between the Eagles quintet and five from Warrior Run. On September 20, the Wanamie Juniors accepted a game with the Brookside Stars. And on September 25, the Orioles basketball team held its first practice.

A dance was held on Wednesday October 2 and the Polander Hill Stars of Alden held the last picnic of 1907 on Thursday, October 3. The pavilion was enclosed for the winter months and basketball games began in earnest. On Saturday October 5, a game was played between the Centennial Juniors of Nanticoke and the Wanamie High School Juniors. On Tuesday October 8, the Askam team played the Anthracites of Nanticoke, and the season was well under way.

Regular games between the same two teams were played on Saturdays. "The rivalry that existed between the Nanticoke and Wilkes-Barre basket ball teams is outclassed by the rivalry which exists between the Young Americus team, captained by Percy Lock, and the Blue Bells, captained by Carter Bache. Every Saturday these youths battle for supremacy at the Power House pavilion at Wanamie with as much vim as though the championship of Northeastern Pennsylvania was at stake." It was noted when a team sported new uniforms: "The Warrior Run Quintet play at Power House, Wanamie, this evening and will wear their new uniforms for the first time."

Games were played any day of the week. On Friday, November 1, the Nanticoke Orioles defeated the Keystones by a score of 17 to 15. On Saturday November 2, the Centennials of Nanticoke played the Jaspers, the Centennials winning by a score of 24 to 13. And on Monday November 4, the Centennials challenged the Young Anthracites to

a game. On Wednesday, November 6, the Rexalls of Plymouth played the Alden Superbas. The game ended with Alden winning by the lopsided score of 65 to 8. On Friday November 8, the Orioles played the Wyoming Americans and a second game was played between the White Eagles of Plymouth and the Orioles.

All of this activity kept the People's Street Railway busy. Repairs were made immediately to keep the cars running, otherwise the players generally had no recourse but to walk to the Pavilion. On Thursday, November 7, 1907, "Traffic was stopped on the Glen Lyon line of the People's Street Railway for some time Thursday evening, caused by the falling of the trolley wire just below the power house. The company's force was soon at work."

As previously mentioned, the various basketball teams had weight restrictions. The Jaspers of Nanticoke were a 95-100 pound team, while the Wanamie team challenged any team under the weight of 145 pounds. The Wanamie team was undefeated in ten games on November 11. The players were: forwards, Morgan and Swanberry; Horlacher was the center, and the guards were Bauers and E. Womelsdorf. Charlie Blackburn served as manager and sometimes as a player. On November 12, it was reported: "[A game] took place between the Power House Defenders of Wanamie, and the Plymouth Crescents, which resulted in a victory for the Wanamie team by a score of 39 to 31. This team has not been defeated this season, having won eleven consecutive games against the best second-class teams in this county." More than one family member played on teams. T. Turner and J. Turner played for the Alden team, and P. Swanberry and J. Swanberry played for the Wanamie team. On Thursday, November 14, Wanamie suffered their first loss to the Anthracites by a score of 26 to 20.

Occasionally teams were short a player or two, and last minute substitutions were made. On Tuesday, November 19, "an interesting game of basket ball took place at the Power House pavilion between the Wanamie and the All Stars from Wilkes-Barre. The game would have been more interesting had all the players of the All Stars been present. Three of their players were disabled, and substitutes [from Wanamie] had to be used. The score was 26-18." The game must go on!

Roller skating was still popular, although basketball games took up most of the Power House schedule. The Criterion was a large hall on Shea Street in Nanticoke, where 3-mile skating races were held throughout the winter months. Dances were held Thursday and Saturday evenings, and skating races were held on Fridays. As previously mentioned, San Souci Park also offered roller skating and dancing.

Teams advertised in the local papers for games, and the arrangements were made by the managers, usually by responding in the paper. Phone numbers began appearing as a means of contact. There was a rise of many independent telephone companies after Alexander Graham Bell's patents expired in 1893 and 1894. In 1899, a new phone company, the People's Telephone Company, began installing wires in the Wyoming Valley and in 1900, phone numbers were distinguished as "old" phone numbers and "new" phone numbers. A few years later, the winter of 1907-1908, was when telephone numbers were sporadically placed in the basketball ads as a means of contact. On Friday November 22, 1907, the following was placed in the Times Leader: "If the Nanticoke Orioles wish the C.S.C. Laurels to come to Power House Pavilion tonight, kindly telephone 1302, new 'phone, and ask for Williams or Sandow." On December 5, 1907, the following appeared: "The Nanticoke Elites challenge the B.I.A. Seniors of Wilkes-Barre or the Keystones of Plymouth to a game of basket ball at the Wanamie Power House on Friday evening, December 6. Answer through the Record or call up old 'phone 124-B between the hours of 12 and 1 or after 4." Telephones were still relatively few and far between. In 1904, over three million phones in the United States were connected by manual switchboard exchanges and by 1910, that number grew to 5.8 million.

For the most part, the basketball teams were evenly matched. Occasionally, there were extremely lopsided scores, such as 46 to 18, 19-2, 22-6, 60-29, 48-0, and 101-14. All in the short span of two fifteen-minute halves. And some of the teams had interesting names. The Silent Five of Wilkes-Barre had three members of the team who were unable to speak. The Swastikas of Nanticoke interpreted their name as a symbol of



Baseball Uniform, 1907



1907 Western Electric Telephone

prosperity, auspiciousness, and good luck. The Keystones of Plymouth probably took their name from Pennsylvania's nickname, the Keystone State for its geographical centrality to the 13 original colonies. The Knickerbockers took their name from knickerbockers or knickers, a form of men's or boys' baggy-kneed breeches that were popular in early 20th-century America. The Invincibles took some heat with that name: "The Swastika basket ball team would like to hear from the so-called Invincibles concerning a game for Friday night (January 3, 1908) at the power house."

On December 26, 1907, the following ad appeared in the Times Leader: "Thomas Cooper would like to meet Albert Bonner in a six round bout at the power house pavilion any night during this month." There was a local boxer named Jimmie Bonner of Summit Hill in Carbon County who was known to be a fierce opponent. Thomas Cooper lived on Hanover Street in Nanticoke and played basketball with the Nanticoke Jaspers. It is not known whether the fight ever took place. Thomas was employed as a laborer at the Susquehanna Coal Company in Glen Lyon. The following year, Thomas sustained a badly smashed hand while working with a diamond drill. His hand became caught in the cog wheel of the machinery. He was 28 years old at the time of the accident. This was probably the first boxing match to be proposed at the Pavilion.

Basketball games were usually played just for the competition. Occasional purses made it more interesting. On January 1, 1908, "the Hanover basket ball team accept the challenge of the Askam team to a game on Thursday evening at the Power House for \$10 or \$20 as previously announced." These purses were likely put up by businesses or collected from admission fees. "The Askam team defeated the Hanover basket ball team by a score of 17-12. At the end of the last half, the game was a tie, at 12 points, and ten minutes more were played by the two teams, the Askam five getting the best of the limited time and winning the wager of \$10.00."

It was noted when a "small" team beat a "tall" team. On January 4, 1908: "Last evening on Power House Pavilion, the Orioles of Nanticoke defeated the strong B.I.A. Seniors by a one-sided score of 50-7. Last evening's game proved that though the Oriole five were much smaller in stature than their opponents, they were by far their superiors in the basket ball realm." Injuries were reported: "At the basket ball game last evening in the excitement and rush Neal Saxon received an injury to his nose which caused the blood to run. It took some time to stop the flow. The injury is not serious."

The Power House Pavilion was dependent on power for lights and heat supplied by the power house of the People's Street Railway. On January 13, 1908, "William Warne, employed at the power house...was engaged in putting a globe in a socket, when he received a considerable shock and had one hand painfully burned. Warne stood upon the floor, which was wet, and grasping the socket with one hand, attempted to place the globe, but must have touched the socket with the other hand also, thus making a short circuit. The top of one finger was badly burned as was the palm of the hand. Fellow workmen of the young man, seeing his plight, broke the wire from the ceiling, releasing him." What a freakish accident! On February 16, a streetcar jumped a track at the power house and caused considerable delay. On March 10, it was announced that K.M. Smith, the President of the Railway, had traveled to Philadelphia and made arrangements for more and larger electrical machinery for the power house. The traffic had increased to the point that extra cars must be available on several days of the week. The amount of power was not sufficient, particularly on the hills. Installation of a new Ball & Wood engine was completed the week of June 15, 1908. "The new engine is of greater power and will give more efficient service."

Basketball games continued throughout January, February, and March of 1908, with new teams constantly being formed. On Monday February 10, it was reported: "In a fast and interesting game at the Power House Pavilion on Saturday afternoon, a team called the Sons of Rest defeated the Never Sweats by the score of 49 to 30." The Pickwicks, the Pyramids, and the Y.M.L.S were other new teams to play at the Pavilion. Series continued to be played: "Managers of the Alden and ex-High School basket ball teams yesterday (February 14) completed arrangements for a series of three games for the second class championship of Luzerne County." Teams from all over the Valley came to play. On March 6, 1908, the Warrior Run team defeated the Hanover team; on March 13, the Nanticoke Orioles played the Pittston

Crescents, and on March 20, the Orioles played the West Pittston High School team. The Newport High School team was in the thick of the competition, losing to the Blue Bells of Nanticoke on March 19. There were games almost every night of the week, and the Pavilion management kept up with it all.

Things slowed down during April, 1908, and no activity was reported. Presumably preparations for summer activities were underway. The enclosures were again removed, and the grounds groomed for picnics and baseball games.

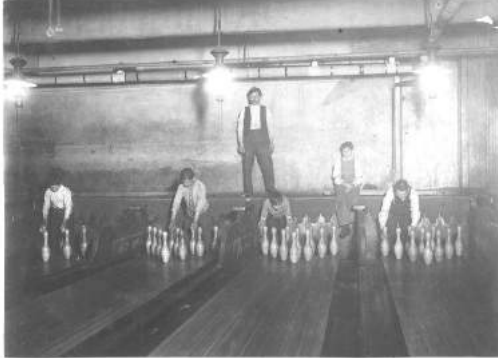
On May 1, 1908, the following ad appeared: "The Wanamie Victors would like to play any 12 or 13 year old team in the County at the Power House diamond at any time suggested. Answer through the Record." This was the first time local teams composed of young teenagers advertised in the papers. No doubt these kids clamored for attention and got themselves an adult manager. Baseball season got underway on Sunday May 31, 1908 when the Nanticoke Eagles played the Wilkes-Barre Eagles at the Power House Grove.

On Wednesday, June 24, 1908 the senior girls of the Class of 1908 at the Wanamie High School conducted a dance as part of graduation festivities. As reported: "The dance...was thoroughly enjoyed by a large number. Sarpolius's [sic] Orchestra furnished music for dancing. Despite the inclement weather, a large number from this town (Nanticoke) and Newport Township attended the social event."

Picnic schedules for June, July and August were announced: the D.O.H. picnic on June 16; The G.M.P. Society on June 20; The Bethel Sunday School Outing on July 1; The Polish Literary Society on July 2, which was postponed to July 22 due to severe storms; Nanticoke Circle, No 114, Brotherhood of America on July 3; The Polish Falcons on July 11; The Alden Branch of the Ladies Auxiliary to the (Nanticoke) Hospital Association on July 15, which netted \$103.40 (\$3,249.33); The Superba Club of Alden on Saturday, July 18; Marshall's Band on August 1; The De Reszke Singing Society on August 4; the German Reformed Church on August 6; Zion Reformed Church on Thursday August 13; The English Baptist Sunday School on August 14; The Foresters of America on August 15; A joint picnic by Alden Local 846 and Wanamie Local 400 of the United Mine Workers on Monday August 17; The Junior Order United American Mechanics on Tuesday August 18; and The Falcon Society on September 7 (Labor Day).

A dance was held on Wednesday August 5 by the Wanamie Social Club, music supplied by Oppenheim's Orchestra and a private dance was held on Friday August 21 by Michael's Orchestra.

Most of these picnics enticed residents with music for dancing, concerts, plenty of food, various sports and races, prizes, the promise of easy and frequent transportation and baseball games. The baseball game between Wanamie and Alden on Saturday July 11 (the Polish Falcons picnic) broke up in a "wrangle" and "it will be decided on who is to have the game at a meeting to be held on Friday evening." At the Superba picnic on July 18, Glen Lyon was shut out by Wanamie, 8-0, and Wanamie retained second place in the Luzerne Amateur League. Wanamie outlasted Alden in a seven inning game at the Miners Picnic on August 17 and won a purse of \$10.00.



The alley ball (bowling) court also proved popular: "In a championship game of alley ball at the Power House Grove last evening (August 21, 1908) Philip Swanberry of Alden defeated John Wilkes of Wanamie by one point, by the score of 21 to 20. The purse was for \$5.00 a side. Several hundred people witnessed the contest." Another alley ball match was scheduled for the morning of Labor Day between Philip Swanberry and Martin Dunn. The Falcon Society's picnic the same day announced a 100 yard dash among Paul Koscinski, John Green and Frank Gay with a prize of the incredible amount of \$75.00 (\$2,356.87)!

To be continued.....

Sources: Wilkes-Barre Times, Wilkes-Barre News, Wilkes-Barre Record, Wilkes-Barre Times Leader; Wikipedia, www.bing.com; various websites

One Stop Service Center, Inc.

7 Alden Road • Nanticoke, PA 18634

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

(570) 735-5333

(570) 735-5354 FAX

After Hours Towing 991-0112

www.1stopservicecenter.com



Rick Temarantz
President



Broadway Garage

Established 1960

570 735 6206

107 Alden Road

Nanticoke Pa 18634

Joseph Waiter

brdway@live.com

Sales and Service

Buy - Sell - Trade

Piestrak's Gun Shop

104 Alden Mountain Road

Nanticoke, PA 18634

(570) 735-3776

FAX 735-1603

1-800-281-0716

Speedy Auto Brookwood

Collision Repair ~ Restoration ~ Colors

249 W Church St.
Nanticoke, PA
18634

O. 570.735.3230 ext 1

F. 570.227.9630

speedyautobrookwood@gmail.com

We Accept All Insurance Claims



Since 1896

CARL KNOREK

F. L. KNOREK INSURANCE AGENCY

AUTO, HOMEOWNERS, BUSINESS
FIRE, FLOOD

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

cknorek@aol.com

The Tint Shoppe Inc.



Specializing in:

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

We Accept Major Credit Cards

(570) 822-6644 Shop
(570) 825-3663 Home
(570) 970-0727 Fax

31 Blackman Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

GEORGE A. STRISH, INC.

Family of Funeral Directors

"Dignified Service To Meet Your Personal Requirements"

George A. Strish, Jr.

Deborah Strish Katra

George A. Strish, III

Ashley - 105 N. Main Street

822-8575

Glen Lyon - 211 W. Main Street

736-6218

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



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

RICHARDS GARDEN EQUIPMENT

Sales and Service

New Lawn Mower Sales

New Outdoor Power Equipment and Parts

New Chain Saw Chains

Lawn Mower and Snow Blower Repair

Chain Saw Sharpening

Pickup and delivery



Sales & Service

Lowest Price Guarantee



480 Old Newport Road

Sheatown/Wanamie Line

(570) 735-1416



Shades Unlimited

Custom Window Treatments

Blinds, Shades, Shutters, Draperies
and Fabric Awnings

Free Measurements & Estimates

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

Locally Owned and Operated since 1982

Township Support for Ukraine in its War with Russia



Newport Township Lions Club Plans Golf Tournament



On Friday, August 19, 2022, the Newport Township Lions Club will hold its 44th Annual Golf Tournament at the Mill Race Golf Course in Benton. Teams sign in at 7:30 am with a shotgun start at 8 am. Fee is \$150.00 per team, Captain and Mate. This is the most successful fundraising event for the Lions. The committee consists of John Zyla, Jeremy Blank, John Kurowski, Edward Zaborney, and Brent Makarczyk. For more information, please call John Zyla at 570-735-1714.



Pictured is Dave Saraka of Wanamie cutting the grass around the Lions Club Coal Car and Electronic Bulletin Board in Sheatown welcoming visitors to Newport Township. Dave volunteers his time to keep the area looking well-groomed. Thanks Dave!




This beautiful array of azalea greets residents on Chestnut Street in Glen Lyon. Someone in the Gaynor home is an artist!

570-258-0505

The Alden Room at R Bar & Grill

~ CALL US FOR ALL OF YOUR CATERING NEEDS ~

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



Broadway Jewelry & Watch Repair

class rings · expert jewelry repairs · watch batteries

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

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

- INSURANCE ESTIMATES
- COLLISION REPAIRS

- STATE INSPECTION
- FULL AUTO REPAIRS



BOB'S AUTO CENTER



445 W. Union St., Nanticoke, PA 18634

Phone: 735-4301

FAX: 735-0889

Bob Raineri, Proprietor

Dan Kozak, Sales
Maggie Kozak, Sales

Tony DiMaria, Service Manager

Dorrance Auto Center, Inc.

94 Robert Street Sheatown
Nanticoke, PA 18634

Clean, Guaranteed Used Car & Truck Sales

BUY . SELL . TRADE

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

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

Other Hours By Appointment

www.dorranceautocenter.com

the
BUS STOP
cafe



Open Daily
Serving Breakfast & Lunch

2 East Broad Street
Nanticoke, PA 18634

570-735-7855

Call ahead for takeouts

PHONE 735-2161 OR 735-4163



ALLEN KROPIEWNICKI

EASTERN FUEL OIL

SHEATOWN

2 NORTHERN AVENUE

NANTICOKE, PA. 18634



TNT
Subs, Pierogies & More

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



GUARDIAN

HEALTHCARE & REHABILITATION

147 Old Newport Street

Nanticoke, PA 18634

(570) 735-7300

Fax: (570) 740-5347

www.guardianhc.com

Neighbors Caring for Neighbors

D's Old Fashioned Pierogies



All Pierogi \$9.00/doz



Choose from: Potato & Cheese;

Sauerkraut; Sweet Cabbage; Farmer's Cheese;

Meat-Potato-Onion; Jalapeno-Potato

Haluski: \$5.00 per pound

Order: 570-735-9088 1054 W. Main Avenue, Wanamie



Barbara's Custom Floral

Your Wedding Specialist

COMPLETE FLORAL & GIFT SHOP

WIRE SERVICES AVAILABLE

Fax: 570-735-0718

570-735-3011

1 Old Newport Street

Nanticoke, PA 18634

CEPPA'S Notary & Online Service

Title - Tag Transfers

Full Notary Service

INSTANT T-TAGS FOR ANYTHING

Atv - Boat - Transfers - Snowmobiles

416 W. Union St.

Nanticoke, PA 18634

Mon. - Fri. 9:00 - 7:00 PM Sat. 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

570 735 5846

Susan A. Maza

ATTORNEY - AT - LAW

67 Public Square - Suite 600

Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18701

Telephone

570-690-9400

Email

susan@mazalawfirm.com



Kval Outlet Food, Beer & Wine



15 E Main St
Glen Lyon, PA 18617

570-736-6980

Breakfast

Sausage Egg & Cheese	\$2.69		8"	12"
Bacon Egg & Cheese	\$2.69	Italian	\$4.49	\$6.99
Ham Egg & Cheese	\$2.69	Ham	\$4.49	\$6.99
Pork Roll Egg & Cheese	\$2.69	Turkey	\$4.49	\$6.99
3 Egg Omelet	\$4.99	Ham & Turkey	\$4.49	\$6.99
3 Egg Southwest Omelet	\$5.99	Tuna Salad	\$4.49	\$6.99
3 Egg Meat Lover Omelet	\$7.99	Chicken Salad	\$4.49	\$6.99

Hoagies

Starters & Fries

	5 pc	10 pc		Small	Large
Mozzarella Sticks	\$3.49	\$5.99	French Fries	\$1.99	\$3.49
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			
Chicken Tender	\$5.99	\$8.99	Loaded Curly Fries		\$4.99
	5 pc	10 pc	Funnel Cake	\$4.99	
Chicken Wings	\$5.99	\$9.99	Fries (20 pc)		
	30 pc	50 pc	Popcorn Chicken	\$3.49	\$5.99
Chicken Wings	\$24.99	\$36.99			

Local Postal Customer

PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

Pizza

Cheese Pizza	\$9.99	Hamburger	\$3.99
Pepperoni Pizza	\$10.99	Cheeseburger	\$3.99
Sausage Pizza	\$13.99	Bacon Cheeseburger	\$4.99
Chicken Wing Pizza	\$14.99	California Burger	\$4.99
Meat Lover Pizza	\$17.99	Crispy Chicken Sandwich	\$4.99

Burgers

Hot Subs

	8"	12"
Philly Cheesesteak	\$5.99	\$7.99
Chicken Cheesesteak	\$5.99	\$7.99
Meatball Sub	\$4.99	\$6.99
Chicken Wing Sub	\$4.99	\$6.99
Chicken Parm	\$4.99	\$6.99
B.L.T.	\$4.99	\$6.99

*Cold Cuts available

*Customizations available

*Extra meat: \$2

*Extra topping: \$1

*Price subject to change

*Take out only



*Thank You
for your order!*



15 E Main St, Glen Lyon, PA 18617 | 570-736-6980

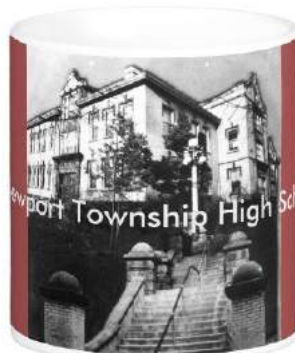
Monthly Food Distribution Held at Recreation Park

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. Distributions will continue through the summer and fall months.

All recipients must pre-register. Registration for the year must be completed before the next distribution in July. 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.

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

NTCO NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

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

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

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

NTCO NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT

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

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

NTCO MEETINGS

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

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION OFFICERS/CONTACTS

President: Stephen Phillips 570-735-3991
Vice President: Tom Kashatus 570-736-6981
Secretary/Treasurer: Linda Conner 570-736-6580
Alternate Secretary/Assistant Treasurer: John Jarecki 570-736-6620
Newsletter Editors: Heidi & Paul Jarecki 570-733-2540
Advertising Agent: Joe Maloney 570-736-6828
Webmaster: Palmira Miller palmiram@newporttownship.com
Assistant Webmaster: John Jarecki jjarecki@pa.metrocast.net
Website <http://www.newporttownship.com>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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



We are on Facebook!



NTCO RECYCLES

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

Be Proud of Newport and Make Newport Proud of You!

~ The Late Honorable Paul R. Selecky