



Sharp is the night, but stars with frost alive, Leap off the rim of earth across the dome.
It is a night to make the heavens our home, More than the nest whereto apace we strive. ~ from "Winter Heavens" by George Meredith



January Moon over Glen Lyon

The first full moon in January is called the Wolf Moon because wolves howl more frequently during this month due to the scarcity of food. In Anglo-Saxon culture, January's Full Moon was also called the Moon after Yule. Yule is the ancient winter solstice festival celebrated around December 21. The Wolf Moon represents the ultimate truth, that of the soul. It is linked with reincarnation, a new beginning. It symbolizes great introspectiveness and being true to oneself. Its healing light enhances self-trust and self-reliance. Photo by Paul Jarecki

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 on or acted on by the Township Commissioners at their monthly meetings in October, November, and December 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 the west side of Glen Lyon. By late November the company had replaced all Main Street sidewalks from the west end of town to the intersections of Coal Street and Third Street with the exception of the south side of the block between Apple and Chestnut Streets. On this block there are two abandoned buildings that should be demolished before a new sidewalk is put in. In early December work was suspended because of the onset of winter weather. The contractor expects to complete the work in the spring of 2023.

NorthPoint Development Warehouse Construction Project: NorthPoint Development, a national (Continued on next page)

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Township Events p.21; Ads p.21-22; NTCO p.24. Please Note: Due to unresolved issues concerning the refuse and recycling fee, the Township 2023 Budget Report will appear in the Spring issue.

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construction company based in Kansas City, Missouri, which has constructed a number of warehouses along the South Valley Parkway, has completed construction of the first of two warehouses just off Middle Road on reclaimed strip mine land. The completed warehouse, called Tradeport 164-9, is a 536,00 square-foot structure within Hanover Township. The contractor completed work on Tradeport 164-9 in the fall of 2022. Safelite Autoglass is now operating out of the building. The second warehouse, called Tradeport 164-8, is a 1.2 million square feet structure entirely within Newport Township. The contractor aims to complete this building by the end of December 2022. Lowe's, the home improvement retailer, is scheduled to operate this warehouse. The two buildings are part of a group of nine Northpoint warehouses along the South Valley Parkway that are accessed from Exit 164 of Interstate Route 81.

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. There were 13 buildings in the first four Groups of properties chosen for demolition. The total cost of their demolition amounted to \$158,600. A Fifth Group of properties chosen for demolition consists of buildings at 5-6 Vandermark Road and 7-8 College Hill in Wanamie, and Rear 61 Coal Street and Rear 30 Apple Street, both in Glen Lyon. At their October meeting, the Commissioners awarded a contract to SRI to demolish the Vandermark Road and College Hill buildings at a cost of \$32,000. They also awarded a contract to SRI to demolish the Coal Street and Apple Street buildings at a cost of \$77,200. The cost of demolishing the Coal and Apple Street buildings was higher than usual because of the rear locations of the buildings. Demolition work began in early October. Demolition of the Fifth Group of properties started in early October and after two months was mostly completed. As of early December the Blight Remediation Committee has scheduled a Sixth Group of buildings to be demolished: one at 101 Newport Street and another at 77 Ridge Street, both in Glen Lyon. The Township plans to request bids for the work in early January.

Street Repaving Project: During the summer of 2022, the Township carried out an extensive project of repaving Township streets. By September it had completed paving 1) Center Street, College Hill, Miner Avenue, and Belles Road using Liquid Fuels (primarily gasoline) tax funds that the Township receives from the State and paving equipment that it shares with the Lower South Valley Council of Governments (LSVCOG); 2) Burnett Street, Stralka Lane, Franklin Street, 600 feet of Water Street, and Depot Street, using Luzerne County Office of Community Development (OCD) funds; and 3) Hemlock Street, Old Newport Street, Prince Street, Marcella Drive, Edward Street, and Marie Drive using a State Correctional Institution (SCI) Retreat prison closure grant. By early December the Township had completed the project of paving Robert Street Alley and installing storm drains. The work was funded by a Covid-19 Recovery Funds Grant.

October 3, 2022: Residents' Comments: A resident commented on the monthly Commission on Economic Activity (CEO) food distribution.

Meeting Business: Commissioner John Zyla announced that, since the Township is having new sidewalks put in along Main Street in Glen Lyon, the Township will strictly enforce the regulation prohibiting parking on the sidewalks in Glen Lyon. There are exceptions, for example, to prevent conflict and avoid other traffic, to provide safety, or where there is a driveway. Violators will be fined and, if there is damage to the sidewalk, will have to pay restitution.

Township Financial Oversight Consultant Jennifer Polito reported that for the first nine months of the year, the Township had revenue of \$3,770,370.92 and expenditures of \$3,284,634.13.

The Commissioners voted to put the Township's 2002 General Motors Corporation (GMC) fire engine for sale on Muncibid; to approve an agreement with Luzerne County providing that the County continue to collect Municipal Taxes for the Township through the year 2023; and to donate old radio equipment, formerly used by the Township Police Department, to the East Stroudsburg University (ESU) Police Department in Monroe County. The equipment is no longer useful because the County is switching to a new digital 911 system.

The Commissioners announced that they would not accept any of the

bids submitted to the Township for a contract to pick up trash starting in 2023 because the bidders had acted on incorrect bid specifications. All bids included large trash collection costs that the Commissioners hoped to decrease. The Commissioners voted to ask again for bids.

November 7, 2022: Police Chief Jeremy Blank announced that Crime Watch and the R-Bar had bought Pink Breast Cancer Badges for Township Police Officers to wear in order to show support for Breast Cancer Awareness. He also announced that the Lions Club had bought Blue Autism Badges to show support for Autism Awareness. Township residents placed the badges on Chief Blank's uniform as a symbolic start to this program.

Residents' Comments: A Township resident said that she is a senior citizen living on a fixed income and asked that, since the trash and recycling fee would be increasing sharply next year, the Commissioners give residents more time after the beginning of the year to pay this fee. The Commissioners said they would discuss the matter. (The Commissioners later agreed to the suggested change.)

Another Township resident said that a home owner on Main Street in Glen Lyon was displaying a flag about the United States President using the f-word. He said that children should not have to see this. Township Solicitor Christopher Slusser said that the flag involves a citizen's right to free speech but that he would look into the legal issues of the matter. (The person displaying the flag removed it by the next day.)

Meeting Business: The Commissioners voted to award the Township refuse contract to low bidder Anthracite Waste Services of Orwigsburg in Schuylkill County. The contract is for five years at a cost of \$570,474 per year. The current refuse contract, with Waste Management, is for three years at a cost of \$291,888 per year. Township Solicitor Christopher Slusser said that costs for trash collection are increasing for all communities now awarding contracts, because of increases in the costs of labor, trash disposal, and maintenance. For 2023 residents' trash and recycling fees would increase from \$235 per year to \$390 per year. (In December the Commissioners rescinded their approval, as mentioned below.)

Commissioner John Vishnefski announced that construction has begun on a new basketball court and a new tennis-pickle ball court at the Wanamie Recreation Park. The contractor has removed the old court surfaces. He will put in new paved surfaces this fall and, in the spring when the weather is warmer, he will install an acrylic surface over the pavement.

The Commissioners voted to adopt Resolution #9 of 2022 appointing Joseph Hillan as a member of the Lower South Valley Land Bank Board of Directors, to hire Andrew Hashagan as a part time fire apparatus driver at a rate of \$19 per hour, and to approve an 8.7% cost of living increase in 2023 for Norman Bodek from the Firemen's Pension Plan. Mr. Bodek requested the increase and the Pension Plan's actuary Foster and Foster approved it. This is the last increase that Mr. Bodek can receive.

The Commissioners voted to authorize the Township Solicitor to file suit in the Luzerne County Court of Common Pleas for the demolition of the following properties, all in Glen Lyon: 80 West Main Street, 69-71 West Main Street, and 48 Newport Street. Township Manager Joe Hillan said that we have to demolish the first two buildings in order to complete the Glen Lyon sidewalk project. And the third is badly fire damaged. Citing these owners for property violations has not gotten the owners to agree to demolition because they do not appear before the magistrate for their hearings.

Township Manager Joe Hillan included the following in his report:

On October 25, he, along with Commissioners John Zyla and Debbie Zaleski, attended a work session of the Luzerne County Council. They urged the Council to use funds from Luzerne County Public Infrastructure Program to replace the Nanticoke bridge in order to ensure the safety of area residents and to promote the economic growth of the area.

December 5, 2022: Residents' Comments: Residents asked what besides salt (now not permitted on the new Glen Lyon sidewalks) could be used to prevent slipping and falls; whether the Municipal Garage could be used during the winter for the monthly Commission on Economic Opportunity (CEO) food distribution; and whether bus service could be routed to the Dollar Store on West Kirmar Avenue.

(Continued from page 2)

Meeting Business: The Commissioners unexpectedly voted to rescind their awarding of the refuse contract to Anthracite Waste Services and to advertise for new bids for refuse collection. Paul Czapracki, President of the Board of Commissioners, read a statement saying that the cost of refuse service in the area has greatly increased recently for all communities now awarding new refuse contracts. The Commissioners have tried to keep increases as low as possible, and have taken appropriate steps to award a contract to the lowest responsible bidder. However, J. P. Mascaro and Sons, a bidder that failed in the last round of bidding to win the contract, has threatened to start litigation over the award process. In order to avoid possible litigation costs, the Commissioners have decided to ask for new refuse bids. At a special meeting on December 20, they plan to open the bids and take action on them.

Commissioner John Vishnefski announced that, because of the cold weather, work on the resurfacing of the basketball and tennis courts in the Wanamie Rec Park has stopped, and will be completed in the spring.

The Commissioners approved Ordinance #4 of 2022 establishing guidelines for the care and maintenance of the tree lawn along the new sidewalks in Glen Lyon and establishing penalties for violations of the guideline; Ordinance #5 of 2022 establishing motor vehicle size, weight, and load limitations, mainly to regulate truck traffic down Alden Mountain; and Ordinance #6 of 2022 requiring cable television systems to obtain a franchise to operate in Newport Township and establishing regulations for a cable system operated by Comcast.

The Commissioners voted to approve the sale of the 2002 BMC J.C. Moore Fire Engine to ARFF Sales Corporation for \$19,800. ARFF was the successful bidder on Municibid.

The Commissioners voted to approve the Kilmer Group as the insurance agent for Newport Township for 2023 for risk management and auto insurance.

The Commissioners voted to approve an employment agreement with Joseph Hillan as Newport Township Manager/Building Code Official from January 1, 2023 to December 31, 2023.

The Commissioners voted to approve wages for the following Street Department workers: Jordan Sager (\$22/hour), Richard Guziak (\$20/hour), and Jeremy Yokovonis (\$19/hour).

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

On Wednesday November 16 Eileen Rosen, from the Auditor General's Office, conducted an audit of the Township's 2021 Liquid Fuels account and found that all was in order. (The State distributes Liquid Fuels funds, raised mainly through taxes on gasoline, to local governments for road maintenance.)

Update on the Refuse and Recycling Fee

At their special meeting on December 20, 2022, the Township Commissioners awarded the trash contract again to low bidder Anthracite Waste Services. The contract is for a five year period with an option to extend it for two more years. The cost to the Township is less than in the previous round of bidding, and therefore the refuse plus recycling fee for each household will be \$5.00 less than the previous fee of \$390 or \$385.00. Each household will pay \$385.00 per year for the next five years.



NTCO President's Report

By Stephen E. Phillips ~ During the past quarter the Newport Township Community Organization (NTCO) has maintained its very active role in a myriad of public and municipal activities related to improving the quality of life within the Township.

Utilizing a portion of the very generous donation made by the Mercy Special Care Hospital Auxiliary to the NTCO, a \$500.00 donation was made to the Weinberg Food Bank in appreciation for that entity's food donations to our monthly food distribution provided to qualified recipients throughout our area. Without these food donations, it would be basically impossible for our Organization to continue with our free food giveaways. Anyone who has questions regarding this activity is asked to contact our chairperson for this event, Palmira Miller at 570-592-7876. We have generally been distributing food for 130 families and individuals at this event.

The NTCO participated in the Trunk or Treat event sponsored by the Women's Activity Group on October 30th. Township Commissioner Debbie Zaleski and her husband Peter manned the table and distributed the sweet treats provided by this Organization to the local youth.

Through its active role with Newport United, your NTCO was also involved in the Township's Christmas Tree Lighting event. This activity has become a regular occurrence on the Township's community calendar, and it helps herald the advent of the holiday season.

Once again the NTCO participated in the sponsorship of a Christmas Tree along Alden Road in Sheatown. For about a decade, Reilly Finishing Technologies has sponsored this event and the funds generated from the activity are donated to the organizations within the general Nanticoke area to assist them in underwriting the cost of their civic endeavors. The Community Organization has been the beneficiary of this program numerous times, and it deeply appreciates the civic mindedness of Reilly Finishing Technologies.

This Organization participated in the removal of the Hometown Heroes banners to save them from the ravages of the winter season. They will be reinstalled in time for the Memorial Day 2023 celebration. Other vital participants in the annual installation and removal of the banners are Vishnefski Electric, the Township's Public Works employees, Township Police Officers, the Township's Fire Police, and the Township Manager. If anyone is interested in purchasing a banner for the coming year, they are encouraged to contact the Township Manager, Joe Hillan, at 570-735-4735 for pertinent information.

The Organization assisted local elected and appointed officials in their efforts to obtain funding via Luzerne County Council from Local Share Account (gaming) monies to construct a new bridge connecting Nanticoke City and Plymouth Township. Implementation of the proposed project would be an asset to not only improving public safety between the communities, but would also aid in increasing Newport Township's viability to attract new industrial, commercial, and residential development, all of which would substantially aid in improving the municipality's tax base. This would enable local government to continue to provide the municipal services required to support a viable community.

With the retirements of State Senator John Yudichak and State Representative Gerald Mullery, the Township has lost two strong advocates who were always there to assist the Community whenever necessary. The NTCO wishes them well in their future endeavors and hopes that their successors will continue to be key components in helping the Township move forward.

As has been noted several times in the past, the success of this Organization and the other volunteer bodies serving the Community is dependent on the participation of their respective members and the financial contributions of their supporters. The NTCO would like to take this opportunity to thank its most recent donors for their support: Marjorie Rinehimer, Paul Koflanovich, Joann Furek, Eugene Macur, Rebecca Mauro, Betty Rinehimer, Francis Zaleski, Richard Piestrak, Jim and JoAnne Thomas, Paul and Anita Pawlush, and Marge Forgach.

In closing, the Newport Township Community Organization thanks the readers of the *Community News* and wishes all a very Merry Christmas and a very Happy and Healthy New Year.



Trunk or Treat at the Guardian and the Municipal Garage



On October 23 a Trunk or Treat event was held at the Guardian Healthcare Facility in Sheatown. On October 30, the Newport Township Women's Activity Group sponsored a Trunk or Treat event in the Township Municipal Garage. Both events were well attended.



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The Township continues its Blighted Property Remediation Project. Pictured above are two long abandoned houses, both in Glen Lyon. At left is Rear 30 Apple Street near the Italian Club, demolished on November 17. Pictured right is Rear 61 Coal Street, demolished in December.



Above: A new electronic speed sign purchased with funding from the Newport Township Crime Watch has been installed on Main Street in Glen Lyon. It can be moved to different locations in the Township. It reminds drivers to be aware of speed limits and helps reduce the number of accidents.



Pictured above top is the 2023 Freightliner Pac Mac purchased for the Township Department of Public Works which will be used for recycling and bottom, the 2022 F550 Ford dump truck that was acquired by the Township through the LSA grant program with the assistance of State Senator John Yudichak and State Representative Gerry Mullery.

L to R in both pictures are: Commissioner John Zyla, DPW Employee Jeremy Yokavonis, DPW Supervisor Jordan Sager, Commissioner Jack Vishnefski, Commissioner Paul Czapracki, Township Manager Joe Hillan, and Administrative Assistant Bernice Shipp.

Attention Glen Lyon Residents

In order to maintain the surface of the new sidewalks on Main Street in Glen Lyon the Township is requiring that all residents refrain from using salt or any de-icing products on the new concrete during the upcoming winter season.

Joe Hillan
Township Manager

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Township Events



Pictured above is the Fall Bingo held at St Adalbert's Church on November 6, sponsored by the Newport Township Women's Activity Group. A Spring Bingo is planned for 2023.



The Italian-American Sporting Club and its Auxiliary held a spaghetti dinner on November 6 at their hall on Apple Street in Glen Lyon.



Five Generations of the Rinehamer Family

Pictured left is Veranne (Anne) Rinehamer of Wanamie who recently became a Great Great Grandmother.

The five generations are as follows:
 Anne Rinehamer—Wanamie, PA
 Anne Rinehamer MacDowell, Sapulpa, OK
 Teresa MacDowell Esch, Sapulpa, OK
 Cassidy Esch, Sapulpa, OK
 Peyton Marie Coker, Sapulpa, OK

Anne and her late husband Harry are the parents of 13 children.



Mail Stolen

Early on Friday October 21, someone pried open the mailbox in front of the Glen Lyon Post Office and stole the mail. A resident reported the vandalized mailbox to Township Police. Chief Jeremy Blank stated that thieves look for checks that are then "washed" to change names and dollar amounts. The postal inspector and federal authorities are investigating. Residents are asked to deposit their mail inside the lobby. Anyone having information is asked to contact Township Police.



Tree Lighting

On a rainy Sunday afternoon, Township residents gathered for the annual Christmas tree lighting on November 27 at the Township Municipal Building. Songs were sung and cookies were offered. Pictured are some of the folks who attended: Tom Nalbone, Donald Reese, Joe Hillan, Alaina Tesmer, Heidi Jarecki, Jack Vishnefski, John Zyla, Ron Jones, Joe Wilkes, Jeremy Blank, and Krissy Blank. This event is sponsored by Newport United.

Class Reunions



Newport High School Class of 1962

By Stan Czapracki ~ The Newport High School Class of 1962 celebrated their 60th class reunion on Saturday, September 24, 2022, at Kings Italiano Ristorante, Mountain Top, PA. Classmates traveled from as far as Minnesota, Connecticut, and Florida. Everyone had a great time and is looking forward to celebrating an 80th birthday party in the future.

First row, l to r: Gene Macur, Stan Czapracki, Bernie Mihneski, John Stapinski, Barbara Cavallini, Ralph Faull, Andrew Salek. Second row, l to r: Mary Labeda Lesnicki, Carol Sokolowski Sobotka, Jo Ann Shutta Kowalski, Wendie Zerfoss Grabel, Ray Kizelowicz, James Capece, Nancy Siepietowski Toole. Third row, l to r: Bonnie Powis Cvejkus, Gene Haverlak, Dale Richards, Carl Polnaszek, Robert Sincavage, Linda Kishbaugh Delong.

GNA Class of 1973 Plans Reunion



The Greater Nanticoke Area High School Class of 1973 will be celebrating their 50-year Class Reunion on September 2 and 3, 2023. To help better communicate the details of the reunion events, classmates are encouraged to stay in contact through any of the following methods:

- 1) request to join the "Nanticoke Area Class of 1973" Facebook group page.
- 2) provide a valid email address.
- 3) provide a phone number for text messaging.

Email addresses and phone numbers can be sent to Bob Kellar at "bobkellar2525@gmail.com" or Dan and Maria (Kowalski) Floryshak at "adjmflory@gmail.com."

All Newport Reunion Returns

The All-Newport Reunion will return on Sunday October 8, 2023 from 12 pm to 5 pm at Holy Transfiguration Hall in Rhone (Hanover Section of Nanticoke). Price per person has yet to be determined.

This reunion is open to anyone who attended Newport schools at any time. Members of the Committee are Joe Molski, John Jarecki, Heidi Selecky Jarecki, and Paul Jarecki. Invitations will be mailed in June. Please send us your name and address if you wish to be added to the mailing list. Contact Heidi Jarecki at 28 West Main Street, Glen Lyon, PA 18617; phone number 570-733-2540; email hselucky@pa.metrocast.net.

Hope to see you there!

Church Fundraisers



Pictured left is the Hoagie and Bake Sale held by the Altar and Rosary Society of **St. Adalbert's Church** in Glen Lyon, Holy Spirit Parish on Election Day. Standing l to r are: Heidi Jarecki, Sylvia Vasia, Maggie Sokolowski. Sitting are: Carol Wilkes, Theresa Langan, JoAnne Thomas, and Carol Sobotka. Also assisting were Jennifer Morgis and Paul Jarecki. The pastor is Rev. Louis Kaminski.

Another hoagie sale is planned for Super Bowl Sunday, February 12. Orders can be placed by calling Carol Sobotka at 570-736-7149.

Pictured right is the kitchen crew at the Fall Festival held at **St. Andrew's Church** in Alden on October 7 and 8. It featured a bake sale, basket auction, mums, a flea market and fall crafts for sale. From l to r: Mark Benscoter, Colleen Benscoter, pastor Rev. Charles Warwick and Nathaniel Marr.



Pictured left is the hoagie, soup and bake sale held at **St Nicholas Church** in Glen Lyon on October 27. It also featured a basket raffle. All proceeds from the basket raffle were sent to assist the people of Ukraine who are suffering hardships from the Russian invasion. The pastor is Rev. Roman Petryshak.



Saint Andrew’s Blue Mass

By Tom Kashatus ~ On Sunday, November 13, Saint Andrew’s Episcopal Church in Alden celebrated its annual Blue Mass followed by breakfast for the members and volunteers of Newport Township First Responders. Fr. Charles Warwick was the celebrant and Gina Sitler, the organist. The Blue Mass honors those who are actively serving our community as first responders and is also an opportunity to remember and honor those who have died in the line of duty. Saint Andrew’s donated \$100.00 to team leader and Fire Police Chief Len Paczkowski of the first responders.

Participants in the Blue Mass are pictured above seated from left: Colleen Bencoter, Susan Maza, and Newport Fire Police Captain Len Paczkowski. Standing from the left are: Ronald Womelsdorf, Joseph Wilkes, Norman Bodek, Louise Marr, Nicholas Kowalski, Emily Malys, Robert Shemanski, Roy Tinney, Nanticoke Fire Police Captain Fred Kraft, and Stephanie Kraft.

As a special treat, the Cabin Armory & Training Center of Plains Township donated two gifts for one hour of free range time to two recipients whose names were pulled from a hat by Tom Kashatus. Captain Len Paczkowski and Captain Fred Kraft were the lucky winners.

Hoagie Sale on Super Bowl Sunday

The Altar and Rosary Society of St. Adalbert’s Church, Holy Spirit Parish in Glen Lyon is sponsoring a hoagie and bake sale on February 12, 2023 (Super Bowl Sunday). Call Carol Sobotka at 570-736-7149 to place your order. Delivery to homebound folks is available.

In Memoriam

The Newport Township Women’s Activity Group gratefully acknowledges the monetary donation of Jeff Levandowski in memory of his late brother Henry “Hank” who passed away at age 52 on August 7, 2022. Hank resided in Glen Lyon with his wife Terry. He was the father of three sons and was a veteran of the U.S. Navy.



Hank Levandowski

In Memoriam

The Newport Township Community Organization gratefully acknowledges the monetary donation of Betty and George S. Rinehimer in memory of Ruth Arnold Rinehimer of Wapwallopen who passed away on August 27, 2022 at age 95. She was predeceased by her husband George C. Rinehimer. They were the parents of four children.



Above is the magic show “Magic on Broad Street” held on Saturday November 12, 2022 at the Nanticoke American Legion Post 350. This event was for the benefit of the Nanticoke and Newport Fire Police. The Fire Police thanks everyone for the donations, support, and attendance to make this a successful event. The Fire Police are available seven days a week, twenty four hours a day to serve the community.



Reilly Christmas Tree Lighting

Pictured above are some of the participants in the Christmas tree lighting sponsored by Reilly Finishing Technologies in Sheatown on December 7. The decorated trees are located along Alden Road. This annual event raises funds to support local charitable organizations. Following the countdown, attendees were invited to the R-Bar in Alden for refreshments.



Joseph J. Reilly
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Above, 2nd Ward Election Board l to r seated: Anastasia Lamoreaux, Clerk; Elsa Lehnar, Clerk; Ron Womelsdorf, Clerk; and Rick Tennesen, Majority Inspector. Standing: Brian Smatko, voter; Cassandra Yalch, Machine Operator; Megan Tennesen, Judge of Election; Norman Bodek, Constable; and Jackie Yalch. Background: Joe Urban, Minority Inspector, and unidentified voter.

Below, 1st Ward Election Board l to r: Krissy Blank, Minority Inspector; Autumn Blank, Majority Inspector; Debbie Zaleski, Machine Operator; Joseph Hillan, Judge of Election; and Eleanor Hamerick, Clerk.

General Election 2022

By Tom Kashatus ~ All offices on the ballot for the 2022 General Election were important to the voters of Newport Township. (Winning candidates are highlighted in bold type.) The most important competition took place for the State House of Representatives where **Alec Ryncavage (R)** was victorious over Vito Malacari (D) of Hanover Township with a total Newport vote of 821 to 685. In fact, Ryncavage was successful in 95% of the precincts where he ran in the 119th Legislative District. In other state races, **Lisa Baker (R)** out-pollied Jackie Baker (D) 1,425 to 421 for State Senator; the **Josh Shapiro/Austin Davis (D)** ticket out-distanced the Doug Mastriano/Carrie Delrosso (R) ticket by 777 votes to 691 votes. **State Representative Eddie “Day” Pashinski (D)**, a native of Sheatown and formerly a teacher for Greater Nanticoke Area, was victorious in his quest for a ninth term in the 121st Legislative District which consists mainly of Wilkes-Barre City and Plains Township.

At the federal level, for US Senator, Mehmet Oz (R) led **John Fetterman (D)** with 763 votes to 676 votes; for US Congress in the 8th District Jim Bognet (R) led **Matt Cartwright (D)** 545 votes to 450 votes; and **Dan Meuser (R)** led Amanda Waldman 248 votes to 235 votes.

Note: The US 8th Congressional District includes Glen Lyon and Lee; the US 9th Congressional District includes Wanamie, Alden, Sheatown, Newport Center, and Ridgeview. This is the first time in Newport Township history that the municipality has been divided into two congressional districts. Further, the 8th District is represented by a Republican (Meuser), and the 9th by a Democrat (Cartwright).

Personal Comments: (1) As the writer of this article, I find it strange and disappointing that a homogeneous municipality such as Newport Township would be “gerrymandered” to the point as to have this division happen, especially with an election for those candidates elected to the US Congress. It is my hope that our officials look at this inequity and have it corrected for future elections. (2) Congratulations to Alec Ryncavage who is the first Republican elected to the State House of Representatives to represent Newport Township in over 70 years. It is believed that the last Republican to have that honor was Leonard Najaka of Glen Lyon who served from 1946 to 1952. (3) It appears as if there has been a shift in the political landscape of Newport Township, normally a Democrat stronghold, to that of Republican influence as voters are becoming more independent. This is indicated by the voting totals of former president Donald Trump (R) and the election totals of Alec Ryncavage of Plymouth, and the re-election totals of State Senator Lisa Baker and Congressman Dan Meuser.



Floryshak Family Glen Lyon Community Education Grant Available for 2022-2023 School Year

A grant has been established to honor the Floryshak Family of Glen Lyon, Pennsylvania. The grant will be awarded to a deserving senior student from Nanticoke Area High School who resides in Glen Lyon. The recipient will be selected based on positive community involvement as well as school and extracurricular activities. The award will provide financial assistance in the form of a one-time \$2,000 grant for help with the recipient’s educational expenses to an accredited institution. The institution can be a 4 year, 2 year, or vocational program. Interested high school students and their families can receive complete information from the Guidance Department at Nanticoke Area High School or by email to: adsvflory@comcast.net

Hometown Heroes Banner Project

Newport United is accepting additional applications for military banners honoring veterans in the Township. Applications are available at the Municipal Building or by calling 570-735-4735. The deadline is February 28. The price is now \$200.00, an increase of \$25.00. Banners are taken down for the winter months and re-installed in the spring.

Taste of the Township Nuts



By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~

“Chestnuts roasting on an open fire
Jack Frost nipping at your nose
Yuletide carols being sung by a choir
And folks dressed up like Eskimos...”

From “The Christmas Song” written by
Bob Wells and Mel Tormé.

Nuts, cold weather and Christmas all seem to go together.

A nut is a fruit consisting of a hard or tough nutshell protecting a kernel which is usually edible. In general usage and in a culinary sense, a wide variety of dried seeds are called nuts, but in a botanical context "nut" implies that the shell does not open to release the seed. Most seeds come from fruits that naturally free themselves from the shell, but this is not the case in nuts which have hard shell walls and originate from a compound ovary.

A seed is the mature fertilized ovule of a plant. It consists of three parts: the embryo which will develop into a new plant, stored food for the embryo, and a protective seed coat. True nuts are produced, for example, by some plant families of the order Fagales. These include beech, chestnut, oak, stone-oak, and tanoak in the family Fagaceae, as well as hazel, filbert, and hornbeam in the family Betulaceae.

Nuts have been a reliable food source throughout history. A recent archeological excavation in Israel found remnants of seven types of nuts and a variety of primitive nutcrackers that scientists believe date back 780,000 years. A dig in Iraq uncovered evidence of nut consumption that dates back to 50,000 B.C. And in Texas, pecan shells were unearthed near human artifacts that may date back to 6,000 B.C.

Nuts can be stored for months at a time making them great for long, harsh winters. Nuts are also rich in fat and protein, which make them filling and nourishing. And their versatility means you can eat them right out of the shell, press them for oil, or mash them to make nut butter.

Nut Facts

1. In 2019 world production in millions of tons: Coconuts 62.5, Peanuts 48.8, Walnuts 4.5, Cashews 4.0, Almonds 3.5, Chestnuts 2.4, Hazelnuts 1.1, Pistachios 0.9, Brazil nuts 0.07.
2. Nuts tend to have a low water and carbohydrate content, with high levels of fats, protein, dietary minerals, and vitamins. The digestibility of the protein at about 90% is slightly lower than that of meat and fish. The fats are largely unsaturated. Nuts are a source of essential omega-3 fatty acids. As part of a healthy human diet, long-term consumption of diverse nutrients in nuts may contribute to a lower risk of cardiovascular diseases, reduced levels of blood cholesterol, and a lower all-cause mortality.
3. Because nuts generally have a high oil content, they are a significant energy source. Many are edible by humans and used in cooking, eaten raw, sprouted, or roasted as a snack food, ground to make nut butters, or pressed for oil that is used in cooking and cosmetics.
4. Nuts used for food are a common source of food allergens. Reactions can range from mild symptoms to severe ones, a condition known as anaphylaxis, which can be life-threatening. The reaction is due to the release of histamine by the body in response to an allergen in the nuts, causing skin and other possible reactions.
5. Nuts are the source of energy and nutrients for the new plant. They contain a relatively large quantity of calories, essential unsaturated and monounsaturated fats including linoleic acid and linolenic acid, vitamins, and essential amino acids. Many nuts are good sources of vitamin E, vitamin B2, folate, fiber, and essential minerals, such as magnesium, phosphorus, potassium, copper, and selenium. Vitamin E is considered an antioxidant nutrient. Antioxidants inhibit oxidation, a natural body process that causes cell damage, and have been linked to a lower risk for several chronic diseases, including heart disease and some cancers. Potassium and magnesium are minerals that help the body function at its best by regulating blood pressure and keeping muscles and nerves working properly.
6. There are many references to nuts in ancient times. One of the first recorded references to nuts is in the Bible. On their second journey to Egypt, Joseph's brothers brought almonds and pistachios to trade

for grain. And in *Numbers 17*, Aaron's rod miraculously buds and bears almonds, proving he is God's chosen priest.

7. **Pistachios** have an intriguing history. Some say they were one of the Queen of Sheba's favorite foods. According to one pistachio legend, lovers who meet under a pistachio tree on a moonlit night will find good luck if they hear the nuts crack. Pistachios probably originated in an area that stretches from West Asia through Turkey. The Romans introduced pistachios to Europe from Asia sometime around the 1st century A.D. The nuts didn't arrive in the United States until the late 19th century, and it wasn't until the 1930's that pistachios became a popular American snack food. They are helpful in lowering blood pressure.

8. The history of **walnuts** is as old as the stories of almonds and pistachios. Ancient inscriptions suggest walnut trees were grown in the Hanging Gardens of Babylon. Walnuts made their way to the New World sooner than pistachios, arriving with Spanish priests in California during the 18th century. The tough-shelled black walnut hit the world stage much later than its thin-shelled relative. This variety is also known as the American walnut and is believed to be native to North America. Historical records indicate black walnut wood was shipped to England from Virginia in about 1610. Walnuts benefit the heart and brain.

9. **Chestnuts**, first mentioned by the ancient Greeks and Romans, were a major part of Middle Eastern and European diets for centuries. People also used chestnuts as medicine because they were believed to fend off rabies and dysentery. But their primary role was as a durable food source for people who lived in areas where winters were harsh and food was scarce. Chestnuts are a bit difficult to find today, except around Thanksgiving, but they are a treat for those who discover them.

10. The first settlers on America's shores most likely learned about **pecans** from Native Americans. Spanish colonists in northern Mexico were cultivating pecans in the early 18th century, and the first pecan tree planting in what would become the United States took place on Long Island, New York in 1772. As America developed into a nation, pecan cultivation spread south to the Gulf of Mexico region, and the nut became an important commodity. George Washington and Thomas Jefferson grew pecan trees. Pecans were so valuable in the early 19th century that they were more profitable to grow than cotton in some areas. The flavonoids in these buttery nuts are powerful antioxidants.

11. The first recorded mentions of the **peanut** date back only to the 16th century, when explorers began poking around the New World. Peanuts probably originated in South America, but the nuts came to North America via Africa. Spanish explorers took peanuts from South America back to Spain, and from Spain the nuts went to Asia and Africa. Peanuts became a common crop in Africa, so when Africans were brought as slaves to North America, they brought the peanut with them. People originally grew peanuts as food for pigs, but they started eating peanuts themselves by the late 19th century. In addition, peanuts were used for oil and even as a cocoa substitute. But because they were difficult to grow and were stereotyped as poor peoples' food, peanuts weren't widely grown for human consumption until the early 20th century. Better equipment made growing and harvesting the crops easier, and different uses of the peanut, including peanut butter and peanut candy, helped increase its popularity. Peanuts are high in muscle-building protein.

12. How did “nuts” get to mean “crazy”? People were nuts about nuts. In the late 19th century, the British used “nuts” as slang for something they found enjoyable. This usage may have originated in an old cliché—“sweet as a nut.” Being nuts about something meant you really liked it, but so did being “crazy on something.” It's possible that “nuts” became a synonym for “crazy” because of this similarity. In any case, Americans were the first to connect the two, in the early 20th century. The noun form “nut,” meaning “crazy person,” may have a different history. By the mid-1800s, nut was slang for head. If someone said you were “off your nut,” that would mean you were crazy.

13. The very first nutcrackers were metal tools that simply looked like a pair of modern-day pliers. By the 15th century, woodcarvers had begun creating nutcrackers that were both functional and visually interesting. Known by the German word *Nussknacker*, these figures resembled animals and humans. By the mid-19th century, nutcrackers began to resemble the human figures we recognize today. They were further popularized by Tchaikovsky's famous ballet, *The Nutcracker*, which debuted in 1892.

Sources: <https://recipes.howstuffworks.com/history-of-nuts.htm>, <https://www.britannica.com/science/nut-plant-reproductive-body>, Wikipedia, www.slate.com, www.bhg.com/christmas.

Successful Hunters of 2022

By Tom Kashatus ~ The Newport Township Community Organization Newsletter is a publication that supports outdoor sportsmanship: hunting, fishing, and the like. Any stories of interesting events are always welcome. The Spring edition of the Newsletter will feature additional successful marksmen and women who formerly and currently have ties to Newport Township.

The regular Pennsylvania 2022 firearm season to hunt both buck and doe was November 26 to December 10. Archery and crossbow deer season ran from September 17 to November 25 and December 26, 2002 to January 28, 2023.

Please contact Tom Kashatus at 570-736-6981 or email tomkashatus@gmail.com for inclusion in the Spring edition.



Pictured above is Kevin Swicklik of Mountain Top, formerly of Glen Lyon, with this 150 pound, 8 point buck which he harvested in Sugarloaf Township, Luzerne County near the Interstate 80 and Route 93 intersection. Kevin has been hunting since age 15 and used a MLD Servo Compound Bow.



Shown above is Robert George Paveletz of Dorrance and formerly of Glen Lyon, with the 155 pound, eight point buck, which he harvested in Bradford County with his 30-06 rifle.



Pictured above is David Wildoner of Glen Lyon with his 8 point, 160 pound buck which he harvested on the Monday after antler deer season began. As always, Dave was using his trusty 338 Winchester Mag.



Lions Club Distributes Baskets

After forty years of service to the community, the Newport Township Lions Club continues to distribute baskets to the elderly and homebound residents during the holiday season. This year the Lions distributed 65 baskets throughout the community. The baskets are made in conjunction with Sanitary Bakery, Nanticoke. Pictured are left to right, Lions Club President Don Reese, Sabrina Koporoski of Sanitary Bakery, Members Ed Zaborney, Jeremy Blank, John Zyla, Krissy Blank, and Ron Womelsdorf.

In the lower right corner is Jeremy Blank presenting a basket to Glen Lyon resident Evelyn Shimko.

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.

BALLI, Louis J. "Lou," 75, of Cape Coral, FL, formerly of Glen Lyon and Lattimer, passed away July 8, 2022. Born and raised in Glen Lyon, he was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1965. He was a US Navy veteran. Lou is survived by his wife of 24 years, Linda (Prete) Balli.

NOSS, Russell Duane, 85, of Hunlock Creek, formerly of Shickshinny and Glen Lyon, passed away August 15, 2022. "Russ" was born on May 10, 1937. He was a US Army veteran serving in Korea and Fort Sill, OK, and also with the Fort Casey Tank Corps. Russ was predeceased by his wife, Marion Ann (Keller) Noss.

SIEPIETOWSKI, James R., 57, of Glen Lyon, passed away September 1, 2022. James was born November 21, 1964. He was a graduate of Northwest Area High School with the Class of 1984. James was a US Navy veteran serving aboard the USS Ogden as an Aviation Boatswain's Mate (Fuel Handler) Petty Officer 3rd Class. He was a member of American Legion Post 539, Glen Lyon. James is survived by his wife of 33 years, Joan (Davenport) Siepietowski.

RINEHIMER, Ruth M. (nee Arnold), 95, of Hobbie concluded her journey in this life on August 27, 2022. Ruth was born in Wanamie on October 31, 1926. She was raised in Wanamie and attended Newport Township High School. Ruth was predeceased by her husband of 61 years, George C. Rinehimer.

WOJCIK, Betty Jane, 71, of Mocanaqua, died September 13, 2022. Betty was born in Nanticoke on February 14, 1951. She was raised in Mocanaqua and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1969.

KUNDROT, Constance (nee Nagle), 71, of Surprise, AZ, formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away. "Connie" was born in Nanticoke on March 16, 1951. She was raised in Glen Lyon and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1969. She also received her BA and MA degrees from Bloomsburg University. Connie was a teacher at Heights Murray Elementary in Wilkes Barre and retired as a Speech Therapist for Luzerne Intermediate Unit 18 after a 33-year career. Connie is survived by her husband of 47 years, Joseph Kundrot.

EROH, Donald P., 91, of Mountain Top and Rice Township, passed away September 28, 2022. Donald was born in Ashley on February 14, 1931. He was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1949. He was a US Army and Korean War veteran. Besides his parents, he was predeceased by his wife of 67 years, Mary E. (Drum) Eroh.

NEUMAN, Mary Kathleen (nee Hanlon), 79, of South Side Chicago, and a native of Newport Township, passed away September 23, 2022. Mary was born in Glen Lyon on November 27, 1942. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1961. Mary is survived by her daughter, Nina (Ray) Zanin; son, Joseph Neuman; brother, Matthew Hanlon of Glen Lyon; and sister, Rose Ann Perkowski of Lily Lake.

MIECZKOWSKI, Arlene (nee Mihneski), 83, of Newport Center passed away October 4, 2022. Arlene was born in Glen Lyon on June 11, 1939. She was raised in Glen Lyon and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1957. She was predeceased by her husband, Thomas Mieczkowski.

ADELHOCH, James, 87, of Spruce Street, Alden, passed away October 5, 2022, at home.

SHERRICK, Leona M. (nee Zidek), 75, of Mocanaqua, passed away on October 3, 2022. Leona was born in Nanticoke on August 15, 1947. Raised in Conyngham Township, she was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1965.

MALCZYK, Jane (nee Mieczkowski), 97, of Furlong, PA, and formerly of Newport Center, passed away June 30, 2022. Jane was born in Nanticoke on March 6, 1925. She was raised in Newport Center and attended Newport Township High School, leaving high school to serve the World War II effort as a "Rosie the Riveter." She was predeceased by her husband, Henry Ignatius Malczyk.

KNORR, Judith A. (nee Rasi), 89, of West Wyoming and formerly of Newport Township, died October 11, 2022. Judith was born in Glen Lyon and was a graduate of Newport Township High School. Judith was predeceased by her husband of 61 years, Wilbur Knorr.

RINEHAMER, William F. Jr., 69, of Nanticoke, formerly of Newport Township, passed away October 16, 2022. William was born in Nanticoke on April 26, 1953 and raised in Wanamie on Brown Row. He was a graduate of John S. Fine High School with the Class of 1971. He is survived by his wife of 49 years, Debra (Weidow) Rinehamer.

HUNTZINGER, Joseph M., of Slocum Township, Mountain Top, passed away on Monday, October 17, 2022. Joseph was born in Wilkes Barre. He was a US Army veteran, serving during the Korean War. Joseph is survived by his wife of 32 years, Lois Ann Cooper-Huntzinger, who attended Newport Township High School with the Class of 1958.

KESSLER, Barbara A. (nee Pliscott), 77, of Hartman Road, Hunlock Creek, formerly of Newport Township, passed away October 17, 2022. Barbara was born in Nanticoke on January 11, 1945. She attended Newport Township High School. She is survived by her husband of 59 years, Arden Kessler.

VANDERHOFF, John Jr., 74, of Glen Lyon, passed away as a result of a single vehicle accident on State Route 895 near Millers Crossing in West Brunswick Township, Schuylkill County.

STEC, Wanda "Winnie" (nee Karvaski), 91, a life resident of Newport Township, passed away October 15, 2022 at the home where she resided with her daughter, Nellie, in Wanamie. She was born in Nanticoke on October 17, 1931. Winnie was predeceased by her husband, Louis Stec and former husband, Milford Lewis.

VALANIA, Peter F., 54, of Hummelstown, formerly of Newport Township, passed away October 22, 2022. He was born in Wilkes Barre on April 9, 1968. He was raised in Alden and graduated from John S. Fine High School with the Class of 1985. He is survived by his wife Tracy (Thomas) Valania.

POWELL, Robin Marion (nee Kimball), 60, of Glen Lyon, passed away November 1, 2022. Robin was born in Wilkes Barre on November 28, 1961. She was a graduate of Hanover High School. She was predeceased by her husband, Gary A. Powell.

MARTIN, Mary L., 64, of Glen Lyon, passed away November 20, 2022. Mary was born in Lowell, MA on September 17, 1958. Mary is survived by her sons, London J. Zuscarr of Larksville and Levi C. Zuscarr of Glen Lyon.

TEDESCO Jr., Samuel J., 79, of Sheatown/Newport Center, passed away November 20, 2022. Sam was born in McKeesport, PA on July 28, 1943. He was a graduate of McKeesport High School with the Class of 1961 and was a US Air Force veteran with service at the Red Rock Air Force Base, Benton, during the Viet Nam War. Sam is survived by his wife, Marie (Luczak) Tedesco.

MINNICK, Andrew M., of Glen Lyon, passed away on November 21, 2022. He was born in Wilkes-Barre and attended GAR High School. He is survived by his wife, Joan.

SMITH, Elizabeth M. (nee Hankey), 87, of Bear, DE, passed away November 23, 2022. Elizabeth was a native of Glen Lyon, born on May 11, 1935. She attended Newport Township Schools. Elizabeth was predeceased by her husband, George R. "Red" Smith.

HUNT, Mary (nee Czech), 84, of Philadelphia, formerly of Newport Township, passed away on November 27, 2022. Mary was born in Dupont on February 2, 1938. She was raised in Sheatown from a child at Saint Stanislaus Institute, attended Newport Township schools, and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1956. She is survived by her son Stephen and daughter-in-law Jennifer.

Wanamie Dollar General Store Sold

By John Jarecki ~ The newly opened Dollar General store at 375 West Kirmar Parkway was recently sold for \$1,705,000. In order to understand this surprising development, it helps to know a little bit about Dollar General's way of doing business. According to the full-service real estate company Pickett Sprouse, Dollar General works with developers who acquire a property and construct a retail store on it. The developer may then keep possession of the property and store, or sell it to an investor. In either case, Dollar General leases the store from the owner and uses it to carry on its retail business. Dollar General's standard lease term is 15 years, making it a reliable long term tenant and giving the store owner a reliable long term investment. Typically Dollar stores provide a return somewhere near 6.5%. Since Dollar General will continue to manage the local Dollar General store, it is not expected that its retail merchandise would change. The only big change to be expected is a change in the investor who collects rent on the store.

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Pictured left is Frank Zimolzak's graduation picture from the 1945 Newport Township High School Yearbook. At right is his graduation picture from the 1953 Naval Academy Yearbook.

Frank Zimolzak: NCAA Fencing Champion

By Heidi Jarecki ~ Frank Zimolzak was born on May 10, 1927. His parents were William and Mary Textoris Zimolzak. William was born in Poland in 1897 and immigrated to this country in 1898 with his parents Frank and Anna. William's siblings were Bruno, Chester, Stasia and Stella. Mary was born on May 25, 1896 in Glen Lyon. Mary's siblings were Andrew, Helen, and Julia. William and Mary married in 1924 and had two children, Helen and Frank. The family resided at 216 West Main Street, Glen Lyon. William was employed at the Susquehanna Collieries #6 in Glen Lyon. On December 17, 1934, he was killed instantly in a rock fall. He was 37 years old. He had been a former president of Local 957, United Mine Workers of America, and a former member of the local grievance committee. He was active in all union affairs and was a member of St. Adalbert's Church. Following his death, Mary was employed at Retreat State Hospital. She was a member of St. John Slovak Lutheran Church in Nanticoke and the Glen Lyon American Legion Auxiliary. She passed away on October 14, 1985 at age 89. William and Mary are interred in Nanticoke Cemetery. Frank's sister Helen Balla passed away on July 28, 2015.

Frank attended Newport Township schools and graduated from Newport High School with the Class of 1945. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in April 1945. Frank served in the Pacific theater with the Second Marine Division. Germany surrendered on May 7, 1945, and Japan surrendered on August 14, 1945. In the immediate post-war era, the Marines took a large role in the initial days of the Occupation of Japan, beginning on August 28, 1945. Marines also took part in the post-war occupation of North China intermittently from 1945 until 1949. Frank rose to the rank of Sergeant.

After a rigorous selection process, Frank was appointed to the U.S. Naval Academy in Annapolis, MD in December, 1948. He entered the Academy in June, 1949 after graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy Preparatory School in Bainbridge, MD.

Frank had never participated in the sport of fencing before coming to the Naval Academy. He likely got an introduction to the sport in gym class. As described in the 1949 *Lucky Bag*, the Academy's yearbook, "The oldest and one of the most successful sports at the Academy always finds a Don Juan or two who has never touched anything bigger than a kitchen knife prior to those plebe gym classes up in the [fencing] loft, but who soon learns to push pins with the best of them." Frank became one of those Don Juans in short order.

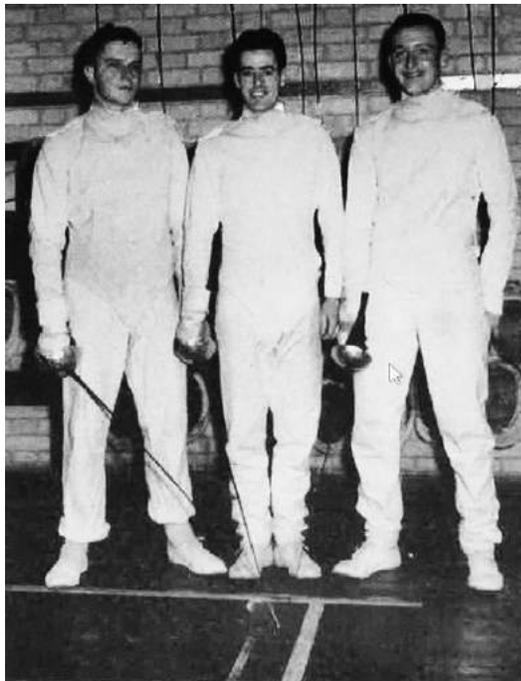
Fencing is a group of three related combat sports. The three disciplines in modern fencing are the foil, the épée (pronounced ay-PAY), and the sabre (also saber); winning points are made through the weapon's contact with an opponent. Each uses a different kind of weapon and has different rules. The foil is a light thrusting weapon with a maximum weight of 1.1 pounds. It developed from military training. The foil targets the torso, but not the arms or legs. It has a small circular hand guard that serves to protect the hand from direct stabs. The épée is a thrusting weapon like the foil, but heavier, with a maximum total weight of 1.7 pounds. In épée, the entire

body is a valid target. It developed from swordsmanship duels. It is Navy's traditionally strongest weapon in fencing. The sabre is a light cutting and thrusting weapon that targets the entire body above the waist, including the head and both hands. Like the foil, the maximum legal weight of a sabre is 1.1 pounds. It can be traced back to the cavalry. As the sabre discipline has a large range of movements and demands quick and strong attacks, the fencer's footwork and responses to strategy changes are keys to winning. Most competitive fencers choose to specialize in one weapon only. Frank became adept at the sabre.

The National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) has held championships in fencing every year since 1941 except for the four years 1943-46 during World War II. From 1941 through 1981, the championships were limited to men's fencing events and four championships were awarded: men's épée individual, men's foil individual, men's sabre individual, and team (i.e., men's three-weapon). From 1982 to 1989, there were separate team championships for men and women. Since 1990, co-ed teams compete in the fencing championships held in March.

Coached by Joseph Fiems and Andre Deladrier, the Navy fencing team was competitive for many years. Frank spent the 1949-1950 season on the junior varsity or second team. The 1950 *Lucky Bag* reported: "This year's Eastern [Athletic Conference] meet provided the closest contest in many years for the varsity team. The épée and foil teams tied New York University to bring back for one half year the Grasson Trophy and 'Iron Man.' (Robert Grasson was the longtime fencing master at Yale and donated trophies to help popularize the sport. The 'Iron Man' is awarded each year to the team that wins the Men's Foil competition at the Intercollegiate Fencing Association championships.) The sabre team lost by only one point." Navy went on to win the NCAA overall team championship in 1950.

The 1950-1951 season was Frank's first at the varsity level. Jess Owens '53 was one reporter who covered the fencing team for the student magazine *The Log*. When the season was still a bit young, Jess wrote, "Saber, the noisiest, most spectacular and most movie-like of the three weapons is the unknown quantity of the squad. Firstie Harris Wood, the four letterman and probable first man, provides the only experienced strength in this weapon. However, promising youngsters Frank Zimolzak and Earl Paulsen had brilliant records with last year's fancy plebe squad." In a match against Virginia, Navy was victorious by the score of 22 to 5. As reported, "Virginia's only threat to the Navy fencers was Team Captain Jack Reed who downed Olson in the foil and Forzan in the sabre, but went down before the onslaught of Frank Zimolzak." Against Army, Frank, who had made the starting lineup, would compete second in groups of three competitions per weapon. He was described as "big and fast." By the time they played New York University, the team had won six in a row.



Bill Gorski, Harris Wood, Frank Zimolzak-ready to face the Black Knight's powerful sabre team.

Navy defeated NYU by the score of 20-7. As reported, "Frank Zimolzak captured three matches in the sabre, while Ed Wood and Bill Gorski with two wins apiece accounted for Navy's seven points in that department."

Harris "Ed" Wood, Bill Gorski and Frank Zimolzak had demonstrated strong showings at the Eastern Athletic Championships on March 13-14 at West Point with 13 schools competing. Those three midshipmen were selected to attend the NCAA Fencing Championships held at the University of Illinois on March 30-31, 1951. Columbia won the overall title with Penn

coming in second. No doubt that experience in competition was an advantage for Frank the following year.

In 1952, the fencing team participated in six matches. The team lost to New York University and the University of Pennsylvania. In the January 31, 1952 edition of *The Log* Jess Owens wrote: "Frank Zimolzak, an outstanding sabre man, is ranked sixth nationally and in competition is as cool as ice. He calmly parries everything thrown at him and waits for his own chance. When he is aroused, sparks fly as he dazzles his opponent with swordplay. Greater aggressiveness may mean a higher national standing this year." He goes on to explain how the scoring works: "The fencers are wired for sound and the first touch scored lights a lamp and sounds a buzzer for the scoring man."

At the Pentagonals (The five schools competing were the U.S. Military Academy, the Naval Academy, Princeton, Yale, and Harvard.) held at the New York Athletic Club on February 23, 1952, Navy set a record by being the first college to win all three individual championships. (Frank) Zimolzak, (William) Lykes, and (John) Smith took the sabre, épée and foil titles respectively.

On March 1, Navy won a match against Army by the score of 17 to 10. Frank won both of his matches 5 to 1 and 5 to 4. At the Eastern Intercollegiate, Frank won first place. The Academy held annual non-intercollegiate fencing competitions. Dr. Jennifer Bryan, archivist at the Naval Academy, wrote that "Midshipman Zimolzak won [the] Thompson Medal in sabre at the Naval Academy Brigade Fencing Championships in 1952." The Thompson Medal is named for Col. Robert M. Thompson (1849 - 1930) who was one of the organizers of the Navy Athletic Association and a longtime executive on the American Olympic Committee. It is presented to the best fencer in each category at the Academy.

On March 29-30 1952, the NCAA fencing championships were held at Yale with 34 schools competing. It was a marathon of 1700 total matches. Frank advanced through the tournament without a loss. He scored in a round-robin fence-off over Stephen Sobel of Columbia and Bob Parmacek of Penn and ultimately won the NCAA individual sabre championship with a perfect 5-0 score. His coach, Andre Deladrier, competing for St. John's University, had won the same award just ten years before. Columbia won the team title that year and Navy placed fourth overall. The results were reported in newspapers as far away as Honolulu.

Following this remarkable achievement, Frank was elected captain of the team. Additionally, he was invited to participate in the Metropolitan Fencing Championship on April 13, 1952. It was considered a qualifying round for the Olympics. The Summer Olympics were held in Helsinki Finland that year. Whether he competed could not be determined.

In August 1952, Frank served aboard the U.S.S. Wisconsin as part of his training during Midshipmen Cruise Able. In October 1952, Frank was selected as Midshipman Lieutenant out of 467 eligible candidates. Criteria for the honor include: relative class standing in aptitude for Naval service, leadership qualities, conduct, and academics.

The 1953 fencing season was another successful one. By January 30, 1953, the team had won two matches and against Cornell, Frank won one of two contests. The team went on to win the Three-Weapon Championship in the Pentagonal competition and the same in the Eastern Intercollegiate. Frank again won the Thompson Medal in sabre at the Naval Academy Brigade Fencing Championships in 1953. Along with two teammates, he attended the 1953 NCAA championships held on March 27-28 at the University of Pennsylvania with 37 schools participating. Frank came in second in sabre, losing by one point to Bob Parmacek of Penn. Penn won the team championship and Navy came in second. Frank was declared NCAA "Fencer of the Year" for 1953 and was awarded the Illinois Memorial Trophy.

Frank graduated from the Naval Academy on June 5, 1953 with a bachelor of science degree and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps. He later earned a master's degree in personnel management from the Naval Post Graduate School in Monterey, CA and attended the National War College. Frank's military career was varied and took him to Vietnam and Korea among other places.

Frank served in Vietnam from April 1962 until May, 1963 as an advisor to the Third Marine Battalion. Frank worked with South Vietnamese reconnaissance groups on a number of operations. He received the Bronze Star with the Combat V (for valor) for his service there. When he returned to the States, Frank spent a year at the

Marine Corps School in Quantico, VA. After promotion to the rank of Major, he then completed a three year tour of duty at West Point. He was the only Marine serving as instructor of military science. He also coached the fencing team, which beat Navy in 1966. In the *Durham* (North Carolina) *Morning Herald*, it was reported: "The No. 1 surprise was Army, coached by Maj. Frank Zimolzak. After upsetting Navy's Middies in their first bout of the afternoon finals, the West Pointers caught fire and lost only to NYU twice in a strong bid for the title."

In 1967-1968, he served as second in command of the 15-man American Marine advisory team to the Republic of Korea Marine brigade. This brigade was stationed at Outpost 752 on the border of North and South Korea on the Kimpo Peninsula on the extreme western sector. An Associated Press newspaper article about this tour of duty appeared in the (Montgomery) *Alabama Journal*.

From 1977-1980, Frank served as director of the English and history departments at the Naval Academy. He also served as assistant fencing coach. By 1985 he had retired at the rank of Colonel. Is it any wonder that the Reunion Committee of the Newport High School Class of 1945 could never find Frank's address?

Frank married Sara Brown of Orlando, FL on July 16, 1955. They had two daughters, Sara Chace and Patricia Kassab and four grandchildren. Among other honors, he is a member of the Naval Academy Hall of Fame. Frank passed away at age 66 from cancer on Tuesday, June 8, 1993. He is interred in the Naval Academy Columbarium. Sara passed away on October 2, 2021 in Florida.

Special thanks to Dr. Jennifer Bryan, Head of Special Collections & Archives/Archivist, Nimitz Library, U.S. Naval Academy for her assistance with this article.

Sources: Citizens' Voice, Wilkes-Barre, PA; The Times Leader, Wilkes-Barre, PA; www.ancestry.com; www.archives.com; The Log (The Midshipmen's Magazine); www.wikipedia; www.yahoo/news; The 1949, 1950, 1951, 1952 and 1953 editions of The Lucky Bag, the Naval Academy's Yearbook; The Capital; Nimitz Library, U.S. Naval Academy; www.usna.edu/FencingClub/TeamAccomplishments; 1945 Newport Township High School Newportrait; www.newspapers.com; American Fencing Magazine; The Evening Sun (Baltimore); various websites.

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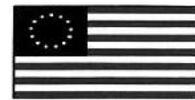
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The History of Kirmar Park Part IV: October 1909—1911

By Heidi Jarecki ~ Kirmar Park was once located on West Kirmar Avenue between Alden and Wanamie. It was a popular destination for residents in Newport Township, Nanticoke, and beyond. It was originally called Power House Grove when it opened in 1896 and was easily accessible due to the People's Street Railway, an electric trolley system, taking passengers directly to its entrance. The Grove was managed by the Superintendent of the Street Railway, who during this time period was William Warne, and improvements were made each year. In the winter months, the open pavilion was closed in and steam heat was installed. It was a multi-purpose venue and proved to be a vital part of community life. This article continues the story of Kirmar Park which began in the Spring 2022 Newsletter, # 68 and continues in successive issues.

After the busy 1909 summer of picnics, dances, and baseball games, local basketball teams advertised for games in October. The first game of the season was played on Friday, October 22 between the Young Americus and the Centennials, both of Nanticoke. The Centennials lined up games on several successive Friday nights: on October 29, they played the Plymouth Crescents. As reported, "Last evening the Power House pavilion was the scene of a lively game of basket ball when the Plymouth Crescents [sic] composed of well-known players and the Centennials, an aggregation of fast youngsters, struggled for supremacy. Although the Crescents [sic] greatly outweighed our boys [they] put up a fast snappy game and were successful in defeating their larger antagonists by the score of 26-20." On Friday, November 5, the Centennials had a game with the Wilkes-Barre Crescents. The Centennials won by a score of 26-22. "The game was interesting from start to finish, both sides playing brilliant ball."

The Howells Five of Nanticoke scheduled games on Thursdays: on October 28, the Howells Five played the Jaspers and on November 4, they played the F.M. team of Inkerman. On Friday, December 3, the Young Americus played the Nanticoke Jaspers. The Jaspers played a game with the Plymouth Halycons on Monday, December 6. The Young Americus also played the Halycons on December 10. Back on Fridays, the Centennials arranged games with the Diamond City Five, the Calvary Neptunes, the Elite of Plains, and the Askam Comets. On Christmas Eve, the Young Americus played the Elite Juniors. Not even the Christmas holidays slowed these guys down!

January began a new decade. The population of the Township went from 6,529 in 1900 to 10,277 in 1910. In the 1910s, big hats with large brims adorned with feathers, veils, and ribbons, and short hair were two trends among women's fashions. Skirts and coats were both narrow at the ankle, a bit shorter than previously. There was less emphasis on the S-shape that corsets created and thus a more fluid, flowing look was the result. High curved heels or boots were worn. In men's fashion, suits became popular, and the most informal trend was a blazer. Loose-fitting long suits called "sack suits" were replaced after World War I, when suits more resembled military uniforms. Felt derby and bowler hats became



Men's Fashions in 1910

Mine, Dad. The latter song was recorded by Stanley Kirkby, a popular crooner of the time. A ballad, it tells of a little boy warning his father of impending disaster. No doubt this song hit home locally.

William Howard Taft was President in 1910. Edwin Sydney Stuart was Governor, and a gubernatorial election in November made John K. Tener Governor in 1911. In 1908, Tener, a Republican, was elected to serve in the 61st United States Congress from Pennsylvania's 24th Congressional District. A former baseball player, Tener organized the first Congressional Baseball Game which is now an annual tradition on Capitol Hill. Tener later became President of the National League. Serving on the Newport Township Board of Commissioners in 1910 were Thomas Turner, Hans Hansen, Thomas Stocker, Louis Tuscuzinski, and Frank Bialieczewski. And finally, the most historically significant person born in 1910 is Mother Teresa.

Basketball games picked up immediately after the New Year, 1910. There were a few rule changes. Four personal fouls instead of five disqualified a player and put him out of the game. The game must also be played without bodily contact. That is, there must be no charging, no rushing, no shoulder blocking, and no tackling. On January 6, the Howells Five challenged the Wilkes-Barre Nationals to a game. The Nationals won by a score of 23-13. The Nationals played the Anthracite Team the following week, and the Centennials scheduled games on Friday evenings and also played games on opponents' floors. They defeated the Alden second team by an unbelievable score of 72 to 12!

Among additional teams that played at the Power House during the Winter of 1909-1910 were: the Keystones of Plymouth, Plymouth Rosebuds, Plymouth High School, The Mets, the B.I.A. Champs, the Susquehanna Five, Nanticoke High School, St. Mary's, the Crystals of Plymouth, the Elites of Plains, the Orioles of Plymouth, the Calvary Neptunes of Parsons, the Young Americus, Dorranceton High School, the Wilkes-Barre Reds, Berwick High School, and the De Neri A.C. team of Pittston. Most of these teams expected return games on their home floors. In February, the Wilkes-Barre Nationals refused to play the Centennials, because they had "played down there twice and [had] not had a return game yet from the Centennials." Team members incurred travel expenses, and there was also the matter of the advantage a team had playing on its home court.

In the spring, the grounds and pavilion were readied for summer events. The first baseball game of 1910 was played on Sunday May 8 between the Nanticoke Brothers and the Crescents, resulting in a win for the Brothers, 8 to 2. The Brothers team was comprised of 16-year-olds and advertised for games with teams of the same age. The first dance was held on May 12 by the Ladies Dancing Club at which five hundred carnations were handed out. The first picnic of the season was on Monday, May 30 by the Holy Trinity Church Congregation. "Rev. B. Iwanowski, the pastor, with the committee in charge are leaving nothing undone to make the day an enjoyable one at Power House Grove for those who attend."

Remember that from 1868 to 1970, Memorial Day was held on May 30, whatever day the date fell on. As reported, "The day was an ideal one for the purpose [marching to the various cemeteries and conducting services] and the members of the organizations turned out in large numbers. In the Presbyterian church last evening, the Jr. O.U.A.M. (Order

of United American Mechanics), and the few remaining members of the G.A.R. (Grand Army of the Republic) listened to a very interesting Memorial Day sermon delivered by Rev. Decker. At Glen Lyon this morning interesting ceremonies marked the baptism of a flag recently purchased by the Glen Lyon branch of the Polish National Alliance. The services were held in the St. Adalbert's Polish Catholic church and were conducted by the pastor, Rev. Smelts. Following the ceremonies the branch held a monster picnic at the Glen Lyon picnic grounds. At Power House Grove today the annual picnic of the Holy Trinity church congregation is in progress with a large number of people in attendance. As on previous holidays the rivals in baseball, the Nans and Alden meet in a double header today with a game at Alden in the morning and one at Edgewater Park (in Nanticoke) in the afternoon."

The first of a series of dances sponsored by the Nanticoke Victors baseball team was held on June 4. The Grizzly Bear and other new animal ragtime dances were becoming socially diffused and fashionable on a national scale, including the Bunny Hug, Bunny Hop, and the Camel Walk as well as variations on old themes like the oddly-metered Hesitation Waltz and exotic dances like the Brazilian Maxixe and eventually the Tango. The country was swept up in dance fever; so much so that there were reports of throngs of couples dancing the Turkey Trot and the Grizzly Bear in public along sidewalks of cities. It was a time to shake off Victorian ideals and the waltz and embrace dances that were new, fresh and daring during the "Age of Progress," capturing the American spirit of the early 1910s. Marshall's Band held the next dance at the Grove on Saturday the 18th.

On June 12, the Nanticoke Athletics crossed bats with a strong Dallas team. On Thursday, June 16, the Nanticoke Laborers played the Glen Lyon first team for a purse of \$25.00 (\$781.07 in today's money). As reported, "Both teams have undergone a great deal of practice and both are confident of winning." Glen Lyon won in a ten-inning game by a score of 4 to 1.

On June 25, the Nanticoke Victors baseball team held a "carnation" dance. The next day, the Nanticoke Crescents defeated the Nanticoke Brothers by a score of 8 to 7 in an eleven-inning game. And on Thursday June 30, a moonlight picnic was held with music by Oppenheim. The Oppenheim Band dated back to 1885 and was organized by Samuel Oppenheim of Wilkes-Barre when he was just 23 years old. Samuel became an accomplished violinist and was well-known in local music circles as both the leader of Oppenheim's Orchestra and as a music broker.

On July 3, the Nanticoke Athletics played another game with the Dallas team. On July 23, a box dance was held by the Victors' baseball team, with music provided by Oppenheim. The box dance or step is a basic dance step named after the pattern it creates on the floor, which is that of a square or box. It is used in a number of American Style ballroom dances: rumba, waltz, and the foxtrot. While it can be performed individually, it is usually done with a partner in a counter-clockwise direction on the floor.

On July 30, the Nanticoke Laborers' baseball team held a picnic at the Grove, and they played a game against the Hanover team. "A foot race between Ignatz Stapinski and Frank Mlenaric will be a feature. Oppenheim's orchestra will furnish music and a general good time is in prospect." The following day, the Nanticoke Crescents beat the Nanticoke Brothers in a ten inning game by the score of 5 to 4.



St. Denis Church

On August 1, St. Denis (Dennis) Church in Glen Lyon held a picnic at the Grove with music by the Oppenheim Band. The church was founded as St. John the Baptist Slovak Church, and was re-dedicated on October 19, 1890 as St. Denis. The congregation also held events at Dunn's Hall on Main Street in Glen Lyon. As reported, "Elaborate preparations have been made

to make the outing a grand success. A good time is assured to all."

On August 13, in the Wilkes Barre Record, it was reported that "Marshall's Junior Band of Wanamie serenaded the people of Main and Markets streets [in Nanticoke] last evening and attracted con-

siderable attention. This band is also known as the Little Boys' Band and is composed of twenty-five youngsters between the ages of 7 and 14 years. They were led last evening by James Marshall who has five young sons playing in the band. Such an aggregation of musicians is very seldom seen, and last evening many people were surprised to hear these little fellows playing so well. Today they will hold a picnic at Power House Grove in an endeavor to raise funds enough to purchase uniforms. There will be a base ball game and other sports, refreshments of all kinds and music for dancing they will furnish themselves." On August 15, the Record reported that "the picnic held at Power House Grove on Saturday by the Little Boys' Band of Wanamie was a very successful one and a neat sum was realized, which will be used to purchase uniforms. The refreshment stands were well patronized and a good sized crowd enjoyed the dancing. The Boys' Band augmented by a few of the senior members furnished music."

On Tuesday evening, August 16, the Nanticoke Victors baseball team held its 6th annual dance at the Grove. Music was provided by Oppenheim's Orchestra. The following day, Zion Reformed Sunday School held a picnic. "The committee in charge have left nothing undone and a large crowd is expected to attend. Games of all kinds have been arranged for and a good time is assured all who attend. The Stickney Band will furnish the music and ample trolley service will be employed. Refreshments can be had on the grounds." The Victors team held an additional dance at the Grove on Wednesday, August 31.

Labor Day was held on September 5, and a monster picnic was planned by Nanticoke Circle, No. 114, Brotherhood of America. "A shooting match open to all will be one of the attractions, while a private match between John J. Williams, Matt Spiegel and Frank F. Fedder for \$10.00 (\$312.43) is on the program. The test will be ten shots at mark and ten at bottle thrown in the air. All rifle clubs are invited to attend the shoot. There will be other sports also for boys, men, girls and women, and valuable prizes will be awarded...prizes include a five dollar gold piece, cut glass set, steel trout pole, military hat, and a pair of game chickens."

The picnic wasn't the only event on Labor Day. As reported in the Evening News, "Impressive ceremonies will mark the dedication of the new St. Adalbert's church at Glen Lyon on the morning of Labor Day and preparations are being made for the presence of a large number of people from all parts of the valley. A week ago the handsome bells recently received, were blessed. It will be remembered that during last winter the church standing on the same site of the present structure was destroyed by a serious conflagration, entailing a heavy loss to the members of the congregation."



St. Adalbert's First Church

On Sunday September 11, the Nanticoke Crescents played the Stanton Hill team at the Grove. And on Saturday September 17, the Nanticoke Victors held the last of a series of dances. Music was provided by Oppenheim's Orchestra. Admission was 25 cents (\$7.84) for gentlemen and 10 cents (\$3.14) for ladies.

On Saturday, the 24th, as reported, "Partly in recognition for the patronage given them by the local people at a recent picnic held at Power House Grove, Marshall's Junior Band, consisting of boys from Wanamie paraded the streets of the town Saturday evening in their new uniforms. This is the second visit of the Boys' Band to this town and on the former occasion the youths attracted considerable attention. The recent picnic was conducted for the purpose of realizing money in order to purchase uniforms." On Sunday afternoon, September 25, the final Luzerne Amateur League game of the season was played between the Glen Lyon Eagles and the Glen Lyon Colts at the Grove. It marked the end of the 1910 summer season.

In October, the pavilion was enclosed, steam heat installed, and basketball practices were held by various teams at the Grove. There was another rule change in effect for the 1910-1911 season. "No coaching [was] allowed during the progress of the game by anybody connected with either team. A warning [was] given for the first violation and a free

throw [was] awarded after that.” Ads appeared in the local papers requesting games: On Thursday October 27 was the following: “The Susquehanna Five of Nanticoke challenge the Nanticoke Grays to a game at the Power House Pavilion any Friday night. Answer in [the Wilkes-Barre] Record.” The first game of the 1910-1911 season was on Friday, November 11 when the Centennials of Nanticoke defeated the Wilkes-Barre Nationals by a score of 33 to 22. On Thursday, December 1 the Rexalls of Nanticoke played a tie game with the Pickwicks of Parsons, 10-10. The Rexalls played the Giants on Friday December 9, and the following evening, the Rexalls were defeated by the Nanticoke Crescents, 32 to 25.

Among the teams playing at the Power House Grove pavilion during the 1910-1911 season were: the Cardinals of Nanticoke, Nanticoke High School, the Lilacs, Company G, P.O.S. of A. (Patriotic Order, Sons of America) team of Plymouth, St. Francis Team, Liggett Candy Kids of Nanticoke, the Seminary Reserves, Plymouth High School, Diamond City Five, the Spauldings of Wilkes-Barre, the Keoka Club of Plymouth, Kingston High School, and Union Street High School of Wilkes-Barre.

On Thursday January 19, 1911, the Rexalls of Nanticoke defeated the Nanticoke High School team by the score of 27 to 21. On the following Thursday evening, the Rexalls defeated the Plymouth High School team by the score of 40 to 17. On Monday, January 30, “the Liggetts Candy Kids defeated the Spauldings of Wilkes-Barre at the Power House Pavilion by the score of 31 to 20. Grick and Schappert starred for the Liggetts, while G. Walton starred for the Spauldings.”

Basketball was suspended for a solid week in February. An indoor fair was held by St. Michael’s Church, West Main Street in Glen Lyon



St. Michael’s Church

from Wednesday February 15 to February 22, 1911. As reported on February 14, “Commencing with tomorrow evening and continuing until next Wednesday evening (Washington’s Birthday), the congregation of the St. Michael Polish Catholic Church of Glen Lyon will conduct a monster fair at the power house pavilion at Wanamie.

Richard Jones a prominent decorator of this place, with able corps of assistants is now busily

engaged decorating the pavilion, which in addition has been fitted up for a winter amusement place as well as during the summer. During the fair week at the pavilion dancing will be featured on the first night of the fair as well as Saturday evening and the final evening. Saturday evening the dancing event will be a masquerade, the participants to be attired in various Polish costumes and awards will be made by the committee in charge....On Sunday afternoon a matinee will be held, especially for the children. The proceeds of the coming fair will be added to the treasury of the church which was just recently organized in Glen Lyon.” Following the first night, it was reported: “The various booths contain many useful articles for the household, while the young people who attended the fair last evening were given the pleasure of enjoying dancing during the evening. The Committee [has] special features for each evening of the fair week and as the cause is a most worthy one the attendance during the fair promises to be very large.” On Monday February 20, the following appeared: “The fair at Power House pavilion under the auspices of St. Michael’s congregation of Glen Lyon has been largely attended every night since it opened but the banner night was Saturday, when the paid admissions reached the 1,000 mark. The receipts for Saturday night were more than four hundred dollars (\$12,547.87) while business has been good every evening. A feature Saturday night was a large number of men, women, and dressed in the native costume of Krakow, Russia. (Note: From 1795 to 1918, Poland was split between Prussia, the Habsburg monarchy, and Russia and had no independent existence.) The church choir rendered a number of selections also in a pleasing manner. The fair will be continued until Wednesday evening and on the closing night the Krakow costumes will again be worn. This was decided upon yesterday since a number who were unable to attend on Saturday night have requested that this be done. The fair is one of the most successful held by this congrega-

tion and a goodly sum will be added to the treasury as a result.” After all expenses were paid, the church realized a sum of over \$1200.00 (\$37,643.62). The Committee and pastor, Father Ziecki, planned a ball to be held on Easter Monday (April 17) at the Power House Pavilion.

Basketball resumed on February 23 with a game between the Rexalls and the Cardinals. This was likely the last game of the season.

On Saturday March 4, 1911, the Board of Directors of the People’s Street Railway Company met and planned to make a number of improvements to the power house with the installment of a six hundred horse power engine and generator with a monster new boiler. Two new cars were also being purchased. Superintendent William Warne was authorized to make “a number of vast improvements in the Power House Grove where picnics will be conducted this summer as heretofore. A little attention paid to the athletic field at the Power House Grove would be appreciated by the residents of Newport Township by giving the latter an excellent base ball diamond that is undoubtedly in demand in the lower portion of the township, particularly Wanamie.”

It was no April Fool’s joke when on April 1, a young man was arrested at the Power House after breaking a number of windows and destroying other property. As no type of insurance was mandatory in the United States until the 1930s, the cost of repairing the damage was considerable. The Street Railway had the four summer cars repainted and a new switch was being constructed at a point between Wanamie and Glen Lyon and “when completed a fifteen minute schedule between Hanover and Glen Lyon can be run. A number of permanent improvements to Power House Grove are also contemplated.”

The first baseball game of the Summer 1911 season was played on Sunday, April 23 between the Hanover A.A. and the Power House Stars. Hanover was victorious by the score of 12-5. Baseball rules, like basketball, evolved over time. Some of the biggest rule changes from 1901 to 1909 were: 1901: All foul balls not caught on fly counted as strikes until batter has two strikes. Catchers were compelled to remain continuously under the bat. 1903: The height of the mound was limited to 15 inches higher than the level of the baselines. 1908: Pitchers were prohibited from soiling a new ball. Also, the sacrifice fly as a statistical category was instituted in 1908. A sacrifice fly is one in which the batter allows a teammate to score a run, while sacrificing his own ability to do so. 1909: The relief pitcher must face at least one batter. The very first baseball game was played on June 19, 1846 and the Golden Age of Baseball was yet to come.

The first dance of the 1911 season was on April 27 with the Sarpolis Orchestra providing the music. The early Ragtime dances of the one-step, Argentine Tango, Brazilian Maxixe, The Old Barn Dance, Hesitation Waltz, Half and Half and Animal dances: the Grizzly Bear, Turkey Trot, Kangaroo Hop, Duck Waddle, Lame Duck, and the Crab continued to be popular. The Stickney Band conducted a dance on Saturday May 6. The following day the Barons of Glen Lyon defeated the Nanticoke Crescents 6 to 3. On May 16, the Victors baseball club held the first of their series of dances, with door prizes to entice attendees. It was announced that Miss Mary Dutch of Glen Lyon and Charles Dudeck of Middle Road won the door prizes. On Sunday May 28, the Nanticoke Crescents played the All Stars.

A picnic was held on Tuesday May 30. But who held it and for what purpose was overshadowed by the story of a lost little boy. As reported, “Andrew, aged 7, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Lakatos of Hanover, who was lost on Tuesday evening was found late that evening at Power House Grove, Wanamie. The boy left his home with the intention of attending a picnic in the lower section of the town. He followed the Hanover street car tracks until he came to the park, passing his mark. After standing about the square for some time he heard some people talking about going to the picnic which was at Power House. He followed the Glen Lyon tracks until he reached Power House. Here he was found and later returned to his parents.” That was a very long hike for a seven-year-old!

A rare no-hitter occurred during a game on Sunday June 11. “Yesterday afternoon at Power House Grove an interesting game was witnessed when the Nanticoke Crescents defeated the Umpire Athletics of Wilkes-Barre by the score of 13 to 0. Edwards, who pitched for the Crescents did not give the Athletics a hit. The batting of Werth for the Crescents was also a feature of the game.”

On Thursday June 22, the Owls Orchestra conducted a dance at the Grove. “Good music and a good time to all.” The following Saturday

the Stickney Band had a dance at which there was an altercation. "Two young men, one from [Nanticoke] and one from Wanamie, both foreigners, quarreled over a girl at the Power House Saturday evening. In an effort to obtain the company of the girl, words were followed by blows." The Victors Baseball Team sponsored another of their series of dances on Saturday July 1.

Intense heat in July cancelled many events. The 1911 Eastern North America heat wave was an 11-day severe heat wave that killed at least 380 people though estimates have put the death toll as high as 2,000 people. The heat wave began on July 4, 1911 and didn't cease until July 15. The area between Pennsylvania and Maine was reportedly most affected by the heat. During the 11 days, temperature records were set all over New England. In Boston, the temperature rose to 104° on July 4, an all-time record high that still stands today. The heatwave was finally ended by a severe thunderstorm, which traveled across the Northeast and killed an additional five people. It wasn't until 1931 that the most common type of individual room air conditioner, one designed to sit on a window ledge, was invented, and only the wealthy could afford it.

After the heat broke, events resumed. Ongoing construction projects improved the capacity of the trolley system. As reported, "The new large addition which is being constructed to the power house at Wanamie is now nearing completion. It is a brick structure and of ample dimensions. The new dynamo will soon be installed in this building and thus more power will be doled out to the different lines." On Saturday July 22, the Victors held a dance with music provided by Oppenheim's Orchestra. While playing baseball on July 23, "David Williams of Nanticoke was struck by a pitched ball with the result that he was knocked unconscious. It was several minutes before he regained consciousness."

On July 27 the local Nest of Owls planned a social outing. It promised an interesting program and music by the Owl's Orchestra. All members of the Philharmonie Glee Society, formerly the Owls Glee Club, were requested to meet and participate in the program. This affair was held exclusively for members of the order. Special cars were engaged to convey members to and from the event. Many out-of-town Owls were present and the outing was deemed a grand success.

The Central (Newport Township) High School Orchestra ran a dance on Thursday evening, August 3, and it proved successful, so they ran another dance the following week on August 10. The Young Crescents advertised for a game with the St. Francis Juniors on the morning of Friday, August 4 and on Sunday August 6, the Crescents played the A.J. Gobers team of Edwardsville.

On August 9, the Fairchild's Family Reunion was held at the Grove and "a pleasant time was had by all present." The Fairchilds were a prominent family in Newport Township. Fairchild's Pond on Alden Mountain Road was at one time harvested for ice to supply iceboxes before refrigeration was invented. The family allowed the public to ice-skate on the pond during the winter months.

A severe storm blew through the area on Friday August 18. "One of the buildings near No. 5 Breaker [in Nanticoke in the vicinity of Market and Hill Streets] in which safety lamps are stored felt the force of the wind fiercely as a corner of the roof was loosened. In Alden, Glen Lyon, and Wanamie the wind was full as severe as in Nanticoke. A number of trees were blown over, telephone and electric wires were crossed and at the Wanamie power house of the People's Traction Company it was necessary to shut off the current for a time. The storm came up quickly at 2 o'clock and lasted but a short time."

On Labor Day, Monday September 4, the Nanticoke Giants defeated the Nanticoke Victors by the score of 5 to 3. The following week on Tuesday September 12, the Giants sponsored a dance. "A good time for everybody. Everybody invited. Good music." On Tuesday September 19, a Moonlight Dance was conducted by the Victors Social Club. "Dancing till 10 o'clock and special cars after dance. There will be a waltzing contest and changeable lights for dancing." The Victors held a carnation dance on October 3 with music by Oppenheim's Orchestra. What was likely the final dance of the 1911 summer/fall season was run by the Owl's Orchestra on Saturday October 14.

In preparation for the upcoming basketball season, the following appeared in the Wilkes-Barre Record: "The official basket ball guide for 1911-1912, edited by George T. Hepbron, containing the

official rules, hundreds of photographs and interesting reading matter for all those interested in the game of basket ball, is the latest book published in the Spalding Athletic Library. The book contains fine half-tones cuts of all the important college, school, club and inter-settlement teams throughout the United States. The changes in the official rules for 1911-1912 should be carefully studied by all those who play or officiate at the games. It will be sent to any address in the United States or Canada by the American Sports Publishing Co., 21 Warren Street, New York, postpaid, upon receipt of 10 cents (\$3.14)." No doubt every player craved that book!

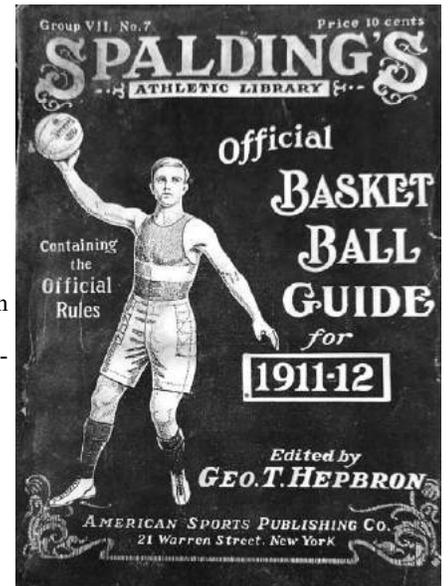
After the Pavilion was enclosed and heat installed, members of the Giants Athletic Club met for a business and social event on Tuesday November 2. Because the Nanticoke armory was being remodeled, Company L requested members to take the 7:30 car to the Pavilion on November 20 to perform drills. Company L was a company in the Ninth Regiment, National Guard of Pennsylvania. The company again performed drills at the Pavilion on December 27.

Beginning on November 24, several basketball teams, including the Rexalls, Centennials and Nanticoke High School, held practices through the next couple of weeks at the Pavilion. Teams advertised in earnest for games. The first confirmed game of the 1911-1912 season was on Friday December 15 when "the Central High School [of Wanamie] won [one] from the strong Nanticoke High by the score of 22-9." On Tuesday December 19, a game was played between the Wilkes-Barre Crescents and the Nanticoke Liggetts, with the Cardinals and Liggetts Juniors playing between halves. The Liggetts were victorious by the score of 26 to 17. The following evening, "two of the best games to be played at power house are expected. The first game will be played between the Central High School and Business College of Wilkes-Barre. The Central High School has a strong line-up and [is] going to try [to] stop the strong Wilkes-Barre team. Between halves the Nanticoke High School will line up against the strong Harry Hillman Academy [of Wilkes-Barre]. This is expected to be a good game because both teams are evenly matched. An admission of ten cents will be charged to see both games." The Wilkes-Barre Business College easily defeated the Central High School team by the score of 52 to 11. The Nanticoke High School-Hillman Academy game ended in a tie of 17 points in regulation. "By mutual agreement an extra five minutes was played during which Nanticoke made one point."

On Thursday December 21, the Rexalls played the Wanamie Crescents and were victorious by the score of 21 to 20. Between halves, the Blue Bells played the Hawthorne's, both teams from Nanticoke. On December 26, the Nanticoke Utopians defeated the Wanamie Crescents by the score of 16 to 14. Two nights later, the recently organized Sigm Pi Club played a "lively practice game" against the Nanticoke High School team. Another new team was the Agate Club. Teams continuously formed and disbanded and were always eager for competition.

To be continued.....

Sources: www.familysearch.org; www.pinterest.com; www.wikipedia.com; www.LJWorld.com; www.baseball-almanac.com; www.ebay.com; www.orangehoops.org; www.popsonghistory.wordpress.com; www.goucher.edu; *The Evening News (Wilkes-Barre)*; *The Wilkes-Barre Record*.



Thought for Today

How these curiosities would be quite forgot, did not such idle fellows as I am put them down! ~ John Aubrey (1626-1697)

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Pictured left is Halloween at the Leon Bonczewski residence in Glen Lyon.

Below, Santa Claus took a break from his busy schedule and visited several locations throughout the Township on the Township Fire Truck on December 10th. He was assisted by elves from the Newport Township Women's Activity Group



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Chris and John Selecky of Laguna Beach, CA catch up on news from home in Big Sur in central California which is famous for its magnificent vistas. John grew up in Glen Lyon and graduated from Newport High School with the Class of 1959.



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3 Egg Omelet	\$4.99	Ham & Turkey	\$4.49	\$6.99
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Potato Pancake		\$3.99	Loaded Fries	\$3.49	\$4.49
Chicken Nuggets		\$4.99	Wing Fries	\$2.99	\$4.29
	2 pc		Curly Fries		\$3.99
Pizza Egg Rolls	\$3.99		Cheese Curly Fries		\$4.49
	3 pc	5pc	Loaded Curly Fries		\$4.99
Chicken Tender	\$5.99	\$8.99	Funnel Cake	\$4.99	
	5 pc	10 pc	Fries (20 pc)		
Chicken Wings	\$5.99	\$9.99	Popcorn Chicken	\$3.49	\$5.99
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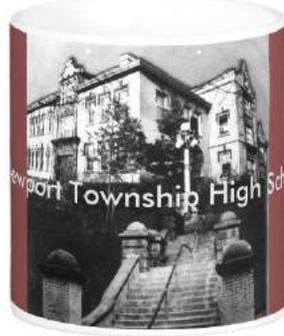
**Monthly Food Distribution
Held at Recreation Park**

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

With the cooperation of the Township Board of Commissioners and Township Manager Joe Hillan, outdoor distributions take place in a drive-through format at the Wanamie Recreation Park on the second Saturday of the month between 11 am and 12 noon. For the winter months, the distribution will take place at the Municipal Garage adjacent to the Municipal Building on Kirmar Parkway. Seasonal fruits and vegetables, along with milk, canned goods, rice and pasta are among the foods available.

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

Palmira Miller chairs this event for the NTCO. She can be reached at 570-592-7876.



**Two Ways to Remember
Newport High School**

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

For a donation of \$10.00, you can enjoy your morning coffee or tea while reflecting on your care-free youth! The mug, pictured below left, features a composite black and white photograph of Newport Township High School and its famous steps, with wide red stripes bordering each side. "Newport Township High School" is printed across the center in light gray lettering. If mailed, include postage: \$7.15 for one, and \$9.00 for two. Contact Heidi and Paul Jarecki, 28 West Main Street, Glen Lyon, PA 18617. Email: hselecky@pa.metrocast.net. Phone 570-733-2540. Check out NTCO's website.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

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

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

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 ~ The Late Honorable Paul R. Selecky