



Fall 2023

Online at www.newporttownship.com

Number 74

Newsletter of the Newport Township Community Organization Editors: Heidi and Paul Jarecki

"Pale amber sunlight falls across the reddening October trees, That hardly sway before a breeze
As soft as summer: summer's loss Seems little, dear! on days like these." ~ Ernest Dowson



Vandermark Road in Wanamie

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 July, August, and September 2023.

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 is repairing 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 of 2022 Multiscape started work on sidewalks and curbs on the west side of Glen Lyon. By August of 2023 work on the project was complete, a walking inspection was done, and the contractor was working on the punch list, that is a list of final adjustments pointed out as needed by the inspection.

NorthPoint Development Warehouse Construction Project:

NorthPoint Development, a national construction company based in Kansas City, Missouri, which has constructed a number of warehouses along the South Valley Parkway, has 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. On its completion, Lowe's, the home improvement retailer, is scheduled to operate this warehouse. According to the Citizens' Voice Newspaper, in early January 2023, Lowe's warehouse management was advertising for workers. 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.

Inside: Township Business p.1-3; NTCTO President's Message, Newport United Activities p.3; National Night Out p. 4-5; Township Events p. 5-7;

Obituaries p.8-9; Joe Kutz p. 10-11; Ed Gayeski p.12-13; TJ Gernhart p.13; Military Retirees and Current Military p.14; Ray Tereshinski p.15;

History of Kirmar Park p.16-19; Township Events p.20-21; Ads p.22-23; NTCTO p. 24.

Vote on November 7!

Please support our advertisers who help make this publication possible.

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 began 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 19 buildings in the first six Groups of properties chosen for demolition. The total cost of their demolition amounted to \$326,000. In addition, the building at 69-71 West Main Street in Glen Lyon (formerly Tarnowski's store) was also demolished in May 2023 after a Luzerne County court ordered an emergency demolition. The cost was \$22,000.

In September 2023 the Township awarded a contract to low bidder A. R. Popple of Wilkes Barre for the demolition of a Seventh Group of properties consisting of 101 Newport Street, 100 Railroad Street, and Rear 4 West Enterprise Street, all in Glen Lyon, at a cost of \$65,000.

Wanamie Cell Phone Tower: In June 2022 the Luzerne County Zoning Hearing Board approved variances requested by Verizon to construct a cell phone tower on Newport Township property in Wanamie next to the Municipal Building. Construction began in March 2023. In August 2023 work on the tower was complete and it was in operation.

Glen Lyon Cell Tower: In March 2023 the Luzerne County Zoning Hearing Board approved variances requested by Verizon to construct a cell phone tower at 1 Depot Street in Glen Lyon, behind the Ken Pollock Apartments. Cell phone service is poor in Newport Township for both the public and first responders. The two cell tower projects are expected to improve the situation. In August 2023 construction of the Glen Lyon tower had begun.

Cable TV Update: In December 2022 the Commissioners approved Ordinance #6 of 2022 requiring cable television systems to obtain a franchise to operate in Newport Township and establishing regulations for a cable television system operated by Comcast. Comcast plans to start installation of a cable system in the Township in the 4th quarter of 2023. Breezeline already has a cable system operating in the Township.

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 of 2022 the Township had completed the project of paving Robert Street Alley and installing storm drains. The work was funded by a Covid-9 Recovery Funds Grant.

In March 2023 the Commissioners awarded a contract to low bidder Pennsy Supply to repave Vandermark Road in Wanamie and Newport Street in Glen Lyon at a cost of \$344,712.67. This work was funded by a \$565,960 grant from Luzerne County's Community Development Office. The project was completed in June 2023. In September 2023, the Commissioners awarded a contract to low bidder Pennsy Supply, at a cost of \$231,416.35 to pave selected streets in Newport Township with funds from the Community Development Office that were left from the grant used earlier in the year to pave Vandermark Road and Newport Street.

Recreation Park Improvement Project: In November 2022 work began on rebuilding the basketball and tennis courts using Covid relief funds. Work resumed in spring 2023 and was completed in August. In March 2023 Luzerne County informed the Township that it had received an American Rescue Plan Grant of \$395,738.50 to renovate the Park by doing the following work: restoration of storage facilities, restoration of rest rooms, paving the parking lot, paving the walking trail, and restoration of the pavilions. In June the Township asked for bids to do the work. In August, the Commissioners awarded three contracts, funded by Luzerne County through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), for the following Recreation Park improvements: 1) General construction of restroom/storage facilities and pavilions – awarded to H&P Construction of Kulpmont PA at a cost of \$102,447.95; 2) plumbing in the restroom/storage facilities and pavilions – awarded to Linco of Hunlocks Creek PA at a

cost of \$26,275; and 3) electrical construction in restroom/storage facilities and pavilions – awarded to Vishnefski Electrical of Sheatown at a cost of \$14,420. In September 2023, the Commissioners awarded a contract to Don E. Bower of Berwick to pave the parking area and the walking trail at the Wanamie Recreation Park at a cost of \$225,737.00.

Lower South Valley Land Bank: In August 2022, the Commissioners approved Ordinance #2 of 2022 authorizing the Township Manager to enter into an intergovernmental cooperation agreement with other parties of Luzerne County for the purpose of establishing the Lower South Valley Land Bank.

The Commissioners then appointed Ronald Jones as Newport Township's Citizen Representative to the Lower South Valley Land Bank. In September of 2023, Township Manager Joe Hillan announced that the South Valley Land Bank acquired four properties at the August Luzerne County Judicial Sale: 1) 48 Newport Street (the building will be demolished as soon as the Land Bank receives the title for the property), 2) 5 Arch Street (the building will be evaluated for either sale or demolition), 3) 69-71 West Main Street (a garage on the property will be demolished as soon as the Land Bank receives the title), and 4) 128 West Main Street (this is a vacant lot that will be put up for sale). All properties are in Glen Lyon. Under Pennsylvania law, a land bank has the advantage of being able to acquire a property at a judicial tax sale (free and clear sale) without having to bid.

July 5, 2023: Residents' Comments: Residents were concerned about trash accumulating on neighbor's properties and burned out and dilapidated buildings in their neighborhoods. Township Manager Joe Hillan said the Township has ways of dealing with these problems.

Meeting Business: Township Financial Oversight Consultant Jennifer Polito reported that for the first six months of 2023, the Township had revenue of \$2,032,458.38 and expenditures of \$1,366,432.65.

The Commissioners approved awarding the engineering contract for improvements to the Wanamie Recreation Park to PennEastern Engineers.

The Commissioners approved an intergovernmental cooperation agreement between Hanover Township, Nanticoke City, and Newport Township for the purpose of jointly funding renovation of the sewage systems of the three communities. The project would be funded through Luzerne County by the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The Commissioners also approved hiring Hailstone Economic of Scranton to assist with the management and reporting of ARPA funds and with management of the project itself.

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

1) The Township mailed 60 certified letters on June 16 to residents who did not pay the refuse and recycling fee notifying them that if payment is not received by July 5, it will file citations at Magistrate Whitaker's Office.

2) The scheduled paper shredding event at the Municipal garage was held on June 17 and an electronic recycling event was held in the same location on July 1. Both events were successful in attracting a good amount of community participation. Another paper shredding will be held on October 21 from 9 am to 12 noon, and an electronic recycling will be held in 2024.

3) PennEastern Engineering has prepared cost estimates for rebuilding James and Mark Streets in Sheatown and repaving Vista and Overlook Drives in Ridgeview. The Township will use these estimates to submit an application for a State Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for a multimodal grant of \$766,678.99 to fund this project.

August 7, 2023 Residents' Comments: A resident asked whether she could replace the grass in the newly installed tree lawn with stones or pavers. Mr Hillan said she could do it when final inspection and related work on the sidewalk was completed.

Meeting Business: The Commissioners awarded three contracts, funded by Luzerne County through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), for Recreation Park improvements. (See Recreation Park Improvement Project at left.)

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

- 1) Magistrate Whitaker has scheduled 26 hearings on August 29 for residents who have not paid their 2023 refuse and recycling fee.
- 2) On August 1 the Luzerne County Zoning Hearing Board approved a use variance for the Township to place an illuminated message board sign in front of the Municipal Building.

September 5. Meeting Business: Township Financial Oversight Consultant Jennifer Polito reported that for the first 8 months of 2023 the Township had income of \$2,667,732.05 and expenses of \$2,399,422.63.

The Commissioners voted to accept a letter of retirement from Paul Mierzwa from the position of Newport Township Fire Apparatus Driver effective July 12, 2023.

The Commissioners approved the following resolutions authorizing Township Manager Joseph Hillan to submit applications for single application grant funding (gaming grant funding) for the following projects: **1)** \$1,677,815.70 for repaving 9 roadways in Newport Township, **2)** \$261,191.70 for extending the installation of sidewalks on Main Street in Glen Lyon, **3)** \$134,750.00 for installing fencing and playground equipment on a property located at the corner of Stralka Lane and Railroad Street in Glen Lyon, and **4)** \$295,900.00 for the acquisition and demolition of blighted properties in the Township.

NTCO President's Report

By Stephen E. Phillips ~ As noted in our Summer edition, increasing costs related to the publication of this Newsletter, combined with the very possible decline in funding from our historically major income generator requires the Organization to continue to seek contributions from our loyal readers to help insure that we can continue printing the paper in its current format. All of the NTCO's Board, Officers, and dedicated working members remain committed to publishing the document as long as financially possible. Several discussions have been held to identify potential cost containment measures to assist in insuring that we can still provide this popular service. We have already mentioned the possibility of reducing the number of publications per year, reducing the number of copies, and having fewer pages per edition. Also considered were increasing the cost of advertisements and newsletter subscriptions, reducing mailing costs, and seeking contributions from other sources. Once again we are respectfully requesting that our long-term readers and supporters consider making a donation to aid in our effort to preclude any action that would diminish the quality of our Organization's hallmark. We also strongly encourage our subscribers to make their annual subscription payments by the beginning of each calendar year to guarantee that they will continue to receive their quarterly mailings in a timely manner.

On a more positive note, the NTCO continues to work closely with the Township's elected and appointed officials and remains committed to assisting them in carrying out numerous administrative and related functions upon request.

We would be remiss if we did not acknowledge the fine job performed by the Newport Township Crime Watch led by Amy Saraka and her band of dedicated workers and all other volunteers and participants whose combined efforts made the August 1st National Night Out event a resounding success. Many well deserved positive comments regarding this activity were made by the attendees.

Another activity worthy of continued praise is the monthly food distribution sponsored by the NTCO. This event is held on the second Saturday of every month at 11:00 am in the Township's Public Works Garage adjacent to the Township's Municipal Building along Kirmar Parkway. Currently, food to feed 150 families is provided to the Organization by the Commission on Economic Opportunity. The long-time Coordinator of the event is Palmira Miller, capably assisted by Amy Saraka and Linda Conner.

Another endeavor of the Township Community Organization is the sale of T-shirts commemorating the Municipality's 250th Anniversary. The cost is \$15.00 per shirt. If interested in purchasing one, contact Heidi Jarecki at 570-733-2540. (Please see p.24.)

In closing, this writer again strongly encourages our readers to participate in one or more of our volunteer groups serving the Township. Your participation will be greatly appreciated. All organizations would gladly accept more volunteers. In today's environment, more is asked from fewer. Take the time to help make your community better.

New Basketball, Pickleball and Tennis Courts at the Wanamie Recreation Park

Check out the newly resurfaced basketball courts and pickleball/tennis courts at the Recreation Park. Pickleball is one of the fastest growing sports in the country. It is a racket or paddle sport in which two or four players hit a perforated, hollow plastic ball with paddles over a 34-inch-high net until one side is unable to return the ball or commits an infraction. Pickleball is played both outdoors and indoors. See the pictures on page 21. Better yet, put on your sneakers, grab a racket or basketball, pick up a friend or two and get out there and play!

Congressman Dan Meuser Congratulates Newport Township on its 250th Anniversary (See Below)

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

August 1, 2023

Dear Newport Township Commissioners and Residents:

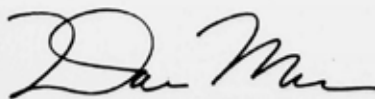
I want to extend my heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of Newport Township's 250th Anniversary.

As one of the original townships in Luzerne County, the Township has a long history. Major Prince Alden established the first settlement in Newport Township in 1772 and the Township was incorporated in 1790. As the coal industry grew throughout the 19th and 20th centuries, thousands of people were drawn to the Township which includes the villages of Wanamie, Glen Lyon, Sheatown, Lee, and Alden Station. Residents of these mining villages produced more than three-quarters of a million tons of anthracite coal annually for the nation and the world at peak production.

Besides its rich coal mining history, Newport Township is the birthplace of Pennsylvania's 35th Governor, John S. Fine. Born in 1893, Fine was one of nine children, a veteran of World War I, and the first Pennsylvania Governor to have his inauguration televised in 1951. The Township is also home to the historic St. Stanislaus Institute. Dedicated on July 4, 1919, the Boys Building, the first St. Stanislaus building on the site, was established by the Diocese of Scranton to care for orphans and children affected by the casualties of World War I, the influenza outbreak of 1918, and the effects of coal the mining industry. In December 2008, this site was added to the National Register of Historic Places for its historical and architectural significance.

As the Township celebrates the past and looks ahead to the future, on behalf of the House of Representatives and the citizens of Pennsylvania's Ninth Congressional District, I offer my congratulations and best wishes for a bright future.

Sincerely,



Dan Meuser
Member of Congress

Newport United Seeks Donations for Coal Miner Statue

Newport United has embarked on a new project to honor all those who sacrificed so much. The Organization is seeking donations to erect a statue of a coal miner that will be a focal point of the beautification project in front of the Municipal Building. The statue will be made of grey granite. Attendant costs include landscaping and lighting. An electronic bulletin board was later incorporated into the project.

Won't you join us? No donation is too small. Please send your donations to Newport United in care of the Newport Township Municipal Building, 351 West Kirmar Avenue, Wanamie, PA 18634. Make checks payable to Newport United. We are excited about this project and hope the Community will support us. Thank you!



Newport Township Crime Watch held its annual **National Night Out** event on August 1 at St. Faustina Grove in Sheatown. In addition to the many community groups participating, the Township celebrated its 250th Anniversary with a beautiful display of memorabilia, designed by Krissy Blank. Face painting, jump houses, and games made a hit with the children. State Senator Lisa Baker and State Representative Alec Ryncavage paid a visit, and the event was featured on the local FOX affiliate FOX 56 News. The cake shown above was devoured in minutes! Amy Saraka serves as President of Crime Watch.



Newport Township: 250 Years Young

*Speech Delivered at
National Night Out
by Paul Czapracki,
President of the Newport
Township Board of Commissioners*

I welcome you on behalf of the Newport Township Board of Commissioners as we join with the Community's Crime Watch Organization to celebrate our beloved Township's 250th Anniversary.

As we look back upon the Municipality's two and one half centuries of existence many changes have taken place. We began in Colonial Times, shortly before the start of the Revolutionary War, as an agrarian based society and progressed during the ensuing decades after the discovery of coal in Northeastern Pennsylvania as part of one engine which drove the Nation's Industrial Revolution. Our population expanded initially with immigrants from Eastern Europe. These latter individuals provided the major workforce of the emerging hard coal industry.

Several small towns sprang up within the Township, but there was always a strong sense of a singular community. As time passed, our locale was faced with meeting the challenges as posed by Two World Wars and several other military conflicts, a worldwide Depression and several major health crises. Our citizenry always met these obstacles head on, and prevailed in all instances. The strength of character innately bred into our native sons and daughters led us not only through these difficult times, but enabled them to persevere and succeed in their own lives, both here and in other locations. Today, we continue to face impediments on many fronts, but given our history and the continued commitment of your local elected and appointed officials, and the Township's dedicated volunteer organizations we shall continue to triumph.

Before closing, I would like to thank the Newport Township Police Department, Fire and DPW Departments as well as the Fire Police and the Administrative Office for their continual service to the Township. Without their hard work, the Township would not be moving in such a positive direction. We shall continue to look proudly at our past, but shall never waiver in our commitment to the future.

Happy Anniversary, Newport Township!



On Wednesday June 14, Flag Day, Newport Township Veterans Organizations held its annual ceremony at the Legion to replace "Old Glory" with a new flag. "Old Glory" was ceremonially burned along with weather worn flags retrieved from cemeteries prior to Memorial Day.

The Floryshak Family Glen Lyon Community Grant to Be Offered for the 2023-2024 School Year

This award will provide financial assistance in the form of a \$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. The recipient must be a graduating senior student at Greater Nanticoke Area High School and will be selected based on positive community involvement as well as school and extracurricular activities. The donors of the award are Vincent Floryshak and Diane Grudkowski Floryshak, 1971 graduates of Nanticoke Area High School, and is given to honor the Floryshak Family.

Recipient selection will be based on the following criteria:

1. Current residency of three years or more in Glen Lyon.
2. Documented participation in community service to either the high school or local area, e.g.- food banks, service organizations, religious group involvement, first responder assistance, Boy Scouts/ Girl Scouts, Student Council, etc. There are many other examples.
3. Sports involvement with the High School. Two years varsity activity with any sport, band participation, or cheerleading/pep squad membership. Medical waivers are possible.
4. An up-to-one page essay on how you would further help the Glen Lyon community "if you became Mayor today."
5. Letters of recommendation from one teacher and from one community leader.
6. Copy of high school transcript. This grant is heavily based on community involvement, not on GPA.

A formal application will be available in the High School guidance office for all interested applicants. The grant recipient will be announced at the school Awards Day program. The grant money will be sent to the recipient's school's financial office.



On Saturday, July 22, the Battle of the Bands event took place at the Glen Lyon Legion. This may be a future regularly scheduled public event. Pictured above are the "No Name Singers, NNS" (yet) with VFW Commander John Wildes, Scott Owen, Tom Musso, Corey Owen and Roy Chestnut. Also participating were "Nuttin Fancy" and "Dark Horizons."



On Saturday August 19, the Legion sponsored a Luau complete with a pig roast, Hawaiian decorations, and tropical desserts. Pictured above are: Beverly Traugh, Ellen Czajkowski, Paul Belles, Terry Levandowski, Walter Czajkowski, Lynne Belles, and unidentified guests. Music was provided by DJ Francis Kirschner. Paul and Lynne Belles were the master chefs.



Blighted Property Remediation

Three properties in Glen Lyon will be demolished this fall. Pictured above left is a house at 101 Newport Street. It was a multiple occupancy structure that dates back to the early 1930's. Several families lived there, including the Malewski, Krzywicki, Pawelski, Yankoski, and Chmelefski families. It was last occupied in the 1970's. Pictured above right is a house at R4 West Enterprise Street. It is tucked away and may prove difficult for the wrecking crew to access. The Sopko Family resided there at one time. Pictured left is 100-106 Railroad Street that was built in the 1940's by Samuel, Nathan and Ernest Grotsky who owned a furniture business. From about 1975 to 1988, the building was occupied by Christy Fashions, a dress factory owned by Carl and Mary Wychock of Mountain Top. Job ads were continuous, asking for "Experienced Operators, Prep Girls, Top Stitchers, Collar B, Cuff Makers, Pressers, Union Shop, Merrow Machines." The factory even had a bowling team. After the factory closed, attempts were made to convert the building into apartments, and for a short time, it housed a billiard and pool table arcade. It has been vacant for the last 20 years.



Newport Township Community Organization Conducts Monthly Food Pantry

By Tom Kashatus ~ Newport Township Community Organization (NTCO) conducted their monthly Food Pantry on September 9 at the Newport Township Municipal Garage in Wanamie. Turnout was heavy as about 150 families were served.

Volunteers at the event worked hard and people were served without a hitch. Preparations for the food pantry began at 8:00 am and the event was done by 12 noon. The NTCO thanks the Township Commissioners for the use of their facilities and the volunteers who turn out eagerly every month and commit their valuable time for their neighbors in need. In the photo, the Pantry Supervisor for the day Amy Saraka exhibits her enthusiasm for a "Job Well Done."

Kneeling: Frank Petrone, Kris Petrone, Cassandra Evans, Dave Jumper, Fred Krafft. Standing: Celia Wallace, Jane Adamczyk, Rosemary Phares, John Sutton, Christina Cromer, Lisa Jumper, Richard Yale, Mary Jo Evans, Stephanie Evans, Darien Evans, Ron Jones, Ed Bush, Steve Phillips, Amy Saraka. Other volunteers include: Palmira Gregory, Amos Vanderhoff, Kathy Domashinski, Aidan Domashinski, Rilie Domashinski, Dave Namowicz, Fred Krafft Jr., Larry Ace, and Alec Evans.

Township Sponsors Shred Day

Another paper shredding day will be held on Saturday October 21, 2023 at the Municipal Garage, 351 West Kirmar Avenue, Wanamie between 9 am and 12 pm. No Businesses. Residents must show proof of residency and there is a limit of 3 boxes per vehicle. Contact the Township Office at 570-735-4735 for more information.

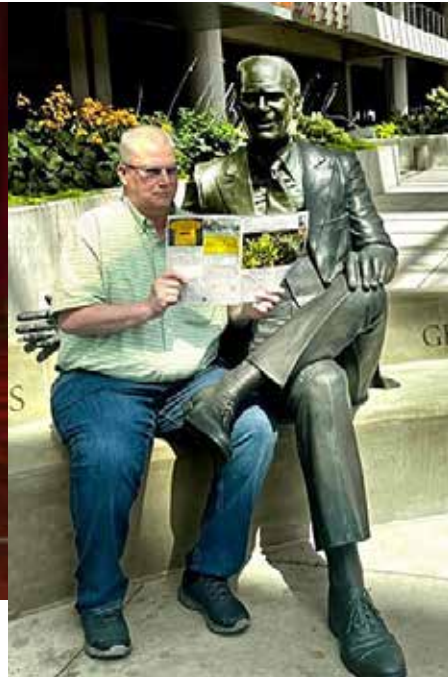
Trunk or Treat and Fall Bingo

The Newport Township Women's Activity Group will sponsor the annual Trunk or Treat event on Sunday October 29 at the Municipal Garage, 351 West Kirmar Avenue, Wanamie.

The Fall Bingo will be held on Sunday November 5 at St. Adalbert's Church Hall on Market Street in Glen Lyon. Doors open at noon.



At left is St Faustina's Picnic at their Grove in Sheatown on June 23 and 24. It featured entertainment by the Lance Thomas Band and Idol Kings.



At far left is the Initiation Ceremony of new members into the American Legion Post 539 Auxiliary in Glen Lyon. President Barbara Meyers led the ceremony on June 19.

At left is Peter Selecky sharing the *News* with President Gerald Ford at the airport that bears his name in Grand Rapids Michigan. Peter and his wife Annamarie live in Bradenton, Florida

Below are Brianna Dougherty and Daniel Vishnefski with their children Onali and Lennon overlooking Ciutadella Park in Barcelona Spain. The Park includes the city zoo, a small lake, museums, and a large fountain.



Once again, Tarnowski's Kielbasa in Nanticoke won first place in both the fresh and smoked categories in the kielbasa tasting contest at the Annual Plymouth Alive Kielbasa Festival on August 11 and 12. Pictured above are Anastasia and John Vishnefski, proprietors. John uses the recipe passed down from his grandfather Tad Tarnowski and his brothers of Glen Lyon.



TARNOWSKI'S KIELBASA

579 EAST MAIN STREET ♦ NANTICOKE, PA 18634

"The Original Recipe Since 1946"

You Can't Beat
Our Meat!

Plymouth Alive
1st Place 2019, 2021, 2023
Best Smoked Keilbasa

Plymouth Alive
1st Place 2016, 2021, 2023
Best Fresh Keilbasa

570-736-6585

John & Anastasia Vishnefski

Obituaries

By Tom Kashatus ~ These obituaries are in reference to individuals who have ties to Newport Township and/or Newport Township High School. They 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.

PALUCK, Gerald S., 80, of Dallas, formerly of Newport Township, passed away June 7, 2023. Gerald was born in Alden Station on June 26, 1942. He was raised in Alden and was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1960. "Gerry" was a US Army veteran serving with the 196th Special Brigade (STRAC) at Fort Devens, MA.

MENDOLA, Julia (nee Ottaviani), 90, of Queen Creek, AZ, formerly of Newport Township, passed away March 15, 2023. Julia was born in Nanticoke April 1932. She was raised in Glen Lyon and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1950. Julia was predeceased by her first husband, Anthony Beeunas Jr. and second husband, Frank Mendola.

MENDOLA, Frank A., Lt. Col. Ret., 86, of Phoenix, AZ, formerly of Newport Township, passed away February 14, 2007. Lt. Col. Mendola was born in Glen Lyon on September 27, 1920. He was raised in Glen Lyon and graduated from Newport Township High School. He was a US Army veteran serving in the Air Corps during World War II.

PAWLUSH, Joseph C., 74, of Bradenton, FL, and formerly of Newport Township, passed away June 8, 2023. Joseph was born March 20, 1949. He was raised in Wanamie and was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1967. Later he graduated from Columbia University with a BS degree in Industrial Engineering and a MS in Industrial Engineering and Management.

KAMINSKI, Catherine A. (nee Walkowiak), 71, of Alden, formerly of Nanticoke, passed away June 26, 2023. Catherine was born on November 20, 1951 and raised in Nanticoke. She was a graduate of John S. Fine High School with the Class of 1969. Catherine also received a BA Degree from Bloomsburg University and an MA degree from Scranton University. Catherine is survived by her husband of 39 years, Leonard J. Kaminski.

WYDOSKI, Joy Anne (nee Caley), 80, of Lakewood, CO, formerly of Newport Township, passed away on April 20, 2021. Joy Anne was born on April 23, 1940. She was raised in Wanamie and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1958. Joy was predeceased by her husband of 62 years, Richard S. Wydoski.

WYDOSKI, Richard S., 81, of Lakewood, CO, passed away on January 25, 2021. Richard was born on February 3, 1936. He was a US Army veteran of the Korean War attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant.

KRAPCHO, Frank Jr., 82, of Columbia, MD, and formerly of Newport Township, passed away on November 16, 2022. Frank was born in Nanticoke on March 19, 1940. He was raised in Alden and was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1958. He is survived by his wife, Jeanette.

ROSMUS, Bernadine M., 78, of Nanticoke died Friday, March 22, 2019. Bernadine was born May 31, 1940. She was raised in Mocanaqua and was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1958.

STOGOSKI, Stephanie "Steffie" (nee Shemanski), 93, of Newport Township and Bryn Mawr, passed away June 29, 2023. Steffie was born in Wanamie on December 26, 1929. She was raised in Wanamie and Glen Lyon and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1948. Steffie was predeceased by her husband, Ralph Stogoski.

BULLOCK, Frank C. Jr., 64, Plains Township, formerly of Newport Township, passed away Saturday, July 1, 2023. Frank was born in Vineland, NJ. While being raised in Glen Lyon, he attended John S. Fine High School and later joined the US Navy and proudly served aboard the USS Howard W. Gilmore and USS Proteus. Frank is survived by his brothers Mark, Scott, and Christopher Bullock.

KOWALCHIN, Stephen R., 68, of Ridgeview, passed away Monday, July 3, 2023. Stephen was born on May 7, 1955. He attended Newport Township schools and John S. Fine High School.

FUREK, JoAnn (nee Isdepski), 88, of Hughesville, formerly of Newport Township, died June 9, 2023. JoAnn was born on February 20, 1935 in Glen Lyon where she was raised. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1953. JoAnn was predeceased by her husband of 60 years, George Vincent Furek.

JARMUSIK, Leo John, 63, of Nanticoke, and formerly of Newport Township and Glen Lyon, passed away July 2, 2023. Leo was born in Nanticoke in 1958. He was raised in Nanticoke and graduated from Nanticoke High School with the Class of 1978.

MACK, Harold, 76, of Kingston, formerly of Newport Township, passed away June 30, 2023. Harold was born in Nanticoke, raised in Alden and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1964. He attended Penn State University prior to enlisting in the US Navy for four years.

EISENBERG, Richard, 79, passed away March 7, 2022. Richard was born on October 2, 1942 in Brooklyn, NY, the son of the late Sam and Ida Eisenberg. He entered the military after high school. He was a US Army veteran serving in Vietnam with distinction. Richard is survived by his wife of 56 years Jean (nee Caley) Eisenberg, who was raised in Wanamie and is a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1959.

POCREVA, Marcia (nee Little), 86, of Foley, Alabama, and formerly of Logansport, IN, passed away on July 7, 2023. Marcia was the wife of John Pocreva of Live Oak Village, AL. John lived in Glen Lyon and Sheatown, and is a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1953.

HURST, Angeline "Angie" (nee Secunda), 101, of Lancaster, formerly of Newport Township, died August 15, 2018. "Angie" was born in Wanamie on January 14, 1917. She was raised in Wanamie and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1934.

ROSICK, Paul Leo, 78, of Fayetteville, TN, formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away July 27, 2023. Paul was born and raised in Nanticoke. Paul was predeceased by his wife of 57 years, Linda (nee Sechak) Rosick, a graduate of Newport Township High School.

KOVALICH, Joan "Joann" Frances (nee Gayeski), 89, of Vestal, NY, formerly of Newport Township, passed away August 1, 2023. Joan was born and raised in Glen Lyon. She was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1951. She was predeceased by her husband of 63 years Clement Kovalich; brother, Robert Gayeski; and sister, Carol Cragle.

EVANCHO, Edward C. Sr., 85, of Slocum Township, formerly of Dorrance Township, passed away June 9, 2023. Edward was born in Nanticoke on October 11, 1937. He was raised in Dorrance Township and attended Newport Township High School. He was a US Army veteran serving in the National Guard. He is survived by his wife of 58 years, Susan Evancho

WYSOCKI, Leopold "Lee," 65, of Glen Lyon, formerly of Nanticoke, passed away July 27, 2023. Lee was born on April 27, 1958 in Almagoro, NM. He was raised in Nanticoke and graduated from Nanticoke High School.

ARMSTRONG, Joseph, 89, of Hanover Township and formerly of Newport Township, passed away July 28, 2023. Joseph was born in Nanticoke on October 25, 1933. He was raised in Alden and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1952. After high school he served in the US Army and was stationed in Koblenz, Germany. Joseph is survived by his wife of 39 years, Donna Armstrong.

GAVIN, James Joseph, 75, of Dallas, formerly of Newport Township, passed away August 5, 2023. James was the husband of Deborah (nee Krupinski) Gavin, formerly of Glen Lyon, a graduate of Newport Township High School, and a teacher in the Greater Nanticoke Area School District. James was a career US Army veteran serving two tours in Vietnam, and tours in Thailand, Taiwan, Japan, Germany, Philippines, South Korea, Guam, and Australia. He retired as an intelligence analyst with the rank of Sergeant 1st Class. He coached boys and girls high school volleyball at Dallas and with his wife Debbie at Nanticoke Area.

SONOSKUS, Joseph Martin, 79, of Carthage, North Carolina, formerly of Newport Township, passed away April 14, 2023. Joseph was born June 26, 1943 in Wanamie. He was raised in Wanamie/Sheatown, and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1961. He is

survived by his wife of 56 years, Karen Sonoskus.

VANDERMARK, Mitchell E., 42, passed away August 7, 2023. Mitchell was born on July 18, 1981. He was raised and is survived by his grandparents Albert and Patricia (nee Fisher) Vandermark of Glen Lyon. Mitchell received diplomas from both Greater Nanticoke Area and Hanover Area School Districts.

KASENCHAK, Irene P. (nee Broski), 91, of Chase Manor, Dallas, formerly of Newport Township, passed away August 9, 2023. Irene was born in Alden Station on April 11, 1932. She was raised in Alden and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1950. She then graduated from Bellevue School of Nursing and worked at Nanticoke Hospital, Nesbitt Hospital, Wilkes Barre General Hospital and retired as a registered nurse from Mercy Family Practice. Irene was predeceased by her husband, George Kasenchak.

RINEHIMER, Ronald Sr., 84, of Dorrance Township, passed away on August 8, 2023 at his home. Ronald was born on August 8, 1939. He was raised in Dorrance and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1958. He served in the US Marine Corps after high school. Ronald was predeceased by his wife of 56 years, Jane (nee Peters) Rinehimer.

PISH, Janice, 78, of Rice Township, Mountain Top and formerly Newport Township, passed away. Janice was born on August 17, 1945. She was raised in Wanamie and was a graduate of Newport Township High School with the Class of 1963. Janice was predeceased by her husbands, Robert Coach and Thomas Drexinger.

NIEMIEC, Raymond, 77, of Media, PA, formerly of Newport Township, passed away on August 20, 2023. Raymond was born on March 16, 1946. He was raised in Glen Lyon and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1964. Ray received a Bachelor's Degree from Bloomsburg University and Masters' in Education from West Chester University. Ray retired from Upper Darby High School. Ray was known as an exceptional baseball pitcher in high school and in the semi-pro leagues throughout Wyoming Valley. Ray was predeceased by his first wife, Joanne (nee Beaston) Niemiec, and is survived by his second wife, Nancy.

SCHILLING, Mary A., 88, of Depot Street, Glen Lyon, passed away on August 15, 2023, at her home.

SCALLY, Jack Jr., 58, of Nanticoke, formerly of Newport Township, Maryland, and Virginia passed away August 20, 2023. Jack was born on April 13, 1965, in Union, NJ. He was raised in Glen Lyon, attended Newport Township schools, and graduated from Greater Nanticoke Area. He was a US Army veteran and a member of American Legion Post 350 of Nanticoke.

RUMINSKI, Florence F. (nee Floryshak), 95, of New Cumberland, passed away September 3, 2023. Florence was born in Glen Lyon in 1928. She was raised in Glen Lyon and graduated from Newport Township High School with the Class of 1946. She was predeceased by her husband, Vincent F. Ruminski.

PISH, Chester A., 100, of Pottstown, and formerly of Newport Township, passed away August 20, 2023. Chester was born in Newport Township on April 29, 1923. After graduating high school in 1941, "Chet" married Martha M. (nee Kuchinski) Pish. He served in the US Navy during World War II. He and Martha settled in Pottstown and he became a Mechanical Engineer retiring from Firestone Tires.

Simply Convenient now open

LOW PRICE Premium & Imported Beer to go

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

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

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

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

One Stop Service Center, Inc.

7 Alden Road • Nanticoke, PA 18634

Major & Minor Repairs • Air Conditioning Service

Electronic Diagnostics • 24 Hour Towing

Emissions • Inspections • Certified Technicians

(570) 735-5333

(570) 735-5354 FAX

After Hours Towing 991-0112

www.1stopservicecenter.com



Rick Temarantz
President

Blasi PRINTING CORP.

Commercial Printing & Promotional Items



570.824.3557 | 570.824.8954 fax

www.blasiprinting.com | sales@blasiprinting.com

1490 Sans Souci Parkway | Hanover Township, PA 18706

DESIGN **PRINT** STORE



From left, Joe Kutz as bat boy for the 1923 Glen Lyon Condors baseball team; As the Faculty Manager for the 1937 Newport Runner-Up State Champion Basketball Team; and As a teacher at Newport, 1942.

Joseph Kutz: Athlete, Teacher and Faculty Manager

By Paul and Heidi Jarecki ~ Joseph Francis Kutz was born on January 20, 1909 in Glen Lyon. He was the son of John and Helen Mazur Kuc (the spelling was later changed to "Kutz") who both immigrated from Poland. He had five siblings: Louis, Leon (Leo), Mary, Walter, and Anna Boyle. The family were charter members of St. Michael's Church on West Main Street and were active in its societies.

Joe's father John worked as a molder at a brass foundry, a grocery proprietor and a salesman. The family lived for a while at 90 West Main Street in Glen Lyon. In 1930, John bought property at 50 West Main Street and built what became known as the Kutz Building. It featured apartments upstairs where the family lived and retail space on the ground floor. John passed away on January 9, 1950. Helen died on January 15, 1968.

Joe Kutz attended Newport schools. He showed an interest in sports at a young age. He was bat boy for the Glen Lyon Condors baseball team. While in high school he played football and basketball. Among his teammates were: James Keen, Stanley Stapinski, Zig Najaka, Clem Rogowicz, Alex Shepela, Stanley Madurski, Wilbur Ruckle, Joe Krafchik, and David Repotski, to name a few. Along with his brother Leon Joe was a member of the Moniuszko Choir at St. Michael's Church. On June 14, 1928, Joe graduated from Newport Township High School with a class of 69. Among his fellow graduates were: Max Adamski, Stanley Novak, Raymond Polniaszek, Carrie Sack, Fred Haverlak, Frances Padagomas, Nick Rudowski, John Jarecki, and Eugene Macur.

Joe aspired to be a teacher and enrolled at Pennsylvania State College, later University. He played football and earned a teaching certificate in 1931. Among his fellow classmates at Penn State were: Alex Kovaleski, Zigmund Sheklitski, Chester Zimolzak, and Louis Yablonski, all future teachers at Newport. In September, 1931 Joe was elected by the Newport Township School Board as manual training teacher in the High School at a salary of \$1,600 (\$32,117.00 in today's money) to fill a vacancy left by Max Adamski. Max had taken another position as Fine Arts Instructor. Joe continued his studies at Penn State and earned a Bachelor of Science degree in August, 1935.

In the 1920s and 1930s, many high schools offered a course called mechanical drawing, woodworking, or manual training. Affectionately called "shop," the Manual Training movement was the precursor to the vocational training programs in our schools today. First used in the United States in the 1870's in the training of engineers, the movement spread rapidly to general public education. Manual training emphasized the intellectual and social development associated with the practical training of the hand and the eye. In its most basic sense, manual training was the teaching of both wood and metal working, and taught students the power of doing things instead of merely thinking about them, talking about them, and writing about them. Manual training was not, however, intended to teach a specific trade. The student would learn to skillfully use tools in drafting, mechanics, wood or metal working and then would be able to transfer this knowledge to almost

any kind of tool or setting. Locally, this was considered very useful should the student ever work in the mining industry.

In June 1932, Joe was elected a member of the Schoolmasters Club of Luzerne County. Other members of the Club from Newport were Edward Sekulski, John Selecky, and Walter Buda. He was active with No. 4 Hose Company of Glen Lyon, the Polish Union Group 18, the Lettermen's Club, and the Fraternal Order of Eagles. He was a regular blood donor whenever the Red Cross Bloodmobile came to the Township.

Each year, typically on Graduation Day, Joe's students exhibited their woodworking projects. The art students of Max Adamski did the same.

Basketball frenzy hit the Township with a vengeance when the 1936

High School team won the state championship. Coached by Chester Rogowicz, the team was honored at multiple dinners, testimonials, and celebrations. William Stoker served as assistant coach. There were high expectations for a repeat the following season. Joe Kutz served as faculty manager of the 1937 team. As faculty manager, Joe was responsible for the game schedule, and the condition and seating capacity of the gym, among other duties. That year, Newport won the Eastern State Championship and was runner-up State Basketball Champion (See *Newport Township Community News*, #25, Spring 2011, p. 14.) The 1937 team was honored with banquets and testimonials as well.

Joe and his students assisted with various projects, such as construction of scenery for high school plays, Christmas decorations, and repairing broken toys for distribution to children in the township during the Christmas season. In 1940, a new course in electrical and metal work was introduced at the High School. Library tables and bulletin boards were made by students for the schools in the Township.

Joe participated in the annual track and field events at the High School and occasionally acted in bit parts for elementary school plays. Along with Dale Richards and Agnew Shepela, he was instructor of National Youth Administration (NYA) Defense courses. The NYA was a program for unemployed youth initiated by President Franklin Roosevelt as part of the New Deal. Classes in blue print reading, shop mathematics, and office practice were offered.

The United States entered World War II in December 1941. In April, 1942, a national program was announced by the U.S. Office of Education to build 500,000 solid scale model airplanes for the Navy. Newport High School students were given the opportunity to contribute directly to the war effort. The local quota was 150 model planes. Joe Kutz was appointed director of the project. 85 boys participated, and an inspection committee was appointed to examine and approve those models meeting all specifications. In 1943, his classes constructed for the local Civil Defense program 25 air raid shelter signs and 25 riot sticks for the local auxiliary police. For the Fraternal Order of Eagles, he built a plaque on which the names of men in the armed services would be listed.

Following the war, the athletic programs at Newport were expanded to include the sixth, seventh, and eighth grades. Joe was appointed Faculty Manager of all athletic programs. He set the schedules and directed the conditions and seating capacity of the gyms and the football stadium.

In 1947, it was recommended by the Middle Atlantic States Organization on Secondary and College Educators that student activities be expanded from the ten clubs already organized. The Mechanics Club advised by Joe Kutz, the Sewing Club advised by Regina Smocharski, and the Game Club advised by Kathryn Delaney were added. Newport was one of the few local high schools to form a student council and student government.

The position of Faculty Manager included membership in the Newport Athletic Council. Joe, along with William Olsen and Eugene Macur, were in charge of the three newly installed soda machines in the High School and the Annex. This was to raise funds for a new juke box for the high school gym. And in case you were wondering, the jukebox started evolving into the version we know today with colorful designs in the 1940s. Manufac-

turing stopped during World War II, however, as the materials were needed for the war effort. After the war, jukebox manufacturing resumed, with the Seeburg Corporation introducing the vinyl record jukebox that used 45 rpm records.

As faculty manager, Joe also attended meetings of the Wyoming Valley Scholastic Basketball League of which Newport was a member.

In December 1947, Joe attended a week-long Highway Safety Institute at Wilkes College and was certified to teach classes in safety to high school students.

Due to the fire that destroyed the High School Annex on July 5, 1948, changes were implemented in the education structure that affected the entire district. Originally, students attended their neighborhood elementary school until fifth grade and then went to Pulaski School which housed all sixth, seventh, and eighth grades. Pulaski School on Newport Street in Glen Lyon was built in 1924. The high school years were spent entirely on the Wanamie campus. This was referred to as a 5-3-4 structure. The loss of the Annex necessitated a 6-3-3 structure. Home Economics classes ("Home Ec") were transferred from the high school to the "junior high" school curriculum. In 1948, Joseph Rish was appointed industrial arts instructor at the Pulaski Building. He was later transferred to the High School. Joe Kutz then took over at Pulaski. It is not known to this writer why this switch was made. "Shop" was taught in the lower level of the nearby Kosciuszko School and Home Ec was taught in a newly created classroom in Pulaski. This meant the freshman year of high school, 9th grade, was spent in what is now Middle School, and probably did not sit well with the egos of the ninth graders. The new restructuring included a new library in the Pulaski School which was managed by Joe's sister, Librarian Mary Kutz. The first annual open house of the Junior High was held on May 12, 1949.

In the fall of 1951, Joe completed additional courses at Wilkes College for driving automobile instruction. The Newport School District implemented "driver's education" in January, 1952, one of 400 school districts of 1200 in the State to do so. Joe was appointed instructor. A car was donated by Angelo Brunozi, Glen Lyon car dealer. That first year, 60 members of the junior class took the course, which consisted of 36 hours of driving and 32 hours of theory. Theory was taught by Beth Lerda and Zig Najaka. The following term, instruction was taken over by Walter Serowicz.

When Biddy Basketball arrived in Newport Township in 1952, Joe constructed lower hoops as required for that age group. The games were played in the Pulaski School gym. In April of the same year, Joe earned his Master's Degree in industrial arts from New York University and was appointed vocational director of the school district. In 1955, he directed an adult education class approved by the State Department of Public Instruction. 80 applicants filed for training in the Industrial Sewing Machine classes held at the Columbus School in Wanamie.

Following the formation of the Greater Nanticoke Area School District, Joe served as shop teacher and part-time vocational director. He resigned as part-time vocational director in June, 1966.

Nicknamed "Bull" by his students, Joe spent 40 years teaching in the Newport Township/Greater Nanticoke Area system. He retired in June, 1971. Among his fellow retirees were: Sophia Butka, Wilbur Fischer, Sophie Kozlowski, Alice Krushefski, Zigmunc Najaka, and Alex Olshefski.

Joe married Irene Adamovich on January 16, 1932 at St. Nicholas Church in Glen Lyon. They lived for a time on Railroad Street in Glen Lyon and then moved to 42 Coal Street. They had two sons, Donald and John, both of whom became teachers. They celebrated their 51st wedding anniversary on January 16, 1983. Joseph passed away July 28, 1983. Irene died on March 14, 1999. At the time of Irene's death, the couple had 6 grandchildren and nine great-grandchildren. Joe and Irene are interred in St. Michael's Cemetery, Glen Lyon.

Among the projects Joe taught his students were bookcases, shelves, tables, step stools, shoe shine boxes, cutting boards, gun racks, and table lamps that resembled water well pumps. They were well-built and lasted decades. At right is a shelf built by Steve Phillips in Joe Kutz's shop class. See more in the next column.



At right is a portable drawer/book case made by John Kashatus in Joe Kutz's shop class. Below is a lamp made by Bob Deluca. Below right is a gun rack made by Paul Jarecki.



Sources: *Wilkes-Barre Record*, *Wilkes-Barre Times Leader*, *Citizen's Voice*, www.ancestry.com, www.archives.com, various websites.

the
BUS STOP
cafe



Open Daily
Serving Breakfast & Lunch

2 East Broad Street
Nanticoke, PA 18634
570-735-7855
Call ahead for takeouts

D's Old Fashioned Pierogies



All Pierogi \$10.00/dozen



Choose from: Potato & Cheese;
Sauerkraut; Sweet Cabbage; Meat;
Potato & Onion; Jalapeno & Potato
Farmer's Cheese \$11.00/dozen
Haluski: \$5.00 per pound

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

TNT
Subs, Pierogies & More
235 W. MAIN ST.
NANTICOKE 570-258-0552



From left to right: Ed Gayewski as a basketball player on the 1936 Newport Township State Basketball Championship team; as a World War II soldier, as a player on St. Nicholas Church Basketball Team 1948; as coach of the Northwest Area High School basketball team.

Ed Gayewski: Athlete, Teacher and Coach

By Paul and Heidi Jarecki ~ Edward Alphonse Gayewski (sometimes spelled "Gayeski") was born on October 14, 1918, the son of Charles and Eleanor Czap Gayewski of Glen Lyon. Both Charles and Eleanor were born in Poland. Charles operated an electric hoist and was a fireman in the boiler room when he worked for the Susquehanna Coal Company. Ed was the youngest of ten children. His siblings were Peter, Joseph, Victoria, Stasia, Frank, Mary, Celia, Helen, and Genevieve. The family lived at 76 Coal Street and belonged to St. Michael's Church on West Main Street, Glen Lyon. Eleanor passed away on September 22, 1946. Charles passed away on September 15, 1974. They are interred in St. Michael's Cemetery.

Ed was an excellent athlete and while attending Newport High School, he played baseball, basketball and football. He was a member of the 1936 Newport Township State Championship Basketball Team (see *Newport Township Community News*, #24, Winter 2011, p.4) and the 1936 championship baseball team (see *News*, #26, Summer 2011, p.7). During the basketball team's 1936 championship season, he scored the winning bucket in a 33-32 victory against Lebanon for the Eastern Pennsylvania Championship. He graduated from High School with the Class of 1936.

Ed continued his education at Bucknell Junior College (now Wilkes University). He played basketball and baseball and received letters for both. He was the basketball team's leading forward and high scorer. In 1938, Ed enrolled at the University of Scranton (known then as St. Thomas College) and played basketball. He quickly became a starter. Walter Serowicz was his teammate and high scorer. While at Scranton, Ed also participated on the Debate Team. Ed graduated from the University of Scranton with a Bachelor of Arts degree in English on June 8, 1941. He was then employed in Linden, N.J.

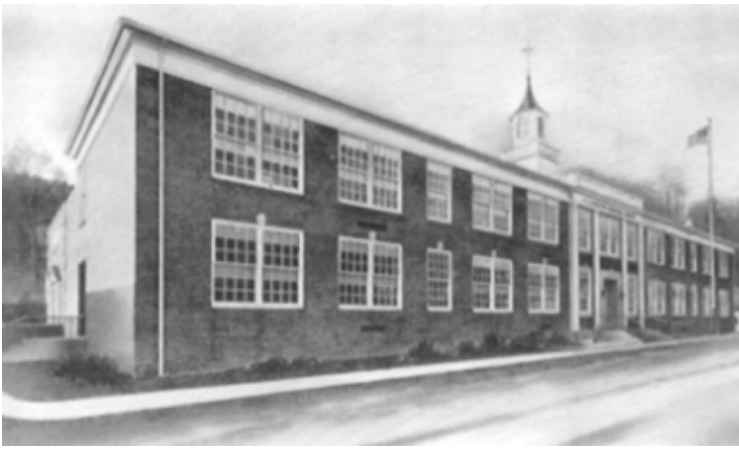
In August of 1943 he entered military service and was stationed at Fort Benning in Destin, Florida with the Army Air Corps. Fort Benning was home to infantry, airborne, and officer candidate schools during World War II. In December of 1945 he received an honorable discharge. He eventually earned a Master's Degree in Physical Education from New York University.

After being discharged, Ed applied for a basketball coaching position at Plains High School. He resumed playing basketball. In 1946, Ed played for the Glen Lyon Jewels. Coached by Tom Glidden, the Jewels included Pete and Nick Zlonkewicz, Ed (Doc) Vosheski, Ed Kmietowicz, Pinky Kemp, Bob Beleski, Zig Kishell, C. Macur, and E. Ptashinski. In 1948 he was a player on the St. Nicholas Church (Glen Lyon) team which included John Howanitz, Joe Tullai, Ed Howanitz, Walter Gorney, John Fedorchak, Ed Kmietowicz, and Pete Zlonkewicz. Also in 1948, his



The 1953 St. Stanislaus Knights of Columbus Church League Champs. From l to r: Robert Columbia, William Frankiewicz, Raymond Skitski, Robert Zielimsky, William Graham, Marino Testaguzza, Con Wysocky, President of the K of C League, Ed Gayewski, Coach, Raymond Galli, James Shean, Joseph Dankowski, Joseph Pish, Anthony Oroczewski.

Gayeski's Championships		Gayeski's Record	
State Titles		Season	Record
1984	PIAA Class A	1951-52	25-3
1983	PIAA Class A	1952-53	18-10
District Titles		1953-54	14-14
1984	District 4 Class A	1954-55	22-9
1983	District 4 Class A	1955-56	23-3
1981	District 4 Class A	1956-57	23-3
1980	District 4 Class A	1957-58	16-9
1979	District 4 Class A	1958-59	15-8
1978	District 4 Class A	1959-60	19-7
1977	District 4 Class A	1960-61	20-4
1975	District 4 Class C	1961-62	21-4
1974	District 4 Class C	1962-63	20-6
1973	District 4 Class C	1963-64	22-4
1970	District 4 Class C	1964-65	16-6
1964	District 2 Class B	1965-66	20-3
1956	District 2 Class B	1966-67	21-6
1952	District 2 Class B	1967-68	17-7
League Titles		1968-69	21-4
1984	Keystone Big Nine	1969-70	23-4
1983	Keystone Big Nine	1970-71	12-13
1976	Susquehanna Valley AA	1971-72	18-7
1975	Susquehanna Valley B	1972-73	22-7
1974	Susquehanna Valley B	1973-74	29-1
1972	Susquehanna Valley B	1974-75	28-1
1964	Valley League	1975-76	19-6
1963	Valley League	1976-77	25-5
1962	Valley League	1977-78	25-7
1961	Valley League	1978-79	24-6
1957	Valley League	1979-80	29-4
1956	Valley League	1980-81	27-7
1952	Valley League	1981-82	32-8
		1982-83	33-0
		1983-84	33-1
		1984-85	20-6



Shickshinny High School

St. Michael's basketball team won the Luzerne County Holy Name League championship. His teammates included Len Kishel, Syl Brezenski, Joseph Ziomek, Tony Kutz, Paul Zlonkewicz and Tom Sugalski. They continued to play in 1949 in an independent league. In the early 1950's he began coaching the St. Stanislaus Orphanage in Sheatown. Under his guidance, the children won basketball and softball championships in the Parochial School and Knights of Columbus Church Leagues. He coached the St. Stanislaus team for thirteen years.

Ed began his high school coaching career at Shickshinny High School in the 1951-1952 season. His team posted a 25-3 record. In 1953, the merger of six school districts into the Northwest Jointure (soon after called Northwest Area) was announced, with two districts, Conyngham and Salem Townships, undecided. Construction of the new high school began in April 1955 and was completed for the Fall of 1956. Ed moved into the Athletic Director's spot and was named Head Basketball Coach. He also taught health and physical education. He served as playground instructor in Shickshinny.

Over the course of his 34-year coaching career at Northwest, Ed had the most wins among all coaches in Pennsylvania, totaling 744 wins and 195 losses (.792 Pct). He led the Northwest Area team to back-to-back PIAA State Class A Basketball Championships in 1982-83 and 1983-84, going 65-1 over the two years. Also, he led the team to 20 wins in 24 of 34 seasons, 13 league titles, 19 tournament crowns, and 14 district championships. His win record was surpassed by Ron Insinger of Loyalsock High School who earned 1,010 wins in 2022. Ed retired as a teacher in 1984, but continued to be active as a coach.

Ed married Genevieve "Gen" Malishefski of Glen Lyon on November 1, 1941. They resided in New Jersey, Glen Lyon, later moving to Hunlock Creek, and then to 109 Alden Mountain Road, Alden. They had three children, all of whom became physicians: Dr. Thomas Gayeski, Cooperstown, NY; Dr. Richard Gayeski, Millersville, and Dr. Nancy Gilhooley, Wilkes-Barre. Ed passed away on July 7, 1985. In November 1985, he was inducted posthumously into the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame. In December 1985, the Northwest Invitational Basketball Tournament was renamed the Eddie Gayeski Memorial Basketball Tournament by the School Board. Gen passed away on June 3, 2009. At the time of Gen's passing, she and Ed were the grandparents of nine and also had four great-grandchildren. They were members of Holy Child Church, Sheatown. They are interred in St. Michael's Cemetery, Glen Lyon.



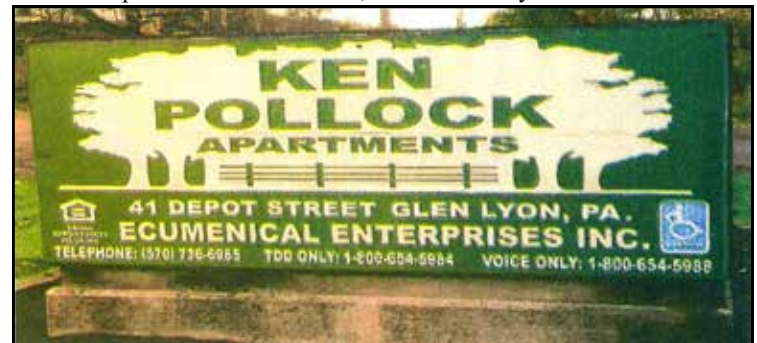
TJ Gernhart

By Tom Kashatus ~ Over the years this writer has become an amateur wrestling fan – elementary, high school, and college. My three sons and two grandsons have all participated at the elementary and high school levels and did pretty well. One young fella who I noticed doing well at a young age was "TJ" Gernhart, formerly of Glen Lyon. He began his career at the age of four or five with a local wrestling club, the "Mat Assassins." As time went by, TJ became involved with the programs of Greater

Nanticoke Area School District (GNA) and I noticed he was winning matches regularly in tournaments at the elementary level and junior high level. After 8th grade, TJ's Mom and Dad found an interesting opportunity which took the family to Brandon, Florida; and thusly GNA lost an up-and-coming wrestling athlete to Brandon High School.

As a freshman at Brandon, TJ did well, winning a few tournaments and impressively qualifying for post season competition. He was victorious at the district level and reached the regional finals. With exuberance as a freshman, TJ took fourth place in the biggest tournament in Florida at the high school level. TJ's sophomore season started off with a bang, but an injury, a torn meniscus, halted the remainder of his season and he was limited to rehab and light practice. In his junior year, he was able to get back on the mat when he passed the doctor's exam. He began the season winning multiple tournaments resulting in a high ranking for state competition. He did well until he faced and lost to the future state champion. Wrestle-backs earned TJ a seventh place finish. (The wrestleback or "follow the leader" format is such that wrestlers who lose to championship bracket winners are still in the tournament.)

Brandon High School, a 2A Division school, sent seven wrestlers to the state tournament and placed five in the top eight. With his senior year beginning, TJ has high expectations for himself and his teammates. They have worked extremely hard over the off-season and have committed themselves to earn a Florida team state championship in Division 2A. TJ credits his coaches, Russ and Joe Cozart, for their preparation of the team and for their optimism. He is also looking forward to a spot on the Coker University "Cobras" wrestling team in the future. In TJ's own heartfelt and warm words, "With my senior season approaching, I am excited to continue my journey alongside my Brandon wrestling family, parents, and everyone else who has supported me through this adventure. I am excited and ready for this season and can't wait for my last ride with my senior team!" TJ is the son of Tom and Hope Gernhart; maternal grandparents, Robert and Faith Kropiewnicki of Glen Lyon; maternal great-grandparents, the late Joseph and Andrea Rambus, also of Glen Lyon.



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

The Dapper Dog Grooming Spa

Bronwen Fritzges

50 W Main Street

Glen Lyon, PA, 18617

Cell • 570-332-2443





Master Sergeant Martin Evans Retires from Marine Corps

Master Sergeant Martin J. Evans was born on June 25, 1980, the son of Mark and Mary Jo Gregory Evans of Glen Lyon. He graduated from Greater Nanticoke Area High School in June 1999. In December 2000, he enlisted in the United States Marine Corps and reported to Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, SC. Private First Class Evans then attended Marine Combat training at

Camp Geiger, NC and reported to the Aviation Electronics School at NAS Pensacola, FL. After graduating, he attended the KC-130 Electronics Technicians Course at MCAS Cherry Point, NC. In February 2002 Lance Corporal Evans reported to VMGRT-253 on MCAS Cherry Point, NC, and shortly after was temporarily assigned to VMGR-252. While there he was selected to attend the KC-130J Electronics Technician Course and became a member of the KC-130J initial test team at VX-20 NAS Patuxent River, MD. In June of 2003, he returned to VMGRT-253, where he served as an aviation electrical technician on the KC-130 aircraft. He was promoted to Sergeant. In September 2006, he reported to MATSG-21, NAS in Pensacola, FL as an Avionics Instructor. He became a certified Avionics subject matter expert and was promoted to Staff Sergeant. He transferred to the Naval Avionics Organizational Level Technician School where he became a certified instructor and ultimately the Lead Instructor for the Navy's Avionics O-Strand School.

Staff Sergeant reported to VMGR-152 at MCAS Futenma in Okinawa, Japan in July of 2010. While there, he served as the Avionics Division Staff Noncommissioned Officer in charge, among other duties. He deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, and participated in several exercises including Operations Tomodachi and Cobra Gold. In May of 2013, Staff Sergeant Evans reported to Basic Recruiters Course at MCRD San Diego. After graduation he reported to Recruiting Station Detroit, MI to serve as a canvassing recruiter in Sterling Heights, MI. In 2014, he was selected to fill the billet of assistant Marine Liaison at Detroit MEPS for RS. In July of 2016, he was promoted to the rank of Gunnery Sergeant. He reported to VMGR-252 at MCAS Cherry Point, NC in August 2016 and served as the Maintenance Control SNCOIC. At VMGR-252 he deployed in support of Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force Crisis Response Europe and Africa 17.2 to 18.1 as the detachments' Maintenance Chief. He has worked continuously within Maintenance Control. In December 2020 he deployed to Spain and Africa in support of North and West African Response Force. In April 2021 he was promoted to the rank of Master Sergeant. In May 2021 Master Sergeant Evans reported to Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron, HMLA-269 MCAS New River, NC to serve as the Avionics Chief and as the H-1 Aircraft Avionics Chief for Weapons and tactics instructor class 22-1 in Yuma, AZ. In August 2022 he served as the squadron's Senior Enlisted Advisor to the Commanding Officer. He served his final days as the last member of HMLA-269 until retiring in September 2023.

Master Sergeant Evans' personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with gold star, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with 3 gold stars, and seven Good Conduct Medals. He resides in Havelock, NC with his wife Jessica and daughter Abigail.



Captain Patrick W. Hourigan Retires from Navy

Patrick W. Hourigan is the son of Bill and Linda Bonkiewicz Hourigan of Glen Lyon. He grew up in Mountain Top and graduated from the former Bishop Hoban High School in 1994. He then attended the Naval Academy in Annapolis and graduated in 1998. He was designated a Naval Aviator in August 2000. In 2001, he began operational flying with the "Kesstrels" of VFA-137 and was deployed aboard the USS Constellation supporting Operations Southern Watch and Iraqi Freedom. In 2004 he reported to the Strike Fighter Weapons South Pacific "Outlaws" and graduated

from Top Gun in 2005. In 2007 he joined the VFA Royal Maces and participated in numerous exercises. In 2009 he joined the VFA-146 Blue Diamonds as a Department Head and participated in Operations Tomachi, Enduring Freedom, and New Dawn. He entered the US Navy War College and graduated with distinction, earning a Master of Arts Degree in National Securities Studies. From 2012-2014 he served in the J-5 Directorate at NORAD-SNORTCHOM. In 2015 he reported to the VFA-151 "Vigilantes." He was deployed aboard the USS John C. Stennis and received back-to-back nominations for Battle "E" and was awarded the LTJG Bruce Carrier Award recognizing the best Maintenance Department in Strike Fighter Wing Pacific. He then spent a year as a Legislative Fellow, assigned to the staff of Senator Tim Kaine. He served as the Deputy of the Navy's JSF Fleet Integration Office where he worked closely with the Joint Program Office and Industry to ensure the F-35C met all requirements and milestones for IOC and upcoming first deployment. In 2020 he reported to Carrier Air Wing ONE as Deputy Commander and assumed command in 2021. Captain Hourigan has accumulated over 2,700 flight hours in the F/A-18 A-F and more than 700 carrier arrested landings, including 40+ combat missions.

Captain Hourigan's awards include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Strike/Flight Air Medal (two awards), navy Commendation Medal (four awards, one with combat "V"), Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal (two awards) and numerous personal, unit, campaign, and service awards. He is married to the former Elaine Willoughby of Knoxville, TN. They are the parents of four children.

Captain Rebecca Morgis, MD, MED



Rebecca Morgis, formerly of Glen Lyon, graduated this spring from Penn State College of Medicine in Hershey and was promoted to the rank of Captain in the United States Air Force. She is continuing her medical training in Pediatrics at Walter Reed Military Medical Center, Bethesda, MD. She is a graduate of Greater Nanticoke Area High School. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Biology from Albright College, Reading, PA, and Master's Degree in Adult Education and Lifelong Learning from Penn State, Harrisburg.

Captain Morgis is married to Dr. David Basile, who is an Emergency Medicine resident at Penn State Hershey Medical Center.

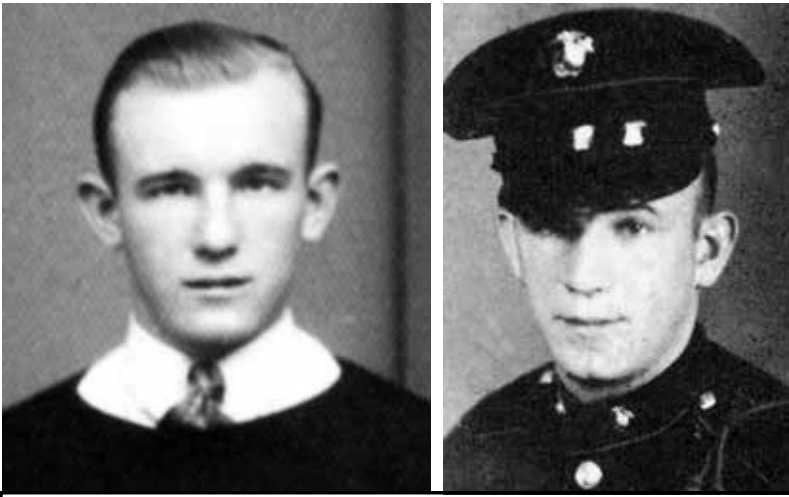
Captain Morgis is the daughter of Brian and Jennifer Morgis, Glen Lyon. She is the granddaughter of Marcy and the late Eli Morgis, Wanamie, and the late Virginia and Evan Maddy of Alden. She is the sister of Brianne Morgis, Nanticoke, and Quinn Morgis, Sheatown.

570-258-0505

The Alden Room at R Bar & Grill

~ CALL US FOR ALL OF YOUR CATERING NEEDS ~

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



Above left, Ray Tereshinski as a senior at Newport High School when he was student manager for the 1937 Championship Basketball Team. Right, as a Marine during World War II.

Raymond Tereshinski

Athlete, Student Manager, and World War II Veteran

By Paul and Heidi Jarecki ~ Raymond W. Tereshinski was born in Glen Lyon on April 4, 1919. He was the son of Wladislav (Walter) and Sophia Radzminska Tereshinski. Ray's father, Wladislav Taraczinski, was born in about 1892 in Juzefu, Poland. He came to the United States in 1907 when he was only fifteen. The ship took him to Charleston, then Mobile and New Orleans. He eventually arrived in Glen Lyon and began working in the coal fields. There he met and married Sophia Radzminski in 1913. They had eight children: Peter, May, Raymond, Thomas, Joseph, Eleanor, and the twins Paul and Pauline. The family lived at 58 Newport Street.

Ray attended Newport Township schools and graduated from Newport High School with the Class of 1937. The Class was comprised of 118 seniors, 70 boys and 48 girls. Ray was an outstanding center on the football team. He also served as Student Manager of the 1937 Newport Township Basketball Team. This team won the Eastern State Championship, but lost in the state finals to South Pittsburgh. (See *Newport Township Community News*, #25, Spring 2011, p.14.) Among Ray's duties as a student manager were assisting the coaching staff during practices and games, as well as looking after equipment and travel operations.

Following High School, Ray worked as an inspector in the Buhls Stamping Company in Detroit, Michigan before enlisting in the Marine Corps in August, 1940. He was trained at Parris Island, North Carolina and immediately following Pearl Harbor, he left for overseas in May of 1942. He served in the First Marine Mortar Division and saw action at the initial landing at Guadalcanal (See *Newport Township Community News*, #72, Spring 2023, p.10), Cape Gloucester and Talasea in New Britain, Mariana and Palau Islands, and Peleliu and Ngedbus all in the Pacific. Ray was a Gunnery Sergeant. He was with the Marines for four and one half years and spent 31 months overseas. He earned seven bronze stars as well as good conduct medals and Presidential Citations. Following the war in 1946, he moved to Lansdale and worked at the Rolle Manufacturing Co. until 1969 and then at Brooks Manufacturing in Hatfield. Raymond married Patricia Purri and they had one son, Robert and two grandchildren. Raymond passed away on December 21, 1991 at age 72. He is interred in St. John Neumann Cemetery in Chalfont.

All of the Tereshinski Brothers were athletic. Peter, a teammate of Clem Strazlka, played "brilliantly" on the high school football team. Tom starred on the high school basketball and football teams. He graduated from Newport in 1935. After graduation he entered Dickinson Seminary. He was offered an athletic scholarship to Western Maryland College. He later became a coach in Maryland. Younger brother Joe played football for Newport and graduated in 1941. He went on to star at the University of Georgia. Joe was an All-SEC (Southeastern Conference) performer on Georgia's undefeated National Championship team. He played professional football for the Washington Redskins from 1947-1954. (See *Newport Township Community News*, #35 Fall 2013, p.18) Youngest brother Paul was a defensive back on the high school football team and later played shortstop for the champion 1948 Glen Lyon Kanadians of the Anthracite Baseball League. (See *Newport Township Community News*, #58, Fall 2019, insert)

World War II: The Pacific Theater Cape Gloucester and Talasea in New Britain, The Mariana and Palau Islands, Peleliu and Ngedbus

The Battle of Cape Gloucester was fought in the Pacific Theater between Japanese and Allied forces on the island of New Britain, Territory of New Guinea, between December 26, 1943 and January 16, 1944. It was the second landing the US First Marine Division had conducted after Guadalcanal. The objective of the operation was to capture the two Japanese airfields near Cape Gloucester that were defended by elements of the Japanese 17th Division. The main landing came on 26 December 1943, when US Marines landed on either side of the peninsula. The western landing force acted as a diversion while the main force, landing on the eastern side, advanced north towards the airfields. The advance met light resistance at first, but was slowed by the swampy terrain. A Japanese counterattack briefly slowed the advance but by the end of December, the airfields had been captured and consolidated by the Marines. Fighting continued into early January 1944 as the US troops extended their perimeter south from the airfields towards Borgen Bay. Organized resistance ceased on January 16, 1944; however, mopping up operations in the vicinity continued into April 1944 until the Marines were relieved by US Army forces.

The Mariana and Palau Islands Campaign, also known as Operation Forager, was an offensive launched by United States forces against Imperial Japanese forces in the Mariana Islands and Palau in the Pacific Ocean between June and November, 1944. The United States offensive, under the overall command of Chester W. Nimitz, followed the Gilbert and Marshall Islands campaign and was intended to neutralize Japanese bases in the central Pacific, support the Allied drive to retake the Philippines, and provide bases for a strategic bombing campaign against Japan.

The Battle of Peleliu and Ngedbus was fought between the United States and Japan from September 15 to November 27, 1944, on the island of Peleliu. US Marines of the 1st Marine Division and then soldiers of the US Army's 81st Infantry Division, fought to capture the Ngedbus Airfield on the small coral island of Peleliu. The commander of the 1st Marine Division predicted that the island would be secured within four days. However, Japan put up stiff resistance and extended the battle to more than two months. The heavily-outnumbered Japanese defenders often fought to the death in the Japanese Emperor's name. In the US, it was a controversial battle because of the high casualty rate, which exceeded that of all other amphibious operations during the Pacific War. The National Museum of the Marine Corps calls it "the bitterest battle of the war for the Marines".

MADE BY JUST US

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

BROUGHT TO YOU BY
DAVID & SHERRY
PROPRIETORS

99 WEST MAIN STREET
GLEN LYON, PA 18617



570-574-0374/0375

F. Chervy Coal

R 114 Vine Street • Plymouth, PA 18651

Premium Anthracite Coal

ALL COAL MINED IN HAZELTON

Paul Chervy
Owner

(570) 779-3727
(570) 779-3094

www.fchervycoaldelivery.com



The History of Kirmar Park Part VII: May-December, 1914

By Heidi Jarecki ~ Kirmar Park was once located on West Kirmar Avenue between Alden and Wanamie. It was originally called Power House Grove and had its beginnings in 1896. This article continues the story of the Park which began in the Spring 2022 issue of the *Community News*.

In April 1914, ground was broken for a new steel pavilion at Power House Grove measuring 150 by 90 feet. The pavilion's construction cost \$12,000.00 (\$366,829.00 in today's money). It would be considered the most up-to-date venue in this part of the state. It was likely a closed design and like the old pavilion had steam heat.

The new pavilion was ready for Saturday, May 30, 1914, Decoration Day, when a dance and picnic was held by the Columbus Band. The Band was composed of Italian residents, "most of them young men who render music creditably." The next picnic and dance was held on Monday June 1 by the Glen Lyon B.B.(baseball) Club. Music was provided by the Bahny Orchestra of six pieces.

Popular dances in 1914 were the tango and the maxixe (pronounced "mak-seeks"). The Argentine tango appeared in nearly every hotel, restaurant and ballroom, as the public went Tango mad. By 1914, this craze helped popularize another South American dance, the Brazilian Maxixe, sometimes known as the Brazilian tango. It originated in the Brazilian city of Rio de Janeiro in 1868, at about the same time as the tango was developing in neighboring Argentina and Uruguay. It was developed from Afro-Brazilian dances and from European dances, mainly the polka. Like the tango, the maxixe travelled to Europe and the United States in the early years of the 20th century. It became very popular locally and maxixe contests were often held.



The new pavilion gave dancing and picnics a new lease on life in the Township and was mentioned in every advertisement. On Thursday, June 4, a dance was held, followed by a dance on Saturday, June 6, by the Glen Lyon Orchestra. A roman-

tic "moonlight" dance was held on Monday, June 8 with music by Bahny's Orchestra. Members of the Septem Club held a series of dances, the first on Thursday, June 11, "on the new dancing floor recently erected." The first dance was a carnation dance with music supplied by Oppenheim's Orchestra. On Monday, June 15, members of St. Angelo Council, Catholic Women's Benevolent Legion of Nanticoke, held their picnic and dance "on the new steel pavilion."

The increasing popularity of baseball locally led many teams to build home fields in their respective towns. In Glen Lyon alone, there were two fields, one near Canada, and the other at the end of West Main Street near Park Street. The Power House Grove field was then converted into a tennis court. It was so well patronized that two additional tennis courts were planned. On June 18, it was announced in the Wilkes-Barre Times Leader that "work started this morning on two more courts. When these are completed they will compare favorably to any courts in this part of the state. The ground has been accurately laid out and grass has been planted around. The people of the township as well as many from Nanticoke are taking advantage of the opportunity and are indulging in the healthful out-door sport several times a week." Also on



Dorothea Lambert Chambers at Wimbledon 1913

June 18, the twenty-second annual commencement of Newport Township Central High School took place with 11 graduates, pictured right: bottom row, Lorena Turner, Ruth Fuller, Elizabeth Cooper, Elsie Poltrock. Top row: John Bryan, Julius Frankel, Harry Fairchild, William Sutter, LeRoy Varker, and Thomas Latonis.

On Monday evening, June 22, a moonlight dance with music provided by Bahny's seven piece orchestra was well attended.

Another dance was held three days later on Thursday, June 25.

On June 28, 1914, the assassination of the Archduke Franz Ferdinand, who was heir to the Austrian Hungarian Empire, and his wife set off a series of events that led to World War I. The Austrian Hungarian Empire formed in 1867 was made up of these present day European countries: Austria, Hungary, Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Slovakia, the Czech Republic and parts of Italy, Romania, Ukraine, and Poland. It was ruled by a single monarch, Franz Joseph. Due to crop failure, unemployment, forced conscription, persecution, oppression, economic hardship, violence, and political upheaval, fifty million people left the Empire and came to the United States. The Great Migration from Eastern Europe occurred between the years of 1846 and 1940. Thousands of those men and boys settled in Northeastern Pennsylvania and worked in the mining industry. The first decade of the 20th century saw increasing diplomatic tension among the European great powers. This reached the breaking point when a Bosnian Serb named Gavrilo Princip assassinated Archduke Franz Ferdinand. Austria-Hungary held Serbia responsible, and declared war on July 28. Russia came to Serbia's defense, and by August 4, defensive alliances had pulled in Germany, France, and Britain, with the Ottoman Empire joining the war in November. World War I had begun. There is no doubt that these events were of great interest to Newport Township residents. The United States would not declare war on the German Empire until April 6, 1917.

Despite these disturbing political events, life went on. It was announced that "the Glen Lyon baseball team will conduct a dance at Power House, when Luther Kniffen and Miss Weir of Wilkes-Barre will give instruction both in modern and old dances. This dance will undoubtedly draw a record crowd." Luther Kniffen of the family that owns the Kniffen Funeral Home in Wilkes-Barre, was well known in Wyoming Valley as a dance instructor. The dance was held on June 29. The following day, June 30, the Uno Club of Alden held a carnation dance. St. Francis Church of Nanticoke celebrated the Fourth of July at the Grove with a picnic, dance, ally ball (bowling) and athletic competitions.

A dance was held by the graduating seniors of the High School on Tuesday July 7. It "proved to be a very enjoyable social event. A large number of young people of Nanticoke and the township were in attendance and all the latest dances were gracefully danced. The hall was elaborately decorated for the occasion. Music was furnished by Oppenheim's orchestra." The annual outing of Bethel Sunday School was held on Thursday, July 9. "The children will be treated to ice cream, peanuts, cake and lemonade. There will be games, races and different amusements for those who attend. The large pavilion at the grove will be used and there will be music during the afternoon." It proved to be "a delightful affair, particularly for the little ones who turned out in large numbers. Despite the heat, they entered into the races and different contests with vim and seemed to enjoy them." The temperature that day climbed to 90 degrees. Later that evening, a moonlight dance sponsored by the Septem Club of Nanticoke took place with music by Oppenheim. "Elaborate decorations" were promised.

On July 15, the following appeared in the Evening News: "For many years Power House Grove has never had the popularity that it has at the present time. Both the dancing pavilion, which is the most modern in this section of the state, and the tennis courts which court hundreds of enthusiastic tennis players are using them considerably. The dancing floor, however, attracts hundreds of people from Nanticoke, Hanover, and Newport Township each night. Much credit is due William Warne, superintendent of the company for the popularity of the resort." This is



high praise indeed. The new pavilion proved to be a good business investment by the People's Street Railway, which managed the Grove, as it increased ridership.

On Thursday July 16, a dance sponsored by the S.S. Club was held with music by Oppenheim. On Saturday July 18, "the tango contest conducted...by the Tango Club [of Nanticoke] was very largely attended and was a success. All the latest dances were indulged in and many out of town people were in attendance." The Tango Club also planned a "cone dance" on August 2 at which everyone who attended would be given an ice cream cone. On Tuesday July 28, the Uno Club "composed of a number of young men" conducted a dance at the Grove with music provided by Bahny's Orchestra. The following evening, another dance was held with music by Bahny's.

Throughout the month of July, dances by Bahny's Orchestra were held each Monday evening and were well attended. On Monday, July 27, the following appeared in the *Times Leader*: "Several hundred people, both young and old of Nanticoke and Newport, will attend the popular Monday evening dance at Power House tonight. Bahny's favorite orchestra will render music. About fifty young people from towns up the valley, who are well versed in the modern dances have been invited to attend. Monday evening is fast becoming a popular dance night when the best and most respectable dancers attend. There are also many willing dancers who attend regularly and enjoy the evening. All who attend are assured by the management that they will have a delightful time." Dancing instructors were readily available.

Saturday August 1, 1914 was a momentous day in the history of Kirmar Park. For it was on that day that the word "Kirmar" first appeared in the local newspapers. The word "Kirmar" is an example of a portmanteau word, a word that results from blending two or more words, or parts of words. In this case, "Kirmar" comes from the first three letters of the first and middle name of Kirtland Marion Smith, perhaps better known as K.M. Smith, who was President of the People's Street Railway and Superintendent of the Alden Coal Company. (See *Newport Township Community News*, #49, Summer 2017, p. 20.) The Kirmar Club which consisted of six young men from Newport Township and Nanticoke announced preparations in the *Times Leader* for their "first annual subscription dance which will be held at the Power House Grove on September 3. The dance will be one of the popular dances of the season and will be held when the weather is just right for dancing." Music was to be provided by Oppenheim's Orchestra. The blended word "Kirmar" soon became part of Newport Township history.

On August 3, 1914, the Trinomial Club of Nanticoke announced it had "received over a score of entries for the tango, hesitation and waltz contests which will be held on the Power House pavilion on August 5 (Wednesday). Several couples from towns up the valley will participate and it is expected that several hundred admirers of the terpsichorean (dancing) art will be at Power House on Wednesday. Prizes of \$5.00 (\$152.00 in today's money) will be awarded. The Shawnee orchestra will render music."

On Thursday, August 6, the Glen Lyon Colts baseball team gave a free dance to all its friends to show their appreciation for past attendance at their fundraising dances. Music was provided once again by Bahny's orchestra. On Monday August 10, a "Society Dance" was held at Power House Grove with music "under the personal direction of Mr. Bahny."

The next day, on August 11, was the first time that Power House Grove was publicly called Kirmar Park. It was announced that a "tango and hesitation contest will be held at Kirmar Park on the new pavilion on Thursday August 13. A five dollar gold piece will be awarded for the best tangoing and the same for the best hesitation." In addition to the tango and the Maxixe, another popular dance step was the "hesitation," a variation of the waltz. It is described as a halt on one foot with the other foot suspended in the air during the "1-2-3" or the "2-3" beat of the music, whatever the case was. The ways of performing the "hesitation" were many and varied and no way can be said to be more orthodox or correct than any other. Its popularity soared into the 1910's and by 1913 was one of the main dances done with the exhibition dance teams of the time. By 1914, it was being replaced by a new dance called the "Dream Hesitation" which won the contest for new dances of the year. Everyone wanted to learn the newest dance steps, and Kirmar Park catered to the dance craze.

The Top Songs of 1914 were: By the Beautiful Sea; It's a Long Way to Tipperary; Are We Downhearted, No!; Atriente; Ballin' the Jack; The Aba Daba Honeymoon; I'm On My Way to Mandalay; I Love the Ladies; and Cohen on the Telephone. This last song wasn't a song at all, but a comedy routine.

The annual outing of the Moriah Sunday School was held on Friday August 14. On Wednesday, August 19, the Trinomial Club sponsored a One-Step Contest with prizes of two Silver Loving Cups. Music was provided by the Shawnee Orchestra. "Miss

One-Step Contest
Kirmar Park (Power House Grove)
Wanamie, Nanticoke
2 Silver Loving Cups.
Trinomial Club Shawnee Orchestra

Madeline Dennis and Charles Cannon of Lee Park won the one-step contest at Kirmar Park....Several hundred attended the dance and thoroughly enjoyed it."

An ad appeared announcing a "Dance Saturday Evening (August 22) with the following program rendered by Bahny's Orchestra: One step, two step, Paul Jones, hesitation, five step, and waltz. Everybody welcome, good time assured." The Paul Jones was a circle dance, where dancers joined hands to form a large circle around the room (or several concentric circles, if space demands). At a signal, the dancers give their right hands to the first person they pass, left to the second, right to the third, etc. At the next signal, they dance with the person opposite them. This pattern is repeated until the music ends.

On Monday evening August 24, Bahny's Orchestra held a "society dance" under the "personal direction of Prof. Bahny; very latest music." The next day the following appeared in the *Times Leader*: "The last few weeks of the season still see Kirmar Park as popular as ever. The three tennis courts are in use both morning and afternoon and many young people from Newport and Nanticoke have become quite clever at handling the racket. The society dance held last evening was largely attended and the crowd enjoyed the music."

One night later, on Wednesday August 26, the Company N, C.T.A.U. (Catholic Total Abstinence Union, a Roman Catholic temperance organization active in the 19th and 20th centuries) sponsored a private dance to which one thousands invitations were sent out. Music was provided by Luft's Orchestra. On Thursday, the annual outing of the English Baptist Sunday School was held, with special cars promised to leave for the Park at 1:00. The Sunday School of St. Andrew's Church held a picnic on Friday August 28. Oppenheim's provided music. An extensive program was announced, including races and a tug-of-war, with prizes such as parasols, side combs, pocketknives, balls and bats, ice cream cones, tennis balls, and rubber hair pins.

The popular "society night" continued to be held every Monday evening. On August 31, Bahny's Orchestra under the personal direction of Professor Bahny furnished the music. "A large crowd is expected. Nanticoke and Newport are well represented each evening and a delightful time is the result."

On Tuesday September 1, the Nanticoke Nest No. 91 of the Falcons conducted a picnic and dance. It featured athletic events, gymnastics and a wrestling match. Prizes, such as a revolver, a gold watch chain, a doll, a box of candy, a baseball, glove, and bat, were offered for each event. The evening was devoted to dancing. The Nest hoped to raise money to send 23 delegates and members to the Falcon Convention in Buffalo.

That night, as reported in the *Wilkes-Barre Record*, "a slight fire was discovered in the new dancing pavilion at Kirmar Park, when a crowd of about 300 people were on the floor. A blaze was noticed near the ceiling and upon investigation, it was discovered that a half moon which was covered with decorations had caught fire by a bare electric wire. Several young men climbed up the ladders to the beams and with the use of fire extinguishers put out the fire."

The Kirmar Club held a "subscription dance" on Thursday, September 3 which promised "to be the most elaborate social affair ever held there. The hall will be beautifully decorated with palms, pennants, and streamers and at the different entrances arches will be used, decorated with flowers and electric lights." The interior was to represent an Italian garden. The dance was "largely attended and proved to be an enjoyable affair."

A picnic by Marshall's Boys' Band was held on Saturday, September 5. "Games, dancing, and a good time generally. Lester Yohey will instruct in the modern dances. Music by Oppenheim. Tickets 25 cents."

Lester Yohey was a young man living in Wanamie at the time, and was proficient in all the current dances. The band, composed of young boys and girls, paraded the streets the evening before to advertise their picnic.

On Thursday September 10, Company N, C.T.A.U held another private dance "when a pleasant time is assured all who attend. All invitations which were sent out for the dance of August 26 are good for this dance." On Monday, September 14, the Bahny's Orchestra Society Dance took place under the "personal direction of Professor Bahny. Very latest music." The Trinomial Club of Nanticoke conducted a hesitation contest on September 16 and again awarded two silver loving cups to the best couple dancing the hesitation. Club members left "nothing undone in making this dance a success." The silver cups were on display in the window of Perry B. Evans, clothier. On Monday September 21, the Priscilla Club of Glen Lyon announced "its informal dance at Power House Grove....Hundreds of invitations have been sent out."

On Tuesday September 22, the Young Ladies Club of Glen Lyon held a "Big Combination Dance." It was frequently advertised. The following day, it was reported to have been largely attended. The last of a series of dances sponsored by Company N, C.T.A.U. was held on September 24.

A newly formed baseball team made up of young men from Alden and Sheatown planned "an old fashioned farmer dance at Kirmar Park on October 1, at which time a pleasant time is looked forward to." The following day it was reported to be "one of the largest affairs held at that place this year. The costumes worn were of the farmer style which made a pleasing appearance. All present spent an enjoyable evening and a neat sum of money was realized."

On Monday October 12, a dance was held with music by Bahny's Orchestra. Basketball activity was beginning. On Thursday October 14, the Stickney Hose Company met to organize a team to represent Nanticoke in a newly formed league. The manager and captain were chosen and the team would play at Kirmar Park every Thursday evening and conduct a dance after each game. "They will provide the best of music and it will be their aim to conduct the dances in the proper manner. Special attention will be given the ladies on all occasions. In selecting Kirmar Park, they have again made a wise choice for the pavilion at Kirmar is one of the largest and most modern in the entire state. The playing space is more than adequate and will provide room for the largest possible crowd." The following day, it was announced that the team would not join the League, but would still play games. Dances were held on Monday the 19 and 26, with music provided by Bahny's Orchestra. Rowley's Ninth Regiment Band held dances every Saturday evening, beginning on October 24. Rowley's Band was a newcomer to Kirmar Park. Led by Thomas H. Rowley, it was another popular dance band in the Valley. Thomas got his start with the Oppenheim Orchestra, and later organized the Ninth Regiment Band in 1901. He also organized the Shrine Band of Irem Temple.

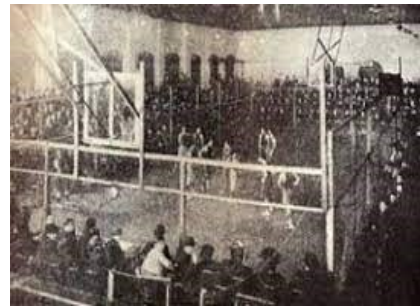
The following article appeared in the *Times Leader* on October 24: "A second meeting of the representatives of the proposed basket ball league of the High schools [sic] of the valley was called to order in the Y.M.C.A. building by Prof. Nybach of Hanover township [sic] last night at 6 o'clock. The following High schools sent representatives or requested to be admitted: Kingston, Plymouth, Edwardsville, Nanticoke, Parsons, St. Mary's (Wilkes-Barre), Ashley, Broadway (Larksville), Dorranceton, Wanamie (Newport), and Hanover township. After some discussion it was proposed to form two leagues, one composed of High schools on the West Side and the other on the East Side. The following will compose the West Side: Dorranceton, Kingston, Edwardsville, Broadway, Plymouth, and some other team not yet selected. The East Side will be composed of the following: Parsons, Nanticoke, Ashley, Hanover township, Wanamie, and St. Mary's. An enrollment fee of \$1.50 must be deposited with the treasurer at the next meeting, Tuesday, Nov. 3 in the Y.M.C.A. building at 7:30 p.m." This was one of the first attempts to organize high school basketball teams in this area. The Newport High School team often played at Kirmar Park.

On Monday, October 26, a dance was held with music by Bahny's Orchestra. "A number of young people attended." Three nights later, on October 29, a Mitchell Day Dance was held. John Mitchell was a coal miner who became a labor leader. He was driven to help the anthracite miners who were earning miserable wages in deplorable

conditions, and arrived in the regions around Scranton, Pennsylvania in 1900. He organized the 48,000 hard coal miners into the anthracite division of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) and issued the order to strike. The strike was in its sixth week when the operators conceded to the union and guaranteed improvements. The miners returned to work on October 29. In tribute to Mitchell, October 29th was proclaimed John Mitchell Day and is still observed each year in the anthracite regions.

The next dance was held on Monday, November 2, with music by Bahny's Orchestra, and another dance the following Monday, November 9. "Admission: Gents 25 cents, ladies 10 cents." In between, Rowley's Band held a dance on Saturday, November 7.

On November 11, the following appeared in the *Evening News*: "Manager William Warne of the People's Street Railway Company has a force of men at work at the pavilion at Kirmar Park preparing the floor for the coming basket ball [sic] season. Among the preparations being made are the addition of two dressing rooms and also the installation of a hot and cold shower bath. The Power House floor is a large open area and the members of the Nanticoke team are well pleased with the floor for their contests this season. A cage may be used in which to play the games and as no team in the league is better in a cage or faster on an open floor than Nanticoke some good contests should be played there this winter." James Naismith is credited with the invention of basketball in 1891. Naismith's original rules said that when the ball went out of bounds, the first player who got to it could throw it back in. Obviously, it would have been disastrous to allow players to wrestle in the laps of paying customers for possession of the ball. With the cage the rule



An example of a basketball cage

was moot—the ball never went out of bounds. The out-of-bounds rule was changed in 1902 to eliminate sideline scrimmages, but by that time the early professional players were wedded to the cage. The thinking was that the game was faster and more entertaining in a cage because there were no delays to return the ball to play, and because the ball and the players could bounce off the wire mesh.

Rope netting, a cheaper material, soon replaced the wire mesh as the cage material of choice. Many eastern professional teams played in cages until 1925, and a few continued using them well into the 1930s. This is how basketball players came to be called "cagers."

A new league was formed in November called the "State League" and consisted of six local teams. The Nanticoke team's (the Maroons) games would be played at Kirmar Park. As reported in the *Times Leader*: "Manager Warne of the Traction Company has planned to make every effort to accommodate the crowds and make all who attend as comfortable as possible. With Messrs. Powell, Jones, Schectery, O'Brien and several youngsters ready to jump in the game, Nanticoke should have a line up equal to any which represented her in the past."

On November 16, it was announced in the *Times Leader* that "Central High school of Wanamie will be represented this year by a basket ball team as usual. Speed will be the slogan of the Centralites, as the team will be light. Home games will be played at Power House on the new \$12,000 pavilion, the game being played in a cage of regulation size, 65 feet by 35 feet. (High school courts today measure 84 feet long by 50 feet wide.) The team will have the service of Peter Turek." Peter Turek was a teacher at the High School who served as manager for a variety of sports teams in the Township.

The new pavilion could accommodate a larger variety of entertainment than before. On Tuesday, November 17, a minstrel troupe known as the Shawnee Warblers of Plymouth came to town under the auspices of Company E, First Regiment, P.O.S. of A. (Patriotic Order Sons of America) of Alden. The show consisted of songs performed by several members of the troupe with "jokes in between songs by four famous end men, Miles, Thomas, Mills, and Pritchard; chorus by entire company; contortionist act by Arthur Leenuring; monolog by William Mills; song by W. Pritchard; [and] whistling by Ben Thomas." The show had a large attendance.

The first game of the 1914-1915 basketball season was played on

Thursday November 19 between the Nanticoke Maroons and the Plymouth Independents. Between halves, the Wanamie High School team played the Wilkes-Barre Business College. "Turk Jones, who wore a Nanticoke uniform last season, plays with the Plymouth team and keeps the local boys on the jump to keep him from caging baskets by the score." The game did not materialize because Plymouth failed to show up. The High School team was victorious over the Wilkes-Barre Business College by the score of 8 to 7.

On Monday, November 23, a dance featuring Bahny's Orchestra was held. On Thursday, November 26 (Thanksgiving Day), Trenton of the Eastern League played an exhibition game against Nanticoke, with a dance following. The Maroons declared Kirmar Park Pavilion as their home court. Nanticoke won by the score of 37 to 16. "The game was delayed in starting by the late arrival of Trenton. The latter played at Hazleton in the afternoon and missed train connections. In the future the games will start promptly at 8:15. The attendance was good last night for the opening game and members of the team and the management were pleased with the arrangements at Kirmar Park. Dancing was indulged in for some time. McHenry's orchestra furnishing music."

The month of December saw an explosion of ads in local papers from teams asking for games. Nanticoke lost their first League game. The team consisted of Coopey, Powell, Williams, Schecterly and Jones. On Thursday December 3, Nanticoke played the Wilkes-Barre Barons at Kirmar Park. Trolley cars were promised every 15 minutes. A large crowd was expected and an extra tier of bleachers was added. Wilkes-Barre scored the winning basket in the last minute, 28 to 26. Dancing followed the game.

On Saturday December 5, Pittston High School basketball team traveled to Kirmar Park to take on the Central (Newport) High team. At the half, the Wanamie Ex-High school team played the L.D.C. Club of Pittston. Newport lost by a score of 24 to 2. As reported, "the brilliant passing of Pittston High totally bewildered the Wanamie Team." On Thursday December 10, Pittston played Nanticoke for the first time in two years. The start time was 8:30. Nanticoke was determined to get their first win, but lost a "nip and tuck" game, 25-23. As reported in the *Times Leader*, "Everything about last evening's game at Kirmar Park except the final score met with the complete approval of the 500 basket ball fans who assembled to see the Nanticoke team, newcomers into the State League, try conclusions with Pittston, holder of the independent championship of Northeastern Pennsylvania...Had O'Brien's (Nanticoke) boys had a few more days' practice with the new baskets it is possible that they would have pushed up their score enough to win... The crowd last evening was enthusiastic and demonstrative but orderly and there was a goodly representation of women in the audience. There was dancing after the game."

On Saturday December 12, the Keystone A.C. played the Maroons at Kirmar Park. On Monday the 14th, the Armour Meatpackers beat the Pennsylvania Freight Clerks team by the score of 47 to 40 in a "lively" contest. The game was arranged on short notice. Hazleton came to town on Thursday, the 17th to play the Maroons. The Maroons won its first league game by the score of 30 to 22. The *Times Leader* described the game as "one of the hardest fought contests ever played in this section. Neither five had won a league game until last night and it was 'dog eat dog' all the way." The following evening, the Newport High team played the Nanticoke High school Juniors at Kirmar Park. The Newport team appeared in new uniforms, "a fine pattern in a black jersey with a red stripe will make the team look neat." The Seniors and Sophomores of Nanticoke played a separate game. A large crowd was expected. This was probably one of the first instances of red and black being used for Newport High School sports uniforms.

On Saturday December 26, the Newport High team played the Alumni, winning by a score of 18 to 4. Between the halves, the Glen Lyon team played the Wilkes-Barre Olympics and won, 50 to 8. The following night, the Maroons played the Pittston Garnets. Late in December, a new third class team called the Nonpareil of Nanticoke formed and announced its intention to use the Kirmar Park Pavilion as its home floor. A game was played between the Wilkes-Barre All Stars and Nanticoke on December 30. Nanticoke would claim a victory by the score of 21 to 17. Howell Williams starred for Nanticoke. A dance followed the game. The year 1914 closed out at Kirmar Park with a dance and battalion drill on New Year's Eve, sponsored by Company E with music by Oppenheim's Orchestra.

There is no doubt that a staff was employed by the People's

Street Railway to maintain Kirmar Park's buildings and grounds. Scheduling of events took a great deal of coordination. In addition, the staff would be responsible for preparation for and cleanup after every party, dance, show, game, and picnic. It is not known at this time who served on the maintenance crew. Operation of the Park would also depend on the efficiency of the power house, which also produced electricity for the trolley system. The design of the new pavilion would have included all the latest technology of the time, including electrical lighting. However in 1914, the availability of electrical power for use in homes was sporadic at best. Only 35% of American households had electricity in 1920. The new pavilion also featured a hot and cold shower bath. Outhouses were still common. It wasn't until the 1930s that indoor plumbing and running water became widely available.

To be continued.....

Sources; www.loc.gov; www.wikipedia; *Wilkes-Barre Times Leader*; *Wilkes-Barre Record*; *The Evening News*; www.newspapers.com; mininghalloffame.org; vault.si.com; various websites.



The Newport Township Lions held its 45th annual golf tournament on August 18 at Mill Race Golf Course in Benton. Jonathan Benick and Peter Blasi Jr. repeated as champions.

Need a new broom? The Lions sell them all year round. Contact Ron Womelsdorf at 570-735-8639 for information. They are also available at Friendly Food Mart in Sheatown.

The Lions meet at the Newport Township Municipal Building every second Wednesday of the month at 6 pm. Don Reese serves as President. New members are welcome.

The Lookout House

"Fine Dining in a Casual Atmosphere"

Banquets and Catering

1373 State Route 93
Drums, PA 18822

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

BIRCHWOOD
HEALTHCARE & REHABILITATION

395 Middle Road
Nanticoke, PA 18634

angela.lowe@guardianhc.com
570.735.2973 x312 Phone
570.735.8420 Fax
814.594.9815 Cell

ANGELA LOWE

Admissions Director

WWW.GUARDIANHC.COM

Joe's Worm Castings

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

Joe Michaels/Vermaculture

Like us on Facebook

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



Pictured right is the Walking Pilgrimage sponsored by Holy Spirit Parish on July 8. Over 40 participants walked the six miles from St. Mary's Church in Mocanaqua to St. Adalbert's Church in Glen Lyon. Prayers were offered and songs were sung along the way. Following the walk, the participants were served lunch by the Altar and Rosary Society, Church of St. Adalbert. A bus was available to return the participants to their cars. The faithful were led by Organist Raphael Micca.



Pictured left is the swearing in of American Legion Post 539 Auxiliary Officers: From left to right: Barbara Meyers, Stephanie Gorman, Faith Kropiewnicki, Tiffany Graham, Heidi Jarecki, Terri Meyers, and Faye Maloney by Bi-County Auxiliary President Dorothy Collins.



Above is a birthday party in the Wanamie Recreation Park for Onali (age 4) and Lennon (age 1) Vishnefski of Sheatown.



Valley With a Heart celebrated 22 years on Sunday September 3rd with a bike ride and picnic at St. Faustina's Grove in Sheatown. According to President Rick Temarantz nearly 300 bikers participated. The benefit has two poster children this year, Skyla and Aganna, both 5 years old. The Valley With a Heart helps pay medical bills, mortgages and gives out gas cards to families with seriously ill children.


A **Gun Law Seminar** will be held on Thursday, October 5 from 6-8 pm at the R Bar and Grill in Alden. This free event is sponsored by State Rep. Alec Ryncavage and the Newport Township Crime Watch. Registration is required at www.RepRyncavage.com or call the district office at 570-902-4082.

St. Nicholas Church in Glen Lyon will have a **Hoagie and Bake Sale** on October 19. Call Debbie at 570-736-6908 to order. Basket raffle benefits Ukraine.

St. Andrew's Church in Alden will hold their **Fall Festival** on October 6 from 4-8 and October 7 from 12 to 6.

Altar and Rosary Society, Church of St. Adalbert's Holy Spirit Parish in Glen Lyon will have a **Hoagie Sale** on Election Day, November 7. Call Carol at 570-736-7149 to order.

20



Joseph J. Reilly
President

130 Alden Road,
Nanticoke, PA 18634

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

www.ReillyFinishing.com



Park Improvements

Above are the newly re-surfaced basketball courts and at left are the tennis and pickleball courts at the Wanamie Recreation Park. The resurfacing was completed in August by Don. E. Bower of Berwick. Funding was provided by Covid Relief Funds and an American Rescue Plan Grant. Further improvements are planned, such as paving the walking trail and updating the pavilions and restrooms. The Park is open to the public from dawn until dusk.



Harry and Janice Howell of Glen Lyon took a break from touring the Leaning Tower of Pisa by reading the *Community News*. Built in the 12th century, the freestanding bell tower of Pisa Cathedral is known for its nearly four-degree lean, the result of an unstable foundation. 21



John and Chris Selecky share the *News* with friends from Slovakia Katka Koscova, her husband Michal Pivovar and their daughter Anna. Photo taken by Adam Pivovar, age 10. They are standing near the Pantheon in Paris where Victor Hugo and Marie Curie are buried.



Ron and Irena Ternosky of Plano Texas enjoy news from home while dining at the French Laundry, a destination for fine French cuisine in the Napa Valley in California. Ron grew up in Glen Lyon and is a proud graduate of Newport High School Class of 1960.



THOR'S SELF STORAGE

570-735-1600

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

HOURS BY APPOINTMENT ONLY



Broadway Garage

Established 1960

570 735 6206

107 Alden Road

Nanticoke Pa 18634

Joseph Waiter

brdway@live.com



GET THE FNCB[®] BANK LOCAL ADVANTAGE!

Visit our Nanticoke
Community Office today!

194 S. Market St. | Nanticoke, PA
(570) 258-3622

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



Since 1896

CARL KNOREK

F. L. KNOREK INSURANCE AGENCY

AUTO, HOMEOWNERS, BUSINESS
FIRE, FLOOD

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

Several lots are available
located both in the Sedor Hill
Development and outside the
Development all located in
Newport Township.



Marcella Sedor Kelly, Developer
P.O. Box 86
Dallas, PA 18612
570-239-6411
570-519-0268 fax

The Tint Shoppe Inc.



Specializing in:

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

We Accept Major Credit Cards

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

31 Blackman Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18702

GEORGE A. STRISH, INC.

Family of Funeral Directors

"Dignified Service To Meet Your Personal Requirements"

George A. Strish, Jr.

Deborah Strish Katra

George A. Strish, III

Ashley - 105 N. Main Street

822-8575

Glen Lyon - 211 W. Main Street

736-6218

RICHARDS GARDEN EQUIPMENT

Sales and Service

New Lawn Mower Sales

New Outdoor Power Equipment and Parts

New Chain Saw Chains

Lawn Mower and Snow Blower Repair

Chain Saw Sharpening

Pickup and delivery



Sales & Service
Lowest Price Guarantee



480 Old Newport Road
Sheatown/Wanamie Line



(570) 735-1416

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



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

Shades Unlimited

Custom Window Treatments

Blinds, Shades, Shutters, Draperies
and Fabric Awnings

Free Measurements & Estimates

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

Locally Owned and Operated since 1982

ATTENTION NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIBERS

This is a gentle reminder to send us your annual subscription fee of \$10 to us after you receive each winter newsletter in the mail. As Steve Phillips explained in his President's Report, the major source of NTCO's revenue is the recycling program, and it will end in the near future. The cost of mailing the newsletters has risen through the years and it has become more difficult for the NTCO to absorb the cost of unpaid subscriptions. Any donations will be gladly accepted. Please make your checks out to the NTCO. Thank you!

Editors Heidi and Paul Jarecki



NTCO NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT

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

- \$30.00 One-tenth-page or Business Card Size Ad
- \$50.00 Quarter-page Size Ad
- \$85.00 One-half-page Size Ad
- \$150.00 Full-page Size Ad

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

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

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

NTCO NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

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

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

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



Above, Three Generations of the Selecky Family

In commemoration of the Township's 250th Anniversary, the NTCO is offering T-shirts. The design is copied from the three banners recently installed in the Township. With a donation of \$15.00, it will be yours! Available in sizes S, M, L, XL, 2XL and 3XL. Contact Heidi Jarecki at 28 West Main Street, Glen Lyon or call 570-733-2540. Add \$6.00 for mailing. Thanks!



Ted Evan (above) and Tom Tarnowski (below) model our tee shirt



MONTHLY FOOD DISTRIBUTION

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 on the second Saturday of the month between 11 am and 12 noon. Seasonal fruits and vegetables, along with milk, canned goods, rice and pasta are among the foods available. The distributions take place in the Municipal Garage adjacent to the Municipal Building on Kirmar Parkway in Wanamie. All recipients must pre-register at least five days before the event.

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

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION OFFICERS/CONTACTS

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



We are on Facebook!

Be Proud of Newport and Make Newport Proud of You!

~ The Late Honorable Paul R. Selecky