



From the left to right: Palmira Gregory Miller, Staff Sergeant James Horning, District Attorney Jackie Musto Carroll, State Representative Gerald Mullery, Township Commissioner Paul Czapracki, and Mark Grohowski. (Photo by Carol Marcincavage)

## State Representative Gerald Mullery Announces Bills to Stop Theft of Cemetery Markers *by John Jarecki*

State Representative Gerald Mullery, in a press conference on August 22 at St. Adalbert's Cemetery in Glen Lyon, announced that he has introduced two bills intended to prevent the theft of veterans' cemetery markers.

Mr. Mullery said he believes his bills will deter thieves from stealing these markers. Earlier this year, 150 were stolen from three Newport Township cemeteries.

House Bill 1809 would reclassify theft from a cemetery, now a misdemeanor, as a third-degree felony, which carries a maximum penalty of seven years in prison and a \$15,000 fine.

House Bill 1810 would change the Scrap Material Theft Prevention Act by reclassifying the buying of stolen items by a scrap dealer, now a summary offense for first time offenders, as a third-degree misdemeanor. The fine for this violation would increase from \$2,500 to \$5,000. The bill would also reclassify the buying of stolen items in second and subsequent violations, now a third-degree misdemeanor, as a second-degree misdemeanor. The fine for these violations would increase from \$2,500 to \$10,000.

Joining Mr. Mullery at the press conference were Staff Sergeant James Horning, who found replacements for markers

stolen from Newport cemeteries, District Attorney Jackie Musto Carroll, Mark Grohowski from State Senator John Yudichak's office, Newport Township Commissioner Paul Czapracki, and Newport Township Community Organization First Vice President Palmira Gregory Miller.

The District Attorney thanked Representative Mullery for introducing the legislation, and said that the more serious charges and fines would be a disincentive to cemetery thieves and scrap dealers thinking of profiting from cemetery theft.

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## Call for Nominations Newport Township Community Organization 2011 Citizenship Award

*by John Jarecki* The Newport Township Community Organization announces its first annual Citizenship Award, and asks you to nominate candidates for this honor.

Anyone can make a nomination, which should contain a statement of why the nominee deserves to be considered. Nominations should be submitted in typewritten narrative form by October 31<sup>st</sup> to The Newport Township Community Organization, Attention: Heidi Selecky Jarecki, 110 ½ Railroad Ave., Nanticoke, PA 18634.

A candidate can be either a resident or non-resident, as long as he or she works for the benefit of Newport Township. Nominees must be at least 12 years of age and should demonstrate highly developed voluntary community service to the Township and its residents on a

**CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE**



## Citizenship Award Continued from page 1

continuing and consistent basis or on a one-time project with the objective of improving life in the Township. Current officers and those on the Board of Directors of the Organization may not be nominated.

The Award will be presented at the Organization's dinner meeting in December. The recipient will receive a plaque and/or certificate, an NTCO memento, and dinner for two. In addition, the recipient's name will be engraved on a plaque to be displayed at the official headquarters of the NTCO.

### Township Business *by John Jarecki*

At their May 2 meeting, the Township Commissioners approved Ordinance Number 2 of 2011, which prohibits persons from drinking alcohol while they are on publicly accessible property or in a motor vehicle on publicly accessible property. The intent of the ordinance is to prevent public drinking, as in a parked car in a parking lot. The penalty for violation is a fine of \$25 to \$300 or up to 30 days in jail. The ordinance went into effect immediately.

At the Commissioners July 5 meeting, Township Manager Rich Zika reported that the federally funded repaving of Charles and Williams Streets in Sheatown was complete. The cost of the project was \$163,925.76, which was paid to Harrisburg-based Pennsy Supply, a leading provider of paving materials and paving services in southeastern Pennsylvania.

At a special August 17 meeting, the Township Commissioners approved a cooperation agreement between the Township and Luzerne County that allows the Township to accept \$100,000 in Office of Community Development grant funds, which can be used for such things as street improvement and demolition of deteriorating buildings. These funds can only be used in Glen Lyon because of restrictions on the income level of the neighborhoods where they are spent. The Commissioners intend to spend \$20,000 of the money on demolitions.

At the Commissioners September 7 meeting, John Vishnefski, Commissioner for Parks and Recreation, reported that the repaving of the tennis courts at the Wanamie Recreation Park was complete. Conte Paving of Pittston did the work at a cost of \$10,000. Money for the project came from a grant obtained some time ago through the office of then State Representative John Yudichak.

## EDITORIAL

### To Litter or not to Litter, That is the Question! (With Apologies to the Bard)

by Heidi Jarecki

To litter or not to litter, that is the question.  
Whether 'tis nobler in the mind to litter  
The landscapes and byways of our humble home  
Or to take aim against that sea of trash  
And by opposing, end it? To throw cups,  
Bottles and cans out of car windows no more  
And by a sleep to say we end the ugly and the thousand  
Bags of trash that are dumped illegally in the woods.  
That earth is heir to, 'tis a natural state  
Devoutly to be wish'd. To die, to sleep,  
To sleep, perchance to dream. Ay, there's the rub.  
For in that sleep, what dreams may come:  
Of a township that by example says we value the earth  
When we have removed the tires and broken couches  
That must give us pause. There's the respect  
Of the earth that must be passed to all generations.  
For who would bear the sight of rusted chairs  
And old discarded roof shingles piled next to their house?  
Then why transport them to the far reaches of the  
Penobscot Trail where they will be viewed by those who hike?  
The litterer transgresses, the proud people press on.  
The pangs of unsightly trash, the law refutes  
And those who are caught will be punished.  
Be vigilant! And vow to litter no more!

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Newport Township residents who attended the speaking engagement are from left to right: Julie Davis, Joseph Dekutoski, Virginia Maddy, Congressman Barletta, Anne Rinehamer, Mary Alice Dudeck, Thelma Blockus, Stanley Jenceleski, and Dolores Jenceleski.



Staff of the Rose Tucker Center are left to right: Gayle Voyton, Bobbi Shendock, Brenda Lispi, Helen Kosteva, Congressman Barletta, Maureen Haydt, and Joe Middleton.

## Congressman Barletta Addresses Seniors

by Tom Kashatus

Congressman Lou Barletta (R) of the PA 11<sup>th</sup> Congressional District made a visit to the Rose Tucker Senior Citizen Center of Nanticoke on August 31st and addressed approximately fifty members and guests. His main theme centered on the over-spending problems of Congress and the Executive Branch in Washington and how this problem affects the present day economy. He tried to emphasize how past generations always left better opportunities for their children, but today's economic problems are reversing that trend for the first time ever.

He stated that the social benefits of Social Security and Medicare must be addressed and changes must be made to prevent bankruptcy of their programs, and he has supported efforts to make these changes – i.e., for individuals to select a retirement plan of their own choosing which would be supplemented by the government. He emphatically pointed out that the pattern of his voting regarding Social Security and Medicare will not affect those Americans who are age 55 and older.

Since he has taken office he has voted for measures to repeal the President Obama health care bill, to continue seniors' benefits in the event of a government shutdown because the national debt ceiling is reached, and to take senior benefits out of the process when cuts across the board are made.

He has co-sponsored House Bill 1086 which would take seniors out of the present method of computing cost-of-living allowances or COLAs. COLAs are based on a complex formula using the consumer price index (CPI) which computes increases in Social Security payments. Seniors have not received an increase in their pension for two years because the formula for computing COLA's includes younger working Americans and this has a negative effect on increasing payment rates.

To keep jobs in the United States and promote new entrepreneurship he favors lowering business taxes and eliminating business subsidies and loopholes in the taxation process. He

supports a balanced budget amendment for the federal government and he believes that you "can't spend money you don't have."

On the lighter side, the Congressman was asked if he ever worked at Angela Park, an amusement park which was located on Route 309 just north of Hazleton and owned by the Barletta family. He reminisced sentimentally about how he enjoyed operating the many rides available to the wonderful people who supported the park and picnic area. He stated that the park was named for his grandmother.

Pictured are Newport Township residents who attended the speaking engagement and the staff of the Rose Tucker Senior Citizen Center.

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In the photo from left: Mary Margaret Kashatus (NTCO Welcoming Representative), Holly Rule, State Representative Gerald Mullery, Brittany Dougherty, Paul Guffrovitch, John Clawson (Center Owner), Tom Kashatus (NTCO President), and Palmira Gregory Miller (NTCO First Vice President).

### **Magic World Childhood Care Center Opens with Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Attended by State Representative Gerald Mullery and Newport Township Community Organization Officers**

*by John Jarecki*

The Magic World Childhood Care Center in Alden opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony attended by State Representative Gerald Mullery and Officers of the Newport Township Community Organization. The Center is located at 14 West Kirmar Parkway in Alden, and its phone number is 735-7075. It is open Monday through Friday from 6:30 am to 6:00 pm for the care of infants (six weeks to one-and-a-half years of age), toddlers (one-and-a-half to three years), and pre-school age children (three to five years). Holly Rule teaches a curriculum for toddlers, and Brittany Dougherty teaches a pre-school curriculum. There are separate rooms for infants, toddlers, and pre-school children, a larger indoor play area with a section for serving food, and an outdoor play area. Paul Guffrovitch is an advisor for the Center.

### **K&A Auto Repair Opens with a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Attended by State Representative Gerald Mullery and Officers of the Newport Township Community Organization**

*by John Jarecki*

K&A Auto Repair on Kirmar Avenue, Newport Township, opened with a ribbon cutting ceremony on Friday August 19 attended by State Representative Gerald Mullery and Officers of the Newport Township Community Organization. K&A Auto, owned and operated by Wally Geiger, is located at 260 West Kirmar Parkway. Its phone numbers are 735-1249 (land line) and 371-8203 (cell phone). It is open seven days a week. K&A offers a wide range of auto repair services, from oil changes and engine tune ups to body work, transmission rebuilding, and engine swaps. Its motto is "One call, we do it all."



In photo from left: Palmira Gregory Miller (NTCO First Vice President), K&A owner Wally Geiger, State Representative Gerald Mullery, Tom Kashatus (NTCO President).





Shown pumping water from the basement of 247 W. Kirmar Avenue, Alden are (R to L) Newport Township Fire Chief Jim Hoffman and fireman Norm Bodek while neighbors Ernie and Austin Siegel observe.



Cleaning debris from the parking lots of Guardian Elder Care Center in Sheatown are Danny Markowski & Tanya Grochal.

## Hurricane Irene

by Tom Kashatus

When Hurricane Irene passed through northeastern Pennsylvania the weekend of August 27, Newport Township avoided much of her wrath that was experienced by other municipalities in Luzerne County. Some Back Mountain communities were without power for a number of days while Sheatown and Alden had power outages from early Sunday morning to early afternoon.

A number of Newport Township first responders began answering calls of downed trees and flooded cellars at 6:00 a.m. Sunday morning and worked at their assigned tasks until 4:00 p.m. Ridgeview was the hardest hit by the turbulent wind and rain whereby three calls were answered for multiple downed trees. There were some flooding on West Kirmar Avenue and blocked storm drains throughout the Township. Thanks to volunteer firemen David Hoffman, Ron Papciak, Jack Elmy, Norm Bodek, Evan Wasilewski, Jason Poremba, John Murphy, Carl Smith Jr., and Harold DeStefano (EMS) peace was restored to Newport Township by Sunday evening. Also responding and playing a major role in the recovery were UGI linemen, Fire



Newport Township Public Works Foreman Joseph Hillan unblocks storm drain on the corner of Northern Avenue and Simon Street in Sheatown.

Chief Jim Hoffman, Police Chief Robert Impaglia, and Public Works employees Joseph Hillan and Jordan Sager. Caroline DeStefano volunteered to prepare a breakfast meal for the hard-working crew and Amy McDaniels (EMS) furnished a late lunch.

There is no doubt that the ten to twelve weeks of tree trimming and tree cutting around the utility lines by the crews of Asplundh (noted in another article in this newsletter) were well spent as this emergency played itself out.

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## Lincoln's Wisdom

*"And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."* **Abraham Lincoln**





In the photo from left: NTCO First Vice President Palmira Gregory Miller, Women's Activity Group members Deb Ward, Patricia Graboske, and Brenda Grabowski, Robert Hughes, and NTCO President Tom Kashatus.

(Photo by Carol Marcincavage)

### Newport Township Community Organization Sponsors Children's Tie-Dye Tee Shirt Craft Activity

by John Jarecki The Newport Township Community Organization, together with the Newport Township Women's Activity Group, sponsored a tie-dye tee shirt craft activity for children at the Wanamie Recreation Park on August 24. This was the last of three Summer Fun events for children that the Organization held, the others being swimming events at the Pat "Tiger" Denoy Pool in Mocanaqua on July 21 and August 4.

Leading the activity was Robert Hughes, Executive Director of the Eastern Pennsylvania Coalition for Abandoned Mine Reclamation (EPCAMR), together with a group of student volunteers from Wilkes University. They showed the children how to dye tee shirts using yellow iron oxide pigment that EPCAMR extracts from mine water.

Children chose their shirts and attached their names to them. They then tied rocks or marbles to the shirts with rubber bands or folded them in spirals and other patterns, also held together with rubber bands. They then soaked the shirts first in water containing the pigment and then in water containing baking soda, which fixed the color in the material. After drying on a clothesline, the shirts displayed a variety of decorative designs.

The Community Organization then served snacks and the

Women's Activity Group distributed school supplies to the children.

### How Wanamie Got Its Name

by Heidi Jarecki Native American place names abound in this neck of the woods. Examples are Mocanaqua, Nescopeck, Shick-shinny, Nanticoke, Wyoming, Penobscot, Nuangola, and Susquehanna, to name a few. Wanamie lays claim to being the only town with this distinction in Newport Township.

By the late nineteenth century there were four major landowners in Newport Township: Alden Coal Company, Susquehanna Coal Company, Delaware, Lackawanna and Western Railroad, and the Lehigh Coal and Navigation Company. In 1868, there was a breaker in what is now Wanamie operated by the Newport Coal Company which transferred its controlling interests to the Lehigh Coal Company. The colliery included a machine shop and later a second breaker was built. A fan house, a wash house, and engine houses were evident by 1875. That year, the collieries produced 147,000 tons of coal. Company homes to house miners and their families began to spring up around the collieries.

It is unclear as to who in the Lehigh Coal Company named the colliery "Wanamie" but it was obviously someone with knowledge of Native American tribal history. The indigenous people of New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware were the Lenape of the Algonquian Nation. The word Lenape (Len-ah-pay) has several interpretations, "first people," "original people" or "ordinary people." The Tribe of Lenape became known as the Delaware Tribe, because the Delaware River, named after the English nobleman and first governor of Jamestown, Lord De la Warr, flowed through its lands.

The Lenape were highly respected by other woodland tribes and were generally peaceful and friendly. They were a union of subtribes, among them are the "Minsi" meaning "people of the stony country," who were members of the Wolf clan. The "Unalachtigo" or "people near the ocean," were members of the Turkey clan. The "Unami" (Wanami and Wonamey are variant spellings) which means "people down the river" were members of the Turtle clan. They probably lived along the Susquehanna, Lehigh, and Delaware Rivers. The Unami language, now extinct, was one of two spoken by the Lenape.

In 1818, the Lenape surrendered their lands to the United States government by signing a treaty. Many of them moved to Missouri, Kansas, and Oklahoma.

The name "Wanamie," derived from "Unami," is rooted in pre-Columbian American history as the Lenape were here long before the Europeans set sail. More information on their social and religious customs can be found in books and on a variety of websites.

### PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT: Rep. Gerald Mullery's Constituent Outreach

For help with state matters from student financial aid to the property tax rebate program, the staff of Rep. Gerald Mullery D-Newport Township is available on the following dates and locations:

October 6 Wright Township Municipal Building, 321 S. Mountain Blvd., Mountaintop, 10 AM-Noon

October 6 Fairview Township Municipal Building, 65 Shady Tree Drive, Mountaintop, 12:30 PM-3 PM

November 3 Wright Township Municipal Building, 321 S. Mountain Blvd., Mountaintop, 10 AM- Noon

November 3 Fairview Township Municipal Building, 65 Shady Tree Drive, Mountaintop, 12:30 PM-3 PM

December 1 Wright Township Municipal Building, 321 S. Mountain Blvd., Mountaintop, 10 AM- Noon

December 1 Fairview Township Municipal Building, 65 Shady Tree Drive, Mountaintop, 12:30 PM-3 PM

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Shown in the photo are children at Glen Lyon Crime Watch National Night Out festivities participating in law enforcement discussions on child crime.

## National Night Out

by Tom Kashatus

The Glen Lyon Crime Watch observed National Night Out (NNO) on August 2<sup>nd</sup> with a celebration at the Wanamie Recreation Park. The main organizers were Karen Rejician who gave the introductions and Mary Margaret Kashatus who welcomed all in attendance. Eric and Theresa VanDyke and Tami Grieb served a picnic style meal. Winnie Stec distributed baked goods and Delbert Evans helped with set-up. In her welcome Mary Kashatus stated, "We miss the presence of the heart and soul of the Glen Lyon Crime Watch, our president Marie Morucci. She cannot attend due to health circumstances, and we are looking forward to her return at the head of the table."

Guest speakers for the affair were Rep. Gerald Mullery of the 119<sup>th</sup> PA Legislative District, Detective Charles Balogh of the Luzerne County District Attorney's office, Police Commissioner John Zyla and Police Chief Robert Impaglia of Newport Township. Rep. Mullery spoke on the history and purpose of National Night Out (NNO) which is held on the first Tuesday in August and observed by the United States, Canada, and their military bases. NNO is designed to (1) heighten crime and drug prevention awareness, (2) generate support for and participation in local anti-crime programs, (3) strengthen neighborhood spirit and police/community partnerships, and (4) send messages to criminals to let them know our neighborhoods are organized to deter crime. Rep. Mullery also expressed his gratitude to Commissioner Zyla for his efforts to eliminate local sales of illegal drugs, especially "bath salts."

Detective Balogh, Chief Impaglia, and Newport Township Patrolman Stanley Drevenak led a discussion regarding crimes against children. A group of thirty-plus children learned, for example, how to react to stranger confrontation. Some of the important points to remember are: (1) don't talk to strangers; (2) walk backwards with your hands behind your back when being approached by strangers so they can't grab your hands; (3) respond loudly and boisterously when reached for to attract attention; and (4) quickly turn around and proceed in the opposite direction when approached by a stranger in a car. The law enforcement team also recommended that children learn how to respond to emergencies by calling 911 on the telephone.



L to R: Chief Robert Impaglia, Detective Charles Balogh, and Patrolman Stanley Drevenak.

Detective Balogh (43) is a graduate of Meyers High School, Wilkes-Barre, and Lackawanna Junior College. He was a standout wrestler in high school and continues to referee elementary, junior high and high school competition. He has been addressing children in school programs on crime prevention for the past 17 years. He works for Luzerne County District Attorney Jackie Musto-Carroll and specializes in internet crime.

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### Something to Ponder

"Those who bring sunshine to the lives of others cannot keep it from themselves."

James M. Barrie



## FIRE TIPS FOR YOUR FAMILY

*by Newport Township Fire Chief Jim Hoffman*

Few of us realize how easily and how quickly fire can harm our loved ones. Fortunately, there is a simple, affordable way to help prevent this from happening: the smoke alarm. By providing an early warning in the event of fire, smoke alarms may allow you and your family sufficient time to reach safety. Many people have neglected to install smoke alarms despite their life-saving potential and low cost. Even those who do have smoke alarms often take them for granted — forgetting that they need some attention to continue working properly.

Smoke alarms are available at nearly all hardware, department and discount stores, often for under \$20. So don't delay — get out there and buy one. The peace of mind you'll have from knowing that your family is safe and secure is worth the investment.

Install at least one smoke alarm on each floor of the house or residence and outside all sleeping areas. Today's building codes require a smoke alarm to be installed in each sleeping area or bedroom. Working smoke alarms are needed in every residence. Test and maintain your smoke alarms at least once a month, or follow the manufacturer's instructions. Smoke alarms most often fail because of missing, dead or disconnected batteries. Replace batteries at least once a year. Testing is generally as simple as pushing a button and listening to hear the beep. Tip: Replace the batteries every daylight-saving time change. Don't allow anyone to disconnect or "borrow" the batteries from your smoke alarms. A smoke alarm can't work unless it's connected to a power source.

In addition to installing smoke alarms in your home, we also recommend that you develop a fire escape plan and practice it at least twice a year with all members of your household. In the event of a fire, every family member should know at least two ways out of each room. Stay as close to the floor as possible during your escape. Hot air and smoke rise, so the air nearest the floor may be safer to breathe. If you encounter a closed door during your escape, feel the door before opening it. If it's hot to the touch, use another exit. The heat could indicate fire on the other side of the door. Teach your children how to escape in case of a fire — **Do not hide under a bed or in a closet.**

Some individuals, particularly children, older people and those with special needs, may not wake up to the sound of a smoke alarm. You should be aware of this when developing your home fire escape plan. Designate a well-lit place a safe distance away from your home where everyone will meet in the event of a fire. This will help firefighters determine if anyone else is still inside the home. And remember, never return to a burning building for any reason.

Carbon monoxide (CO) is a colorless, odorless, tasteless toxic gas produced by incomplete combustion in fuel-burning devices such as motor vehicles, gas-powered furnaces, and portable generators. Persons with CO poisoning often overlook the symptoms (e.g., headache, nausea, dizziness, or confusion), and undetected exposure can be fatal. Unintentional CO exposure accounts for an estimated 15,000 emergency department visits and 500 unintentional deaths in the United States each year. An average of 439 persons die annually from unintentional, non-fire-related CO poisoning, and the national average annual death rate is 1.5 per million persons. Exposure to CO can be prevented with basic precautions, including proper in-

stallation and maintenance of fuel-burning appliances. CO detectors can alert occupants to accumulating gas and should be placed on every level of a home. Additional measures to educate the public regarding the dangers of CO are needed, particularly during the winter season.

The last thing you are likely to be thinking about is the condition of your chimney. However, if you don't give some thought to it before you light those winter fires, your enjoyment may be very short-lived. Why? Dirty chimneys can be a fire hazard. Chimney fires can damage structures, destroy homes and injure or kill people. Clean chimneys don't catch fire. Make sure a CSIA Certified Chimney Sweep inspects your solid fuel venting system annually, and cleans and repairs it whenever needed. Your chimney sweep may have other maintenance recommendations depending on how you use your fireplace or stove. CSIA recommends that you call on certified chimney sweeps, since they are regularly tested on their understanding of the complexities of chimney and venting systems.

**Sophie Klish Tarnowski** passed away on September 24th. A life-long resident of Newport Township, she and her husband Tad owned and operated Tarnowski's Economy Store in Glen Lyon for many years. She is survived by daughters and sons-in-law: Mary Ann and Jim Murphy, Elaine and Bob Deluca, Katie and Art Pettit, Dee and Jack Vishnefski, 9 grandchildren and 5 great-grandchildren. Sophie had just celebrated her 93rd birthday on September 13.



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From left: Newport Township Commissioner John Zyla, Newport Township Police Chief Robert Impaglia, Township Police Officer James Evans, and Palmira Gregory Miller, NTCO First Vice President.

## Newport Township Community Organization Presents Check to Township Police Department

by Palmira Miller

On August 2 at the National Night Out Against Crime sponsored by the Glen Lyon Crime Watch, the Newport Township Community Organization presented a check for \$303.13 to the Township Police Department for the purchase of an M16 assault rifle from the Department of Defense. The weapon has greater range and power than those now used by the department, and is especially useful for Township police officers participating in the Nanticoke Regional Rapid Response Unit. Police Chief Robert Impaglia and Officer James Evans have received special weapons and tactics (SWAT) training, and will be participating in the unit. The Newport Township Lions Club, represented at the event by Township Commissioner John Zyla, has similarly contributed \$250 towards the purchase of a second assault rifle for use by the department.

## Become A Member

Of

**The Newport Township Community Organization**

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For more information contact members listed below:

**President: Tom Kashatus 570-736-6981**

**1st Vice President: Palmira Gregory Miller 570-736-6637**

**2nd Vice President: William Hourigan 570-736-6096**

**Treasurer: Francis Zaleski 570-736-6336**

**Secretary: Linda Conner 570-736-6580**

**Alternate Secretary/Treasurer: John Jarecki 570-736-6620**

**Newsletter Editors: Heidi & Paul Jarecki 570-736-6782**

**Newsletter Advertisement Manager: Joe Maloney 570-736-6828**

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## Newport Township Community Organization Recycles Metals

From motor blocks to wire, we recycle metals all year long. If you have metal scrap of any type, we will pick it up and properly dispose of it. All proceeds are used to support community activities and projects in Newport Township. To schedule a pickup, call Tom Kashatus at 736-6981 or Bill Hourigan at 736-6096.





Shown in the photograph from the left are: Lee Kowalski, Russell Dawson, Rhoda Dawson, and Dan Kowalski.

## POW WOW

*by Tom Kashatus*

Inclement weather had more of a negative effect on the South Valley Chamber of Commerce/Newport Township Fire Company "Pow Wow and Gathering of All Peoples" which was held at the Wanamie Recreation Park during the second week of August. Even though attendance may have been at an all-time low, spirits of the organizers, performers, and vendors remained high as the opportunity to reminisce with old friends prevailed.

I was given the opportunity to sit and talk with Russell Dawson and his wife Rhoda on Sunday morning after breakfast. Russell, a resident of the Bloomsburg/Mainville area, is a member of the Tuscarora Nation and is responsible for organizing vendors, musicians, dancers, and other participants and for coordinating dates to enable hosts to set up an event at the most opportune time in their locale. Planning has already been set in motion for activities and events for 2012. At one time Russell was the mayor of Briar Creek Borough for 12 years and was very active as the Borough's Emergency Management Coordinator. Today he works for Crispin Valve. Russell and Rhoda are active together with the Benton Pow Wow Association and have been involved with Pow Wows at Hunlock Creek, Acorn Acres off Route 118, St. John's in Butler Township, and the Boy Scout Camp north of Benton. Rhoda is a member of the Cherokee Nation and is very supportive of her husband in his endeavors. They travel with their two dogs, "Shadow" and "Kolanayi" (Spirit Friend). Russell stated that one of the keys to a successful event is good advertising which today is very expensive. They try very hard to keep fees for vendors and guests to a minimum – enough to cover insurance costs and some advertising. The disabled and their escorts are allowed entrance to the arena free of charge. Russell carries the rank of Chief Priest and is authorized to perform sanctioned weddings under Native American tradition inside or outside the North American Chapel of Freedom. He and Rhoda seldom take vacations and volunteer their free time to teach others of Native American heritage.

Upon talking to Dan Kowalski regarding the Pow Wow, he looked back to five years ago when there was interest by the Newport Township Commissioners to increase interest in the use of the Wanamie Recreation Park and the Fire Department

was interested in seeking avenues to raise funds for the purchase of equipment. Kowalski, Fire Chief of Newport Township at that time and Vice President of the South Valley Chamber of Commerce, met Dawson and a family friendship eventually evolved. The idea of having a Native American Pow Wow at the recreation park appeared to be the perfect answer to fill a void in Newport Township at the end of the summer vacation period. The Pow Wow would benefit the fire department and the Chamber of Commerce, create a good purpose for use of the recreation park, and allow area residents the opportunity to learn about the heritage of the inhabitants who lived in the Wyoming Valley before our forefathers arrived here.

Dan, his wife Leona, and son Nicholas belong to the Metis Nation and are nationally registered as members of an aboriginal tribe. Dan stated that, "The whole experience has changed our lives. We see things much differently than before." The Pow Wow, although a fundraising opportunity for the Consolidated Fire Company, has become a venue for its members to make friendships with many of the Native American participants. Usually it's the same members who participate year after year, and they actually look forward to the challenge of a successful event. "It's a lot of work," stated Leona, whom the firemen refer to as "Ma." "We actually start planning a year in advance, and the activity increases proportionally until the day of the event." During the two-day event the firemen furnish breakfast and supper to the dancers and other participants and set up the arena. They sell American food (hotdogs, hamburgers, etc.) during the pow-wow and are responsible for the dismantling of equipment and clean up of the area when the event is over.

A Pow Wow can be very entertaining, according to Dan. To observe the dancers dressed in their regalia, costumes, and feathers and to listen to the beat of the drums are unforgettable experiences. The secret to understanding the rituals is to know why certain colors, feathers, or furs are worn; what the dances actually mean; and who the dancers represent.

Over the years the Dawsons and the Kowalskis have become good friends as both families share the same goals: to improve their community and pass on whatever knowledge they have gained. They are progressive and are not content to live in the present and past but always look to the future.

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### VOTE FOR THE COAL MINER'S STAMP

The Pennsylvania House recently approved a resolution ([H.R. 873](#)) calling on the U.S. Postal Service to issue a stamp honoring coal miners past and present for their service to the nation. Please sign the online petition by typing in [www.coalminerstamp.com](http://www.coalminerstamp.com). The link will automatically take you to the PAHouse website where the petition is located. You can also sign a petition on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/CoalMinerStamp](http://www.facebook.com/CoalMinerStamp).





The echo of drums was heard throughout Wanamie when the 5th annual Pow Wow and Gathering of All Peoples commenced this summer on August 13th and 14th. The event hosted by the South Valley Chamber of Commerce and the Newport Township Fire Company was colorful and filled with song, dance, and storytelling. It was a wonderful way to spend a sunny summer afternoon and get a glimpse of Native American culture.



**Catherine Fahey and Donna Walters**

### Vocal Recital at St. Adalbert's Church

When you combine a beautiful voice with the extraordinary acoustics of a 122-year-old church, something special happens. This is what occurred on August 21 in St. Adalbert's Church when Catherine Fahey, a member of the Holy Spirit Parish/St. Adalbert's Choir, held a "Back to School" recital with Donna Walters as her accompanist. Catherine is a sophomore Operatic

Performance major at the University of Connecticut. For those lucky enough to attend, it was an opportunity to hear a voice that may one day fill theaters across the country.

### THINGS TO DO IN THE TOWNSHIP

**Sept. 30-Oct. 1: St Andrew's Fall Festival, Alden. Friday 4-8 and Saturday 12-6.**

**Newport Township Women's Activity Group Events: A Halloween party for the children in the township is being planned. Contact Brenda Grabowski at 736-7038 for information. Also, entertainment coupon books are available at \$30.00 each. Please contact Judy Novak at 735-5914. On Sunday Nov. 13th, a Bingo will be held at St. Adalbert's Hall, Glen Lyon starting at 1, with the doors opening at noon. Admission is \$2.00.**



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# Happenings in the Township



On September 4, The Valley with a Heart Benefit, sponsored by Turkey Hill and Super Foodtown, held its 11th Annual Benefit Ride & Family Picnic consisting of a motorcycle ride of 35 miles and ending with a picnic at Holy Child Grove in Sheatown. Raffles, food, bike games, kid games, fireworks, dunk tank, mechanical bull and 12 live bands were all included in the festivities. Money raised is donated to Luzerne County families who have children with serious illnesses. For more information call Valley with a Heart ("We do it for kids") at 570-735-5333 or 570-675-1504 or check out their web site at [www.valleywithaheart.com](http://www.valleywithaheart.com).



By Tom Kashatus

Pictured are paving crew members of Stafursky Construction of Archibald as they make final repairs to West Main Street in Glen Lyon. The work was necessitated as a result of Pennsylvania American Water (PAW) water main leaks. A period of time must pass after the leak is first repaired due to settlement of the excavated area. A hard winter and aging water mains have resulted in an exceptional number of these repairs in recent years. At times these water main leaks are not noticeable for a number of days. Residents are advised to call PAW at 1-800-565-7292 whenever unusual water is observed on roads or curbs of Newport Township thoroughfares. Be prepared to answer questions, i.e., your name and address; the nearest address to water leak; and if the leak is on your property, your PAW account number.



By Tom Kashatus

Shown are crew members of Asplundh, a tree expert company headquartered in Willow Grove, PA, as they trim trees and brush away from utility poles along West Kirmar Avenue in Alden. For the better part of the last three months Asplundh has been working the Glen Lyon, Wanamie, and Alden areas to ensure that utility lines remain safe from falling trees. They are usually subcontracted by electric, telephone, and cable companies to minimize problems from excess vegetation. Their supervisor stated that their jobs become especially challenging when they have to enter an area during or after a damaging storm. This crew usually works the region from Williamsport to East Stroudsburg and from Reading to the Pennsylvania/New York State border. Travelers are asked to pay special attention to these work crews, slow down, and obey their traffic signs.

## ALL-NEWORT REUNION

On October 8, the 26th All-Newport High School Alumni Reunion takes place at Alden Manor. Limit: 155 people. For information, call Phoebe Hillan at 570-736-6789.

## SPAGHETTI DINNER

On October 30, a spaghetti dinner is being sponsored by the Altar and Rosary Society of St. Adalbert's Church, Holy Spirit Parish, Glen Lyon. Takeouts are available.





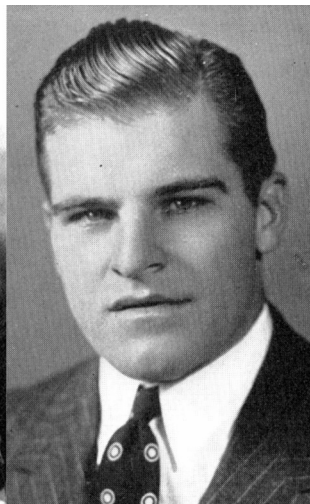
JOHN BRUNOZZI



CLEM ROGOWICZ



NICK RUDAWSKI



CLEM STRZALKA



JOE TERESHINSKI

## The History of Newport Township High School Football, Part I 1922-1943

*by Heidi and Paul Jarecki*

Newport Township High School never had the success in football that it attained in basketball. In the 55-year history of the Newport Township High School football program, they never won a conference championship and had only 11 players selected as first team all-scholastic. The most intriguing part of Newport's football history was the intense rivalry with Nanticoke High School. In contrast with Newport, Nanticoke had one of the most successful football programs in Wyoming Valley history. They won 7 conference championships and produced 40 first team all-scholastic players. In head to head competition, Nanticoke held a 29-11 advantage with 1 tie over Newport. But in spite of Nanticoke's advantages, many of the contests between the two schools were close, hard fought games. They began playing each other in 1924 and the rivalry ended in 1967 when Nanticoke and Newport Township consolidated to form the Greater Nanticoke Area High School District. Early in their history, the Newport/Nanticoke football games were played on Mitchell Day. It was a day when all mines were closed to honor the strike leader and former President of the United Mine Workers of America. As UMW President, John Mitchell engaged in long negotiations with mining companies to end the anthracite coal strike of 1902. Today, a statue of Mitchell stands in tribute on the grounds of the Lackawanna County Courthouse in Scranton at the site of the negotiations in which President Theodore Roosevelt also participated. The first Newport football team was organized in 1922. Dale Richards was the head coach and players on that team included Chester Zimolzak, Ed Sekulski, and William Stoker, all of whom later became teachers in the Newport Township school system. Newport played a limited schedule and their only league game was a 21-0 loss to Plains. In 1923, under head coach Pete Ravin, Newport was a team on the rise. They had a 6 and 1 record with impressive wins over Scranton Tech, Hanover, Forty Fort, West Pittston and Hazleton. Their lone loss was to Kingston. Two of their players were selected second team all-scholastic, guard John Brunoizzi and fullback Joe Ruskin. In 1924, Newport had one of the finest seasons in its history. It started by defeating Scranton Central, Scranton Tech, and Wilkes-Barre High Schools and then dropped a 15-0 game to Plymouth. When it was discovered that several Newport players were ineligible, their victories and remaining games were forfeited. Wilkes-Barre High School was awarded

the conference title. Newport guard John Brunoizzi, however, was selected as first team all scholastic. In 1925, Newport was 6 and 3. In 1926 they were 4 - 4 and produced another first team all scholastic in fullback Clem Rogowicz. He was cited for his line-plunging power. In the Larksville game, Rogowicz twice carried the ball the full length of the gridiron, remarkable in that no other back in the conference had such success against a strong Larksville defense. Another star on the team was Zig Najaka who was one of the best quarterbacks in the conference. He would later become a teacher and coach in the Newport Township School District. Zig was a highly respected baseball coach for many years and led Newport to three Luzerne County championships in 1953, 1954 and 1958. In 1927, Newport was again very competitive and produced another first team all scholastic in powerful fullback Nick Rudawski. In the years 1928 through 1943, Newport fell on hard times. They did not field a single winning team. In 1932, Newport did produce another first team all scholastic player in tackle Clem Strzalka. Clem was a junior at Newport when he won the award and finished his senior year at Pennington Prep High School in New Jersey. Clem went on to become a star at Georgetown University and an offensive lineman in the National Football League for the Washington Redskins from 1938-1942 and 1945-1946. In 1936 Newport managed to win as many games as they lost and in 1939 they won their first game against Nanticoke High School after fourteen straight defeats. Zigmund Zubritski kicked a field goal in a 3-0 win. That same year, a badly needed new stadium was built at a cost of \$107,000. From 1940 to 1943, Newport continued their losing ways but scored victories against Nanticoke in 1940 and 1941. Joe Tereshinski, who played for Newport in 1941, went on to star at the University of Georgia along with Pittston's Charlie Trippi. Tereshinski was a three-year letterman at Georgia and in 1946 he was an All SEC performer on the University of Georgia's undefeated National Championship team. After college, he played professional football for the Washington Redskins from 1947-1954. In 2005, Tereshinski was voted by the Citizens Voice Newspaper as one of the top 100 athletes in Wyoming Valley history. He was ranked number 39.

(Watch for Part II in a future Newsletter)

### Did you know?

The Glen Lyon American Legion has a collection site for worn, ripped, or old American flags? Such flags receive proper military handling for disposal every Flag Day, June 14th.





## Ralph Galicki, Newport Township High School Football Team 1938–1940

by Heidi and Paul Jarecki

Ralph Galicki was born in 1924 and grew up in Glen Lyon. He lived on Orchard Street with his parents Frank and Mary and four sisters, Aurelia, Sabina, Rita and Loretta. His dad was an amateur wrestler and worked in the mines for 45 years. Ralph graduated from Newport Township High School in 1941 and afterwards, joined the Marine Corps. He saw action in WW II and participated in the invasion of Okinawa. After the war, he returned home to Glen Lyon and in 1946 married Ann Bernadine Charnitski, a graduate of Shickshinny High School. They had three children, Ralph Jr., Frank and Andrea. Ralph attended King's College in Wilkes-Barre and served as president of Student Council his senior year. He received a degree in accounting and his first job after graduation was in Washington D.C. working for the General Accounting Office (GAO). He would return home to his family in Mocanaqua on weekends. Later he was employed as an accountant, auditor and assistant controller for what became the Pennsylvania Gas and Water Company. Ralph is now retired.

When talking about his childhood and growing up in Glen Lyon, Ralph's eyes light up. "Glen Lyon was like Dodge City," he said. "The town was self-sufficient with numerous businesses: shoemakers, butcher shops, restaurants, two movie theaters, a mule barn, a blacksmith's shop among others." Ralph's days were filled with playing baseball, basketball and football, swimming at Lily Lake and berry picking on Pond Hill. He tells many stories about those days. For example, one day he was returning from swimming at Lily Lake and on his way home he passed #10 slope behind St Adalbert's Cemetery. He heard several gunshots. While it wasn't unusual for that

time and place, Ralph ran all the way home. The next day he found out that a watchman at #10 slope had been shot and murdered. To this day, it is an unsolved crime. When Ralph entered high school, he enjoyed the "dimette" dances at the Glen Lyon American Legion on Thursdays and at St. Joseph's in Nanticoke on Saturday nights, running down the hill to catch the last trolley car home. Back then, teenagers danced to the music of Harry James, Glenn Miller, Stanley Kaye, and Vaughn Monroe. That's how he met his wife, Ann.

Ralph played high school football and started in his junior and senior years. He took part in two very important Newport High School football events. On September 23, 1939, he played in the first game at Newport Township High School's new \$107,000 stadium before 3,000 people. They played Kingston in that game. Ralph said, "Kingston came out in black uniforms and beat us pretty badly, 36-0". The second event took place later that same season. On October 30, he played in Newport's first football victory over their archrival, Nanticoke High School at home before 4,000 spectators. Most of the action in the closely contested game with the highly favored Nanticoke team took place in the 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. A punt by Newport's Henry O'Karma put Nanticoke on their own 17-yard line. On fourth down, Nanticoke punted back to Newport. Newport's Scott received the ball and ran it to the Nanticoke 20-yard line. After two small gains and an incomplete pass, the ball rested on the 13-yard line. Then Zigmund Zubritski drop-kicked a 30-yard field goal. Ralph said, "In the third quarter with the score 0 – 0, we were close to the Nanticoke goal on 4<sup>th</sup> down. In the huddle, we decided to try a field goal. Zig said he could do it. We asked him why he thought he could kick a field goal when he never tried one in a game in his entire life. We let him do it anyway and the ball went right through the goal posts. We won 3 – 0." In Ralph's senior year, he was picked to participate in the third Anthracite Bowl all-star game at Kingston Stadium. Other invited Newport players were end Joe Tereshinski, guard Joe Vitek and back Frank Gembusia.

Ralph's sons, Ralph Jr. and Frank, also played sports for Newport Township High School. Ralph Jr., now a retired Pennsylvania State Trooper, played basketball. Frank was a starter on the Newport football team as a sophomore. In 1966, Frank played in the final Newport Nanticoke football game which was a close 14–13 victory for Nanticoke. Frank went on to all-scholastic Wyoming Valley Conference honors playing for Greater Nanticoke Area after the jointure, and was named to the all-Pennsylvania Big 33 team in his senior year. He played his college ball at Wilkes. On August 14, 2011, Frank was inducted into the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame.

Ralph was active in the community, serving as Justice of the Peace in Conyngham Township from 1958 till 1972. He was also chairman of the Sewer Authority. Currently, he stays young by keeping up with six grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

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Shown with Lori (center) are her mother Pat Sciandra and step-father John Sciandra on the left and her husband Matt Zaleski on the right. In front are their children, Jacob, Michael and Simone.

## Former Newport Residents Inducted into Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame

by Tom Kashatus

*On August 21, candidates were inducted into the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame. Two of the honorees grew up in Newport Township.*

### **Lori Scally-Zaleski**

Lori Scally-Zaleski was a Wanamie resident while attending Greater Nanticoke Area. Her athletic career was very diversified as she lettered in basketball and field hockey and attained All-Scholastic honors. In track and field, she specialized and excelled in the 4 x 100 relay and took District and State Championship gold medals in the javelin. During her varsity career from 1987 to 1990 she and her teammates captured four District II basketball titles and a State crown in 1990. Today her passion for the game of basketball keeps her involved as a coach in youth basketball. During her acceptance of the prestigious honor, Lori paid tribute to her parents, coaches Sheldon Richards and the late Dan Distasio, and basketball coaches Rose Volpicelli (the tough one) and Elaine Deluca (the pacifier). The support from many of her former teachers, who were also in attendance, was highly motivational during her high school career and influential throughout her adult life. She also paid tribute to her former teammates who “motivated and inspired me and pushed me to succeed. You are an amazing group of athletes, and without your drive and friendship, I would not be here tonight. We spent countless hours together over the years both on and off the court – you are my second family. I will always cherish the memories and reflect on what we accomplished together.”

An interesting and humble conclusion that Lori presented to the attendees of the affair was, “As with anything, there is an element of luck that goes along with (success). I am fortunate enough to have had some of that also the way as well - whether it being born in the same year as four other amazing female athletes that shared in my passion and love for the game of



Shown left to right are: Sara Kashatus (Ken’s wife), Sally Kashatus, John, and son Ken holding newborn son, Cole. Absent are Ken and Sara’s son Jack, John and Sally’s daughter Karla and husband Mike Plasco and grandchildren Abigail, Evan, and Olivia.

basketball, getting a slight gust of wind that helped me throw the javelin a little further to capture the gold medal at states, or just remaining healthy throughout my career. I am truly blessed and thankful that everything came together at the right time to allow me to have such an amazing and enjoyable athletic career.”

Lori graduated from Temple University’s School of Pharmacy and is employed in the Geisinger Health System as Senior Director, Care Site Pharmacies. Today she resides in Mountaintop with her husband Matthew and their three children.

### **John Kashatus**

I had the humble privilege of attending the induction of my brother John into the Luzerne County Sports Hall of Fame. His wife, Sally; children, Ken and Karla with their spouses, Sara and Michael; and five grandchildren, Abby, Jack, Evan, Cole, and Olivia also attended as did friends and supporters. Together we filled four tables. We all felt a sense of pride for John as he sat at the head table with fifteen other renowned leaders of their communities and for his accomplishments as an athlete, coach, teacher, husband and parent.

John’s achievements as a baseball player and coach are well documented as they have been published in the local media and in the program. He exhibited his leadership qualities early in life when he was elected president of the Newport Township Slo-Pitch Softball League from 1963 to 1967 which consisted of Glen Lyon West Side, Glen Lyon East Side, Wanamie Warriors and Hops Rangers of Alden. What caught my attention and admiration are the contents of John’s speech as his life centered around family and the simple things in life – coal miners, his father’s bar, grandparent’s farm, childhood friendships, playing catch with a Glen Lyon Condor, and having fun on the local sandlots – even if it was just playing marbles. John stated that during his formative years in the early 50’s, his “rock stars” or heroes were: **Doc, AK, Levi, Jocko, Duddy, Riz, Potatoes, Chickie, Buggy, Stan Pav, Zek, Carney, Joe Bet, Mack, and Genie D** – all baseball players and many also talented in other sports. “These guys were always approachable to talk to when you saw them on the sidewalks of town and later on

Continued on page 16



## Sports Hall of Fame continued from page 15

became friends as time passed by. Little Leaguers wearing uniforms and baseball shoes and having games with real umpires – Wow! What an exciting time for a ten year old.”

As John grew so did his relationships and respect for those who mentored him along the way – his high school coach, Zig Najaka; Joe Bedenk and Dick Smith at Penn State; Tiger Denoy and Jake Handzelek at Mocanaqua; legendary coaches Syl Bozinski and Dan Distasio of Nanticoke, and coach and personal friend Gene Domzalski of Newport. He stated his successes are a “result of the aforementioned and the many good players and loyal knowledgeable assistant coaches who support my ideologies during my coaching career.” John’s wife Sally is his “M.U.P – Most Unselfish Person.” I remember how John faithfully picked our father “Dada” up on game days. Both would sit side by side on the bus and in the dugout supporting each other. Baseball became an avocation allowing John to have as much fun as an adult as when he was a “sandlotter.”

Other inductees to the Sports Hall of Fame with a Newport Township connection are Ed Gayewski, basketball, 1985; Bob Duliba, baseball, 1987; Clem Stralka, football, 1988; Joe Tereshinski, football, 1990; Zig Najaka, baseball, 1993; Martin Tullai, lacrosse, 1996; Dr. Peter Keblish, football, 1997; Jim McDermott, baseball, football, and basketball, 2010; and Frank Galicki, football, 2011.



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In years past, a sure sign of autumn in Newport Township were the high school football games which were well attended on Saturday afternoons. The above photo shows the high school band performing at a 1945 game.





## Rev. Thumma Maria Savari Holy Spirit Parish

*by Heidi Jarecki*

For the past year, Rev. Thumma Maria Savari, Parochial Vicar, has been assisting Father Anthony Generose, Pastor, with just about everything at Holy Spirit Parish. With the distance between the churches in the parish, St. Martha's in Stillwater, St. Mary's in Mocanaqua, and St. Adalbert's in Glen Lyon, it can be a bit tough to get to Church on time. Of course, there are also Baptisms, funerals, weddings, CCD programs, society meetings, home-coming picnics, and all the activities these events generate. Both have plenty to do!

Father Savari (pronounced "shower-EE") was born in the southeastern state of Andhra Pradesh, India on June 13, 1965. His parents, both now deceased, were Arulappa Reddy Thumma and Lourdu Mary. He grew up with two sisters, Lima Rose and Catherine, one older and the other younger. He is an uncle to five nieces and nephews.

A third-generation Catholic, Father's paternal grandfather converted from Hinduism. Catholics are a small minority in India, where 80% of the population is Hindu and 2% is Christian. Of that 2%, a high percentage of young men answer the call to the priesthood, and minister to all people, no matter what their religion. They also travel to other countries where the need for priests is great. Recognizing that the numbers of priests in the Scranton Diocese was declining, Bishop Timlin entered an agreement with the Bishop of the Nellore Diocese, India to offer Indian priests the opportunity to broaden their ministry and world view in the United States for a three or four year period. Other American dioceses did the same. Some of the priests who are in Father Savari's group were assigned to Little Rock, Arkansas, Amarillo, Texas and Oklahoma.

Father Savari got an early start in his journey to the priesthood. When he was ten, his family moved to a small village in the state of Tamil Nadu, where his father worked in agriculture. He was among a group of boys who was invited to live in the parish rectory in the next village about a mile and a half away.

They served Mass, and assisted the priest as he traveled about the parish. Father's native language is Telugu, and he learned prayers and the rosary in English. He spent 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grades attending a hostel for boys considering the priesthood, and at age 16, entered Minor Seminary in 1982. It is similar to a Catholic high school, and only English is spoken. He had typical subjects, economics, civics, and business. When he graduated, he entered St. John's Regional Seminary in Hyderabad for eight years, studying philosophy and theology. He was ordained in 1993. His first assignment was to the Social Service Society, where he worked with the poor and taught carpentry and building. He was the Assistant Director for three years, and then Director for five years. From 2001 until 2009, Father was pastor at a succession of parishes. In 2010, he was selected with 19 other priests for ministry abroad.

Father Savari's experience in the Diocese of Scranton has been very positive. He is impressed with people's generosity and helpfulness and likes American culture. He particularly likes to play and watch basketball, and does so in his not-so-spare time. He also reads spiritual literature and the Bible daily. He likes American and ethnic food and is willing to try just about anything. Upon his return to India, Father will likely resume his social work and ministry wherever he is assigned.

We welcome Father Savari to our community and to Northeastern Pennsylvania.



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From left standing: Pat Botsko, Event Chairperson and Coordinator and Andrea Josefowicz, Chairperson, Design and Sewing Committee. From left sitting: Jim Botsko, Narrator and Jack Minsavage, Event Chairperson and Coordinator.

(Photo by Carol Marcincavage)

## St. Faustina Parish To Present "The Miracle of Bethlehem"

by John Jarecki St. Faustina Parish in Nanticoke will present a live nativity, "The Miracle of Bethlehem" at the St. Faustina Parish Grove (formerly Holy Child Grove) in Sheatown on December 2 and 3 at 7:00 P.M. A bad-weather date will be Sunday, December 4 at 7:00 PM. This production of the Nativity involves more than 65 people including those doing preparation and performance, those creating approximately 65 costumes for the occasion, and those handling live animals. Admission is free; however, any good will offerings will be gratefully accepted.

The project had its origins in a long conversation among Jack and Judy Minsavage and Jim and Pat Botsko after Mass one day in the summer of 2010. They talked about doing something for the Parish, but were not sure what it was that they wanted to do. Since the Passion Play is presented each year, it was decided the Living Nativity would be a worthwhile project for their Parish. This story of Jesus takes us from His birth to His resurrection.

Event Chairpersons and Coordinators are Jack Minsavage and Pat Botsko. Producer is Judy Minsavage and the Directors are Len and Charlotte Golobek.

Andrea Josefowicz brought together the Design and Sewing Committee, the members of which have spent a great deal of time in the production of all costumes. Material for making costumes is expensive; however, Joseph DePalma, who at one time owned a dress shop, has helped the process immeasurably by donating enough material to create the costumes, which look quite impressive in photographs on the Nativity website [www.highersoundstudio.com](http://www.highersoundstudio.com).

Jess Exley will provide all animals necessary for the production. Dave Yezefski is in charge of lighting and sound, and Ed Bezdziecki is in charge of the Grove and Grounds Committee. Arrangements are being made in the pavilion next to the performance area so that persons with disabilities can view the performance on a video screen as it happens.

Since this is the first year the Parish is presenting a Nativity, there is a need for patrons and sponsors to help defray the expenses. All donations will be accepted; however, those donating \$25.00 or more will be considered sponsors and their names will be in the program each year without any further contributions. You can mail your donation to the St. Faustina Parish Office, 520 South Hanover Street, Nanticoke, PA 18634. Please make checks payable to St. Faustina Parish and write "Nativity" in the memo section.

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## EDITORIAL NTCO Highway Cleanup

*by NTCO President Tom Kashatus*

The Newport Township Community Organization is committed to picking up litter on West Kirmar Avenue throughout the year. With nine volunteers participating during our scheduled cleanup on August 27<sup>th</sup> it was most unfortunate to witness the abuse that was expressed by passersby as these volunteers proceeded to take on their assigned tasks. Two individuals in separate cars presented the workers with obscene gestures. A third driver acknowledged their efforts by throwing a paper cup out of the window as he passed by. The next day, I traveled Kirmar Avenue to ensure that all the litter bags were still intact. I noted coffee cups, aluminum cans, plastic lids, a tatter of cloth, plastic bottles, and napkins strewn along the thoroughfare within twenty four hours of the cleanup!

It is realized that this behavior is not typical of ninety nine percent of our Newport Township residents. However, that one per cent who lack pride in their community only make it look bad for the rest of us and they give Newport Township the reputation of a substandard community. The NTCO and all other volunteer organizations work hard to carry out their missions and try to make Newport Township rank high as a community where we may live comfortably and raise our children to be proud and caring citizens. There is no place here for those who lack pride in their community and continue to thrive on the efforts of others without giving back and only taking for their own selfishness.

Can these people change over a period of time? That is not known, for sure. What is for sure is that those hardworking, caring residents will continue to endure. The next time the occasion arises let the perpetrators know that you have your eye on them.

## NTCO Installs Park Bench with Friends



AJ Hunter, Cory Parsons, Dylan Parsons, and Harley Hunter

*by Tom Kashatus*

It took a week but the job got done with the help of our young friends on the East Side of Glen Lyon. On Saturday, September 3<sup>rd</sup>, the brothers four - AJ Hunter, Cory Parsons, Dylan Parsons, and Harley Hunter and under the supervision of Palmira Miller erected a new park bench that was donated by the NTCO for the Coal Street Park playground. After dig-



Shown working is Ruben Orozco, Harley Hunter, Tekarla Orozco, James Simon, Zack Simon, Marco Orozco, Brittany Goss, Buddy Goss, Krista Hopensberger, and Kodey Dennis.



Sitting and testing the bench after a job well done are Tekarla Orozco, James Simon, Marco Orozco, Brittany Goss, Buddy Goss and Kodey Dennis. Shown standing is Zack Simon, Ruben Orozco, Cory Parsons, Krista Hopensberger, and Harley Hunter.

ging the holes for the bench posts and mixing the concrete they cemented the bench in place.

Then the rains came. Finalization was put on hold until the following Saturday when under bright sunshine and billowing clouds the brothers and their friends completed the task with minor landscaping and cleanup.





Krissy Blank and her daughter Brooklyn with bracelets

### Brownie Troop 30829 Makes Recycled Bracelets

*by Krissy Blank* Brownie Troop 30829 made bracelets out of recycled soda tabs that the girls saved or were donated to them to earn credit towards their Earth is Our Home-Try-it Quest Journey and to work on their It's Your World-Change It Quest Journey, both of which are leadership programs. The proceeds from selling the bracelets went to the troop for their end-of-the-year trip and for activities. The girls will be using the remaining tabs to make garlands for a recycling Christmas tree that will be displayed in Bloomsburg for the holidays. The girls are trying to promote recycling, cleaning up, and beautifying the environment. As part of their Quest Journey, they made a flower bed that is located by the Lions Club Coal Car in Sheatown. We'd like to thank the many people who helped with this project: those who saved tabs, the Lions Club for allowing us to plant flowers that were donated by the Newport Township Women's Activity Group, the Compost Facility for the donation of compost, and also a local resident for donating the wood and time to help make the flower box. If anyone would like to purchase the bracelets, you may contact Krissy Blank at 736-5658 during the day.

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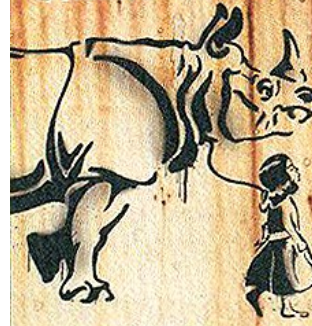
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### SOMEWHERE IN TIME, SUNDAY INDEPENDENT DECEMBER 9, 1925

Did Much For Township  
Team



CAPTAIN TRACE



ZIGMUND NAJAKA

Under the guidance of Coach Chester Rogowicz, the football team from Newport Township High School made a very good record this past season and prospects for the next year with Rogowicz's system working still better, are bright.

Two of the boys have done outstanding work through the season are Captain Trace and Zigmund Najaka.

They were steady workers all through the year. Trace is captain of the team and playing one of the tackle positions and the strong points of the line. Najaka was the quarterback, a speedy runner and a fine forward passer. It was his passing to Rogowicz that threw a scare into Plymouth in the last quarter of their game with Shawnee when they held that strong team to 14 points.

### Words to Remember

"The greatest thing in life is love and the second is laughter"


G.Y. Morgan



# LEE COMES STORMING THROUGH THE TOWNSHIP



Remnants of Tropical Storm Lee dumped torrential rain across Northeastern Pennsylvania for several days in September, causing flash flooding of small creeks throughout Luzerne County. In Newport Township, Newport Creek rose and exceeded its banks, temporarily closing Kirmar Parkway in Alden. On September 9 and 10<sup>th</sup> the Susquehanna River rose to a record level of 42.66 feet at Wilkes-Barre. Flood damage in parts of Wyoming Valley was devastating.




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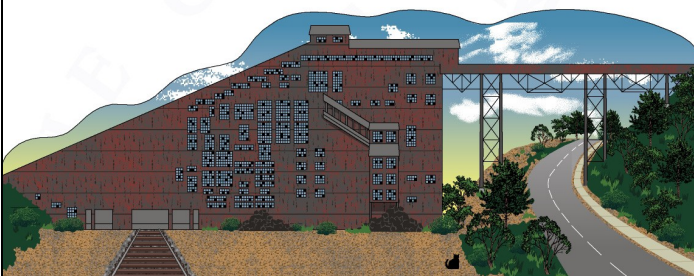
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## MEMORIBILIA AND OTHER THINGS



The NTCO is offering for sale its newest historic wooden miniature, the **Alden Coal Company Office and Store**. The building was located on the site now occupied by R.K. Furs. The miniature measures 7 1/2 inches long and 4 inches high. It can be purchased at the Variety Stop on East Main Street, Glen Lyon or by contacting Heidi Jarecki at 570-736-6782 or her email at [hselecky@pa.metrocast.net](mailto:hselecky@pa.metrocast.net). This is the fourth in a series of miniatures, the others being Newport Township High School, the Glen Lyon Breaker and St. Stanislaus Orphanage. See pictures below. All are available for \$15.00 each, \$18.00 if they are shipped. Please make checks out to "NTCO." Both **DVDs** with a total of 1600 historical pictures are also in stock. Go to our website at [www.newporttownship.com](http://www.newporttownship.com) and click on "Memorabilia" for more information.



### The Newport Township Community Organization's 2012 Calendar featuring historical pictures of Newport

Township is now for sale. It can be purchased at the Variety Stop on East Main St. in Glen Lyon or by contacting Heidi Jarecki at 570-736-6782 or email at [hselecky@pa.metrocast.net](mailto:hselecky@pa.metrocast.net). The cost is \$10, \$12. if shipped.

#### NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION CALENDAR 2012 SPECIAL EDITION OF HISTORICAL PICTURES

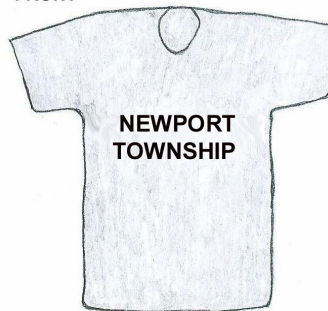
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**NUTCRACKER PRIDE!** The NTCO is offering for sale adjustable Newport Township **baseball hats** (both structured and non-structured) at \$12.00, **tee shirts** for \$10.00, **long-sleeved tees** for \$12.00 and **hooded sweatshirts** for \$20.00, sizes S to 1x. Sizes larger than 1x can be ordered for an extra \$2.00 ; custom orders for zippered hoodies are also being taken at \$30.00 each. The hats are red with black lettering and the tees and sweatshirts are a light grey. Call Heidi at 570-736-6782 or email at [hselecky@pa.metrocast.net](mailto:hselecky@pa.metrocast.net). Add \$3.00 per item for shipping. For custom orders of larger sizes 2x and up or for zippered hoodies, call Linda at 570-736-6580. These items are not available at the Variety Stop.



FRONT



BACK

