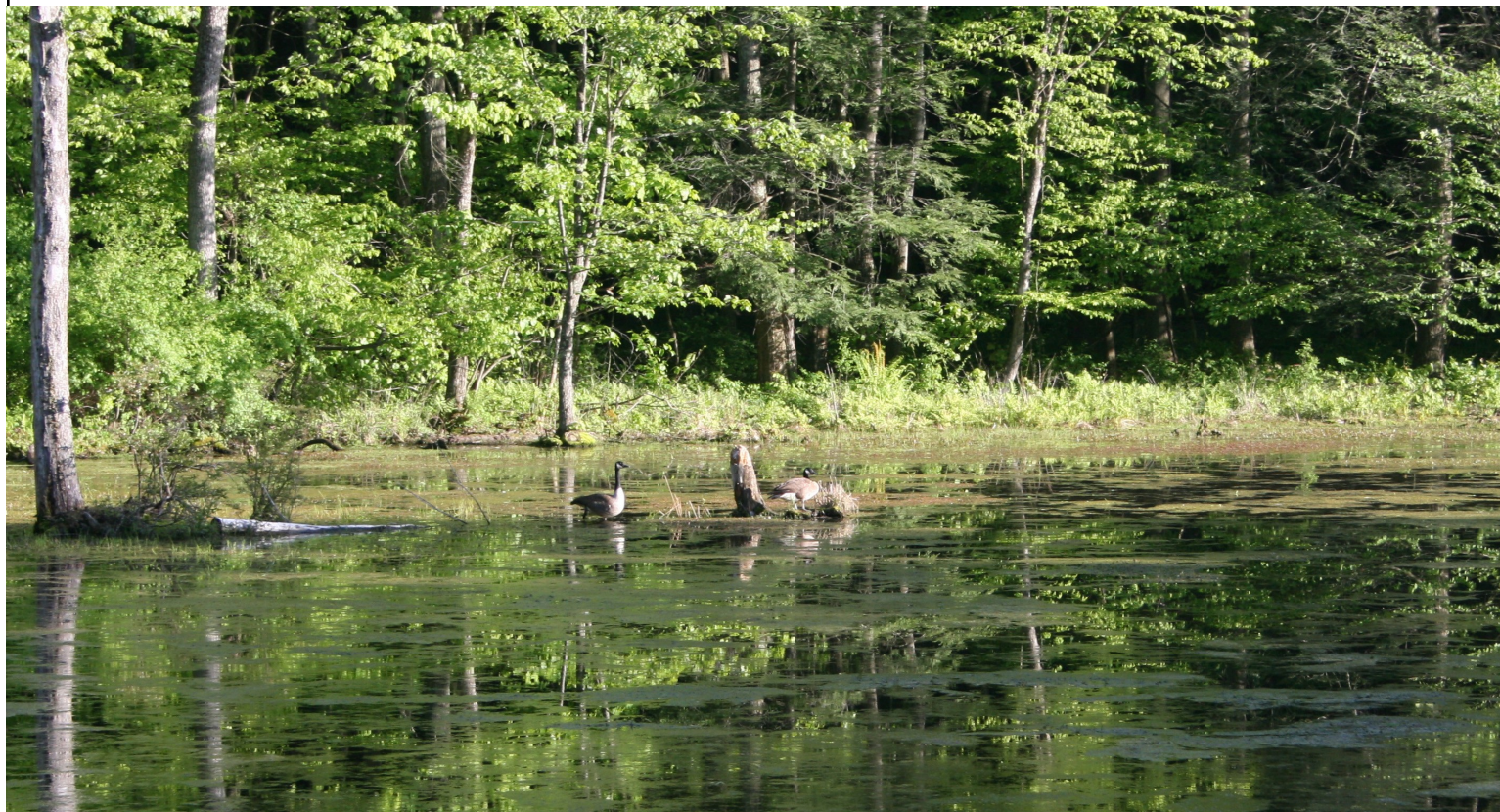


Green was the silence, wet was the light, the month of June trembled like a butterfly... ~ Pablo Neruda



Pond near Lee on a Summer Afternoon

Newport Township Public Business

By John Jarecki ~ The following are items of Township public business that occurred within the last three months:

April 1: The Commissioners adopted Ordinance Number 2 of 2013, which creates in the Township the position of Volunteer Special Fire Police Officer which is provided for in Pennsylvania state law. This Officer has the authority to perform various functions in support of fire fighters such as control of traffic during emergencies. The Chairman of the Board of Commissioners can appoint persons to this position. Chairman Paul Czapracki thereby appointed Leonard Paczkowski as the Township's first Volunteer Special Fire Police Officer and administered the oath of office to him.

The Commissioners announced that Newport Township had just received a Pennsylvania State gaming grant for \$500,000 toward the construction of a new municipal building. Additional money is needed because the present estimated cost of a new building is \$775,000. Township Manager Rich Zika said that he has been looking into ways of raising the remaining necessary funds.

The Commissioners voted to use Franklin Security Bank, whose main office is in Wilkes-Barre, to administer a program of direct deposit payroll payments to Township employees.

May 6: The Commissioners authorized a 1.7% Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) for police and firefighters pension fund recipients. (This increase does not apply to survivors of Township employees.) However, there will be no COLA for non-uniformed employee pension recipients.

The Commissioners voted to hire Rich Guziak as a full-time employee of the Department of Public Works as of April 1.

The Commissioners awarded contracts, pending approval by engineers, for the demolition of 1) the house at 85 East Main Street in Glen Lyon to Penn Earth Works of Hazelton at a cost of \$12,640, and 2) the house at 67-69 Newport Street in Glen Lyon to Shea Industries of Clarks Summit at a cost of \$12,000. These two buildings are the 20th and 21st in the Township's demolition program, which has been ongoing since 2006.

Primary Election on May 21

Out of a total of 2662 registered Township voters, 2038 of them Democratic and 440 Republican, 822 Democratic voters and 88 Republicans voted in the primary election. In the race for the Democratic nomination

Continued on page 2

INSIDE: Township Business, Reunions, Announcements (p. 1-3), Taste of the Township (p. 4), Primary

Election Results (p. 5), A Visit to Ukraine by Ron Ternosky (p. 6-7), Township Cleanups (p. 8), Summer Safety, by Jim Hoffman (p. 9), Heavy

Metal Music (p. 10), Photo Album and Events (p. 11-18). Blasts from the Past: King Coal, by Thomas Izbicki (p. 19), 1953 Little League, by

John Kashatus (p. 20-21). Back page: What's going on at NTCO (p. 24). Please support our advertisers who help make this publication possible.

Continued from previous page

for Commissioner, the voters selected John Zyla (with 540 votes) and John Vishnefski (with 433 votes). A third candidate John Grabowski received 357 votes. Both Democratic nominees will run unopposed in the November General Election.

June 3: Township Manager Rich Zika announced that the demolition of the house at 67-69 Newport Street was complete; the demolition at 85 East Main Street was still to be done.

The Commissioners approved an amendment to Ordinance #5 of 1990, which established regulations for public recreation areas in the Township. According to the amendment, recreation areas will be open daily during the hours 9:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m. from April 1 through September 30, and from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. from October 1 through March 31. The Wanamie Recreation Park will remain closed in winter.

The Commissioners approved a contract with Penn Eastern Engineering to develop, at a cost of up to \$50,000, a layout and design for the new municipal building.

The Commissioners voted to authorize the President of the Board of Commissioners and Township Secretary to execute loan documents borrowing up to \$300,000 at an interest rate of up to 3.75% for a period of 40 years, from the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Rural Development Department, for construction of the new municipal building.

Commissioner Paul Czapracki announced that the Newport Township Authority had voted to donate \$25,000 toward construction of the new municipal building.



Pictured above are employees of Asplundh working on the power lines on East Kirmar Avenue, Alden. The work is being contracted by United Gas Improvement (UGI) to replace the old copper lines due to increased electrical usage by residents. The new lines are of aluminum cable and will be more than adequate to meet current and future electricity demands in the Township.

Anna Piestrak, aged 99, passed away on Thursday, June 20. She was one of eight children born to John and Mary Koflanovich of Glen Lyon. She married Roman Piestrak in 1934 and they had three sons, Ed, Richard and Daniel. Anna, a lifelong resident of Newport Township, was featured in the Summer, 2012 issue of the Community News. Our condolences to her family and friends.



Leonard Paczkowski (left) as Special Fire Police Officer is congratulated by Board President Paul Czapracki (right)

Paczkowski Appointed Fire Police Officer

By Tom Kashatus ~ On April 1, Leonard Paczkowski was sworn in by Newport Township Board of Commissioners President Paul Czapracki as its first "Special Fire Police Officer," a position many local communities have initiated. Paczkowski stated, "This position gives me an opportunity to be active and serve a purpose for my community."

While on the job, Leonard will be in charge of crowd and traffic control and will be dressed in appropriate uniform. He will carry a radio and flashlight and will work under the authority of the fire chief and police officers. He is also designated as Captain and will be in charge of recruitment and coordination of training for future officers. Leonard is a retired member of the Newport Township Consolidated Fire Department but is still very active in all of its community functions. He has been involved in Newport Township Emergency Services since 1970 when he joined the volunteer ambulance unit at the age of eighteen. At that time, a fireman had to be twenty one years of age and he had to wait for an appointment. Leonard served as Captain for the Newport Township Ambulance Association and is currently a volunteer with Newport Township's Emergency Management Agency.

Training for the position of Special Fire Police Officer was conducted at Luzerne County Community College by approved state personnel as part of "Annual Fire Police Weekend." New applicants may look forward to a two-day class called "Fire Police Procedures" during the fall.

ATTENTION BASKETBALL PLAYERS

A basketball tournament sponsored by the Newport Township Recreation Board is tentatively scheduled for August. Please contact Board members for details. You can also refer to the Board's Facebook page or the event boards at township parks. Any suggestions or comments are welcomed. Meetings are usually held on the second Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m. The public is invited to attend. Jack Vishnefski is Recreation Commissioner.

NEWPORT CLASS OF 1955 PLANS REUNION

By John Antonaitis ~ Class of 1955 is planning a reunion on Thursday, September 5, 2013 at Genetti's in Wilkes-Barre. The time will be from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. Price is \$25.00. Reservations should have been mailed by May 31. Please contact me by email or any of the committee members listed below with any questions you may have:

John Antonaitis, 607-748-8783 ; 228 Ridgefield Road, Endicott, NY 13760 Email: jantonaitis@stny.rr.com

Marie Pucci Modrow, 570-283-1911 ; 180 Sidney Street, Swoyersville, PA 18702

Jean Stackhouse Harris, 570-822-6386 ; 75 Cook Street, Plains, PA 18705

Peter Valania, 570-735-4373 ; 405 Alden Mountain Road, Alden, PA 18634

Hope to see everyone there!

NEWPORT CLASS OF 1963 PLANS REUNION

By Lucille Rentko Flora ~ Newport High School Class of 1963 is planning its 50th Reunion to be held on August 31 at the Quality Inn and Suites, 880 Kidder Street, Wilkes-Barre, phone number 570-824-8901. Please call Lucille at 570-823-1755 with any information or questions.

ALL-CLASS REUNION

The Newport Township All Class Reunion will be held on Saturday, October 6 at Alden Manor. For information, contact Phoebe Hillan at 570-736-6798 or Virginia Maddy at 570-735-1198.

Miracle of the Bells Exhibit Extended

The Luzerne County Historical Society Museum's exhibit celebrating the 65th anniversary of the film version of "The Miracle of the Bells" has been extended until August 31. The Museum's hours are from Tuesday through Saturday 12:00 noon to 4:00 p.m. The Museum is located at 69 South Franklin Street, Wilkes-Barre. Those who wish to visit the exhibit are asked to call the Historical Society at 570-823-6244 to confirm the exhibit is open.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

By Karen Rejician ~ The Glen Lyon Crime Watch invites Newport Township residents and businesses to celebrate the 30th National Night Out on Tuesday, August 6 from 5:00 to 8:00 p.m. at the Wanamie Recreation Park. Luzerne County District Attorney Stefanie Salavantis, the Newport Police Commissioner, the Newport Police Chief, and others will be guest speakers.

National Night Out (America's Night Out Against Crime) is held on the first Tuesday in August throughout the United States, Canada, and on military bases. This event was developed by the National Association of Town Watch to promote police-community partnerships and violence prevention and safety in neighborhoods.

VALLEY WITH A HEART RIDE & FAMILY PICNIC

The 13th Annual Benefit Ride & Family Picnic will be held on Sunday, September 1, 2013 at St. Faustina's Grove in Sheatown. Twelve top area bands will be featured on two stages. Also there will be raffles, food, games, mechanical bull, dunk tank, and fire-works. All bikes are welcome. Registration and breakfast starts from 8:00 to 11:00 a.m. Ride leaves at 11:00. Fees are \$15.00 per rider and \$10.00 per passenger. For non-riders, general admission is \$5.00. Free admission for kids under the age of 12. For more information, please call (570) 735-5333 or (570) 675-1504 or check the website: valleywithaheart.com.

The mission of this benefit is to help, aid, and improve the quality of life for children who have serious illnesses.

PREPARING FOR THE NEW MUNICIPAL BUILDING



Pictured above is Steve Glasser conducting a land survey for Newport Township's proposed new municipal building along West Kirmar Avenue in Wanamie. Steve is a resident of Newport Center and works for Penn Eastern Engineers, Newport Township's contracted engineer.

WATER COMPANY REPAIRS LINES ON POLANDER HILL



By Tom Kashatus ~ Due to a large water main break on Spruce Street, Alden, Pennsylvania American Water was required to install new water lines and then complete final street paving. Originally, paving of Laurel and Spruce streets began in 2012, but a temporary fix was done on Spruce Street with more permanent repairs to follow. Shown in the above picture is Joseph Wallace with contract employees of the water company as they install a new water line from the water main to the shut-off in front of his home on Spruce Street. Mr. Wallace also took the opportunity to convert his home heating from oil to gas which is available to residents of the Poland Hill community. Once the road bed settles, final paving will take place for Spruce and Pine Streets.



Taste of the Township Hamburgers on the Grill

By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ Although man has been grilling food outdoors since the Stone Age, backyard grilling did not catch on in America until after World War II when the middle class began to move to the suburbs. By the 1950's, grilling took off with the development of the Weber Grill. The Weber Grill was an invention of George Stephen, a metal worker who inherited controlling interest in the Weber Brothers Metal Spinning Company. Stephen took the open brazier style grills, which were common at the time, and cut it along the equator, added a grate, used the top as a lid and cut vents for controlling the temperature and the rest is history. Grilling hamburgers in the summer has become an American tradition and grilling them well has become an art. Here are some tips and ideas for grilling hamburgers to help Newport Township residents with their grilling this summer.

Tips

1. For more juicy burgers salt both sides of the burger just before grilling. If you cook your burgers on a thin layer of salt, the salt initially draws out juices from the meat. It then quickly congeals the juices to form a crust that prevents further moisture loss.
2. If you oil the patty before grilling, you make it harder for moisture to escape. Fat helps the Maillard reaction and caramelization, two chemical changes that create dark brown color, crunchy texture, and a deeper, richer, sweeter flavor.
3. Put a dimple in the middle of your patty. Just press your thumb about a quarter of the way into the top of your burgers and reshape as necessary. This will keep your burgers from ending up like little UFOs as they cook. It helps keeps the burger flat.
4. Medium high heat is just about perfect for burgers. For charcoal, let the coals burn until they're dusted in gray ash, then spread in an even layer in your grill. You should be able to hold your hand over the grill for 2-3 seconds. For medium rare, let the burgers cook for 3-4 minutes, then flip and cook for another 4-5 minutes. Whatever you do, do not press down on the burger with your spatula.

5. If you like cheese on your burger, add it in the last 30 seconds of grilling so it just melts.
6. Don't handle the meat too much when forming the patties. If you do, it will make the meat dense and tough.
7. Leave the meat mixture (or patties) in the refrigerator for several hours to allow all the flavors to mingle
8. Get good meat. Freshly ground meat is best.

Recipe for Four Hamburgers

Ingredients

- 1 ½ lbs. of freshly ground chuck*
- 1 tablespoons of fine bread crumbs (it is important that they are fine) **
- 2 teaspoons of Worcestershire sauce or barbecue sauce
- 2 tablespoons of tomato juice (just squeeze the juice out of a tomato) **

Directions

Combine the beef with the bread crumbs, Worcestershire sauce and tomato juice. Shape into 4 patties. Lightly oil both sides and sprinkle with salt and pepper. Make a small indentation in the center with your thumb. Put the burgers on a lightly oiled grill. Grill for about 5 to 7 minutes on both sides. Serve on buns and condiments of your choice. If you like cheese on your burger, add it in the last 30 seconds of grilling or just till it melts.

* For this recipe, we got ground chuck at Park Market in Nanticoke.

** The fine bread crumbs and tomato juice are added to hold moisture.



Hamburgers on the grill with dimples in the middle of each patty



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Left to right: Bob Raineri, Jack Vishnefski, and Scott Shatley

May 2013 Primary Election

By Tom Kashatus ~ Contrary to the 2011 municipal/county primary election contests when everybody was running for Court of Common Pleas judgeships and County Council seats, this year's primary election was generally a lackluster affair. Many local municipal contests were unopposed and many contests even failed to have candidates on the ballot for either major party. Throughout Luzerne County, school board contests took on a competitive atmosphere and the same held true for the Greater Nanticoke Area School District.

During the past sixty years, Newport Township has been whittled down from six political subdivisions or wards to three at the present time. The first ward consists of Glen Lyon (east and west sides) and Lee with 1,092 registered voters. The second ward now includes Wanamie and Alden with 908 registered voters. The third ward consists of Sheatown, Newport Center and Ridgeview with 662 registered voters. Rushing to the polls to nominate candidates for their respective parties for the general election were 88 Republicans and 822 Democrats!!

For County Council, Eugene Kellerher and Harry Haas led the Republican ticket in Newport Township, with Kellerher, Haas, Kathy Dobash, Sue Rossi, and Paul DeFabo being the eventual county-wide winners. They will face Democratic candidates Eileen Sorokas (who was top vote-getter in Newport Township), Linda Houck, Michael Giamber, Renee Taffero, and Richard Heffron in the general election.

In the Newport Township municipal contests, the Republican Party had no candidates for Tax Collector, Commissioner, or Judge of Elections; however, unopposed candidates were successful for Inspector of Elections: Kristalyn Blank (1st ward), Teena Wrubel (2nd ward), and Joseph Urban (3rd ward). They will face in the fall

the Democratic candidates Melody Bartusek (1st ward), Mary Jo Resavy (2nd ward), and Peter Wanchisen (3rd ward) for either majority or minority Inspector of Elections. Both parties are entitled to be represented on the Board of Elections in each ward. Successful unopposed Democratic candidates for Judge of Elections were Joseph C. Hillan (1st ward), Dawson Jenkins (2nd ward) and Megan Tennesen (3rd ward). In the contest for Commissioner (two to be elected) which garnered the most activity, thirty-two-year incumbent John Zyla led the ticket with 540 votes followed by three-term incumbent John Vishnefski with 433 votes. John Grabowski from Glen Lyon was unsuccessful with 357 votes. Incumbent Tax Collector, Democrat Kenneth Angradi, led all local candidates with 665 votes and will be unopposed in the fall as he seeks his second term.

There were spirited contests for the five school-director positions available for the Greater Nanticoke Area School District. Current law which allows candidates to cross-file for nomination in either or both major parties contributed to the outcome. Republican nominees for the November ballot who ran as a team were Wendy Kotsko Wiaterowski (D) (233), Megan Tennesen (D) (224), and incumbent Frank Shepanski Jr. (D) (219) along with incumbent Cindy Donlin (D) (166) and incumbent Bob Raineri (D) (162). Democrat nominees were Wendy Kotsko Wiaterowski (D) (1,475), Megan Tennesen (D) (1,472), incumbent Frank Shepanski, Jr. (D) (1,421), incumbent Bob Raineri (D) (1,145), and incumbent Gary Smith (D) (1,054). Newport Township's vote compilation pretty much followed the trend throughout the school district. A nomination in both parties does not necessarily guarantee victory in November, but increases a candidate's chances by over 75 per cent.



Mary Rudawski Celebrates 80th Birthday

By Tom Kashatus ~ Mary Rudawski of West Kirmar Avenue, Alden recently celebrated her 80th birthday with family and friends. The celebration followed Mass at St. Faustina Kowalska Parish. She is pictured above with Rev. Jim Nash, Pastor. Mary was born and raised on Polander Hill in Alden. Her parents, Paul and Catherine (Chrzak) Radziak, raised fourteen children, seven boys and seven girls. Years ago, Mary and her late husband, Mike Rudawski owned and operated the Royal Oak Café on Robert Street, Sheatown. During her earlier years, Mary was a star softball pitcher while employed at General Cigar on Church Street, Nanticoke. She was often seen by friends and neighbors when she worked for the local Acme Store. She takes great pride in her Polish Catholic heritage and loves to dance the polka. Mary has three children: Sandy, Jacquelyn, and Stephen, husband of Lisa Rudawski and is grandmother to Stephen Jr. and Lauren. Happy Birthday, Mary!

A Visit to Ukraine

By Ron Ternosky

(Editors' note: Ron grew up in Glen Lyon and is a graduate of Newport High School, Class of 1960. He has made several visits to Ukraine. What follows are two descriptions of his experiences.)

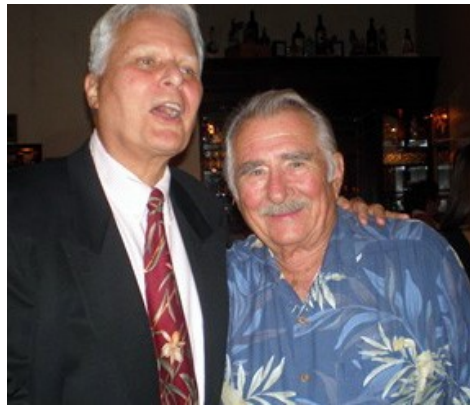
The secret dream of many travelers is to alight in a strange but wonderful land offering all the conveniences Americans have learned to expect, but without the bother of those annoying tourists. Well, this was Munich in the '70s, Hong Kong in the '80s and Prague in the early '90s. In this century, try Kiev, the golden capital of Ukraine. And if achieving this nirvana at a discount is significant, a rethink of one's next vacation is definitely in order.

Kiev is a delightful city of 2,600,000 inhabitants combining great weather and old world charm with new world amenities. My adventure began at a downtown hotel on the main street, Kreshchatyk. Now, a national would have received a sizeable discount off my \$105 rate and truthfully, the place was a bit worn, but with a bathroom, cable TV, balcony, AC and refrigerator, it was just fine by my standards. Furthermore one could search the web and locate deluxe apartments in central city in this same price range. The main point to staying on or near this main thoroughfare, though, is that every weekend it becomes a carnival. For 10 blocks cars are prohibited, replaced by concerts, small soccer areas and the like; all for easy viewing whether one is on a balcony, in a sidewalk café or just wandering about.

As for the economy, we are dealing with a country of haves and have-nots. While the average Josyf either rides the subway or drives a tired Lada, the politicians and the New Ukrainians seem to favor either a Benz or a Toyota Landcruiser. This dichotomy also spills over to restaurants. One Saturday afternoon I bought lunch at the Domestic Kitchen a block away from TSUM, the dowager of department stores. At this modern cafeteria we dined on soup, shashlik, varenyky (potato dumplings), cucumber salad, cream filled pastries and excellent local draft beers; my tab was \$20 for the 5 of us. Conversely, that evening I paid \$5 for a pint of Guinness stout while shooting pool at O'Brien's Pub. Yes, you can pay big city prices for Mediterranean-Japanese fusion at Nobel or eat inexpensively at Taras, that pleasant establishment located on a parcel of public land in the middle of Shevchenko Park.

With a rudimentary understanding of the Cyrillic alphabet, it's easy to move about quite freely. The underground walkways are populated with vendors selling pirated CDs, both music and latest software, for 11 Hryven (\$2). They also have wonderful prices on all sorts of curios ranging from costume jewelry to Russian underwear. Well-received novelty gifts were the many tubes of Russian toothpaste I passed out to friends and family upon my return. This modern, extensive subway system is also distinct in that the stops are quite unique, for each has a different motif. Just the 20-foot-high Cossack inlay tile work makes identifying the Red Army Station a snap.

As for sights, a visitor can't miss Andriyivsky Uzviz (St. Andrew's Descent). This winding, vendor-crowded street is a 10-minute walk from downtown and along the way you get to view St. Sofia Cathedral, Yaroslav's Golden Gate and the statue of Bohdan Khmelnytsky. The last was my favorite for the famous Cossack leader is mounted on his trusted steed pointing his mace toward an allegiance with Moscow rather than in the direction of the other great local power, Warsaw. Each of these many landmarks has an interesting story behind it so I suggest either a guidebook ('Culture Shock - Ukraine') or a very affordable personal guide/translator. Another locale of major interest just two subway stops from downtown is Pecherska Lavra (Monastery of the Caves). This stunning collection of churches offers a candle-lit underground walk past the resting places of multiple 11th century monks, splendid in their burial vestments. Off to the south is a statue of Mother Russia



On the left is Ron Ternosky with friend Erik Nako (right) in Kiev, 2005.

with a truncated sword pointing skyward. It seems a helicopter was used to lower the height of the offending weapon so nothing in sight would be taller than Lavra's famous bell tower.

My personal reason for ten days in Ukraine was to

locate the village of my Grandfather. Finding it was a bit of a challenge in that this is the largest country with all borders totally in Europe. It's approximately the size of Texas, but with 50 million inhabitants, has three times the population. In the larger cities most of the young people speak English and the climate is similar to Germany.

Once again my guide, Mykola (a 33-year-old college professor), was invaluable. He not only located the village of Herkovka, 100 miles south of Kyiv (Kiev), but also arranged a visit with two distantly related uncles and their extended families. The view of America from their perspective was eye-opening. In the mid-1920s, their father had returned after twelve years of working in a Pennsylvania coal mine only to be 'repressed' by Stalin. It seems anyone with a U.S. connection was dispatched to Siberia or some unnamed destination, never to be heard from again. As a side note, my Grandfather remained in that coal town and I now understand the origin of my forbears' love of chestnut trees, mushrooms and homegrown tomatoes.

As for traveling outside Kyiv, I rented a car from Avis and headed south expecting to purchase fuel along the way from tanker trucks. This advice was really dated in that the road was four lanes and we passed more than a dozen gas stations along the way. However, approximately 40 miles out of the city, I was batoned over by three uniformed policemen. It seems that the bazooka-like device wired to their vehicle was radar and I was doing 120 KPH (72MPH). Well, Mykola was wrong; the only place with an unlimited speed limit is the 8-lane speedway from Borispol Airport to downtown Kyiv built for President Nixon's 1972 visit. It seems the top speed on any other highway is 90 KPH (55 MPH). My fine was 25 Hryven (\$4). Needless to say, after we finished videotaping the episode, we climbed back into the Opel Astra and resumed a more moderate pace.

My visit to the rural villages was one of extreme hospitality. With zubrivka, buffalo grass-flavored vodka at \$4 per bottle, one almost could be tempted to develop an appetite for the local delicacy, salo, white pork fat. Surroundings, though, were similar to Nebraska, circa 1935. The farm areas are extremely rustic with everyone nurturing a backyard garden and multiple livestock to supplement their minimal pensions. Although there was a definite shortage of indoor plumbing, each household possessed at least one TV. Overall it was a dramatic change from Kyiv, but an eye-opening day. The people were truly big-hearted, gracious and, most importantly, seemingly happy.

The recent Orange Revolution has had far-reaching implications that are not widely advertised. In an attempt to move closer to the West, those onerous visa restrictions and letters of invitation have been done away with. Airfare from the U.S. to Kyiv with early booking is less than \$1,000 return. Air Ukraine flies direct from JFK, but one is probably better served to fly Lufthansa or British Air with a short stop in Frankfurt or London respectively. Furthermore, hotels are readily available at half the price of comparable lodging in Rome or Paris.

Well, one could go on, but my ten days provided more than enough material for a book. Rather, may I suggest that whether you have a Ukrainian heritage or an unresolved sense of adventure, consider booking a flight to Kyiv before

those sightseers get there. If you want a great starting point, try www.KyivPost.com for everything from politics through to the 'best of Kiev' poll results.

You Can Go Home Again

My fellow Nutcrackers, Jack Selecky and Paul Gregory, received high marks for their recent articles about researching their respective European ancestors in Slovakia and Italy. As I had a similar genealogical experience Heidi thought it would be in line to discuss Ukraine; however it may be more interesting to emphasize the process rather than dwelling on my particular family. Perhaps you have had a similar experience but I was somewhat dismayed that not one of my father's four brothers or three sisters seemed to have any information as to their parent's specific origins or the motivation of their life-changing relocation. Furthermore, what information existed as to nationality was marginal at best. Russian could mean Belarus or Ukrainian, while Austrian was the professed nationality for a huge swath of Eastern Europe under the Austro-Hungarian Empire. Other confusing factors are the country of Poland did not even exist from 1795 to 1918 and that groups of Ukrainians (e.g. Lemkos, Ruthenians) were forced by the Tsars to colonize the Carpathian Mountain region.

My first attempt in the 1980's consisted of correspondence with the Pennsylvania Dept. of State; this resulted in a copy of my grandfather's naturalization petition and citizenship document. These document copies provided the name of his home town and the ship of passage in 1910; however, as I couldn't locate the village on any maps, the search ended. It wasn't until 2001 that an Internet site documenting 12 million arrivals via Ellis Island went on-line and provided clues to many unanswered questions. EllisIsland.org is both free and endlessly interesting; it could be the linchpin to learning about your personal history. Not only can one locate the actual arrival date and the ship profile, it also provides access to handwritten logs of the newly arrived immigrants including their town of origin, a brief physical description, the amount of money possessed, their sponsor, destination, and occupation.

Now let me explain: this site is well laid out but may be a bit difficult to navigate due to handwriting transpositions and translations. In the way of explanation the entire database was transcribed from handwritten script to digital information by the Mormon Church; consequently, your last name may have been misspelled, but don't let that put you off the chase. Additionally the Cyrillic alphabet has 33 letters but nothing resembling an 'h' character or sound (think galumki vs. halupki), so imagine the challenge of an arrivee translating his surname and hometown for an immigration official.

Back to Carl Ternosky (or more correctly Karol Tarnovsky) who departed Rotterdam, Holland, March 5, 1910, to arrive at Ellis Island 11 days and 3,900 miles later. Seems the Rijndam, a two-mast/one-funnel steamship held 2,282 passengers (286 first class, 196 second and my grandfather, one of 1,800 in steerage). Per the ship's handwritten manifest, he was a 19 year old with \$6 in his pocket sponsored by his brother, Jan. Well, no one seemed to know my grandfather ever had any siblings in the U.S., but this mystery was later solved during my visit to his hometown. Most importantly, his village was findable as it became Harkivka in central Ukraine and not Chorkowka somewhere in Russia.

Having several personal friends in Moscow, one recommended I contact his cousin, Mykola, a young college professor residing in Kiev. After several phone calls and emails, he travelled by bus three hours from the capital to Makivka (pop. 14,000), the administrative town for the village of Harkivka (pop. 800). One thing led to another so in 2003, I flew to Kiev via London arriving in time for May Day, a huge celebration in a fantastic city. The main downtown street, Kraschatyk Boulevard is closed to cars and filled for blocks

with a race car track, amusements, street entertainers and food vendors. But what immediately catches the eye are the contrasts; it's a large clean city of numerous large Orthodox churches surrounded by new construction. As another example there are 16 McDonalds in the city but there is also a fast food chain called Shvidko (Quickly) specializing in vareniki (piorogi). On the other side of the coin, the nouveaux riches (jokingly referred to as Blingsheviks) seem to favor BMWs and restaurants that would be considered expensive in Paris. As for sightseeing, there is the fascinating Museum of Miniatures with mind-numbing displays such as a human hair hollowed out to be transparent containing a miniscule rose. If that does not catch your interest, Sting was appearing in the city during my stay.

Well, back to locating relations; rented a large Avis Opel so Mykola and I could drive to Mankivka to visit the family of my great uncle, Jan. We turned off the four-lane highway and the flat landscape looked like 1935 Nebraska. The homes were wood-sided but some familiar items caught my eye; streets lined with horse chestnut trees, backyard vegetable gardens and front lawns delineated by picket fences immediately come to mind. The reception was so gracious with large feasts in two homes featuring great breads, super tomatoes, borsch and a popular form of white, salted fat back called salo. Between meals we took a drive to the original family home in Harkivka and the mystery of Jan was solved. It seems after 15 years in the Scranton mines, he returned to his home town in 1922. I was then shown a metal roof that bore multiple U.S. stampings Jan had shipped back. Unfortunately, this was the reason he became 'repressed' by Stalin in 1927. Not an uncommon story during that period, Ukrainians with ties to America were unceremoniously picked up by a large black car and never seen again.

(Editors' note: Ron paid another visit to Ukraine in May, 2013.) My wife Irina and I have just returned to Plano, TX after visiting Kiev. There wasn't any challenge filling our time as May 1 was May Day, the 5th was Pascha (Easter) and the 9th is Victory (over the Germans) Day. The city has continued to modernize but prices remain a bargain. We had an ultra-modern apartment with a balcony overlooking the main boulevard and parade for \$130 per night. There is now upscale retail (Prada, Armani) on Kraschatyk and also a large modern supermarket and numerous eateries. Actually, my favorite was a Bavarian café with street-side seating where we had schnitzels, salads, bread and Pilsen beer for \$45. Third-generation offspring of my cousins completed university in Kiev so we had the opportunity to catch up with Yulia and Andrew but unfortunately didn't make the 6-hour return drive to visit their parents and grandparents.

As for tracking down my grandmother, she claimed to be Austrian but actually lived in a Carpathian village in very southern Poland just west of Lviv, Ukraine. These Ruthenians (Little Russians) occupied the convergence of this country with the Czech Republic and Slovakia. Oddly I always was curious about that small, seemingly close, wooden church on Spring Street in Glen Lyon and it now apparently it should have been my home parish. But that is a totally different story and best I stop rambling.

Let me leave you with this thought; if you ever have even considered a visit to modern Orthodox Kiev or ancient Catholic Lviv, make your next vacation an adventure. This delightful trip, especially if tied to your heritage, will be both enjoyable and satisfying on so many levels. To quote Anais Nin, 'We travel, some of us forever, to seek other states, other lives, other souls.'

Broaden Your Horizons

Travel and change of place impart new vigor to the mind. ~ Seneca

The World is a book, and those who do not travel read only a page.
~ Saint Augustine

2013 GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP EVENTS

By Palmira Gregory Miller ~ For the ninth year, The Newport Township Community Organization (NTCO) has joined forces with the nation's largest cleanup, fix-up, and beautification program held throughout the country. Pennsylvania's state-wide cleanup campaign involves local and state government, businesses, waste haulers, and environmental and civic groups such as the PA Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) and the Department of Transportation (PennDOT).

The Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) funded many of these events under their Community Illegal Dumpsite Cleanup Program funded by USDA. This year PEC will become an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful servicing Northeastern Pennsylvania. As an affiliate, PEC will have access to additional resources which will enable them to continue the good work they do throughout the region.

The first event took place on April 10th in Glen Lyon when 11 students got off the school bus at East Main and Spring Streets, put on work gloves, and filled 7 bags of garbage within an hour. J.P. Mascaro removed.

On April 20th, twelve members of the Spooky Off Road Club worked 84 hours to remove 225 tires from several illegal dumpsites.

From April 25th to April 30th the Big Junk Drop Off took place. Dumpsters were placed across from the Earth Conservancy Compost Facility for Township residents to properly dispose of unsightly debris from, on, or around their properties, curbsides and sidewalks, and debris from illegal dumpsites. During this 6-day event, 50 volunteers worked 250 hours collecting 12.69 tons of trash and recycling 6 tons of metal and 3 tons of electronics. Volunteers reminded residents they can dispose one big item such as furniture on the first pick up each month along with their household garbage.

On April 29th illegal dumpsites near St. Nicholas Cemetery, Old Newport Cemetery, and the end of Vista Drive were eradicated with 6 volunteers from the Luzerne County Work Release Program and 2 members of the Community Organization, removing 5.80 tons of garbage and 26 tires.

Earth Conservancy removed 5.14 tons of trash with a number of tires from illegal dumpsites throughout EC land.

On May 4th, the Community Pride Event took place along the main roads in Newport Township where teams spread out and picked up litter along 14 miles of roadway. 42 volunteers worked 176 hours, filled 100 bags of trash and large items to total 2,000 pounds of garbage and 9 tires, which were removed by PennDOT workers. After the event, volunteers returned to the town hall to enjoy a light lunch provided by the NTCO.

Two beautification events took place, a tree restoration at the Recreation Park in Wanamie and a planting at the entrance sign of the Coal Street Park in Glen Lyon.

NTCO would like to thank the following volunteers for taking part in this year's cleanup events: Norma Alonso, Austin, Brooklyn & Kristalyn Blank, Leigh & Andrew Bonczewski, Pat Bova, Olga & Arieli Brabant, Asia & Shondra Branton, Linda Conner, Jack Conover, Frank Cook, John Corkell, Michael & Stefanie Cox, Cody Dennis, Tom & Steven Dymond, Cassandra, Lyle, Mary Jo, & Mark Jr. Evans, Cameron, Christiane, Zackery & Joseph Fox, Aurora, Owen, & Wiston Godoy, Brittany Goss, Naeem Griffith, Dominic Haas, Marvin Hagenbach, Bill Hourigan, John & Carol Jarecki, Paul & Heidi Jarecki, Sharon Julius, Tom Kashatus, Susan Kazmierski, Dylan Makavenski, Jerry Malishchak, Joe Maloney, Steven Masakowski, John Mayewski, Tom Moore, Dakota & Tessa Olexy, Rubin & Marco Orozco, Ron Papciak, Stephen & Carolyn Phillips, Debbie Prokop, Patrick, Emilyann, & Patrick Jr. Remley, Lisa, Lauren, Stephen, & Stephen Jr. Rudawski, Eugene Skordinski, Dominick Smith, Tyler Smith, John Vishnefski, Francis Zaleski, and John Zyla

Thank you to the following sponsors, partners, groups, organizations and residents for providing financial assistance, services, and/or in-kind donations to this year's events making them a great success: Angela Vitkowski and Janet Sweeney of the Pennsylvania Environmental Council, Mark Cesare of J. P. Mascaro & Sons, Dan O'Brien of Keystone Landfill, Dave Rinehimer of PennDOT, Mike Dziak, Jacqueline Dickman, and Nick Kratz of Earth Conservancy, Captain Pugh of the Luzerne County Work Release Program, Joe Tarity of Pepsi Beverage Company in Wilkes-Barre, Paul Bush of UTZ Products, Middlesworth Potato Chips, Herr's Chips, Antonio's Pizza in Nanticoke, the Spooky Off Road Club, the Newport Township Fire Department, the Newport Township Police Department, Newport Township Board of Commissioners, those who brought in metals and donated equipment for recycling, especially Carolyn Phillips for preparing and delivering lunch to the many volunteers, Tom Kashatus for coordi-

nating the events and the Newport Township Community Organization and the Pennsylvania Environmental Council for sponsoring these events.

The cost to run these events this year was over \$7,000.00. NTCO contributed \$300.00, leaving a balance of \$6,700.00 that was paid from various resources listed above with funding, services and/or in-kind-donations. The next time you hear someone say, "We don't have money for that," just look around. Resources may be available for your projects if you take the time to investigate.

MESSAGE FROM THE NTCO PRESIDENT

By Palmira Gregory Miller ~ During the first six months of 2013, the Newport Township Community Organization (NTCO) continued its community involvement. Among its most recent accomplishments were: operating a successful recycling program, distributing two community newsletters, hosting a website www.newporttownship.com, sponsoring two beautification projects, organizing eight days of cleanup activities in concert with the Pennsylvania Environmental Council during the Great America Cleanup PA, holding a Spring dance for teens, and preparing dinner for the Wilkes-Barre Area homeless.

Utilizing funds derived from its recycling program, the Community Organization sponsored the Red Devils Major League (Little League) Baseball Team, purchased swings for the Alden Playground, provided supplies and furniture to the Bloomsburg Children's Museum and to AGAPE in Bloomsburg to aid flood victims, and assisted the Pennsylvania Environmental Council in becoming an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful, which will service Northeastern Pennsylvania. The Organization also donated monies and baskets to several other area nonprofit groups.

The next six months will see the Community Organization sponsor two swimming events for children. One will be held on July 31st and the other on August 21st. On August 17th, the NTCO will be the featured Organization at the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders Game at the renovated PNC field on Montage Mountain. Two more quarterly newsletters will also be distributed.

The Organization will continue to sponsor its annual Citizenship Award. The recipient is acknowledged at year's end at the NTCO's annual dinner meeting.

This Entity continues to seek committed volunteers with new ideas willing to coordinate events which will benefit the Community.

The Community Organization extends its appreciation to Mr. Ken Marquis for his efforts in revitalizing businesses on Main Street in Glen Lyon. His recently remodeled buildings also include apartments. Mr. Marquis has requested that the Board of Commissioners pursue an aggressive program of code enforcement to help insure that other properties adjacent to his rehabilitated structures do not remain as negative influences.

The Community Organization, since its inception in 2004, has been a strong advocate for a strict program of code enforcement, and encourages other citizens of the Township to endorse this concept.

This Organization would be remiss if it did not recognize and thank the Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) for its partnership and financial assistance in helping to eradicate over twenty-four illegal dumpsites during the past five years. Contractors were retained to eliminate four of the larger sites, while volunteers contributed their time and worked hundreds of hours to remove the others.

The Community Organization encourages residents to offer names of committed individuals to serve on the Township's Recreation Board. This group provides a vital service to the municipality, and especially to young people. Unfortunately, many meetings cannot be held because a quorum of members is lacking.

The Organization is happy to partner with the Board of Commissioners, and encourages all of the Township's nonprofit organizations to hold a joint fund raiser on July 4, 2014. All of the proceeds from this event would be used to furnish the Community Room in the new Municipal Building. Those wishing to participate in this proposed activity should call 570-736-6637 or email palmiram@newporttownship.com. It would be the first Fourth of July Community Celebration, and we hope to make it an annual event.

Again, the NTCO compliments the Township Commissioners and State Senator John Yudichak for their untiring efforts in obtaining \$500,000 in gaming monies to help make the new Municipal Building a reality.



NAJAKA'S POND

The NTCO is offering for sale its newest historical miniature, Najaka's Pond in Lee. It features a winter scene with a full moon lighting the ice for skaters. It measures 4 1/4" h x 5 3/4" w. Price is \$15.00, add \$3.00 for shipping. Contact Heidi Jarecki if you wish to purchase one.

SUMMER SAFETY TIPS

By James Hoffman, Newport Township Fire Chief

Swimming Safety

Summer is a special time for having fun in the water, yet drowning is a leading cause of unintentional death. Each year more than 1,000 children under the age of 14 drown. Another 16,000 are rushed to hospitals for near-drowning. Children ages 4 and under are at the greatest risk. Many adults do not realize that a child can drown in as little as one inch of water. Most drowning occurs at home or in residential pools. Drowning is often called the “silent killer” as you might not hear a cry for help or the sound of splashing to alert you that a child is in trouble. To keep your summer fun and tragedy-free, follow these safety tips:

At home:

- § Never leave a child alone in or near water, including bathtubs, sinks and toilets.
- § Never rely on any type of support ring to keep your child safe in the bathtub.
- § Empty all buckets and any other containers that hold water or any other fluid immediately after use.
- § Use toilet locks.

In pools:

- § Never leave a child alone in or near a swimming pool even just to answer the telephone.
- § Enclose a pool or spa with a four-sided fence which is a minimum of five feet in height that has self-closing and self-latching gates. It is recommended that the side of a house not be used as any of the sides of the fenced area.
- § Make sure all wading pools are emptied and turned over immediately after use.
- § Learn first aid and CPR, especially infant CPR.
- § Use door and pool alarms and automatic pool covers for extra protection.
- § Teach every child how to swim. Get professional training, but never rely solely on swimming lessons to protect a child from drowning.
- § Teach the importance of never running, pushing or jumping on others around water.

In open water:

- § Never leave children alone and make sure older children always swim with a friend about the same age or with an adult.
- § Always make sure that children swim in approved designated areas in oceans, lakes and rivers. Always check the depth of the water before swimming or diving. If swimming in the ocean, check the current and under-tow.
- § Be sure every child wears a proper-fitting life jacket when on a boat or near water. Air-filled swimming aids, such as “water wings,” are not safe substitutes for life jackets. Never rely on a life jacket alone to protect your child.

Get and keep the proper gear:

Around pools, make sure they are enclosed and have rescue equipment, such as a shepherd’s crook, life ring, solid pole, or rope readily available. **In an emergency**, you do not want to have to hunt for the safety equipment. Keep emergency telephone numbers poolside. Use door and pool alarms.

A little planning can help ensure that your family and friends will have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Playground Safety

- § The playground should have safety-tested mats or loose-fill material (shredded rubber, sand, wood chips, or bark) maintained to a depth of at least 9 inches (6 inches for shredded rubber). The protective surface should be installed at least 6 feet (more for swings and slides) in all directions around the equipment.
- § Equipment should be carefully maintained. Open “S” hooks or protruding bolt ends can be hazardous.
- § Swing seats should be made of soft materials such as rubber, plastic or canvas.
- § Make sure children cannot reach any moving parts that might pinch or trap any body part.
- § Never attach—or allow children to attach—ropes, jump ropes, leashes, or similar items to play equipment; children can strangle on these. If you see something tied to the playground, remove it or call the playground operator to remove it.
- § Make sure your children remove helmets and anything looped around their necks while in the playground.
- § Metal, rubber and plastic products can get very hot in the summer, especially under direct sun.
- § Make sure slides are cool to prevent children’s legs from getting burned.
- § Do not allow children to play barefoot in the playground.

Parents should supervise children on play equipment to make sure they are safe.

Fireworks Safety

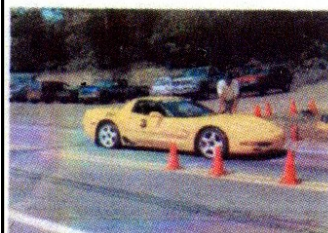
- § Fireworks can result in severe burns, scars and disfigurement that can last a lifetime.
- § Fireworks that are often thought to be safe, such as sparklers, can reach temperatures above 1000 degrees Fahrenheit, and can burn users and bystanders.
- § Families should attend community fireworks displays run by professionals rather than using fireworks at home. Obey laws prohibiting public sale of all illegal fireworks, including those by mail or the Internet.

Summer Safety Tips for your Pet Dog

Hot weather can make us all uncomfortable, and it poses special risks for your dog. Keep the following safety concerns in mind as the temperature rises, and follow these tips to keep your dog cool:

- § If your dog is outside on a hot day, make sure he has a shady spot to rest in. Doghouses are not good shelter during the summer as they can trap heat. You may want to fill a child’s wading pool with fresh water for your dog to cool off in.
- § Never leave your dog in a closed vehicle on a hot day. The temperature inside a car can rise to over 100 degrees in a matter of minutes.
- § Always provide plenty of cool, fresh water.
- § Avoid strenuous exercise on extremely hot days. Take walks in the early mornings or evenings when the sun’s heat is less intense. Try to avoid prolonged exposure to hot asphalt or sand, which can burn your dog’s paws.

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The Night's Entertainers

Heavy Metal Rock Comes to Glen Lyon

By Tom Kashatus ~ The Glen Lyon American Legion hosted an evening of heavy metal rock music to a standing-room-only crowd on Sunday, April 14th. An association of five rock bands played to over 100 patrons with an age range of 18 to 24. The five bands, "Twitching Tongues" from Los Angeles, CA, "Power Trip" from Dallas, TX, "Expire" from Milwaukee, WI, "Antagonist A. D." from New Zealand, and "Alpha & Omega" from Los Angeles, CA, tour together across the United States hoping to hit it big with a following for their particular music. High energy hard rock and heavy metal music flowed throughout the night as patrons displayed their "moshing" talents in the "pit."

Greg Grover from Wilkes Barre has been a promoter for this music over five years. Most of the promotion is done by social networking on the internet. Other promoters present during the evening were Kile Gregory, a.k.a. "Cookie Joe" from Kingston who plays drums for the "Bops" and is a professional snowboarder; Pat Tosh, a.k.a. "Mouth" who is lead singer for "Blind Justice" and a producer from Ocean County, NJ; and Jason Janick, a.k.a. "Ringo" from Wilkes-Barre. If anyone wishes to contact any of the promoters, here are their e-mail addresses:
 Gregory, Kile <cookiejoe107@gmail.com>
 Tosh, Pat <blindjusticenjh@gmail.com>
 Janick, Jason <flexonthesquad@gmail.com>

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Jennie Blasi, aged 96, passed away on June 24. She was born in Teasdale to the late Frank and Anna Kempinski and had three brothers, Walter, Chester, and Stanley. She graduated from Newport High School, Class of 1934. Her husband Peter died in 1997. Jennie is survived by her son Peter and two grandchildren, Peter and Jennifer. She was a life-long resident of Glen Lyon and a member of the NTCO. Our condolences to her family and friends.



"Moshing" in the "Pit"

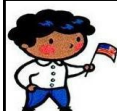


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Wilkes University Polish Room Committee Cookbook for Sale

The cookbook, "Smaczno" (Polish for "Good Appetite"), a collection of recipes by the Wilkes University Polish Room Committee can be purchased for \$15.00 by contacting Susan Najaka at (570) 736-6304. The cookbook contains a variety of recipes including appetizers, main dishes and many are traditional Polish food. All proceeds go toward the Polish Room Committee Scholarship given to a Wilkes University student at the Kosciuszko Ball in January.



Cub Scout Pack 430 Holds Downhill Derby June 6

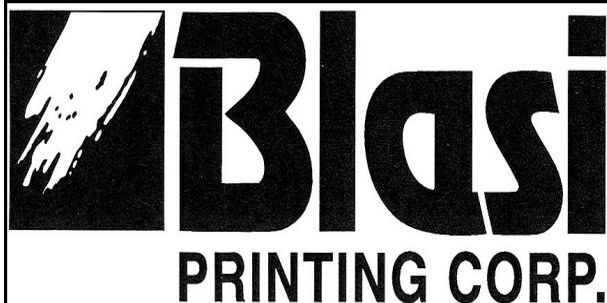
At left: An indication of close competition

By Tom Kashatus ~ Uncharacteristically too few entrants and a dreary day didn't quell the enthusiasm of parents, spectators, and participants of the Glen Lyon Cub Scout Pack 430 annual "Downhill Derby" event. After many head-to-head competitions, and when the smoke cleared and the final flag was raised, it was Austin Blank who survived and took home the championship trophy. Second place was eked out by Cameron Fox and Stephen Rudawski Jr. won third place. Cameron Fox was also awarded a prize for "most spectacular crash" while Stephen Rudawski received recognition for "best design" of a soap box. Joseph Fox was recognized for his effort and told "better luck next year" in his quest for a championship. Newport Township Police Chief Jeremy Blank is Pack Master and George Thomas of Alden supervised the proceedings.



Nanticoke Area Little League Opening Day

On Saturday April 20th the Nanticoke Area Little League which now includes Newport Township held its opening day festivities at the Nanticoke Little League field near the High School. A motorcade paraded throughout the Township and several teams returned to Hillan Field in Wanamie for games that were scheduled in the afternoon. Play ball!



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BIG JUNK DROPOFF and GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP



By Event Coordinator Tom Kashatus ~ Every year during the month of April, the NTCO enters the Great American Clean-up "Big Junk Drop-off" initiative a little unsure of the number of days and the number of dumpsters needed to meet the demands of the community. Over the past eight years, tons and tons of trash have been taken to the landfill, taking advantage of the free landfill space allotted for our program. Because of Newport Township's program whereby Mascaro Waste Hauler will pick up one big household item per month throughout the year, we keep thinking that the end of all this trash is in sight and there may be no need for our "big junk drop-off." We find this not to be case. In fact, we expanded our initiative an extra two days to six total by working on Saturday and Sunday. Residents filled three forty-cubic-yard dumpsters with 12.69 tons of trash that were hauled to Alliance and Keystone Landfills in Taylor and Dunmore. We try to concentrate on cleaning up the environment—empty lots, back yards, highways, etc.,—and we also try to accommodate residents. Common sense rules!

This was a good year for help as NTCO members and friends turned out in droves to assist with the drop-off. It is also noted that we have become more experienced as a group when it comes to separating recyclables from trash. The operation buzzed like a honeybee hive. At the end, we realized the accumulation of 5.25 tons of light iron, steel, cast iron, brass, copper, aluminum products, etc., valued at \$1,339.00. We take our recyclables to Allan Industries in Wilkes Barre Township, a longtime recycler originally from Lower Broadway in Nanticoke. They have been very cooperative to our program and trustworthy with their weights and prices. For the time that was put forth, we worked for about \$.50 per hour, but more importantly, it was an opportunity to bring people together for the benefit of Newport Township.

Should the NTCO continue this initiative in the future? Until there is a change in trends or there is some other system which is more effective, the answer is: Yes!



The Value of Volunteering

Volunteers don't get paid, not because they're worthless but because they're priceless. ~ Sherry Anderson

Act as if you make a difference. It does. ~ William James

Silent gratitude isn't much use to anyone. ~ G.B. Stine

I am of the opinion that my life belongs to the whole community and as long as I live, it is my privilege to do for it whatever I can. I want to be thoroughly used up when I die for the harder I work the more I live. ~ George Bernard Shaw.

Fruit for Thought

You forget that the fruits belong to all and that the land belongs to no one. ~ Jean-Jacques Rousseau, Discours sur l'origine et les

THE GREAT AMERICAN CLEANUP TAKES PLACE IN NEWPORT TOWNSHIP

Palmira Gregory Miller & Tom Kashatus
Thanks You for participating in 2013



SPRING DANCE ON MAY 11



SPRING DANCE 2013

By Sharon Julius and Alice Dymond ~ Our Newport Township teens enjoyed a dance on May 11th sponsored by the Newport Township Community Organization. The teens would like to thank the American Legion in Glen Lyon for their hospitality and the D.J. Rachel Jarrett and her assistant, Skyler Montgomery. The affair was coordinated and chaperoned by Sharon Julius and Alice Dymond, members of the NTCO. The teens enjoyed pizza prepared by the Legion, soda, and snacks. The NTCO thanked those teens who participated in the spring cleanup by giving them free admission to the dance.

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP FIREMEN'S PICNIC HELD OVER MEMORIAL WEEKEND



The Newport Township Consolidated Fire Department joined forces with the St. Faustina's Grove Committee and the Quality Hill Recreation Association of Nanticoke to hold a bazaar over Memorial Day Weekend. Trucks from multiple local fire departments paraded through the Township on Sunday and trophies were awarded in various categories. The weather was cool, but everyone kept warm by dancing the polka or by eating potato pancakes and sausage sandwiches.

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MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCES



John Forgach graduated from Newport Township High School in 1948. He was a Korean War veteran and became a high school history teacher in Alexandria, VA. When he retired, he moved to Lily Lake and maintained his interest in history. He accumulated a great deal of material about the veterans of Newport Township and assembled them into a display. He looked for a permanent home for his tribute to Newport Township veterans which would be open to the public. Jeff Stewart, owner of Alden Manor, graciously agreed to mount the exhibit, which can be viewed during restaurant hours. The next time you are dining at Alden Manor, check it out. Pictured on the left is Jeff Stewart in front of the display.

**"And I'm proud to be an American,
where at least I know I'm free.
And I won't forget the men who died,
who gave that right to me."**

~ Lee Greenwood



Above is the Memorial Day Mass at St. Adalbert's Cemetery Chapel on May 24 with Rev. Jim Rafferty of Holy Spirit Parish presiding. **"Today we honor those who protect us from the darkness."** ~ Father Jim Rafferty



Pictured above are the Glen Lyon American Legion and the Chester Strzalka VFW conducting ceremonies at St. Nicholas Cemetery on the outskirts of Glen Lyon. Prayers were offered, taps were played, and a nine-gun salute was fired.

"The dead soldier's silence sings our national anthem." ~ Aaron Kilbourn



(Left) The Glen Lyon American Legion and VFW Post 8353 conduct ceremonies on Memorial Day at the cemeteries past Seven-Shaft Hill. Also in attendance were members of Brownie Troop 30829 and Cub Scout Troop 430.

"We come, not to mourn our dead soldiers, but to praise them."
~ Francis A. Walker



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Jeffries-Slapikas Post 971 Memorial Day Tributes

It was a busy day for the Legionnaires as they paid special tribute to fellow veterans who distinguished themselves over the years. Among them was Lee Littleford, former supplier of heating oil throughout the area, who was presented with a plaque of appreciation for his sixty continuous years of membership in American Legion Post 971.



Pictured above is a wreath presentation by members of the Jeffries-Slapikas American Legion Post 971 at the Veterans Memorial near the Wanamie Municipal Building. Participating in the ceremony were Legionnaire Jack Zweibel, Representative Gerald Mullery, Legionnaire Leonard Bonczewski, Legionnaire Marty Balas, Legionnaire Dennis Boor, and Commander Paul Kearney. The photograph was taken by Legion Adjutant Edward Kalinowski. The contingent visited St. Vladimir's Cemetery on Polander Hill; E, Kirmar Avenue Cemetery behind the Alden Fire House; the memorial on Robert Street, Sheatown; Holy Trinity Cemetery, Nanticoke; St. Nicholas Cemetery, Glen Lyon; Old Newport Cemetery, Newport Center, St. Mary's Cemetery, Wanamie; and Old St. Mary's Cemetery off Brown Row, Wanamie.



Above: Presentation of a plaque of appreciation to Calvin Kanyuck, member of Glen Lyon Chester Stralka VFW Post 8353, by Adjutant Edward Kalinowski and Commander Paul Kearney.



Above: Presentation of a plaque of appreciation to Joseph Molski, member of Glen Lyon Chester Stralka VFW Post 8353, by Adjutant Edward Kalinowski and Leonard Bonczewski.



Above: Presentation of a plaque of appreciation to Edmund Elczyna, a resident of Birchwood Nursing and Rehabilitation Center and member of Nanticoke American Legion Post 350, by (L to R) Leonard Bonczewski, Adjutant Edward Kalinowski, and Commander Paul Kearney.

In times of war....

Valor is stability, not of legs and arms, but of courage and the soul. ~ Michel de Montaigne

A Brief History of Memorial Day: The carnage of the Civil War, America's deadliest war, inspired Memorial Day as a way to honor the war dead. The observances originally were called Decoration Day because thankful Americans decorated and cared for soldiers' graves. On the first Decoration Day in 1868, 5,000 citizens decorated 20,000 Civil War soldiers' graves--both Union and Confederate--in Arlington Cemetery. The show of solidarity did not last. Southern states protested what they saw as a holiday primarily honoring Union soldiers and created their own observances. They did not rejoin Memorial Day traditions until post World War I when the day evolved to honor the dead who served in all wars. "Decoration Day" usage was common until post-World War II. Congress officially changed the name in 1967.

ST. FAUSTINA'S PICNIC IN SHEATOWN



St. Faustina's Parish in Nanticoke held their annual bazaar at the Grove in Sheatown June 21-23. Father Jim Nash, pastor, appears in the picture on the upper left. The band "Stealing Neil" performed Friday night and a polka Mass was held Saturday. Bingo, pony rides, great food, and warm weather attracted a large crowd on the first weekend of summer.



The Glory of Long Days

There shall be eternal summer in the grateful heart. ~ Celia Thaxter


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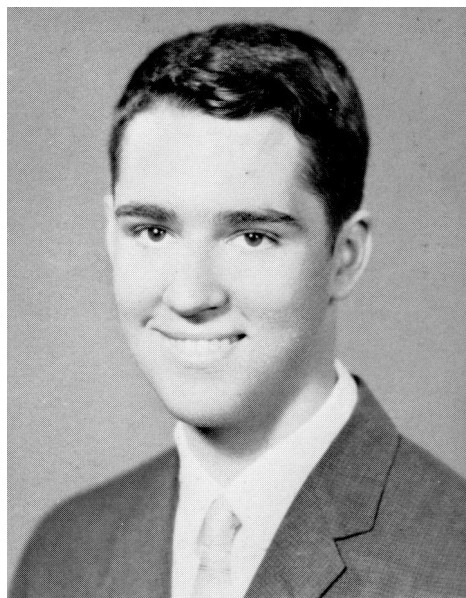
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Thomas Izbicki graduated from Newport Township High School in 1963 and then from King's College in 1968. His senior thesis *Newport Township* describes the growth of Newport Township from 1700 to 1900. In 1974, Tom received a PhD degree in History from Cornell University. He is presently Associate University Librarian for Collection Development at Rutgers University Library.

Memories of King Coal in Decline

By Thomas Izbicki ~ One of my early memories is of radio broadcasts about the mines of the Wyoming Valley. The local stations would announce which collieries were working and which were idle. The names stuck in my mind: Susquehanna, Lance, Loomis, Harry E and the rest. As young as I was, it gradually became clear that "idle" was becoming more common than "working." The deep mines were slowly losing ground in the market place. King Coal was giving way, as I learned later, to other fuels, especially oil.

As an undergraduate in history at King's College, I studied the origins of the deep mines. Anthracite was common in Luzerne County. A buried river bed dating from prehistoric times had seen its accumulated vegetation turn to coal. There had been some shallow diggings, but anthracite was hard to burn until a special open grate was invented early in the nineteenth century. Even then, it was hard to ship quantities of coal to market except by canal. This limited the growth of mining until railroads entered the Wyoming Valley, mostly after the Civil War. Then it became possible to sell anthracite to the furnaces of New York City. However, the railroads extracted their price, not just in shipping costs but their gradual acquisition of the local collieries. By the early twentieth century, the Alden Coal Company was the largest mining operation not owned by a railroad.

The coal boom was a mixed blessing. Towns grew up where farms had been. Glen Lyon, Wanamie and Alden Station all were focused on mines and the shipping of coal. Sheatown was a designed town near enough the breakers of Nanticoke and Alden to provide jobs. The great black bulk of a breaker dominated its town. In Glen Lyon it was common to refer to one part of the town or the other as "the other side of the breaker," which was geography enough, along with neighborhood names like Company Patch and Orchard Patch, for most of us. The narrow gage railroad behind Glen Lyon could be tracked by the whistles of its locomotives. The ground shook whenever the miners blasted to shake coal loose. That was the sound of men at work.

With jobs came people in increasing numbers. Big houses were built to provide homes for miners and their families. Immigrants from eastern and southern Europe soon outnumbered the

handful of families with English, Welsh or Irish names. Polish was still spoken in my youth, and Lithuanian too. (My Italian grandfather could speak Polish, but he admitted that Lithuanian was too hard for him.)

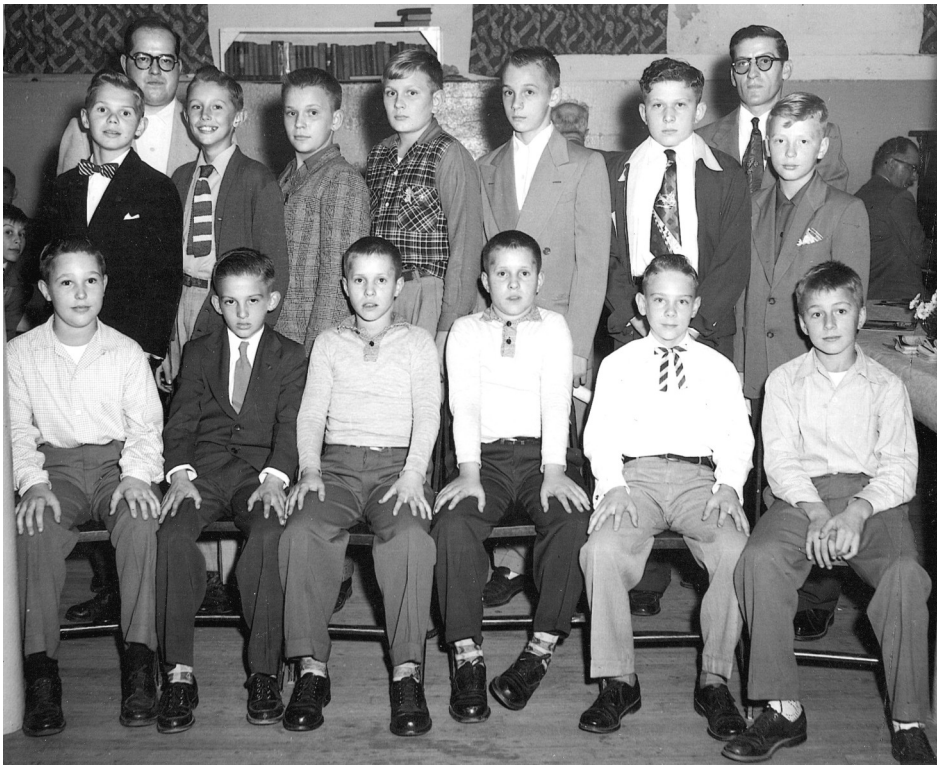
Churches, schools and businesses flourished. There were small restaurants and many bars. Social organizations like the VFW and the American Legion had their own buildings. Roads, streetcars and railroads linked Newport Township with a wider world, although the automobile, the "machine," was becoming common. A trip to Nanticoke or Wilkes-Barre was a major event at first. The telephone already was common, but television was only just becoming important.

However, there were negative factors. Mines were dangerous, and accidents could kill or maim. Even those not injured might develop miner's asthma or "black lung." Labor unrest led to strikes, with the United Mine Workers emerging from the contest to represent workers with the mine owners. There were ethnic tensions, and my mother remembers the Ku Klux Klan burning crosses in full sight of the people of Glen Lyon. Mines provided a livelihood, but pollution was a fact of life. One learned quickly enough not to touch sulfur water. The Sulfur Bank, a great expanse of mine waste on the hill between the town and the river, caught fire. When it rained, the rotten egg smell of the fire could roll down into town.

All this began to change as the deep mines closed, and the breakers vanished. (The Glen Lyon breaker went up in flames in 1974.) Even the coal cars parked on Railroad Street in Glen Lyon ceased moving. Eventually they were hauled away, and the tracks were removed. The 1959 Knox Mine Disaster flooded the deep tunnels of most collieries on our side of the Valley. Strip mines tore up the landscape, picking over the bones of King Coal. Coal trucks still ran up and down the roads delivering until much later, but anthracite had fallen before the triumph of petroleum.

As King Coal fell, there were fewer jobs in mining or other businesses, and people began to move away. Even the handful of local dress factories did not counterbalance this decline. My father once commented that the Valley's biggest export was becoming people. Some of us moved as far away as California in pursuit of a living. Local stores, bars and eateries lost customers; and some shoppers went farther away, especially when malls began opening. Eventually there were fewer places to shop in Newport Township. Schools closed or were merged, with Conyngham joining Newport and then both joining Nanticoke in a single district. Even churches declined, until few were left open. Buildings did not fall apart at first, but many were occupied by pensioners whose children and grandchildren lived elsewhere. Eventually both movement and mortality thinned the population, and the big buildings became shells of their former selves. Demolition of the most decayed buildings remains a headache for the residents of the township.

My own memories are mostly of the period when the changes were just getting under way. There still were schools in Glen Lyon and Wanamie, but my high school class of 1963 numbered fewer than half of my mother's class of 1941. The churches and small businesses were still open. We shopped at Smocharski's Store and Verna's Dry Goods. I ate ice cream and drank cherry cokes at M & B's. I went to catechism classes at St. Denis church and was confirmed there. Then life took me elsewhere, and my visits were occasional glimpses of decline. To visit Glen Lyon now, as I do, is to realize that most of the people I knew are dead or scattered. Our old house on West Main Street is a sad sight, and the [former] shopping areas of the town now look like a jaw with many teeth knocked out. Nonetheless, I feel a loyalty to Newport Township and can name the streets of each town from memory. King Coal built the towns, but they have not perished with the death of the deep mines.



Pictured above is the “magic” bucket that was passed around to help pay for our Little League expenses.

On the left are members of the Newport All-Stars of 1953: Bottom row (L to R) John Kashatus, Richie Koff, Edward Wall, Gene Wall, Paul Shemanski, Sylvester Madurski. Middle row (L to R): John Selecky, John Sokoloski, Larry Kerutis, Tom Klukososki, Jim Schinski, Steve Chest, Dave Gliddon. Top row (L to R) Dan Pish, Assistant Coach, Edward Harcharik, Manager. Absent: John Lampman, player.

1953 Little League All-Stars

By John Kashatus

Introduction by John Selecky

Introduction by John Selecky ~ As young boys growing up in Newport Township, summer meant baseball for many of us. Every open lot in the township had a game going. We would choose sides among the kids who showed up and on good days we would change teams and play two or three games. Having just rediscovered the newspaper articles that follow, I was reminded how very special the summer of '53 was for me and thirteen of my friends as we journeyed on a wild ride toward the Little League Pennsylvania State Tournament. I remember the emotions well. The Newport Little League was started in 1952, courtesy of the Newport Township Lions Club. For a young boy to receive his first-ever official team uniform was just the greatest thrill. Then we were told to buy rubber cleats. Cleats? I think I slept with my first cleats under my bed that night. And we got our first jockstraps! And the catcher had to wear a “cup.” We felt like we were in the Big Leagues!

Opening Day found us in a parade of trucks that led us from Glen Lyon through the Township to the newly created diamond carved out of a corner of the High School football stadium. It was beautiful. The biggest surprise was when we walked into the stadium for the first time and saw that it had a fence. As kids, we had never played anywhere with a fence, and now we could hit one “over the fence.” There was no greater feeling to a ten- or eleven-year-old than to trot around the bases after hitting one out. There were four teams in the league, and each game was a battle that included strategy employed by adult managers.

When we started the season in 1953, we realized that our generation of young boys in Newport Township (eleven- and twelve-year-olds) had some very good athletes because our games were very competitive. When the All-Star Team was selected, we were excited to play against teams from other towns. We just wanted to play baseball. As John’s article indicates, winning the first few games began to attract a very large fan base. It was a thrilling experience to play in front of such large crowds. The loss to Old Forge, who went on to represent our region at Williamsport in the State Tourney, was an emotional downer. Over time, we

saw that run as great fun, great baseball and an experience of a lifetime. We made up for it when a bunch of us played on the high school team which captured the 1958 Wyoming Valley Championship with an undefeated season.

We owe it all to the Newport Township Lions and the many adult volunteers who coached, kept the field in shape, sold concessions from the stand, passed the bucket for donations, chauffeured us around and generally made it happen. **We thank them all!** The Newport Township Little League made us better people, and those who played made friends for life. And, to pay the Lions back, many of us served as coaches and mentors in our respective communities. Enjoy the article!

The Kids Who Captured the Heart of Newport Township

By John Kashatus ~ Sixty years ago, the Newport Township Little League All-Stars created a lot of excitement during the months of July and August. The previous year, the Newport Township Lions Club began to promote Little League Baseball by visiting township schools. The representatives encouraged boys between the ages of 8 and 12 to register for the youth baseball program that began in Williamsport, Pennsylvania a few years prior. Members of the Newport Lions who spoke to the young student athletes were Tom Gliddon, Jim Price, and Kaz Kuchinski. In that maiden year, the Township was able to field four teams with fifteen players on a team. There were many kids who weren’t selected, but they would get another opportunity the next year. Just as professional baseball was supported by fans during WW II, Little League was supported during the Korean War (1950-53).

Although the 1952 edition of the Little League All-Stars didn’t advance very far, the outlook for the '53 All-Star Team was bright. There would be possibly seven players returning with All-Star experience, creating high hopes. The regular season consisted of two halves of play with nine games in each half. This schedule provided the players a chance to hone their skills, and gave the managers an opportunity to evaluate talented kids. With the regular season nearing completion, the All-Stars were selected along with the All-Star Manager, Eddie Harcharik, assisted by Dan Pish who were coaches of the Phillies in Newport Township Little League. After some

intense practices, the local all-stars were bracketed to play Ashley, away, on July 19th.

The first round game proved to be an easy win (11-0), with Newport having 12 hits and scoring in all but one inning. John (Jocko) Sokoloski was the winning pitcher, allowing but one hit, a single in the 4th inning. While there was a large crowd at the game in Ashley, there was an estimated crowd of 1,000 to watch Plymouth defeat St. Therese's by a 10-0 score. Plymouth was the next scheduled opponent, with Newport playing on the road. According to the newspaper on July 24th, the crowd was listed at 1,000 which saw Newport edge Plymouth 2-1. Jim Schinski, who tossed a 2-hitter, was the winning pitcher. Next, the local all-stars were scheduled to play Edwardsville on the 28th. This District 3 semi-final was played at Edwardsville with Newport winning 4-1 on the pitching of Tom Klukososki, who allowed 1 hit (a bunt single) and struck out 15. The District final was scheduled on the 30th with Newport (the home team) playing Back Mountain at Forty Fort. The District showdown was a hotly contested game with Back Mountain scoring 1 in the first and Newport taking the lead with 2 in the 3rd. Although Jim Schinski allowed only 3 hits, he gave up 5 walks. His 11 strikeouts were needed to get out of jams. Syl Madurski had 2 hits, and Tom Klukososki had a key RBI. The estimated crowd at this game was 1,800 fans. On to sectional play.

On August 5th, the headlines read: "Newport Township All-Stars continued their bid for Little League Championship honors by scoring a surprise 8-0 triumph over the Valley League All-Stars from the Hazleton area before 2,000 fans at Newport Stadium last night." The Township Nine scored in the 3rd, 6 in the 4th and 1 in the 5th. Schinski and Klukososki each had 2 hits and John Lampman had a double and Madurski had an RBI in the 5th. There were other contributors in the run-scoring spree: Richie Koff, Gene Wall, and Larry Kerutis. Klukososki threw a 2-hitter, while striking out 7. Concluding the article: "Newport plays the Old Forge All-Stars Thursday night at 6 at Old Forge for the sectional championship. Winner goes to the State finals at Williamsport next week."

On August 6, the dream of going to "States" came to an end in front of an estimated crowd of 4,000 in Old Forge. Newport took a 3-0 lead in the 3rd on a towering home run by its pitcher, Jim Schinski, but Old Forge came back with 3 in the bottom half. The Township All-Stars scored 1 each in the 4th and 5th, but Old Forge answered with 1 in the 5th. Going into the bottom of the 6th with a slim 5-4 lead, the locals gave up a walk, an error, and a single that led to 2 runs and a devastating defeat to the Newport Township Little League All-Stars. Although a trip to the state finals never became a reality, these Newport Township "Kids" created much excitement for township residents and made the Summer of '53 a memorable one.



Above are the 1953 umpires: (L to R) Alex Sklaney, Clem Gavrish, George Dunn, Stanley Mazur, Steve Vishnefski and Arnie Morucci.



Above are the 1953 Little League Managers, (L to R) Fred Nethercott, Michael Salva, Ted Pawlush, Stanley Madurski, Dan Pish, Eddie Harcharik, Al Noss, James "Pee Wee" Jones.



On the left are Newport Township Lions Club members: (L to R) Jim Price, Kas Kucinski, Frank Beeunas, Nate Grotsky, Sonny Frank, Tom Gliddon. Chester "Pada" Morgis and Rollic Kerutis

Oh yeah?

Little League Baseball is a very good thing because it keeps the parents off the streets. ~ Yogi Berra

It's fun; baseball's fun. ~ Yogi Berra



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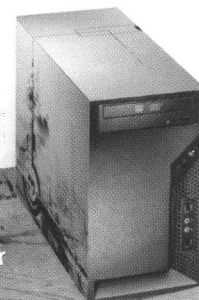
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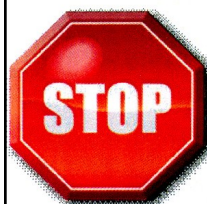
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Publicity is like poison; it doesn't hurt unless you swallow it.

~ Joe Paterno.

A CALL TO ALL ORGANIZATIONS

NTCO invites all Newport Township organizations to come together to hold a joint fundraiser on July 4, 2014. All proceeds from this event will be used to furnish the Community Room in the proposed new Municipal Building. Interested parties can contact Palmira at 570-736-6637 or email palmiram@newporttownship.com

NTCO SUMMER FUN EVENTS

NTCO will sponsor two free swimming events for children at the Mocanaqua Pool on July 31st and August 21st from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Refreshments and lunch will be provided. Rain dates are scheduled for the next day. The Newport Township Women's Activity Group will distribute back-to-school packs at the pool on August 21st. If you plan to attend, please contact Palmira.



NTCO would like to thank all who donated metals during the Big Junk Drop Off. 5.25 tons of light iron, steel, cast iron, brass, copper, aluminum products were collected and recycled at Allan Industries Wilkes Barre. Photograph at left shows Bill Hourigan (L) receiving a check in the amount of \$1,339.00 for recyclables from John Allan.

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION RECYCLES

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

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

The NTCO will make available print copies of our quarterly newsletter to those living outside the area. An annual fee of \$10.00 covers the cost of mailing. Newsletters are sent through the U.S. Postal Service. Send your check made payable to "NTCO" to Heidi Jarecki, 28 West Main Street, Glen Lyon, PA 18617. If you have internet access, please furnish your email address to Tom Kashatus at tomkash@verizon.net. Doing so will enable notification by link to new publications on NTCO's website at www.newporttownship.com.

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

We would be honored and proud to have you as a member of the NTCO. Your membership will show approval of and help support our good deeds and contributions that we favor upon our Community. Membership in the NTCO is \$5.00 per year per person based on the annual year January through December. Send application with fee to 110 1/2 Railroad Street, Wanamie, PA 18634

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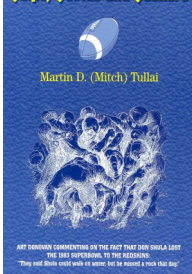
Newport Memorabilia! NTCO is offering for sale historic wooden miniatures of the Alden Coal Company Office and Store, Newport Township High School, the Glen Lyon Breaker, St. Stanislaus Orphanage and a new miniature featuring Najaka's Pond in Lee. Also two DVDs with a total of 1600 historic pictures (sold separately). All are available for \$15.00 each, \$18.00 if they are shipped. 2013 calendars are also in stock priced at \$10.00 with postage of \$2.00 if mailed.

Newport Pride! 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, **sweat-shirts** for \$18.00 and **hooded sweatshirts** for \$20.00, sizes S to 2x. Sizes larger than 2x can be ordered for an extra \$2.00. Custom orders for **zippered hoodies** can be taken at \$30.00 each. The hats are red with black lettering and the tees and sweatshirts are a light grey. Add \$3.00 per item for shipping. Please make checks out to "NTCO." Items can be purchased at the Variety Stop on East Main Street, Glen Lyon or by contacting Heidi Jarecki at 570-736-6782 or email hselecky@pa.metrocast.net. For detailed information go to: www.newporttownship.com and click on "Memorabilia."

SCRANTON/WILKES-BARRE RAILRIDERS BALL GAME

NTCO will be the featured Community Organization of the Night at the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders Game on August 17th, 2013 at 7:05 pm. NTCO will have a table set up in the ballpark to pass out information and promote our organization. Tickets are available for \$8 by contacting Palmira at 736-6637. RailRiders Replica Jerseys will be given to the first 2,500 people into the ballpark. Join us for a fun night out at the new PNC Field! The RailRiders are the New York Yankees AAA affiliate.

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NEWPORT TWP. COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION MEETINGS

NTCO meetings are held the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. at the Guardian Elder Care in Sheatown. The NTCO will hold the meeting on Tuesday, July 9th at the Coal Street Playground in Glen Lyon at 6:30 p.m. As always, the public is invited to attend.