

Earth laughs in flowers. ~ Ralph Waldo Emerson, "Hamatreya"



Summer on Kirmar Parkway

Newport Township Public Business

By John Jarecki ~ The following are items of Township business that occurred during April, May, and June of this year.

April 7: Township Manager Rich Zika announced that the Luzerne County Planning Commission would consider approval of the site development plan for the new Township municipal building on Thursday April 10 in the County Council Meeting Room in the Courthouse. The Commission approved the site plan on that day.

The Commissioners adopted Ordinance # 1 of 2014, which authorizes the Township to borrow \$150,000 from Franklin Security Bank for the construction of the new municipal building.

May 5: Rich Zika announced that the Township had received notification from the State Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) that its application for a grant to buy a new recycling truck had been approved and the amount of the grant would be \$78,187. The Township will pay the remaining \$8,687 which will come from recycling funds to cover the full cost of the truck, a 2015 Ford Model F750.

The Commissioners approved a Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) of 1.5% for recipients of firemen's and police pensions. However, there will be no COLA for survivors of recipients.

June 9. Rich Zika announced that the architects of the new municipal building have sent the Township preliminary specifications and drawings. These will be reviewed and if necessary returned for correction.

Continued on the next page

INSIDE: Township Business (p.1-2); Chad Shettle, Zumba Classes, NTCO President's Message (p. 2); Letter to Editors, Women's Activity Group, Summer Fun Event (p. 3); Newport Class News (p. 4); Legion Auxiliary

Announcements (p.5); NT Fire Department, Flora and Fauna (p.6); Taste of the Township (p.7); GNA Wrestling (p.8-9); Eileen Derr Case, Joe Ciampi (p.10); Glen Lyon Post Office, Primary Election Results (p.11); Alden

Cemetery (p.12); Fish Dinner (p.13); NTCO Spring Cleanup Events (p.14-15); Little League, Soapbox Derby (p. 16); Events/Announcements (p.17); Memorial Day (p. 18); Raymond Tarnowski (p. 19); John Jarecki Sr.

(p.20); Newport Township Teachers, Letter to Editors (p.21); Ads (p. 22-23); What's going on at NTCO (p.24).

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Township Solicitor Rich Shiptoski announced that the closing of the loan for the new municipal building has been postponed because of the acquisition of lender Franklin Security Bank by ESSA Bankcorp.

Chad Shettle Recognized by Township Commissioners and State Senator John Yudichak

At the Newport Township Commissioners' Meeting in March, Chad Shettle of Alden received a citation awarded by the Pennsylvania State Senate and presented by State Senator John Yudichak for his actions in saving the life of his neighbor, Ted Bujno. He also received a commendation and appreciation from the Newport Township Board of Commissioners presented by Board President Paul Czapacki. (For picture, see page 2 of the Spring, 2014 Newsletter.)

In the early morning of February 2, Chad was awakened by calls for help from his neighbor Ted Bujno, who had fallen in the foot-deep snow and had been lying there for a long time in freezing temperatures. Chad alerted the Township Police, and with their help, brought Mr. Bujno indoors and got him medical treatment. Chad saved Mr. Bujno's life because, as a medical worker told his daughter, if he had lain there even a short time longer, he would not have lived.



Participants in Zumba Class: Front row, left to right Michelle Kozicki and Yvonne Segal. Back row, left to right: Janet Wenner, Cathy Sobocinski, Helen Swiatek, Diane Hillan, and Nola Spencer.

Glen Lyon American Legion Hosts Zumba Classes

By Cathy Sobocinski ~ During a recent Glen Lyon American Legion Post 539 Home Association meeting, members were asked to brainstorm for ideas which would improve participation in American Legion activities. A variety of ideas were suggested. The exercise program known as "Zumba" began to gain attention as a means of bringing people together for fun and fitness and at the same time getting the word out that the Legion is available for parties, gatherings, and good times.

Zumba is a great cardio work-out that was inspired by Latin dance moves. It is beneficial for all ages, male and female alike. One of the best aspects of Zumba is that it feels more like a fun thing rather than exercise. It is hoped that Zumba classes will get increased participation. If so, future activities could include ballroom dancing, yoga, and much more.

The class is taught by Yvonne Segal of Wanamie who has instructed Zumba classes for over two years. Come join us at the Legion on Newport Street in Glen Lyon every Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. The fee is \$5.00 per class.

NTCO President's Message

By Palmira Gregory Miller ~ NTCO would like to thank all who participated in this year's Great American Cleanup Events that took place in April and May. Many volunteers removed debris around vacant and derelict properties and it was noticed. People were pleased to see this. Also, Special Thanks go out to our sponsors for their continued support over the years, J. P. Mascaro, Antonio's Pizza, the Pepsi Company, Utz and Herr's Snacks.

NTCO congratulates the Pennsylvania Environmental Council (PEC) upon its becoming an affiliate of Keep America Beautiful! PEC's new affiliation will be called Keep Northeastern PA Beautiful. PEC is planning many new programs through this affiliation and we look forward to participating in one of the first of them, a "Shoe Recycling Drive." So don't throw out those shoes, NTCO will be collecting them. In 2009 the Newport Township Community Organization partnered with PEC in their Community Illegal Dumpsite Cleanup Program and successfully eliminated dozens of illegal dumpsites within the Township. Let's do the same with shoes!

On June 19, 2004, the Newport Township Community Organization began its efforts to improve the overall quality of life in Newport Township with a massive cleanup, clearing shrubbery and picking up litter, investigating and documenting ownership of derelict properties. This led to the Newport Township Board of Commissioners securing funds for demolition of these buildings, while the Newport Township Authority paid the soft costs associated with this activity.

NTCO's recycling program throughout the year continues to be the Organization's largest fundraiser. This endeavor provides the funds to support other worthwhile projects and organizations in the area.

NTCO is planning three Summer Fun Events, starting with a Butterfly Event on July 12th at the Coal Street Playground in Glen Lyon. Folk's Butterfly Farms will erect a tent filled with all types of butterflies. This is the same tent that was displayed at the Philadelphia Flower Show. Two Swimming Events are scheduled on July 17 and August 7 at the Mocanaqua pool.

As mentioned above, the NTCO began in 2004. Plans are underway for NTCO's Tenth Anniversary Party. Look for details in the next newsletter. We hope you will join us in the celebration!



Cleanup at the Coal Street Playground in Glen Lyon took place on April 19th. Thanks to Ron Davis and Darien Evans who raked up leaves and picked up trash filling eight bags.

Letter to the Editors

Dear Editors:

Late in 2013 the Newport Township Board of Commissioners voted to terminate the Newport Township Fireman's Community Ambulance as first responders for emergency medical service for Newport Township residents. The ambulance unit was given instructions to remove all of their equipment from the municipal building/fire station by the end of November and the medical unit from Nanticoke was designated to be Newport's first responders. After decades of hard work by numerous volunteers, crew members, and a former Ladies Auxiliary (the backbone of fundraising) a simple "nod of the head" made it all go away.

In retrospect, what did Newport Township really lose? The local ambulance unit provided high quality service to our residents for decades. It was well known throughout the Valley and award-winning for its exploits and touched the personal lives of many families on a daily basis. In your most serious and life-threatening moment (and at times embarrassing) they were there to solve your problem.

The ambulance unit also known as Unit # 35 (later known as Unit # 563) provided many young residents [with] the opportunity to become trained in introductory health care. Just think, over the years, how many of our youth became Emergency Medical Technicians (EMT's)? Do we ever wonder where these future leaders finally found their niche in life? They continued on to other professions and have become quite successful, having obtained a solid foundation from their experience working with Unit # 35. Let me give [your] readers some examples of vocations and opportunities that were recipients of these individuals – Police Chief, Correction Officer, State Trooper, PCO, Electrician, Truck Driver, Nurse, Paramedic, Minister, Crisis Counselor. we could go on and on. I know for a fact that this core training has helped me in my career and also my personal life. The experience gained while working with Unit # 35 enabled some young college students to earn a few dollars while attending college and single parents to earn income to help pay the household bills.

How else will the loss of Unit # 35 impact Newport Township? Unit # 35 provided oxygen bottles to each of the township fire apparatus to be used at emergency scenes. It has provided trauma bags with necessary equipment to be started by fire personnel, if necessary. These fire personnel usually received their medical training through the ambulance organization. The ambulance provided oxygen for the cutting torch on the fire rescue vehicle, rubber gloves for firemen protection, sheets and bedding and towels for fire truck drivers, and an endless supply of cleaning equipment. Due to the loss of the ambulance unit, replenishing these items will be highly unlikely.

Residents always noted that Unit # 35 was always at the scene of an emergency, i.e., a tree falling across the highway or threatening the neighborhood, a brush fire, a major structure fire, or any man-made or natural disasters. They stayed on the scene to protect the firemen, to be there if anyone received injuries, for rehabilitation purposes, to provide refreshments, and a cool place to rest when necessary. In times of human loss, it provided a place of dignity for persons waiting for authorities and investigations. All of the aforementioned will have been dissipated from Newport Township's emergency services program....unless someone takes the responsibility to insure otherwise.

The real travesty and shame for the township residents was to have this priceless entity ripped away due to some personal conflicts and the potential flow of dollars to privatization. The present first responder is an entity for profit. They are interested in the patient only, and that is their responsibility. But, the training of old and new personnel, oxygen, trauma and first aid bags, linens, car washes and waxes, gloves, masks, and tons of other items will not be provided

by Medic 25. Where will this come from? An increase in the yearly membership fee that is normally charged township residents by Unit # 35 can be anticipated in the future. Nanticoke residents are charged \$75.00 per year.

By Dan Kowalski

Newport Township Consolidated Fire Department

The Newport Township Women's Activity Group Is Celebrating Its 40th Anniversary

By Brenda Grabowski ~ In 1974, a group of women got together to provide activities for the children of the Township. The very first project was an Easter egg hunt. We recently held our 40th annual egg hunt at the Recreation Park in Wanamie. As the current president of the group I am thrilled that the group is still going strong! The support of the community at our annual ham and turkey bingos is what enables us to continue to do so and we thank you all!

We would love to have a get-together this coming fall or winter which includes previous members and I am currently putting together a list. I do have some information from past officers but as you can imagine in 40 years that list is a long one. Please call 570-736-7038 with any information you may have. If you know of anyone who has moved away and you think they may be interested in an invitation and you have a current address, please contact me. You can call the above number or email me at: grabbett@msn.com

Thank you!

Summer Fun Event: Come See the Butterflies!

By Debbie Prokopf ~ Come one, come all to see and touch some of the prettiest creatures on earth—butterflies!

Sponsored by the NTCO, Mr. Folk from Folk's Butterfly Farm will assemble a tent at the Coal Street Playground in Glen Lyon. Inside the tent will be butterflies of all types. This is an event for residents of all ages! Mr. Folk and his assistants will be on hand to answer any questions. If you would like to start a butterfly garden in your backyard and need advice, this is the time to get it! If you are curious about monarch butterflies in particular, see page 6.

This really cool Summer Fun Event will be held Saturday, July 12 from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. Hope to see everyone there!



The Newport Township Fire Department held a joint fundraiser with St. Faustina Parish in Nanticoke on Friday, April 18. Thanks to all the volunteers who participated and those who purchased the offerings.

NEWPORT CLASS NEWS—REUNION TIME!



Class of 1955 (Submitted by John Antonaitis) ~ We are looking for volunteers to help us organize our 60th Class Reunion which we plan to have sometime in September, 2015. We are tentatively planning to have a get-together on September 17, 2014 at River Grill, 670 North River Street, Wilkes-Barre from 12:30 to 4:00 to discuss ideas about the reunion. We believe this may be the last reunion we will have as Newport Class of 1955. As we get older, it becomes harder to make long trips.

We would like to know if you plan to come to the September 17, 2014 meeting. Please let us know by September 3rd.

For more information, you can contact any of the following people:

John Antonaitis: Phone number: 607-748-8783 ; E-mail: jantonaitis@stny.rr.com

Marie Pucci Modrow: 570-283-1911

Jean Stackhouse Harris: 570-822-6386

Peter Valania: 570- 735-4373

Hope you can make it!

Class of 1958 (Submitted by John Sokoloski)



Three Amigos Gather in Florida

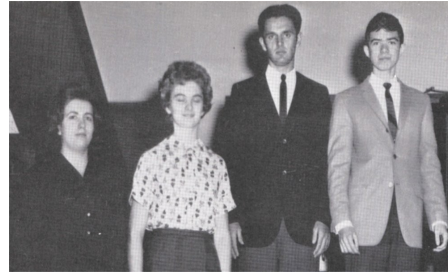
Pictured above are Syl Madurski, John Sokoloski, and Tom Dekutoski, all from the Newport Class of 1958, who visited the Village of Spanish Springs in February of this year. Meanwhile, the rest of us were shoveling snow.....

Class of 1965 (Submitted by Mary Selecky) ~ Next year will mark the 50th anniversary of the Class of 1965. The Reunion Committee needs help locating all classmates. Please contact Mary Selecky by email: maryselecky@yahoo.com or calling 509-684-5378 and provide your current address, phone numbers, and email address. Thank you.

All Class Reunion (Submitted by Heidi Jarecki) ~ Due to a change in management at Alden Manor, plans for the All-Class Reunion have not yet been finalized. At press time, the Reunion is tentatively scheduled for Saturday, October 11 from 4 to 9. As soon as arrangements have been made, letters with reservation forms will be mailed. Please contact Heidi and Paul Jarecki if you wish to be added to the mailing list. Phone number 570-736-6782 or email hselecky@pa.metrocast.net.

“For the glory of Newport High!”

Class of 1964 (Submitted by John Jarecki)



On the left are the officers of Newport Class of 1964. Left to right are: Mary Margaret Kashatus (Treasurer), Diane Kelshaw (Secretary), Tom Cesarini (Vice President), and Alex Merolli (President).

The Reunion Committee of the Newport High School Class of 1964 is planning its 50th Reunion for September. An Ice Breaker is scheduled on Friday September 12 at the Parkway Inn in Alden. The reunion will be held Saturday September 13 at Alden Manor. The Committee is taking reservations until August 1. For further information call Karen Lawrence Justus at 570-675-5828 or email the group at newportclassof64@gmail.com.

Class of 1959 (Submitted by John Selecky)



Classic Class of '59 Meets in Classic Car Pictured are Bill Zidek behind the wheel and John Kashatus riding shotgun. In the back seat are l. to r.: Jean Marie Levulis Lewis, Sylvia Wacławski Vassia, Barbara Veronick DeLuca, and Sally Stapinski Kashatus with Steve Phillips ready to hop in. The Cadillac convertible was available through the courtesy of Mike Jezewski.

Final touches are being made by the 1959 Class Committee for their 55th Reunion, “Afternoon Delight Dinner Party,” to be held from 2-7 on Sunday, September 14th, at the great Appletree Terrace on the lovely Newberry Estates near Dallas. An Ice Breaker will be held Saturday the 13th at Mil and Jim’s Parkway Inn on Kirmar Ave, Alden, starting at 6:30. All classes are welcome to join in the frivolity. Contacts, inquiries and reservations can be made by contacting Sally Stapinski Kashatus at sallykashatus682@yahoo.com or call 570-735-6861. We are looking for current contact information on these classmates: Mary Ann Augustine Tirpak, Charlotte Bosavage Bandola, Nancy Campbell Edwards, Barry Frank, June Dymeterko Noble, Michael Pocreva, Miriam Schmidt, Vito Zerillo, Paul Shemanski. If you have information, please get in touch with Sally.

Upcoming Legion Auxiliary Events

By Lorrie Materewicz ~ This summer the Glen Lyon American Legion Post 539 is hosting a triad of events we're hoping will excite and delight the citizens of the Township. On August 16, we will be hosting a community yard sale inside the Legion building. For \$15, each vendor will be given an eight-foot space plus one table and chairs as needed. The sale will be held from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Participants can set up the night before the event. We are also contemplating selling refreshments. This event will be held rain or shine, so start collecting your items now so you'll have extra money for Christmas shopping! For more information and to make reservations, call Lorrie at 570-736-7177. This is open to the general public.

In September, the Auxiliary is hoping to host its 3rd annual American Red Cross Blood Drive. Watch your local newspaper for the specific date and time. Thanks to all our past donors.

The third event is a flag information seminar on a date yet to be chosen. The seminar will last about 45 minutes. It will include flag etiquette on how to fly the flag correctly, proper folding and more. Watch your local newspaper for dates and times. The general public is invited.

Don't forget: if you have old, torn, or tattered flags, give them to any Legion or Auxiliary member and they will be placed in the "Old Flag Mailbox" for proper disposal. You can also take them to the Glen Lyon Post Office and Judy Novak will deliver them to the Legion. The Legion conducts ceremonies on Flag Day (June 14) of each year.

OBITUARIES

By Tom Kashatus ~ The purpose of this column is to inform our readers of individuals who have passed on who had ties to Newport Township as residents, former residents, or who attended Newport Township schools. It will usually cover the preceding three-month period of each newsletter. Comments may be made by calling Tom at 570-736-6981.

YASHINSKI, Stella (Veronica), nee Roman, 97, of North East, MD, passed away February 28 in Union Hospital, Elkton, MD. She was born in Nanticoke.

GOTCHA, Elizabeth J. (Betty), nee Armstrong (Cooney), 87, of Alden, passed away at home on March 20, 2014. She was a former director of the Senior Citizens Center in Nanticoke.

BUKOFSKI, Regina, nee Broski, 86, of Polander Hill, Alden, passed away March 24 at Birchwood Nursing and Rehabilitation Center. Regina was born March 28, 1924 in Alden Station. She was a graduate of Newport Township H. S., Class of 1945.

MUSHALA, Marie H., nee Regelski, 85, formerly of Alden, passed away on March 25 at Manorcare, Kingston, PA. She was born in Buttonwood.

RAVIN, John L., DDS, 81, of Tilbury Terrace, West Nanticoke, and formerly of Glen Lyon, passed away Sunday, March 30. Dr. Ravin graduated from Newport Township H. S. and excelled in basketball, football, and baseball. He also graduated from Columbia University and Temple University Dental School. He was an Air Force veteran and served as a school director in GNA and coached teams in local youth programs.

KELLMEL, Eileen, nee Sarpolis, 67, of Alexandria, VA, formerly of Glen Lyon and graduate of Newport Township H. S., Class of 1964. She is survived by her husband, Dr. Donald Kellmel, Class of 1966.

SCORDY (SKORDINSKY), Donald, 84, of Oxnard, CA passed away in April. He graduated from Newport Township H. S., then attended the University of Scranton and George Washington University and pursued a career in pharmacology.

BARON, Ronald, 71, of Alden passed away Saturday, April 12 in Crozer-Chester Medical Center, Upland, PA. Ronald graduated from Nanticoke, H. S. He was a veteran of the U.S. Army serving during the Vietnam War and worked for Xerox Corporation thereafter.

SOPKA, Rosemarie, nee Butchkowski, 83, of W. Main Street, Glen Lyon, died Saturday, April 19, at Celtic Health Care Center, Geisinger South, Wilkes-Barre. Preceding her in death were her husband, Peter Sopka and sister, Joan Kowalski.

MILLER, Evelyn, nee Makowski, 85, of W. Enterprise Street, Glen Lyon, was a graduate of Newport Township H. S. and Wilkes-Barre Business College. Her parents were the late Aloysius and Mamie Makowski.

HELWIG, Aileen S., nee Shiner, 87, passed away Monday, March 3, in Colorado Springs, CO. Aileen was born in Glen Lyon and graduated from Newport Township H. S. in 1944. After graduation she worked in Washington D. C.

SHYBLOSKI, Albert M., 77, of Glen Lyon, passed away Wednesday, May 7, at his residence. Albert was born November 21, 1936, and graduated from Nanticoke H. S. and LaSalle University. He was a veteran and employed as plant manager at Certain Teed Corp. of Mountain Top.

KASELL, Mildred J., nee Keblish, 71, of Sunrise, FL, passed away Tuesday, January 28 at her home. Mildred was born in Glen Lyon on June 27, 1942, and was a graduate of Newport Township H. S., Class of 1960. She also received a B.A. degree in biology from Vassar College in Poughkeepsie, NY. Mildred was employed in scientific research and was also a teacher.

BUSH, Robert J., 79, of Monroe Township, passed away Tuesday, May 8, in Geisinger Wyoming Valley Medical Center. Robert was born in Glen Lyon. He was a graduate of Newport Township H. S. and Rutgers University. Robert worked at Proctor and Gamble in Mahopany and served in the U.S. Navy during the Korean War.

COOPER, Julia Jean, nee Kopcho, 97, formerly of Glen Lyon and Lily Lake, and a guest at St. Theresa Residence, Wilkes-Barre. Jean was born in Lower Askam on November 5, 1916. She was employed in the garment industry and was a member of the ILGWU.

VNUK, Thomas "Spud," 59, of Orchard Street, Glen Lyon, passed away Sunday morning, May 18, in Wilkes-Barre General Hospital. He was born in Wilkes-Barre on April 23, 1956. Thomas served his country in the National Guard for two enlistments and worked most of his life for Leslie Fay.

OGIN, Cora, nee Stackhouse, 97, of Wanamie, passed away in May of this year. Cora was born November 8, 1916, in Folstown and moved to Wanamie when she was seven years old. Cora graduated from Newport Township H. S. and was a beautician for 63 years.

FRANK, Florence K., nee Murawski, 89, a long-time resident of Glen Lyon and Lake Silkworth passed away Tuesday, May 27 in St. Augustine, FL. Florence was born May 4, 1925, was a graduate of Newport Township H. S. and Wyoming Seminary School of Business and was an employee of the Veterans Administration Hospital.

NOVAK, Margaret, nee Baran, 83, of Sheatown passed away at home on Thursday, May 29. Margaret was born in Nanticoke on February 8, 1931, and was formerly employed by McGregor's and Gem Furniture.

REPOTSKI, Irene, 90, of Glen Lyon, passed away Friday, May 30. Irene was born in Glen Lyon on July 25, 1925. She was a graduate of Newport Township H. S. and worked for Acme Markets for over 40 years.

KOCH, Janine T., nee Skamarakus, 45, formerly of Wanamie, passed away Sunday, June 1. She graduated from Greater Nanticoke Area in 1986 and worked in the cardiac unit of Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Nanticoke Ambulance to Begin Membership Drive

Since late last year, Nanticoke Ambulance has been providing ambulance service to residents of Newport Township who have 2013-2014 memberships in the now disbanded Newport Ambulance. At the Commissioners' work session of June 18, Township Manager Rich Zika announced that he had received notification from Nanticoke Ambulance saying that it will continue to honor Newport Ambulance memberships until August 31 of this year, and that Nanticoke Ambulance will begin its own membership drive beginning in July.

Vacation Bible School

Vacation Bible School will be held at St. Adalbert's Church, Glen Lyon of Holy Spirit Parish from July 28 to August 1, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Children ages 4 to 12 must be registered by July 7. The theme this year is "Weird Animals." Call 570-736-6372 or 570-736-6327 for information. All children are welcome.

St. Adalbert's Church Celebrates 125 Years

St. Adalbert's Church of Holy Spirit Parish in Glen Lyon will celebrate its 125th anniversary on Sunday, September 21, 2014. His Excellency, Bishop Joseph Bambera will concelebrate Mass at 11:30 a.m. with a luncheon to follow in the church hall. The cost of the luncheon is \$8.00 per person. The Church was built in 1889. Rev. Louis Kaminski is Pastor.



Newport Township Fire Department Training

By Tom Kashatus ~ After a minimum of 120 hours of mandatory training in the “Essentials of Firefighting,” an individual may be certified to be a full-fledged fireman with a specific fire company. Other requirements such as age may also be necessary to gain membership into that fire company as spelled out in the company’s by-laws. However, training does not end with membership acceptance – it is continuous and may be required. New methods are always being developed and soon become the norm. Remember former NBA player Allen Iverson’s opinion of practice: “It’s only practice.” His opinion did not sit well with his coach, Larry Brown, who looked upon practice as a way of keeping in shape, a necessary means not to forget fundamentals, and the opportunity to work as a team. The same holds true for firemen and other emergency service volunteers and employees. Often it is necessary for firemen to be out in public raising funds for their companies as grants and municipality budgets often do not cover the cost of additional or updated equipment. The Newport Township Fire Department is asking that the young men and women in our community volunteer their time and accept a personal challenge to become firefighters and to serve in other areas of the emergency services field.

Newport Township also has a newly-formed Fire Police unit which accompanies emergency services activities. Township Fire Police Captain Leonard Paczkowski reported that the cooperation of the Township’s two fire companies, Glen Lyon-Alden Fire Company and Consolidated Fire Company has resulted in the acquisition of new equipment for all personnel of the newly formed unit. Portions of their annual state grants were used to purchase safety vests, reflective hooded raincoats, flashlights with a red luminaire, red traffic wands, hats, badges, traffic control flags, and radios with external microphones. The unit also obtained a file cabinet and general office supplies. Captain Paczkowski would like to express his sincere thanks and appreciation to the two company presidents, Ed Pauska and Ron Womelsdorf, the officers, and members of both fire companies for their assistance to the unit. He also wishes to express his gratitude to the Newport Authority for its donation of \$1,168.50 to purchase much needed additional equipment. Nine volunteers have completed Basic Fire Police Training and four members have completed Advanced Fire Police Training: Captain Paczkowski, Ron Womelsdorf, Ron Jones, and Bob Shemanski. Additional classes are being held throughout the summer months.

Enjoy, Enjoy! Walk, run, or bike-ride on the Penobscot Trail in Wanamie!

6

The Flora and Fauna of Newport Township



By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ During a hike on the Penobscot Trail near Wanamie one lovely summer day, we encountered a flock of monarch butterflies, two of which are pictured above. They are prominent throughout the Township, and are easily identifiable by their bright orange coloring.

Monarch Butterfly Facts:

1. The monarch butterfly (*Danaus plexippus*) is a milkweed butterfly (subfamily Danainae) in the family Nymphalidae. It may be the most familiar North American butterfly and is among the most colorful.
2. Monarch butterflies are the only insect to migrate up to 2,500 miles to get out of the cold weather and to hibernate. But not all monarch butterflies migrate; only the fourth generation of monarchs can migrate each year because the first three generations die after about six weeks from escaping their cocoons. Monarchs migrate over hundreds to thousands of miles to wintering locations in Mexico. Southward migrations start in August until the first frost. Monarchs can travel between 50 and 100 miles a day; it can take up to two months to complete their journey to winter habitats. There is a northward migration in the spring.
3. Female monarch butterflies lay several hundred eggs during their short life in the springtime. Monarch butterfly larvae need milkweed to live. Wherever there is milkweed, there will be monarch butterflies.
4. Once a monarch butterfly is an adult (after the metamorphosis into a full grown butterfly), it can eat nectar from any flower, not just the milkweed plant. Only the caterpillars need milkweed to survive.
5. Female monarchs have darker veins on their wings, and the males have a spot called the androconium in the center of each hind wing. Males are also slightly larger.
6. Monarch butterflies are poisonous. They won’t harm humans, but the chemicals from the milkweed plant that they eat when they are in the larvae stage builds up and gives them a poisonous defense against predators like frogs, birds, mice and lizards.
7. Many scientists are concerned about the eastern population of monarchs, which summer east of the Rocky Mountains. This group is occurring in ever smaller numbers, and its survival may be threatened by a series of natural disasters in the Mexican wintering grounds, as well as by reduced acreage of milkweed plants in their summer homes.

Monarchs and many other types of butterflies will be featured in the Summer Fun Event sponsored by the NTCO. See page 3.

Did you know? September 14, 2014 marks the 200th anniversary of the Star Spangled Banner, our national anthem.



Smoked kielbasa (left) and fresh kielbasa (right)

Taste of the Township Kielbasa

By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ Kielbasa is the Polish word for "sausage." For centuries sausage was made in Poland and comes in many varieties, smoked or fresh (uncooked) and made with pork, beef, turkey, lamb, chicken or veal, with every region having its own specialty. There are variations in spelling among East European countries: Ukraine, kovbasa; Russia, kolbasa; Czech Republic, klobasa; and Bulgaria, kulbasa.

It is believed that the word "kielbasa" first came into existence in Poland in the 18th century. It describes a thick sausage, dark in color when it is heavily smoked, and a few feet long which today is called rope sausage. This sausage was an ever-present item on the tables of noblemen. Soon peasants in the villages started to make sausages, first for their own enjoyment, then for the trade and sale. In Poland, kielbasa is often served garnished with fried onions, and, in the form of cut pieces, smoked kielbasa can be served cold, hot, boiled, baked or grilled. It can be cooked in soups such as żurek (sour rye soup), kapuśniak (cabbage soup), or grochówka (pea soup), baked or cooked with sauerkraut, or added to bean dishes, stews (notably bigos, a Polish national dish), and casseroles. Kielbasa is also very popular served cold on a platter, usually for an appetizer at traditional Polish parties. The most popular kielbasa is also called "Kielbasa Polska" ("Polish Sausage") or "Kielbasa Starowiejska" ("Ancient Countryside Sausage"). This one comes closest to what is generally known in America as "kielbasa." Nowadays, in the United States, kielbasa can be bought in most Polish stores as well as in most major grocery store chains, which may be unsmoked ("fresh") or fully or partly smoked.

Newport Township with its large Polish/Eastern European population has a long history of making and consuming kielbasa. Establishments in the Township which offered kielbasa include: Sopka's Butcher Shop and Grocery Store at 125 West Main Street in Glen Lyon (see Spring 2013 Newsletter), Tarnowski's Market on East and West Main Streets in Glen Lyon (see Winter 2012 Newsletter), and Babetski's Market on East Main Street in Glen Lyon.

The Plymouth Kielbasa Festival is held annually in August. Multiple kielbasa makers compete for prizes in various categories, and attendees can taste the various samplings, most of them family recipes that are kept under lock and key. The recipes are "carried to the grave." We are grateful to Charlotte Sopka Santry of Glen Lyon who provided us with her family's recipes for this article.

Recipes submitted by Charlotte Sopka Santry

"These were my grandfather's recipes and he was rather renowned in his day for [making] the best kielbasa anywhere."

FRESH KIELBASA

10 pounds pork butts (remove glands)

¼ pound pork casing

2 – 3 kernels garlic

3 tbsp. brown sugar

Crush and mix garlic and sugar together with a little water

3 oz. salt

½ oz. pepper

Pinch basil

Mustard seed

Put above in plastic bag and shake until well mixed. Grind pork fine, mix in spices/sugar mixture and mix very well, then stuff in pork casing.

SMOKED KIELBASA

8 pounds coarse ground pork

4 pounds fine ground beef

Beef casing

2 – 3 kernels garlic

3 tbsp. brown sugar

Crush and mix garlic and sugar together with a little water

3 oz. salt or Morton Quick Cure or Tender Quick

½ oz. pepper

Mustard seed

Pinch basil

Mix, mix, mix

Stuff in beef casing and smoke 5 – 6 hours. If it floats in hot water, smoke for another half hour then eat. It is fabulous just out of the smoker, still hot and juicy.

To the more adventurous cooks out there, good luck!

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Elementary Award Recipients - Kneeling left to right: Liam Pegarella, Owen Atkins, Adam Shotwell, and Lucas Jaskulski. Standing: Kaitlyn Pegarella, Zachary Capie, Isaiah Johnson, and Adam Eckhart.

Greater Nanticoke Area Wrestling

By Tom Kashatus ~ My first experience with amateur high school/college wrestling took place at Penn State University in 1958 when I took a half semester of wrestling in a required physical education class. Wrestling was not offered at “old Newport High School,” nor was there much emphasis placed on the sport in the Lower Wyoming Valley. Schools like Forty Fort, Kingston, Hanover, and G.A.R. were competitive wrestling schools at that time. What I experienced, I liked. Further, when I had the opportunity to watch the high school state championship finals held at Penn State the following year and experienced the rafters shaking at Rec Hall as the crowd from Wyoming Valley cheered on Johnny Carr from Hanover Township to become a state champion, I became a life-long supporter of amateur high school/college wrestling. It was an era when there were no divisions like single-A and double-A, and all athletes were thrown into one competitive pot. I am proud of the fact that my three sons had successful careers at GNA under coaches John Breita, Stephen “Smokey” Smocharski, and Joel Kisslin. My daughter also participated as a student manager.

I always felt that an elementary wrestling program was the key to a successful team wrestling program in any school system. Success is not to be measured only by wins and losses, but should also be measured in terms of leadership, compassion, and a desire to better oneself for the benefit of others, along with continuing educational advancement in preparation for life’s responsibilities. In the late 1980’s, my wife and I became involved in a newly-revived wrestling booster club with many other dedicated parents at the request of Coach Smocharski. An elementary program was a must and shortly thereafter a franchise with the Penn Elementary League was acquired. My older sons and their wrestling friends coached while I ran the program and the refreshments. We even had our elementary champions—Ron Bruza, Dave Romanowski, and Jerry Lewis, who was also a Penn League “Most Valuable Tournament Wrestler.” Wrestling became a huge part of life in the Kashatus family for about twenty years.

After a long hiatus from wrestling due to other demands, with the exception of watching my grandson in a few matches, I felt honored to be invited to this year’s Greater Nanticoke Area Wrestling Banquet. I saw a unique bond and camaraderie

among the coaches at the various wrestling levels and the special respect of a varsity coach for subordinate wrestling programs. I truly believe that the GNA wrestling program will have an impact on wrestling in Wyoming Valley in the future. I also witnessed an enthusiastic group of parents who support their children, coaches, and the program as a whole.

The wrestling program leadership starts with Coach Harold Shotwell at the varsity level. This past season was the first time in history that GNA furnished a team in district dual competition. Six wrestlers placed in district competition and three wrestlers moved on to regional competition – Kyle Gavrish, Derek Fisher, and Kyle Sorber. Krystal Daniele was the first female wrestler to place in district competition with a fifth-place finish. Coach Shotwell was honored by District II referees by being awarded the “Coach’s Sportsmanship Award.”

The GNA Junior High Program is headed by Coach Scott Shotwell and Assistant Coach Luke Capie. The anticipation and excitement of a large contingent of quality elementary wrestlers moving into the junior high program gives promise to a fruitful season in 2014–2015, led by the experienced Cooper Bartle. Seventh grader Dillon Kruczek who had first-place finishes in the Meyers Mid-Season Tournament and the Wyoming Valley Conference Tournament and finished the season with a 23–1 record, looks forward to next year. Dillon was also a Pennsylvania Junior Wrestler (P.J.W.) state qualifier.

All levels of wrestling provide excitement for the true fan, and as competition increases, that excitement reaches its peak. However, there is nowhere where the fun of participation is more prevalent than at the elementary level. GNA’s elementary program appears to be on sound footing with Head Coach Luke Capie (a former elementary protégé) and assistant coaches Scott Shotwell, James Ryan, and Eric Musaitis showing the way for the “little guys.” This year the squad of thirty competed for a division title in their league right down to the last week. At the 2014 Penn League Tournament held at Lake Lehman in March, the GNA elementary wrestlers placed eight medalists – one fourth place finish, one third place finish, three second place finishes, and three champions. During this past season, the program had four national qualifiers at the Gene Mills Easton Tournament and five regional qualifiers at the MAWA Northern Regional Tournament.

The school district and the wrestling program are very fortunate to have a vibrant booster club which is led by President Mrs. Delia Bracero of

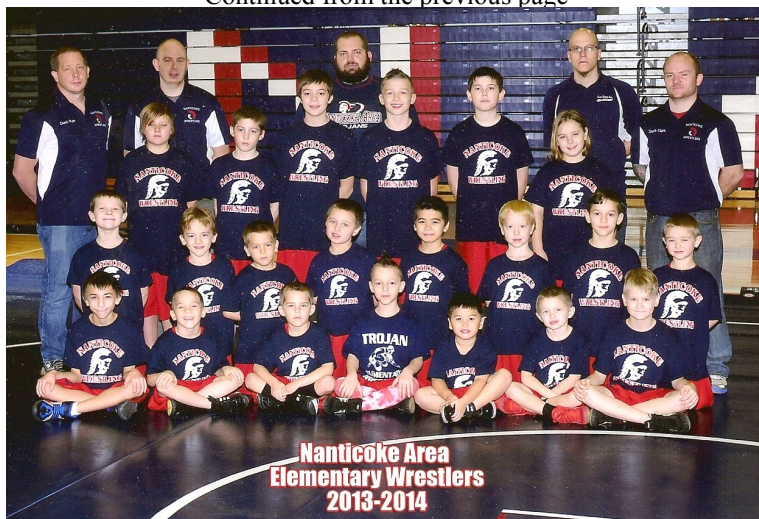


Junior High Award Recipients - L. to R. Christopher Maute and Dillon Kruczek.



Varsity Award Recipients - Left to right: Krystal Daniele, Kyle Gavrish, Kyle Sorber, and Anthony Edwards.

Continued on the next page



GNA Elementary 2014 Bottom row left to right: Joseph Sauer, Zachery Sorber, Eric Masaitis, Lucas Jaskulski, Jayden Bencoter, Adam Shotwell, and Zachery Capie. Second row: Joshua Ryan, Carson Cohen, Reilly Sorber, Mickayden O'Donohue, Justin Bencoter, Owen Atkins, Aiden Jaskulski, and Liam Pegarella. Third row: Anthony Banaczek, Brayden Emel, Joel Zannetti, Isaiah Johnson, Dalton Bopp, and Kaitlyn Pegarella. Top row: Coaches Jim Ryan, Scott Shotwell, John Jaskulski, Eric Masaitis, and Luke Capie.

Glen Lyon. Mrs. Bracero feels that "It is a sheer blessing to be involved with children and see the positive developments that they experience from the sport of wrestling." Her son Pedro starred for GNA and has moved on to study at Wilkes University. She stated, "My paycheck for my efforts are the hugs and kisses that I receive from the kids." The booster club is strong as evidenced by the cooperation of its members, coaches, wrestlers, and supporters during events such as matches and tournaments and the grand finale banquet. Also assisting are Vice President Melisa Jones, Executive Vice President Tami Bopp of Glen Lyon who is in charge of fundraising, Secretary Maura Johnson, and Treasurer Robert Wentz. We cannot forget to give credit to Dave Jones who is in charge of score-keeping and to Announcer Glen Bopp with his "silver tongue and golden voice." The club's funds come mainly from donations, concessions sold at matches and tri-meets, ticket sales, "Burger Burns," and a share of the profits from the Penn League Tournament held at Lake Lehman High School.

The evening was topped off with the presentation of awards to the athletes who excelled in various categories. Beginning at the elementary level there were three champions crowned at the prestigious Penn League Tournament. Adam Eckert of Sheatown was victorious in the 105 pound weight class and went 18 – 0 this season. He was also recognized as the "Most Outstanding Wrestler" on the GNA elementary squad. Isaiah Johnson, for the second consecutive year, took first place at 98 pounds. He was 17–1 this year and undefeated last year. Zachary Capie took first place at 58 pounds and ended the season with a promising 13–5 record. Johnson and Capie were also recognized for their leadership throughout the season. Kaitlyn Pegarella was recognized for her "heart and dedication" throughout the year. Adam Shotwell, 42 pounds, Liam Pegarella, 50 pounds, and Owen Atkins, 62 pounds, made it to the championship match in their weight classes and showed true GNA character with their second-place wins. Lukas Jaskulski, 54 pounds, secured a third place finish. Adam Shotwell was designated "Most Improved" wrestler and finished the season with an 18–1 record.

At the junior high level, Christopher Maute was awarded the "Mitch Breita Award," a coaches' award which honors the former GNA heavyweight great for team dedication and community

service. Dillon Kruczek was recognized for his championships in the Meyers Mid-Season Tournament that featured twenty-eight teams and the season finale Wyoming Valley Conference junior high school tournament.

Varsity wrestler and senior Anthony Edwards received the "Ironman" trophy as he overcame a number of injuries throughout the season and inspired his teammates at every level. Seniors Kyle Gavrish and Kyle Sorber of Glen Lyon took third place finishes at District II competition and became regional qualifiers. Krystal Daniele of Glen Lyon became the first female ever to medal at District II competition. Derek Fisher was also a District II finalist with a second place finish and became a regional qualifier.



GNA Varsity 2014: Bottom row left to right, Melvin Villafranca, Krystal Daniele, Jake Havey, and David Jones. Middle row left to right: Ryan Zakarauskus, Derek Fisher, Blake Balderama, Jonathan Keefe, and Josh Brady. Top row left to right: Zack Stavetski, Mike Stephanick, Kyle Gavrish, Anthony Edwards, Kyle Sorber, Garrett Allabaugh and Coach Harold Shotwell.



Newport Pride!

The NTCO makes available adjustable **baseball hats** for donations of \$12.00, **tee shirts** of \$10.00, **long-sleeved tees** for \$12.00, **sweatshirts** for \$18.00 and **hoodies** for \$20.00. The hats are red with black lettering and the tees and sweatshirts are a light gray. For donations of \$15.00, a person can choose one wooden miniature of the following: Newport High School, the Glen Lyon Breaker, St Stanislaus Orphanage, the Alden Coal Company Office and Store, or Najaka's Pond in Lee. Also for \$15.00, a person can choose one of two DVD's with over 800 historical photographs on each. Shipping costs are an additional \$3.00 per item. Please contact Heidi Jarecki at 570-736-6782 or by email: hselecky@pa.metrocast.net. Make checks out to "NTCO." See page 24 for additional information. Thank you for your support!



Residential Service Aide (RSA) Eileen Case is presented her "Employee of the Month Award" by Building Manager Thomas Deisenroth of Laurel Hall, White Haven Center.

Employee of the Month Eileen Case

By Tom Kashatus ~ Former Newport Township resident and 1968 Newport Township High School graduate Eileen Case (formerly Eileen Derr) was recently honored at White Haven Center by being selected as Employee of the Month in March. The 1968 class was the last true Newport class to attend Newport Township High School. Eileen was the daughter of Arthur and Margaret (Dynar) Derr and grew up in Glen Lyon with her brothers Timmy, Buddy (deceased), and Jim and sister Mary Ellen. She now resides in Mountain Top with her husband, Lewis. Eileen has spent most of her life working in the health care field at Nanticoke Hospital, Mercy Hospital, Wilkes-Barre General Hospital, and various nursing facilities. Eileen and her husband are the parents of four grown children. A supervisor stated that, "When you think of compassion, that's her."

The following is quoted from "The Center Legacy," a monthly newsletter published by White Haven Center, a facility for the intellectually disabled located in Foster Township, Luzerne County: "Eileen Case has been employed at WHC for eight years. She is always the first one to "jump" in and help anyone. She is a big help to the "draw" staff. She offers to switch days off to help someone in need of an important day off. She offers to share her lunch. She really tries to make Section D (of Laurel Hall) look like home (for its residents). Making centerpieces for the dining tables is one of her favorite things to do.

"She demonstrates good qualities that family members hope their loved ones' caregivers would have – kindness, patience, and compassion. She is interested in improving all aspects of the ladies' care. Eileen is one of those rare people who cares for others like she would for her own family members. She takes new employees under her wing, making WHC a place that is like home for individuals and staff alike. She treats individuals as (beloved) family members, always mindful of their needs and wants. She makes sure that everyone is having fun and she makes them feel happy. She is always offering to help with any job or chore that improves the individual's happiness. She comes to work ready to go, on time, and happy to be here. She loves her job and the individuals know that."

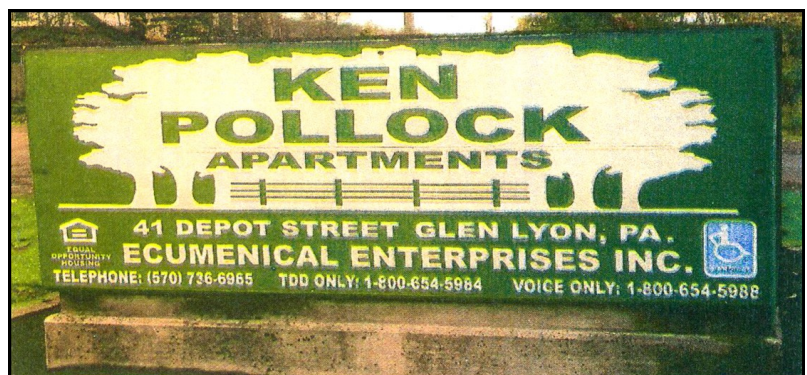
From a personal standpoint, anyone who knows Eileen will note that she exudes a characteristic that makes one feel special. Whether it be her husband, or four grown children, or siblings and other family, or friends, or residents and fellow staff, all are important in her life. Humility is no stranger to her as she stated that there are so many others worthy of this honor, if not more so, and it should be shared with them. As a parent of a resident of White Haven Center, my family and I continue to feel confident that the safety, medical and personal care offered there is shared by many staff members, as well as Eileen Derr Case.

Joe Ciampi



By Tom Kashatus ~ Auburn University Women's Basketball Coach Joe Ciampi (now retired) was honored as a Southeastern Conference (SEC) "Legend" during the SEC Women's Tournament in March of this year in Duluth, GA. Joe was a Newport Township standout in baseball and basketball during the 1960's. Now an NCAA Hall of Famer, Joe's compiled a record of 607-213, including a 568-203 mark as head coach on the Plains from 1979-2004. He led the Tigers to 16 NCAA Tournaments, including seven Sweet 16 appearances and three straight trips to the national championship game.

He was named the National Division I Coach of the Year three times, while also earning three SEC Coach of the Year honors. Ciampi coached the Tigers to four SEC regular-season titles and four SEC Tournament championships. Under his tutelage, Auburn players gained All-SEC honors 39 times, as well as Academic All-SEC acclaim 30 times.



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Jeff Stanton

The Glen Lyon Post Office is the only remaining Post Office in Newport Township. It began in 1886. Jeff Stanton, the last person to serve as Postmaster, has transferred to the Nescopeck facility. His last day in Glen Lyon was May 15. Judy Novak serves as Officer in Charge. It is likely the Post Office will curtail hours to four per day. A survey has been distributed to residents and an open meeting will be held on Monday, July 7 at the Legion.



First row (l to r): Francis Zaleski (NTCO Treasurer), Palmira Miller (NTCO President), Ron Davis, Tom Kashatus (NTCO 1st Vice President). Second row: Bill Hourigan (NTCO 2nd Vice President), Heidi Jarecki, Mary Jo Evans, Travis Strother, Linda Conner (NTCO Secretary), William Weaver.

RJ Financial Services Makes Donation to Newport Township Community Organization

By John Jarecki ~ Ron Davis of RJ Financial Services in Hanover Township donated \$70 to the Newport Township Community Organization through the company's Community Involvement Program. The program provides that, if a person makes a referral to RJ Financial Services, he or she can select a non-profit organization with which RJ Financial partners, and RJ Financial will contribute \$10 to the organization. There are currently three non-profits from which to choose: the American Cancer Society, NTCO, and Murielle's Place, a senior dog sanctuary in Wapwallopen. Many thanks to Ron Davis for his generous support of NTCO.

Primary Election Results

By Tom Kashatus ~ Thirty-five thousand, three hundred, and thirty one. If you write it out, it may not look so bad as the 18% of registered voters of Luzerne County who "scrambled" to the polls to vote in the Primary Election of 2014 - an election which will help decide who will be the next Governor of Pennsylvania, state senators, state representatives, and Congressman for the next two or four years. Let us not forget state and local committee people who generally are in the position to pick and endorse their party's candidates for future elections. The irony of a poor turnout for elections such as this is that the people who are generally most affected by the election of successful candidates are people who are in need during economic down-turns and crises. Generally, we have some very good elected officials who serve the public in Luzerne County; however, we have no one to blame but ourselves when a public official turns out to be unsatisfactory. As the old adage states, "If you don't vote, don't complain."

Newport Township and Luzerne County as a whole pretty much followed the trend of the statewide candidates. In Newport Township on the Democrat side, Tom Wolf won over Bob McCord by a vote of 339 to 270 for governor. Mike Stack, State Senator from Philadelphia, out-paced Mark Smith 223 to 185 votes for Lieutenant Governor. Andy Ostrowski of Susquehanna Township in Dauphin County, congressional candidate for the 11th Congressional District, and incumbent State Senator John Yudichak of the 14th Senatorial District ran unopposed and garnered 361 and 640 votes respectively. Incumbent Gerald Mullery of Alden, representative of the 119th Legislative District, defeated challenger Tony Bonomo for the nomination in a spirited campaign and garnered 629 votes in Newport Township. Successful candidates for State Committee were Michael Cefalo, Thomas Shubilla, Paul Maher, Paul Dezinski, Rebecca Sammon, Coreen Milazo, and Cassandra Coleman; while John Zyla, Newport Township Commissioner, put up the good fight but fell short county-wide by 745 votes. He ran high in Newport Township garnishing 587 votes.

On the Republican side, incumbents Governor Tom Corbett, Lieutenant Governor Jim Cawley, and Congressman Lou Barletta ran unopposed. The party furnished no candidates for the 14th State Senatorial District and the 119th Legislative District. Successful candidates for the Republican State Committee were T. Lynette Villano, Margarite Phillips, Stephen J. Urban, David Baloga, William V. Lewis, and former Newport Township resident Lori Vandermark.



Election Day Hoagie Sale

A hoagie sale was sponsored by the Altar and Rosary Society, Holy Spirit Parish on Election Day, May 20th. Seated are Stef Stogoski, Debbie Prokopf, Bernadine Betkoski. Standing are Jennifer Morgis and Marge Zastavny. Picture taken by Heidi Jarecki. Thanks to all who participated.



Roy Tinney at work



Roy J. Tinney and Laura Dennis picking up debris

The Forgotten Cemetery

By Tom Kashatus ~ For the past few years, the cemetery behind the former Alden Hose House on East Kirmar Avenue has not been completely neglected. It has at times been maintained by caring community volunteers who have no ties to those former township residents who are interred there. Among those is a tombstone and flag marking a site for Navy Gunner Keith Jeffries whose body is forever entombed with 945 other shipmates aboard the USS Arizona at Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. The Arizona, now a national monument, was sunk on December 7, 1941 during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. This event led the United States into World War II with the Axis Powers of Japan, Germany, and Italy. A total of 1,177 seamen were lost on the Arizona on that "Day of Infamy." Seaman Jeffries was a graduate of Newport Township High School and a star on the 1936 State Championship Basketball Team. There are also markers and flags for veterans (names illegible) who served during the Civil War and the Spanish American War.

During the NTCO Big Junk Drop-Off in April, Ed Hummell and Roy J. Tinney of Glen Lyon asked if there were any cemeteries in Newport Township that needed assistance with maintenance. Mr. Hummell stated that they and a few friends wanted to be involved in community service of that nature. He was told that there may be some and they would be notified. During the Memorial Day holiday, Adjutant Ed Kalinowski of the Wanamie American Legion mentioned that when replacing flags for the upcoming services he noted that the Alden cemetery was not presentable for the holiday festivities. He cut the grass at that time, but let it be known that his time and ability were limited and he could not continue the task long term. During the month of June, Mr. Hummell called again to offer assistance for community service. He was advised to check the Alden cemetery and immediately responded that he and his friends would get the place in shape as the grass was now over twelve inches high. The accompanying photographs illustrate the enormity of the project that Ed Hummell, Roy Tinney, Roy J. Tinney, and Laura Dennis have undertaken. They use their own equipment and fuel. Adding to the task is the difficulty of cutting grass on uneven ground and removing a huge black locust tree that has been dead for a number of years. When asked how long they intended to continue their efforts, Mr. Tinney stated, "Until we meet up with the people who are buried here." Mr. Hummell added, "This is what we do."

As of press time, it has been difficult to find responsible persons or a church willing to maintain this cemetery, but the effort will continue. Donations of gas, oil, equipment repair or working lawnmowers to help the cause will be accepted by calling this NTCO representative at 570-736-6981. Personally, this writer thought that there were no community service-minded residents left in Newport Township, except for those same old-timers who have been volunteering their efforts time and time again. Happily, that thought was wrong!

Newport Township Recreation Board

The Newport Township Recreation Board meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 6:30 p.m. at the Municipal Building in Wanamie. Members of the Board are: Jack Vishnefski, Recreation Commissioner; Heidi Jarecki, Chairman; Paul Pierson, Vice-Chairman; Cindy Foringer, Secretary; and Scott Shatley. Among the possible projects being discussed are an additional softball field and a walking trail in the Wanamie Park. Public comments are encouraged.

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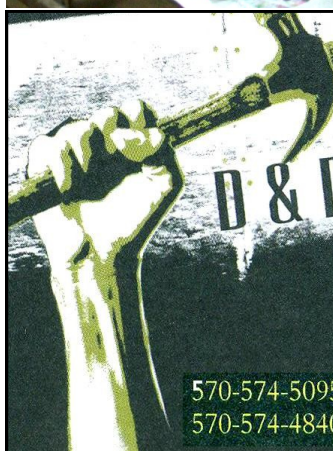
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Lenten Fish Dinner

A take-out fish dinner was held at St. Adalbert's Church Hall in Glen Lyon on April 11. It was sponsored by the Altar and Rosary Society of Holy Spirit Parish.

Pictured on the left are cooks and assistants Bernadine Betkoski, Stef Stogoski, Carol Sobotka, and Heidi Jarecki. Thanks to all for your support.




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120 bags of trash and removed several large items which totaled 2,415 pounds of garbage which were removed by PennDOT workers. After the event, volunteers returned to the town hall to enjoy lunch. The fireman on duty set up the tables, Antonio's in Nanticoke donated pizza and Carolyn Phillips prepared and served lunch to all participants. The children always enjoy the interaction with the fireman and the fire trucks.



Thank You to the following volunteers for participated in these events: Thomas Kashatus, Palmira Gregory Miller, Bill Hourigan, Linda Conner, Joe Maloney, Carolyn Phillips, Heidi Jarecki, Paul Jarecki, Frank Mayewski, Ray Brabant, Arieli Brabant, Mary Jo Evans, John Jarecki, Steve Dymond, Mark Evans II, Susan Kazmierski, Travis Strother, Stephanie Evans, John Zyla, Ron Davis, Darien Evans, Stephen Phillips, Francis Zaleski, Brandon Flynn, Dessery Flynn, Frank Flynn, Cameron Fox, Christiane Fox, Joseph Fox, Zackery Fox, Owen Godoy, Debbie Prokopf, Lauren Rudawski, Steven Rudawski, Eugene Skordinski, Cathy Sobocinski, Brandon Tinney, Joe Tinney, and Carol Jarecki.

Thank You to our sponsors for providing in-kind donations: a dumpster from J. P. Mascaro & Sons; free landfill space from the Alliance and Keystone Landfills; trash removal along the highway from PennDOT; heavy equipment and the place to hold events from Earth Conservancy; drinks from the Pepsi Beverage Company in Wilkes-Barre; pizza from Antonios's Pizza in Nanticoke; and snack food from Utz and Herr's.

Also I would like to thank the Newport Township Fire and Police Department for helping throughout the events and especially members of the Newport Township Community Organization.

2014 Great American Cleanup of PA

By Palmira Gregory Miller ~ For the tenth year, The Newport Township Community Organization joined forces with the nation's largest cleanup, fix up, and beautification program held throughout the country. Our cleanup campaign continues to be a success. Many volunteers in and around Newport Township participated in the Great American Cleanup of Pennsylvania which was held the last two weeks of April. This year, 88 volunteers worked 510 hours, 9,560 pounds of tin, steel, cast iron, aluminum were recycled, and 13 tires, 150 pounds of electronics and 43,220 pounds of trash were removed throughout Newport Township and disposed of properly.

The first event took place on Saturday, April 19th with a cleanup at the Coal Street Playground in Glen Lyon. The two volunteers who participated raked up leaves and picked up trash filling eight bags from the entrance garden and the butterfly garden.

The Big Junk Drop Off was held April 22nd thru April 28th. In this seven-day event, 29 volunteers working 136 hours eradicated 8 illegal dumpsites and cleared numerous derelict properties. A total of 40,620 pounds of trash filled 4 dumpsters. There were 150 pounds of electronics and 9,545 pounds of assorted metals recycled with 10 tires illegally dumped at the site.

On May 3rd, the Community Pride Event took place. Teams spread throughout Newport Township, picking up litter along 14 miles of roadway. Twenty-nine volunteers removed litter along Kirmar Avenue from Glen Lyon to Sheatown, around K.M. Smith School on Robert St. and E Kirmar Ave in Alden, and along Vandermark and West Main Ave. around the Little League parking lot in Wanamie. Volunteers worked 136 hours, filled



Let's Work Together!

The nice thing about teamwork is that you always have others on your side. ~ Margaret Carty



Above: The Great American Cleanup. Below: the Big Junk Drop Off.



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in the Wyoming Valley*

Thanks to the Newport Township Community
Organization for its ongoing support

www.earthconservancy.org



**Little League Opening Day
Saturday, April 26 at Hillan Field in Wanamie**

Festivities began with a parade and introductions of coaches and players. Pictured above right and below left are the Red Devils Girls' Softball Teams which are sponsored by the NTCO. Play ball!



**Cub Scout Soapbox Derby
Sunday, June 1 in Glen Lyon**

Traffic was blocked off on North Market Street in Glen Lyon for the annual soapbox derby sponsored by Cub Scout Pack 430. The cars were assembled by the participants who were required to follow strict rules. Trophies were awarded in various categories and there were even a few minor crashes!





Lest We Not Forget

By Tom Kashatus ~ As one travels on Main Street in Glen Lyon and takes a glance towards the north and Retreat Mountain, the traveler will notice a five-by-eight flag of Old Glory waving in the breeze as the wind blows it proudly throughout the day at a location called the "Plateau." The idea for the flag was inspired by the tragic events of 9/11. As the flags wear out from the weather, caretaker Vinny Mitchell, and a few other local patriots insure that they are replaced with fresh, new, nylon flags. A ritual is followed during the preparation and replacing of the old flag.. What is interesting is the choice of location for the flag, "The Plateau," from which one can view a tremendous panorama of Wyoming Valley.

Present at the ceremony were: Shawn Helmecki, Bob Pauska, Vinny Mitchell, Cassandra Misiewicz, Jason Misiewicz, Vern Treat, Dennis Wrubel, Logan Misiewicz, and Mark Wassel.



St. Faustina's Parish held its bazaar from June 20 to 22 at the Grove in Sheatown. Pictured at left is Father James Nash, Pastor, celebrating the Polka Mass on Saturday afternoon.



To the left are Helen Wilkes and Eleanor Pecil enjoying the polka music



Pictured below are volunteers frying potato pancakes. The line was long, but the pancakes were worth the wait!

Valley with a Heart Benefits



We do it for kids

Valley with a Heart

14th Annual Benefit Ride and Family Picnic

The 14th Annual Benefit Ride and Family Picnic will take place at St. Faustina Grove, Sheatown on August 31. The proceeds help seriously ill children in Luzerne County. The mission of Valley with a Heart Benefits is to inspire and encourage community involvement in the effort to help, aid, and improve the quality of life for children inflicted with serious illness through monetary and spiritual support. Check out the website: www.valleywithaheart.com for registration forms and more information.

National Night Out

The Glen Lyon Crime Watch, in conjunction with the National Association of Town Watch, will sponsor America's Night Out Against Crime on Tuesday August 5. This event is held throughout the country and on military bases. Its purpose is to foster community-police partnerships to stop crime before it begins. It will be held at the Wanamie Recreation Park from 5 until 8. There will be food, prizes, demonstrations, and guest speakers. All residents are invited to attend.

Don't think about it!

I've sure gotten old! I've had two bypass surgeries, a hip replacement, new knees, fought prostate cancer and diabetes. I'm half-blind, can't hear anything quieter than a jet engine, take 40 different medications that make me dizzy, winded, and subject to blackouts. Have bouts with dementia. Have poor circulation; hardly feel my hands and feet anymore. Can't remember if I'm 85 or 92. Have lost all my friends, but Thank God, I still have my driver's license. ~ *Author Unknown*

I drifted into a summer nap under the hot shade of July, serenaded by a cicadae lullaby, to drowsy-warm dreams of distant thunder. ~ Terri Guillemets

Memorial Day May 23



Pictured left and right are services conducted in Glen Lyon. The left photo was taken at the cemeteries atop Seven Shaft Hill, and the right photo was taken at St. Nicholas Cemetery. Cub Scouts and Girl Scouts participated. Below left shows Andrea Rambus, Lorrie Materiewicz and Stef Stogoski who helped prepare lunch for the veterans at the Legion following the events.



Right photo shows honor guard and dignitaries at St. Vladimir's Cemetery in Alden: Adjutant Ed Kalinowski; Chaplain Richard Novak; Representative of the 119th Legislative District Gerald Mullery; Leonard Bonczewski; Mark Rinehamer; Commander Paul Kearney; Sergeant at Arms Dennis Boor and Jack Zweibel.

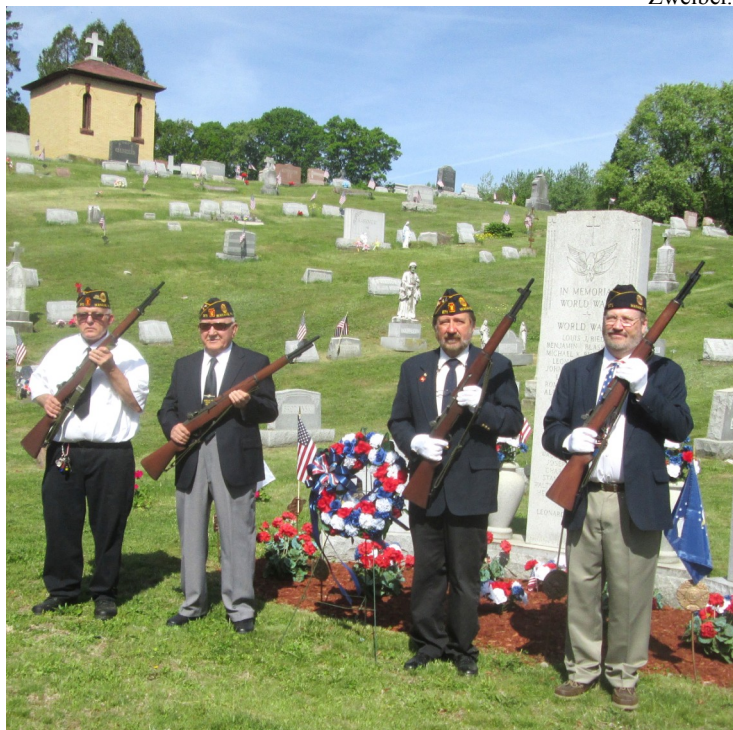


Wanamie Legion Celebrates Memorial Day

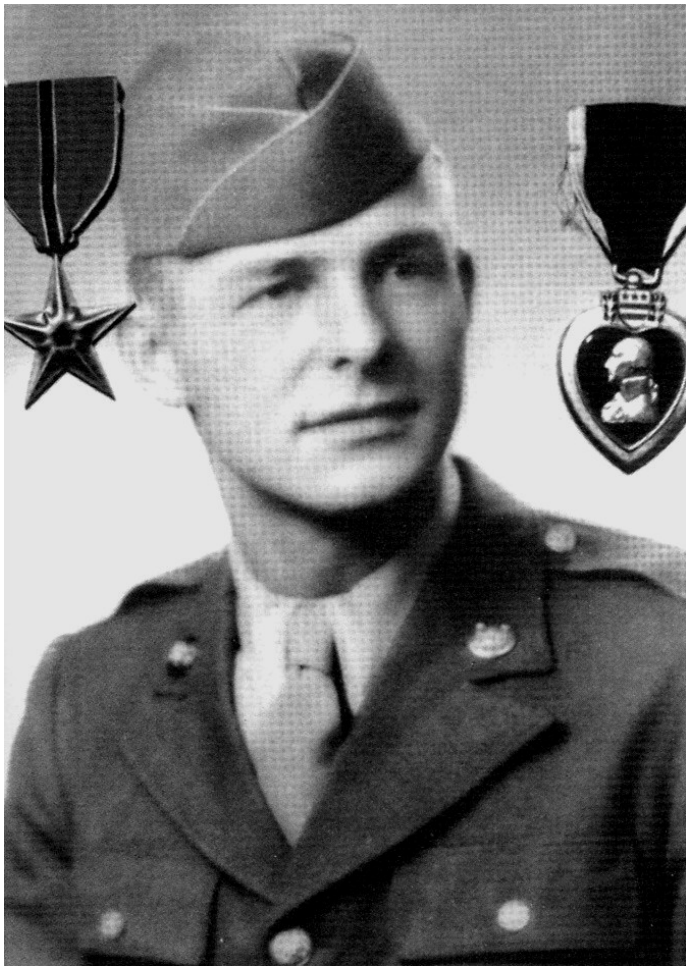
By Ed Kalinowski ~ Sporting newly-acquired refurbished M1 Garand ceremonial rifles, Jeffries-Slapikas American Legion Post 971 of Wanamie played tribute to deceased veterans on Memorial Day with prayer and military honors at cemeteries and memorials in Alden, Sheatown, Nanticoke, Newport Center, and Wanamie.

These rifles will be used at funerals for deceased veterans and other military events. The M1 Garand was introduced to the military in WW II and continued to be used during the Korean and Vietnam Wars. The road to acquiring the rifles took approximately one year and a ton of paperwork. Previously the Post used the 1917 Remington bolt-action 30 caliber rifle which was introduced in WW I. The military continued to issue the Remingtons early on during WW II before they were replaced by the M1 Garand. The Post's old rifles had to be returned to the US Army Life Cycle Management Command in Warren, Michigan prior to the M1 Garand replacement rifles being issued to the Post. Post 971 expresses its thanks to Ken Piestrak of Piestrak's Gun shop, Alden for donating a cleaning kit and supplies to keep the weapons clean and functional.

Meetings for the Jeffries-Slapikas Post 971 are held at the Glen Lyon American Legion Post 539 on Newport Street on the second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. from September through May. Current officers of Post 971 are Commander Paul Kearney (Captain, US Army); Adjutant Ed Kalinowski (Lieutenant, US Marine Corps); Chaplain Richard Novak (Seaman First Class, US Navy); and Sergeant at Arms Dennis Boor (Sergeant, US Army). The Post continues to seek new membership, and veterans are asked to contact Adjutant Ed Kalinowski at (570) 735-8561 for information on qualifications.



Above: Utilizing refurbished M1 Garand rifles and placing a new wreath at St. Faustina Cemetery in Nanticoke are Commander Paul Kearney, Leonard Bonczewski, Adjutant Ed Kalinowski, and Sergeant-at-Arms Dennis Boor.



Raymond Tarnowski

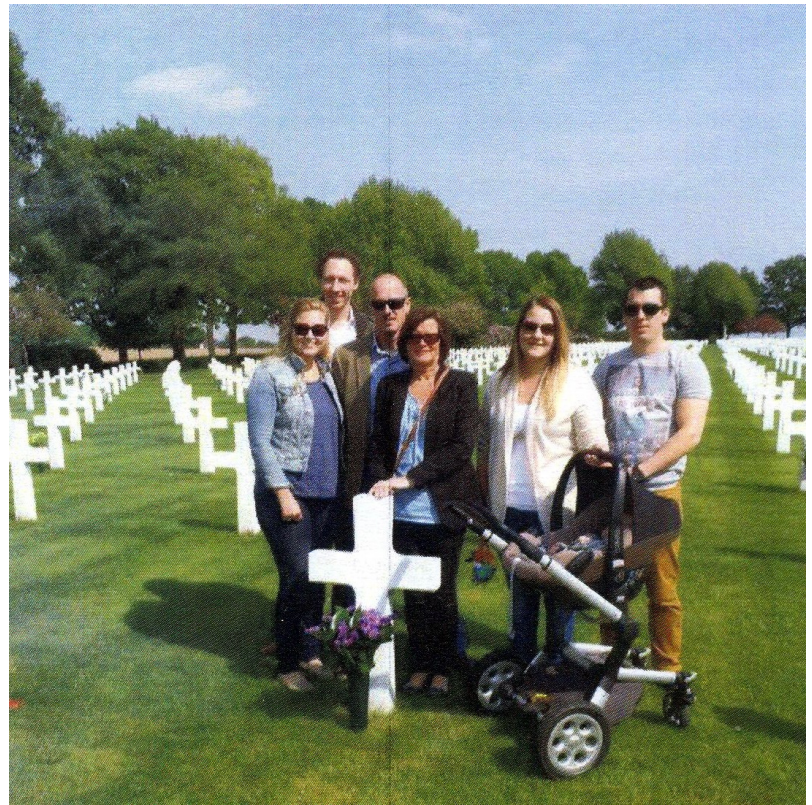
By Dorothy Tarnowski, with additional material by Thomas Tarnowski ~ Raymond Tarnowski was born in April, 1922 in Sheatown, the son of Walter and Antonina Tarnowski. He graduated from Newport High School in 1940 and then went to work in Philadelphia because the only work available in this area was the coal mines. He lived with three of his brothers, Tad, Edwin and Chester who also worked in Philadelphia. Ray's ambition was to be a forest ranger. Shortly after he graduated from ranger school he was drafted into the army when World War II broke out.

Ray entered the Army on April 23, 1943. He earned the rank of Sergeant and served with the 406th Infantry, 102nd Division Company C. Ray was killed in action on November 17, 1944 and is buried in the American Cemetery in Margraten, Netherlands. He received the Purple Heart and Bronze Star medals posthumously.

Ray wrote home to his mother on November 15, 1944 that he was "very anxious to know the contents" of a Christmas package he knew she had sent. Two days later he was killed in combat on the way to Berlin by German artillery.

The government eventually notified Ray's parents that his body could be returned to the U.S. However, they decided not to bring him back after discussing the matter with their other sons. Eventually the family discovered that the people of Margraten, Netherlands greatly appreciated what the U.S. soldiers did to help their country during the war. Families can "adopt" a grave in the cemetery and bring flowers to place on soldiers' graves every year on "Remembrance Day," which is the European equivalent of Memorial Day in this country.

Several members of Ray's family have visited his grave over the years. More recently, two nieces visited Margraten in the summer of 2013 and they met the Ed and Anita Cilissen Family who adopted his grave.



The Cilissen Family at the American War Cemetery in the village of Margraten, Netherlands where Ray Tarnowski is buried

Ray was one of eight brothers who entered military service. The others were Thaddeus, Edwin, Chester, Kazimer, and Leon, who also served during World War II. They are all featured in the book, "WWII: Hometown Heroes" published by the Times Leader in 2001. Later, John and Thomas served at the time of the Korean Conflict, but not in Korea.

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**John Jarecki at Los Alamos,
New Mexico in February 1944**

My Father's Story: World War II, Los Alamos, and the Atomic Bomb

By John Jarecki Jr. ~ One of my favorite family stories is about my father, John Jarecki (his name is the same as mine), who during World War II was a member of the Army Corps of Engineers and participated in the building of the first atomic bomb. He grew up in Glen Lyon, one of seven children, graduated from Newport High School in 1928, and four years later received a degree in mechanical engineering from the University of Detroit.

He then entered adult life at a difficult time (it was the darkest point of the Great Depression) but when important and exciting events were also occurring. In particular, two sequences of historical events came together to induce the United States government to begin the atomic bomb project.

One was the progress in the science of physics in the first decades of the twentieth century. During this time, physicists came to an understanding of atoms and the elementary particles of which they are composed. By the late nineteen thirties, they had learned that each atom had a tiny but relatively massive center, or nucleus. This nucleus contained a great deal of energy, which in the case of unstable atoms, such as radium and uranium, was emitted in the form of radioactivity. Then in 1938, two German scientists found that they could split a uranium nucleus into two smaller nuclei, releasing an enormous amount of energy, which could be used to build a bomb more powerful than anything that was before possible.

This event was especially disturbing because of a second sequence of events, the rise of the totalitarian Nazi government in the very country, Germany, where the new discovery was made. European physicists who had come to the United States to escape Nazi Germany, and who were now afraid of what Germany's dictator Adolf Hitler might do if he was to get one of these bombs, asked President Franklin Roosevelt to start an atomic bomb project.

The resulting program, called the Manhattan Project, headed by General Leslie Groves, was centered at a secret laboratory at Los Alamos, New Mexico, a remote location about an hour's drive north of the state capital at Santa Fe. The laboratory was set up in the spring of 1943 with University of California physicist Robert Oppenheimer as its Director.

My father's role in this larger story began after he entered the Army in April of 1943, went through basic training, and took courses at Ohio State University. In January of 1944, the Army sent him to Los Alamos, where he worked on the bomb project until the war ended.

My father worked in a group that did tests on the conventional explosives that were used to detonate the bomb's radioactive material, which in this case was plutonium. These conventional explosives, if they were going to perform their function, had to be arranged in a complex way. In order to design this arrangement, it was necessary to know the behavior of the shock wave that

occurred when they exploded. And it was the job of my father's group to take high speed photographs of the shock wave that would show that behavior. My father's job in the group was to design test equipment and supervise the work of setting it up.

Because the Army went to great lengths to keep the project a secret, government agents came to Glen Lyon, before my father started work, to check his background for security purposes. And once, when my father came home for a visit, my mother asked him what he was doing in the Army. She said that, after he explained his work, she knew even less than before. The entire laboratory at Los Alamos, including the people working there, had a single postal address, P. O. Box 1663, Santa Fe, New Mexico. My father's old tennis racket still has this address written on it.

The Laboratory's work on the project continued into the summer of 1945. On July 16 of that year, its scientists tested their bomb in southern New Mexico in a remote and arid area, difficult for early settlers to cross, called the Jornada del Muerto. The resulting explosion, equivalent to 18 thousand tons of TNT, was more powerful than expected. The story goes that, when Robert Oppenheimer saw the blast, he repeated a line from the Bhagavita Gita, a Hindu religious book, which reads: "I am become Death, the shatterer of worlds."

By that time the United States and its allies had defeated and occupied Nazi Germany, and investigators were able to see that the German scientists had made almost no progress toward building their own bomb, partially because of the difficulty of the undertaking and the vast resources needed to accomplish the work.

However, Germany's ally, Japan, was still fighting, and after the successful bomb test, American policy makers made the controversial decision to use this terrifying weapon against Japanese cities in order to force the country to surrender. The resulting Japanese surrender, however, did save the lives of many Americans soldiers by eliminating the need for an invasion of the Japanese islands.

After the completion of all the work on the project, my father's unit received a group commendation from General Groves and my father received an individual commendation from Robert Oppenheimer.

My wife Carol and I have visited Los Alamos, which is now a small city, lying just a short distance from the Los Alamos National Laboratory, the successor to the original lab. It is in a beautiful area, a desert with gray brown soil and mainly shrub size plants, but with colorful rock formations, including flat-topped features called mesas. The original Laboratory was located on top of one of these mesas, at the foot of the forested Jemez Mountains to the west, while to the east are the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, which can take on a reddish color at sunrise and sunset.

In spite of its negative elements, I very much like this story: my father participated in a fascinating historical event, which involved a number of physicists who did some of the most exciting scientific work of their time, including Enrico Fermi, Hans Bethe, and Richard Feynman.

For those interested in reading more about the Manhattan Project, a good book on the subject is "The Making of the Atomic Bomb" by Richard Rhodes.



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John Wilkes in 1972

Newport Township Teachers: Mr. John Wilkes

(Editors' Note: This past Easter, we received a note from Barbara Guzik Reginato, Class of '61 and one of our regular subscribers. Barbara wrote that she would enjoy biographies of the Newport Township teachers in the Newsletter and we thought this was a great idea. We are asking for any information our readers can provide about any of the teachers, reminiscences, family history, hobbies, and the like. We hope you enjoy this new feature.)

By Joe Wilkes and Heidi Jarecki ~ John Wilkes, long-time elementary teacher in Newport Township schools, was born in Alden on January 18, 1911 to Joseph and Sophie Maday Wilkes. He had a brother Edward who died when he was two years of age. Joseph, his father, died in a mining accident when John was just six years old.

John attended Newport Township schools and graduated from Newport High School in 1929. He decided he wanted to be a teacher and attended Bloomsburg State Teachers College, graduating in 1931 with a two-year teaching certificate. He continued his studies and eventually earned his Bachelor's degree. He began his long teaching career in 1937 at the Columbus School in Wanamie. He then taught at the Roosevelt School in Glen Lyon. He was principal and 4th grade teacher at Kosciuszko School for many years until it closed in

(Continued in next column)

1960. He continued his career as a 6th grade teacher at K.M. Smith School.

In his younger days, Mr. Wilkes was a pitcher for the Alden A's baseball team. He was an avid Phillies fan and spent many hours listening to radio broadcasts of Phillies games. He was a member of the Alden Social Club and served on the Newport Athletic Council. He enjoyed hunting, fishing, and mushroom picking. On Sundays, he took the family for hikes in the woods. Mr. Wilkes often took students on outdoor nature walks to teach them about the various plants, trees, and wildlife. His students remember his stories about the coal mines and identifying and tasting sassafras roots for their root beer flavor. With his pitch pipe, he would lead his students in songs like "Old Dog Tray" and "A Frog He Would A-Wooing Go." At school, Mr. Wilkes sold chips and soda at lunchtime. The proceeds supported student activities, such as the Annual Easter Egg Hunt. He also served refreshments at the end of the school year.

Mr. Wilkes married Helen Gizinski on Thanksgiving Day, November 23, 1939. They had two sons, John Jr., a retired chemical engineer and current Newport Township Commissioner. John married Kathy Chesney and they are the parents of two daughters, Deborah and Christine. They have two grandchildren. The other son, Joseph, a retired teacher, married Carol Sokolnicki. They have two children, Carrie and Kevin. They also have two grandchildren.

Helen Wilkes celebrated her 98th birthday this past March 2. Mr. Wilkes died at home on December 18, 1972. He was 61.

Letter to the Editors:

Hi Heidi:

I'm writing to thank you and Paul for the Newport Township police article in the spring newsletter. I have the 1914 photo but did not know very much about it other than that Uncle Charlie (Charles Ruptic) who was my grandmother's brother was pictured. It was great to learn that he was part of the inaugural police force.

Best regards,
Aimee Zaleski

(See accompanying photo on the right. Charles Ruptic is pictured standing third from the left. His patrol assignment was Glen Lyon.)



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MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

We would be honored and proud to have you as a member of the Newport Township Community Organization. Your membership will show approval of and help support our good deeds and contributions that we favor in the Community. Membership is \$5.00 per year per person based on the calendar year January through December. A lifetime membership is available for \$50.00. Send application with fee to NTCO, 110 1/2 Railroad Ave., Wanamie, Nanticoke, PA 18634.

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- Saturday, July 12th, a Butterfly Tent will be set up at the Coal Street Playground in Glen Lyon from 1 p.m. to 3 p.m.
- Two Swimming Events will be held at the Mocanaqua Pool from 10 am to 2 pm on July 17th and August 7th. Refreshments and lunch will be provided.

SCRANTON WILKES-BARRE RAILRIDERS BALL GAME

NTCO will be the featured Community Organization of the Night at the Scranton/Wilkes-Barre RailRiders Game held on Sunday, August 31st, 2014 @ 1:05pm. NTCO will have a table set up in the ballpark to pass out information and answer questions about the organization. Please come and join us at the ball park.

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NTCO is offering historic wooden miniatures of the Alden Coal Company Office and Store, Newport Township High School, the Glen Lyon Breaker, St. Stanislaus Orphanage and Najaka's Pond in Lee. Also two DVDs with a total of 1600 historical pictures (sold separately). All are available for a donation of \$15.00 each, \$18.00 if they are shipped. 2013 and 2014 Calendars are also in stock at \$10.00 each with postage of \$2.00 if mailed. NTCO is offering adjustable **baseball hats** (both structured and non-structured) at \$12.00, **tee shirts** for \$10.00, **long-sleeved tees** for \$12.00, **sweatshirts** for \$18.00 and **hooded sweatshirts** for \$20.00, sizes S to 2x. Sizes larger than 2x can be ordered for an extra fee. 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 received 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".

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION MEETINGS & WORK-SESSIONS

NTCO's meetings and work-sessions are held at the Coal Miners Kitchen in Glen Lyon at 6:30 pm. Meetings are on the 2nd Tuesday of each month and work-sessions on the 4th Tuesday. We invite you to attend, share your ideas and help develop new programs to benefit Newport Township.

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