

Winter came down to our home one night, quietly pirouetting in on silvery-toed slippers of snow, and we were children once again. ~ Bill Morgan, Jr.



Winter on Market Street in Glen Lyon

Newport Township Community Organization's 2013 Citizenship Award Presented to Andy Gotcha

By Mark Sadowski, Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ Volunteerism is an important component in the revitalization of our community. Each year, the Newport Township Community Organization sponsors the Citizenship Award to honor those volunteers who have made extraordinary contributions to improving life in the Township. It is hoped that bringing recognition to these efforts will demonstrate the many forms volunteering can take. The first award in 2011 was presented to Phoebe Hillan. The second NTCO Citizenship Award in 2012 was given to two deserving candidates: the Newport Township Women's Activity Group and Daniel Kowalski. The NTCO is pleased to present the 2013 Citizenship Award to Andy Gotcha.

Andy is a lifelong resident of Newport Township. He was born in 1929 to the late Henry and Helen Gotcha of Glen Lyon. Andy graduated from Newport High School in 1948, then attended Bucknell Jr. College, now Wilkes University. Andy worked as a miner for over 30 years in Newport Township until the mines closed. He then worked for IGA Supermarkets before retiring. He has been married to Elizabeth (Betcher) Gotcha for over 37 years and they reside



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Andy Gotcha

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Going On at NTCO (p. 24). Please support our advertisers who help make this publication possible. Merry Christmas and Happy New Year Everybody!

in Alden. They have 7 children, 18 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

Andy has been a founding member of the Newport Township Lions Club since it was reorganized in 1976. He was a member prior to that for 10 years. In his 47 total years with the Newport Township Lions he has held various offices. He has been president for 17 terms, the last 13 consecutively. In 1992 he served as District Governor and in 1996 he served as Vice District Governor. As President, Andy is responsible for upholding strong Lion traditions and civic associations within the community. He oversees all committees, including sight conservation, annual golf tournament, Christmas baskets for home-bound Township residents, the annual Christmas party for residents of Guardian Nursing Home, medical equipment which is provided to any Newport Township resident in need, the Mother's Day Essay Contest, and the Luanne Hillan, The Zigmond Butka and Michael Yalch Scholarship Awards. Also as club president, Andy is responsible for processing donation requests from numerous charities and organizations. Over the last ten years, he helped donate \$25,000 to the Township Fire Department, the Township Police Department and the Newport Township Ambulance Association so they could purchase much needed equipment. In addition, Andy has volunteered his services for over 25 years to the Newport Township Little League and the Newport Township Biddy Basketball programs. He also serves as President of St. John's Cemetery Association.

The NTCO takes great pride in presenting the 2013 Citizenship Award to Andy Gotcha. The award was given at the dinner meeting held on December 3rd at the Glen Lyon American Legion.

Newport Township Public Business

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

October: Township Business Manager Rich Zika announced that the sidewalk project in Glen Lyon has been completed. This project involved installing ADA (American Disabilities Act) access on streets that were repaired two years ago. The Township will not be installing more ADA access at this time. In the future, whenever the Township repairs a street, ADA access will be provided.

Mr. Zika also announced that the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) has approved a loan the Township applied for in order to provide sufficient funds to construct a new municipal building. Earlier in the year, the Township had received a Pennsylvania gaming grant of \$500,000 towards constructing the new building. This USDA loan allows the Township to borrow up to \$300,000 at an interest rate of 3.75% to supplement the gaming grant and provide the funds needed to meet the estimated construction cost of about \$750,000. Further, Mr. Zika announced that he had received a letter from the Nanticoke Ambulance saying that it was terminating, as of November 30, 2013, its joint billing agreement with the Newport Ambulance. This agreement applies to the situation in which both ambulances respond to the same call in Newport Township. This situation occurs often because the Newport Ambulance provides only Basic Life Support (BLS) services, whereas Nanticoke Ambulance also provides Advanced Life Support (ALS). The agreement, which stipulates that the two ambulances share the insurance proceeds from the call with Newport getting 60% and Nanticoke 40%, allows the Nanticoke Ambulance to bill Medicare for its services. Without it, Township residents with Medicare would be responsible for Nanticoke service charges, which could amount to over \$1,000. Nanticoke is taking this step because, the letter says, the Newport Ambulance is in breach of the agreement and owes Nanticoke tens of thousands of dollars. The dispute is now in litigation. The Commissioners said that, under these circumstances, and because it is their responsibility to provide the best quality ambulance service to residents, they had decided to terminate their agreement with the Newport Ambulance to provide service in the Township and to have Nanticoke Ambulance as first provider,

Hanover Ambulance as second provider, and Berwick as third.

In other matters, the Commissioners approved a three-year contract with J. P. Mascaro and Sons to provide refuse collection in the Township at a charge of \$270,120 in 2014, \$273,648 in 2015, and \$277,040 in 2016. Mr. Zika said that, under the terms of the agreement, Township refuse and recycling fees would not increase.

The Commissioners approved Ordinance Number 1 of 2013, which requires that persons operating a cable system in the Township must get a franchise to operate and maintain the system. The franchise, now required by the state, sets the terms and regulations for operation of the system. According to the contract with Metro-cast Communications, the company will pay a 5% fee for a period of 7 years on all cable services, and not just television service.

November: The Commissioners appointed John Floryshak as Newport Township Fire Chief, following the passing of Jim Hoffman. Mr. Zika announced that the Township renewed its Geisinger Health Plan, which provides insurance to full time Township employees at no increase in premium. Geisinger, however, did raise its rates by 11-12% in August of 2013. Mr. Zika also announced that Pennsylvania has given approval for a highway occupancy permit for temporary access to the construction site of the new municipal building, which will be on the Kirmar Parkway between Center Street and Vandermark Road.

December: The Commissioners voted to appoint John Elmy of Sheatown as Deputy Fire Chief and Diane Hillan of Glen Lyon to a full 5-year term with the Newport Township Authority. They approved a preliminary budget for 2014 and scheduled a vote on the final version of the budget to be held at a special meeting on Wednesday December 18. In addition, they voted: 1) to approve a grant contract among the Township, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, and Commonwealth Financing Authority that covers the \$500,000 state gaming grant for construction of the new municipal building and 2) to authorize the President and Secretary of the Board of Commissioners to execute this contract. Also, they appointed William J. Kishbach of Wilkes-Barre as part time police officer at a starting rate of \$11.00 per hour, to be increased to \$12.44 after a six-month probation period.



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NTCO President's Message

By Palmira Gregory Miller ~ As difficult as it may be to believe, the Newport Township Community Organization will mark its Ten Year Anniversary in May of 2014.

To maintain its energy and viability it is imperative that, like other volunteer groups, we continue to generate ideas and attract additional members to chair the numerous events in which we are involved. In an effort to attract younger members, the Community Organization has been holding its meetings at the Coal Miners Kitchen on East Main Street in Glen Lyon.

The Organization remains in the forefront of cleanup projects throughout the Township, continues to monitor illegal dumping and dump sites, and maintains its close working relationship with the local Police Department and the Glen Lyon Crime Watch.

Currently, this group is participating in a county-wide Holiday Light Recycling Drive.

A major focus in the coming year will center on beautification and educational projects, recycling events, and summer fun events. Among the numerous events and partnerships in which we will be involved are the following:

- Maintaining a long standing Partnership with the Pennsylvania Environmental Council and the Great American Cleanup of Pa in continuing our ongoing cleanup and beautification projects.
- Partnering with R.J. Financial Services in the American Cancer Society Relay for Life of Wyoming Valley.
- Completing the Butterfly Garden during the Spring of 2014, and planting herbs in the entrance garden at the Coal Street Park in Glen Lyon.
- Sponsoring swimming events at the Pat "Tiger" Denoy Swimming Pool in Mocanaqua.

Recent past events in which the Community Organization have been involved include:

- Bestowing our Citizenship Award upon Andrew Gotcha. Special thanks are given to the American Legion Auxiliary Post 539 for their efforts in decorating, cooking, and serving for this activity.
- Installing the first stages of the Butterfly Garden. A resounding thank you to the Earth Conservancy for the donation and delivery of dirt for the Garden.

The Community Organization has continued its policy of donating to other local entities involved in improving Newport Township. Among the most recent efforts are the following:

- A camera purchase for the Township's Police Department.
- A monetary donation to the American Legion Auxiliary Post 539 for the veterans' clothing drive at the Wilkes-Barre VA Hospital.
- A monetary donation to be made to the Newport Township Authority for soft costs associated with the demolition of the dilapidated house at 85 East Main Street in Glen Lyon.

As we enter a new year, and hopefully new beginnings, the Newport Township Community Organization continues to encourage the Newport Township Board of Commissioners to appoint committed public-spirited individuals to serve on the Municipality's Recreation Board, to hire a Code Enforcement Officer committed to strict enforcement of existing codes, and to hire a second full time Police Officer.

In conclusion, I wish to express my sincere appreciation to all NTCO partners and volunteers,. I also wish all our residents and readers a Very Merry Christmas, and a Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year.

What the world needs now.....

Life is a song. Love is the music. ~Author Unknown



Anne Rinehamer Celebrates 85th Birthday

On July 26th, Veranne (Anne) Rinehamer turned 85 years young. Anne's children came from near and far to help celebrate this special occasion.

Born in Wilkes-Barre to Ester and Luigi Lombardelli, Anne graduated from Wilkes-Barre Township schools and held numerous jobs before retiring from RCA. Anne married Harry Rinehamer from Wanamie on August 6th 1948 and the couple moved to Newport Township

where she still resides. Their family includes 13 children, 22 grandchildren, and so far, 13 great-grandchildren. Anne likes to crochet and helps the Nanticoke Senior Citizens Center make lap afghans for those who are not able to live on their own. She enjoys playing cards and games such as 31 and Pokeno (and she isn't shy when she wins!). She also does crossword puzzles, seek-a-word and even computer games. A good murder mystery can be seen in her hands but she will also read a romance novel on occasion.

Anne looks forward to monthly get-togethers with her brother and sister-in-law, Ben and Ellie Lombardelli who live in New Jersey. Her family is her greatest joy.

The NTCO wishes Anne many more Birthdays to come!

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Whether we want them or not, the New Year will bring new challenges; whether we seize them or not, the New Year will bring new opportunities. ~ Michael Josephson, whatwillmatter.com

God respects me when I work; but God loves me when I sing.

~ Rabindranath Tagore

GLEN LYON CRIME WATCH

By Karen E. Rejician ~ Some burglary prevention tips for you! The majority of burglaries occur during the daytime when most people are at work. Burglars choose an unoccupied home with the easiest access, the greatest amount of cover, and with the best escape routes. Statistics tell us that 70% of the burglars use some amount of force to enter a dwelling, but their preference is easy access through an open door or window.

- A quality deadbolt lock will inhibit the use of pliers used to shear off lock cylinder pins.
- A quality doorknob-in-lock set will have a "dead latch" mechanism to prevent slipping the lock with a shim or credit card.

Windows are left unlocked and open at a much higher rate than doors. An open window visible from the street or alley may be the sole reason for your home to be selected by a burglar. Windows have latches, not locks and therefore should have secondary blocking devices to prevent sliding them open from outside.

- Secure all accessible windows with secondary blocking devices.
- Make sure someone cannot reach inside the window and remove the blocking device.
- Make sure someone cannot reach through an open window and unlock a door.
- Use crime prevention or alarm decals on ground accessible windows.

Interior lighting is necessary to show signs of life and activity inside a residence at night. A dark home night after night sends the message to burglars that you are away on a trip. Exterior lighting on the front of the property should always be on a timer to establish a routine and appearance of occupancy at all times. The practice of leaving the garage or porch lights on all day is a dead giveaway that you are out of town.

- Use interior light timers to establish a pattern of occupancy.
- Exterior lighting should allow 100-foot visibility.
- Use good lighting along the pathway to and at your door.
- Use light timers to turn on/off lights automatically.
- Install motion sensor lights.

Alarm systems definitely have a place in a home security plan. Burglars will usually bypass a property with visible alarm signs.

- Put up visible alarm system signs.
- Make sure your alarm response call list is up to date.

Be a good neighbor! Good neighbors should look out for each other. They can report suspicious activity to the police. Good neighbors can pick up your mail and newspapers.

- Get to know all your adjacent neighbors.
- Agree to watch out for each other's homes.
- Offer to park your car in their driveway when they are away.

The Glen Lyon Crime Watch meets the second Thursday of every month at 7:00 PM at the Italian/American club. A police officer is in attendance to discuss all matters and go over the crime report from the previous month. Meetings are open to all residents in the township.

Shelter from the storm...

Surely everyone is aware of the divine pleasures which attend a wintry fireside: candles at four o'clock, warm hearthrugs, tea, a fair tea-maker, shutters closed, curtains flowing in ample draperies to the floor, whilst the wind and rain are raging audibly without.

~ Thomas De Quincey

LETTER TO THE EDITORS

Fellow Township Residents;

After careful consideration, the Township Board Of Commissioners has decided to end our relationship with the Newport Township Fireman's Community Ambulance. Within the past year the board has examined the ambulance service within the Township and found there were several issues facing the Township in regards to service and billing. The Board of Commissioners has recently appointed the Nanticoke Community Ambulance as our first responder within the Township as [of] November 1, 2013. The transition has been smooth thus far and we have not received any complaints to date. What this means for you is that the Township will now be covered by Nanticoke Community Ambulance 24 hours a day, 7 days a week as opposed to only having 8 hours of coverage a day. Furthermore the Nanticoke Community Ambulance is an advanced life support unit in comparison to a basic life support unit. I along with my fellow Commissioners believe this is a step forward in providing the best services available to our Township residents. Please contact me or any of the Commissioners if you have any concerns and enjoy the new year.

Sincerely,
Commissioner Michael Roke



Auxiliary Conducts Clothing Drive for Veterans

By Lorrie Materewicz ~ The Glen Lyon American Legion Auxiliary Post 539 sponsored a new clothing collection from mid-September through Veteran's Day for the residents at the Wilkes-Barre VA Hospital. The clothing will be distributed on an ongoing basis to those in need, such as the homeless, those in financial crisis or of low income, and those going for job interviews. Through generous community contributions and bargain hunting, over \$4,000 worth of clothing was presented to the Veterans' Hospital representatives in November. Pictured above from left to right are Auxiliary President Lorrie Materewicz, President's special assistant Al Chesney, VA representative Lisa Urban and Auxiliary member Janet Wenner.

Christmas All Year Through

May the spirit of Christmas bring you peace,
The gladness of Christmas give you hope,
The warmth of Christmas grant you love.

~ Author Unknown

Letter to the Editors

Tires at “Three Legged”

By Tom Kashatus ~ This past October, the Newport Township Community Organization (NTCO) collected 218 old tires throughout the Township and recycled them by partnering with Luzerne County Solid Waste Management, using their tire drop-off initiative in Butler Township and at Hanover Township High School. Shortly after, an unidentified perpetrator dropped off thirty-five tires in the dark of the night at the “Three Legged” site just east of Glen Lyon. The sad part about this incident is that the criminal could have disposed of these tires for no fee by using the County’s initiative with less effort than it took to dump them illegally in Newport Township. Another sad part about this story is that, most likely, this person will not be caught or prosecuted for lack of identification or evidence. Besides a “slap in the face” to those who have been laboring to clean up Newport Township of illegal dump sites and trashy highways, someone, whoever that may be, will have to remove the tires to storage and then recycle them legally as the pile is now multiplying in numbers. Earth Conservancy, owner of the property, has generously allowed Newport Township residents the opportunity to park large semi-trailer vehicles there at no charge. They deserve more respect than that. The Newport Township Community Organization which has taken the lead in removing “big junk” from the municipality and conducts litter pick-ups in that area has offered to assist in the tire removal.



Go Ahead, Laugh Out Loud!

You can't deny laughter; when it comes, it plops down in your favorite chair and stays as long as it wants.

~ Stephen King, *Hearts in Atlantis*



Township Budget for 2014

At a special meeting on December 18, the Township Commissioners approved a budget for 2014. The budget is divided into four major parts, for which revenue and expenses are listed in the following table.

	Revenue	Expenses
General Budget	\$ 805,385	\$ 805,300
Refuse Budget	\$ 311,000	\$ 310,927
Recycling Budget	\$ 52,000	\$ 51,504
Liquid Fuels Budget	\$ 97,101	\$ 96,000
Total	\$1,265,486	\$1,263,781

For the 2014 budget as a whole, the five largest sources of revenue are listed in the following table along with the corresponding amounts from the 2013 budget.

	2013	2014
Refuse and Recycling Fees	\$ 385,500	\$ 362,000
Real Estate Tax	285,000	304,500
Earned Income Tax	268,000	292,100
Liquid Fuels Payment from State	97,101	97,101
State Shared Revenue	42,550	46,075

These amount to about 87% of total income. The largest source of 2014 revenue, refuse and recycling fees, consists of a refuse fee of \$190 per household and a recycling fee of \$30 per household, the refuse fee being \$5 less than in 2013 and recycling fee being the same. The 2014 real estate or property tax rate is 2.22 mills (a mill is \$1 in taxes per \$1000 of property value), which is 0.14 mills (6%) larger than in 2013. That is about \$10 more for an average home.

The six largest expenditures from the 2014 budget are listed in the following categories along with the corresponding amounts from the 2013 budget.

	2013	2014
Refuse Collection	\$ 289,440	\$ 270,120
Street Department	240,560	241,338
Fire Department	165,251	178,475
Police Department	172,331	149,625
Employee Fringe Benefits	147,549	153,316
General Government	108,813	115,170

These categories amount to about 88% of total expenses. For 2014, the largest expenditure, the amount that J. P. Mascaro & Sons charges the Township for refuse collection, is about \$19,000 (7%) less than last year. This is the result, at least in part, of lower gasoline prices. The decrease in Police Department expenditures seems to occur because the Department this year has only one full time officer, whereas last year it had two. Township Manager Rich Zika says that, in cases where expenditures have increased, rising health care benefits, workmen’s compensation, and employee contract obligations have contributed to the increase.

Overall, compared with last year, expenditures have remained practically the same, only increasing by tenths of a percent. In fact, over the last 8 years, expenditures have only increased by about a percent a year. (Please note that this article, written before adoption of the final budget, uses preliminary budget figures.) ~ *By John Jarecki*

Oh, Those Crazy Bears

By Tom Kashatus ~ It’s very doubtful that this picture (left) was taken by Gerry Malishchak during a Little League game, but the question is, “Which team is the bear the mascot for?” It is said that every year, wild bears are becoming braver and leave their natural habitat for “easy pickings” of food from garbage containers within the boundaries of our communities. It has been reported that nine bears were harvested in the Newport-Nanticoke area during the Thanksgiving weekend. Rumor has it that this mischievous Glen Lyon omnivore has escaped the hunters’ wrath and will continue to make his rounds through town in search of food after the winter hibernation period. Beware of the Bear!



First Row (left to right): David Lapinski, Tom Federici, Ed Sopko, Al Yarasavage, Bill Taney, Richard Burman.
 Second Row (left to right): Gail Blackburn Zimnoch, Barbara Guzik Re-ginato, Joyce Cavallini Yohey, Andrea Markiewicz McDonnell, Ernie Pierontoni, Alberta Wacławski Yarasavage, Virginia Wozinski Pickle, Charlotte Wetzel Szabados, and Judy Heller Cybulski.

The Newport Township High School Class of 1961

By Al Yarasavage ~ The Newport Class of 1961 (pictured above) held a 70th birthday picnic at the Riverlands in Salem Township on September 28th. A total of 25 were in attendance which included 15 classmates. The affair was catered by Frank Paluck, a long time resident of Alden. Frank prepared a very enjoyable meal. Classmates brought appetizers and desserts. A birthday cake was also provided.

Class members came from as far away as the Eastern Shore of Maryland and Warwick, Rhode Island. The weather was spectacular. We all enjoyed ourselves catching up with stories of each others' lives, children, and grandchildren.

We are looking forward to our 55th reunion in a few years. Al Yarasavage wishes to thank the committee of Virginia Pickle, Ed Sopko, Tom Federici, Richard Burman. Alberta Yarasavage, and adopted classmate Leon Sidas for their input and efforts.



Grozios Host Reception Harry and Dolores Grozio received friends at their art studio (the former Glen Lyon National Bank) after the opening of the "Mastering the Old Masters" Exhibit on October 25 at the Luzerne County Community College's Schulman Center.



Jim Hoffman

On October 11, Newport Township Fire Chief Jim Hoffman passed away unexpectedly. He was Fire Chief for the past 3 ½ years and a firefighter and a dedicated EMS for more than 30 years. Jim contributed several articles on fire safety to this publication. This was a great loss not only to his family and friends but also to Newport Township. The NTCO offers its condolences.

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The Flora and Fauna of Newport Township



A common sight to residents of Newport Township with bird feeders is the cardinal. This picture was taken one winter's day on Engle Street in Glen Lyon.

Cardinal Facts:

1. The cardinal is the only red bird in eastern North America with a crest on top of his or her head.
2. Cardinals are not migratory and stay in the same area year-round. Both sexes sing, and sound pretty much the same.
3. This family of birds was given its name because the bright red color of the male is very similar to the color of vestments worn by Roman Catholic cardinals.
4. Male cardinals are very territorial and will defend their territories vigorously, sometimes attacking their own reflections or other objects reflected in glass surfaces, mistaking them for another male.
5. The Northern cardinal is so well loved that it has been named the official bird of no fewer than seven U.S. states: Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky, North Carolina, Ohio, Virginia and West Virginia, which is more than any other bird.



Taste of the Township

Poppy Seed Roll

By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ There are many varieties of poppies, a flowering plant in the family Papaveraceae. Poppies are herbaceous plants, often grown for their colorful flowers. Following the trench warfare which took place in the poppy fields of Flanders during World War I, red poppies have become a symbol of remembrance of soldiers who have died during wartime.

The poppy seed is a tiny nutty-tasting, blue-gray oilseed found inside capsules of the opium poppy. They are less than a millimeter in length. It takes 3,300 poppy seeds to make up a gram, and a pound contains between 1 and 2 million seeds. The poppy plant is indigenous to the Mediterranean area and its seeds have been harvested by various civilizations for thousands of years. Many ancient civilizations mention them in medical texts. The Sumerians, who settled in southern Mesopotamia or modern Iraq between 4500 and 4000 B.C. grew poppy plants. The Egyptian papyrus scroll named Ebers Papyrus, written in 1550 B.C., lists poppy seed as a sedative. The Minoan civilization (approximately 2700 to 1450 B.C.), a Bronze Age civilization which arose on the island of Crete, also cultivated poppies for their seeds. Women in second-century Crete cultivated poppy plants for opium and Hippocrates suggested opium for medicine. Also in the second century, the Greeks used the seeds as flavoring for breads and medieval Europeans used them as a condiment. Islamic and Arabian countries used opium as a medicine and narcotic in the sixth century. By the 17th century, Asians used the poppy plant as an opiate. Europeans began trafficking the drug in the 19th century, culminating in the Opium Wars, in which China lost control of the industry. Today, Holland, Australia and the Czech Republic are the main producers of poppy seeds.

Poppy seeds are used to flavor breads, cakes, rolls, and cookies in European and Middle Eastern cooking. In Turkey, they are often ground and used in desserts. In India, the seeds are ground and used to thicken sauces. The seeds are also used in noodle, fish, and vegetable dishes in Jewish, German, and Slavic cooking. For many Eastern Europeans, particularly Poles, Ukrainians, Hungarians, Russians, Lithuanians, Slovaks, Czechs and Slovenians, poppy seeds are a symbol of wealth, the tiny seeds representing coins. They figure prominently at Christmastime and New Year's, expressing hoped-for prosperity in the coming year. Eastern Europeans like to sprinkle whole poppy seeds in salad dressings and on breads, rolls and cookies. More often than not, they are ground or crushed to release their flavor and used in pastries or with buttered noodles. Probably the most popular pastry is poppy seed roll, also known as poppy seed strudel and known variously as makowiec in Poland, mákos bejgli in Hungary, bulochki s makom in Russia, makový závin in the Czech Republic, makovník in Slovakia, aguonų vyniotinis in Lithuania, makovnjača in Croatia, and

ruladă cu mac or ruladă cu nuci in Romania. Poppy seed roll is an indispensable dessert for the holidays, especially Christmas and Easter. In Lithuania and Eastern Slovakia a traditional dish is prepared for the Kūčios (Christmas Eve) dinner from poppy seeds. In Central Europe poppy strudel is very popular, especially during Christmas. In the countries belonging to the former Austro-Hungarian Empire, poppy seed pastries called Mohnkuchen are often eaten around Christmas time.

In Poland, poppy seeds are believed to bring good luck and food prepared with poppy seeds is considered lucky food. Poppy seeds are found throughout Polish cuisine. This tradition was brought to America by Polish immigrants and many households of Polish ancestry, including those in Newport Township, baked poppy seed bread. In recent years, the tradition of homemade bread-baking has dwindled, however, bakeries throughout the Wyoming Valley still make poppy seed bread and demand is especially heavy during the Christmas holidays.

The seeds of other poppy types are not eaten, but they are cultivated for the flowers they produce. Annual and biennial poppies are considered a good choice to cultivate from. The California poppy (*Eschscholzia californica*), for example, is a striking orange wildflower that grows in Western and Northwestern United States.

This recipe for poppy seed roll was given to us by Gail Blackburn, Glen Lyon resident and former chef at Centre Inn in Newport Center.

Poppy Seed Roll

2 pkgs. dry yeast	1/2 tsp. salt
2 tbs. warm water	2 egg yolks
1/2 cup scalded milk	2 cups flour
2 tbs. butter	1/4 tsp. ground cardamom
1/4 cup sugar	

Cream butter with sugar. Add salt to egg yolks and beat until thick. Scald milk and cool to lukewarm. Add beaten yolks to butter and sugar mixture. Combine yeast with 2 tbs. of warm water and stir into mixture. Add flavoring and mix thoroughly. Add flour alternately with milk and knead until fingers are free of dough. Let rise for about 2 hours or until double in bulk. Punch down and let rise again for 1 hour. Place dough on floured board and roll to 1/2" thickness into rectangular shape. Spread with poppy seed filling and roll like jelly roll, sealing all edges. Place in greased baking pan and let rise until double in bulk. Bake for 30 minutes in 350 degree oven.

Poppy Seed Filling

1 cup ground poppy seed	1 egg
3/4 cup milk	1 tsp. vanilla
1/2 cup sugar or 1/2 cup honey	

Bring milk to boiling point and add poppy seed. Cook for about 5 minutes, stirring carefully until milk is absorbed. Add sugar or honey. Beat egg thoroughly in separate bowl. Mix 1 tbs. of hot poppy seed mixture with egg and then pour mixture into cooked poppy seed. Stir until thick. Add vanilla. Filling must be thoroughly cooled before using.

Susan A. Maza

ATTORNEY - AT - LAW

**One South Main Street - 3rd Floor
Wilkes-Barre, Pennsylvania 18701**

**Telephone
(570) 825-5585**

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Allison Brown

Pictured on the left is Allison Brown receiving recognition from PA State Senator John Yudichak recently in the Senate Chambers in Harrisburg. On the right is PA State Representative Gerald Mullery of Newport Township in the corridor of the Capitol Building with the Brown Family. Clockwise from the left are Rep. Mullery; brother, Collin; mother, Nicole (Czapla) Brown; father, Allen Brown; brother, Owen; sister, Emersyn; and Allison.



Allison Paige Brown receives Honors in Harrisburg

By Frank Czapla ~ In May 2013, Allison Paige Brown of Nanticoke represented the Wyoming Valley and the Shooting Starz Gymnastics Squad at this year's Keystone Games held near Philadelphia. Allison competed in the vault, uneven bars, balance beam, and floor exercise events. She succeeded in achieving Silver medals in three events: the vault, bars, and balance beam, and a Bronze medal in the floor exercise program. Overall, Allie, as she is known, achieved a Gold medal overall for her age/skill bracket. Her accomplishments entitled her to compete in the State Games of America which is a national event, representing the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

On August 3, 2013, Allison competed at the State Games of America in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. She was successful in attaining fifth place overall in that national competition. At 7 years of age, in her first year of competition, Allison has garnered numerous awards and trophies in gymnastic venues throughout eastern Pennsylvania.

In October 2013 in Harrisburg, PA State Representative Gerald Mullery, and State Senator John Yudichak recognized Allison Paige Brown for her standout performance at the 2013 Keystone Gymnastic Championship where, representing the Commonwealth, she took home several medals including gold in the all-around competition.

Allison is the daughter of Nicole and Allen Brown, Nanticoke. She is the granddaughter of Susanne and Frank Czapla, Jr., Alden Station; and Lynn and Albert Brown, Nanticoke. Allie is the great-granddaughter of Bernard Cywinski, Sheatown, and Myrtle Paige, Nanticoke.

Shooting Starz Gymnastics is located in Wilkes-Barre Township and can be reached at 570-822-1212 or on their website.



Chaos Honored in House of Representatives

By Tom Kashatus ~ With an invitation from local representatives Gerald Mullery of the 119th PA Legislative District and Karen Boback of the 117th PA Legislative District, members of the Luzerne County Chaos were recognized in the PA House of Representatives gallery for their extraordinary exploits on the softball field by winning state championships in their respective age brackets (10 and Under & 12 and Under) in Babe Ruth softball fast pitch competition. Both teams earned an opportunity to compete in the Mid Atlantic Regional competition as the 12 and Under athletes went undefeated, earning a trip to the World Series in Florida. Their journey was described in the NTCO Fall Newsletter.

The accomplishments of the 10 and Under Squad are described on page 10 of this newsletter. (See more on Chaos in the Senate, page 10)

Above: Pictured in uniform (10U in red & 12U in black) front row from left to right: Representative Gerald Mullery of Newport Township, Mollie Corbett, Riley Wren, Gabby Rakowski, Lauren Mullery, Sarah Tuzinski, Jessica Skladzien, Tiffany Eustice, Alessia Mangan, Madison Stashak, Sara Whitesell, and Representative Karen Boback of Lehman Township.

Second row, left to right: Kassidy Slusser, Courtney Cragle, Nikki Cragle, Katie Bonczewski, Cloe Vangorder, Julia Franks, Aleigha Parnell, Brinley Sobeck, Morgan Bienkowski, Lindsay Mendygral, Gabby Proleika.

Rear left to right: Coach Kathy Cragle, Manager Bernie Tuzinski, Coach Ed Cragle, Coach Chris Slusser, and Coach Chris Parnell. Absent from photo: Coach Tim Wren 12U, Coach Ann Elick 12U, Tiana Wren 12U, Jayden Belles 12U, Coach Joe Mendygral 10U, Emily Bevan 10U, and Lizzie Mendrzycki 10U.



Pictured sitting left to right: Vanessa Tocket (NT-Wanamie) and Jenna Lipowski (N)/(NT).

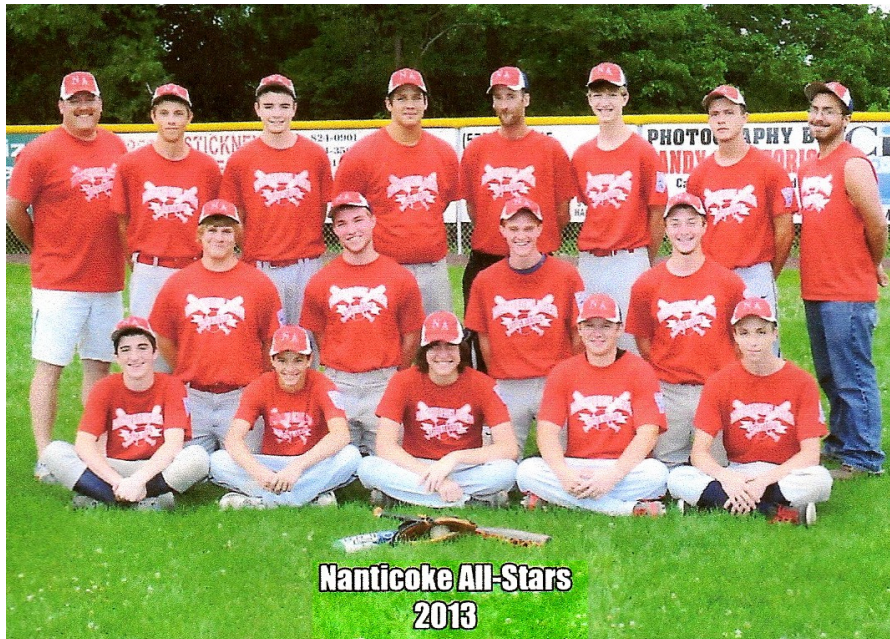
Second row left to right: Megan Murphy, Mary Kate Penczkowski, Karly Bennett, Cassie Novakowski (NT), Elizabeth Moore, Kiera Brown, Sara Rinehimer (NT), Miranda Dunn, and Michaela Buckley.

Rear left to right: Coach Mark O'Connor (NT-Alden), Manager Marc Lipowski (NC), Coach Jeff Rinehimer (NT).

Absent from photo: Coach Van Tocket (NT-Wanamie) and Gabriella Pizzella.

Nanticoke Area Little League Junior Girls – 2013 District 16 Champions

On their journey to the Pennsylvania State Tournament, the Nanticoke Area Little League Junior Girls won a team title in their league with an undefeated record. During playoff competition, they captured the Little League Junior Girls District 16 championship when they defeated Jenkins Township. The next step was a Little League Section 5 Title when they defeated North Pocono. They met stiff competition in the state tournament at Greensburg, PA, taking third place in the semi-finals.



Pictured front row left to right: Kyle Sorber (NT-Glen Lyon), John Morgan (HaT), Michael Kline (NC), Mitch Romanowski (NC), Jake Niewinski (NC/MT).

Middle row left to right: Taylor Kotch (NC), Eric Levandowski (NC), Tyler Myers (NT-Alden), Frank Marcinkowski (NC).

Back row left to right: Coach Dan Scott (HaT), Tyler Scott (HaT), Duane Oshinski (NT-Sheatown), Mike Bugnovich (HT), Manager Dave Horwath (NT-Glen Lyon), Kile Rosick (NC), Dan Jeffrey (NC), Coach Brandon Sorber (NT-Glen Lyon).

Absent are Coach Steve Kotch (NC) and Pat Duda

Nanticoke Area Little League Senior Boys All Stars — 2013 District 16 Champions

The senior boys all-star team, ages 15 & 16, also play as a team throughout the season under a Little League franchise. Players are drafted from Nanticoke City (NC), Newport Township (NT), and may be “grandfathered in” from other areas. For old-timers who once played under Teeners’ League Incorporated, this league has been defunct for a number of years. Little League Incorporated out of Williamsport, PA has expanded its charters to include children from thirteen years old through sixteen years old in two age groups – juniors and seniors. Babe Ruth softball franchises for interested youth has continued to remain a presence in Luzerne County over the past thirty years.

The local baseball team took their league championship with a 9 and 1 record while playing teams from Ashley, Hanover Township, Nanticoke City, and Avoca/Dupont. They became District 16 champions with a 15 to 4 victory over Avoca/Dupont. When the team entered sectional competition, they defeated Northwest 12 to 2, and ended their playoff run with a loss to Dunmore by a score of 10 to 7.



Nanticoke Area Little League 10 & 11-Year-Old All Stars: District 16 Champions

By Tom Kashatus ~ The 10 & 11-year-old girls Little League All-Star Team was chosen from teams which played in the Nanticoke Area Little League. This included girls from Nanticoke City (NC) and Newport Township (NT) or others who may have been “grandfathered” in as a result of previous play. After becoming District 16 Little League Champions, the 10 & 11-year-old all-star team entered sectional playoffs and lost to Old Forge in Beaumont, Wyoming County. They subsequently played Old Forge once again and were victorious, earning a spot in the sectional finals. Facing the Bob Horlacher team of Wyoming County in the sectionals, the local squad lost which ended their season. The Bob Horlacher team continued in sectional play to become state champions in this age category.

Pictured front row left to right: Abby Kotch (NC), Kaylee Simmons (NC), Nina Zendarski (NT-Glen Lyon), Riley Miller (NT-Alden). Second row left to right: Kylie Jones (NC), Echo Thomas (NT –Glen Lyon), Jennifer Kurkowski (PT). Third row left to right: Emily Conrad (NC), Kalista Tighe (HT), Kelsey O’Connor (NT-Alden), Zoe Coble (NC). Back row left to right: Manager Dave Jones (NC) and Coach Mark O’Connor (NT-Alden).

Absent: Steve Kotch (NC). Refer to Steve Kotch: (570) 690-0407 ; Mark O’Connor: (570) 417-3455 ; Dave Jones (570) 574-2661



Luzerne County Chaos 10 and Under: State Champions

By Tom Kashatus ~ Pictured (left) with Pennsylvania State Senators John Yudichak of the 14th Senatorial District and Lisa Baker of the 20th Senatorial District are members of the 10-and-Under Luzerne County Chaos Fast Pitch All-Star Softball Team. The girls had recently captured a state championship in their age category by earning a hard fought 8 to 3 victory over a tough Daniel Boone squad from Douglasville, Berks County, PA. Luzerne County Chaos are fast pitch softball all-star teams which play under a national Babe Ruth franchise in the following age categories: 12 and under, 10 and under, and 8 and under. The girls are selected from teams in the South Valley Softball League which draws players from Ashley (A), Hanover Township (HaT), Newport Township (NT), Nanticoke City (NC), Plymouth (P), Hunlock Township (HuT), and Lehman Township (LT). Throughout the spring and summer months, many league games are played at the Wanamie Recreation Park. After a victory over Honesdale in district play, the team was off to Douglasville for grinding competition in the State Tournament. One by one, some tough squads from throughout Pennsylvania fell to the northeast champs – Stonersville 9 to 8; Springford 15 to 2; Langford 16 to 4; Audubon 11 to 4; and Daniel Boone. Chaos moved on to the Mid Atlantic Regional (MAR) tournament undefeated. In the MAR tournament at Mount Olive, NJ, on Thursday, July 18, they faced the host team, the Mount Olive Marauders Red in their first game and dropped a tough 6 to 3 decision. Moving into the losers bracket the next day, Friday, Chaos overwhelmed the Mount Olive Marauders Gold team by a score of 15 to 0. They continued their winning ways on Saturday with another strong showing against a Charles County, Maryland, team with a convincing 11 to 1 score. Also on Saturday they faced a tough squad from South New Jersey, the Hamilton Hurricanes, and dropped a heart-breaking 6 to 4 decision which ended their tournament competition. The Hamilton Hurricanes were the eventual Mid Atlantic Regional Tournament champions.

Front row left to right: Senator John Yudichak, Aleigha Parnell (HuT), Gabby Rakowski (A), Mollie Corbett (A), Gabby Proleika (A), Riley Wren (P), Jessica Skladzien (NC), and Senator Lisa Baker.

Rear left to right: Manager Bernard Tuzinski (A), Lindsay Mendygral (A), Julia Franks (), Coach Chris Parnell (HuT), Sarah Tuzinski (A), Lauren Mullery (NT-Alden), Kassidy Slusser (A), and Coach Shris Slusser (A).

Absent: Coach Joe Mendygral (A), Lizzie Mendrycki (), and Emily Bevan (P).

Luzerne County Chaos 12 & Under with Senators John Yudichak and Lisa Baker

Front row left to right: Senator John Yudichak, Tiffany Eustice, Madison Stashak, Sarah Whitesell, Aleesia Mangan, Courtney Cragle, Nicole Cragle, Senator Lisa Baker.

Back row left to right: Coach Ed Cragle, Katie Bonczewski, Chloe Vangorder, Morgan Bienkowski, Brinley Sobeck, and Coach Cathy Cragle.

(The story of this squad’s journey was reported in the Fall 2013 edition of the NTCO Newsletter. The article can be found by going to the NTCO website: www.newporttownship.com.)





Lee Littleford Recognized by American Legion

By Ed Kalinowski ~ A 60 Year American Legion Plaque of Recognition was recently presented to Lee C. Littleford, formerly of Sheatown and former owner of Lee's Oil and Coal. Lee is a member of American Legion Post 971, Wanamie, Pa. Presenting the plaque honoring Lee's years of service were (L to R), Legionnaire Dennis Boor, Lee C. Littleford and Post Adjutant Ed Kalinowski. Lee was a WW II veteran serving in the U. S. Navy from 1944 to 1946. After the Japanese surrender, Lee was stationed on the U.S.S. Leyte which was an Essex class aircraft carrier and had a crew of 3,448 officers and enlisted personnel.

American Legion Post 971, Wanamie, is asking all veterans to join the American Legion. Our ranks are shrinking and new blood is needed. Our youngest members are from the Grenada Era. The Wanamie Post still carries on with military funeral honor guard ceremonies for local burials of deceased veterans. The Post also visits and performs veterans' ceremonies at seven local cemeteries and two local monuments (Sheatown & Wanamie) on Memorial Day. American Legion Post 971 donates to the Wilkes-Barre Veterans Hospital, Nanticoke Area Little League, two scholarships for Nanticoke Area senior students who will be attending college, and various other organizations. We need your help!!!

American Legion Post 971 is also currently looking for donations from citizens and area businesses for a new ceremonial bugle for the aforementioned veteran events. Anyone interested in donating to this worthwhile need, or in becoming a member should send correspondence to American Legion Post 971 Wanamie, P.O. Box 58, Nanticoke, Pa. 18634 or call Ed Kalinowski at (570) 735-8561.

Veteran's Day Facts

1. Veteran's Day, November 11th of each year, is a federal holiday in the United States to honor all those who have served in the U.S. military. November 11th marks the day that major combat in World War I ended. In 1919, President Woodrow Wilson named November 11th Armistice Day. In 1938, November 11th became a legal holiday with the name Armistice Day. The first national holiday to celebrate Veteran's Day was held in 1947. In 1954, Armistice Day legally became Veteran's Day.
2. Originally, as Armistice Day, it was intended to honor those in the Armed Forces who died in World War I. In 1945, Raymond Weeks, a World War II veteran, came up with the idea to honor all veterans on November 11th.
3. World War I, known at the time as "The Great War," officially ended when the Treaty of Versailles was signed on June 28, 1919, in the Palace outside the town of Versailles, France. However, fighting had ceased seven months earlier when an armistice, or temporary cessation of hostilities, between the Allied nations and Germany went into effect on the eleventh hour of the eleventh day of the eleventh month. For that reason, November 11, 1918, is generally regarded as the end of "the war to end all wars."
4. In 1921, on November 11th, an American soldier was buried at Arlington Cemetery. His identity was unknown and as such, his gravesite is called the "Tomb of the Unknown Soldier." On November 11th a wreath is laid on the grave during a ceremony by the President or a high-ranking member of the government.
5. In 1971, Veteran's Day was moved to be the fourth Monday in October. In 1978, it went back to being on November 11th.
6. There are approximately 24 million veterans living today.
7. There were approximately 117,465 members of the U. S. military killed during World War I, and 400,000 members killed during World War II.



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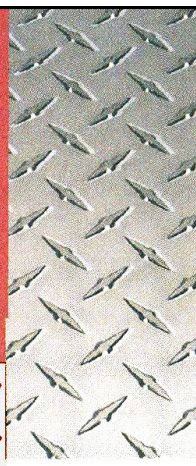
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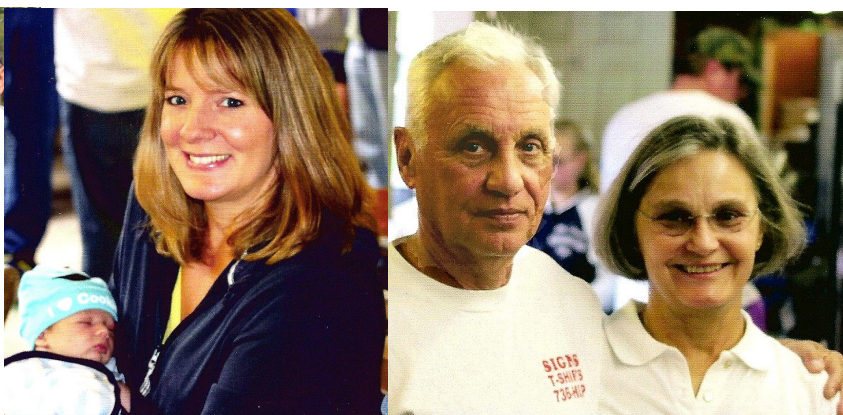
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Pictured above left to right are Tom Kashatus, Allison Adcock of Duryea (2nd place –\$25.00), Jack Rudeski of Hanover Township (3rd place - \$25.00), Palmira Miller, and Ed Bezdziecki standing in for daughter Angela Lowe of Alden (1st place - \$50.00).



Classic Car Show at St. Faustina Grove, Sheatown

By Tom Kashatus ~ The Grove Committee and the Cultural Center of St. Faustina Parish in Nanticoke sponsored a classic car show at St. Faustina Grove (previously Holy Child Grove) in Sheatown on a beautiful day in late September. The Newport Township Community Organization (NTCO), represented by President Palmira Gregory Miller and First Vice President Tom Kashatus, held a chili cook-off at the show to benefit the event. One hundred eighty vehicles were judged and over two hundred trophies were awarded in many categories.

Founded in 2010, the Cultural Center of St. Faustina Parish is located at the former St. Stanislaus Church on Church Street, Nanticoke. Members of the Board of Directors are: Frank Baker, Jack Minsavage, Judy Minsavage, Gene Nowakowski, Diane Nowakowski, Chester Zaremba, Barbara Lach and Father Jim Nash. The premier event the Cultural Center sponsors is "The Miracle of Bethlehem" which is held every December at the Grove and features over one hundred cast and crew members. See pictures on page 18.



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If you want others to be happy, practice compassion. If you want to be happy, practice compassion. ~ Dalai Lama

Keep a green tree in your heart and perhaps a singing bird will come. ~ Chinese Proverb

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FALL FESTIVAL Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church in Alden held its annual Fall Festival on October 12 and 13. Father John Leo (picture below, center) and his parishioners celebrated Autumn with flowers, a bake sale, a Chinese auction and crafts of all types. The food was good too!



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Nature's Canvas
Fiery colors begin their yearly conquest of the hills, propelled by the autumn winds. Fall is the artist. ~ Animal Crossing: Wild World (Nintendo video game) written by Takayuki Ikkaku, Arisa Hosaka, and Toshihiro Kawabata

October's poplars are flaming torches lighting the way to winter. ~ Nova S. Bair

Newport Township High School All-Class Reunion Held October 12 at Alden Manor



With the passage of time...

Things that were hard to bear are sweet to remember. ~ Seneca

Try to remember...

Happiness? That's nothing more than health and a poor memory.
~ Albert Schweitzer

Nostalgia is a file that removes the rough edges from the good
old days. ~ Doug Larson

HALLOWEEN IN NEWPORT TOWNSHIP

On October 26th, a group of enthusiastic children and their parents attended a Halloween party at the Recreation Park in Wanamie. The event was sponsored by the Newport Township Women's Activity Group. The costumes were varied and creative as shown in the pictures here.



Rules for Trick or Treating

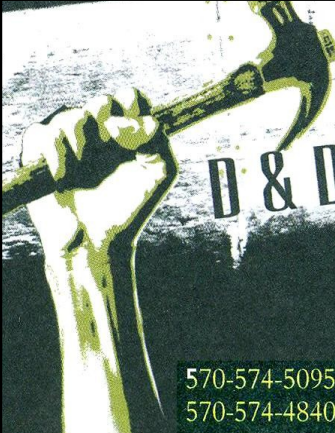
Eat, drink and be scary.

~ Author Unknown

When black cats prowl and
pumpkins gleam,
May luck be yours on Halloween.

~ Author Unknown

Spaghetti Dinner at St. Adalbert's Church Hall, Sunday November 5


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Blood Drive on November 11 sponsored by the American Legion Auxiliary Post 539. Pictured above: Lorraine Materewicz, President, sitting. Standing (Left to right) are Janet Wenner, Stephanie Stogoski, Donna Burd, Faye Maloney, and Daune Mutchler. Pictured top right are donor Anthony Youells and Danny Sopko, Red Cross technician.



Veterans Day Parade - Pictured to the right are Newport Township Community Organization members Larry and Teresa (Mitarnowski) Dauber, formerly of Glen Lyon, observing the Veterans Day Parade on Market Street, Kingston. They usually make this an annual trek with family members from their home in Exeter. Also shown are daughter, Renee Janis; son-in-law, Donald Janis II; and grandson Donald Janis III. Teresa stated that she still gets the “thrills and chills when observing the soldiers marching in uniform to the beat of their cadence.”



TURKEY BINGO

On November 24, the Newport Township Women’s Activity Group held a Turkey Bingo, raffle, and bake sale in St. Adalbert’s Church Hall. Pictured on the left and bottom are some of the participants who hoped to take a turkey home.



Pictured above, Santa Claus made visits around the Township courtesy of the Newport Township Women’s Activity Group on December 7. Stops included the Wanamie Recreation Park, K.M. Smith School in Alden, Spring Street Glen Lyon and the Italian Club in Glen Lyon.



Above, St. Faustina’s Parish performed “The Miracle of Bethlehem,” a live nativity play, in Sheatown on December 7.



Pictured left: The NTCO Citizenship Award Banquet held on December 4th at the American Legion in Glen Lyon. After a wonderful dinner prepared by the Legion Auxiliary, the 2013 NTCO Citizenship Award was formally presented to Andy Gotcha. From left to right: Palmira Miller NTCO President, Heidi Jarecki, NTCO Awards Committee, Andy Gotcha and Tom Kashatus NTCO Vice President.

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Newport Township Lions Deliver Holiday Baskets



On December 18, Newport Township Lions delivered 75 holiday baskets to elderly home-bound residents of Newport Township. Pictured on the left are members: Jeremy Blank, Mark Sadowski, John Zyla, Thomas Wolmelsdorf, Ronald Wolmelsdorf, Andy Gotcha, and John Kurowski.

Wyoming Valley Barbershop Quartet at St. Adalbert's Church



On December 29, Sounds Above, the Wyoming Valley Barbershop Quartet, performed a Christmas Concert at St. Adalbert's Church in Glen Lyon, pictured above. They did an encore during the social following the concert, pictured below. The event was sponsored by the Altar & Rosary Society, Holy Spirit Parish.



Lions Club Hosts Christmas Party at Guardian Elder Care

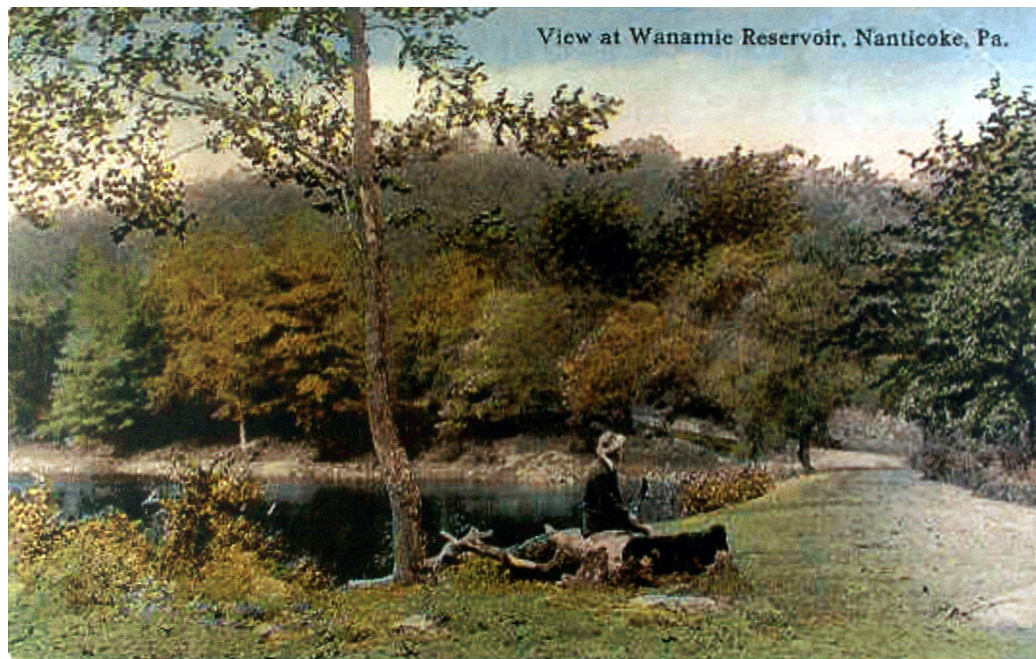


By Tom Kashatus ~ On the Sunday before Christmas, members of the Newport Township Lions Club spent the afternoon hosting a Christmas party for the residents of Guardian Elder Care Center (GECC) in Sheatown. It was fun and games for everyone in the dining hall as prizes and gifts were distributed among those who participated in the bingo game, called by volunteer Bernadine Maciejczak. Everyone also enjoyed cake. Ann Orlofski was honored as she celebrated her centennial birthday with her friends and Lions members (see picture below). The Christmas Party has been an annual event for the Lions Club and residents of GECC and has been very successful, bringing Christmas cheer and warmth to others during this time for remembering.

Pictured above, front row left to right: Daisy Yusko, Betty Novak, volunteer Charles Molecavage III, volunteer Anna Yudichak, volunteer Evelyn Yudichak, Theodosia Baron, Ann Orlofski, and Amelia Whittaker. Rear left to right: Lion Ron Womelsdorf, Lion John Kurowski, Lion Charles Molecavage Jr., Lion Mark Sadowski, volunteer Bernadine Maciejczak, Lion Tom Womelsdorf, Senator and Lion John Yudichak, and Lion President Andrew Gotcha.



Pictured above clockwise from the left are: Lion Mark Sadowski, activities assistant Katie Tollinger, Lions President Andy Gotcha, and Ann Orlofski.



Early postcard of the Wanamie Reservoir



Edmond Gorsyca at the Wanamie Reservoir in 1938

The Wanamie Reservoir

Introduction by Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ Newport Township lies within the intensely-folded Appalachian Mountains of the Valley and Ridge Provinces of northeastern Pennsylvania. Differential weathering and erosion produced a valley in the center of the Township running east to west. In this valley, the communities of Glen Lyon, Wanamie, Newport Center, Alden, Sheatown and Lee have become established. The valley is bounded on the south by the Penobscot Mountain and on the north by Retreat Mountain which runs along the Susquehanna River. Erosion of less resistant shale outcrops on the Penobscot Mountain has produced a high valley which parallels the main valley. This high mountain valley acts as a collection basin for mountain spring runs and has formed several impoundments: Najaka's Pond, Kielar Lake, the Wanamie Reservoir, and Fairchild's Pond. At one time, most of these waters drained into Newport Creek which occupied the main valley. Newport Creek then emptied into the Susquehanna River at Nanticoke. Due to intense mining, the flow patterns in Newport Township have been altered over the years. Presently the North Branch Newport Creek has no tributary streams while the South Branch Newport Creek receives flow from tributaries from the discharges of Fairchild's Pond and the Wanamie Reservoir.

History, by Gene Haverlak, Colonel, USAF, ret., President, Mountain Top on the Move and Graduate, Newport HS Class of 1962 ~ The Wanamie Reservoir (WR) is located in Newport Township in a mountainous area approximately one mile south of the town of Wanamie and approximately one mile southwest of Alden. It lies in the Little Wilkes-Barre Mountain Range approximately one mile north of the Slocum Township boundary. Within memory, the WR has been accessible only by walking or driving on one crude, damaged old dirt road from the Wanamie area. The WR sits in a mountainous area at the base of a natural geological depression. It is in a heavily wooded natural area, relatively isolated, and benefits from mountainous creeks that are remarkably clean and unpolluted.

The Wanamie Reservoir was created in 1850 with the construction of an earthen and stone dam in a mountainous area south of Wanamie. The dam created a relatively small, modestly deep but beautiful lake approximately 400 feet long. The original purpose of the facility was to store water for municipal purposes as well as for another downstream intake dam in order to provide water as needed for the privately-owned Wanamie Colliery or coal

breaker (a coal processing facility) owned by the Lehigh and Wilkes-Barre Coal Company. In 1914, there was some documented concern that the WR Dam could possibly fail under a worst case scenario, e.g. a massive hurricane. It was speculated that the entrances to several coal mines in a lower area might be threatened by such flood waters and this, in turn, could possibly threaten miners inside the mines. (Note: A massive hurricane named Diane did hit the area in 1955 and destroyed much of the overflow mechanism of the dam, but water damage to lower areas from waters caused by the dam breach was unremarkable.)

During the 1950s, virtually all the coal mines in Newport Township were closed and the huge Wanamie coal breaker was torn down. From the 1950s to the early 2000s, the Wanamie Reservoir served as an incredible asset to the underserved population in the Township. Its clean waters, abundant fish (native brook trout, pickerel, crappie, and catfish), various turtle species, natural creeks, surrounding wildlife, and relative natural remoteness came to be enjoyed by many generations of Township residents. It was "another world" for area residents compared to the miles of surrounding deep strip-mines, slag piles, orange waters, and lifeless creeks throughout the Township.

In 1994, this entire property was acquired by the Earth Conservancy from the bankruptcy of the Blue Coal Corporation. In 2007, after 157 years of serving the community and benefiting the environment, the overflow mechanism of the dammed area was completely removed and the lake was totally drained.

Earth Conservancy still owns the surrounding property as well as (what remains of) the dam.

The Wanamie Reservoir Project

As of this writing, the Wanamie Reservoir Project Team (the Newport Township Community Organization and Mountain Top On the Move of the Greater Mountain Top Area) has put forth a proposal for the reconstruction of the Wanamie Reservoir and development of the surrounding land areas into a public park and recreation facility. The Team hopes to work jointly with appropriate township, county, state, and federal authorities to transform this abandoned area into a major asset for Newport Township, unlike anything that presently exists in the Lower Wyoming Valley. We ask that you join our efforts.

Contact Gene Haverlak at gene4446@verizon.net or Palmira Gregory Miller at palmiram@newporttownship.com if you wish to be part of the Project Team.

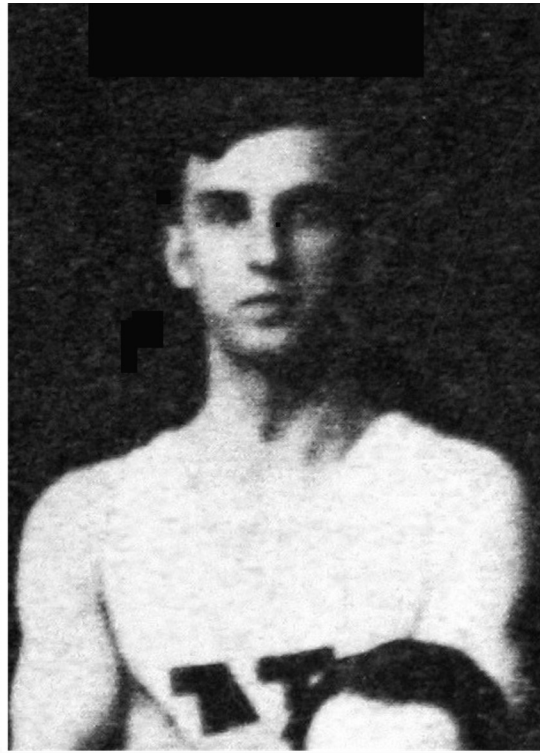
Source: Study by Skelly and Loy under contract to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection.



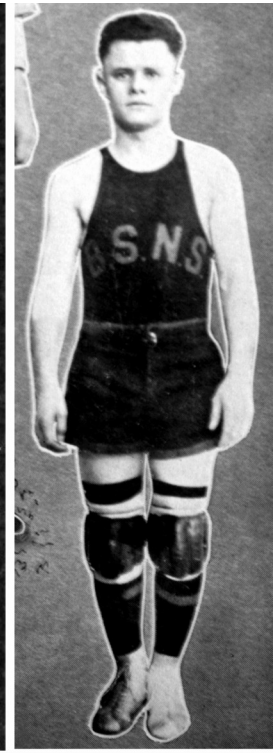
DALE RICHARDS
HEAD COACH



MIKE KUTZ
ARCH TURNER



GEORGE SACK



LOUIS
LERDA

The 1922 High School Basketball Season and the Start of a Great Rivalry

By Heidi and Paul Jarecki ~ In 1922, Nanticoke High School had one of the top teams in northeastern Pennsylvania. They played the strongest competition they could find (Scranton Central, Hazleton and Stroudsburg). They were undefeated when they met Newport Township High School on March 12 before a crowd of one thousand fans at Newport's home floor in Wanamie. Newport defeated Nanticoke in a hotly contested game 49-41. George Sack led the way for Newport with 29 points while Ted Jones had 33 for Nanticoke.

The much anticipated rematch occurred at Nanticoke on March 19 and the largest crowd at that time to attend a basketball game in the Nanticoke gym saw Nanticoke clearly outplay Newport by a score of 38-15. The score was 15-9 at half-time, but in the second half Nanticoke poured in goal after goal. Jones and Sullivan scored 22 and 12 points each while Sack was high for Newport with 7.

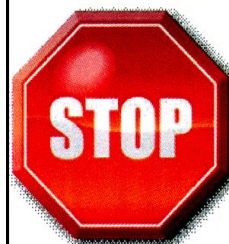
On March 23, Nanticoke and Newport scheduled a game to determine the Scholastic League championship but the game was never played. Instead, Nanticoke scheduled a game with Mahanoy City and Newport was invited to the Bloomsburg Normal School (now Bloomsburg University) Basketball Tournament along with Berwick, Danville and Bloomsburg. On Saturday March 26, Nanticoke lost the right to contest for the state championship when they were defeated by Mahanoy City in the Hazleton High School gymnasium by a score of 41-27. The excellent goal shooting of the bigger, heavier Mahanoy team combined with their ability to intercept passes was instrumental in their victory. Nanticoke was also hampered by losing the services of starting forward Butch Sullivan due to injury. Newport's team emerged victorious in the round robin tournament held at the Bloomsburg Normal School's gym by defeating all three teams. On March 26, Newport defeated Berwick in the morning, Bloomsburg in the afternoon and Danville that same night. As a result of their victories, Newport was scheduled to play Mahanoy City on March 29th at Wyoming Seminary to determine the championship of northeastern Pennsyl-

vania. The winner of this preliminary game would advance to the state championship tournament. Newport lost 64-28. After their victory, Mahanoy City along with Harrisburg Tech, Wilkesburg and Mount Union were invited to the state tournament held at the Penn State University Armory on March 31-April 1. Mahanoy would go on to win the state championship with victories over Kerns City 26-25 and Harrisburg Tech 22-17.

In 1923, Newport would return three of its starters: center Mike Kutz, forward Arch Turner and leading scorer guard George Sack. Newport would be a strong team in 1923. Even though Nanticoke would only have one starter returning (Butch Sullivan and he was lost to injury after the second game), they would field one of the best teams in their history in 1923. It would be an exciting season. The rivalry was heating up.

Members of the 1922 Newport Township basketball team were: Head Coach Dale Richards; forwards, Arch Turner and Louis Lerda; guards, George Sack and Mr. Gavey, center Mike Kutz.

The 1922 Nanticoke basketball team consisted of Head Coach Frank McDermit; forwards Leonard (Butch) Sullivan, Mr. Williams, Mr. Golem and Mr. Smith; centers, Mr. Graboski and Mr. Lupco; guards Ted Jones, Mr. Lentz, and Mr. Knoll.



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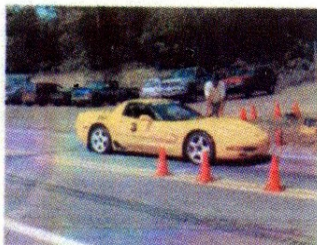
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Keep on tryin'!

Vitas Gerulaitis, after beating Jimmy Connors for the first time in their last 17 matches: "And let that be a lesson to you all. Nobody beats Vitas Gerulaitis 17 times in a row."

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION

Did you know your old Christmas lights are recyclable?

NTCO is conducting a Holiday Light Recycling Drive and Electrical Cord Recycling Drive NOW through January 31, 2014. You can drop off broken and unusable Christmas lights, extension cords, appliance cords, electrical wiring, etc. in the **RED** recycling containers available at the following locations:

- Pennsylvania Environmental Council, 175 Main St., Luzerne
- JP Mascaro & Sons, San Souci Highway, Hanover Township
- RJ Financial Services, 1015 Sively St., Hanover Township
- American Legion, Newport St., Glen Lyon
- The Variety Stop, East Main Street, Glen Lyon
- Earth Conservancy Compost Center, Kirmar Ave., Glen Lyon
- The Light House Pointe Salon, 192 State Route 239, Shickshinny

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 email tomkash@verizon.net

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION NEWSLETTER ADVERTISEMENT

- \$25.00 One-tenth page or Business Card Size Ad
- \$50.00 Quarter Page Size Ad
- \$75.00 One-half Page Size Ad
- \$150.00 Full Page Size Ad

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION NEWSLETTER SUBSCRIPTION

NTCO will make available printed copies of their quarterly newsletter to those living outside the area. An annual fee of \$10.00 covers the cost of mailing via the US Postal Service. Send your check, payable to "NTCO", to Heidi Jarecki, 28 W. Main St., Glen Lyon, PA 18617. If you have internet access, please furnish your email address to "Thomas Kashatus" tomkash@verizon.net to be entered into our data base. You will be notified of new publications on NTCO's website at <http://newporttownship.com>. Photographs on Internet publications may be viewed in color. Hard copies are printed in black and white.

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 or a lifetime membership is available for \$35.00. Send application with fee to NTCO, 110 1/2 Railroad Ave., Wanamie, Nanticoke, PA 18634.

Name _____

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NEWPORT TOWNSHIP BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS SEEKS RECREATION BOARD MEMBER

The Newport Township Board of Commissioners is seeking an interested individual who would like to serve on the Township's Recreation Board. The Board is to consist of five (5) Township Residents who work to oversee the operation of Parks and Playgrounds in Glen Lyon, Wanamie and Alden. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact Richard V. Zika, Township Manager, at 570-735-4735 or e-mail at rvzika@pa.metrocast.net. Please provide your name, address and telephone number.

The Patchtown Players of Eckley will present An Anthracite Folklore
March 21st, 7 pm at 101 S. Main Street, Ashley. Vignettes told in prose and rhyme explain the effects of mining and the daily hardships of the miners and their families. The play will run from 45 minutes to 1 hour. The cost for students to attend will be \$5 and adults will be \$7.

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION ITEMS FOR SALE

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 Ophanage and Najaka's Pond in Lee. Also two DVDs with a total of 1600 historical pictures (sold separately). All are available for \$15.00 each, \$18.00 if they are shipped.

2014 Calendars are in stock priced at \$10.00 with postage of \$2.00. 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, **sweatshirts** 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 email hselecky@pa.metrocast.net. For detailed information go to: www.newporttownship.com and click on "Memorabilia".

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION MEETINGS

NTCO meets the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 pm. We invite you to attend, share your ideas and develop new programs to benefit Newport Township. Check www.newporttownship.com for the meeting location or email palmiram@newporttownship.com to be added to our email listing.

NEWPORT TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY ORGANIZATION OFFICERS/CONTACTS

President: Palmira Gregory Miller 570-736-6637
1st Vice President: Tom Kashatus 570-736-6981
2nd Vice President: William Hourigan 570-736-6096
Treasurer: Francis Zaleski 570-736-6336
Secretary: Linda Conner 570-736-6580
Alternate Secretary/Treasurer: John Jarecki, 570-736-6620
Newsletter Editors: Heidi & Paul Jarecki 570-736-6782
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