





## insideNewberry

To honor the past...inform the present...envision the future, *insideNewberry* is published quarterly by Newberry Community Partnership (NCP) as a service to the neighborhood to promote community pride and facilitate communication between residents, schools, civic organizations and businesses. NCP is a non-profit community based organization established in 2006.

insideNewberry is available at these locations:

- Equinox
- J-Styles Barber Shop & Salon
- Kast Hotel
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#### inside Newberry

913 Diamond Street Williamsport, PA 17701 insideNewberry@yahoo.com www.insidenewberry.com Phone (570) 506-1133

Alannah Gabriel, Managing Editor

Janice Hiller, Graphic Designer

Rod Chubb, Web Design

Your stories and photos are always welcome.

Photos will be returned.

## **REVIVAL OF INSIDE NEWBERRY DAY**

### Event Deemed a Big Success

When we invited one and all to come "celebrate life in Newberry" and "reunite with old friends" at Visit Inside Newberry Day this past October, we really didn't know what to expect.

We are happy to report that the combined efforts of the Newberry Community Partnership (NCP), the Lycoming County Genealogical Society (LCGS) and the Sun-Gazette made the revival a huge success. Well...that statement is only partially true. It was you, the residents and friends of Newberry, who turned out in numbers to honor our rich history and of 4 neighborhood spirit that truly made the day.



Vita Manno showing Scott Peterson photos of 4 generations of Thomas DeVito family.

Initially, we urged everyone to bring their scrap books, photos and documents for the LCGS to scan for their archives. But five days before the event, Cindy Frey, LCGS Secretary, surprised the NCP with the news that they had prepared a huge exhibit entitled "Newberry: A village of immigrants" with photocopy displays of documents and images relevant to the early histories of Newberry/Jaysburg as well as early maps, immigration, burial and census documents. Packets containing a family tree chart, list of books, magnifying glass and Internet sites were prepared for the youngsters.

(Continued on Page 2)

# **ELM STREET NEWS**

The Newberry Elm Street (ES) Program took its first steps shortly after hiring Elm Street Manager, Alannah Gabriel. Bill Kieser, NCP Board President attended a Regional Leadership meeting held in State College and Alannah attended a

Regional Managers meeting and the first of five Revitalization Academy sessions in Harrisburg. The meetings and trainings for board chairs and program managers, organized by the PA Downtown Center, provide an opportunity to network, ask questions and learn about the latest topics and issues affecting their community's revitalization program.



### **NCP** Applies for Grant

The NCP has applied for an Elm Street Residential Reinvestment Grant to fund streetscape improvements along West Fourth Street from Moore Avenue to Arch Street. The proposed project also includes a funding request for a façade improvement program for residential and commercial properties located in the Elm Street designated area. As *insideNewberry* went to press a public meeting was slated for December 29th at the WECCC. The meeting was announced in *(Continued on Page 2)* 

# **INSIDE NEWBERRY DAY**

#### (Continued from Page 1)

Kast Hotel owner Scott Peterson had a surprise for us too. He arranged a mini-video theatre in the corner of the hall to show a short documentary film about the history of the Kast Hotel and the railroad's influence on the development of Newberry. Shirley Peterson, Scott's mother was also on hand with pictures and an old hotel registry. Scott told reporter Greg Hayes, "At one point three generations of family stood before the registry and found the signature of a relative who visited our model train museum years ago."

Other highlights included Jack McDermott's extensive photo collection that overflowed 3 ten-foot tables; Vern Messner and son Charles brought their collection of photos and memorabilia as did the Newberry Lions, Mark & Marianne Tupper, Vita Manno and Emma Jean Strunk-Waltz.

The aroma of apple dumplings baking in the WECCC's kitchen added to the feeling of being home seated around a big kitchen table, laughing and reminiscing with old friends.

Newberry resident Gerald A. Helm won the door prize, a subscription to *insideNewberry*.

We want to thank the volunteer staff of the West End Christian Community Center who worked behind the scenes to support the event; Newberry Dunkin Donuts for providing refreshments and Newberry's own roving photographer, Ron Perry, for photos. See them on our web site <u>www.insidenewberry.com</u>

To the Williamsport Sun Gazette, a very special thanks for the publicity and generous coverage of our event. The feature story and photos, *The Town That Time Remembered* that followed in the Sunday, October 19th edition was exceptional and unexpected.

It goes without saying we will be doing it again this year, apple dumplings and all. It will be in October, the exact date has not been set. See you then!



L to R, Standing: Robert Andrews, Harold Andrews. L to R, Seated: Judy DeBrody, Mary Andrews, Sophie Daugherty Guinter.

# **ELM STREET NEWS**

(Continued from Page 1)

the Sun-Gazette and flyers were posted on public bulletin boards in the neighborhood.

The Elm Street office is up and running in the WECCC. Alannah is available Mon., Tue., Thur. & Fri. 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM by appointment, Wed. 2:00 - 4:00 PM & 5:00 - 7:00 PM. No appointment needed. You can also call 570-601-0298 or Email: <u>ElmSt@cityofwilliamsport.org</u>.

### 3 Frequently Asked Questions about Elm Street

# *I didn't know there was an Elm Street in Newberry, where is it?*

There is no Elm Street in the city, however a portion of West 3rd Street was once known as Elm Street. Remember Elm Park Golf Course on West 3rd Street?

#### So, what's this Elm Street I keep hearing about?

Pennsylvania is the only state with the foresight to realize that stable neighborhoods must exist to support a vital downtown. In 2004, the Commonwealth initiated a neighborhood program to support the many Main Street initiatives throughout the state. The new program, modeled after the Main Street community-based approach developed by the National Trust for Historic Preservation, was named Elm Street.

# Why is my block not included in the Elm Street Program and who decided where the boundaries would be?

The entire Newberry neighborhood was designated in the NCP's original application for Elm Street designation. Early in 2007 members of state and local Departments of Economic & Community Development and PA Downtown Center visited Newberry. It was determined that Newberry was too large an area - that revitalization funds would be spread too thin to make a significant impact so the ES boundaries were redefined: East – Moore Avenue, North – West 4th Street, South - Trenton Avenue, West – Poplar Street. Arch Street's commercial corridor from 3rd Street to Hillside Avenue is also included.

EDITORS NOTE: Do you have a question about Elm Street and what it means for our community? Contact the Elm Street office at 913 Diamond Street, phone 601-0298, or email at <u>elmst@cityofwilliamsport.org</u>.



# WEST END CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY CENTER NEWS

The West End Christian Community Center (WECCC) would like to thank the community for the support we have received in 2008. We are looking forward to adding some exciting programs as 2009 unfolds. In the mean time, we'd like to remind the community of the services and programs that are going strong at the WECCC.

### Bid for A Cause

On Saturday, March 21, 2009 at 4:00 PM, WECCC will be hosting an auction

to raise the vital funds needed to continue to serve the community. Featured among the many quality items will be 14k gold jewelry, furniture, lamps, bookcases, chairs and much more. By March all of us will have "cabin fever" and want to get out of the house for awhile – so why not come and spend the afternoon with us? You might just see something you always wanted to have. The auction will be conducted by Jim Chamberlin (#3486L) of the Keystone State Auctioneers and his staff. All proceeds benefit the West End Christian Community Center. If you would like to donate items to the auction, please call the office at 323-6297. "Help us help others."

### Common Ground

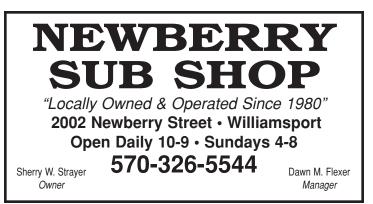
A program of praise and worship is held every Wednesday evening at 6:30 PM. The evening begins with singing of contemporary Christian songs followed by the reading and discussion of a Bible passage. The evening is concluded with a prayer. Come worship in an informal setting and enjoy the Service.

### J.V. Brown Satellite Library

Newberry now has a library again! The WECCC is proud to host a satellite program. The public may borrow books for children and adults. Computer work stations for students will be set up soon. Watch for more details in future issues of *insideNewberry* and local newspapers. The library is open Saturday mornings 9:00 to 11:00 AM.

### **Point Man Ministries**

This service provides counseling for veterans - by appointment. Call Frank Ritter at 570-447 0330.



### Learn to Dance...

**BALLROOM** - There is nothing like the combination of movement and music to add to life's enjoyment. Instruction is held Tuesday from 7:00 to 9:00

> PM. LINE DANCING – There is interest in forming a Line Dancing Group and instructor is willing to come if we have at least 8 participants. If you are interested in getting some exercise and having fun all at the same time,

please call Margie. No partner needed – just a willingness to have a good time.

### It's a Dance Party!

Friday January 16th the WECCC will host a Ballroom Dance from 7:00 to 10:00 PM. All levels of dancers are welcome. Hot hors d'oeuvres will be served. Admission is \$10 per person. For more information call Frank & Sandy Hartzel 326-7681.

### **Clothes Closet & Thrift Shop**

The Clothes Closet & Thrift Shop offers new or slightly used items for sale at very reasonable prices. At a time when the economy is putting a crunch on everyone's wallet, the Clothes Closet & Thrift Shop will help stretch your hard earned dollars. Volunteers are there to serve you Wednesday evenings form 4:30 to 7:00 PM and Saturday mornings from 8:30 AM until Noon. Stop in and meet the friendly people at the WECCC.

The WECCC is also the meeting place for many other community organizations. Please refer to the Regular Meetings of Civic & Other Groups in Newberry on Page 9. All the events take place at the WECCC, located at 901 Diamond Street in Newberry. Phone 323-6297 for information about events and services offered or our volunteer opportunities.



3

Daylight Savings Begins MARCH 8, 2009 Spring Ahead! Set Clocks Ahead 1 Hour



# **NEW IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD...**

### New Faces in Town

The craft of barbering is said to be a dying trade but you would never know it after a quick trip around the Newberry neighborhood. Joining Burt "the angelic barber of Newberry" Ware are two newcomers who have set up shop in the neighborhood.

#### J. Jackson Barber Shop

For as long as we can remember, a barber shop or beauty salon has called 844 Diamond Street home. Since April 2008 barber



Jackson with customer Anthony James. An avid basket ball player Jerome plays 4 nights a week. The trophy in the background is from a WANA Men's Basketball tournament.

Jerome Jackson is the latest to carry on the tradition. A native of Philadelphia, he moved to Williamsport in 1989 to get away from the "big city" and seek a better quality of life.

Helping people look their best is a Jackson family trait. Both his mother and sister are beauticians. At the age of 16, he began cutting his own hair and soon became his family's barber. He frequently helped out his next door neighbor with haircuts for her five children. The obvious next step was formal training which he received at Tri-City Barber School in Philadelphia.

"Through the years I worked in a variety of different shops but I always wanted something of my own," Jerome told *insideNewberry*.

It was a customer who helped make his dream a reality when Jerome told him of his five month search for a suitable location. The gentleman called the realtor for the Diamond Street location and told him about Jackson. A meeting was arranged and now the J. Jackson Barber shop is a part of Newberry.

"I hadn't considered a Newberry location to establish my business but this was a good choice. I'm really glad to be here...I'm enjoying the pace of life here and having my own place...it feels good."

Jerome cuts and styles all types of hair and believes looking good should be affordable so his rates are reasonable.

You can walk in any Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday from 9:30 AM to 5:00 PM, Thursday 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Saturday 6:00 AM to 5:00 PM, Fridays by appointment only. For more information call 323-7423 or just stop by 844 Diamond St and say "Hello".

#### J-Styles Barber Shop & Salon

J-Styles is the latest addition to the already bustling Newberry Plaza. Located next to everyone's favorite Dunkin Donuts it joins the established family of businesses serving our neighborhood.

"Newberry is a great community and a great location for my new shop, said owner Ryan Jasper. I picked Newberry because I know that it is a very busy part of town, and offers the high traffic needed for a business like mine. You can't help but notice how busy it is from morning till night."



Jasper, who has been barbering for over 3 years, is following in the foot steps of his grandfather Eugene Jasper, who was a barber in the Army and his great uncle "Hollywood Joe" Mignano, who owned a barber shop in South Williamsport for many years.

Hollywood Style is the theme for the new business where photos of favorite stars adorn the walls. Following the trend in newer barber shops, J-Styles takes traditional barbering ideas a step further with facials, hair coloring and massage along with standard cuts and face shaves. You will feel like a Hollywood star when you experience a warm lather shave, neck massage and other pampering services for men. Women can enjoy styling, manicures and massages. J-Styles offers hair care products, gift items and gift certificates and specials...all at affordable prices.

"My mission," said Ryan, "is to provide professional service to the community and give our customers a clean, comfortable environment for a haircut, or just a place to stop in and chat. That is another reason I picked Newberry, because there is always someone with a smile to help you have a better day."

#### First National Bank Names New Branch Manager



Susan L. Burns has been named branch manager of First National Bank, Newberry Office.

She is a graduate of Lock Haven University and the Central Atlantic Advanced School of Banking, located at Bucknell University. She has 24 years of banking experience. Susan is a member and Past President of the Rotary Club of Williamsport, and is active in the Lycoming County United Way.

The office, located at 2131 West Fourth Street, has been serving the banking needs of the Newberry community since 1982. The customers are served by a team who combined, possess over 92 years of banking experience. Please stop by and visit Susan and the Team!

# CENSUS 2010: IT'S IN OUR HANDS



### Census Bureau Seeks Local Help

Every ten years the United States counts. Its people, that is. Mandated by the US Constitution Article 1, Section 2 requires a census be taken every decade. This has been done every 10 years since 1790. In that year federal marshals on horseback traveled the United States and determined there were 3.9 million people in the newly formed nation. Today it is over 305 million.

Over 50 employees of the US Census Bureau Scranton office will provide clerk, administrative assistant, and supervisor support in preparation for Census 2010. The remaining field positions will be distributed throughout the 15 county area that supports the Scranton office. The Census Bureau is offering full and part-time positions, featuring flexible hours, competitive wages, and an opportunity to work near home. All jobs are temporary. This massive effort will need thousands of individuals

Census 2010

who would like part-time work. The pay ranges from about \$11 - \$14 per hour. Most jobs have very flexible hours and can be done at night or on weekends.

"This is great part-time money for a few weeks of your time," says Charlie Spano, Assistant Manager for Recruiting, who has the responsibility of scheduling all testing in locations around northeast Pennsylvania and maintaining the pool of qualified applicants. Charlie has been to Williamsport several times and plans to staff an office here in the near future. The response has been strong in Williamsport but many more people are needed. Interested applicants can call toll free (866) 861-2010 to schedule a basic skills test or visit the Philadelphia Regional Census Center at

www.census.gov/rophi/www/emply.html.

The population and housing census effort employs some of the most sophisticated technical and operational knowledge and tools available, as well as a work force of 1.3 million temporary employees to count every man, woman and child once and in the right place. Census results are the basis for congressional representation as well as the distribution of federal, state and local funds totaling more than \$300 billion annually. **Census Day is April 1, 2010.** 



## NEWBERRY COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP NEWS

### Annual Open Meeting of the NCP Board

The Annual Open Meeting of the NCP Board will be held Thursday, January 29th at 7:00 PM at the West End Christian Community Center, 901 Diamond Street. Agenda items will include a review of the activities of 2008, a financial report, and Elm Street & NCP plans for 2009. The agenda includes time to exchange ideas to improve our community and address current neighborhood concerns. All interested neighbors and members of City Government are invited to attend.

### 4th Annual Neighborhood Block Party

The 4th Annual Neighborhood Block Party is slated for Friday, April 3, 5:00 to 7:00 PM. Rain or Shine! You won't want to miss the unveiling of our second Newberry Mural *Newberry: Honoring the Past, Planning for Our Future* that was created by the Jackson School Art Club. We will also celebrate the NCP receiving the Elm Street Designation which will give a boost to our neighborhood's revitalization efforts. Refreshments, music and merriment will be provided – we just need you to bring your family, neighbors, friends and pockets full of Newberry Pride. See you on the square, corner of West 4th and Diamond Street in front of the WECCC.

If you've missed an issue of *insideNewberry*, back issues are available. Send your request with a small donation to cover cost of mailing to *insideNewberry* 913 Diamond Street, Williamsport, PA 17701.





Dollar Bazaar staff members say goodbye as store closes for good.

# **A DOLLAR STORE NO MORE**

### **Poor Economy Hits Home as Store Closes**

The unbeatable combination of household staples, unique items at affordable prices and a friendly staff made The Dollar Bazaar at the corner of West 4th and Diamond Street a magnet for neighborhood locals and savvy shoppers from miles around. Unfortunately, this was not enough to overcome the current economic reality that faced store owner Jason Slottje, who determined that December 5, 2008 would be the last day of business for the store.

Jason told *insideNewberry* that the economy, fuel prices, difficulty in finding the bargain items his customers came to expect and the 3 hour trip from his distribution center in Owego, NY made it very difficult to maintain profitability.

"I want to thank the great Newberry staff and the community for all your support over the past 11 years," said Jason.

"Many people, who depended on the store for a lot of food basics, cried when they heard the news," said Nancy Colley, Newberry resident and store Manager for six years. The tremendous bargains offered in the closing months were small consolation prizes for the loyal customers as they shopped and visited with the staff. "We are really going to miss seeing our customers", said Dottie Goehrig, Assistant Manager. Jeanie Baker, Linda Toti and Tony Ernest, staff members, echoed Dottie's sentiments. "We really got to know everyone – it felt like family."

On behalf of the community, we want to thank you for all the years of friendly service and filling so many household needs through the years. The store and the staff will be missed.

*Editor's Note:* As we go to press, word on the street is the vacancy left by the Dollar Bazaar's departure will be filled soon. *insideNewberry* looks forward to welcoming a new neighbor in our spring issue.

## THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOOKS

Today's libraries provide much more than just books. The Lycoming County Library System has added a new "library," the eBranch, an entirely online library branch that is available to any Lycoming County resident from any internet-connected computer. The eBranch website is divided into five sections: Get it NOW, Ask it NOW, LEARN it NOW, for KIDS NOW, and Look it UP NOW.

Get it NOW is your jumping off point for signing up for a library card, downloading audiobooks to listen to on your computer or MP3 player, downloading ebooks to read, and downloading music, videos, and news.

Ask it NOW lets you connect with a live tutor for help with student's homework seven days a week from 3 PM to 10 PM. We have Ferguson's Career Guidance Center here, which gives you information on over 3300 different jobs and tutorials on looking for, finding, getting, and holding the job you want.

LEARN it NOW provides the Home Improvement and Auto Repair Reference Centers, with instructions on how to do many projects in these fields. Learning Express Library provides tutorials and sample tests for many different things. Learn a Language has many different courses to help you learn another language.

For KIDS NOW has online animated audio story books for younger kids. There's a section for preschool kids too. For teens, there are many links to help improve their writing skills, to suggest interesting reading and to let them interact with other teens from around the world.

Look it UP NOW has everything else we couldn't fit under one of the first four categories. Select "Online Resources (Subjects)" to browse through all the different areas, from health to legal to business to education.

Now that I've whetted your appetite you need to know how to get to all the good stuff. The website for the eBranch is <u>http://www.lycolibrary.org</u>. You'll need to register for an eCard account, your own personal account for the use of all Lycoming County Library System online resources. To do so, just click on "Get an eCard" at the top of the home page. Once you fill out the simple form you'll be set to use all the resources we provide. I suggest you take some time to browse through the entire website; you're sure to find something that will intrigue you! ~ *By Doug Loss* 

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6



# **SECOND MURAL UNVEILED**

### Mural Creations Continue

For the second consecutive year, the Newberry Community Partnership (NCP) was awarded a \$600 grant to create a mural celebrating the life and history of our Newberry neighborhood. Collaborating with members of the Jackson School Art Club under the guidance of Sandra Corson, the second panel titled *Newberry: Honoring Our Past, Planning for Our Future* was unveiled Wednesday, December 19th at the school. Members of the Arts Council, NCP Board, Williamsport Area School District, Mayor Campana, along with friends and families of the artists were on hand for the occasion.

"The enthusiastic response to our first mural, *A Look at Our Corner of the City* encouraged us to seek the second grant," said board member Bill Kieser. The public unveiling of the new mural will take place at the 4th Annual Newberry Neighborhood Block Party, Friday, April 3rd (see calendar for details). The mural will be mounted on the West Fourth Street side of the former Dollar Bazaar next to the first mural.

The funds to create the mural are from a grant the Partnership obtained through the City of Williamsport Cultural Grant Program. The City of Williamsport Cultural Grant Program is an initiative between the City of Williamsport and the Pennsylvania Council of the Arts, a state agency and is administered by the Lycoming Arts Council.





LEARN HOW TO HELP YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD IN TIMES OF EMERGENCY Important training dates can

be found on Upcoming Events on the back page.

## GREETINGS FROM THE LINCOLN SENIOR COMMUNITY CENTER!

### How to Avoid Scams & Cons

Joyce O'Brien, Community Liaison Coordinator, Public Protection Division of the Office of Attorney General Tom Corbett will be visiting our center, Wednesday, March 18 at 1:00 PM. The presentation will enlighten us about the latest scams used by con artists; home improvement rip-offs, foreign lottery schemes, telemarketing fraud and sweepstakes scams. This will be a wonderful educational tool for all.

You don't have to wait till March to come visit. The Newberry community is invited to stop by the Center and join our family of friends anytime. Be sure to pickup a center calendar of activities and programs and plan to attend at 2138 Lincoln Street, Newberry. You are welcome and we guarantee that you'll know someone.

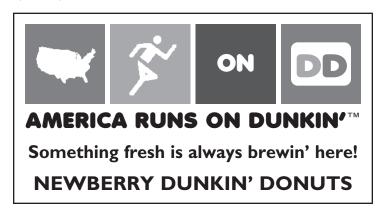
The 4th Friday of each month a **Vital Sign Screening** presented by a staff member from Susquehanna Health and Home Care takes place from 11:30 AM to 1 PM. Everyone in the community is invited to participate.

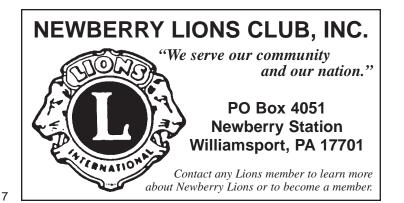
A regular Wednesday feature is a visit from a member of the Newberry Ministerium, who leads a **Bible Study** at 12:30 PM.

A **Hot Lunch** is served every day at noon. The menu varies. See the Sunday issue of Sun-Gazette for the week's menu. Call Marge at 327-5483 by noon the day before to reserve a meal. You do not have to eat lunch in order to participate in any activity.

~ Marge Scott, Center Manager

2138 Lincoln Street • Newberry • 327-5483





# **NEWBERRY ESTATES NEWS**

### Newberry Estates Receives Award

Newberry Estates received an "Excellence in Housing Management" award on November 12th in Dover, DE during the annual PennDel AHMA Fall Management Conference. The award was given by Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency. As a recipient, we had to obtain a score of "Superior" from the Pennsylvania Multifamily Asset Managers during our management inspection. Additionally, we had to score well on our last physical inspection from the Real Estate Assessment Center (REAC). Both inspections are comprehensive and it's difficult to achieve such high scores.

~ Reported by Shannon Nappi

ASHLEY MARTIN joined the Newberry Estates team as a Leasing/ Resident Relations Coordinator in January 2008. She earned a BA in Mass Communications in 2004. Since graduating, Ashley has worked with the public in many capacities. Ashley is instrumental in organizing and overseeing our NNC programs. Ashley



organizes our weekly coffee hour sessions, open library and computer lab sessions, after school program, Girl Scouts, and family nights. Often times, she creates programs for the children that include environmental awareness and crafts. Because of her caring nature and creativity, we have seen an increase of participation within our Neighborhood Networks Center. Ashley currently resides in nearby Jersey Shore and enjoys kayaking, swimming and reading.

JACKLYN KENNEDY, originally from

Elimsport, PA is a Newberry Estates resident/volunteer. Jackie is a single mom who recently graduated from college with a BS in Information Technology and Security. For her senior project Jackie helped us secure new computers and networked them



8

together. She offers computer training classes and individual sessions to the residents. Jackie is as NASCAR fan and is working on her second BS in IT Networking.





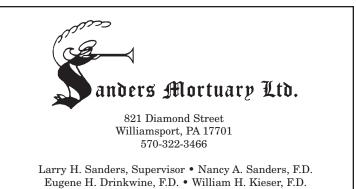
The **NEWBERRY ESTATES NEIGHBORHOOD NETWORKS CENTER** in Williamsport, PA is located with the property community center. This building houses our library and computer lab. We offer a variety of programs to include financial literacy, planning for the future, educational, and social skills building. Our center is in the process of partnering with local agencies to offer more programs to our residents and the surrounding community.

# **NEWBERRY ESTATES**

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# LYCOMING NURSERY SCHOOL

### Newberry School Going Strong for 40 Years

When it comes to filling a need for their children there's no stopping inspired, committed mothers. That's what happened forty years ago when a small group of mothers who wanted something more



formal than play groups for their pre-schoolers, got together and founded the Lycoming Nursery School (LNS). The name derived from the ideal facility they discovered at the Lycoming Presbyterian Church, located at 825 Arch Street in Newberry. It offered large sunny classrooms and a "Big Room" for physical play to keep the children safe and in sight. To get started, the families built most of the equipment such as paint easels, shelves, a sand box, water tables and much more.

The 3,4, and 5 year-olds learn and develop academic and social skills using art, music, Spanish, sign-language, reading and early mathematics, taught by skilled, certified teachers. They enjoy monthly field trips, the weekly Stretch-n-Grow Program, music classes and Storymobile visits.

Bekka Gair, whose daughter was a student said, "Olivia had such a wonderful pre-school experience. She still refers to it often. She talks about her teachers, friends and the field trips they took and the fun things they used to do in the classroom. We feel her transition to kindergarten was made smoothly because of the things she learned at LNS. I was so impressed with the program and the staff that when a position for an aide became available, I decided to apply for it!"

Shelly Treese commented "My children Blayden and Joseph adjusted very fast to LNS. They love to go to school. Every day when they come home they are so excited to show me what they did that day and what they learned. LNS is a wonderful start to schooling for my children in Newberry."

This "parent run" non-profit, non-sectarian pre-school holds fundraisers twice a year along with a March yard sale to help with the costs of field trips and the school's year- end trip on the Hiawatha. To help keep tuition costs down, parents provide a daily healthy snack.

The LNS school board consists of teachers, parents and committee members. New positions are filled by parents in the spring or as needed. Monthly board meetings are open to parents.

Applications for the 2009-2010 school year will begin February and are accepted on a first come first served basis. To attend, a child must be 3 years old by September 1st. Classes begin September 2nd and are held from 9:00 AM to 12 noon, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. For more information contact the registrar at 494-1001.



# **REGULAR MEETINGS OF CIVIC & OTHER GROUPS IN NEWBERRY**

These active groups welcome new members, just call to let them know you'd like to attend. To be listed, contact Editor, **insideNewberry**, 913 Diamond Street, Newberry, PA 17701 or <u>insideNewberry@yahoo.com</u>.

**AUNT MABELINA'S TATTING & LACE MAKING** 

Thursdays • 2:00-5:00 PM Essential Health & Wellness Center • 2128 West Fourth Street

St. John's-Newberry UMC • 2101 Newberry Street Open to boys in Grades 1-5 or ages 7-11

GIRL SCOUT PACK 171

Every Thursday Evening • 7:00 PM • WECCC To join contact the Montoursville branch of "Girl Scouts in the Heart of Pennsylvania" at 368-1705

NARCOTICS (NA) & ALCHOLICS ANONYMOUS (AA) Narcotics Anonymous Meets Sundays Noon-2 PM & Tuesdays 9:00-10:00 AM • WECCC

Alcoholics Anonymous Meets Wednesdays & Saturdays at 7:00 PM • WECCC If attending a meeting, use the side entrance off gravel parking lot. These support groups welcome new members. For additional information, call the WECCC office at 323-6297

NEWBERRY COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP.......329-4141 or 506-1133 2nd Thursday of the Month • 6:00 PM • WECCC If you would like to present an idea or have a neighborhood concern, please call to be placed on the agenda.

#### NEWBERRY WALKING GROUP

Still walking Saturday mornings! Call 220-7458 in advance to let MaryJo know you want to walk or she won't be there to meet you.

#### NON-DENOMINATIONAL MORNING PRAYER

Wednesdays • 9:00 AM • Essential Health & Wellness Center A time for special prayer, guided scripture and centering prayer throughout the winter months for approximately 40-45 minutes.

# **INSIDE OUR SCHOOLS...Reports from Newberry's Schools**

### Jackson Elementary School

### Great American Citizens Helping Others

During the week of November 17th thru the 21st, Jackson Elementary School celebrated American Education Week using the



theme, "Great American Citizens Helping Others". Throughout the week, students participated in various reading, writing and arts activities. For example, after listening to a book recommendation about the story of an ordinary young girl who performed an extraordinary deed, students were encouraged to read their own books and write recommendations for their friends. Other reading activities included older students reading to younger students, several prominent adults reading to the students and poetry reading throughout the week.

In addition to writing book recommendations, students also wrote stories about how they can help others. Excerpts from some of the stories can be found below.

Woven throughout the week's activities were stories of ways people help others. As you can see by the students' writings, they have excellent ideas about ways we can all help others. A family art night was held on Thursday evening when parents and children helped each other create artists' trading cards. It was truly an awesome sight! On the last day of the special week, the entire school came together for a celebration assembly. The student body and staff sang songs, participated in movement activities and celebrated our diversity with a step demonstration by each grade level. In conclusion, at Jackson School we are striving to grow GREAT AMERICAN CITIZENS!

Jackson students help others by...

keeping the earth clean by picking up litter. ~ *Emily, kindergarten* 

holding doors for my class and other people around the school.

~ Chiara, grade 4

helping a kindergartener tie his shoe. ~ Zareina, grade 3

patrolling after school. I make sure that kids don't run.

~ Dawson, grade 5

buying them food.

~ Makenzie, grade 1

cheering people up when they are sad. ~ *Sylvia, grade 2* 

## **Roosevelt Middle School**

### **Roosevelt Pride!**

Roosevelt was recently lauded by the Division of Federal Programs for making some phenomenal progress in reading achievement on the PSSA. First of



all, Roosevelt has been designated as a 2009 Distinguished Title I School. In addition, Roosevelt was one of only 25 Title I schools (the only middle school represented) in which a subgroup, the multi-racial group, improved to 82.4% proficiency in 2008 from 45% in 2006, a gain of 37.4%! As a result of this performance, Roosevelt will be given the maximum cash award of \$5,000 so that the interventions and programs to foster achievement can continue. Additionally, four Roosevelt staff members have been invited to make a presentation in January to representatives from other similar schools with the intent of collaborating about educational best practices. This is just one example of how Roosevelt has brought pride to the Newberry community.

The community can also be proud of Roosevelt's young sports women who show a lot of heart on and off the court. During this past holiday season, some of Santa's helpers were not elves; they were members of the Williamsport girls' basketball team! As you were out and about, you may have seen these young ladies at various venues, braving inclement weather to ask for donations for their clothing and toy drive. Given the economic hardships faced by people in our locale, it is gratifying to know that so many people were willing to help out. What a wonderful opportunity this was for our future women leaders to develop a sense of empathy and community, while at the same time, the community could note that our girls are more than just sports heroes. They are contributing members of society in a multitude of ways. Freshmen team "helpers" from Roosevelt included Sierra Riedy, Stephanie Smith, Sameerah Graham, Alicia Ross, Maura Rose, Lindsay Cohick, Brynne Buchner, Rachel Fatherly, Dominique Thomas and Canisha Belle. Kudos to the girls' basketball team and their coaches!

(Continued on Page 11)



# **INSIDE OUR SCHOOLS...** (Continued from Page 10)

## Saint John's School of The Arts

## **Ballroom Dance A Popular Activity**

With the popularity of the television show Dancing with the Stars. it's no surprise that ballroom dancing has become all the rage for people of all ages. There are numerous dance studios



and community groups who offer ballroom dance instruction in the greater Williamsport area, and the Saint John's School of the Arts is no exception. The School is located right in our own Newberry backyard (2101 Newberry Street), and its classes have quickly become well-attended because of the School's amiable and knowledgeable instructors, excellent facilities, and comfortable, encouraging atmosphere.

SOTA ballroom dance instructors John Stugrin and Mimi Troisi. are a husband and wife duo who have been offering classes at SOTA for several years and have a teaching style that is both inviting and informative. If you're interested in learning more about ballroom dance, want to get some great exercise, spend more quality time with someone you enjoy being with, and want to make some new friends, then check out our new ballroom classes, which begin in January, 2009. Trying out ballroom dance is a great new year's resolution!

**BALLROOM DANCE CLASS DATES:** January 8, 15, 22, 29 • February 5, 12, 19, 26 March 5, 12, 19 (No class March 26) • April 2

ROMANTIC (BALLROOM) DANCES: Thursdays 6:30-7:30 PM. This 12 week class will focus on these "romantic" dances: Waltz,, Rumba, and Nightclub Two Step.

SWING (BALLROOM) DANCES: Thursdays 7:30-8:30 PM This 12 week class will focus on these "swing" dances: West Coast Swing, East Coast Swing, Jitterbug, and Hustle.

Each class takes the student from beginner to intermediate level. You may take one or both (combo) classes and will have the option to purchase a DVD of material covered in the class. You must pre-register for all classes. Contact the School of the Arts at 570-327-5575 for more information.



## West Branch School **Teaching Compassion**



West Branch School teacher Stacie

Lakatos was looking for a way to inspire her students to serve others. At the Newberry school, Stacie said "I want to teach our children math, language arts and science, but I also want to teach them to see outside themselves and know they can make a difference." The five, six and seven-year-olds definitely had an opportunity to reach out to others and found doing so changed them as well.

As part of a new program, small groups of West Branch school students will visit Sycamore Manor nursing home residents twice a month. The children and residents will spend time visiting, putting on skits, playing checkers, doing crafts and serenading each other with songs. "This effort is definitely a give and take - one week we plan the activities and the next week the residents plan the program," said Stacie.

During the initial visit in November, the residents were overjoyed to be with the kids and the kids loved visiting the residents. Quentin Hill, a first grader, said "I was nervous at first, and then I didn't want to leave! I wish we could go every week." Six year old Spencer Thomas reports "We sang Mr. Golden Sun, I've Been Working on the Railroad and other songs and then I taught them Rocks-Paper-Scissors in Chinese!" Annika Waffenschmidtt, who practiced her Spanish with a Hispanic resident, said "I like to bring them happiness."

Stacie noted that she saw a side of some children she had never seen before. "One shy first grader seemed very comfortable chatting with two female residents. Another quiet boy had an animated conversation about baseball with two residents." Stacie saw him demonstrating his batting technique while the men coached him.

No doubt, both groups look forward to their next visit. As Stacie observed, "Bringing joy to others brings joy to you as well. I hope to inspire a life-long willingness to serve and help others." For more about West Branch School, visit westbranchschool.org. or call 570-323-5498.



Annika Waffenschmidt, second grader at West Branch School, reads to a group during a visit to Sycamore Manor.

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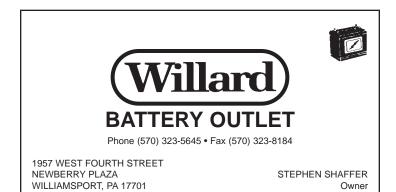


Check the calendar frequently for updates of events happening in the community. Tell your friends!

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#### UPCOMING **NEWBERRY-RELA** TED EVEN

### **JANUARY 2009**

- Saturday, January 10 WBS Monthly Music Series
- 1 PM at the West Branch School, 755 Moore Avenue
- Friday, January 16 WECCC Dance Party
- See page 3 for details
- Thursday, January 29 NCP Annual Open Board Meeting 7 PM at the West End Christian Community Center
- · Agenda items will include a review of the activities of 2008, a financial report, and Elm Street & NCP plans for 2009

#### ALSO IN JANUARY...

#### Learn How to Help Your Neighborhood in Times of Emergency

- January 20, 9 AM to Noon
- January 20, 7 PM to 10 PM
- January 24, 9 AM to 3 PMJanuary 27, 9 AM to Noon OR
- January 24, 9 AM to 3 PM
  January 27, 7 PM to 10 PM
- January 31, 9 AM to 3 PM Pick 1 of the 2 (16-Hour) Programs
- January 31, 9 AM to 3 PM

Lycoming County Department of Public Safety 542 County Farm Road • Montoursville For registration or information go to www.lyco.org (click on Citizen's Corps Council) or call 570-433-4461.

#### **FEBRUARY 2009**

- Saturday, February 14 WBS Monthly Music Series
- 1 PM at the West Branch School, 755 Moore Avenue

#### Saturday, February 21 – Pork & Sauerkraut Dinner

- 4 PM 7 PM at the Lycoming Presbyterian Church Fellowship Hall, 825 Arch Street
- Menu will include: Pork, Sauerkraut, Hot Dogs, Mashed Potatoes, Applesauce, Roll & Beverage and Dessert
- Adults \$8.00, Children 12 & Under \$4.00 Open to the public!

#### **MARCH 2009**

#### Saturday, March 14 - Lycoming Nursery School Yard Sale

• 8 AM - 1 PM at 825 Arch Street

#### Saturday, March 14 – WBS Monthly Music Series

• 1 PM at the West Branch School, 755 Moore Avenue

#### Saturday, March 21 - WECCC Auction

- 4 PM at WECCC
- Funds raised will be used to continue serving the community
- See page 4 for more information

#### Saturday, March 28 - Ladies Night Out

- Sponsored by Williamsport's Original Sons of Italy, Ufficiale Bersaglieri, Lodge 138
- 7 PM to 11 PM at Duboistown Fire Company, Euclid Avenue
- For tickets call 326-9222

#### ALSO IN JANUARY, FEBRUARY & MARCH...

**Ballroom Dance Classes at the School of the Arts** See page 11 for more information.

#### **APRIL 2009**

Friday, April 3 - NCP 4th Annual Block Party See page 5 for details



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