

## **Board of Supervisors**

David J. Petrosky, Chairman  
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Marlene Beavers, Supervisor  
John Brostoski, Supervisor  
William M. Fells, Supervisor

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David Lamm

## **Zoning Code Enforcement**

### **Officer**

William J. Wright

### **Zoning Secretary**

Melinda Thomas

## **Sewage Enforcement Officer**

George Van Brunt

## **Newsletter Editor**

William J. Wright

## **Newsletter Co-Editor/Graphics**

Melinda Thomas

## *From Your Supervisors...*

### **What's New in Covington Township**

Lackawanna County had completed the beach at Covington Park, which was open daily over the summer from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. with life guards on duty. The beach was closed in mid-August until next season. In addition to swimming, the county park has a sheltered picnic area, a small children's area, walking trails, and an all purpose sports field. The water in DeSandis Pond, where the beach is located, is checked by the county on a regular basis for contaminants.

The road leading to the park (Sanko Road) will be receiving a coat of blacktop courtesy of an approved multi-modal grant obtained by the township.

A number of alterations are being made to the building which houses Bill's ShopRite supermarket. Dr. Haines and Dr. Pacyna's offices, along with the architectural offices, have moved to the back building and in their place, the Wine and Spirits store will be relocated. The current location of the Wine and Spirits store is expected to become an expanded Bill's Café separate from the grocery store.

The Board of Supervisors, at a June special meeting which preceded their regular meeting, approved a recommended zoning change for the property directly behind Nammo from MP-RV to M1. With the change, Nammo intends to eventually expand its operation to include additional work space and personnel. The change in zone was unanimously approved by the board at their public hearing.

The construction of an automatic and self service automobile wash facility adjacent to Peebles Department Store in Bill's Plaza has begun and should be completed in early September.



Upon the final review of the Planning Commission and approval of the Board of Supervisors, the construction of a specialty shop containing a bakery and coffee shop is expected at the corner of Route 502 and Route 435. Restaurant seating and a drive through availability are likely to be part of the facility.

We have received many inquiries and questions regarding the construction of an entrance/exit driveway on a parcel of land next to Kay's Restaurant on Route 435. Although there has been much speculation as to what the developer has planned, I can assure you, at this time, no proposals have been submitted to the township for approval. As part of the approval process, any development requires an approved entrance/exit to the proposed development by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (Penn DOT).

In less than two years, Covington Township plans to hold a celebration to mark its bicentennial. Township Supervisor, Marlene Beavers plans to hold a series of events highlighting the townships inception and focusing on before and after pictures of the township. Ted Baird, a township resident and member of the

# 200 Years!

Lackawanna Historical Society, is seeking old picture albums, journals, diaries, and artifacts. People interested in participating can contact Marlene Beavers at (570) 842-7580 or Ted Baird at (570) 842-2708 or tedbaird@verizon.net

The continued county funding of the North Pocono Senior Center is looking more positive. Supervisors John Brostoski and Thomas Yerke have been working with county representatives relative to funding for the center. In any case, Chairman Petrosky has noted that even with assistance from the county, the center will not be funded completely. As a result, the township has sent letters to neighboring communities asking for a small yearly donation. Most costs not completely funded by the county will be handled by Covington Township with hopefully some help from neighboring communities from which residents use the facility.

Three township residents, Glenn Khoury, Roslyn Davis, and Charles Raziano, have been appointed as Alternates on the Zoning Hearing Board.

## Covington Township at your Service

Board of Supervisors (570) 842-8336 ~ Chairman David J. Petrosky (Meeting 1st Tues. of the month @ 7pm; Work session last Tues of the month @ 7pm)

Building Inspector (570) 842-4607 David Lamm, 8am - 5pm

Dept. of Public Works (570) 842-8356 ~ Director Thomas M. Yerke

District Magistrate (570) 842-2111 ~ John Mercuri, Esquire

Fire Dept. (570) 842-4130 ~ Brad Jones, Fire Chief

Main Office (570) 842-8336 ~ Kate Tierney, Secretary; 9am-4pm Monday-Friday, Moffat Estate

Pavilion Rental (570) 842-7580 ~ Marlene Beavers

Planning Commission (570) 842-6548 ~ Denise Hokien, Secretary (Work Session 1st Wed. of the month @7pm, Meeting 3rd Wed. of the month @7pm)

Police Dept. (570) 842-6400 ~ Bernie Klocko, Chief

Real Estate Tax Collection (570) 842-8336 ~ Kate Tierney (Tues. 9am-12pm, 1-3pm; Wed. & Thurs. 9-11am, or by appointment)

Recreation Committee (570) 842-8336 (Meeting 3rd Thurs. of the month @7:00pm)

Senior Center (570) 843-6485

Sewage Enforcement Officer (570) 842-9333 ~ George Van Brunt

Sewer Authority Office (570) 842-0757 ~ Ann Bentler, Manager (10am-6pm Monday-Friday; Meeting 2nd Tues. of the month @7pm)

Township Engineer (570) 237-5254 ~ Mary Louise Butler, P.E., Engineering Surveying Consultants & Design, Inc.

Earned Income Tax & Local Service Tax Collector (866) 701-7206 ~ Berkheimer Assoc.

Zoning Office & Zoning Hearing Board Secretary (570) 842-0457 ~ Melinda Thomas (8am-4pm Mon.-Fri.)

Zoning Officer (570) 842-0457 ~ William J. Wright (9am-12pm Monday-Friday or by appointment)



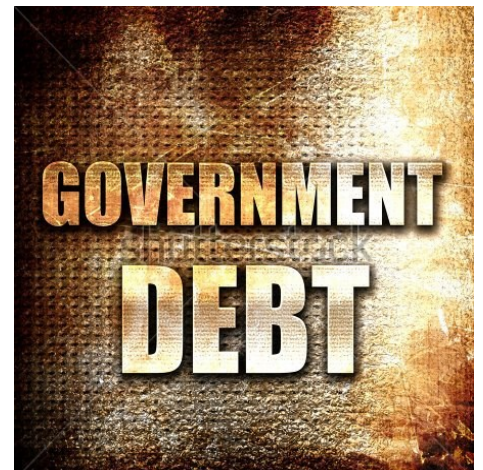
## What you should know about deficits and the national debt before it becomes an out of control crisis

By William J. Wright

Quite often we hear various figures being thrown around by politicians relative to the state and health of our economy. Numbers related to our national debt are frequently mentioned. To effectively understand this matter, it is essential to understand the difference between deficit spending and the national debt. Deficit spending simply means the particular government entity (local, state or federal) is spending more each year than they are acquiring in revenue from taxes or other sources. To cover the shortfall (deficit), the national government issues interest bearing certificates (bonds). When you add all the shortfalls (deficits) over the years you arrive at a figure which represents the national debt of the United States Government. Currently, this accumulated debt is approximately nineteen trillion dollars (~\$19,000,000,000,000.00). The U.S. Government has agreed to pay back, with interest, those individuals and countries that have purchased the debt certificates. Normally, however, the government pays the holders of debt certificates back by issuing more debt certificates. (They issue additional debt to pay the debt which is reaching maturity.) So, in any one year, the government is issuing new debt to cover the yearly deficit and additional debt to cover that portion of the debt reaching maturity.

There are two primary concerns or fears that result from these practices:

1. In the near future, the interest alone on the debt will soon become the third (3rd) largest expenditure of the United States Government. As a result, the government's ability to finance essential programs (defense, infrastructure needs, education and other society needs) will be extremely compromised.



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## Find Your Name Contest

The hidden name from our last newsletter was John and Ann Harvey. They won a gift certificate compliments of Mendicino's Restaurant. Another name chosen randomly appears in this newsletter. Can you find your name?

## Advertising

Covington Corner is distributed quarterly to approximately 1,000 households and/or businesses and surrounding areas.

If you are interested in advertising in our newsletter, please call Melinda Thomas at (570) 842-0457.

The cost of a 2" x 2 1/2" ad is \$25.00.



## From Your Police Department...



### Everything you need to know about Pennsylvania's Young Driver Law

Pennsylvania licenses young drivers through a three-stage program, reflecting the driver's gradual progression in skill, experience, and decision-making ability.

#### LEARNER'S PERMIT

After successfully completing a physical examination, vision screening and knowledge test, young drivers may begin behind-the-wheel practice. Basic driving skills and safe habits are developed under adult supervised conditions. Requirements under the law include:

- Learner's permit valid for one year: The learner's permit will be valid for one year with extensions for those requiring more practice time.
- Scheduling your skills test: Penn DOT encourages students to schedule their road test for their earliest eligibility date printed on their learner's permit at the time their permit is issued.
- Six months of learning: A six-month skill-building period to practice and gain experience is required before a young driver may take the road test for a junior license.
- Proper supervision: You must be accompanied by a licensed driver who is at least 21 years of age or a parent, guardian, person in loco parentis or spouse who is at least 18 years of age and licensed with the same or higher class vehicle that appears on your learner's permit.
- Skills requirements: 65 hours of adult-supervised skill building. Except for a motorcycle learners permit, this requirement includes no less than ten hours of nighttime driving and five (5) hours of bad weather driving. A parent or guardian must certify (Parent or Guardian Certification Form (DL-180C)) that the young driver's six months of skill building included at least 65 hours of practical, adult supervised driving experience.
- Nighttime driving restriction: The young driver may not be behind the wheel between the hours of 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. Young drivers may travel for employment and for volunteer or charitable service during these hours, but they must carry proper documentation.
- Passenger limitation: The number of passengers must not exceed the number of seat belts in the vehicle. This applies to all drivers under age 18.
- Required sanctions for high-risk drivers under age 18: A young driver's permit will be suspended for 90 days if he or she accumulates six or more points or is convicted of a single high-speed violation (driving 26 miles per hour or more over the posted speed limit).

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## Neighborhood Events

Ladies Auxiliary VFW Post 5207 Breakfast - 2nd Sunday of each month 9 am-noon (adults \$5 child 12 & under \$2)

NP Rotary Club—Meets at the Elmhurst Country Club on Thursdays 6 pm in the summer, at alternate NP sites January through March (570)842-2547

Minisink Lions Club—meets 1st & 3rd Thursday at the VFW—contact Patrick Verrastro (570) 689-2843

Covington Fire Co. Women's Auxiliary— Meets the 1st Monday of each month at 7 pm call Betty for more information (570) 842-0448

NP Kids Closet - Supplies clothing to needy area children. In need of all sizes in socks and underwear. Also, gently used shoes & sneakers of any size. To make a donation or for an appointment, please call Sara Keating at (610)390-7961 or (570)689-4383.

NP Food Pantry— Bill's Plaza (next to Tasty Swirl) every Thursday noon -1 pm. Proof of North Pocono School District Full-time residency required. Dry goods donations appreciated. (570) 842-4741

Parish Buffet Breakfast—St. Eulalia's Church, Elmhurst, 3rd Sunday of every month 8:30 am -12:30 pm in church hall (65+ \$5) (12-64 \$6) (6-11 \$3) (5+ under free)

Take Off Pounds Sensibly (TOPS)—each Tuesday 6:30pm, Moscow Borough Building, Van Brunt St. Moscow

Jefferson Twp. Fire Co.—Station 29 All You Can Eat Breakfast first Sunday of every month 8 am—noon

NP Library - (all weekly events) Children's Story & Craft Hour on Tuesdays at 11 am; Bridge Club Fridays 12:30 pm; Family Game Night Thursdays 5 pm; Family Movie Night last Friday of each month 7 pm; Adult Book Club on the third Thursday 6 pm; Mexican Train Tuesdays 12:30 pm; Lap-sit Story Hour for children up to 2 years old on Fridays at 10 am; Third Saturday is Science Saturday 11 am (570) 842-4700 [www.lclshome.org/npococono](http://www.lclshome.org/npococono)

Business 2 Business—Meets every Thursday 8-9 am at Friendly's in Dunmore (570) 842-2808

Moscow Mason Lodge - Meets 2nd Thursday of each month, Lodge Hall, Green St., Moscow, Dinner 6:30, Meeting 7:30 (570) 842-6591

North Pocono Cultural Society - Meeting 2nd Monday of each month, 7 pm at the Moscow Borough Building 123 Van Brunt Street, Moscow (570) 357-1672.

NP LovinLife Ministries - meets every Wednesday 7pm Bible Study at the Swartz Residence, 21 Swartz Drive. New members are welcome. (570) 842-3205

The Lucky Horse Shoes 4H Club - meets the 1st Sunday of each month 1 pm at Woodlands Stables, Freytown Road call Carol (570) 842-3742.



# September 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	 This back-to-school season, <u>double-check the weight of your child's backpack</u> . It should be less than 10% of his or her body weight. (For a student who weighs 100 pounds, that means no more than 10 pounds.)			1	2	3 Recycling 9-11am
4	5 NPSD Closed <b>Township offices are closed.</b> <i>Labor Day</i>	6 Board of Supervisors Meeting 7pm	7 Planning Commission Work Session 7pm	8 "Far and away the best prize that life has to offer is the chance to work hard at work worth doing" - Theodore Roosevelt	9	10 End of Summer Fun Day 5pm - 9pm
11  Never Forget <i>Grandparent's Day</i>	12	13 Sewer Authority Meeting 7pm	14	15 Recreation Committee Meeting 7pm	16	17 Recycling 9-11am Meatloaf Dinner @ Gouldsboro Fire Co. 4pm - 7pm
18 "Becoming a grandmother is wonderful. One moment you're just a mother. The next you are all-wise and prehistoric." - Pam Brown	19	20	21 Planning Commission Meeting 7pm	22 <b>WELCOME FALL</b>	23 "Autumn is a second spring where every leaf is a flower." Albert Camus	24
25 "Some of the best educators are grandparents." - Charles W. Shedd	26	27 Board of Supervisors Work Session 7pm	28 Young people need something stable to hang on to - A sense of their own past, a hope for their own future. Most of all, they need what grandparents can give them.	29	30 - The Fresh Quotes	

## September 11...

I will never forget feeling scared and vulnerable...  
 I will never forget feeling the deep sad loss of so many lives...  
 I will never forget the smell of the smoke that reached across the water and delivered a deep feeling of doom into my gut...  
 I will never forget feeling the boosted sense of unity and pride...  
 I will never forget seeing the courageous actions of so many men and women...  
 I will never forget seeing people of all backgrounds working together in community...  
*I will never forget seeing what hate can destroy...*  
*I will never forget seeing what **love** can heal...*  
 -Dr. Steve Maraboli

## September is National Food Safety Education Month!

Keep the refrigerator temperature at or below 40 degrees Fahrenheit to reduce the risk of foodborne illnesses.

## End of Summer Fun Day

The annual End of Summer Fun Day is scheduled for Saturday, September 10th from 5 p.m. - 9 p.m.


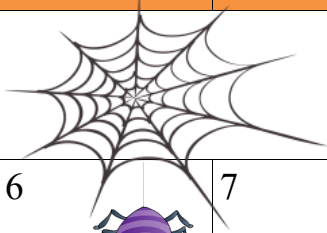







This is a free event offering fun for the whole family that's sponsored by the Board of Supervisors and is under the direction of Marlene Beavers.

There will be a concert by the enjoyable and hilarious Airport Pickers Band, along with food and refreshments.



Spend an evening with us at the Moffat Estate, enjoy the music, meeting new people, and even a beautiful sunset!

# October 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1 Recycling 9-11am
2	3	4 Board of Supervisors Meeting 7pm	5 Planning Commission Work Session 7pm	6 	7	8 Spaghetti Dinner Gouldsboro Fire Co. 4pm - 7pm
9 	10 Township offices are closed. Columbus Day NPSD Closed	11 Sewer Authority Meeting 7pm	12 "The fallen leaves in the forest seemed to make even the ground glow and burn with light." -Malcolm Lowry, October Ferry to Gabriola	13	14	15 Recycling 9-11am
16 	17	18	19 Planning Commission Meeting 7pm	20 Recreation Committee Meeting 7pm	21 	22
23	24	25 Board of Supervisors Work Session 7pm	26 "Fall has always been my favorite season. The time when everything bursts with its last beauty, as if nature had been saving up all year for the grand finale." - Lauren DeStefano, Wither	27	28	29
30	31 					

## For Your Better Health.....

Did you know eating more fruits and vegetables could add years to your life? Vitamin C may be the reason. A study of 100,000 people found that those who ate two daily servings each of fruits and vegetables and who had the highest levels of vitamin C in their blood were 20% less likely to die early than those with low vitamin C levels and low fruit and vegetable intake. Bell peppers, kale, tomatoes, and broccoli are C-rich veggies. Black cherries, oranges, grapefruit, and peaches are vitamin C-packed fruits.

The American Journal of Clinical Nutrition

Whether you get it from your kids, your career, or volunteer work, a sense of meaning in life can protect your heart. Researchers analyzed studies that followed more than 137,000 people for about nine years. The studies tracked whether the people died, how they died, and whether they reported having a sense of purpose. During the study period, the more purpose-driven people were 23% less likely to die of any cause and 19% less likely to have a heart attack or stroke, or to need bypass surgery or cardiac stenting.

Mount Sinai St. Luke's and Mount Sinai Roosevelt

## National Debt

Continued from page 2

- There is always a fear, as in Greece, that the government will default on its loans. This could simply happen if, for some reason, the government was unable to sell new or additional debt certificates. With such a massive debt needing to be refinanced periodically and with additional debt being accumulated yearly (resulting from deficits), it is not unthinkable that this could happen and, as the debt increases, it becomes increasingly probable each year.

In any case, there are many wiser people than me who strongly believe it is time to get the debt under control.

The problem is how can this best be accomplished?

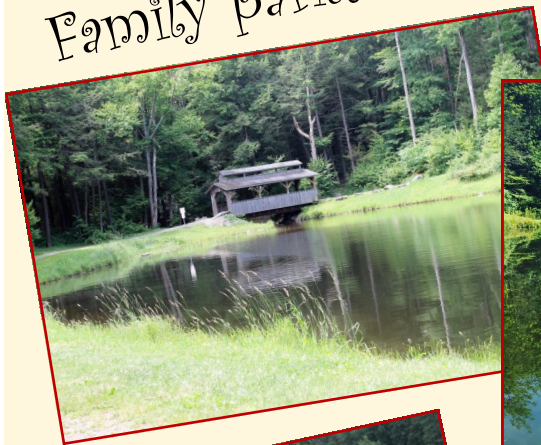
There are those who feel we should raise taxes to cover the deficit and others who feel we should reduce spending. Keep in mind if you cut spending, there are programs and individuals who will be adversely affected and, of course, if you raise taxes, there are many people who feel they are already overtaxed.

What we may need are some good people to run for office who are willing to step out of the box and do what is right for America and not sweep the enormity of the problem under the rug.



# Covington Township

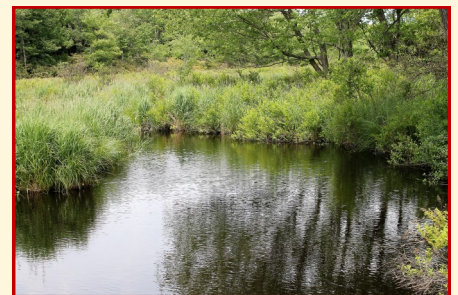
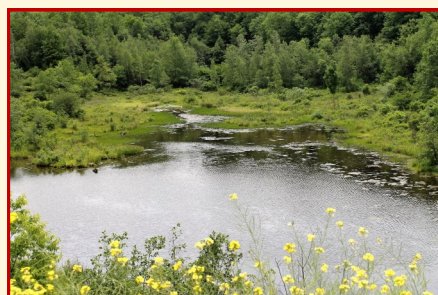
Family parks



A great place to live and....



Exceptional  
Schools







## Residential Communities







a great place to raise a family!



## Convenient Shopping & a Variety of Restaurants



# November 2016

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
		1 Board of Supervisors Meeting 7pm	2 Planning Commission Work Session 7pm	3 Zoning Hearing Board Quarterly Meeting 7pm	4	5 Recycling 9-11am
6 	7	8 <b>Election Day</b> Sewer Authority Meeting 7pm	9 "Gratitude doesn't change the scenery. It merely washes clean the glass you look through so you can clearly see the colors." ~ Richelle E. Goodrich	10	11 NPSD Closed 	12 Wine Tasting Festival @ Spring Brook Vol. Fire Dept. 12pm - 6pm
13 "As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words but to live by them." ~ John F. Kennedy	14	15	16 NPSD Early Dismissal Planning Commission Meeting 7pm	17 Recreation Committee Meeting 7pm	18 NPSD Early Dismissal (K-5 only)	19 Recycling 9-11am
20 "Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow." ~ Melody Beattie	21	22	23 NPSD Early Dismissal	24 <b>Offices closed</b>  NPSD Closed	25 <b>Offices closed</b> Black Friday Super Bingo @ 6:30pm Gouldsboro Fire Co. NPSD Closed	26
27 "Gratitude is not only the greatest of virtues, but the parent of all others." - Marcus Tullius Cicero	28 NPSD Closed	29 Board of Supervisors Work Session 7pm	30	<b>Election Day Dinners</b> ⇒ Ham dinner at the Daleville United Methodist Church For more information call: (570) 842-6776 ⇒ Soup sale at Spring Brook Volunteer Fire Company For more information call: (570) 842-2311		



## November 8th (Tuesday) is Election Day!

Residents of Covington Township may vote at the Senior Center, located directly behind the Police Station on Route 435.

## PA's Young Driver Law

Continued from page 3

- Motorcycle license requirements: Successful completion of a Pennsylvania Motorcycle Safety Program Basic Rider Course is a requirement for a young rider before a motorcycle license can be issued.

## JUNIOR LICENSE

Young drivers who graduate to a junior license have satisfactorily completed all learner's permit requirements, including the road test, but the following restrictions still apply:

- Required sanctions for high-risk drivers under age 18: A young driver's junior license will be suspended for 90 days if he or she accumulates six or more points or is convicted of a single high speed violation (driving 26 miles per hour or more over the posted speed limit).
- Nighttime driving restriction begins at 11 p.m.: Even with a junior license, a young driver may not be behind the wheel between the hours of 11 p.m. and 5 a.m. Exceptions for employment and volunteer or charitable service will apply, but young drivers must carry proper documentation regarding their need to travel.

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## Gypsy Moth Suppression Program

Press release from Lackawanna County, August 2, 2016

Lackawanna County would like to inform property owners that it is accepting requests for spraying for gypsy moth caterpillars in the Spring of 2017.

Lackawanna County is cooperating with the PA Department of Conservation & Natural Resources-Bureau of Forestry in a joint effort to spray gypsy moth caterpillars next year in certain residential & public high use areas within the County. Treatment locations will be selected on the basis of resident requests and subsequent surveys. No treatment areas have been determined.

Information on the program's objective and qualified treatment areas is available by calling Mike Chisdock, the County's gypsy moth program coordinator, at 570-963-6850.



# Veteran's Corner

By Retired Army Lieutenant Colonel Robert L. Renna

## SUPPORTING OUR VETERANS

### *About Tobyhanna Army Depot*

For all you retired veterans, there are activities at Tobyhanna Army Depot that you should be aware of. For starters, the Depot has a well stocked Commissary and Post Exchange (PX). You can also purchase gas for your automobile at a reduced price with the Armed Forces Credit Card. The credit card can be applied for at the PX.

Also, located at the Depot in building 337 is the Retirement Services Office. The office is manned by volunteers who are there Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday from 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. They will assist you with all matters concerning Retirement and Pre-Retirement. The office is staffed by a Lawyer on Tuesday only. He will assist you with making a regular will, living will and power of attorney. Call 570 615-9349 for information or an appointment.

For additional information on Depot activities which are planned throughout the year, call 570 615-7000 or go to [TOBYHANNAARMYDEPOT.NET](http://TOBYHANNAARMYDEPOT.NET)

## *The Best on Earth: A Veteran's Day Tribute*

If someone has done military service,  
They earn the title "veteran," and more;  
They earn our deep respect and admiration;  
That they are special no one can ignore.

They sacrificed the comforts we enjoy;  
The list is long of all the things they gave.  
Our veterans are extraordinary people;  
They're loyal, dedicated, true and brave.

When terror and invasion were real threats,  
They showed us they could handle any storm.  
We owe our freedoms and our very lives  
To our veterans, who served in uniform.

Our veterans should be celebrities;  
They're exceptional; no other group compares.  
We're grateful for the many things they've done;  
They're always in our hearts and in our prayers.

We owe our veterans support and friendship;  
Let no one ever question what they're worth.  
These men and women served us and our country,  
Our veterans--the very best on earth.



## Clothes Closet

- WHEN:** Last Thursday of every month  
**TIME:** 11am-7pm  
**WHERE:** Daleville United Methodist Church  
 423 Dorantown Road, Covington Twp PA 18444  
**DETAILS:** Free clothing available for men, women, and children.
- \* Light snacks will be available.
  - \* Donation accepted of new or gently used, clean clothing on Monday's & Thursday's 7am-12pm.
  - \* Emergency clothing, leave a message at (570) 842-6776



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## PA's Young Driver Law

- Seatbelt requirements: The number of passengers must not exceed the number of seat belts in the vehicle, and all seatbelts must be worn. This applies to all passengers and drivers under the age of 18. What You Need To Know About Pennsylvania's March 2015 Young Driver Law
- Passenger restrictions: You may not carry more than one (1) passenger under the age of 18 who is not an immediate family member unless one (1) of your parents or guardians is in the vehicle with you. After the first six (6) months of driving on a junior license, the limit is increased to no more than three (3) passengers under the age of 18 who are not immediate family members unless one (1) of your parents or guardians is in the vehicle with you. The increased limit does not apply to any junior driver who has ever been involved in a crash in which you were partially or fully responsible or who is convicted of any driving violation.

### UNRESTRICTED LICENSE

A regular driver's license - typically issued at age 18 - provides unrestricted driving privileges to teenagers who have progressed through the graduated system and have an established history of safe driving. If certain conditions are met, some young drivers may qualify early for a license before age 18.

- Unrestricted license before age 18: A young driver cannot obtain an unrestricted license before age 18 unless he or she has maintained a crash-and conviction-free record for 12 months and has completed an approved driver's education course. To apply for an unrestricted license before age 18, young drivers must complete a special form, DL-59, and submit it to Penn DOT along with a certificate of completion from an approved driver's education course, An affidavit of consent from a parent, guardian, person in loco parentis or spouse who is at least 18 years of age must also be provided.
- Passenger limitation: The number of passengers must not exceed the number of seat belts in the vehicle. This applies to all drivers under age 18.
- Required sanctions for high-risk drivers under age 18: A young driver's unrestricted license will be suspended for 90 days if he or she accumulates six or more points or is convicted of a single high-speed violation (driving 26 miles per hour or more over the posted speed limit).



## COMMONLY ASKED LEGAL QUESTIONS

By Attorney John J. Mercuri

**ATTORNEY  
JOHN J. MERCURI**  
570-842-4574

EXPERIENCE IN ALL TYPES  
OF LEGAL ISSUES

**personal injury claims, trials, family  
law, business law, real estate, title  
insurance, wills and estates**

### **What are the basic penalties for illegal littering, posting, or trash dumping?**

A person who causes any waste, trash or detrimental substance to be deposited on any roadway or land of another commits a summary offense with a fine of between \$50.00 and \$300.00 plus costs. Attaching or posting any advertisement on the property of another without first obtaining written consent of the owner is also a summary offense under the Pennsylvania Crimes Code. A person who interferes with or disturbs the contents of any waste receptacle can be guilty of a third degree misdemeanor with a fine of between \$300.00 and \$1,000.00 plus costs. An owner operator or agent of a debris collection vehicle who knowingly causes any part of the load to be deposited upon any road or the land of another is guilty of a second degree misdemeanor with a fine of between \$500.00 and \$5,000.00. All of these offenses carry the possibility of jail time.

### **Are there other Pennsylvania Laws that can prevent littering or illegal trash dumping?**

Yes. Such conduct might be determined to be a public nuisance under the Crimes Code which is a misdemeanor of the second degree. There is also legal precedent in Pennsylvania for convicting illegal trash dumpers of the crime of theft of services. In Wesleyville Borough, Erie County, people had dumped old furniture, mattresses, tires, computers, chemicals, paint, etc., at the Borough's Recycling Center all in violation of the posted rules. When the violators were caught with the use of surveillance cameras, 18 individuals were found guilty of theft of services under Section 3926 of the Pennsylvania Crimes Code. The grading of this offense ranges from a summary offense all the way up to felony offenses based upon the amount of services that have been misappropriated by the illegal dumper.

### **How can Pennsylvania communities prevent illegal dumping?**

Pennsylvania communities rely upon their local police departments and the Pennsylvania State Police and citizen reporting to enforce all Pennsylvania Laws against illegal dumping. In addition, in 2015 Pennsylvania began a program that provides the loan of high quality surveillance cameras and training to Pennsylvania municipalities and community groups to help them fight illegal dumping. Since then there have been over 30 convictions involving Pennsylvania communities, state forests and recycling drop-off centers across the state.

More information on this program is available at the web address: [IllegalDumpFreePA.org](http://IllegalDumpFreePA.org)

*"living and working in your community"*



## **DUFFY & SNOWDON FUNERAL HOME**

401 Church Street • Moscow PA 18444 • Kevin J. Duffy, Supervisor

570-842-8501





As you undoubtedly know, we had exceptionally powerful rain storms hit the Covington Area on the last weekend in July. The series of storms resulted in a number of streets being flooded and a great deal of debris being washed into the roadways, making some roadways quite dangerous. The road department did respond as quickly as possible and made a sincere effort to clean portions of township roads. A special thanks to Noelle Fayocavitz our Police Department and volunteer Fire Department for their assistance in providing safe travels for everyone.



Keep in mind, your fire company can always use a helping hand. Call (570) 842-4130 for more information.

## 7th Annual William R. Kramer Car Show

The Kramer family would like to thank the many people and businesses for their support in making this annual car show a success! There were approximately 200 cars and 1,000 people in attendance. All proceeds are used for North Pocono High School scholarships. For more information, contact Bill Kramer at (570) 604-2227. Information can also be found at [www.wrkmembership.com](http://www.wrkmembership.com)



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## *11th Annual Fishing Derby*

The Annual fishing derby will be held at the Moffat Estate pond on October 15th from 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. The derby is proudly sponsored by the Covington Township Recreation Committee. The pond will be stocked with several hundred hungry trout.

This free event is open to all children ages 15 and younger living permanently within the North Pocono School District. Unfortunately, no one over 15 years of age is allowed to fish.

**You must pre-register to participate.** Registration will be **limited to the first 150 applicants.** Registration forms may be obtained from the Covington Township Municipal office, 20 Moffat Drive, Covington Township.

*Registration must be returned no later than October 7th.*

- Fishing begins at 9am with the last cast at 12 noon.
- Anglers must bring their own fishing gear and bait.
- Children under 6 years old **must** have their own personal life jacket.
- Limits on the number of trout is three per angler. **NO** trout throw backs permitted. Catch & keep only.
- All fish other than trout must be released.
- Adults may assist children, but are not permitted to fish.
- There is no charge for children 15 years of age and younger. Unfortunately, no one over 15 years of age is allowed to fish.
- **ALL** children must be accompanied by an adult.
- Prizes will be awarded in three age groups.

