

# READY...SET...RETIRE!

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 1

JANUARY 2008

## Congratulations to the Retirees of 2007!



<u>Date Retired</u>	<u>Name of Retiree</u>	<u>Department</u>
01/30/07	Larue Danley	RMS
02/02/07	George Kaufman	Pre-Release Center
02/03/07	Fred Koch	Prison
03/23/07	Joe Vermilya	Prison
04/13/07	Andy Follmer	Commissioners
07/06/07	Les Gruver	DPS
07/27/07	Allen Kaplan	Planning & Comm. Dev.
08/24/07	Harry Bryson	RMS
08/29/07	Margaret Jobes	Collections
08/31/07	Bryan Crawley	RMS
10/24/07	Doug Walker	Prison
11/25/07	Terry Fetherbay	Prison
12/14/07	Karen Myers	Treasurer
12/27/07	Bob Gunsallus Jr.	Pre-Release Center
12/28/07	Maggie Sockman	Info. Services
12/28/07	Joe Hamilton	RMS
12/28/07	Jim Reed	Juvenile Probation
12/28/07	Charlene Koletar	Treasurers
12/28/07	Jerry Walls	Planning & Comm. Dev.
12/28/07	Tom Corbett	Conservation Dist.
12/31/07	Richard Nassberg	Commissioners

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## Retiree Margaret Jobs

with the county 1/16/01 – 8/29/07



Submitted by Leah Dawes:

It has been my pleasure to work with Marge Jobs. She is dedicated, hardworking, and takes pride in everything she does. Marge is greatly missed around the Courthouse where she has made many close friends over the years. Marge is a lifetime member of the “Lunch Bunch” and is well known for her humor and sewing ability (my personal seamstress, which was very convenient).

On behalf of the Central Collections Office, I wish Marge a relaxing retirement and continued prayers sent her way.

## Retiree Terry Fetherbay

with the county 5/1/78 – 11/25/07



Submitted by Steve Blank:

Terry began work with the county as a C.O. in the old prison. When the new facility opened in 1986, Terry was instrumental in helping to write a number of the policies and procedures. He was first shift lieutenant for a number of years and then moved to third shift.

Terry will always be remembered for his great sense of humor. His plans for retirement include camping, hiking, fishing, hunting, and, of course, relaxing! Good luck to you, Terry.

## Retiree Maggie Sockman

with the county 12/11/88 – 12/28/07



Submitted by Sam Harrison:

After 19 years with the County, Maggie Sockman, will be retiring on December 28, 2007. She has spent the last 8 years as Clerk III in Information Services handling (as one co-worker states) everything from “hotel bookings, expense reports, contracts and contacts, to pens and paper clips.” No matter what Maggie was tasked with, she went about it with the same great effort, willingness and desire to serve. Wherever and whenever a need arose, she could be counted on to lend a hand. Her experience with people was a tremendous plus in the helpdesk area of the IS department. Maggie will be missed, but she deserves all the good things that retirement will bring her way. Congratulations, Maggie, from the Information Services Department!

## Retiree Bob Gunsallus

with the county 5/8/05 – 12/27/07



Submitted by Steve Blank:

Bob was hired as an early morning part-time driver for the Pre-Release Center to assist work-release inmates get to work.

He was then hired as a full-time Resident Supervisor but will always be remembered for his passions: his love of Las Vegas and Penn State football.

Although Bob has moved to Las Vegas, he plans to return every fall to enjoy the games.

## Retiree Jim Reed

with the county 3/3/75 – 10/28/07



Submitted by Ed Robbins:

Jim has been employed by Lycoming County since 1975 and will retire on 12/28/07 with almost 33 years of service. He is the Deputy Chief of the Juvenile Probation Office. As such, his responsibilities included court testimony, conducting informal adjustment hearings, coordinating our County's Youth Commissions, our Interstate Compact expert, our liaison with local service providers and casework supervisor to name a few.

Jim lives in Muncy with his wife Colleen. They are the proud parents of three children, Linda, Scott and Sean. Jim can be described as warm, generous, kind, calming, punctual and frugal. He has the innate ability to de-escalate angry, upset parents

so that they buy into a plan of action that will improve their children's behavior. Jim will be missed and we wish him well.

## Retiree Jerry Walls

with the county 9/28/70 – 12/28/07



Since its inception in 1966, the Lycoming County Planning Commission has been faithfully guided by Jerry S. Walls, its Executive Director and CEO. He also forged a multi-talented, multi-disciplined County Department of Planning and Community Development—a department which has been recognized at the State level for numerous awards for project management and planning initiatives. Jerry is recognized as the developer of Lycoming County's first county wide comprehensive plan and the main force in guiding the creation of the first County wide zoning ordinance. He was significantly responsible for helping to conceive and develop a state of the art and highly regarded, award winning GIS Department. Jerry has served as a Charter member of the American Institute of

Certified Planners (AICP) since 1978. He was highly instrumental in the creation and initial operation of the Lycoming County Landfill and was a visioning force in the creation and implementation of the Lycoming County Water and Sewer Authority. The consummate professional, Jerry leaves a legacy of astute leadership, integrity, and persistence in the face of adversity.

## Tips for Driving in Snow and Ice

The best advice for driving in bad winter weather is not to drive at all, if you can avoid it. Don't go out until the snow plows and sanding trucks have had a chance to do their work, and allow yourself extra time to reach your destination. If you must drive in snowy conditions, make sure your car is prepared, and that you know how to handle road conditions. It's helpful to practice winter driving techniques in a snowy, open parking lot, so you're familiar with how your car handles. Consult your owner's manual for tips specific to your vehicle.

### **Driving safely on icy roads**

- \* Decrease your speed and leave yourself plenty of room to stop. You should allow at least three times more space than usual between you and the car in front of you.
- \* Brake gently to avoid skidding. If your wheels start to lock up, ease off the brake.
- \* Turn on your lights to increase your visibility to other motorists.
- \* Keep your lights and windshield clean.
- \* Use low gears to keep traction, especially on hills.
- \* Don't use cruise control or overdrive on icy roads.
- \* Be especially careful on bridges, overpasses and infrequently traveled roads, which will freeze first. Even at temperatures above freezing, if the conditions are wet, you might encounter ice in shady areas or on exposed roadways like bridges.
- \* Don't pass snow plows and sanding trucks. The drivers have limited visibility, and you're likely to find the road in front of them worse than the road behind.
- \* Don't assume your vehicle can handle all conditions. Even four-wheel and front-wheel drive vehicles can encounter trouble on winter roads.

### **If you get stuck...**

- \* Do not spin your wheels. This will only dig you in deeper.
- \* Turn your wheels from side to side a few times to push snow out of the way.
- \* Use a light touch on the gas, to ease your car out.
- \* Use a shovel to clear snow away from the wheels and the underside of the car.
- \* Pour sand, kitty litter, gravel or salt in the path of the wheels, to help get traction.
- \* Try rocking the vehicle. (Check your owner's manual first -- it can damage the transmission on some vehicles.) Shift from forward to reverse, and back again. Each time you're in gear, give a light touch on the gas until the vehicle gets going.



# ABBHEY TALES

This is the third year that the City Of Williamsport has joined forces with the Certified Master Dog Trainers and Certified Canine Behaviorists from Sit Happens, Inc. to offer a free Doggie Boot Camp at the Brandon Park Bandshell. Doggie Boot Camp took place on Sundays beginning in June and ending at the end of October with a Halloween party. The doggie boot camp teaches responsible dog ownership, and addresses unwanted and excessive behaviors. They also teach some basic dog training.

I took Abbey to Doggie Boot Camp mainly for the socialization with other dogs. Since she visits nursing centers and the hospital she gets a lot of socialization with people. It is good for her to socialize with other dogs and at the same time I do some obedience training with her. She is distracted by the other dogs (some dogs are just learning their manners) and it is a good time to test her obedience skills.

The Halloween party is for the dogs and their owners. They play games that include the owners and the dogs at the same time. In one of the games you hold a raw egg on a spoon and hold your dog on a leash (all with only one hand) and walk a distance to pass the egg on to someone else without breaking the egg! If you break the egg your team is disqualified. Sit Happens, Inc. provides dog treats and people treats. They also have a costume contest with several categories. Abbey received first place in the most original costume category. Her prize was a certificate for first place and a gift certificate for Sit Happens, Inc.

~ Submitted by Nancy Stugart



## “A Day in the Life...”

Submitted by:

R. Mark Lusk  
Chief Deputy Coroner

**G**reetings retired County employees: Having been appointed by Coroner Chuck Kiessling as a part time Deputy Coroner in 1998, I was promoted to part time Chief Deputy Coroner in 2001, then promoted to full time Chief Deputy Coroner in March 2007. Although a common light comment with many of you is that one of us in the Coroner’s Office will be the last person you will ever see, there is a tremendous amount of work that goes on behind the scenes in our office. Sitting around waiting for a death to occur and going out and saying “Yep, he’s dead” is not quite the extent of our work. Our office is statutorily responsible to determine “cause and manner of death” with ALL non-natural and some natural deaths when decedents are not treating regularly with a family physician.

A typical field response for our Coroner Staff would be as follows: An EMS dispatch for a “man down possible heart attack” is made at 3:15 AM one morning by our DPS 911 Center. EMS units (including Paramedics) arrives to find a deceased male in his 50’s, in bed. The Susquehanna Health Emergency Department on duty Medical Command Physician determines that any resuscitative efforts would be futile. The Coroner Staff is paged to respond to the scene.

Our on-call Staff, either Coroner Kiessling, myself or another Deputy would respond to the scene. Upon arriving, EMS and Police Units are there. Information is gathered relative to the circumstances surrounding the last person who has had contact with the decedent. Many times, this is a spouse. Additionally, medical history for a decedent is very important and is reviewed along with pre-death complaints. Very often, the medical history is consistent with the circumstances surrounding the death. Medications, dosages and compliance by the decedent are documented. Photographs of the scene may be taken especially in unnatural deaths.



Any information that would NOT be consistent with Natural Causes and Manner of death, could result in a more extensive investigation inclusive of police interviews, additional Coroner Staff interviews and possibly a forensic post mortem (autopsy) being done. This incident, however, had no suspicious factors and all indicators support a Natural Cause and Manner of death caused by extensive coronary artery disease, hypertension, congestive heart failure, and long term tobacco abuse (smoker). The decedent’s personal physician was interviewed and he provided patient history consistent with the field investigation. The decedent was released to a funeral home of the family’s choice is then authorized by the Coroner Staff after EMS, police and Coroner Staff concur that this death, is a natural death with no suspicious indicators. If the wishes of the family are to have their loved one’s remains cremated, the Coroner’s Office must provide approval for that (and any other cremations) to occur.

The Office of Lycoming County Coroner does NOT investigate ALL deaths that occurs in our County. Each year, Lycoming County has approximately 1,200 deaths that occur with the Manner of Death being one of the following: Natural, Homicidal, Accidental, Suicidal, Pending Investigation, and Could Not Be Determined. In Pennsylvania, ONLY Physicians, Medical Examiners and Coroner Staff may CERTIFY a death. Physicians, by statutory authority, may only certify deaths that are Natural deaths. An elderly person who falls down, strikes his head on the floor, receives a subdural hematoma (bleeding inside the brain) and dies as a result of that fall, is not a Natural Death but an Accidental death that must be investigated by the Coroner’s Office. Most deaths that are natural deaths are certified by Physicians including deaths that occur in nursing home facilities, residences and hospital settings.

Continued on next page



# Thank You

On behalf of the Lycoming County Retirees, donations have been made recently to the Pennsdale Branch of the New Garments Always (N.G.A.) and the West End Christian Community Center. Below are the thank-you notes that have been received from these organizations:

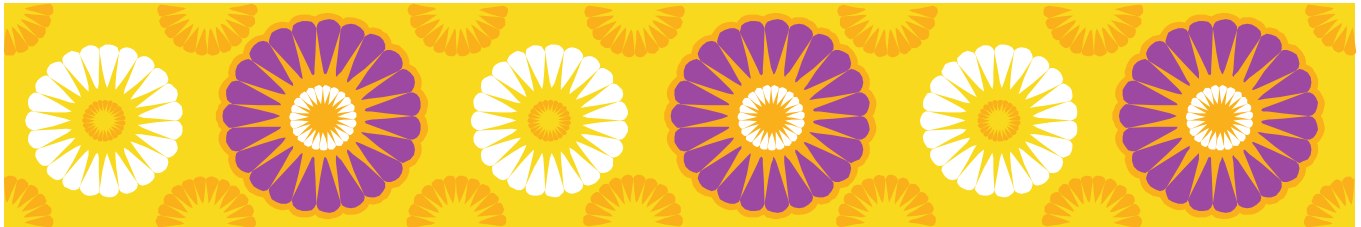
To the Lycoming County Retirees:

The Pennsdale Branch of the New Garments Always (N.G.A.) thank you for your generous contribution. We provide new clothing for families and children in time of need. Last years we gave 385 pieces of new clothing to schools, children & youth, fire victims, and many others. Thanks again for your generosity.

~ Janet McManigal, Treasurer and Director, Pennsdale N.G.A.

Thank you so much for the generous donation to help us ship the shoeboxes to our troops overseas. I know I speak for all involved with the project when I say that it is because of wonderful, caring people like you that our efforts—to show our servicemen and women we haven't forgotten—is the success it is. May God's grace be with each and every one of you!

~ Marge Thompson, Director, West End Christian Community Center



## “A Day in the Life...”

Continued from previous page

The Lycoming County Coroner's Office handles approximately 300 death investigations annually plus another 450 cremation authorizations. Section 1237 of the PA Coroner's Statute mandates that the Coroner be notified for the following deaths: Sudden deaths not due to readily recognizable diseases, deaths occurring under suspicious circumstances, deaths due to contagious diseases and constituting a public hazard, all deaths occurring in prison [inmates] or while in police custody, traumatic deaths, deaths due to poisoning or overdose of drugs or alcohol, unidentified or unclaimed bodies, persons to be cremated or buried at sea, deaths during surgery or immediately following surgery, stillbirths and sudden infant deaths.



# WE WISH A VERY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR FRIENDS WHO ARE CELEBRATING IN JANUARY, FEBRUARY, AND MARCH:



## January

Jan. 3	Esther Cohick
Jan. 8	Les Gruver
Jan. 9	Margaret Emery
Jan. 11	Raymond Holland
Jan. 12	John Perritt
Jan. 13	Leona Ruffing
Jan. 15	James Huggins
Jan. 17	Nancy Stugart
Jan. 18	Donald Boettger
Jan. 18	Florence Hills
Jan. 18	Lester Bennett
Jan. 20	Selma Andrews
Jan. 20	William Stump
Jan. 21	Barb Feigles
Jan. 22	Richard Wehler
Jan. 28	Joe Hamilton
Jan. 29	Ken Schriener
Jan. 29	Doug Walker
Jan. 30	Rick Karp

## February

Feb. 1	Alida Ritter
Feb. 2	Martha Poust
Feb. 3	Floyd Hamilton
Feb. 3	Fred Koch
Feb. 4	Eva Pellegrino
Feb. 9	Marilyn Stewart
Feb. 11	Paul Glunk
Feb. 11	Ann Kilburn
Feb. 15	David Frey
Feb. 17	Dave Desmond
Feb. 20	Joan Fetzer
Feb. 28	Joe Vermilya

## March

March 4	Linda Stein
March 8	Bill Hibschan
March 14	Jennie Reeder
March 17	Richard DeSanto
March 25	Doris Heim
March 26	Joanne Ackerman
March 28	Linda Campbell
March 31	Ruth Swisher

**LYCOMING COUNTY  
COMMISSIONERS**

REBECCA A. BURKE  
ERNEST P. LARSON  
JEFF C. WHEELAND

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**Retiree Group Officers**

CHAIR Alice Bair  
322-6052

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CO-CHAIR Ralph Lukens  
323-4006

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SECRETARY Nancy Stugart  
435-0923

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TREASURER Ann Kilburn  
435-2769

**2008 Calendar**

**UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

**Tuesday, February 12, 2008**

at the Sky View Restaurant, Montoursville  
Please arrive at 11:15 a.m. to order your lunch.  
You will have a choice of:

- Ham salad sandwich  
with chicken pot pie soup for \$5.25 or
- Fish sandwich with chips & pickle for \$7.50

**Thursday, April 10, 2008 ~ 11:30 a.m.**

**Tuesday, June 10, 2008 ~ 11:30 a.m.**

**Thursday, August 14, 2008 ~ 11:30 a.m.**

**Tuesday, October 14, 2008 ~ 11:30 a.m.**

***Ready...Set...Retire!***

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**MEMBERSHIP DUES**

**2008 membership dues** of \$10  
may be mailed directly to:

Anne Kilburn  
79 Quail Lane  
Cogan Station, PA 17728

Please make your check out to *Lycoming County Retirees*.

**Planning Committee**

Alice Bair

Ralph Lukens

Patty Fawber

Margie Thompson

Ann Kilburn

Nancy Stugart

Nancy Storms

Maggie Emery