

Bad Story with a Happy Ending

On May 20, 2019 three individuals from Plymouth, Larksville, and Wilkes Barre thought it was perfectly fine to drive to the Ridgeview section of Newport Township for the sole purpose of dumping an old couch on the side Vista Drive. They would have been successful in their disgusting mission had it not been for the watchful eye of a Ridgeview resident. After seeing the illegal dumping take place, the resident followed the car and informed the occupants that they should immediately remove the couch from the roadway. Ignoring his demand, the dumpers attempted to flee. The resident called 911 to report the incident and have a police officer dispatched. Minutes later Police Chief Jeremy Blank appeared on the scene and issued a \$500 citation to each of the three dumpers. The actions taken by the Ridgeview resident exposed him to a certain amount of danger. Confronting illegal dumpers could escalate into an altercation with uncertain outcomes, but the true grit and courage this individual demonstrated was inspirational. Obviously he respects his community and will not tolerate the activities of ignorant dumpers. To be clear, this is not an endorsement of the extent to which the resident participated. He went above and beyond to protect his community. Getting the license number of any vehicle observed dumping trash, or littering in general, and then reporting that to a 911 operator will have a similar positive result in getting the message out, "Newport Township will not tolerate the actions of anyone who would use our community as a dump".

Hats off to the resident for his courage, character, and commitment to Newport Township.

Peter F. Wanchisen

Township Manager