



Pittsburgh District Church of the Nazarene



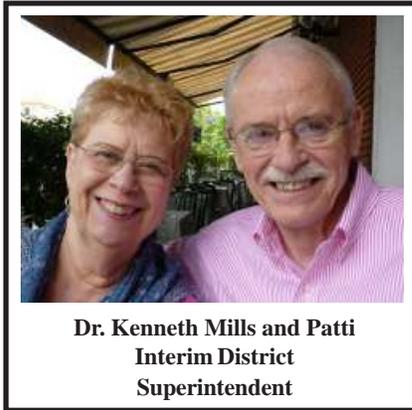
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David L. Marker, Editor - admarker@comcast.net



Dr. Kenneth Mills and Patti
Interim District
Superintendent

My Answer is “Yes”

My wife and I visited our youngest daughter and her husband and their two children for Christmas. I decided that our daughter and her husband are superhuman (superheroes perhaps). To do what they do, and still be loving parents of two very young children is more than my mind (or age and body) can comprehend. But it is *not* a “picture perfect” scene. The boy is two years old, and the girl is seven months, and they are typical (I think) and demanding, and they are not quiet about it either! Yet mom and dad seemingly take most of it in stride, and parent

on.

Mary, the mother of Jesus, may also seem to some as the “picture perfect” lady, praised for her pristine virginity, the humble handmaid of the Lord. For still others, Mary exemplifies perfect womanhood with the acceptance of her duty to serve others. But, she was a real person, with real feelings, real questions, and real fears, and not at all a fantasy (or even a superhero).

During this past Christmas season, I was reminded by Leonard J. Vander Zee of Mary’s faith. What Mary teaches us about faith is that it doesn’t begin with us. The point here is not Mary’s piety, beauty, or worthiness, but simply God’s favor. The story of Gabriel’s announcement to Mary is not necessarily told in praise of Mary, but in praise of the unmerited grace of God. What is important in this story is not Mary’s qualifications to be chosen by God, but her response to God’s gracious choice. When God acts in sovereign grace, He is looking for a human partner. The question becomes: What will Mary do? How will she respond? That’s the issue.

One other thing we might learn about faith from Mary is that it is *a response* to God’s grace. In the end Mary calls herself the Lord’s servant. Mary’s response recognizes that she has been chosen by God. But Mary doesn’t stop there. She says “yes” to God. Mary is not merely a servant but a partner. Mary’s willing involvement, and her “yes” to the angel was a courageous step into an unknown future.

The truth is, we are all pregnant with the possibilities of God. What these possibilities require is for us to say “yes” to God, to place ourselves in his hands. As Mary stated, *“I serve the Lord ... May it happen to me just as you said it would.”*

So, my response to God in 2017 is “Yes.” *“I serve the Lord ... May it happen to me just as you said ...”* What about your response?

Just musing ... Ken Mills

Table of Contents

- Page 1 - Interim DS’s Message
- Page 2 - SDMI
- Page 3 - Pittsburgh District Learning Center (PDLC)
- Page 4 - NMI News
- Page 5 - NMI Convention 2017, Sustainable Income Projects, Children’s Bible Quizzing and Promoter e-mail list
- Page 6 - Domestic Work & Witness 2017
- Page 7 - Women’s Spring Retreat 2017
- Page 8 - District Center Playground Project
- Page 9 - DS Search Status
- Page 10 - District Events 2017 and District Allocations

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SUNDAY SCHOOL | DISCIPLESHIP
MINISTRIES INTERNATIONAL

Find Us Faithful

There is No Reason to Run Out

As a teenager I remember that my Dad always told us to watch so that we never to run out of gas in the car. I always tried to make it back home without running out of gas. One day as I was driving back home, it happened. I ran out of gas in the car and I had to walk to the gas station, buy a gas can and gas so I could get home. As Leaders there is no reason for us to run out of the infilling of the Holy Spirit in our lives. Sometimes I think we try to run on **E** spiritually thinking we can make it on our own.

As leaders, whether you are a Pastor, Sunday school teacher, board member youth leader, children's leader, prime time leader, men and women's leader, or whatever you may lead, there is no reason for you to run out of the Holy Spirit. It is very dangerous for us not to be filled with the Holy Spirit because if we are not, we start to lead on our own.

In Acts 4, Peter and John were filled with the Holy Spirit, preaching in Jesus name and healed the crippled beggar; that took a lot out of them. Peter and John carried a heavy load spiritually in their lives. They had to do something that I think we forget to do on a regular basis when we are carrying a heavy load spiritually. We forget to pray. They went to the temple three times a day. When they went to the temple, they prayed together with others and as they prayed, they were filled with the Holy Spirit.

A good leader will go to prayer on a daily basis and seek the Lord for the infilling of the Holy Spirit. Leaders will not depend on their own wisdom and knowledge but will seek and ask for wisdom and knowledge of the Holy Spirit.

Let's not forget as leaders to go to prayer regularly and ask the Lord for the anointing of His Holy Spirit in our lives as we do ministry right where we are. If we don't, we will run out of fuel and we will find ourselves struggling to do what we are called to do.

There is no reason for us to run out, there is an endless supply of the Power of the Holy Spirit!

I want to encourage you today to be intentional in spending time in prayer with the Lord and asking Him to fill you with His power as you lead. As you do that, you will see the work of God in your life and in the lives of others.

The Pittsburgh District Learning Center (PDLC) is up and running ready to serve YOU!

Have you ever wondered how your pastor knows what they know? Well, it is because of years of study and preparation. Now you too can have that same preparation here on the Pittsburgh District. The PDLC is open to anyone who has a desire to learn more about God, His Holy Word and ministry in the church. You can take classes right alongside of great men and women on our district preparing for ministry. You can ask questions and deepen your understanding of who God is and how He impacted lives in the Bible and how He impacts our lives today.

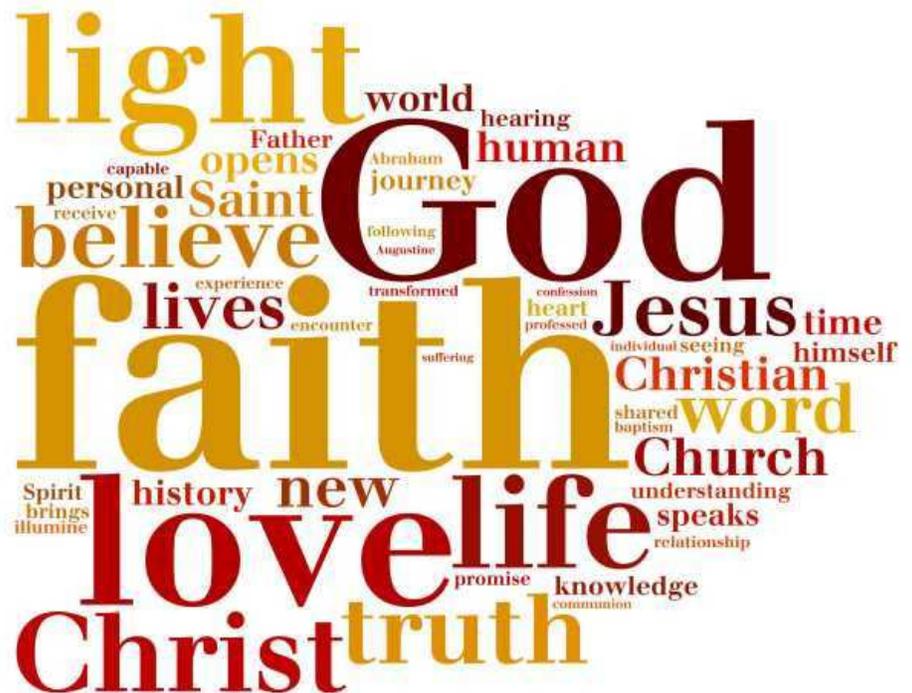
Perhaps you know someone in your church who is called into ministry and they have not started to take classes. Well, now they can get started! Classes are open to anyone who has a desire to fulfill the call God has placed on their heart. This could be full-time ministry as a pastor, maybe ministry in your church as a Sunday School teacher or youth leader. Classes are open to anyone who has a desire to learn about the Bible, Theology, Church of the Nazarene history and polity and much, much more!

Classes are being taught at your District Center and are open to everyone. Classes start on Friday evenings at 7 PM and go until 10:50 then reconvene on Saturday at 8 AM until 5:30 PM! Classes are usually every other weekend but don't worry. you will get breaks during class time! You also get a break on lodging at the District Center. There is **no cost** to any student to stay overnight while they are taking classes at the District Center. All you need to bring is your bedding and your personal supplies. How cool is that!

The cost of the class is \$150.00! \$25.00 when you register for the class and \$125.00 on the first Friday of the class. You will receive up close and personal instruction from your professor, you will be able to engage in classroom discussions and you will gain a closer walk with God as you learn more about Him. What could possibly be better?

For more information please contact the PDLC Director Rev. Peter Roy at Terracecn@yahoo.com and he will be happy to answer your questions. You can also e-mail him to register for upcoming classes.

Don't wait! Contact him today!





NMI 2017

A Short Story

2017 Greetings from the Northern snowy cold area of Pennsylvania called Albion. Personally the year ended quite strange with an unexpected appendix surgery, definitely not what I thought December 29, 2016 was going to look like. I called the doctors office when they opened; they had an opening at 10:20. I remember saying perfect; you see I thought it was something else. The physician's assistant saw me and suggested a CAT scan to rule out appendix. I was still thinking it was something else. From there around 12:00, you need to go consult with an emergency surgeon and the rest of the day, lets prep you for surgery. So out came the appendix and I came home the next day. Our days are designed by God. We may have plans or not, but God knew what that day was going to be like before I even got up.

I praise God for His timing and His plans. I am not sure why I felt I needed to tell that story but that was the end of 2016. Today I return to work after having a week off. Our days are designed by God and we are the instruments He uses.

Missions:

From the South America Extreme Team we had the privilege of having Micheal Wheatley and his wife at several of our churches. He contacted me and asked if any of the churches up near here would be available for them to speak at. Short notice but we would see. We are thinking outside the box because one night was a Friday. How do you get people to come to a missionary service on a Friday? What do people like to do on Fridays? They like to eat, so we are meeting at Hoss in Meadville in the back room. Eating and fellowship.

The plans and location where they are speaking are Gods plans.

The plans of the Giles from Poland coming to the district have changed. If you were looking to have them, they will be on the district summer of 2018. We will be scheduling Evie and Don Gardner from Africa for a week in April.

If you have concerns or questions please contact Sandy Greenlee (814-756-3630), Mary Smith (412-719-0902), Barb Reagle (814-432-8740) or Debby Shutak (724-352-8980).

New Story - Prayers needed.

Pray for the Team-Len and Esther Baun (leaders) going to Guatemala for 2 weeks, working at the University. Pray for safety, their health while they are there, pray for their ministry to others while working. Pray for the plane and pilots as they fly. Pray for their ministry on the plane.

Admittance to the NMI Convention, July 7th, 2017?

A new pair of shoes ...



... or two pairs.

Theme for 2017 NMI Convention will be "Filling **BIG Shoes**". We will be collecting school shoes for the children in Inez, Kentucky this year. Sizes does not matter. We are excited about this project and want you to be involved.

Thank you.

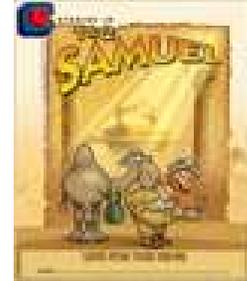
Contact: Sandy Greenlee at (814-756-3630) with questions.

**Sustainable
Income Projects:**
Milton, treasurer
at the Lagoa Nova
church was
working in a small
repair store 6



years ago. A Work and Witness team from Pittsburgh raised \$500 for him to buy his own equipment. Today he has his own thriving upholstery business and wanted me to thank the team members for believing in him and helping him get started. The family's smiles tell the story.

CHILDREN'S BIBLES QUIZZING



Romans 12:6-7

"We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is prophesying, then prophesy in accordance with your faith; if it is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach."

The second invitational is **March 4, 2017**. District Finals will be held on **April 1, 2017**. The **WORLD QUIZ** is Saturday, **June 24, 2017**.

E-mail Joanne Tutor with any quizzing related messages at [pghnazquizzers @yahoo.com](mailto:pghnazquizzers@yahoo.com) or use your phone to call or text me at 814-661-4226.

On the Pittsburgh Promoter e-mailing list?

If you want onto the Pittsburgh District Promoter e-mail list, please contact: **David Marker** at admarker@comcast.net.

The Promoter is published in the months of February, April, June, August, October and December of each year. Copies of all Promoter issues are also available on-line at the Pittsburgh District website at www.pghnazarene.org.

Domestic Work & Witness 2017



It is cold here but in August it will be nice and warm in Michigan! That is where we have an opportunity to be the Body of Christ at David's Promise!

Here is the up-to-date information for you about our 2017 Domestic Work & Witness trip to David's Promise in Jackson, Michigan!

- * **Worksite:** We will be working at David's Promise. This is a Nazarene Compassionate Ministry. David's Promise works with adults with various disabilities. They stand in the gap for these residents after they graduate from school. Many of the programs that are designed to help them end after graduation. This is where David's Promise steps in. You can see their website at: *Daidspromise.org*.
- * **Jobs that we may be doing:** The work may change in the next few months but as of now we will be helping raise gardening boxes to make them wheelchair accessible and creating walking paths with cement so that they are wheelchair accessible. We will also have an opportunity to work directly with their clients. If you have your child clearances and your criminal background check you may want to bring a copy.
- * **Where we will be staying:** We will be staying at Faholo Retreat and Conference Center. You can check out their website at: *faholo.org*. We will be staying in the North Grove area. We will be about 20 minutes or less from David's Promise.
- * **Departure:** We will be meeting at the Pittsburgh District Center on the morning of August 12th at 8 AM. We will be loading the bus at 8 AM to leave for Michigan. This is about a 5 to 6 hour trip on the bus as we will be stopping for lunch on the way.
- * **Back Home:** We will try to leave at 8AM on the 19th to return to Butler. We hope to be back in Butler between 2 and 3 PM.
- * **Work and Play:** We will be working Monday through Thursday at the job site and then Friday we will be traveling to Detroit for a day of touring and sightseeing.

God has been using this Compassionate Ministry to meet the needs of His people. This is our opportunity to come along side of David's Promise and be the hands, the heart and the feet of Christ!

We have spots available so please contact Rev. Peter Roy today at: *Terracecn@yahoo.com*.



"What is Your Reality"

Hebrews 11:1 Faith shows the reality of what we hope for; it is the evidence of things we cannot see. NLT

With Jennifer Coffman

Jennifer is the Women's Ministries Pastor at Southside Church of the Nazarene in Muncie, IN
"I'm a wife and a mother, a servant who cannot make it one minute of one day on my own. I love life, love to laugh - even love to cry sometimes - and I just want to be used up."
 Jennifer blends humor into everything she does, and her ministry uses laughter and fun to teach biblical truth.



What is Your Reality - Spring Ladies Retreat

Fri., March 10 to Sat., March 11, 2017

Mt. Chestnut Nazarene District Center, 177 North Road, Butler, PA

Friday: 6 pm to 8:30 pm, Check in opens at 6:00 pm
Saturday: 8 am to 3 pm, Breakfast 8 am to 9:15 am

Deadline to register is Monday, February 27.
 We are not able to refund cancellations after this date.

Spring Ladies Retreat Registration Form

Name _____ Phone # _____

Address _____

Church _____

Retreat - \$45 Includes Fri & Sat retreat, speaker, activities and Saturday breakfast & lunch
 Rooms are available for an additional fee. See info below for lodging choices and cost.

Lodging

Goring* - **\$36 per room**: sleeps 2

Whiting* - **\$45 per room**: sleeps 5

*For info on lodging and floorplans scan or go to:
<http://www.pghnazarene.org/index.php/print-the-student-center-center-maintenance-50/200-lodging> Bring Your Own Bedding & Towels



Amount Enclosed: _____

I would like to room with _____

Include form above and send payment to:

PGH District Women's Ministries
 c/o Julie Beckley 153 Fitz Henry Rd.,
 Smithton, PA 15479

Checks may be made payable to:
 PGH District Women's Ministries.

Colleen Smith, PGH District Women's Min. Director
 814-316-6819 ☺ jmapw@yahoo.com ☺ www.pghnazwomn.org



District Center Playground Project

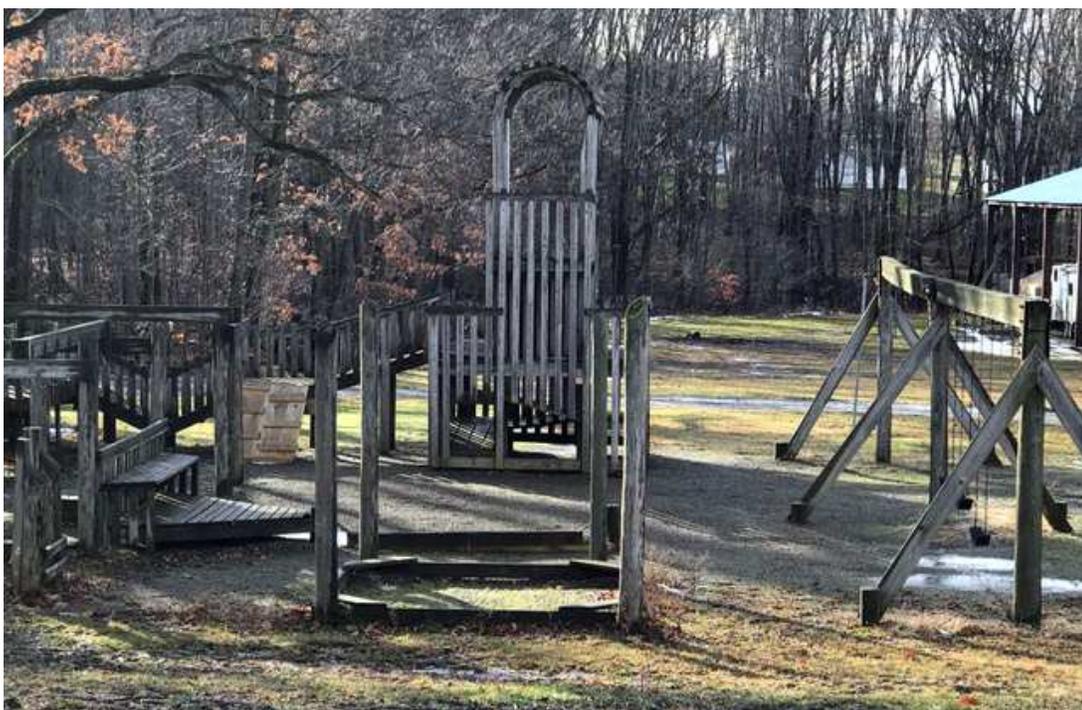
This past month the Mt. Chestnut Nazarene Center found a used playground system through a government auction. This playground had 3 large units with slides and climbing apparatuses, Tic-Tac-Toe boards, see saw, spinners and much more! We did our best



to get the winning bid for this equipment, but unfortunately had to stop when the funds ran out. The bidding war was intense and many people were involved in receiving updates and pledging to donate to see this dream come true. Needless to say, we lost the bid and had to say so long to that dream.

Not all is lost because we created awareness! Are you aware the current playground we have is over 20 years old? Each year our staff does their best to complete a safety inspection and screws a ridiculous amount of hardware into the structure to ensure its safety for our children. But it is not in the best shape and really needs to be replaced. What can you do to help? Keep your eyes open for schools that may be closing and need to auction their equipment.

Network! Do you know someone who has connections in playground equipment? Will you talk to people about our playground to generate more awareness? Donate! We have already started accepting contributions to save for our new playground! Would you consider giving to see this dream come true for the many children who visit our ground annually? Talk about it! Create awareness! Many changes are taking place at the District Center and we really are working hard to make necessary upgrades to provide the best facilities and service to serve our District. Thank you for your support we can't do it without you!



Network!
Donate!
Create Awareness!

This is an excerpt from a Facebook post from Dr. Ken Mills, Interim District Superintendent ...

There are a few things I would like to communicate to you via this email, so bear with my thoughts:

1. I have been asked by several pastors about the transition process for this district regarding a District Superintendent. First, the general superintendents have the authority when a resignation of a district superintendent occurs to appoint a new superintendent or decide to wait until the next district assembly. Since Pittsburgh District Assembly is not until July 7-8, the general superintendents felt it wise to appoint a new superintendent and not wait until the Assembly.

Since the general superintendents were out of the country when Rev. Metcalfe resigned, Dr. Bob Broadbooks (Regional Director for USA/Canada) was asked to step in and work with the District Advisory Board. Dr. Broadbooks has done this on many occasions. So, he met with the Pittsburgh DAB and talked about the transition, including what they felt was needed in their next leader, and some names of leaders that they felt might be considered for this position. In the meantime, the general superintendents started working on their own list (via email and conference calls) while they were on their assignments in other countries. Additionally, an email was sent to all the district superintendents in the US and Canada (by Dr. Broadbooks) sharing with them the “profile” of the Pittsburgh District, and allowing them to submit names that they thought fit the “profile” and the district culture. Several names were submitted in response to this inquiry.

Dr. Broadbooks is now in the process of “vetting” all the names that he has collected from our DAB, from the other district superintendents, and the general superintendents. Those notes will comprise a report to the full board of general superintendents, and they will then select a short list of viable candidates (2-5) for appointment as your next district superintendent. What sometimes happens (but not always), is that Dr. David Graves or/and Dr. Bob Broadbooks will meet with the DAB once again, and share the short list, giving them an opportunity for input and allow them to express their thoughts and feelings about the possible candidates. Ultimately the general superintendent will make a final decision and appoint the person that they are confident will effectively lead the Pittsburgh District into the future.

How soon will the final appointment come? I cannot say with accuracy, but I am convinced that it will occur within the next four to eight weeks. I could be wrong (and have been in the past). But, I am told that they will not prolong this process.

I hope this is helpful. In the meantime, I am serving as your interim district superintendent, along with my other commitments, such as interim pastor of Shippensburg PA plus some prior speaking engagements that have been on my calendar for some time. But I am available to you by phone (301-325-1902) or email (klmills@me.com) or text. I am grateful for our DAB and their support of you in this transition. Please feel free to communicate with me anytime, and I will try and keep you informed...

District Events Schedule * 2017

- Feb 11:** NYI Quizzing – Oil City (Chs 1-20)
Feb 17-19: NYI Winter Retreat North & South
Feb 26: Children's Talent Local Participant List Due
Mar 4: Children's 2nd Invitational Quiz
Mar 5-7: NYI Leadership Conference (NYILC) –
Kansas City MO
Mar 10-12: District Ladies Spring Retreat
Mar 11: NYI Quizzing – Bradford (Chs 1-24)
Mar 16-19: NYI Festival of Life (FOL) at ENC
Mar 16-19: Scrapbook Retreat hosted at MCNC,
Patti Smith, Director
Mar 21: District Assembly Nominating Committee
Meeting
Mar 25: Children's Talent Semi-Finals
Apr 1: Children's Quiz District Finals
Apr 7-8: District Board of Ministry Meeting
Apr 21-22: Pastors' Wives & Female Pastors
Retreat
Apr 30: End of the Church Year
May 13: NYI Convention
May 18-21: NYI Eastern Field Quiz – ENC
May 20: Children's Talent District Finals @ the
District Center
Jun 12-17: Kidz Camp
Jun 21-30: General Conventions & General
Assembly – Indianapolis IN
Jun 24: Children's World Quiz at General
Assembly - Indianapolis IN
Jul 7: NMI Convention Day
Jul 7-8: District Assembly and Ordination
Jul 10-15: Teen Camp
Jul 23-30: Family Camp
Aug 12-19: Domestic W&W to David's Promise
in Jackson MI
Sept 9: District Women's Ministry Retreat
Sept 18-21: M&M Retreat
Dec 2: Snowflake Craft Show

** Dates are subject to change.*

DISTRICT ALLOCATIONS:

Payments can be made to the following:

District Ministry Fund:

Henry Twentier, District Treasurer
177 North Road, Butler PA 16001

Make checks payable to:

***Pittsburgh District
Church of the Nazarene***

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Debra Shutak

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Butler PA 16002

Make checks payable to:

Pittsburgh District NMI

SDMI:

Rev. Ronald Schaeffer

141 Tressler Drive

Confluence PA 15424

Make checks payable to:

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NYI:

Tom Aaron

141 Supervisor Drive

West Newton PA 15089

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Pittsburgh District NYI

ENC:

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