



THE JOURNAL-HERALD

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CONTINUING: *THE WHITE HAVEN JOURNAL*
ESTABLISHED 1879–141st YEAR, NO. 20

CONTINUING: *THE WEATHERLY HERALD*
ESTABLISHED 1880–140th YEAR, NO. 46

Penn Lake looks at dam options

by Seth Isenberg

Penn Lake Borough council extended their declaration of emergency when they met online on April 9 for their regular monthly meeting.

As part of this meeting, borough council discussed a letter from the PA Department of Environmental Protection's Dam Safety division, looking for Penn Lake to address deficiencies including an undersized spillway, and seepage beneath the earthen dam, shown below. "We've

always known this day would come," said council president Paul Rogan. He said they've reached out to the township engineers and gotten some numbers for what the options will cost. "It's a wide range," Rogan remarked, with a full replacement of the dam as much as \$5 million, and a handful of other options including arming the earthen dam, and lowering the crest (which allows it to become a spillway).

Borough solicitor Jack Dean will assist in arranging

a phone call meeting with the DEP once the emergency lifts.

Rogan explained that there was hope that the dam upgrade could wait until the borrowing for the sewer project is paid off in 2024. As for moving forward, the borough will need to start looking for grants and into bond issues, and tax increases, to get all the numbers to work.

Once the meetings with DEP do take place, the cost(s) and timing of the work will become clearer.

See PENN LAKE, page 10



On Friday, April 10, Faith Church of Weatherly wanted to say thank you to the Weatherly Police Department for all they do for the community, especially in these difficult days we are living in today, and for their selfless dedication and tireless efforts that have touched so many in Weatherly. As part of the thank you they provided them with lunch from a local restaurant.



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From the Archives

**From
The Weatherly Herald,
April 16, 1970
James Faust and Cletus
Milan, Publishers**

At their meeting on Monday, Weatherly Borough Council approved a state grant towards an access road for the new Carbon County Home, which is being built near the elementary school. The borough would match the grant, using money from the Light Plant sinking fund.

Storm drains from Second Street along Carbon Street will be installed at a cost of \$4,320.

Weatherly Area School Board approved a request to hire two more teachers for the second grade, and a general music teacher, all of which will cost the district \$20,000.

Cyril Fulton of Nesquehoning was appointed varsity basketball coach and will receive \$900. He was also hired as a high school English instructor at an annual salary of \$7,500.

June Bator of Hazleton was hired as physical education instructor at an annual rate of \$6,000. She will graduate from Penn State University in June.

Members of the Weatherly Area P.T.A. toured the Carbon County Area Vo-Tech last week, with William Swineburg as a guide.

Carbon County's controller advertised the annual county report in this issue—listing receipts of \$2,584,309 and expenses of the same including a cash balance of \$205,383.

Wertman's Hardware Store advertised a full line of fishing supplies, clothes and accessories.

**From the Sidelines,
by Don Garber**

Last call for tickets (\$3) for the All-Sports Banquet this Saturday at the Elementary School cafeteria. The *Weatherly Herald* annual trophy award will be presented to the outstanding senior athlete. Frank Romano is the main speaker.

We couldn't make the game at Lansford vs. Panther Valley, but we were told the homer tagged by Larry Suravicz, short-stop this game, traveled at least 400 feet and hit the light standard in deep center-field. He's likely to be playing anywhere on the field this season, including some mound duty.

In memory of Don, who passed away this past October.

The WAHS Wreckers opened their baseball season on Wednesday with a 2-1 win over Panther Valley at Eurana Park.

The Wrecker golf team won their first match, topping MMI at White Birch 11-4.

A photo on the page shows the WAHS' first softball team at practice last week.

Hinkle's Florist/Bills Market received a new shipment of kites, models, and Polaroid sunglasses.

**From
The Journal-Herald,
April 19, 1990
Clara and Jay Holder,
Publishers**

The United Methodist Church of White Haven will hold a mortgage burning ceremony at their Sunday worship service on April 29. Mortgages for both the church and the parsonage will be burned.

Special music will include a four-piece brass ensemble from the Conyngham United Methodist Church, and the White Haven church choir. A dinner will be held following the service.

The original 135 year-old church, located on Wilkes-Barre Street, was destroyed by fire on February 2, 1971. The cornerstone for the new building was laid in 1974, and completed for the first service to be held in September of 1975.

Once again White Haven has a full-time chief of police. Gary Shupp of Mountaintop was hired by White Haven Council at their regular meeting on April 12. He was to start in two weeks after providing notice to his current employer, but "circumstances put him right on the job that night. As he was leaving the municipal building, two boys came running up looking for a policeman because there was a disturbance down the street involving a man and a woman. The woman asked for help.

"Shupp called mayor Jay Holder out of the meeting to ask if he could do something about this. The mayor told him to go ahead, having been hired. (He was) sworn in on the spot (by the mayor), so was now was on duty. Shupp, the mayor and *Standard Speaker* reporter Emerson Heffner went to the scene where the new chief talked the combatants out of their immediate problem. He did a good job in a potentially bad situation."

Patricia Heaman of White Haven R.R.1 has been appointed Associate Dean of

See ARCHIVES, page 5

Editorial

Dam Bad Timing?

by Seth Isenberg

There's no really good time for the kind of bad news Penn Lake Park Borough received last month, as the PA Dept. of Environmental Protections Dam Safety office was in touch to get that borough started on upgrading the dam—or removing it. Given that removal is not really in the cards, the DEP's dam people have arrived with tidings of higher taxes and the like.

News like this never is welcome. News during this crisis is a dose of reality, however. The lake, and thus the dam that makes the lake, defines the community... no dam = no lake.

No lake would perhaps mean a name change—Penn Park Borough? Penn—used to have a lake but it's now a swampy field—Borough?

But seriously, there's some hard numbers crunching needing to get done. There will be costs borne by the taxpayers.

Done right, the improvements to the dam will allow it to stand perhaps another 100 years.

Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the Editor are welcome on any subject. They may be mailed to 211 Main Street, White Haven PA 18661 or e-mailed to journalnews@pa.metrocast.net. Letters must include a signature, which will be published, and a phone number for verification purposes, which will not.

Topics of local interest are preferred, and form letters will not be published. Preference will be given to letters sent exclusively to this publication. Letters should be no longer than 300 words. The Editor reserves the right to edit for clarity. Letters which could be considered libel will not be published, nor will personal attacks.

Public Notices

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN, that Letters Testamentary have been issued in the **Estate of Doreen C. Davis a/k/a Doreen Carol Davis a/k/a Doreen Davis**, late of 265 Lauderburn Avenue, Weatherly, Pennsylvania who died on the 3rd day of March, 2020 by the Register of Wills of Carbon County to **Executor, Glenn John Davis, 42 Rose Loop, Fort Leavenworth, KS 66207**. All persons indebted to said estate are requested to make payment, and those having claims to present the same without delay to:

**Daniel A. Miscavige, Esquire
Gillespie, Miscavige
& Ferdinand, LLC
67 North Church Street
Hazleton, PA 18201**

4/16

LEGAL NOTICE

IN RE: **ESTATE OF HELEN G. KOST**, Deceased, late of the Township of Hazle, County of Luzerne and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Notice is hereby given that Letters Testamentary have been granted in the **Estate of Helen G. Kost, to Luzerne No. 4020-0511**, who died on the 10th day of February, 2020. All persons having claims against the estate are requested to make known the same, and all persons indebted to the decedent to make payment without delay to the Executor, Frank G. Kost, 906 Hamilton Circle, Harrisburg, PA 17111, or his attorney:

**CYNTHIA S. YURCHAK,
ESQUIRE
121 Carbon Street
Post Office Box 49
Weatherly PA 18255**

4/16

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Letters Testamentary have been granted by the Register of Wills of Luzerne County, PA, on March 31, 2020, in the Estate of Mary A. Bobeck, late of Sugarloaf Township, who died March 12, 2020, to Mary Lee O'Donnell and Diane E. Fidishin, Co-Executrices.

All persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make payment and those having claims to present them immediately to:

**SENAPE & ASSOCIATES
James V. Senape, Jr., Esquire
Catherine A. McGovern,
Esquire**

**Michael B. Senape, Esquire
612-614 Main Street,
P. O. Box 179
Freeland, PA 18224-0179
570-636-3133**

4/23

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Letters Testamentary have been granted by the Register of Wills of Luzerne County, PA, on March 13, 2020, in the Estate of Anna Mae Sissock, late of Foster Township, who died February 16, 2020, to Marybeth Gallagher and Thomas J. Sissock, Jr., Co-Executors. All persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make payment and those having claims to present them immediately to:

**SENAPE & ASSOCIATES
James V. Senape, Jr., Esquire
Catherine A. McGovern,
Esquire**

**Michael B. Senape, Esquire
612-614 Main Street,
P. O. Box 179
Freeland, PA 18224-0179
570-636-3133**

4/23

LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that Letters Testamentary have been granted by the Register of Wills of Luzerne County, PA, on April 2, 2020, in the Estate of Leona Deitos, a/k/a Leona H. Deitos, late of Foster Township, who died February 11, 2020, to Nicholas L. Deitos and James F. Deitos, Co-Executors.

All persons indebted to said Estate are requested to make payment and those having claims to present them immediately to:

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4/30



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121 Carbon St., Weatherly

Senate approves COVID-19 Emergency Measures for local governments

The Senate approved emergency measures today to help local governments respond to the COVID-19 public health emergency, according to Senator Lisa Baker (R-20).

Senate Bill 841 would take a number of steps to ensure local governments can continue to operate during the coronavirus pandemic. The bill would:

Allow local governments to provide greater flexibility on property tax deadlines.

Permit local governments to conduct remote meetings.

Give notaries emergency authorization to notarize documents remotely through the use of communications technology.

Under the bill, local governments would be authorized to extend deadlines for property tax discount rates to any date up until August 31. The legislation would also allow local governments to waive any fee or penalty for late payments of property taxes if paid in full by the end of the year. The

provisions give local taxing bodies more flexibility to help local taxpayers who are struggling financially due to the COVID-19 crisis.

Senate Bill 841 also extends the ability of notaries to conduct business remotely in order to meet the needs of local governments and individuals. A notary public would still be required to confirm an individual's identity and reasonably identify records, and an audio/visual recording of the notarial act and all related interactions would be required.

The legislation would allow members of local governments to participate in meetings and conduct other business remotely during the governor's disaster declaration. Additional requirements are included to ensure transparency of remote meetings, including provisions for public notice and posting minutes.

Additional time would also be allowed for businesses to contribute to educational scholarship programs in order to earn tax credits.

In addition to providing emergency provisions for local governments, the bill also reauthorizes the Pennsylvania Health Care Cost Containment Council, which is responsible for collecting and analyzing data about the cost and quality of health care in the state and making recommendations to reduce the cost of care.

The panel would be responsible for preparing a report on the effect of the COVID-19 disaster emergency on health-care facilities, including expenses and lost revenue during the crisis to determine additional financial assistance.



The Journal-Herald is collecting e-mail addresses to help communicate essential information during the COVID-19 situation and beyond. We plan to send out a between-issue e-blast at least once a week, and more often if needed. It will also include some fun stuff and ways to entertain yourself at home, as well as messages from our advertisers. If you'd like to receive it each week, please send an e-mail to journalruth@gmail.com with the subject line: **E-BLAST**

Death Roll

JEFFREY J. DOLINSKY

Jeffrey J. Dolinsky, son, father, pop and brother, of Maple Lane, Weatherly, passed away unexpectedly at home on Tuesday, April 14, 2020 at the age of 56.



Born Thursday, August 29, 1963

in Hazleton, he is survived by his mother, Catherine B. (Searfoss) Dolinsky; daughters Heather L. Slater, wife of Robert of Tunkhannock, Bonnie L. George, wife of Dean of Palmerton, and Amber R. Dolinsky and her fiancé Victor S. Strouse of Weatherly; sons, Kyle F. Dolinsky and his wife Nicole of LaPlata, Maryland, and Devon F. Dolinsky of

Weatherly; grandchildren Kate, Luke, Kayla, Jace, Owen, and Bryce; sisters, Annette R. Dammeyer, wife of John of White Haven, Kathy L. Coombs, wife of Clinton of Weatherly; brothers Joseph J. Dolinsky of Weatherly, William J. Dolinsky and his wife Patricia of White Haven, and Ronald Dolinsky and his wife Sharon of Weatherly; and many nieces and nephews.

Jeffrey was predeceased by his father, Edward J. Dolinsky; his aunt and uncle who helped raise him, Margaret and Francis Dolinsky; and brothers Mark S. Dolinsky and Edward J. Dolinsky.

A 1981 graduate of Weatherly Area High School, Jeff was partners with his son Devon in the operation of Buck Mountain Landscape and Supply of Weatherly. An avid outdoorsman, Jeff enjoyed riding his quad. He will be missed by many.

Private funeral arrangements were entrusted to the Philip J. Jeffries Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Weatherly.

In accordance with the CDC precautions for the public concerning the Covid-19 pandemic the family will hold private services with interment in St. John's R.C.C. Cemetery, Freeland.

Memorials in Jeff's memory may be made to:

Alzheimer's Foundation of America
322 Eighth Avenue, 16th Floor
New York NY 10001

Online condolences or a fond memory of Jeff can be expressed by visiting www.griffithsfuneralhomes.com

CLARA E. GETZ

Clara E. Getz, 93, of Kidder Township died at her home, Saturday, April 4, 2020.

Born in Kidder Township, she was the daughter of Eugene and Mary Reich Meckes. She was a graduate of White Haven High School and was employed as a property manager where she enjoyed working on the apartments; she enjoyed gardening and sewing. She was a member of St. Paul's Lutheran Church of White Haven.

She was preceded in death by her loving husband, Lloyd

Getz, and brothers and sisters.

She is survived by sons Edgar Getz and his wife, Georgia, of White Haven, and Walter Getz and his wife, Grace of Coaldale; granddaughters Amanda Neiglinger and Kara Frinstein; and great-grandson Nathaniel.

Due to COVID-19, private interment was in Laurel Cemetery, White Haven

Arrangements were under the direction of the Lehman Family Funeral Service, Inc. White Haven.

ROBERT J. BOYER

Robert L. Boyer of East Side Borough, died Wednesday morning, April 8, 2020, in Weatherwood Nursing and Rehabilitation, Weatherly.

Born in Allentown, he was the son of the late Kenneth and Emma Fritzingler Boyer and attended North Western High School. He was employed as a truck driver and enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren.

He was preceded in death by his grandson, Joshua Gower in 2017.

Bob is survived by his wife, Donna L. Hall Boyer; children, Robert (Cheryl) Boyer of Lynport, Kimberly (James) Nassivera of Yardley; step-children, Christine (Damar) Gower of White Haven, Duane (Gail) Day of New Ringold, Robert (Judy) Day of Womelsdorf, Donald (Sheila) Day of Leighton; siblings Cindy (Terry) Fedder of Allentown and Kenneth (Geraldine) Boyer, Jr., Slatedale; 16 grandchildren; 18 great-grandchildren; 1 great-great-grandchild; nieces and nephews.

Due to COVID-19, a memorial service will be planned at a time and day to be announced.

Arrangements were by Lehman Family Funeral Service, Inc. White Haven.

Visit www.LehmanFuneralHome.com for additional information.

CAROL F. ANDERSEN

Carol F. Andersen, 78, of Weatherly, passed away on Tuesday, April 7, 2020, at Wilkes-Barre General Hospital.

Born Saturday, June 7, 1941 in Pottsville, she was the daughter of the late Harry N. and Dorothy (Milbourn) French. She was also predeceased by her first husband, Walter C. Schaeffer, and second husband, Dr. George Walter Andersen who died on October 8, 2018; brother, Robert Norman French.

She is survived by nieces, Karen Rayno, Beth Dolinsky, and Laurie Fewins; and five great-nieces and -nephews.

A 1959 graduate of Schuylkill Haven High School, Carol worked for Emcee Electronics Co. as an assembler. She was a member of Salem U.C.C. of Weatherly. Carol was an avid reader, enjoyed baking, spending time in her pool, and the company of her rescue Golden Retriever, Gala.

Private graveside services were entrusted to the Philip J. Jeffries Funeral Home & Cremation Services of Weatherly, with interment in Union Cemetery, Weatherly.

Online condolences may be made to the family at www.griffithsfuneralhomes.com



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Death Roll

CRAIG SCHICKRAM

Craig Schickram, 57, of Tamaqua, passed into the loving arms of the Lord and loved ones on Sunday, April 12, 2020, at Weatherwood Nursing and Rehabilitation Ctr. in Weatherly, from complications of the Covid-19 virus.

Born Wednesday, September 19, 1962, in Coaldale, he was the son of the late Herbert W. and Helen A. (Schoener) Schickram. Craig attended the Schuylkill Intermediate Unit in Marlin for both school and work.

Craig was a ray of sunshine no matter who he was around. The entire neighborhood loved Craigie as one of their own growing up, and he played with all of the neighborhood kids, who treated him as their equal. Strong as a bull, Craig won multiple awards for his participation in the Special Olympics over the years, and earned his way to the Pennsylvania State competition. Craig also took Second Place in a soapbox derby where he dressed his car as 'Herbie the Love Bug.' Craig, was always fun to be around at family gatherings. During Craig's leisure time he enjoyed listening to his albums, mostly the Chipmunks, sitting 'Indian Style and rocking to the beat. Craig also enjoyed watching Hee-Haw, The Three Stooges,

and Benny Hill. Craig will be missed by not only his family but also by all of the peoples' hearts he touched over the years.

Craig was recently predeceased by his brother John H. Schickram on December 14, 2019. Surviving are brother, Wayne Schickram and his wife Louise of Tamaqua; sister, Debra Kay Radishofski and her husband Dave of Hazleton; sister-in-law, Carol A. Schickram of Hometown; nieces Amy Rarick and her husband Edward Rarick of Lehigh, Molly Pavia, Tamaqua, Johnna Schickram of Hometown, and Amanda Radishofski and her companion, Rodd Wynn of Mechanicsburg; nephews Steve Schickram and his wife Lauren Schickram of Tamaqua and Eric Radishofski and his companion Natasha Carey of Kansas City, Kansas; and 10 great-nieces and -nephews.

Funeral arrangements have been entrusted to the E. Franklin Griffiths Funeral Home & Cremation Services, Inc. of Tamaqua. Private Interment will be in Odd Fellows Cemetery, Tamaqua.

Online condolences or a fond memory of Craig can be expressed by visiting www.griffithsfuneralhomes.com

BRIAN K. HAMBLEY

Brian K. Hambley, of Mahanoy City, died at home, Friday, April 10, 2020, with family by his side.

He was the son of the late Ivan and Gwendolyn Jasper Hambley and was a graduate of Towanda High School. He worked in the home building construction industry and was a volunteer for Good American Fire Company in Mahanoy City.

Brian is survived by his loving wife Jo Ann Velges Hambley; daughters Mary Hambley of Ashland and Johanna Hambley of Hazleton; three grandchildren; and brother, William Hambley.

Due to COVID-19, private services were held under the direction of the Lehman Family Funeral Service, Inc., White Haven, www.LehmanFuneralHome.com

ROBERT L. JONES JR.

Robert L. Jones Jr. 50 of White Haven died Saturday, April 4, 2020.

Born in White Haven he was the son of Helen (Olhanoski) and the late Robert Jones Sr.

He enjoyed spending time with his grandchildren and driving truck for his company Jones Transportation, White Haven.

Preceding him in death in addition to his father was a sister, Wendy Jones Evans.

Surviving are his wife of 30 years, the former Holly Searfoss; son Timothy Jones; daughter Jessica and her fiancé Gerald; sister Lisa Jones; grandchildren Gia and Jenna Jones, Madison and Myah Makowiec; niece Ashley Evans; nephew Michael Evans; and several great-nieces and -nephews.

Burial will be at the convenience of the family.

Archives...

Continued from page 2

the School of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences at Wilkes University. Dr. Heaman, an associate professor of English, has been a full-time member of the Wilkes faculty since 1970.

Penn Lake Council authorized mayor Ken MacMillan to again contract for an independent security patrol for the summer months, beginning on a weekend "towards the end of May." Potholes on the roads around the Lake will be filled as soon as the hotpatch is mixed.

The Franzen Brothers Circus will bring its magic to White Haven on Wednesday, May 30, for two shows in Lehigh Park, as a benefit for the

White Haven Volunteer Fire Company.

The star-studded 1990 edition of the Allen Brothers Circus will come to Weatherly on Monday, May 14, to set up in the Eurana Park ballfield and perform two shows that day.

There will be a 10K Fun Run/ Walk in Weatherly on April 28, starting and ending around the Weatherly Area Middle School. Entry fee is \$8. Proceeds will support the Weatherly Rotary Club's annual scholarship awards and student exchange program.

A photo in the April 9 issue shows the former Lemich Mini Mart building on Church Street in White Haven being torn down to make way for a new Orloski Quik Mart. The new building should go up by the end of June.



CAN YOU HELP?

White Haven Emergency Management Committee is currently compiling a list of volunteers to help with the possible distribution of food or prescription medicines within the community.

If you have time and would like to help us help our community please contact us via email at:

whitehavencovid19@gmail.com

NOTICE

The Laurel Cemetery Association, White Haven, requests that all lot owners remove their winter decorations now, so that the Cemetery can begin Spring Cleanup.

Successful Learning Online

by Dr. Katie M. Leach
Curators of
their own learning

Have you ever been interested in a subject, looked it up online, but could never find the website again? Or even remember what the website was called? Students who are successful in online learning are curators of their own learning. They have set up a system to keep their information together and at their fingertips.

The simplest way to do this is to open a Google Doc or start a new Word document, give it the title of the subject you are studying, and copy/paste each URL you use in your learning. For example, if you are studying Portugal, you would copy/paste every article's URL you used to do your

homework, study and project work for your class.

Bookmarks are often used to store favorite websites, but if more than one person is using the computer, and bookmarks are not saved in a separate folder, they might not be easy to find. Also, these bookmarks are specific to a device, unless you have synced your browser bookmarks. You could also use file hosting services such as OneDrive, GoogleDrive, and Dropbox that store information in cloud storage.

Finding a curator tool to add your own comments and highlight what is important to you is the key. There are apps and websites already created to help students curate their learning. To see a list of the top ten, search for "curation tools for learning" and you will see different tools to help

with curation.

An older tool that has been very helpful to students is Dii-go (Digest of Internet Information, Groups and Other stuff). This tool helps students tag (give a keyword or term) and save online resources to see on any device. The articles saved can be found by typing the tag, Portugal for this lesson, and all articles tagged with Portugal will be listed. There are many more tools listed online, so have fun looking for one online, and almost all of the curators are free.

A quality of the most successful online students

This might surprise you, but academic ability levels do not necessarily translate to successful online learners. In fact, some of

the top academic students struggle with online learning.

Why? These students usually have a good rapport with the teacher. They are used to their teacher's positive feedback and encouragement. But online, the teacher is not physically present to make visual contact or comment with their students. Students who thrive on these verbal, immediate comments struggle in the online environment because they do not get this type of positive reinforcement from the teacher. They will get comments when the teacher reviews and grades their work, but it is not the same.

The students with great success in their online course are the students who know what has to be done and have the confidence to do it without teacher/fellow student

encouragement and help. For example, a student who works at McDonald's at night knows the homework has to be done quickly before going to work. The student listens carefully in class to hear the assignment, knows what has to be done, and gets to work completing it. This student does not have time to phone three friends to see what they are doing for their assignment, or email the teacher and wait for a reply. He/she is used to completing the assignment without help, and will thrive in the similar online environment where work is assigned without a teacher to answer questions immediately.

Parents, you can be a great help to your children by giving them positive reinforcement for their work, just as the teacher would do at school.

Veterans Corner

Commentary by John Kearns, USCG Ret., chiefk@pa.metrocast.net

A WARNING! I follow many of the World News shows including foreign news like the BBC and others. In the past months' stories, one discussion surfaced in many of the varying commentaries, that we are receiving a warning. The bread and butter of these commentaries centers on Socialism, that so many are striving to achieve for the United States. Many of those making the commenters are legal immigrants, now US citizens, who are fearful of what people are asking for. Most fled Socialism and can't understand how a free society would want to regress. We witnessed our working nation and its booming economy plunge into the darkness of

unemployment. Now we see empty shelves, shortages of food and basic items. There's metered healthcare, with the system now overwhelmed so that normal medical procedures need to be put on hold.

Healthcare, food, basic needs for hygiene and comfort were widely available. Now they are rationed as in a socialist society. We watch as the Government is taking complete control. Politicians trying to make decisions for doctors, businesses, and the supply chain. There are curfews and orders that have an affect on us all, in short, our social lives have become a socialist society - completely controlled and regulated by others.

There are curfews, and adverse threats of jail or high fines for simple walks we used to take for granted. Currently, the nation is temporarily totally dependent on Federal, State and Local governments to continue to exist. The United States of America is getting a preview of total government control, a taste of a people living under the flag of socialism.

An early warning about too much government control came from Thomas Jefferson while crafting out constitution, he stated: "A government big enough to give you everything you want, is big enough to take away everything you have. When we get piled upon one another in

large cities, as in Europe, we shall become as corrupt as Europe."

Venezuela had been one of the wealthiest nations in South America. Then it was taken over by a socialist government who promised its people that everybody paid the same, and gave free medical for all. In a few short years, those in power broke the nation. Everybody was plunged into poverty as the ruling class stole everything from the people plunging them into the middle ages of no running water, no food or medical supplies, and with all the learning centers closed.

As Ronald Reagan said: "Freedom is never more than one generation away from

extinction. We didn't pass it to our children in the bloodstream. It must be fought for, protected, and handed on for them to do the same."

We hope and pray for an end to this pandemic. We are living in a national emergency which will pass. The curfew will end, and so will shortages.

What we are living now becomes the daily life of the citizens under every socialist rule in history. History records the past and warns of the future. We are still all free men and women of the United States of America, but that can change in a single generation.

Stay safe, we will conquer this and emerge stronger than before.

Windmills hearing will continue to May

by Seth Isenberg

The pause in normal activity due to the Covid-19 shelter-in-place and curfew orders have pushed (blown) Packer Township Zoning Hearing Board's (ZHB) continuing hearings about the proposed wind turbine farm atop Broad Mountain by Broad Mountain Power (BMP) into May. The hearings were to be held on April 15 and again on the 30th. The applicant, BMP, has asked for a continuance in the hearings to Wednesday, May 20.

Assuming nothing about whether public meetings can again be held in person, arrangements are being made to provide audio and video of the May session so that it can proceed if restrictions on gatherings remain in place.

The hearings, which began April 17 of last year, are moving towards their end, ahead of an eventual vote by the ZHB. This hearing is BMP's opportunity to present rebuttal testimony on the various experts opinions and evidence that project opponents' attorney Bruce Anders presented to the ZHB over the winter.

Shepherd House can help, seeks help

Anyone out of work in the Weatherly area who has an emergency need for food should contact Charlie Hetler at 570-427-8981 at Shepherd House in Weatherly. Shepherd House is a food pantry that gives emergency food to families in need in Carbon County.

Weatherly is one of Shepherd House's nine food pantries. It is located at Zions Evangelical Lutheran Church,

335 Third Street, in Weatherly. If anyone would like to donate money to Shepherd House, please send your donation to Shepherd House, c/o Zions Evangelical Lutheran Church, at the address above. Checks should be made payable to "Shepherd House - Weatherly". All donations in this time of need will be greatly appreciated.



Pond along the Farmstead Trail at Nescopeck State Park. Read about this great trail in this week's Seth Sightings on page 10.

JH: Ruth Isenberg

Sumdog Success

In the March Carbon-Lehigh Math Sumdog competition, three Weatherly Area School District students were among the four highest scorers. Joseph Esposito placed first with a total of 945 questions answered correctly out of 1000 questions. In second place, Charles Grier answered 943 questions correctly and in fourth place, Cassandra Hibbler answered 894 questions correctly.

Joey is a fourth grade student in Mrs. Tedesco's math class. Charles and Cassandra are fifth grade students in Mrs. Van Horn's math class.

WAHS names honor roll students

Weatherly Area High School principal Anthony DeSpirito has released the Honor Roll for the third marking period.

Principal's Honor Roll

Students must achieve a 95 average or better with no grade below 90.

FRESHMEN

Michael Berger, Owen Broskoskie, Angelina Fewins, Danielle Gordon, Karoline Hirko, Emma Kane, Kelly Michaels, Jack Nemshick, Abigail Paisley, Brianna Shuman, Nathan Tripp, Madison vonFrisch

SOPHOMORES

Timothy Maguschak, Rhianne Markovchick, Jessica Moser, Owen Podgers, Richard Ray, Mason Stewart

JUNIORS

Alexandra Bloom, Ethan Broskoskie, Alexis Colecio, Amanda Colecio, Antonio Colecio, Luke Derr, Kiauna Eichhorst, Holly Gehman, Michael Gower Jr., Alyssa Heister, Shayla Heitzman, Madilyn Hinkle, Olivia Hirko,

Ashley James, Lilli Kunkle, Elizabeth Marshman, Tanya McCroy, Grace Miller, Nicole Osifat, Antonia Prete, Kelly Royer, Jacob Solonoski, Isabella Wagner

SENIORS

Rachael Caccese, Girard Fewins, Ashton Gerhard, Jarrod Gillot, James Gontz, Morgan Gonzalez, Albert Kislán IV, Michayla McPeak, Cassandra Mendoza, Veronica Murdock, Alyssa Murphy, Jason Venne

First Honors

Students must achieve a 90 average or better with no grade below 85.

FRESHMEN

Dylan Buck, Lucas Cirimpei, Jonathan Darraugh II, Adriana Dotzel, Huntly Eichhorst, Jayden Eubanks, Jonathan Hoffman, Taylor Jones, Ian McLaurin, Jenna Winkler

SOPHOMORES

Zachary Bresnak, Alex Hoppes, Gianna Lowman

JUNIORS

Jaiden Evangelista, Emily

Lencovich, Sierra McLaughlin, Jasiel Rivera Torres, Scott Zoscin, Yasin Zuberi

SENIORS

Alexis Berger, Taylor Cichon, Amanda DeLeon, Felicia Fisher, Tara Flores, Tyler Grover, Dylan Harkins, Alianna Hernandez, Abigail Milore

Second Honors

Students must achieve an 85 average or better with no grade below 80.

FRESHMEN

Jocelynvan Gonzalez, Rebecca Schell, Alicia Schertrumpf, Tyler Slaga, Alivia Stefansky

SOPHOMORES

Abigail Hinkle, Kayla Jones, Frank Willis III

JUNIORS

Giuseppe Covello, Tristen Dempsey, Antonio Ieraci-Rivera, Trevor Lowamn, Tiffany McCroy, Benjamin Ramirez

SENIORS

Lauren Berger, Elijah Derr, Alexander Landis, Dakota Mehlig, Nicholas Pleban, Ryan Schertrumpf

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Area golf courses taking a hit due to coronavirus

by **Steve Stallone**
Sports Editor

A mild winter with little snow. An early spring arrival, with warm temperatures and limited rainfall. That

combination had players flocking to courses in droves in early March, and the 2020 golf season here in Northeastern Pennsylvania was shaping up to be a record-breaker for area courses.

"We were open, and we were in line probably for one of our top five springs that we've had in 22 years, that's how

busy we were," said Tony Barletta, Director of Golf at Blue Ridge Trail Golf Club near Mountain Top. "Our opening day was March 4, which was a Wednesday, and we were very busy right out of the chute."

The busy surge, and the prospects of a prosperous season lasted all of two weeks. When Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf ordered all non-essential businesses to close on March 19 due to the coronavirus pandemic, golf courses throughout the state shut down and have remained that way ever since.

Many early-season tournaments have either been postponed or cancelled outright, and it's uncertain when courses will be allowed to open, and if so, under what guidelines. "I've been in the golf busi-

ness for 35 years and we've never shut down the course," Barletta said. "Not through hurricanes, tornadoes, whatever. A day maybe, but nothing to this magnitude. Noth-

you're killing people out there. It's bad."

Howie VanBuskirk, head professional at Mountain Laurel Golf Club in East Side and Kidder Townships, said

the course was scheduled to open on March 18, but opted to wait.

The governor's order came down the following day. "You know personally I do agree with the governor," VanBuskirk said. "I am

lucky that our general manager Kathy Gower has

been so great about it. I think she and I are on the same page. It makes no sense to open early just to close again. We wait it out until this passes and we go at the season as hard as we can."

Lost revenue

Like all non-essential businesses, things won't be easy on local golf courses. They have no income coming in, and they are also losing revenue from tournament cancellations. "We had 91 tournaments here at Sand Springs last year, and 49 at Edgewood," Shema said. "Losing those dates in April, you can move them to later in the year, but then you lose regular play during that time. So it's a no-win situation.

"We lost a good amount of play. We lost five tournaments



A sign on the pro shop door at Mountain Laurel Golf Club in East Side alerts golfers that the course remains closed due to the coronavirus. Mountain Laurel was scheduled to open March 18, but that was delayed when the governor closed down all non-essential businesses. The opening was postponed until April 1, but has now been postponed indefinitely.

so far, both in April and May," he added. "They were mostly school-related tournaments. We're already moving May tournaments to later in the year."

"Some tournaments have been postponed, some cancelled," Barletta said of Blue Ridge Trail. "Our Fun Night in late April, a captain-and-crew format, we usually have 144 players. That will not go on. Some of them that are coming up in May they are questioning me on, and I don't have an answer. Let's wait and see. We'll have to play it day by day."

"Financially, every golf course is going to suffer by starting at least two months later," added VanBuskirk. "Whatever is postponed or cancelled I would love to capture the business later in the year."

Blue Ridge Trail, Sand Springs and Edgewood, like

most area courses, have applied for federal assistance under the president's emergency stimulus plan. They hope that will at least help soften the financial blow by paying their employees. "What you don't hear them talking about is loss of revenue," Barletta said. "It's one thing to pay people back for their employees, maybe even some loans. Our cart lease, we have 105 carts because we're a 27-hole facility. You've got to pay them. Who's going to pay for that? We have to pay for that. Loss of revenue is going to be the main impact of all of this."

Some in the industry say as many as one third of all of Pennsylvania's golf courses may close permanently because of this shutdown, ones that didn't have enough money in reserve and were already surviving month to month.

"I always compare the golf business to the airline and hotel business," Barletta said. "You get one shot at April 30th. Whatever you don't get booked or isn't used, you're done. Golf course business is even one step worse than that, because we have another factor in the weather. It's hard."

Maintaining the course The one silver lining to all of this is that superintendents and their crews are able to maintain the courses during the shutdown. Some have also taken advantage of the time to do some seasonal maintenance and even some projects that they might not have gotten to until the fall. "At least we could maintain the course," Shema said. "That was considered essential, and that was a big thing. We were able to aerate the greens the past week, and we're aerating the tees now, working on the sand traps and things like that. We're not doing any new



The first tee at Split Rock Country Club in Lake Harmony sits empty as golf courses statewide remain closed amid the coronavirus pandemic.

Photos by Steve Stallone

ing even resembling this."

John Shema, General Manager at both Sand Springs Country Club and Edgewood by Sand Spring courses in Drums, said shutting things down was the right call, even while New York golf courses remain open. "I was 100 percent fine with it," Shema said. "The golf industry is a little different. You could have 1-2 people playing out there safely, but I think it was the best thing to do at this time, to get this under control."

Barletta agreed. "We closed that Thursday that the mandate came down, and for Friday had 120 people on my tee sheet. We did not allow anybody on the golf course. The way I feel about this whole thing is we've got to let it take its course, because

Continues on page 11.

Mohegan Sun Arena to thank healthcare professionals

ASM Global Live managed Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza in Wilkes-Barre announced an initiative that will help recognize and thank local healthcare professionals at arena events beginning this

fall. The "Healthcare Heroes Suite" will honor local healthcare professionals that are on the front lines fighting against the spread of COVID-19 in our community and around the world.

"Over the past 5 years, Mohegan Sun Arena along with the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins have partnered to donate over 2,300 suite level tickets to Penguins hockey games to say thank you to members of our community that have served their country and community as part of the 'Salute to Service Suite' program," said Steve Poremba, Director of Marketing at Mohegan Sun Arena. "The

'Healthcare Heroes Suite' will provide our venue with an opportunity to show our appreciation and gratitude to another service sector of our community that put the health and well-being of others ahead of their own."

Mohegan Sun Arena seek nominations online beginning May 10 - the beginning of National Hospitals Week. Each recipient will receive tickets to a select upcoming event in a

luxury suite at Mohegan Sun Arena beginning in October, or once it is safe to host public events at our facility. Nominations and more information can be found on our at www.MoheganSunArenaPA.com/HealthcareHeroes.

This year, the performance of a lifetime goes to all those on the front lines...the brave nurses, doctors, healthcare workers, hospital staff and first responders.

July 4 parade in Mountain Top still possible

Mountain Top on the Move (MTOTM) and Mountain Top Area Community Association (MACA) had been engaged in discussions to jointly organize a single 4th of July parade for the Mountain Top community when COVID-19 sent the community into quarantine. As of April 7, 2020, MTOTM decided to opt out of participation in the annual event.

MACA members remain optimistic that by July the quarantine will be lifted. The

parade and festival could be the first major event for our community after the crisis ends, and the community needs something big to celebrate our re-emergence from quarantine. MACA intends to continue with their parade planning efforts at this time, and will periodically evaluate recommendations from the Governor, along with local Township Supervisors, to make a final decision whether or not to hold the parade.

Carbon County property transfers through April 5

Banks Township

Robert Kovac to Daniel Leto, Hazleton, parcel No. 133B-1-10, \$4,000.

Beaver Meadows

Barry J. Baran to Teresa C. Wagner, Hazle Township, property at 162 Berwick St., \$53,000.

Kidder Township

Robert Thomas Worley to Jeffrey Michael Wall, Perkiomenville, property at 15

Mountain Ash Road, Lake Harmony, \$225,000.

Hugh J. Garrity III to Krystal Gail Fiorito, P.O. Box 2173, Albrightsville, property at 39 Pinebrook Drive, Albrightsville, \$68,000.

Prabagar Murugan to Gururaj Iyer, Edison, New Jersey, property at 416 Spring St., Lake Harmony, \$270,000.

Sean Rosulek to Brandon Reed, 3 Laurette Drive, P.O.

Box 1560, Albrightsville, property at 3 Laurette Drive, \$143,000.

Steven A. Kennedy to Paul Kubacke, West Chester, House 180, Section B-1, Snow Ridge, \$124,900.

Francesco Pepe to Frank Pepe, Staten Island, New York, property at 18 Honey-suckle Lane, Lake Harmony, \$1.

Ralph C. Lennon to David R. Lennon, Conshohocken, property at 216 N. Lake Drive, Lake Harmony, \$100,000.

Ryan K. McGirr to John H. Young, Chester Springs, property at 24 Laurelwoods Drive, Lake Harmony, \$180,000.

Packer Township

Kenneth M. Sency to Christopher E. Knight, West Chester, property at 419 Sand-spring Road, \$400,000.

Weatherly

Sheryl Meier to B and GV Realty, Inc., 608 Third St., Weatherly, property at 679 W. Main St., \$20,000.

Allen Robert Hinkle to Susan Wolf, 710 E. Main St., Weatherly, property at 710 E. Main St., \$115,000.

E. Franklin Griffiths III to E. Franklin Griffiths III, 655 E. Broad St., Tamaqua, property at 211 First St. and on Pardee Street, \$1.

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Seth's Sightings by Seth Isenberg

Here we all are, in mid-April, sheltering at home and practicing social distancing when we do go out for supplies. It's all part of waiting out the Covid-19 virus' sweep across The Journal-Herald area.

This is also a beautiful time to be in the western Poconos, as spring begins to bless us with renewed life – leaves, flowers, grasses.

What to do...

So here's to reading including The Journal-Herald, and books, magazines, etc. Here's to the internet with its offerings from movies and shows. Thank goodness for YouTube. Ruth and I have really enjoyed finding videos of live performances from comedy to concerts. Old TV shows and even some video blogs. This week, we'll recommend Gilbert & Sullivan TV movie recordings of performances of The Mikado filmed for the BBC in 1987 and starring Monty Python's Eric Idle as Ko-Ko. For comparison, there is a 1992 version by the D'Oyly Carte Opera Company also filmed for the BBC. Also, there are skits from the Carol Burnett show good for some laughs – much needed laughs. In the same vein, I look for comedians and comic skits, heroes, good deed films, dog videos and happy occasion videos

– all to balance the national and world news, which I try to take in small bites to keep centered. There is the bad news, and then the really poor decisions by those playing politics, bad decisions by some of the public, then compounded by the bad decisions made by world leaders... too much.

Even with a full smorgasbord of TV, cabin fever does take hold - so we go out to find places to walk without anyone around. We've walked in Hickory Run State Park, on the far end of the Stage Coach Trail. Over Easter weekend we took a nice walk in Nescopeck State Park along the nearly unused Farmstead Trail. The park's main and popular areas were busy families and singles who were out fishing, plus a variety of people out with their dogs for a walk. To keep our distance, when we see a pack of cars, we keep driving until we find a trail with none.

The Farmstead Trail is an old farming roadway that runs along what might have been a pasture in its day. It follows a stone wall beside a hardwood forest. The road crosses over beautiful small streams, then curves around a bog. We saw many, many bushes on the brink of bursting out with leaves, some into flower. It was just the two of us, and some unseen birds calling

from distant trees. This exercise was welcome, out in the sun, and it was beautiful in the sense of remoteness, even as we were just off the paved road, minutes from the park office and a short drive from White Haven.

On our list for springtime walks are other lightly used wide paths near Albrightsville, and in Gamelands near the Francis Walter Dam. We'll be bringing the bug repellent as it's nearly black fly season, and with the warm winter, there's likely ticks to watch out for.

In the past, we shared these trips with a dog. Perhaps it's time to do so again – we're looking for a used Labrador (an older female).

I think I see a return to normal starting in late May. We'd like to get out to restaurants again, and events, museums, farm markets, shows... and to seeing friends and family (phone calls are just not enough). We're keeping my uncle Slater safe, and he too longs to be getting out again.

Sightings include fox and lots of deer, squirrels on our doorstep, and skunks thank-

fully off at a distance. I'm going to see magnolia flowers this week, sadly just ahead of this coming weekend's frost. My lilacs are nearing bloom, and I'm hoping they keep tight until warm weather returns hereabouts next week.

There's a little snow in the forecast one night... which is normal for April in the Poconos. It will be all show, I hope. No need to shovel, more likely need to mow.

Stay safe and healthy.

Penn Lake...

Continued from page 1

In other business, Mayor Deb Krysicki reported continuing complaints about speeding on borough roads, and that police will be directed to enforce speed limits. However, it's also clear that the speed limit is too high on Hollenback Road. This led to a discussion among the council members on previous attempts to lower the limit, and the rules PennDOT sets in order to allow police enforcement, and also to keep liquid fuels money. Rogan offered to do research on the

process of getting the speed limit lowered.

Krysicki reported that police patrolled 68.46 hours in the first quarter. She will ask for a more complete police report from White Haven Police as this one was lacking details.

Council member David Longmore confirmed that an electronics recycling day for borough property owners only will be on August 15 at the ballpark. With the help of CANWIN (the publishing company of *The Journal-Herald*), a mailed flyer will be sent to taxpayers. It was noted that the cost of the event is subsidized 50% by Luzerne County. CANWIN and *The Journal-Herald* will also be

involved in helping Longmore and Penn Lake Council about informing everyone about the do's and don'ts of recycling – a county fully-subsidized program.

On a happy note, council approved the use of the ballpark for the wedding this summer of Maria DiPipi to Kevin Cronauer, on a request by the DiPipi family. The family must provide event insurance with the borough named as an insured. The vote was unanimous.

Additional business was conducted. Information on that will be in next week's *Journal-Herald*.

UNICO Game cancelled due to pandemic

Since the inaugural game in 1952, the UNICO Game has showcased the top senior football players from the Wyoming Valley Conference squaring off one final time on the gridiron. While the game has been played on Thanksgiving, in the spring and even in the summer through the years, only once since its inception has the annual all-star contest been cancelled and that was in 1972 due to Hurricane Agnes. The 2020 game will be the second one.

Attorney Bill Anzalone, the man responsible for keeping the game afloat, announced Friday that the game is canceled due to the coronavirus pandemic. The decision came late Thursday following a conference call with members of UNICO, Anzalone said.

The organization is following the directive of the PIAA as well as Governor Tom Wolf, he said. Last week, Wolf announced school buildings will be closed for the remainder of the academic year, and the PIAA followed by cancelling the remainder of the winter and spring sports seasons.

"We were waiting to see what the PIAA was going to do in regards to the spring sports season," Anzalone said. "They made the decision to cancel,

and coupled with the fact schools will remain closed until the end of the year, it just did not seem practical to have the game this year."

The game was scheduled for May 29 at Wyoming Area's Jake Sobeski Stadium. The organization considered moving it to mid- or late-June.

"With the schools being closed players would have no place to practice or do any type of workouts," Anzalone said. "We certainly were not going

to be able to play on May 29. There is just no way we could play the game this year. With the virus, we have never experienced anything like this."

That does not mean the top senior football players from the WVC will not be recognized. The plan is to reach out to the coaches in the conference and have them select the teams with the hopes of having some sort of outside function over the summer if it is feasible. If that can happen, Anzalone said, the players will be presented with their game

jerseys as well as hats. He said UNICO will continue to present its Sponsor Award, hand out its scholarship as well as the Brian Piccolo Award. The organization plans to print its program where it gains most of the proceeds that go to local charities.

"We hope to be able to do something for the players," Anzalone said. "There will be no game, but there will be a team selected. Our plan is to be able to honor them at some point over the summer."

Area Golf...

Continued from page 8.

projects right now, but we want the course to be in great shape for when we do start

playing."

VanBuskirk said course superintendent John Walton is on top of things at Mountain Laurel. "John's been here for a long time. He knows what is going on out there on the course. We have had a limited staff out there, but they are mowing, fertilizing, and overall maintenance. So, when we do get the word, we are looking great and ready to roll."

VanBuskirk also noted that they've had some tree trimming and removal done at the course that golfers will notice immediately upon their return.

At 27-hole Blue Ridge, they've been putting the pedal to the metal as well. "One of the staples of Blue Ridge has

been our golf course is always in excellent shape," Barletta said. "We just got ranked No. 2 in the state of Pennsylvania by Golf Advisor. We were ranked 34th in the nation. Greens are already aerated. They started tees this week, and everything else is being cut on a daily basis. We're fully maintained. "They're also working on any type of irrigation repairs they've got to do, drainage projects that they want to do. They are going full tilt," added Barletta. "We have our full staff working diligently on the golf course as if we were fully open, so when we do open the course will be in immaculate shape."

When will golf return?

Golfers throughout the Commonwealth are eager to hit the links, gather with friends and unwind with a round of golf. Heck, they

wouldn't even mind hearing the word "fore" yelled from time to time.

But when?

"I would think that the May 1st date should be a good date," Barletta offered. "I don't think before that, although there's a possibility if things cool down quite quickly. That's really up to the professionals, not me. We'll wait until the green light is given."

"I'm hoping we can open by May or June, at least the golf part of it," Shema said. "Even though we might not be able to have a tournament with the 50-or-more rule in place, we could at least get regular play. At least that would generate some revenue. "We were putting one person in the carts at the beginning of March, just as a precaution as we were watching the developments and seeing what was taking place. I imagine we would be doing that again once we started back up."

"The course is going to be awesome once we open," Barletta promised. "I know there's going to be a ton of demand. I get at least 15-20 calls a day to see if we're open. People are dying to play, but we've got to go by the law."

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ACROSS

- 1. *Like many mythical creatures
- 6. Second mo.
- 9. Spill the beans
- 13. Convex molding
- 14. "___ the President's Men"
- 15. Ankle support, e.g.
- 16. Make a logical connection
- 17. *E.T.'s craft?
- 18. Des Moines native
- 19. *Fire-breather
- 21. *Household spirit
- 23. Tucker of "Modern Family"
- 24. Antonym of is
- 25. *Grimm's Queen
- 28. Tailor-made
- 30. Showing on TV
- 35. "All's well that ___ well"
- 37. Golly!
- 39. Punctuation mark
- 40. Seaport in Yemen
- 41. Hitching post?

- 43. Additionally
- 44. Poison ivy or Poison oak
- 46. One more than The Beatles
- 47. Hold as a conviction
- 48. *Mrs. Potts or her son Chip
- 50. Andrew Sean Greer's 2017 Pulitzer-winner novel
- 52. Toast choice
- 53. Jack and Jill's water jug
- 55. "___ Now or Never"
- 57. *Horse's cousin
- 61. *One of the seven dwarfs
- 64. Ascetic holy Hindu
- 65. HHS agency
- 67. Relating to #25 Across
- 69. Banana treat

- 70. Go bad
- 71. Australian canid
- 72. Lou of "Walk on the Wild Side" fame
- 73. Card in the hole?
- 74. "The Forsythe ___, " pl.

DOWN

- 1. Wisecrack
- 2. Like a zealous fan
- 3. Regular attendee
- 4. Hipbone-related
- 5. Cuban music genre, pl.
- 6. *Half-man, half-goat
- 7. *Santa's helper
- 8. Splotches
- 9. Arch on a face
- 10. Croquet turf
- 11. Popular smoothie berry
- 12. Well, to Sofia Loren

- 15. Relating to living organisms
- 20. Opposite of alpha
- 22. Genetic initials
- 24. Parents hope to do this with values
- 25. *Beauty's beau
- 26. Empower
- 27. Dropsy
- 29. *Big Bad One
- 31. Yellow brick one
- 32. Feeling worse than before

- 33. *Like Curious George
- 34. *Garden dweller
- 36. Finger move
- 38. Moneyed one
- 42. Pine product
- 45. Choose not to do something, 2 words
- 49. Toni Morrison's "___ Baby"
- 51. 1862 plots, for short
- 54. Prefix for below

- 56. Old photo color
- 57. Stalin's domain
- 58. Back of the neck
- 59. Not active
- 60. Past tense of chide
- 61. Fill beyond full
- 62. Sound of passing bullet
- 63. *Baba ___
- 66. *Who Bugs Bunny talks to?
- 68. Numbers, abbr.

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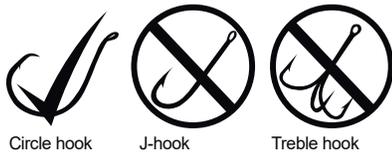
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This Wilson-Mahomes Comparison Has Wilson on Top

by Jason Feirman

We are blessed to have a bevy of outstanding NFL quarterbacks. “Old guys” Brady and Brees are still playing at a high level. There are young guns, like Patrick Mahomes. Often lost in the middle is a QB whose consistent greatness shouldn’t be glossed over, Russell Wilson.

It’s interesting to note the similarities between Wilson in his younger years and what Mahomes is doing today. Both won Super Bowls in their second full season as a starting quarterback. Wilson and his Seahawks returned to the game the following year. Will Mahomes follow suit? Neither Wilson nor Mahomes is prone to turnovers, and both QBs have excellent TD-INT ratios. They both scramble out of the pocket and have the ability to break off big runs. They share

rocket arms with deadly accuracy. They extend plays when the pocket collapses, keeping their eyes downfield ready to pass or run as situations dictate. As far as intelligence is concerned, both players know exactly when to throw the ball away. They shy away from personally risky situations by sliding feet first to avoid injury.

If you ask ten people, probably nine will pick Mahomes as the best QB in the league. But if I had to give the ball to one QB with the game on the line, I’d give it to Russell Wilson. The reason is that guy is a winner--a consistent winner, too. When Russell breaks the pocket, you just know something is going to happen. And ability aside, one of his best traits is that he’s always available. The man has

never missed a start in eight seasons.

Wilson never looked back after he got that first start as a rookie and how that happened bears repeating. The Seahawks had just signed Matt Flynn to a \$26 million contract. He was the team’s starter on opening day 2012. Russell Wilson, Seattle’s 3rd-round draft pick, was signed to be Flynn’s back-up.

Don’t get me wrong. I love Patrick Mahomes and think he’s a fantastic player. And I’m open to revisiting this discussion if and when Mahomes does what Wilson has done. That means this conversation is suspended for at least five years.

Floridian Jason Feirman hosts ‘Route 4 Sports’ at Anchor.FM and writes for The Sports Column.

Formula 1 Considering Starting Without Spectators

by Mark Gero

With nine races of the 2020 Formula 1 season already canceled or postponed due to the coronavirus, many fans wonder if there will be racing this year. FIA president Jean Todt, who heads F1’s governance body, says that financial debt could hit all teams to the point where the budget for the future will have to be lowered just to save F1 from being eclipsed. But that outcome could be avoided if an idea advanced by F1’s motorsport director Ross Brawn gets approval. It would start the season in July but without spectators.

The fly in the ointment is that it’s not F1’s call to make. National governments must give the o.k. For one thing, governments would have to lift travel bans for teams to attend races, especially in

Europe, where most events are held. “Travel for the teams and travel for everyone involved is going to be one of the big issues,” Brawn said. “You could argue once we get there, we could become fairly self-contained. We could have a very enclosed environment, where teams come in on charters, we channel them into the circuit, and make sure everyone is tested, cleared, and that there is no risk to anyone. That’s not great, but it’s better than no racing at all. We have to remember that millions of people follow the sport at home. But we can’t put anyone at risk. There’s no point having a start and then stopping again for a while.”

It’s a conversation worth having because the stakes are high. As McLaren CEO Zak Brown put it, “Four teams might be out of business due

to the coronavirus.”

Other season-saving ideas are being tossed around, too, including having midweek racing only, and eliminating practice day so that Grand Prix events span two days only (qualifying and the race). F1 CEO Chase Carey believes there could be a total of 18-19 races if things get started in July either with or without spectators. At the very least, F1 could run the least number of races (eight is the number) to make a world championship possible.

Bottom line? It would be great if Formula 1, the FIA, and governments could work out a plan. In the end, Brawn’s proposal just might be workable.

Veteran motorsports reporter, Mark Gero, writes out of Los Angeles for The Sports Column.

Journal-Herald Sports

Moses Senior All-Star Classic won’t be played

For the first 50 years, the Dr. George P. Moses Senior All-Star Classic has featured some amazing competition for the senior basketball players of the Wyoming Valley Conference. Due to the coronavirus pandemic that has forced the cancellation of the rest of the winter and spring sports schedules statewide, organizers have cancelled the Moses Senior All-Star Classic.

“It’s unfortunate, but necessary,” Wyoming Valley Athletic Association member Neil Corbett said. “We know the players, coaches, parents and fans were looking forward to a great night of basketball, but the safety of everyone involved is our foremost priority.”

The Classic, which features the top boys and girls basketball players in the Wyoming Valley Conference,

was scheduled for March 27. Proceeds from the games benefit seriously ill children in the Wyoming Valley and charitable groups. To date, more than \$1 million has been raised to help residents of the Wyoming Valley.

“We extend our sincerest thanks to all who have made contributions as we work to help residents facing medical hardships,” Corbett said.

The WVAA started the senior classic in 1969 and a girls game was added in the 1980s as the popularity of the girls’ game increased.

Those who were selected to play in this year’s Classic include Crestwood seniors Brad Papura and Don Shaw. The WVAA is working on a plan to distribute T-shirts and programs to the players that were selected to play in the game.

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PIAA calls an end to winter, spring sports seasons due to pandemic

by Steve Stallone,
Sports Editor

Last Thursday was a day no one wanted to see, but one that was felt coming for weeks. The PIAA Board of Directors decided to cancel the state's winter championships and spring sports for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year because of the coronavirus pandemic that has impacted hundreds of thousands nationwide.

"In accordance with Governor (Tom) Wolf's announcement earlier that Pennsylvania schools will be closed to in-person learning for the remainder of the school year, the Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic Association (PIAA) has cancelled all remaining winter and spring sports and championships," a statement issued by the PIAA read.

"Today's decision by the PIAA Board of Directors was difficult for everyone. Their thoughts remain on the thousands of student-ath-

letes. Coaches, officials and family members affected by this decision," Dr. Robert A. Lombardi, the PIAA's Executive Director, said after an afternoon meeting. "However, the board's position reflects a steadfast priority of keeping our student-athletes, officials and member schools' staffs and their communities safe, while following the guidelines provided by the governor, the Department of Health and the Department of Education."

They were difficult words to hear for student-athletes, coaches, school administrators and fans alike.

"Based on what the pro organizations are doing, I thought it would be a matter of time (before the school sports year ended)," Weatherly Area Athletic Director Scott Zoscini said following the announcement. "It's very unfortunate, especially for the kids that were vying for state championships. It's heartbreaking. You feel for those kids.

"This spring there was still a glimmer of hope for I'm sure a lot of them, but the finality I'm sure is heartbreaking. There's going to be no words that are going to make it easier for the kids. Hopefully, the things they've learned as athletes can help them make it through, the sacrifices they've made."

The announcement was particularly tough on the Weatherly Area High School baseball team, which was back up and running in spring practice this year after last season was halted midway through due to a lack of players. "It's very frustrating to say the least," noted Wreckers baseball coach Brian Kaminski, who was also returning after a four-year break from the program. "First off from our perspective -- coming back into the program that last year had to forfeit the majority of the season and now not being able to even get it started or even play a game -- I feel bad for the players and parents that wanted to see us come back and regain what would have been I think a pretty good season for us."

After spending a majority of the offseason recruiting players, organizing and preparing for the season, and even practicing for the first few weeks makes it that much more difficult for the Wreckers and their head coach.

"Coming back after four

years I think we had a lot of things in place," Kaminski said. "I was able to field a team of 17 players, some coming back after not playing last year and also getting a good amount of young players deciding to come into the program. The goal was to build back the program to where it was when I left four years ago, not in the amount of wins and losses, but in the idea that we had a disciplined team with good numbers and kids prepared to play. We are on our way and this just disappoints me greatly."

Ironically, spring sports teams throughout the area had a warmer start to their season than usual before the PIAA suspended their schedules last month.

The loss of the spring sports season before a game was even played will be difficult for all involved, particularly seniors who will no longer get that chance to compete for their high school. "I can't even begin to say what a pain in the gut I feel for our seniors," Kaminski said. "Those kids were dealt with a shortened season last year and now no season this year. I can't put into words how bad I feel for them and for their parents and guardians that may not see them play another inning of high school baseball or even baseball again."

"Overall I think that in the long run and safety is key," he added. "It's memories that are lost for these kids, but they will be safer for the shutdown and that is the main thing in all of this."

As for the future of the sport at WAHS, Kaminski is confident it will pick up where it left off this spring. "We are lucky that we will return mostly everyone next year and will have most if not all of our assumed main starters from this year back next year. Numbers will be fine, and we will be working even harder in the offseason next year to make sure that we can continue to keep growing the program."

The fact that the statewide American Legion baseball season has already been scrapped, and Babe Ruth organizations are likely to follow suit, will make that even more challenging. "There were a lot of juniors that were thinking of playing this summer," Kaminski said. "We have a lot of kids that play travel basketball in the summer, but a lot of those kids got that fire back for baseball since practices started in early March and even before that in the pre-season workouts. "I am thinking though that the impact will be felt as there will be a lot of organizations that will cancel or severely change their schedules due to this outbreak."

While last Thursday was a difficult day for all involved in scholastic sports, Zoscini is confident there is a light at the end of the tunnel. "You take a lot of things for granted, even the little things," he added. "Seeing a reporter, seeing the opposition, seeing other ADs, other coaches. That sports community is great.

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Trout season has surprise opening



An unidentified fisherman baits his hook last Tuesday afternoon while fishing at Hickory Run in Hickory Run State Park, Kidder Township. The Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission opened the season 11 days earlier to keep anticipated opening day crowds down for social distancing purposes.

Photos by Steve Stallone

In a surprise move last Tuesday, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission opened the statewide trout fishing season 11 days earlier than originally planned. The PFBC announced the decision early Tuesday after consultation with the governor's office, the state Department of Health, and the state Department of Conservation and Natural Resources.

Mentored Youth Trout Day was scheduled for Saturday and the statewide trout season was to open April 18.

The decision to open trout season early was intended to discourage concentrated gatherings of people which may have occurred on the traditional opening day, to minimize travel and to reduce the threat of poaching in waters that have already been stocked, PFBC executive di-

rector Tim Schaeffer said. "We realize that this announcement is another disruption to tradition, but it is in the best interest of public health and safety. We have already seen that anglers and boaters across the commonwealth are willing to adapt their behavior to include social distancing. The trout we have been stocking have had time to spread out, and so should you."

Last Tuesday, as folks found out about the opening, some made their way to local waterways. By late afternoon, most fishermen were gone from the banks of the Lehigh River just below White Haven. A few miles down the road in Hickory Run State Park, a local fisherman who did not wish to be identified was still trying his luck in Hickory Run. He had already landed one trout,

and was hot on the trail of a second.

At the entrance to Hickory Run Lake, a sign from the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission reminded fishermen of social distancing. "Fish in waterways close to your home," the sign read. "Fishing is currently acceptable per the guidelines issued by the Pennsylvania Department of Health as long as social distancing guidelines are followed."

The PFBC will honor all Voluntary Youth Fishing Licenses purchased in 2020 for all mentored youth fishing opportunities during the 2021 season, and those 16 years of age and older who have yet to purchase a license and trout stamp are able to do so at www.fishandboat.com or at an open a retail location.



This sign issued by the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission and mounted at the entrance to Hickory Run Lake in Hickory Run State Park reminds fishermen of social distancing guidelines while fishing this spring.

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